



Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) Amendment 2

Allotments: Y Canyon & Govina
Permittee: Y Canyon Ranch LLC
Permit Number: 61143 & 61192

1. **Authorization:** Authorized to graze the following in 2006:

Authorized	From	To	Allotment
369 cow/calf	3/18/06	2/28/07	Y Canyon
105 cow/calf	3/1/06	2/28/07	Govina

2. **Management:**

Y Canyon 2006 Pasture Rotation:

Pasture	Time Frame	Comment
Water Canyon and Collins Park	3/01-4/30 (all cattle)	
Slater Pasture	5/1-11/30 (all cattle)	
Water Canyon and Collins Park	12/1-2/28 (all cattle)	
Corner Mountain Holding Trap South	10/1-10/31	As needed for Branding and Shipping.
Corner Mountain Holding Trap North*	10/1-10/31	As needed for Branding and Shipping.

*You will be allowed to use this pasture if concurrence is received from USFWS. The district will contact you if concurrence is received.

As discussed in the meeting 3/17/06, allowable utilization rates will be monitored closely. If allowable use rates are reached please be in contact with the district to discuss possible management solutions.

Govina 2006 Pasture Rotation:

Pasture	Time Frame	Comment
Govina (Wagon)	3/01-7/30 (all cattle)	
John Kerr	8/1-11/30 (all cattle)	
Govina (Wagon)	12/1-2/28	

No Livestock are allowed within the riparian area of the Tularosa River. The district is considering consultation with USFWS to allow a water point on the river. The district will contact you if concurrence is received. Unless concurrence is received, please use salt, supplement, and herding to exclude livestock from the river until the fence is finished.



Please notify us of cattle movements onto and off of the allotment, as well as refinements that may be needed to enhance the management systems. If you identify the need to differ from these management systems by more than 15 days, please contact this office at least two weeks in advance so that the district has time to conduct monitoring and assess your request.

3. Utilization Standards and Monitoring:

The maximum allowable use levels set for the Y Canyon and Govina Allotments is **35%**. Allowable use is the percentage of use that will be allowed on key grasses. Key area utilization monitoring will continue. Monitoring will be conducted at the approximate midpoint of the scheduled use period and/or within two weeks before to two weeks after the date cattle are scheduled to leave a pasture. Key areas and restricted areas will be visited to determine actual grazing use/seasonal use by livestock/wildlife.

If utilization levels are approaching allowable use levels, livestock will be required to be moved to areas within the pasture or other pastures that are not approaching allowable use levels. In the event that areas not approaching the allowable use are not available, livestock will be removed from the allotment when allowable use rates are met. Management adjustments will be made to the following years Annual Operating Instructions to avoid recurring instances of over utilization. The following dates have been tentatively scheduled for monitoring on the allotment. You are highly encouraged to participate in monitoring with district personnel and/or on your own.

Allotment	Pasture	Monitoring date
Y Canyon	Collins Park	4/12/2006
Y Canyon	Water Canyon	4/13/2006
Govina	Govina	5/17/2006
Govina	Govina	8/3/2006
Y Canyon	Slater	8/24/2006
	Corner Mountain	
Y Canyon	Holding Traps	10/31/2006
Govina	John Kerr	11/16/2006
Y Canyon	Slater	11/28/2006

4. Grazing Restriction: The Y Canyon and Govina Allotments include Mexican Spotted Owl Protected Activity Centers (PAC). In these PAC's the following activities are restricted during the breeding season of the Owl (March 1-August 31): livestock concentrations or trailing, fence construction, and livestock salting; routine maintenance is allowed.

5. Forage Growth and Water Availability: If forage growth and water availability are not adequate during all or portions of the 2006, total or partial livestock removal from the allotments may be necessary. Part 2, clause 8(c) of the grazing permit provides this option.

6. Range Improvements:

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

In addition, specific maintenance discussed included:

Fences: Y Canyon Ranch LLC proposes to reconstruct the east portion of the fence in Water Canyon #6442, partially reconstruct #6337 and #4113. Please contact Collin Ewing or Jerry Turner to inquire about the availability of materials and for a permit modification.

Water: Y Canyon Ranch LLC proposes to reconstruct the development at Feathery Hill spring. Please contact Collin Ewing or Jerry Turner to inquire about the availability of materials and for a permit modification.

Advanced planning is needed for authorizing tank cleaning so surveys can be scheduled during the summer months. Please protect natural springs and areas with riparian type vegetation. Drainage bottoms, creeks, springs, and cienegas, where water is available, are most susceptible to livestock concentrations.

7. **The Annual Operating Plan/Instructions** are a part of the Term Grazing Permit as provided for in Part 3, Section 8. It complies with the standards and guidelines found in the Forest Plan. It also complies with the Endangered Species Act on-going grazing consultation for the Y Canyon Allotment and Govina allotment. Any additional information collected during the year may be incorporated into the annual operating instructions.

This AOI is in accordance with the 12/13/1999 Decision Notice for the Govina allotment, and therefore is not subject to administrative review under 36 CFR 251 for the Govina allotment. The parts of this AOI specific to the Y Canyon allotment are subject to administrative review, pursuant to 36 CFR 251; and any appeal of this decision must be fully consistent with 36 CFR 251.90 (see enclosed copy of 36 CFR 251 regulations). 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 Marcia R. Andre, Forest Supervisor, Gila National Forest, 3005 E. Camino del Bosque, Silver City, New Mexico, 88061-7863, within 45 days of the date of this decision. A copy of the notice of appeal must be filed simultaneously with Rogers M. Steed, District Ranger, Reserve Ranger District, at P.O. Box 170, Reserve, NM 87830.

Feel free to contact Collin Ewing or myself at (505) 533-6231 if you have any questions or problems concerning this document.

/s/Rogers M Steed
ROGERS M. STEED
District Ranger

3/23/06
Date