

Escondido Allotment Annual Operating Instructions
Quemado Ranger District
2006 Annual Operating Plan/Instructions
(12/06/05)

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

Permit Number: 06-1136

Term Permitted Livestock Numbers:

Permitted	From	To	Type
150 cow/calf	05/01	10/31	Term

2006 Annual Validation:

Authorized	From	To	Type
215 yearling heifers	05/01/06	10/31/06	Term

2006 Pasture Rotation:

Pasture	From	To	Numbers	Allowable Use
Middle (Outlaw)	5/1/06	6/30/06	All Cattle	40%
East	7/1/06	8/31/06	All Cattle	40%
West	9/1/06	10/31/06	All Cattle	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.

Utilization Monitoring of Key Areas:

Utilization monitoring will continue on key areas. Forest personnel may conduct monitoring during the midpoint of the scheduled use periods for each pasture. At a minimum, forest personnel will monitor key areas within two weeks before or after livestock leave a pasture. The percentage of grazing utilization will be determined at that time. It is necessary that utilization is in compliance with the established allowable use levels. You are responsible for recognizing and complying with established allowable use levels. The following dates have been scheduled for monitoring on the allotment. You are highly encouraged to participate in monitoring utilization levels.

Utilization Monitoring Dates for 2006:

Outlaw	5/31/06	6/30/06
East	7/30/06	8/31/06
West	9/30/06	10/30/06

Utilization Monitoring Results 2005:

Pasture	Key Area	Date	Use
Middle	C-2	6/13/05	36%
Middle	C-2	6/30/05	14%

The Middle pasture was the only pasture monitored during 2005, the East Pasture was grazed for approximately 5 weeks. Altogether, the allotment was used for approximately two months and livestock were removed due to lack of water.

Please continue to observe and distribute livestock to comply with allowable use levels on key areas. If use approaches or meets the allowable use level, livestock will be moved to available forage within the pasture or to the next scheduled pasture.

Actual Use:

Actual use for the Escondido Allotment was 315 AM's for 2005. For your reference the grazing factor (1.32) x 315 AM's = 416 AUM's.

Forage Growth and Water Availability:

If forage growth and/or water availability is not adequate during all or portions of the 2006 grazing season, total or partial livestock removal from the allotment will 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.

The following improvements were identified for 2006 grazing season:

1. Repair Turkey Springs by burying pipeline to existing water trough. This project was not completed during 2005.
2. Reconstruct one mile of fence #4046 during summer of 2006.

In addition, you requested the following new improvements for the allotment:

1. Thinning of Pinion/Juniper is needed in sections 12, 13 and 14 of the Middle Pasture.

Currently, the District does not have the materials, funding or workforce to implement these proposed projects. The District will continue to keep these projects on the program of work and attempt to secure funding in the future. I would suggest pursuing these

proposals through the NRCS EQUIP program. I want to also reiterate the issue with landscape projects such as pinon/juniper thinning in terms of proposing through the EQUIP program. This type of project requires a cultural resource survey by an approved archeologist. Currently, our archeologist does not have the time or funding to conduct this type of work due to other priorities.

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

Dennis M. Fahl (for)

JANICE S. STEVENSON
District Ranger

03/06/06

Date