

Underwood & Trout/Dillman Creek Allotments
Quemado Ranger District
2009 Annual Operating Instructions
(2/6/2009)

Permittee: Swapp Land and Cattle Company

Permit Numbers: 61207 & 61208

Term Permitted Livestock Numbers:

Permitted	From	To	Allotment
48 Cow/calf	4/01	1/31	Trout/Dillman Creek
185 Cow/calf	5/01	10/31	Underwood Lake

2009 Annual Authorization:

Authorized	From	To	Allotment
48 Cow/calf	4/01/09	1/31/10	Trout/Dillman Creek
185 Cow/calf	5/01/09	10/31/09	Underwood Lake

2009 Underwood Lake Pasture Rotation:

Pasture	From	To	Number	Allowable Use by Species	Allowable Use by species
Lost Spring	5/1/09	7/1/09	All Cattle	Bluegrass 40%	Blue Grama 35%
Underwood	7/1/09	9/15/09	All Cattle	Bluegrass 40%	Blue Grama 35%
Steele	9/15/09	10/15/09	All Cattle	Bluegrass 40%	Blue Grama 35%
Romero	10/15/09	10/31/09	All Cattle	Bluegrass 40%	Blue Grama 35%

See Grazing Restrictions & Allowable Use Sections for Riparian Utilization Levels of Woody Vegetation

2009 Dillman/Trout Creek Pasture Rotation:

Pasture	From	To	Number	Allowable Use by Species	Allowable Use by Species
Private Land	3/1/09	3/31/09	All Cattle		
Dillman Creek	4/01/09	5/01/09	All Cattle	Bluegrass 30%	Blue Grama 20%
Mesa	5/01/09	6/15/09	All Cattle	Bluegrass 30%	Blue Grama 20%
Bill Lee	6/15/09	8/15/09	All Cattle	Bluegrass 30%	Blue Grama 20%
Turk	8/15/09	10/15/09	All Cattle	Bluegrass 30%	Blue Grama 20%
Foxy Grandpa	10/15/09	1/31/10	All Cattle	Bluegrass 30%	Blue Grama 20%
Private Land	1/31/10	2/28/10	All Cattle		

See Grazing Restrictions & Allowable Use Sections for Riparian Utilization Levels of Woody Vegetation

Grazing Restriction:

The following grazing restrictions will apply in portions of the Romero Pasture of the Underwood Lake Allotment.

No salt, mineral or supplemental feed may be placed in this area from February 1 to August 31, and no concentrations of livestock, i.e., corral use, traps or large gathering of livestock is allowed. Routine maintenance of range developments is allowed.

Construction or reconstruction of range developments is permitted only outside the restricted season. The purpose of this restriction is to mitigate impacts to wildlife.

The following grazing restrictions apply to the Dillman Creek Pasture of the Trout/Dillman Allotment.

As outlined in the 2002 Decision, the Dillman Creek pasture is to be grazed with the resource objective of suppressing herbaceous vegetation in favor of woody vegetation. Allowable use of woody vegetation in this pasture is limited to 10% of riparian sprouts and seedlings. Please monitor this pasture as diligently as you did in 2005 and 2007 to insure utilization standards are met.

Allowable Use:

The Underwood Lake Decision Notice dated 9/10/2002 established key area forage utilization guidelines of 40% allowable use on Kentucky Bluegrass and 35% allowable use on remaining forage species. When livestock are permitted to graze within Creek and Big Bend pastures, utilization of woody riparian species is limited to no more than 10% of the riparian sprouts/seedlings within a pasture heavily hedged. Within other riparian areas on the allotment that contain woody riparian plants, utilization is limited to no more than 25% of the riparian sprouts/seedlings within a riparian area.

The Trout Creek/Dillman Decision Notice dated 12/17/2002 established key area forage utilization guidelines of 30% allowable use on Kentucky Bluegrass, and 20% allowable use on other forage species during growing and dormant season. When livestock are permitted to graze within Trout Creek, Dillman Creek and Trout Campground pastures, utilization of woody riparian species is limited to no more than 10% of the riparian sprouts/seedlings within a pasture. Within other riparian areas on the allotment that contain woody riparian plants, utilization is limited to no more than 25% of the riparian sprouts/seedlings within a riparian area.

Utilization Monitoring of Key Areas:

Utilization monitoring will continue at or near key area monitoring sites. Forest personnel may also monitor key areas within two weeks before or after livestock leave a pasture. The percentage of grazing utilization will be determined at that time. The following approximate dates have been scheduled for monitoring on the Dillman/Trout Creek, and Underwood Lake Allotments. You are encouraged to participate in monitoring utilization levels.

2009 Monitoring Dates:

Allotment	Pasture	Monitoring Date	Allotment	Pasture	Monitoring Date
Trout/Dillman	Dillman	4/29/09	Trout/Dillman	Turk	10/08/09
Trout/Dillman	Mesa	6/12/09	Underwood	Steele	10/08/09
Underwood	Lost Spring	6/12/09	Underwood	Romero	11/2/09
Trout/Dillman	Bill Lee	8/3/09	Trout Dillman	Foxy Grandpa	1/23/10
Underwood	Underwood	9/10/09			

If any one key area in a pasture being grazed by livestock exceeds utilization, livestock will be moved to another area of the pasture where actual use is less than allowable use. If all remaining key areas in the grazed pasture are at allowable use levels, livestock will be required to be moved early to the next scheduled pasture. If all pastures have reached the allowable use, then livestock will be required to move early to private land pastures. This requirement is necessary to prevent overuse on forage plants.

2008 Utilization Monitoring Results:

Date	Pasture	Key Area	Utilization
5/15/08	Foxy Grandpa	C4	1%
5/15/08	Foxy Grandpa	P4	0%
6/12/08	Mesa	C1	1%
6/12/08	Mesa	P2	1%
7/15/08	Steele	C2	0%
7/15/08	Steele	P2	1%
7/15/08	Steele	C3	0%

Monitoring results for the 2008 grazing season show 0 accounts of over utilization; I appreciate your efforts in complying with utilization standards and management of livestock to stay within these standards. Please continue to monitor and rotate livestock to comply with rotation schedule and stay below utilization standards.

Forage Growth and Water Availability:

If forage growth and water availability are not adequate during all or portions of the 2009 grazing season, total or partial livestock removal from the allotment may be necessary. Part 2, clause 8(c) of the grazing permit provides this option.

Range Developments:

All assigned range developments identified in the Term Grazing Permits will be maintained to a functional status.

Actual Use:

Your actual use reported for 2008 was 1119 AM's for Underwood and 483 AM's for Trout and Dillman Creek. For your information, the 10 year actual use average has been 1034 AM's for Underwood, and 511 AM's for Trout and Dillman Creek.

If you have any questions or comments concerning these Annual Operating Instructions, please do not hesitate to call Stan Towner or Monte Topmiller at (575) 773-4678.

Janice S. Stevenson

JANICE S. STEVENSON
District Ranger

03-03-09

Date