

Glenwood Ranger District

Gila National Forest

ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

2019

Harden Cienega Allotment #408

Prepared By: /s/ Andrew Bryant
District Range Specialist

Date: 02/5/2019

Approved By: /s/ Erick Stemmerman
District Ranger

Date: 02/5/2019

Annual Operating Instructions

I. INTRODUCTION

Andrew Bryant (Forest Service) met with Sam McDonald (ranch manager) on February 5, 2019 to discuss management of the Harden Cienega Allotment during the current grazing year and to plan grazing management for the upcoming grazing season. These Annual Operating Instructions are the result of that discussion.

Term Permitted Livestock Numbers

Number and class of livestock	Dates
716 Cattle-Cow/Calf	03/01 – 02/28
85 Cattle-Yearlings	03/01 – 10/31
(85) Cattle-Yearlings	01/01 – 02/28
10 Horses-Saddle	03/01 – 02/28

Harden Cienega Allotment Annual Authorization

Number and class of livestock authorized	Dates Authorized
483 Cattle-Cow/Calf	03/01 – 10/31
500 Cattle-Cow/Calf	11/1-02/28
10 Horses-Saddle	03/01 – 02/28

Rotation

Number	Kind and Class	Rotation Date	Pasture
483	Cow/Calf	03/01 – 10/30	Baldy, SI, & New Mexico
REST	Cow/Calf	03/01 – 10/30	Prospect
600	Cow/Calf	11/01 – 02/28	All Pastures
*	Bull/Heifer	03/01-02/28	Bull
10	Horses	03/01-02/28	Steer/Heifer

*As needed until utilization levels (conservative = 31-40%) are met.

The above schedule for stocking the allotment depends upon the availability of forage and water. Some flexibility in the above pasture rotation dates will be allowed for justifiable causes such as weather conditions, livestock management needs, and range conditions. If there is a need to deviate from the above pasture rotation schedule by more than 15 days, you must notify the Ranger District of the proposed change in the pasture rotation date and the reason for the change. A deviation from the above schedule of more than 15 days must be approved verbally or in writing. Credit/Refund applications will not be processed unless District personnel have been notified either in advance or at the time of removal of stock.

II. MANAGEMENT OF LIVESTOCK

You are responsible for monitoring water availability and forage utilization. It is your responsibility to move your livestock when sufficient water is no longer available or when proper forage utilization is achieved in a pasture. You are responsible for keeping track of and maintaining control of your livestock. In the event your livestock are found to be out of the scheduled pasture, you will be required to find, gather, and return your animals to the proper pasture as soon as possible.

III. IMPROVEMENT MAINTENANCE

All range improvements assigned in the 10-year Term Grazing Permit should be maintained in a functioning condition. In the event these improvements cannot be brought up to a functioning condition, you should notify this office so we can schedule them for reconstruction as funds become available.

In 2017 we would like to convert SI well to solar. Estimated cost of this work is \$16,000.00. Well is about 850 ft deep. Well is currently non-functional. Last fall (2016) the windmill pump (O'Bannen cylinder) and sucker-rod was pulled. To replace in-kind would cost estimated \$10,000.00. It would be more reliable, longer-lived, and function better to convert to solar with a submersible pump this spring. **Completed 2018**

Would like to clean Grassy Tank this spring if it dries up. Cleared for work.

In 2018, we would like to clean Horse Range and McDonald Tanks in the Prospect Pasture. **Completed 2018**

IV. SPECIAL MANAGEMENT CONCERNS

For the protection of Threatened and Endangered species, the San Francisco River, Mule Creek, Harden Cienega Creek, and Coal Creek have designated exclusion areas.

Keep track of conditions on your allotment and make plans to reduce or remove livestock if vegetative/watershed conditions could be substantially harmed due to continued grazing.

V. MODIFICATIONS

If unforeseen operational conditions require a change in the management specified in this AOI please contact rangeland management personnel at the Glenwood Ranger District. Change requests should be made in advance so that field inspections (if necessary) can be conducted. Approval of changes to this AOI may be verbal or written, depending on the nature of the change requested. Verbal changes will be documented to your file for record keeping purposes. Failure to follow the direction provided in this AOI, or other instructions (verbal or written) of a Forest Officer may lead to adverse action against your Term Grazing Permit (Part 1, Section 3 of your Term Grazing Permit).

Open and positive communications concerning all AOI content is encouraged. Feel free to contact Kendall Brown if you have any questions or concerns.