

Glenwood Ranger District

Gila National Forest

ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

2007

Kelly Allotment #428

Prepared By: _____ Date: _____
District Range Staff

Approved By: /s/ Pat Morrison Date: 3/07/07
District Ranger

Agreed to By: _____ Date: _____
Permittee

Annual Operating Instructions

I. INTRODUCTION

These Annual Operating Instructions document your discussion with Allen Graves on December 12, 2006, at the Glenwood District Office. The permitted stocking for the 2007 grazing season on the Kelly Allotment is as follows:

Term Permitted Livestock Numbers

Permittee	Number and class of livestock	Dates
Danny & Jacqueline Fryar	49 Cattle-Cow/Calf & 2 horses	03/01 – 02/28
Lewis Kelly	41 Cattle-Cow/Calf	03/01 – 02/28
Jimmy Serna	14 Cattle-Cow/Calf & 2 horses	03/01 – 02/28

Kelly Allotment Annual Authorization for 2007

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Danny & Jacqueline Fryar	49 Cattle-Cow/Calf & 2 horses	03/01 – 02/28
Lewis Kelly	41 Cattle-Cow/Calf	03/01 – 02/28
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Kelly Allotment Pasture Rotation for 2007

All cattle	cow/calf	03/01/07 – 6/15/07	Spurgeon Pasture
All cattle	cow/calf	06/16/07 – 9/15/07	East & Sally Pastures
All cattle	cow/calf	9/16/07 – 10/15/07	Big & Little Holding Pastures
All cattle	cow/calf	10/16/07 – 11/15/06	Gutache Holding Pasture
All cattle	cow/calf	11/16/07 – 2/28/08	West Pasture
No cattle		rested	Middle

The above schedule for stocking the allotment depends upon the availability of forage and water. Some flexibility in the above pasture rotation dates will be allowed for justifiable causes such as weather conditions, livestock management needs, and range conditions. If there is a need to deviate from the above pasture rotation schedule by more than 15 days, you must notify the District Ranger of the proposed change in the pasture rotation date and the reason for the change. A deviation from the above schedule of more than 15 days must be approved by the District Ranger verbally or in writing. The District Ranger must be notified 5 days prior to the time livestock enter or leave the Forest if the placing on or removal of livestock is not planned in the above schedule, and more than 10 head are being moved. Failure to do so may result in adverse action against your Term Grazing Permit.

II. MANAGEMENT OF LIVESTOCK

You are responsible for monitoring water availability and forage utilization. It is your responsibility to move your livestock when sufficient water is no longer available or when proper forage utilization is achieved in a pasture. You are responsible for keeping track of and maintaining control of your livestock. In the event your livestock are found to be out of the scheduled pasture, you will be required to find, gather, and return your animals to the proper pasture as soon as possible. Failure to maintain control of your livestock could lead to adverse action against your Term Grazing Permit.

III. IMPROVEMENT MAINTENANCE

All range improvements assigned in the 10-year Term Grazing Permit should be maintained in a functioning condition. In the event these improvements cannot be brought up to a functioning condition, you should notify the Range Staff at the Glenwood Ranger District to schedule them for reconstruction as funds become available.

The following improvements will be completed in 2007: ¾ mile of fence # 3166 must be completed by April 15 2007. Please notify George Douds or Allen Graves when the fence is completed so that they can inspect your work. No other permit modifications will be issued until this fence passes inspection.

IV. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Fire - branding and warming fires should be used with good judgment - not on windy days or during times when fires are specifically restricted. The Glenwood District is planning to allow naturally ignited fires to burn on the district this coming year. We will notify you if we plan to let a fire burn on your allotment.

2. Records - please keep track of materials used, and the days and dollars spent on maintenance of improvements. It is also necessary to keep track of cattle numbers, dates of entering and leaving different pastures, shipping dates, and cattle losses (both grown stock and calves).

3. Heavy Equipment Use - written permission from the District Ranger will be required for any heavy equipment use on the National Forest. Examples of this are cleaning out stock tanks, road maintenance, etc.

4. Credit/Refund - any credit or refund applications for grazing fees must be made as far in advance as possible. Credit/Refund applications are not retroactive and will be approved only if the District Ranger is notified of livestock removal, prior to, or at the time, the livestock are taken off the allotment. You will be required to provide your Social Security number in order for a credit/refund to be processed.

A \$25 administrative fee will be charged for any additional bills for collection that are sent to you due to either late payment or for split billing on seasonal allotments. There is no administrative fee for the normal "split billing" on yearlong allotments. This fee will be collected to pay for the cost associated with issuing an additional bill for collection.

It is necessary for you to write the bill number on your check prior to submitting it to the lockbox. This is necessary to insure that your payment is credited to your account.

5. Short Age Calf Policy - any short-aged calves (calves less than 6 months old on December 31) must be removed from the National Forest by April 1, or you will need to apply for and pay grazing fees for these animals from April 1 to the time they are removed from the National Forest. Calves that are 6 months old or older on December 31, need to be paid for starting January 1.

6. Salting and Supplemental Feeding - the following practices will be adhered to:

- a. Feeding of energy supplements on National Forest land will not be permitted unless a proven need to use the supplements is shown, and a detailed plan is developed and approved.
- b. Feeding of hay on National Forest land will not be permitted unless a proven need to use the supplement is shown, and a detailed plan is developed and approved. All supplemental hay must be **certified weed free** hay and you must provide the proper documentation.
- c. Feeding of vitamin or mineral supplements on National Forest land will be permitted if a detailed plan is approved, or if carried out in conjunction with salting.
- d. Salting practices will be in agreement with the 10-Year Term Grazing Permit. Salt will be placed in areas of available feed to help draw cattle to them. Salt will not be placed in natural concentrations areas, which receive heavy grazing use. Salt must be placed ¼ mile or further from water.

V. ALLOTMENT STATUS

The Kelly Allotment has sufficient NEPA and an Allotment Management Plan is in place.

VI. OTHER ITEMS DISCUSSED

You indicated that you are in favor of Fire Use on your allotment. The District Ranger will authorize necessary changes to this AOI to accommodate fire management.

In regards to Travel Management I have recieved your input on the roads that you would like to keep open on your allotment.

VII. SPECIAL MANAGEMENT CONCERNS

As you are aware, forage and water became scarce on most allotments during the past several years. **If forage and/or water availability becomes a problem on your allotment, you may be required to change your management and possibly remove your livestock from the National Forest lands.** Keep track of conditions on your allotment and make plans to reduce or remove livestock if vegetative/watershed conditions could be substantially harmed due to continued grazing during the drought period. Even though there was a good growing season this past summer, it is recommended that restocking of allotments to full numbers not take place until the forage plants regain vigor and new forage plants become established.

VIII. Utilization Monitoring of Key Areas

Monitoring results for 2006

Pasture	Monitoring Date	Actual Use	Allowable Stubble Heights	Key Area
West	5/22/06	>2.5 inches	2.5 inches on Blue grama	C6
River	3/15/06	0%	Excluded from Livestock	San Francisco River

Monitoring Schedule for 2007

Pasture	Monitoring Date	Allowable Stubble Heights	Key Area
Spurgeon	4/15/07 & 6/15/07	2.5 inches on Blue grama	C7, C1
East & Sally	6/15/07 & 9/15/07	2.5 inches on Blue grama	C3, C4
Big & Little Holding	9/15/07 & 10/15/07	2.5 inches on Blue grama	C5
Gutache Holding	10/15/07 & 11/15/07	2.5 inches on Blue grama	C2
West	3/14/07	2.5 inches on Blue grama	C6

Utilization management objectives for key perennial species:

Key species	Season	Allowable Stubble heights & their percent equivalents
Blue grama	Growing	2.5 inches (30% or Light use)
Blue grama	Dormant	2.0 inches (35% or Moderate use)
Sideoats grama	Growing	9+ inches (30% or light use)
Sideoats grama	Dormant	8+ inches (35% or Moderate use)

(from Table 2. Grazing Intensity Guide. ...Rangelands 22(3) Holecheck and Gault, June 2000).

When utilization standards are met within one of the above described key areas, cattle would be moved to another area of the pasture, a different pasture, or off the allotment.

An inspection for pasture readiness will occur prior to placing cattle in a pasture. The range specialist and/or permittee must evaluate whether or not identified key species are ready to be grazed and are healthy; (previous year or current years growth is greater than 2.5 inches) (Holecheck, Galt 2000). If the

pasture does not meet these criteria, then grazing would be delayed in this pasture until the criteria are met. In addition, it is critical that livestock are to be placed in pastures that have adequate water for the period to be grazed.

When monitoring results indicate one or more key areas in all pastures have reached minimum stubble heights, and scheduled deferment cannot be achieved, livestock will be removed from the allotment. If minimum stubble heights are exceeded in a key area in a given pasture, that key area will receive a subsequent growing season deferment prior to the resumption of grazing. Key areas that cannot be managed separate from the pasture to achieve the above will require complete pasture deferment. This applies to the Spurgeon Pasture and Sally Pasture. If conditions warrant and another pasture is not available, measures to temporarily reduce numbers or even temporarily de-stock the allotment will be initiated. Management flexibility will be afforded, in that, delays in pasture movements into the next scheduled pasture or to another location within the pasture would be triggered by utilization monitoring in the designated key area locations.

District personnel will continue utilization and stubble height monitoring on key areas. In order to insure that stubble height requirements are not exceeded, monitoring will be conducted during the end of the scheduled use period for each pasture. It is necessary that utilization is in compliance with the established stubble height requirements. You are responsible for recognizing utilization levels and complying with established stubble height requirements. At a minimum, forest personnel will monitor key areas within two weeks before or after livestock leave a pasture. Monitoring is scheduled for the following dates and you are highly encouraged to participate in monitoring stubble height requirements.

Monitoring of utilization for woody riparian species will be conducted on a reach basis in identified riparian areas.

Pasture	Reach description	Management	Allowable Use
Sally & East	San Francisco River between the East and Sally pastures.	Excluded geographically and by fencing.	0% with the exception of two designated watering points.
Holding	San Francisco River that borders the Holding pasture.	Excluded geographically and by fencing.	0% with the exception of one designated watering points.
Middle	San Francisco River that borders the Middle pasture.	Excluded geographically and by fencing.	0% with the exception of one designated watering points.
Spurgeon Mesa	San Francisco River that borders the Spurgeon Mesa pasture.	Excluded geographically and by fencing.	0%
Sally	Saliz Creek that borders the Sally pasture.	Excluded geographically and by fencing.	0%

Open and positive communications dealing with these or any other concerns is encouraged. Feel free to contact George Douds or Pat Morrison if you have any questions or problems. We will be happy to discuss allotment management, conditions on your allotments, Forest Plan standards and guidelines, or any other concerns you may have.