

**2006**

**ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS  
(AOI'S)**

**CANJILON CREEK ALLOTMENT #00102**

**Pacomio Mondragon**

**CARSON NATIONAL FOREST  
CANJILON RANGER DISTRICT**

/s/Travis G Moseley  
TRAVIS G. MOSELEY, District Ranger

05/22/06  
Date

# Annual Operating Instructions

## AUTHORIZATION

You are permitted to graze 759 head of sheep for the grazing season of 6/16 to 10/31; per your request, you are authorized to graze the following in 2005:

**Table 1 - Permitted & Authorized Use**

<i>Number of Cattle Permitted</i>	<i>Number of Cattle Authorized</i>	<i>Pasture</i>	<i>Grazing Period</i>
55	55	Canjilon Creek Allotment	06/16 –10/31

During your phone conversation with Cipie Maez on March 15, 2005, He informed you that your must start fencing off the northern boundary of the Canjilon Creek Allotment as soon as the Canjilon District Ranger allows you to get started. He also informed you that the Canjilon Ranger District would provide you with one mile of fence material and that you are responsible for providing all the other fence material (roughly two more miles) to complete the north allotment boundary fence. Cipie also informed you that if your cattle started going into the Canjilon Lakes Recreation Area, you would be asked to remove your cattle from the allotment. You agreed to all of the above conditions. During the past year with the management change in Range Staff this was not completed. You will need to contact new District Range Staff Craig Newman to start working on this. We have the fence materials in stock and would like you to start as soon as possible. Before you are allowed to move your cattle onto the grazing allotment you must meet with Craig to initiate the process.

During this trial period livestock distribution is very important. We want the cattle scattered through out the allotment and away from the riparian areas. You can do this with a rider and you can also use salt as a tool to draw cattle away from the riparian areas and areas that are close to reaching allowable use levels. This grazing season we also need to evaluate the allotment and determine where pasture division fences are needed. Keep that in mind when you are in the allotment.

Compliance with New Mexico Statewide Regulations, NMAC **21.30.6 Bovine Trichomoniasis**, effective June 17, 2005 hereby becomes a term and condition of the USFS grazing permit." We ask you to comply with the Trichomoniasis regulations imposed by the State of New Mexico. We will not add any additional regulations other than what the state requires. However you are encouraged as a grazing association to incorporate Trich Management guidelines as you see fit to regain your status as a trich free herd in the State of New Mexico. We will support your efforts and requirements to help prevent Trich infections in the Canjilon Creek grazing allotment.

## ALLOWABLE USE

The grazing season and livestock numbers are indicated in Table 1 of this Annual Operating Instructions. Adjustments in numbers or season of use will be made if allowable use standards are met or exceeded. To achieve the desired allowable use, it is important to have proper livestock distribution. The maximum overall allowable use for the entire grazing season is:

Riparian and grassland – 40%

Ponderosa pine, aspen and mixed conifer – 20% average, not to exceed 40%

## FORAGE UTILIZATION STANDARDS

The proper utilization of forage is a critical factor in livestock management on the Canjilon Creek Allotment. We will be checking levels of use during the grazing season. We will be visiting the allotment to ensure that utilization levels are within recommended levels. This year we may establish photo points and/or measure stubble height within key areas on key grass species to determine utilization. Permittees are invited to accompany Forest Service range staff in the field while these range condition evaluations are being made. Within the Canjilon Creek Allotment the key grass species will be:

**Table 2 - Key Forage Species**

<i>Pasture Name</i>	<i>Key Forage Species</i>	<i>Stubble Height</i>
Canjilon Creek Allotment	Arizona Fescue	6"-7"
	Thurber Fescue	6"-7"
	Kentucky Blue	2"-4"
	Red Top	4"-6"
	Sedges	3"-5"

## MONITORING

Both the Forest Service and the permittee are responsible for monitoring use and stubble height on the allotment to ensure that proper use levels are not exceeded. If areas within a pasture or the pasture as a whole begin to approach the identified stubble heights, actions will be taken to limit additional forage use. We are especially concerned with use levels in riparian areas and canyon bottoms where cattle tend to concentrate use on palatable feed. We have enclosed a map with identified key areas to be monitored on this allotment. The primary grass species on this allotment and approximate stubble heights associated with 30-40% use are as outlined above.

The Forest Service may conduct inspections on the grazing allotment during the on-going grazing period as time and personnel availability allows. Monitoring items such as distribution patterns, range readiness, cattle numbers, forage use levels, salting practices, and condition of improvements will be evaluated. The range readiness inspection will determine whether range vegetation and soils are ready for grazing. The permittees are encouraged to participate in these inspections.

## IMPROVEMENT MAINTENANCE

Maintenance of existing range improvements is critical to the proper management of your allotment. All springs in the allotment must be in good working condition to aid in the distribution of cattle through out the allotment. As you know the livestock grazing program has come under the scrutiny of the environmental public. It is critical that we demonstrate the ability to manage your livestock. This means that the cattle should be in the pastures scheduled for grazing during the times they are scheduled to be there.

## **SPECIAL MITIGATION MEASURES**

In order to conform with Amendment of Forest Plans and the final U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service "Biological Opinion for Ongoing Livestock Grazing Activities on Allotments" which determine a No Affect and/or May affect Not Likely to Adversely Affect on your allotment, the following conditions must be met

### **Forage Utilization:**

Forage use by grazing animals will be maintained at or above a condition which assures recovery and continued existence of threatened and endangered species. In order to attain this standard, the above site specific key areas and key forage utilization standards have been developed for the Canjilon Creek Allotment.

### **Mineral Supplements/Salt Blocks:**

Mineral supplement/Salt block sites will be regularly rotated to reduce trampling and grazing impacts to vegetation. Cutting salt blocks in half before distributing them on the range is an easy way to avoid having to move them, as they get used before they need to be moved. Use your salt as a tool to draw the cattle away from the meadows. You must place your salt at least ¼ mile from water.

Your cattle will be counted and inspected on June 16 as they enter the allotment. If you can't make it on this date, contact the Canjilon District Rang staff Craig Newman to make arrangement to get your cattle inspected.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL**

District Ranger decisions regarding issuance, denial, or administration of grazing and livestock use permit may be appealed in accordance with 36 C CFR 251, Subpart C. The following standard paragraph is included in this Annual Operating Instruction for the purpose of ensuring that you are aware of your appeal rights.

This Annual Operating Instruction (AOI) is hereby made a part of your Term Grazing Permit. The instructions included as part of this AOI are subject to appeal in accordance with 36 CFR 251. Appeals must be fully consistent with 36 CFR 251.88 "Filing Procedure" and 36 251.90, Content of Notice of Appeal", filed with the Reviewing Officer Martin Chavez, Carson National Forest, 208 Cruz Alta Road, Taos, New Mexico 87571, within 45 days of the date of this decision with a copy simultaneously sent to the Deciding Officer, District Ranger, Travis Moseley, Canjilon Ranger District, P. O. Box 469, Canjilon, New Mexico 87515. The Notice of Appeal must include sufficient narrative evidence and argument to show why this decision should be changed or reversed (36 CFR 251.90).

I will appreciate if you contact me and together we try to resolve disagreements before you file any Notice of Appeal. 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.

## Actual Use Information Name of Allotment 2006 Grazing Season

**Table 3 - Grazing Season**

Pasture	Planned Livestock Number & Class	Planned Use		Actual Use		Remarks
		Date on	Date Off	Date on	Date Off	

**Table 4 – Losses**

Livestock Class	Poisonous Plants	Predators	Other	Total Losses

## Additional Comments

**Utilization Information**  
**Name of Allotment**  
**2006 Grazing Season**

**Table 5**

<b>Pasture</b>	<b>Head Months (HMs)</b>	<b>Allowable Utilization (percent)</b>	<b>Date Monitored</b>	<b>Observed Utilization</b>

