



File Code: 2230-3/2210-1

Date: May 24, 2010

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

Dear Harry:

This document contains your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the 7C-Bar Allotment during the 2010 grazing season. This AOI is part of your Term Grazing Permit as indicated in part three of your permit.

1) **Season of Use and Numbers to be Grazed**

Your 2010 annual validation and billing period will allow for the following period of use with the following numbers allowed:

15 Cattle from July 1, 2009 to October 31, 2009

2) **Pasture Sequence**

The 7C-Bar Allotment is one pasture and due to its limited size it is not feasible to create multiple pastures by cross-fencing. The allotment is used in alternate years.

3) **Range Improvements**

The Permittee must follow the Heavy Equipment Policy (amended December 2008) before starting any work that involves soil disturbance.

All maintenance and new construction must conform to the standards specified by your district grazing permit administrator.

Maintenance of Range Improvements

No specific projects have been identified at the time of this writing. As needs arise, please contact the Forest Service.

Construction of New Range Improvements

No specific projects have been identified at the time of this writing. As needs arise, please contact the Forest Service.



4) **Livestock Distribution**

Livestock distribution may be improved by using water hauls, waterlot controls, salt and supplement stations, and/or herding.

The following apply to portable water hauling:

- a) Coordinate with your district grazing permit administrator at your annual validation meeting, or prior to the Grazing Period, to identify portable water haul locations.
- b) Provide wildlife escape ramps in water troughs and open metal storage tanks. The Kaibab National Forest may supply ramps given supplies are available.
- c) Remove portable haul water storage tanks and troughs when livestock leave the pasture.

The following 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.

Appropriate locations for portable water troughs and salt/supplement stations are:

- a) At least ¼ mile away from permanent water.
- b) Areas of light forage utilization. Moving the water or salt/supplement when the Allowable Use Standard has been met is recommended.
- c) Alternate sites than were used the previous year.
- d) On soils that are not fragile, eroding, or susceptible to erosion.
- e) On sites that are not in wetlands or drainages.
- f) On sites that are not in Mexican Spotted Owl protected or restricted habitat.
- g) On sites that do not have populations of rare plants, if known.

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

5) **Drought Management**

Permittees are strongly encouraged to voluntarily reduce numbers of animals during drought periods. Allowable Use Standards will be met much earlier during the Grazing Period if the drought persists. If the Permittee is authorized to stock full numbers during drought periods, livestock may be required to move through the pasture more quickly and removed from the allotment at an earlier date if carrying capacity (i.e., Animal Unit Months (AUMs) available) is reduced due to low forage production.

6) **Allowable Use (Utilization) Guidelines**

Allowable Use Standards for the allotment are set in the 2006 Allotment Management Plan (AMP).

Manage grazing intensity to not exceed **Moderate Grazing Intensity** category during the growing season, and to not exceed **Conservative Grazing Intensity** category at or near the end of the growing season when the potential for plant re-growth is limited.

7) **Grazing Intensity Monitoring and Recordkeeping**

All Permittees are encouraged to estimate and record Grazing Intensity in each pasture during the permitted Grazing Period. It is preferred that Grazing Intensity be estimated for preferred forage species in key areas that are located at least ¼ mile away from water or salt/supplement stations, and that are preferred by livestock within each pasture.

Preferred data to collect include: dates of actual use, type and class of livestock, number of livestock, approximate location of key area, Grazing Intensity class, and date of observation. If you are not familiar with methods of estimating Grazing Intensity, we can arrange for training upon request.

8) **Motor Vehicle Restrictions**

If you need to enter a motor vehicle restricted area, you must have special authorization in the form of an Off-Road Vehicle Permit or specific authorization through your Annual Operating Instructions. Entering a restricted area without authorization is a violation of 36 CFR 261.

The Kaibab National Forest has actively pursued a road closure program for the last several years. This program is aimed at reducing non-essential roads for watershed protection and to decrease disturbance to wildlife. These closures must also be honored by the Permittees.

Additionally, the District policy is to discourage the public from use of vehicles off road. Permittees should also refrain from this practice for resource protection. Please contact the District when off-road vehicle use is anticipated.

Contact

If you have any questions or wish to discuss anything further, please feel free to contact Rangeland Management Specialist Jason Stevens at (928) 635-5625 (jasonstevens@fs.fed.us), or FAX at (928) 635-5681.

Sincerely,

/s/ Martie Schramm
MARTIE SCHRAMM
District Ranger