ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

2015 Grazing Season

(3/01/2015-2/28/2016)

Reserve Ranger District

Gila National Forest

Apache Canyon Allotment

Agreed To By: Carolyn Deon Julian Date: 11-19-14

Carolyn Deon Julian, *Permittee*

Approved By: John D. Pierson Date: 11/24/14

John D. Pierson, *District Ranger*

2015 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI)

Allotments: Apache Canyon
Permittee: Carolyn D. Julian
Permit Number: 61346

Permitted Use:

Permittee	Numbers	Type	Season
Carolyn D. Julian	100 Cow/Calf	Term	3/01-6/30
Carolyn D. Julian	100 Cow/Calf	Term	10/01-2/28

*Per the February 24th 2009 Apache Canyon Decision Notice, on and off dates will interchange annually from the above rotation to 6/01-2/28.

1. **Authorization:** Authorized to graze the following in 2015:

Permittee	Numbers	Type	Season
Carolyn D. Julian	100 Cow/Calf	Term	3/01-6/30
Carolyn D. Julian	100 Cow/Calf	Term	10/01-2/28

Counting Livestock: The standard for counting livestock on an allotment is as follows:

a. All cattle six (6) months of age or older **at the time of entering** the National Forest **and all weaned** animals regardless of age will be counted against the permitted numbers on the allotment and charged for at the current rate.

Nonuse: Application for credit or refund must be made in "**writing**" and "**in advance**" by the permittee to the District Ranger using Form FS-2200-1 (Refund, Credit, or Transfer Application). When it is not possible to be timely in getting to the Ranger District Office, the permittee may phone in a request for refund or credit. The permittee will then complete Form FS-2200-1 (Refund, Credit, or Transfer Application) at the next visit to the Reserve Ranger District Office. **Note**: Credit or refund applications will not be processed unless value is $100.00 or more and District personnel have been notified either in advance or at the time livestock are removed from NFS Lands.

Bovine Trichinosis: Virgin bulls not exposed to breeding are exempt from testing if under 12 months of age. As of 2/26/10, bulls 12 months of age and older are required to have a negative trich test within 30 days prior to entry. **A signed affidavit from the owner for the virgin status of bulls 12 TO 24 months of age is no longer applicable.** Non-virgin Breeding age Bulls must be tested negative prior to import into New Mexico. Non-virgin Breeding age Bulls sold within the state of New Mexico must be tested negative within 30 days prior to change of ownership. Please contact the New Mexico Livestock Board for more details.

2. **Management**: Apache Canyon 2015 Pasture Rotation:

PASTURE	LIVESTOCK	TIME FRAME
Wilson Canyon	100 cow/calf	03/01-03/31
Apache Canyon 1, 2, 3	100 cow/calf	04/01-04/30
Apache Canyon 1, 2, 3	50 cow/calf	05/01-05/31
Mesa Pasture	50 cow/calf	05/01-05/31
Piney Park	100 cow/calf	06/01-06/30
Piney Park	100 cow/calf	10/01-11/30
Wilson Canyon	100 cow/calf	12/01-01/31
Apache Canyon 1, 2, 3	100 cow/calf	02/01-02/28

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 the District has time to conduct monitoring and assess your request.

3. **Utilization Standards and Monitoring:**

In accordance with the Apache Canyon Allotment Decision Notice dated 2/24/2009 and the Apache Canyon Allotment Management Plan dated 5/18/2009, the allowable use level set for the Apache Canyon Allotment will be conservative use (**30-40%**). Use of riparian browse is not to exceed **25%** of riparian sprouts/seedlings heavily hedged. Please maintain all fences and water gaps necessary to keep your cattle out of the Tularosa River riparian area on NFS lands. Permittee is authorized to use the water lot (access point) along the Tularosa River within Mesa Pasture with a reduced number of cattle from 6/01-6/30/2012. Cattle may remain in Mesa Pasture, per the rotation outlined above, but will be excluded from using water access point on 7/01/2012, or sooner if utilization objectives are achieved.

Monitoring will be conducted within two weeks before or after livestock leave a scheduled pasture. If utilization levels within portions of a scheduled pasture approach allowable use, you are required to move livestock into areas not approaching allowable use. If cattle cannot be effectively managed away from areas within the pasture that have met allowable use or if utilization objectives are met throughout the pasture prior to scheduled rotation, contact District Personnel. Cattle will be moved into the next available pasture within the annual rotation. In the event that forage utilization objectives are met in all available pastures, livestock will be removed from the allotment. Management adjustments will be made to the following years Annual Operating Instructions to avoid recurring situations. The following dates have been tentatively scheduled for monitoring on the allotment. You are highly encouraged and invited to participate in monitoring with District personnel and/or on your own.

Pasture	Monitoring date
Wilson Canyon	04/03/2015
Apache Canyon 1, 2, 3	06/04/2015
Mesa Pasture	06/04/2015
Piney Park	07/02/2015
Piney Park	12/03/2015
Wilson Canyon	02/04/2016
Apache Canyon 1, 2, 3	2/15/2016

4. **Forage Growth and Water Availability:**
   Per Part 2, clause 8(c) of your Term Grazing Permit, 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.

5. **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.

6. **Range Improvements:**
   All assigned range developments identified in your Term Grazing Permit must be maintained to a functional status.

   Advance planning is needed for any range improvement reconstruction or replacement, including fences and water systems to evaluate the need for any additional surveys. General maintenance/repair is excluded. Advance planning is also needed for authorized stock tank cleaning so surveys can be scheduled accordingly. Please contact the district in advance if you are proposing any of this type of work.

   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.

The following range improvements were discussed and planned for this grazing season:

Fences:
1. The permittee will finish reconstruction of the Porter well corral #6440.
3. Allotment boundary fence #006032 needs heavy maintenance. Maintenance assigned to Cross V Allotment.
4. Cattleguard repair/cleaning along FR3022 in the southwest of Piney Park.

Water:
5. Sawmill Spring #6298 and White Mule Spring #6300 will be evaluated.
6. Permittee and District Range Personnel will evaluate proposed storage at Porter Well #6041 and extend pipeline into 1st Apache, 2nd Apache and Highway Pasture.
7. Permittee and District Range Personnel will evaluate potential locations for erosion control structures in 1st, 2nd and 3rd Apache Canyons**.**
8. Kerr, Elk Horn and Unnamed Tanks need to be evaluated for repair.

7. **The Apache Canyon Allotment Annual Operating Instructions (AOI)** are a part of the Term Grazing Permit as provided for in Part 3, Section 8. The AOI complies with the standards and guidelines found in the 2/24/2009 Apache Canyon Allotment Decision Notice, the 5/18/2009 Allotment Management Plan and in the Gila National Forest Plan. It also complies with the Endangered Species Act on-going grazing consultation for the Apache Canyon Allotment. Any additional information collected during the year may be incorporated into the annual operating instructions.