



File Code: 2210/2230

Date: February 11, 2014

Nagiller and Sons, Inc
420 N 6th Street
Williams, AZ 86046

Dear Earl and John:

This document contains your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Smoot Lake and Moritz Lake Allotments during the 2014–2015 grazing season. This AOI is part of your Term Grazing Permit as indicated in part three of your Term Grazing Permit.

1. Season of Use and Numbers to be Grazed

Your annual validation will allow for the following livestock numbers and period of use:
270 adult cattle from March 1, 2014, through February 28, 2015.

2. Pasture Sequence

A) Main Herd

Pasture Name	Use Dates	Number of Head	Number of Days
Allen, NE	03/01 – 04/30	200	61
Antelope, BS	05/01 – 06/15	200	46
Drip, Lost	06/16 – 08/15	200	61
Juniper, Bull Basin	08/16 – 09/15	200	31
Moritz, Marlar, Faye	09/16 – 11/30	200	76
2015			
Smoot	12/01/14 – 02/28/15	235	90
Rested			
Rabbit	N/A	0	365

B) Bull Herd and Bull and/or Cow Herd

Pasture Name	Use Dates	Number of Head	Number of Days
Red Rock	03/01 – 05/31	35 Cows and/or Bulls	92
Evert	06/01 – 08/31	35 Cows and/or Bulls	92
Platten	09/01 – 11/30	35 Cows and/or Bulls	91
Knobs	03/01 – 12/31	35 Bulls	306

²If it appears that forage utilization guidelines are being reached in the Knobs, Red Rock, Evert, and/or Platten Pastures prior to the scheduled off-date, the Permittee will contact the Forest Service to discuss where to move the livestock and for what time period. The Forest Service will also monitor utilization to ensure that the maximum allowable utilization is not exceeded.



C) Convalescent Herd

Up to 15 animals may be kept within the corrals and waterlots at Winter Camp and Allen Lake. They must not be released to graze separately in any other pasture.

3. Allowable Use (Utilization) Guidelines

The Allowable Use Standards for the Smoot Lake and Moritz Lake Allotments are:

- 30% in the winter/spring pastures (January 1 – April 30),
- 40% in the summer/fall pastures (May 1 – December 31) that do not contain Mexican Spotted Owl or Northern Goshawk habitat,
- 20% in all Protected or Restricted Habitat for the Mexican Spotted Owl, and
- 20% in all Territories for the Northern Goshawk.

The pasture Use Dates in each pasture are tentative and subject to adaptive management. Forage conditions are variable across each allotment and they may change in response to variation in seasonal precipitation and temperature patterns. It may be necessary to change the pasture rotation or the number of days in each pasture based on pasture conditions. It is important for both the Permittee and the Forest Service to notify each other promptly if it appears that changes to this schedule may be necessary.

Livestock are to be actively herded from one pasture to the other. It is the Permittee's responsibility to ensure that all livestock are removed from each pasture within 5 days of the scheduled off date. In addition, you may begin to move livestock to the next pasture 5 days before the scheduled on date per your request. If the Permittee cannot meet this time frame, the Permittee must contact the Forest Service before this period has expired to request an extension.

Please see the AMP for the Smoot Lake and Moritz Lake for additional information.

4. Range Improvements

The Permittee must follow the Heavy Equipment Policy before starting any work that involves soil disturbance (refer to letter dated December 18, 2008).

Maintenance of Range Improvements

Range improvements assigned to you need to be inspected and the problems found corrected on a yearly basis. All fences must be maintained to standard before livestock enter a pasture.

All maintenance must conform to the standards specified by your district grazing permit administrator. You may request a Forest Products Free Use Permit in order to cut juniper fence posts and stays for use only on their Forest Service allotment. No tree cutting is allowed without a forest products permit.

Projects Identified for 2015

Continue to make progress on fence maintenance as stated in the Amendment to the Allotment Management Plan for the Smoot Lake and Moritz Lake Allotments signed on November 27, 2012. The Permittee has stated that maintenance is almost complete in the fence upgrades specified in the Amendment.

The County maintenance crew is offering to help with the cleaning of earthen tanks on the Williams Ranger District, only if they can keep the sediment build up from those tanks. The permittee would like for two of their earthen tanks cleaned; Juniper Tank and Lost Tank. These tanks already have a cleared archeological survey completed in 2011.

5. Livestock Distribution

Grazing Intensity will be more uniform across the pasture if livestock are well distributed. Distribution aids include: water hauls, waterlot control, salt and supplement stations, and herding.

The following requirements apply to the use of salt and supplements:

- a. Place salt in portable containers, rather than directly on the ground, in order to protect the soil.
- b. Remove the salt and supplements when the livestock leave the pasture.
- c. Place portable water troughs and salt/supplement stations in these locations.
- d. At least $\frac{1}{4}$ **mile away** from permanent water.
- e. Areas of light forage Utilization. Move the water or salt/supplement when the Allowable Use Standard has been met.
- f. Different sites than were used the previous year.
- g. On soils that are not fragile or eroding.
- h. On sites that are not in wetlands or drainages.
- i. On sites that are not in Mexican Spotted Owl protected or restricted habitat.
- j. On sites that do not have populations of rare plants (including Tusayan/disturbed rabbitbrush), if known.

Hay may be used only when snow has greatly limited the use of available forage. The same considerations for distribution will apply when feeding hay as given above when using salt and supplements. We encourage you to use certified, weed-free hay.

Gates in waterlot fences will be left open for wildlife, unless closed on a temporary basis to facilitate cattle distribution in the pasture.

6. Drought Management

As always, Permittees are strongly encouraged to reduce the number of animals stocked during droughts. This grazing season is likely to be drier than normal. Allowable Use Standards will be met much earlier in each pasture during the Grazing Period if the drought continues and only a minimal amount of forage is produced. If the Permittee is authorized to stock full numbers, it is likely that livestock will have to move through the pastures more quickly and be removed from the allotment at an earlier date because carrying capacity (i.e. Animal Unit Months (AUMs) available) is reduced during a drought.

7. Grazing Intensity Monitoring and Recordkeeping

All Permittees can estimate Grazing Intensity by observation in each pasture during the permitted Grazing Period. Grazing Intensity should be estimated in key areas that are located at least ¼ mile away from water or salt/supplement stations. The Permittee may make estimates in several key areas within each pasture where livestock spend the most time. Make estimates on your key forage species, i.e. common palatable species.

All Permittees are encouraged to keep records of Grazing Use and Intensity in each pasture and submit them to their district grazing permit at least yearly. Data to collect include:

- pasture name
- dates of actual use
- type and class of livestock
- number of livestock
- approximate location of key area
- Grazing Intensity class
- date of observation

Other notes may be recorded, such as precipitation records or observations. A monitoring form and guidelines for grazing intensity is included.

If you are not familiar with methods of estimating Grazing Intensity, we will arrange for training on an individual or group basis.

8. Motor Vehicle Restrictions

The Travel Management Rule (TMR) has been implemented on the Williams Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest. Implementation of the TMR will require active management of all motorized use, including that related to permitted grazing activities. Motorized travel off the designated road system by grazing permit holders should be based on need related to carrying out required management practices. Legitimate motorized use, including cross-country access, needed for conducting activities required under Term Grazing Permits will be authorized unless compelling natural and/or heritage resource issues are evident.

Contact

If you have any questions or wish to discuss anything further, please feel free to contact Rangeland Management Specialist Cherie Owens at (928)-635-5621 or cowens02@fs.fed.us.

Sincerely,

/s/ Danelle D. Harrison
DANELLE D. HARRISON
Williams District Ranger

cc: Dyan L Bone