

INTRODUCTION

Mr. Montoya requested that he be allowed to move a portion of his cattle into the Laguna Seca (Campo) pasture because there is very little water available in the Compressor (Valdez) pasture.

Planned Grazing Use for 2004

Table 1 - Authorization

1.AUTHORIZATION			
Permittee/Assoc	Permitted	Season	Comments
Laguna Seca Ass.	237	05/01 – 09/30	Permitted Number and Season of Use.
Laguna Seca Ass.	40	05/01 – 06/30	Planned – Authorized Use 2004
Laguna Seca Ass.	160	05/01 – 10/31	Planned – Authorized Use 2004

Table 2 - Rotation Schedule

ROTATION SCHEDULE			
Pasture name	Season of Use		Planned # Days
La Jara	05/01 – 06/30	40 heifers	61
Compressor (Valdez)	05/15 – 05/21	160 cows	45
Laguna Seca (Campo) Compressor (Valdez)	05/22 – 07/30	160 cows	68
To be decided based on Forage Conditions and Available Water	07/30 - 10/19	160 cows	79
Vigas	10/20 – 10/31	160cows	11

1. FORAGE UTILIZATION STANDARDS

Grazing use is a critical factor in managing the Laguna Seca Allotment. We will be using a variety of methods including paired cages, photo points, grass stubble height measurement and ocular estimates of grazing use. The focus will be monitoring key grazing areas for 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 Laguna Seca 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

Each pasture will be monitored for grazing use. The permittee will be contacted and invited to assist in range monitoring.

2. Range Improvements

Discussed briefly the possibility of a cooperative project with Mr. Montoya to construct a dirt tank in the Laguna Seca (Campo) pasture. Mr. Montoya felt that this would work well. Stan Dykes asked if he could put together an estimate of what he felt the project would cost. He said he would.

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.

1. Allotment NEPA status

The Laguna Seca allotment has a completed environmental assessment.

2. 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 National 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