Pine Creek C&H Allotment
2009 ANNUAL OPERATING PROVISIONS

1. Permitted and Authorized Use

The 2009 cost per Head Month is $1.35 and will be added to your Bill for Collection when received. The Bill will be mailed to you. Payment must be received by the due date listed on the Bill for Collection.

Your permit reads as follows:

Permittee	Allotment	Term Permit	Season	AUMs
Brian and Jolie Carter #61343	Pine Creek	80 c/c	03/01-02/28	960

Upon payment of fees, you are authorized to graze as follows:

Permittee	**Authorized**	**Season**	**AUMS**
Brian and Jolie Carter	**75 c/c**	**03/01-02/28**	**900**

Actual on-dates and off-dates are dependant on range readiness and when allowable use standards are met. The Forest Service may approve changes to the grazing rotation in consultation with you, to address range condition and situations that may occur due to forage condition or weather related circumstances.

2. Grazing Management

It is expected that livestock be moved before utilization standards are met. If allowable use levels are met early in the scheduled pasture, cattle will be rotated into the next pasture or off the Forest. This should prevent non-compliance of standards, allowing for time to clean the unit of stragglers.

Monitoring will be conducted to measure utilization of riparian and upland vegetation throughout the grazing year.
The following illustrates last year's rotation:

PASTURE	***ON***	***OFF***	***NUMBER***
Sawmill	03/01	06/15/	75
Pine Creek	06/16	11/15	75
Sawmill	11/16	02/28	75

The following illustrates any changes made during the annual Validation Meeting to the 2009 grazing rotation by Pasture:

PASTURE	***ON***	***OFF***	***NUMBER***
Pine Creek	03/01	06/15	75
Republic Pasture (private)	06/16	07/01	75
Sawmill	07/02	11/15	75
Koko Trap	11/16	12/01	75
Pine Creek	12/02	02/28	75

Cattle are to be completely removed from a pasture by the off date. You will be allowed two weeks prior to the off date to begin moving cattle into the next pasture. If two weeks is not adequate, you must request additional time from this office. Please notify this office when you begin to move cattle and when a pasture rotation is complete.

Permittees with livestock in rested units, grazing units outside the season of use, and grazing areas not authorized in advance, will be non-compliant with the terms and conditions of their Term Grazing Permit. Appropriate action, including billing at the unauthorized use rate, may be taken.

3. Gila National Forest Management Direction

Your Term Grazing Permit includes the specific maximum allowable utilization levels applicable to your allotment. Allowable use is calculated at a point-in-time. To comply with standards in the Gila National Forest Plan, livestock must be moved to another unit or remove them from National Forest System lands regardless of the time remaining in the grazing season before utilization standards are met.

You are responsible for tracking and complying with your permitted forage use levels. For your convenience, the Pine Creek C&H Allotment maximum allowable forage utilization levels are listed below:

Pine Creek C&H Allotment:

The following use standards will be applied on the allotment:

- Riparian areas are not to exceed 25% on riparian and subirrigated grasses such as sedges and ketucky bluegrass. This use standard is implemented in riparian areas to minimize use on riparian woody species to promote regrowth.
- Upland sites grazed during the growing season are not to exceed 30-40% of current year's growth of perennial grasses.
- Upland sites grazed during the dormant season are not to exceed 30-40% of current year's growth of perennial grasses.

1. Range Improvements

Range improvements must be maintained to standard before cattle are allowed into a pasture. It is the permittee's responsibility to ensure that range improvements remain functional. This includes boundary fences in pastures not currently being grazed. Routine maintenance of existing improvements does not require written clearance; however, construction/reconstruction of new improvements must be authorized in writing from this office.

2009 Improvements Planned (Work or Supplies Needed from 2008 and New Projects)

- Poverty Creek Enclosure Fence
- Cattleguard drift fences along highway 59
- Water Trough/Fenceline –Catcus Ridge Trough. (Clearance Approved)

2009 proposed improvements planned

Section 10 Thinning Project (need Clearance)

When improvements have been maintained, please call the Black Range Ranger Station and report that maintenance has been completed. If verification is not received from the permittee, inspections will be made. During that inspection, if we find maintenance has not been completed, and livestock are grazing an area unscheduled for use at the time, they will be considered unauthorized. Permittees may be billed for unauthorized use and/or permit action taken for maintenance.

All water developments must provide access and escape to and from water for all types of wildlife. Please contact the Kameron or Shane for assistance.

2. Monitoring

During the 2009 grazing year, we (FS & permittee) will continue to implement the monitoring plan that is a part of the Pine Creek allotment proposed on-going grazing action that we consulted on during the 2005 grazing year. We need to place and monitor utilization cages throughout the uplands to support the grazing action taking place.

The idea of a key area is to find a site that is representative of a larger area in which cattle obtain the majority of their required forage resources. Key area monitoring will avoid areas directly adjacent to permanent water sources, cattle trails, roads, and fence lines.

- Riparian areas will be monitored for use on riparian woody species as well as riparian herbaceous species.
- Upland areas will be monitored for use on perennial grass species.
- Mexican spotted owl protected and restricted habitat will be monitored to ensure that current management is providing cover for rodent prey species, the residual biomass that will support prescribed natural and ignited fires that would reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire in the Forest, and regeneration of riparian trees.

District personnel will contact the permittees to coordinate site visits to monitor key areas. Permittee

participation is encouraged. Forage utilization estimates will be consistent with the Forest Service Range Analysis Handbook methodology, and may also include FS Regional stubble-height standards, as well as other techniques generally accepted in the field of range management.

3. Special Management Instructions

The following restrictions will be implemented so that management remains in compliance with the Endangered Species Act. The instructions below relate to threatened, endangered, and proposed to be listed species as well as range/watershed conditions.

- NStock tanks must be surveyed for possible aquatic habitat before earth-disturbing maintenance is authorized.
- We determined that livestock grazing may affect but will not adversely effect the Chiricahua leopard frog or Mexican Spotted Owl. As a result of this determination, there were no changes required of your grazing permit. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concurred with this determination. Therefore, consultation has been completed. A copy of this consultation is on file with your local Ranger District.

The Endangered Species Act requires that actions funded or carried out by the federal government go through the consultation process to insure these actions do not jeopardize the continued existence of a listed species. Please notify this office of any planned earth disturbing activities involving riparian areas, dirt tanks, or other sources of open water.

4. Other Instructions

On yearlong ranges, calves under six months of age on January 1st will be counted against the authorized numbers on April 1st. After April 1st, these calves must be removed from the Forest or counted against the authorized numbers.

The permittee must obtain permission from this office, before conducting earth- disturbing activities on the National Forest. The Forest Service will arrange inspections of project areas and will prepare appropriate environmental and cultural documents before earth-disturbing activities proceed. These activities include road/earthen tank maintenance, as well as construction/reconstruction of trails, roads, earthen tanks, etc. Do not conduct any earth-disturbing activities on the Forest without written clearance from this office.

Salt must be located at least ¼ mile from water, and preferably on ridges and/or areas of low use. Do not place salt blocks in the same location as the previous year, and locate blocks on hard ground not susceptible to erosion. Supplemental feeding, other than mineral or supplement block, is not authorized on the National Forest.

Please maintain Accurate records of your operation will aid in planning and determining the effectiveness of the grazing system. Please maintain reasonably accurate records of cattle numbers

The Annual Operating Instructions are a part of the Term Grazing Permit as provided for in Part 1, Section 3. These instructions comply with the standards and guidelines found in the Forest Plan, including the 1996 Forest Plan Amendment. They also comply with the Endangered Species Act found

in the Biological Assessment for the Pine Creek Allotment. Any additional information collected during the year may be incorporated into the Annual Operating Instructions.

Thes provisions are not subject to administrative review through appeal.

Your compliance with these instructions is essential for the proper management of National Forest System lands. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of your permit and these instructions may result in issuance of a notice of noncompliance with the terms of your grazing permit. If needed during the grazing season, changes can be made in these instructions, provided the changes are first approved and documented by the Area Ranger or other authorized Forest Service officer.

We look forward to working with you and solicit your cooperation and involvement in bringing about sound range and livestock management practices that will enhance all of the allotment's resources. If you have any ideas or suggestions that will improve the management of this allotment, we would like to hear from you.

This 2009 Annual Operating Provisions for the Pine Creek C&H Allotment was discussed with the Permittee on __February 6, 2009.. Understand that these operating instructions are issued by the Forest Officer in charge of the area under permit as provided in Clause 8a of your term grazing permit. As such, they require the same degree of compliance as the regular terms of your permit.

Approved By: _____***/s/ Larry D. Cosper***, *District Ranger* _____ __***02/26/2009***_____
Forest Officer in Charge Date

Reviewed By:_____ _____
Permittee Date

Pine Creek C&H
2009 ACTUAL USE RECORD

Planned use from the AOI:

Allotment	**Units**	**Numbers**	**Season**
Pine Creek		**c/c**	

Please fill in your actual use by the unit grazed and the number of livestock and dates grazed in each unit. Bulls count as part of your permitted numbers.

Unit	Number of Livestock	Date entered Unit	Date left Unit

LOSSES: Indicate number and class of animals lost by cause.

Unit	Class of Lvstk	Predators	Poison	Other

Days spent maintaining allotment improvements:_____Approximate cost of materials: $_____
Approximate cost to manage livestock on National Forest, including riding, salting etc.:$_____
COMMENTS:

_____

_____

Signature:_____Date:_____