2013 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS
SPRINGERVILLE RANGER DISTRICT

Allotment Name: Greens Peak

Permittee: [redacted]

Term Permitted Livestock Numbers and dates:

Greens Peak	206 Aums	06/01 to 10/31

Annual Validation livestock numbers and dates:

Greens Peak	30 c/c	06/01 to 10/31
	2 horses	07/01 to 10/31

Table 1. Pasture rotation schedule

Pasture	Use Period*	Midpoint Date	Number Of Days	Key Species**	Allowable Use Guideline
GREENS PEAK ALLOTMENT					
Becker-Sherlock	6/01-6/25	6/12	25	Care/POA/Fear/Deca/and Muwr/Bogr	30-40%
Udall	6/26-8/04	7/15	40		
North Springs	8/05-9/06	8/20	33		
Carnero	9/07-9/30	9/18	24		
Atascacita	10/01-10/31	10/15	31		

*Dates will be adjusted if maximum allowable use guideline levels in the stocked pastures are reached sooner than anticipated.
**CARE=sedges, POA=bluegrass species, Fear=Arizona fescue, Deca=Tufted hairgrass, Muwr=Spiked muhly, and Bogr=Blue grama. Key species may be adjusted as necessary to reflect those receiving the most grazing pressure based on time of the year.

A. GRAZING STANDARDS AND PRESCRIPTIONS

Range Readiness Check: Range readiness checks will be conducted in anticipation of livestock entry. This may and often vary from year to year, vegetative readiness checks will be made in advance of the schedules turn-out date. You are invited to assist or accompany the range personnel as they perform the inspection. The main objective is to determine whether plants are physiologically capable of being grazed and trampled without causing long term damage to the vegetation or soils.

This monitoring is completed prior to the scheduled turnout date.

1. Soil condition - The soil is firm, at or below field capacity.
   a. Saturated soils are not present. Soil compaction is minimal.
   b. Standing water and ponding from snowmelt is not present.
2. Vegetative development stage. Rangeland is generally ready when cool-season grasses are headed out, forbs are in full bloom, and brush and spen is leafed out. Range readiness dates will vary between allotments with different resource attributes and mangement systems.

Seasonal utilization monitoring: The allowable use guideline for each pasture is shown in Table 1. Livestock grazing utilization monitoring will be conducted in key areas near the midpoint of the grazing period for each pasture. A utilization check at the end of the grazing period for each pasture will be conducted if deemed necessary to identify or correct any resource damage occurring in the allotment. You are invited to participate when any of these checks are being conducted.

The appropriate methods or techniques to be used will be from USFS Region 3 Range Analysis Handbook and/or Utilization Studies and Residual Measurements, Interagency Technical Reference, 1996. The purpose of the utilization monitoring is to ensure that herbaceous vegetation is managed through proper utilization levels to provide for suitable habitat for various prey species of the Mexican Spotted Owl and Northern Goshawk, to meet physiological requirements for the forage and browse plants, and improve range and unsatisfactory watershed conditions.

It is your responsibility to take action so that livestock grazing does not exceed the allowable use guideline levels. Proper salt placement, hauling water, and herding or riding are recommended. If the problem cannot be corrected with preventative measures, adjustments in the season of use, grazing intensity, pasture grazing frequency, livestock numbers and/or other management or administrative actions may be necessary.

Early Livestock Removal: The Forest Service recommends to the permittee having an off-the-Forest contingency plan in the event that persistent drought and/or utilization in excess of AMP/AOI standards necessitate early livestock removal from the Forest. Part 1, clause 3 and Part 2, clause 8 (c) of the term grazing permit provides this option.

If a possibility of an early removal exists, Forest Service range personnel, with input from the permittee, will make on the ground, case by case decisions regarding range conditions. Based on the Allotment inspections, Forest Service personnel will make the determination if livestock removal is required for resource protection. The District will consider all resource objectives before taking any actions regarding the above situations.

Range Developments: All assigned range developments identified in the Term Grazing Permit will be maintained to a functional status.

Maintenance of range improvements: Permittees will perform assigned maintenance of all range improvements, whether private or government owned, within their Allotment. This is in accordance with Part 3, clause 2 of the term grazing permit.

Permittees will get with the Districts to sign a permit modification upon receipt of the materials. Range improvements not specifically listed in the improvement program schedule and all ground disturbing activities will not be initiated by the permittee until the Springerville Ranger District has approved proper clearances.

If your neighbor is turning out before you on an adjacent pasture and the boundary fence is your responsibility, this **FENCE MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE YOUR NEIGHBOR TURNS OUT.**

Fence maintenance and other range improvements required prior to moving livestock onto the Allotment include:

1. All boundary fences on the allotment must be maintained.
2. Interior fences in all pasture must be maintained.
3. Water developments must be in working condition.

Livestock Distribution: Livestock need to be distributed evenly throughout the pasture. A full time rider is strongly encouraged. By herding livestock onto the uplands and other lightly used areas, the grazing pressure on key riparian areas and meadows is reduced. To obtain uniform distribution, frequent riding will be necessary to break up concentrations of livestock that bunch-up, leading to over utilization. Livestock grazing will result in soil and vegetative disturbance, for example, trailing, rubs, bedding

grounds, wallowing, and salt grounds. Salting and maintaining improvements are also good ways to achieve proper livestock distribution.

Sanitation and Fire Prevention: When an animal is killed or dies from contagious or infectious disease, its carcass must be removed. If the animal dies or is killed in the vicinity of streams, roads, trails, or recreational areas, the carcass must be moved at least 100 yards from live water, or as far as practical when terrain makes that distance impossible, within a reasonable time after the discovery.

All vehicles should be equipped with a properly functioning exhaust system. A shovel and axe for use in extinguishing camp and forest fires should be carried. All open camp and branding fires, when allowed, must have a fire ring down to the mineral soil, and be handled in a safe manner. All State and local fire regulations and restrictions will be observed. Report any fires to the fire dispatcher in Show Low at **928-537-5305.**

Recreation: Recreation is increasing on the District every year. Recreation users and livestock operators must communicate to minimize conflicts.

Animal Damage: The Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest has an Animal Damage Management (ADM) Plan. Lethal control and preventative techniques may be authorized. Animal damage control methods will require case-by-case assessment and District Ranger approval.

B. GENERAL

1. Grazing bills must be paid in full, fence maintenance must be completed and five days notice must be given to the Springerville Ranger District prior to turnout date.
2. Sub-leasing is prohibited. You must own the livestock on your Allotment and they must be branded and registered in your name. A current copy of your brand certificate must be on file at the District Office. It is recommended that you also put your brand on the ear tag of your cattle so that District range personnel can identify it under adverse conditions.
3. Track actual use as it occurs by pasture on the enclosed forms and return this form to the Springerville Ranger District at the end of the grazing season. Actual use "as it occurs" means number and dates your permitted livestock are on the Allotment/Forest. It also means numbers and dates of livestock on your allotment from adjacent allotment because of broken fences, open gates, or natural barriers that are no longer effective. This information will reflect the carrying capacity of the range, need for additional improvement or possible change of management.
4. Salting and mineral placement
   - ✓ No salting is permitted with ¼ mile of live water or in meadows.
   - ✓ Change salt locations once a week or as needed and use hard ground.
   - ✓ Move creep feeders regularly and change sites every year. No mineral supplement or salt will be placed in Mexican Spotted Owl protected activity centers.
5. Wire gates need to be left open after the grazing season is over. If necessary, reconstruct gates at the first of the year and mid-season in high traffic areas. Makes sure the gates are easy to close for Forest Users (for example, use smooth wire hoop that are snug but not too tight). **"Please Close the Gate" sign are available at the District office.**
6. Horse use on the Allotment must be permitted and grazing fees will be billed for each horse.
   - ✓ Horses on summer pasture will be rotated with the livestock.
   - ✓ Horses owned by the permittee for livestock management can be kept overnight for ongoing management operations.
7. If you plan to use a camping trailer in conjunction with the livestock operation:
   - ✓ You need to inform the Range Staff of the trailer description, license number and of its location.

- ✓ Trailer holding tanks are not to be emptied directly onto the ground. Sewage dump stations are available at Big Lake Campground, Hoyer Campgrounds, Springerville, and Eagar. Camps should be maintained and kept clean.
- ✓ Permits to camp in conjunction with livestock operations are extended only to permittees and their paid employees acting within the scope of their employment. Permittees are responsible for cleaning up the site when camps are removed.

8. If the Forest Service requests a late turn out, we will credit pro-rated fees or apply to next year's billing if the amount is less than $75.00. There is an administrative charge and you should pay the bill for collection by due date.
9. **Any livestock left on the Allotment after the "off" date or left in pastures after the rotation date will be in violation of the permit and subject to be charged at the unauthorized rate.** Therefore, gathering of livestock should begin well in advance of the scheduled removal dates in order to meet this deadline. It is important to anticipate pasture moves in advance.

C. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR INFORMATION

1. Fire Safety Inspection—you will be required to have your vehicles, ATV(s), equipment, etc., inspected by the Forest Service before going onto to the Allotment. This inspection is a safety precaution to prevent wildfires.

The contact on the Springerville Ranger District is Ron Mortensen or Mark Willis. If you have any questions or concerns they can be reached at (520) 333-4372 or at PO Box 760, Springerville, AZ 85938.