

2006 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

BANCOS ALLOTMENT #310
CARSON NATIONAL FOREST
JICARILLA RANGER DISTRICT

/s/ Mark Catron

06/01/06

District Forest Ranger

Date

INTRODUCTION

On March 24th, 2006 Mark Catron, District Ranger, and Stan Dykes, Range Staff, met with Richard Arnold at the Jicarilla Ranger District to discuss the allotment and the upcoming grazing season. Of primary concern was the ongoing wild horse situation on the allotment. The ongoing wild horse gather activities were discussed along with the districts future plans to gather more horses based on funding availability. Currently we have gathered 60 horses and plan to gather at 75 more prior to the end of the 2006 calendar year.

We discussed grazing cattle this year. Mr. Arnold said he did not have cattle at this time. He said because of the condition of the allotment he would take non-use for resource protection.

We are continuing to work through the Environmental Assessment process on the Bancos allotment

Table 1- Authorization

1. AUTHORIZATION					Comments Total Non- Use For Resource Protection
Permittee/Assoc	Permitted	Permitted	Authorized	Authorized	
Richard Arnold	80	05/13 - 10/31	0	0	

Table 2 - Rotation Schedule

2. ROTATION SCHEDULE		
Pasture name	Season of Use	Planned # Days
N/A		

FORAGE UTILIZATION STANDARDS

Grazing use is a critical factor in managing the Bancos Allotment. Even though the allotment will be in non-use we will continue to monitor grazing utilization from horses. We will be using a variety of methods which may include paired cages, photo points, and ocular estimates of grazing use.

Permittees are invited and encouraged to accompany Forest Service range staff in the field while range condition evaluations are being made.

Within the Bancos Allotment the key forage grasses will include the following species. Stubble height should be kept as a minimum at the following described heights to keep the plants reproducing and in good vigor.

Table 3 – Location, Key grass species, stubble HT.

LOCATION	KEY GRASS SPECIES	STUBBLE HT.
All Units	Western Wheat	4 - 5 in
	Blue Grama	2 – 2.5 in

	Galleta	3 - 4 in.
	Crested Wheatgrass	4 – 5.5 in.

1. MONITORING

Grazing utilization information will be collected in 2006 even though the allotment will be in none-use.

2. Range Improvements

Improvement maintenance is the responsibility of the permittee. All assigned allotment boundary fences, interior pasture division fences, stock tanks, springs, and other structural improvements must be maintained even during periods of non-use.

3. Allotment NEPA status

The Bancos allotment is currently NEPA sufficient.

4. Appeal Statement

This Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) is hereby made a part of your Term Grazing Permit

This decision is subject to administrative review, pursuant to 36 CFR 251; and any appeal of this decision must be fully consistent with 36 CFR 251.90. In accordance with 36 CFR 251.84, if you file an appeal, I am willing to meet with you to discuss any concerns you may have with my decision. If you file an appeal, you may request an oral presentation in the appeal or at any time prior to closing of the appeal record (36 CFR 251.97). Additionally, if you file an appeal, you may request a stay of my decision in the appeal or at any time prior to closing of the appeal record (36 CFR 251.91).

A notice of appeal must be filed with the Forest Supervisor, Carson Natioanl Forest, 208 Cruz Alta, Taos, New Mexico 87571, within 45 days of the date of this decision. A copy of the notice of appeal must be filed simultaneously with the Jicarilla District Forest Ranger, who was the deciding officer and the address for mailing the appeal copy is 664 E. Broadway, Bloomfield, NM 87413