

FLECHADO ALLOTMENT #453  
CARSON NATIONAL FOREST  
Camino Real Ranger District

**ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS 2006**

The annual meeting for the Flechado Allotment was held on April 26, 2006, at the District Office in Peñasco, New Mexico with Herman and Cindy Manzanares. Melvin Herrera and John Miera represented the Forest Service.

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

FS and permittees discussed current drought conditions, current snow depth and water content on the allotment, and the outlook on predicted weather patterns for this coming grazing season. Permittees requested a voluntary reduction in numbers (24%) for resource protection to better range conditions on the allotment.

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

<b>1. Permittee</b>	<b>Permitted Number and Kind</b>	<b>Authorized Number and kind</b>
Herman A. Manzanares	131 cow/calf	100 cow/calf

**Table 2- Season of use**

<b>2. Season of Use</b>	
06/16 - 9/30	(107 days)

**Table 3-Pasture Rotation Estimated time and actual use**

<b>3. Pasture Rotation Pasture</b>	<b>Estimated Dates</b>	<b>Estimated Time</b>	<b>Actual use</b>	<b>utilization %</b>
Flechado	06/16 – 06/30	15 days		
Siemental	07/01 – 07/31	31 days		
Flechado	08/01 – 08/20	20 days		
La Jara	08/21 – 09/21	31 days		
Riparian/Gathering	09/22 – 09/30	9 days		
Osha	REST			

If the allotment boundary fence in Angel Fire is constructed, the permittee will use the following rotation schedule:

**Table 4-Pasture Rotation Estimated time and actual use**

<b>3. Pasture Rotation Pasture</b>	<b>Estimated Dates</b>	<b>Estimated Time</b>	<b>Actual use</b>	<b>utilization %</b>
Osha	06/16 – 07/30	45 days		
Siemental	08/01 – 08/31	31 days		
La Jara	09/01 – 09/23	23 days		
Riparian/ Gathering	09/24 – 09/30	7 days		
Flechado	REST			

**4. Maintenance of Improvements**

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 permittee going on to the allotment.

**5. Other Items of Discussion**

The 2005 grazing season went well with good production of forage and use being within the guidelines. Maintenance of assigned range improvements was good. The permittee also did a good job in reconstruction of the allotment boundary fence between the Flechado allotment and Angel Fire. There was no maintenance done between the allotment boundary fence between the Osha pasture and Angel Fire. This led to the permittee using the Oshas pasture for only a couple of weeks and then FS authorized the use of the Flechado pasture as livestock kept going into Angel Fire. Recreational users continue to cause problems with gates being left open, off road travel on closed roads, and fences being cut. Most problems are caused by ATV users. Permittee again asked for additional patrols by Forest Service to alleviate the problem.

The permittee along with the Forest Service will pursue the possibility of working with private landowners in the Angel Fire community to repair the fences between private land and the Flechado allotment. Efforts will be made to come together and create a memorandum of understanding which will serve all parties involved and allow the permittee to continue to graze on the national forest and provide good range management.

The permittee asked for the Forest Service to reconsider providing material for the ¼ mile stretch of the Osha pasture fence bordering private land in the Apache canyon. FS and permittee will ride the area to determine where the best route should be for the fence and how it may be built.

Forest Service discussed anticipated drought conditions for this grazing season again that may affect the production of forage on the entire allotment and the Carson National Forest. FS reviewed and shared information predicting severity of drought.

Permittee was asked to furnish the Forest Service with an actual use report showing all costs incurred with management of the allotment for last season.

Utilization guidelines for 2006 are 40% of available annual forage in key use areas, and 4 inches stubble height in riparian zones. Forage utilization will be measured in key use areas.

The grazing fee this year is \$1.56 per head month for cattle.

Permittee and FS will look at range together to determine range readiness and on-date. Permittee also conveyed the fact that a representative from the Range Improvement Task Force would be coming in to look at water quality and riparian condition on the allotment.

Permittee was briefed on current and upcoming activities in the La Jara Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) project. Work has already begun and will continue this year.

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 permittee was concerned with Trich on neighboring private lands and bulls which may be Trich infected coming in and infecting his herd. FS discussed responsibilities held by FS in reporting any livestock in trespass to the NM livestock board for enforcement.

The Permittees were encouraged to attend a two day workshop in Abiquiu at the Ghost Ranch on innovative grazing management. A flyer was provided to the members of the association.

Priority for Range Betterment work for 2006:

1. Construct tank N of Sec. 34 private property
2. Replace the waterline for the drinker in Apache canyon.
3. E boundary fence in the Osha Fire area needs reconstruction.
4. Stock trail E of Sec. 34 private property needs to be cut out.
5. Permittee would like to seed about 2 acres of an old prairie dog town site.

Permittees discussed fence reconstruction on NM 64 right-of-way fence. This fence is scheduled to be reconstructed by the NMDOT this upcoming summer from the east side of the Siemental pasture up to the top of Palo Flechado Pass.

Some discussion on the NEPA process planned for this allotment took place. The allotment will be on schedule for next year and FS will continue gathering information this summer. Permittee was concerned over the allotment being scheduled for this year and not being initiated until next year.

Permittee would like to do some improvement to the riparian pasture by improving the water gaps. This will be considered and looked at on the ground by FS and permittee.

Permittee stated that there was good communication and cooperation with the Forest Service. This is of the utmost importance in achieving good range management and implementing the allotment operating instructions.

Forest Service 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 or 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.