

**Escondido & San Antone Allotments**  
 Quemado Ranger District  
 2015 Annual Operating Instructions  
 (11/14/14)

As per your Annual meeting held with Ralph Fink and Wayne Witty, please see the following instructions. Please utilize these instructions as direction for management on your grazing allotment during the 2015 Grazing Season. We appreciate your cooperation in the management of your livestock throughout the grazing year.

***Escondido***

**2015 Pasture Rotation:**

Pasture	From	To	Number	Allowable Use
West	06/01/15	07/30/15	150	35%
Central	08/01/15	09/30/15	150	35%
East	10/01/15	11/30/15	150	35%

***San Antone***

**2015 Pasture Rotation:**

Pasture	From	To	Number	Allowable Use
Baca	07/01/15	08/15/15	243	35%
South	08/16/15	10/31/15	243	35%
Baca	11/01/15	12/15/15	243	35%

**Grazing Restriction:**

The following grazing restriction applies to a portion of the South Pasture within the San Antone Allotment. A map displaying this area was provided to you with your permit; if you need another copy of the map please contact Wayne Witty at the District office.

No salt, mineral or supplemental feed may be placed in these areas from February 1 to August 31 and no concentrations of livestock, i.e., corral use, traps or large gathering of livestock is allowed. Routine maintenance of range developments is allowed. The purpose of this restriction is to mitigate wildlife issues.

**Allowable Use:**

Proper utilization of forage plants is a necessity to maintain long term productivity of the rangeland and to protect soils from erosion. Proper utilization will maintain sufficient ground cover to prevent erosion and meet the physiological needs of key forage plants for maintenance and reproduction over the long term. Allowable use is determined from considering proper use and all influencing factors such as grazing system, range condition, watershed condition, timing and duration of livestock use and scheduled amount of rest between use periods.

The Decision Memo dated August 24, 2006 set guidelines for allowable use levels of key forage species at 35%.

**Utilization Monitoring:**

Utilization monitoring will be conducted on or near key areas of your allotment. District personnel will monitor pasture use and determine utilization percentage at that time. Monitoring dates will be set according to the previous year's monitoring results. If pastures were approaching allowable use during the 2014 grazing season they will be monitored at the mid-point of the pasture use period to determine if it is necessary for livestock to be moved to the next pasture in the rotation. Please note the following approximate dates that are scheduled for monitoring on the San Antone Allotment. You are encouraged to participate in monitoring utilization levels.

**2015 Monitoring Dates:**

*Escondido*

Pasture	Monitoring Date
West	07/14/15
Central	09/15/15
East	11/12/15

*San Antone*

Pasture	Monitoring Date
South	09/09/15 & 10/06/15
Baca	07/21/15 & 11/20/15

If any one key area in a pasture being grazed by livestock exceeds utilization on the uplands or heavily hedging of woody riparian plant sprouts/seedlings, livestock will be moved to another area of the pasture where actual use is less than allowable use. If all remaining key areas in the grazed pasture are at allowable use, livestock will be required to be moved early to the next scheduled pasture. This requirement is necessary to prevent overuse on forage plants.

**Forage Growth and Water Availability:**

If forage growth and water availability are not adequate during all or portions of the 2015 grazing season, total or partial livestock removal from the allotment may 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 tanks have received clearances from the Archeologist. Please coordinate timing of project work with the District at least one month in advance of planned start date to ensure all appropriate paperwork is completed.

- Green Tank                      - Trail Tank                      - Box Canyon Tank                      - Sleeping Steer Tank
- Bell Pit Tank                      - JD Pit Tank

**Additional Items:**

On October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014 you requested to cancel your Private Land Permit #61380-PVT. The additional 28 head associated with the permit will no longer be authorized on the San Antone allotment after March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015. If you wish to take a different course of action in regards to the cancellation of the private land permit please notify us in writing prior to March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015.

If you have any questions or comments concerning these Annual Operating Instructions, please call Wayne Witty at (575) 773-4678.

Emily Irwin  
Emily Irwin  
District Ranger

2/20/2015  
Date