



## Annual Operating Instructions (AOI)

**Allotment:** Long Canyon  
**Permittees:** 76 Slash Cattle LLC  
**Permit Number:** 61310

**Authorization:** Authorized to graze the following in 2008:

Permittee	Authorized	From	To	Allotment
76 Slash Cattle LLC	112 cow/calf	3/1/08	2/28/09	Long Canyon

### 1. Management:

Long Canyon 2008 Pasture Rotation:

Pasture	Time Frame
West	3/1-3/31 (cows and bulls)
East	4/1-6/30 (Cows and Bulls)
South/East*	7/1-10/31
West	11/1-2/28

\*South pasture will be used when water is available, and cattle will be driven to those areas. In the past, cattle have had a tendency to hang in the area of York tank. When using the West pasture, please distribute livestock away from the northeast portion of the pasture to avoid exceeding the allowable use level in this area.

Please notify us of cattle movements onto and off of the allotment, as well as refinements that may be needed to enhance the management system. If you identify the need to differ from this management system 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.

### 2. Utilization Standards and Monitoring:

The maximum allowable use level set for the Long Canyon Allotment is **Conservative use approx. 30-40%**. Key areas and restricted areas (PAC's) will be visited to determine actual grazing intensity by livestock and wildlife. If utilization / seasonal utilization levels are approaching allowable use levels, livestock will be required to be removed to areas within the pasture that are not approaching allowable use levels and/or management changes will be made to the rotation schedule the following year. In the event that areas not approaching allowable use levels are not available, livestock will be removed from the allotment. In the event of over utilization, changes will be made to the following year's AOI to prevent



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.

Pasture	Monitoring date
West	3/20/08
East	6/19/08
South	9/11/08
East	10/30/08

**3. Forage Growth and Water Availability:**

If forage growth and water availability are not adequate during all or portions of the 2008, total or partial livestock removal from the allotments may be necessary.

**4. Salt and Supplement Policy**

Supplemental feeding of livestock is allowed (to strategically manage livestock distribution and forage use) as follows:

- a) Place supplements on previously disturbed areas (i.e., borrow pits) or natural bedrock outcrops when possible (supplement sites).
- b) Locate supplement sites 0.25 mile or more from waters and key areas except where prior written permission has been obtained from District Ranger.
- c) Locate supplement sites where forage is abundant and utilized less than average.
- d) Limit supplement types to non energy feeds such as salt, protein and mineral blocks.
- e) Use products that prevent the spread of noxious weeds (no feeding of hay on National Forest System Lands).

**5. Grazing Restriction:**

The Long Canyon allotment includes Mexican Spotted Owl Protected Activity Center's (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.

**6. Range Improvements:**

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

In addition, specific maintenance discussed included:

- 1. 76 Slash Cattle LLC will continue to focus on getting boundary fences into satisfactory condition.

2. 76 Slash Cattle LLC has repaired the trap fence around Long Fork Tank (#6535 and #6520).
  3. 76 Slash Cattle LLC proposes to work with the NRCS and the Forest Service to drill a well in East Pasture and construct a pipeline into South Pasture to provide more reliable water sources.
7. **The Annual Operating Instructions** are a part of the Grazing Permit. They comply with the standards and guidelines found in the Forest Plan. They also comply with the Endangered Species Act on-going grazing consultation for the allotment. Any additional information collected during the year may be incorporated into the annual operating instructions.

This decision is 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 Richard E. Markley, 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 Jerry Turner or myself at (575) 533-6231 if you have any questions or problems concerning this document.

/s/ Rogers M. Steed

12/19/2007

ROGERS M. STEED  
District Ranger

Date