

GILA NATIONAL FOREST
WILDERNESS RANGER DISTRICT
ANNUAL OPERATING PROVISIONS

2008

Riley Miller

CANYON CREEK



Prepared By: Tawnya Brummett Date: _____
District Range Staff

Approved By: Alan E Koss Date: _____
District Ranger

Agreed to By: Riley and Mary Miller Date: _____
Permittee

PERMITTED USE:

ALLOTMENT	PERMITTED #	PERMITTED SEASON
Canyon Creek	20 Cattle	03/01-02/28
	4 Horses	03/01-02/28

AUTHORIZED USE:

ALLOTMENT	AUTHORIZED NUMBER	PASTURE	ON/OFF DATE	PASTURE INSTRUCTIONS
Canyon Creek	19 Cattle	Allotment	03/01-02/28	
	4 Horses	Allotment	03/01-02/28	

Management of Livestock

For the 2008 grazing season we are authorizing you 19 cow/calf pairs up from 8 cow/calf pairs in 2007. This is within your permitted number of 20 cattle, but please be aware that resources conditions and/or a lack of water may warrant reducing this number in the next grazing season.

When the allotment is stocked, you will be responsible for maintaining control of your livestock. Monitoring water availability and forage utilization is your responsibility. Forage use by grazing ungulates will be maintained at or above a condition that ensures recovery of threatened and endangered species. Site-specific forage utilization standards have been developed for the Canyon Creek Allotment, as per the Environmental Analysis and Decision Notice dated April 14, 1999. Key areas and utilization standards are as follows:

KEY AREA	UTILIZATION STANDARD	KEY SPECIES
Elk Tank	25%	Blue grama
Flying V Tank	25%	Blue grama
Corner Tank	25%	Blue grama
Stovepipe	25%	Blue grama

Incidental use by livestock in Canyon Creek may occasionally occur; however, the intent is to restrict livestock use of this area to provide for riparian recovery. This is especially important with the authorized number of cattle increased to 19 this year.

Improvement Maintenance

All range improvements assigned in your Term Grazing Permit will be maintained in a good functioning condition. In the event improvements cannot be maintained in good functioning condition, you should notify this office, so we may schedule them for reconstruction as funds become available. Please ensure that all fences are maintained in satisfactory condition.

You are authorized, as the permittee on the Canyon Creek allotment, to cut and utilize juniper fence posts and fence stays to maintain fences, corrals, and other improvements on National Forest System lands within the allotment. This authorization allows for cutting 100 line posts, 100 corner posts, and 300 stays. Line posts are no larger than 6.5 feet in length and have a five-inch top diameter. Corner posts are no larger than eight feet in length and have a seven-inch top diameter. Stays may be cut from the limbs of trees cut for posts, sapling sized trees, and down snags. You are authorized to use this

material under 36 CFR 223.2(a), Free Administrative Use. This authorization is valid for the calendar year 2008.

The following instructions must be followed when cutting any posts or stays under this authorization:

1. Stumps should be no higher than 12 inches above the ground.
2. Slash should be lopped to within 24 inches of the ground and scattered.
3. Cutting and removal of posts and stays should not be done when the soil moisture conditions would cause ruts to be cut.
4. No posts, stays, or by-products from them will be sold or used anywhere except on National Forest System lands within your allotment to maintain the range improvements assigned in your ten-year Term Permit.
5. All posts and stays will be cut within your allotment, unless another specific area is designated for cutting by the District Ranger.
6. Motorized equipment such as chainsaws may not be used in wilderness areas.

Non-compliance with the instructions set forth in this authorization could lead to adverse actions taken against your Term Grazing Permit. If you have any questions in regard to this plan or if a revision is in order, please contact me.

APPEAL RIGHTS

Canyon Creek Allotment had NEPA completed on April 14, 1995. These Annual Operating Instructions are a reaffirmation of a prior decision and therefore may not be appealed.

Feel free to contact Tawnya Brummett, or Al Koss, if you have any questions or problems. They will be happy to discuss allotment management, conditions on your allotments, Forest Plan standards and guidelines, or any other concerns you may have.