



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Southwestern Region 3
Carson National Forest
El Rito Ranger District

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2004

ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS (AOIs)

CANO ALLOTMENT # 00206

Gallegos Ranch
Fred and Peter Archuleta

**CARSON NATIONAL FOREST
EL RITO RANGER DISTRICT**

Permittee or Association President

Date

District Ranger

Date



Annual Operating Instructions

INTRODUCTION

This AOI is in reference to the discussion you had with Ezequiel Rael and Diana Trujillo on February 19, 2004. The authorized eartag color is "**green**". The authorized use for the 2004 Grazing Season on the Cano Allotment is as follows:

Table 1 – Permittee Information and Season of Use

Permittee Name	Permitted		Authorized		Eartag #	Remarks Includes a reduction in numbers
	#	Season	#	Season		
Gallegos Ranch	62 c/c	6/1 – 10/15	48 c/c	6/01 – 10/15	G1 - 62	<i>23% voluntary reduction for Resource Protection</i>
Fred & Peter Archuleta	38 c/c	6/1 – 10/15	38 c/c	6/01 – 10/15	A1 - 38	
TOTAL	100 Head	6/1 – 10/15	86 head	6/01 – 10/15		<i>14% Total Voluntary Reduction</i>

Range readiness inspections will determine whether range vegetation and soils are ready for grazing

All livestock must be scheduled for counting prior to entering the Cano Allotment. The El Rito Range personnel must be notified 5 days prior to the time livestock enter or leave the Forest.

Nonuse applies only to animal numbers. Nonuse of a term permit must be requested in written form for all of the permitted numbers (Total Nonuse), or part of the permitted numbers (Partial Nonuse). Verbal applications will not be accepted. If a permittee elects to request "total nonuse" he/she is still responsible for maintenance of assigned range improvements. Any Non-Use may be recorded as resource protection for the 2004 grazing season.

A credit/refund application must be completed within a week after placing livestock late on the allotment or removing livestock early. A credit/refund is not automatic but must be requested in writing by the permittee(s) and approved by the District Ranger.

ROTATION SCHEDULE

Initial distribution of your livestock is tentatively planned as follows (**actual dates will be based on range readiness**):

Table 2: 2004 Rotation Schedule

Pasture	Livestock #	Dates
Jose Maria Pasture	86 Head of Cattle	6/01 – 7/16, 2003
Canovas Pasture	86 Head of Cattle	7/17 – 10/15, 2003

Total removal of all livestock from the pasture/allotment is encouraged. A five day grace period will be allowed to remove stray(s) permitted livestock from the allotment.



FORAGE UTILIZATION STANDARDS

Forage utilization will be measure in key areas as shown on the attached map. Proper utilization of forage is a critical factor in livestock management on the Cano Allotment. Monitoring will be conducted using a combination of monitoring techniques including, but not limited to, paired cages, photo points, Rapid Assessment Method, and permittee monitoring. Permittees are invited and encouraged to accompany Forest Service Range staff in the field while range condition evaluations are being made.

Table 3 – Forage Utilization Standards

Pasture Name	Key Forage Species	Stubble Height
Jose Maria Pasture	AZ/Thurber Fescue	6 – 7”
	Kentucky Blue	4 – 5”
	Oat Grasses	8 – 10”
Canovas Pasture	AZ/Thurber Fescue	6 – 7”
	Kentucky Blue	4 – 5”
	Oat Grasses	4 – 5”
Riparian Areas	Red Top	4 – 6”
	Kentucky Blue	4 – 6”
	Sedges	4 – 6”

MONITORING

Field inspections will be conducted to monitor allowable use, and movement of livestock. Permittees are encouraged and invited to participate in these inspections. Once allowable use is achieved, livestock must be moved into the next scheduled pasture or off the allotment. The length of season depends on the intensity of management and cooperation between permittees on livestock distribution and moving from pasture to pasture. Total removal of all livestock from the pasture/allotment is encouraged.

Both the Forest Service and the permittee are responsible for monitoring use and stubble height on the allotment to manage within specified utilization standards.

If areas within a pasture or the pasture as a whole begin to approach the identified stubble heights, then the remaining key areas will also be monitored and the pasture inspected to determine overall use patterns.

This information will be used to determine if cattle need to be re-distributed within the pasture or removed from the pasture.

Monitoring items such as distribution patterns, range readiness, cattle numbers, forage use levels, salting practices, and condition of improvements will be evaluated.

Regular herding and riding practices are the key to achieving proper livestock distribution on the allotment, and to provide for the fullest use of the grazing season. Salt must be placed out of bottoms, away from water, roads, forest system trails, and recreational sites.



IMPROVEMENT MAINTENANCE

The following projects have been proposed for the 2004 Grazing Season on the Cano Allotment. Due to limited Range Betterment funds, some of these projects may have to be delayed until adequate funding is available.

- Two earth stock tanks need to be cleaned out. One is located in the Lower Pasture and the other in the Upper Pasture (tank is called “*Celerino’s Tank*”). (Sam Gallegos will do these)
- A cattleguard between the allotment boundary fence (ABF) between the Salvador /Cano allotments. Located in the open meadow east of Mogote Ridge. **(Will discuss with Toby Herrera)**
- Placement of the existing 6 foot cattleguard between the Cano and the Casados Allotment. **(Will discuss with Toby Herrera)**
- Replace the existing cattleguard between the Cano and the Salvador Complex Allotment because of the poor condition of the existing cattleguard. (Pending)
- Recon of 1¼ mile of fence between the Cano and the Salvador Complex Allotments **(to be determined based on funding)**
- Permittees would like FS to install a metal gate between the Cano and El Rito Lobato Westside road which leads up to the Mogote Repeater. (Pending)
- Look into area to construct a stock tank up the drainage from metal gate between Cano And ERLW Allotments.

It is important that you inspect and maintain the assigned fences and water developments in the “*entry pasture*” to a good functioning condition prior to the entry date. All other pasture fences and waters must be maintained prior to livestock movement into the next scheduled pasture(s).

In the event these improvements cannot be brought up to standard, you should notify the range personnel so we can schedule them for reconstruction as funds become available. An inspection of your allotment prior to the entry date will be made to determine if maintenance is adequate.

If you have a need to cut fence stays or posts while you are maintaining your fences on your allotment, you can get authorization to cut these materials by obtaining a Free Use Permit from the range personnel at the El Rito office.



ALLOTMENT STATUS

At the present time direction for management on the allotment is being documented in the AOIs. The Carson Forest Plan implementation has scheduled an Allotment Management Plan update, using the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, for the year 2008.

Open and positive communication is encouraged. Feel free to contact the range personnel if you have any questions or problems. They will be happy to discuss allotment management, on the ground status, Forest Plan standards and guidelines, and possible changes in allotment management.

OTHER

This 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 Martin Chavez, 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 Diana Trujillo, District Forest Ranger, who is the deciding officer and the address for mailing the appeal copy is P.O. Box 56, El Rito, New Mexico 87530.

I will appreciate if you contact me and together we can try to resolve disagreements before you file any Notice of Appeal. I value your experience and knowledge of the allotment. If we cannot reach an agreement, you may exercise your appeal rights. This will insure that we both understand the reasons for each others position regarding any issues. I look forward to working with you this season. I am confident that together we will work effectively to manage the range resources in a manner that reflects good stewardship for the land and cattle alike.

DIANA TRUJILLO
District Ranger



ACTUAL USE INFORMATION

**CANO ALLOTMENT
2004 GRAZING SEASON**

Attachment 1

Pasture	Planned Livestock Number & Class	Planned Use		Actual Use		Remarks
		Date on	Date Off	Date on	Date Off	
Jose Maria	86 cow/calf	6/01	7/16			
Canovas	86 cow/calf	7/17	10/15			

Number of Head counted on _____.

Number of head lost: _____.

Table 4

Livestock Class	Poisonous Plants	Predators	Other	Total Losses



**UTILIZATION INFORMATION
CANO ALLOTMENT
2004 GRAZING SEASON**

Attachment 2

Pasture	Head Months (HMs)	Animal Unit Months	Allowable Utilization (percent)	Date Monitored	Observed Utilization
Jose Maria					
Canovas					

