



File Code: 2210/2230

Date: June 13, 2014

Harry Robertson
Pine Springs Ranch, Inc.
5994 E. Orange Blossom Lane
Phoenix, AZ 85018

Dear Mr. Robertson:

Enclosed is your Grazing Year 2014 Annual Operating Instructions for the Seven C Bar Allotment for 20 yearlings from July 1st to October 31st pursuant to the September 26, 2008, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Decision Notice. However, after our Annual Operation Instructions meeting (AOI) meeting on June, 9, 2014, I have authorized 20 cow/calf to be grazed on the Seven C Bar Allotment for grazing year 2014. This is calculated by converting 20 yearlings into Animal Unit Months (AUMs)—57 AUM's—and then converting those AUMs to cow/calf.

My decision reflects recent use of this allotment. Honoring that use, I am allowing conditional adaptive management—grazing cow/calf—that must adhere to the following: 1) you, the permittee, are not to exceed a use level of 40% utilization throughout the Seven C Bar Allotment; 2) and cannot exceed 57 AUMs in grazing year 2014. The Forest Service and the permittee will review the adaptive management strategy on a yearly basis.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Range Staff Jesarey Barela at (928) 635-5623 or jesareybarela@fs.fed.us or Rangeland Management Specialist Cherie Owens at (928) 635-5621 or covens02@fs.fed.us.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosure

cc: Jesarey Barela



2014 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI)

Allotment: Seven C Bar Allotment
Permittee: Pine Springs Ranch, Inc.
Permit Number: 07-869

Permitted Use:

Permittee	Numbers	Type	Season
Pine Springs Ranch, Inc.	20 Yearlings	Term	07/01-10/31

1. **Authorization:** Authorized to graze the following in 2014:

Permittee	Numbers	Type	Season
Pine Springs Ranch, Inc.	40 Calf/Calf	Term	07/01-7/31
Pine Springs Ranch, Inc.	40 Cow/Calf	Term	10/01-10/31

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 Williams Ranger District Office. **Note:** Credit or refund applications will not be processed unless value is \$100.00 or more and District Range personnel have been notified either in advance or at the time livestock are removed from NFS Lands.

2. **Management:** Seven C Bar 2014 Pasture Rotation:

Pasture	Time Frame
Seven C Bar	07/01-07/31 (40 Cow/Calf)
Seven C Bar	10/01-10/31 (40 Cow/Calf)

Please notify us of cattle movements onto and off of the allotments, 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 14 days, please contact District Range personnel at least two weeks in advance so that we have time to conduct monitoring and assess your request.



3. Utilization Standards and Monitoring:

In accordance with the Decision Notice signed on September 26th 2008, the allowable use level set for the Allotment will be conservative use of 40%. Key areas will be visited to determine actual grazing use / seasonal use by livestock and wildlife. 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 Range 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 Range personnel and/or on your own.

Pasture	Monitoring date
Seven C Bar	7/15/2014
Seven C Bar	10/15/2014

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 2014 grazing season, total or partial livestock removal from the allotment may be necessary.

5. Fire

Be careful with campfires and branding fires. Pile burning is not permitted. During periods of critical fire danger, the Forest Supervisor may declare a Red Flag Alert or issue other special restrictions. Under these conditions, the building or use of fires, the use of power saws, heavy equipment, vehicles, ATV's, and other motorized equipment may be prohibited on Forest Service Land.

6. 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 the 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.

7. **Travel Management:**

The Travel Management Rule (TMR) has been implemented on the Williams Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest. Implementation of 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.

Any unplanned or emergency type travel not previously contemplated in the Term Grazing Permit will be discussed with appropriate authorization and guidance established in the AOI. If access is required in a motor vehicle restricted area or on a closed road, you must have special authorization in the form of an Off-Road Vehicle Permit or specific authorization through your AOI.

8. **Range Improvements:**

All assigned range developments identified in your Term Grazing Permit must be maintained to a functional status.

Advance planning is needed for fences when it comes to complete rebuilds and the use of heavy equipment to evaluate the need for any additional surveys. In the event that you are authorized to use heavy equipment, please follow the Heavy Equipment Policy (December 2008) before starting any work that involves soil disturbance. General maintenance/repair, such as replacing several T-posts, braces, and strands of wire is excluded. Advance planning is also needed for authorized stock tank cleaning so surveys can be scheduled accordingly. Please contact the District Range personnel in advance if you are proposing any of this type of work to inquire about the availability of materials, necessary clearances and for a permit modification.

A Forest Products Free Use Permit must be obtained in order to cut juniper fence posts and stays for use only on your Forest Service allotment. No tree cutting is allowed without a forest products permit.

Hazard trees may need to be cut to prevent them from falling on fences. However, no tree cutting may be conducted without specific written permission from the Forest Service.

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:

Improvements:

1. Evans Tank – The permittee may build a water lane into the northern most tank, coming into from the east side of the 7C Bar fence (T21N, R1E, SWNE of Section 22). The Forest Service can provide materials for this project.

2. Hat Tank – This tank originates on private land but a portion of it is on the Forest. The adjoining sheep permittee (Joseph Auza) has access to the Forest-side tank but there have been times when the sheep have gotten onto the private land. Mr. Auza has agreed to place sheep fencing along that fenceline (at his own expense), to keep the sheep on the Forest side of the fence.
9. **The Seven C Bar 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 September 26th 2008 Seven C Bar Allotment Decision Notice for the Seven C Bar Allotment, the December 2008 Seven C Bar Allotment Management Plan and in the Kaibab National Forest Plan. It also complies with the Endangered Species Act on-going grazing consultation for the Seven C Bar Allotment. Any additional information collected during the year may be incorporated into the annual operating instructions.