

**TRAMPAS ALLOTMENT #401**  
Carson National Forest  
**Camino Real Ranger District**

**ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS 2007**

The annual meeting for the Trampas Allotment was held on March 8, 2007, at the District Office in Peñasco, New Mexico. Attending were Jake Lopez, Frutoza Lopez, Elias Estevan Velarde, Margaret Velarde, Adrian Martinez, Filiberto Martinez, Viola McTeigue, and J. D. Sandoval from the Trampas Grazing Association. Melvin Herrera and Sean Kelly represented the Forest Service.

These annual operating instructions are hereby made a part of the Term Grazing Permit for the Trampas Grazing Association.

The Camino Real District and permittees discussed the improving drought conditions, current snow depth and water content on the allotment, and the outlook on predicted weather patterns for this coming season. Some considerations in dealing with drought are authorized numbers, season of use, pasture rotations, and possible early off dates. Permittees volunteered a 31 percent reduction in number of permitted livestock to deal with prevailing drought conditions and to improve range and watershed conditions in their allotment. This number reduction will allow for rangeland plant recovery.

**Table 1-Permitted and Authorized kind and number**

<b>1. Permittee</b>	<b>Permitted Number and kind</b>	<b>Authorized Number and kind</b>
<b>Trampas Grazing Association</b>	<b>124 cow/calf, 6 bulls</b>	<b>84 cow/calf, 5 bulls</b>
Raymond M. Chavez	(7 cow/calf)	(10 cow/calf)
Melvin Cordova	(4 cow/calf)	(0 cow/calf)
Frutoza, Jake, & Edward Lopez	(25 cow/calf)	(19 cow/calf, 1 bull)
Mr. & Mrs. Adrian Martinez	(19 cow/calf)	(19 cow/calf, 1 bull)
Jose F. Martinez	(9 cow/calf)	(0 cow/calf)
Viola Sanchez McTeigue	(7 cow/calf)	(1 cow/calf)
Florinda M. Romero	(2 cow/calf)	(0 cow/calf)
Orlando Sanchez, Jr.	(12 cow/calf)	(0 cow/calf)
Mr & Mrs. Jose D. Sandoval	(9 cow/calf)	(12 cow/calf, 1 bull)
Eddie Randy and Floyd Tafoya	(9 cow/calf)	(0 cow/calf)
Mrs. Efran Velarde	(4 cow/calf)	(0 cow/calf)
Elias Estevan Velarde	(7 cow/calf)	(15 cow/calf, 1 bulls)
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Maestas	(10 cow/calf)	(8 cow/calf, 1 bull)

**2. Season of Use**

05/16 - 9/30 (138 days)

**Table 2-Pasture Rotation**

<b>3. Pasture Rotation</b>				
<b>Pasture</b>	<b>Estimated Dates</b>	<b>Estimated Time</b>	<b>Actual Use</b>	<b>Utilization%</b>
Lower Entrañas #4	05/16 – 05/21	7 days		
Lower Entrañas #3 and Canada Abeyta	05/22 – 06/04	14 days		
Lower Entrañas #2	06/04 – 06/17	13 days		
Lower Entrañas #1	06/18 – 06/30	13 days		
Trampas River	07/01 – 09/30	92 days		

Canada Abeyta will be used in conjunction with Lower Entrañas #3, and rotation dates are flexible depending on resource conditions through the grazing season.

**4. Maintenance of Improvements**

The entire cost of improvements maintenance is the responsibility of the permittee. Assigned allotment boundary fences, pasture division fences, stock tanks, springs, cattleguards, and other range structural improvements must be maintained prior to the permittees going on to the allotment.

**5. Other Items Discussed**

The 2007 grazing season went well with excellent cooperation between permittees and the District. The voluntary reduction of livestock grazed by 33 percent last season, as well as a good production year, allowed for the allotment to be grazed within the allowable use levels. Distribution of livestock was good last season. Permittees did a good job of maintenance of range improvements.

The Grazing Instructions for 2007 are the same as in 2006.

Utilization guidelines for 2007 are 40% of available annual forage in key use areas and 4 inches stubble height in riparian zones. Use guidelines can be adjusted to 60% use on crested wheat stands west of the highway. Forage utilization will be measured in key areas.

Permittees will continue with the monitoring of their allotment in key use areas.

The Trampas allotment is scheduled for NEPA analysis in 2008 and monitoring will be done in preparation for that. Permittees are encouraged to start thinking about and sharing with the Forest Service, any new management ideas or concerns and to participate in monitoring.

The opportunity of being able to hire a rider and have half his wages paid for by the Quivira Coalition was discussed. Permittees will consider this opportunity. The Camino Real District also discussed opportunities for short-courses being made available and paid by the Quivira such as range monitoring and low stress livestock handling.

The grazing fee this year is \$1.35 per head month for cattle.

FS relayed information in cooperation with the New Mexico Livestock Board on required bull testing for Bovine Trichomoniasis on all bulls entering FS lands. Compliance with NM Statewide Regulations,

**NMAC 21.30.6 Bovine Trichomoniasis**, effective June 17, 2005 hereby becomes a term and condition of the USFS grazing permit.

The Forest Service Travel Management Rule went into effect November 9, 2005 requiring the designation of those roads, trails, and areas that are open to motor vehicle use. It also states that the use of motor vehicles will be prohibited off of the designated system, with exceptions (36 CFR 2212.51(a)). The implications for grazing permittees have not been fully determined yet for the Region but, are being discussed. The opportunity exists to participate in the information gathering process prior to the Forest Service proposing any action. Permittees were familiarized with the rule and encouraged to attend public meetings to submit comments regarding their need for motorized travel as a grazing permit holder on federal lands. Comments can also be sent by mail to the Camino Real Ranger District.

Permittees and FS will look at range together to determine range readiness and on-date.

Priority for Range Betterment work for 2007:

1. Trick tank in Lower Entrañas # 2. Pipeline is plugged and may need replacement. Permittees may be able to acquire a storage tank.
2. Wing corral will be repaired in cooperation with Rio Chiquito permittees.
3. Trick tank #3 will have the drinker replaced this spring, and permittees requested pipe to build a cage for the trough.
4. Spring development at Turkey plot needs new pipeline and trough.
5. New water source between Canada de Los Alamos and La Joya.

The two stock tanks, east of Turkey Plot that were repaired in 2005 by the Camino Real District, are not holding water yet but are expected to pick up water after snowmelt this year.

The fence along the Trampas River boundary will be maintained as needed between the Trampas and Rio Chiquito associations to prevent cattle from mixing.

Permittees may acquire new storage tanks to replace ones in Trick Tank #3 and #5, and may also use one between the Canada de Los Alamos and La Joya.

A cattleguard between the Lower Entrañas pasture #4 and the Lower Entrañas pasture of the Rio Chiquito allotment needs to be cleaned out and drained to avoid being silted in.

FS discussed ongoing projects in the allotment such as Montes, La Joya, El Pato, and Ojo Pilot. These projects involve thinning and possibly logging in the allotment. Forage is expected to increase as these areas are opened up.

The Camino Real Ranger District will provide tags to permittees as needed.

The Camino Real Ranger District will again discuss with the NM Department of Transportation the importance of fence maintenance along the highway right of way.

Permittees agreed to have members of the Rio Chiquito association utilize the Canada Ancha area, as requested, same as last year. This area has been utilized by Presciliano Sandoval and Joyce Sandoval as they have water on private land and there is no water on the pasture. Permittees ask that he graze within

the utilization guidelines of 40 percent and that a trade for part of the Rio Chiquito allotment be considered when NEPA is done on the two allotments.

The Camino Real Ranger District would like at least 2 weeks notice prior to any proposed change in management (either season or numbers) so that they can go look at the allotment with the permittee.

**APPEAL RIGHTS:**

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, NM 87571, within 45 days of the date of this decision. A copy of the notice of appeal must be filed simultaneously with the Camino Real District Forest Ranger, who was the deciding officer and the address for mailing the appeal copy is P.O. Box 68, Peñasco, New Mexico 87553.