

**Quemado Ranger District**  
**2003 Annual Operating Plan/Instructions**  
(1/14/03)

**Allotment Name:** Escondido

**Permittee:** Tommy and Joy D. Padilla and Southern Cross Ranch LLC

**Permit Number:** 06-1136

**Term Permitted Livestock Numbers:** 150 cow/calf 05/01 – 10/31

**2003 Annual Validation:** 150 cow/calf 05/01 – 10/31

**Grazing System:** The grazing system being utilized is a 3-pasture summer season deferred rotation system for 150 head of cattle.

**Pasture Rotation:**

<b>2003:</b>	<b>Use Period</b>	<b>Livestock</b>	<b>Allowable Use % by species</b>
West Pasture	5/1 - 6/30	150 cows	Blue Grama 40%
East Pasture	7/1 - 8/31	150 cows	Blue Grama 40%
Middle Pasture	9/1 - 10/31	150 cows	Blue Grama 40%
<b>2004:</b>			
East Pasture	5/1 - 6/30	All Cattle	Blue Grama 40%
Middle Pasture	7/1 - 8/31	All Cattle	Blue Grama 40%
West Pasture	9/1 -10/31	All Cattle	Blue Grama 40%
<b>2005:</b>			
Middle Pasture	5/1- 6/30	All Cattle	Blue Grama 40%
East Pasture	7/1- 8/31	All Cattle	Blue Grama 40%
West Pasture	9/1 -10/31	All Cattle	Blue Grama 40%

**Grazing Restriction:**

None apply to this allotment.

**Allowable Use:**

The 1994 Environmental Assessment and Decision Notice identified 40% as the maximum allowable utilization by grazing animals.

**Standard:**

Forage use by grazing animals will be maintained at a level which will promote satisfactory range/watershed conditions and assures recovery and continued existence of threatened and endangered species of plants and animals.

**Guideline:**

Allowable use is 40% for the Key areas identified on the attached map.

**Utilization Monitoring of Key Areas:** Key forage utilization monitoring will continue. Within two weeks before or after livestock leave a scheduled pasture, those key areas will be visited by the Forest Service to determine actual grazing use by livestock/wildlife. These areas are the existing cluster/pace transect sites. Key area utilization checks may also be conducted mid way through a pasture use period to determine actual grazing use. I urge you to participate in these key area utilization surveys. Estimated forage use determinations will be consistent with the Region 3 Range Analysis Handbook. Methods to be used will be ocular estimates, grazed plant method, clip/weigh or Grazing Intensity Guidelines.

**Utilization Monitoring Results:**

During 2002 the following transects were read:

Middle Pasture	C-2	8/01/02	1% use
Middle Pasture	C-2	9/05/02	7% use
North Pasture	C-3	11/25/02	28% use

**Actual Use:**

Actual use for the Escondido Allotment was 600 A.M.'s for 2002. For your reference the 10-year average is 516 AM's.

**Forage Growth and Water Availability:**

If forage growth and water availability are not adequate during all or portions of the 2003, total or partial livestock removal from the allotment may be necessary. Part 2, clause 8(c) of the grazing permit provides this option.

**Range developments:**

All assigned range developments identified in the Term Grazing Permit will be maintained to a functional status.

**Maintenance of range improvements:**

1. Permittee will repair fence #4055 this summer. FS will provide material for fence reconstruction. Materials for routine maintenance will be provided by the permittee.
2. Repair Turkey Springs by burying pipeline to existing water trough.
3. Permittee plans to reconstruct the northeast one half of fence #4049 (located in the southeast corner of the allotment). FS will provide materials for reconstruction.

**Other information:**

1. The permittee would like to propose a well at the south end of the East Pasture.  
The proposed well would aid in the distribution of livestock within the pasture.

If you have any questions or comments concerning these Annual Operating Instructions, don't hesitate to call John Pierson at (505) 773-4678.

Sincerely,

/s/ Janice S. Stevenson  
JANICE S. STEVENSON  
District Ranger

3/13/03  
Date