



File Code: 2210-1/2230-3

Date: May 25, 2010

Manterola Ranches, LLC
PO Box 1127
Casa Grande, AZ 85130

Dear Joe:

This document contains your amended Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Garland Prairie and Chalender Allotments during the 2010 grazing season, and supersedes your previous AOI. The Pomeroy Allotment will receive complete rest 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:

2240 Sheep from June 1 to July 15, 2010

2. Pasture Sequence

The Permittee will operate with two bands of sheep, consisting of 1,120 sheep in each band. One band will graze on the Garland Prairie Allotment and the other on the Chalender Allotment.

The Garland Prairie Allotment rotation (1,120 head) for the 2010 grazing season will be counter-clockwise, and as follows:

1	Airport
2	Montoya
3	Pacchuco
4	Judy
5	Gray

The Chalender Allotment Rotation (1,120 head) for the 2010 grazing season will be as follows:

Pasture	Grazing Period	Number of Days
East	June 1 to June 20	20
Middle	June 21 to July 2	13
West	July 3 to July 15	12



The Garland Prairie Allotment will be grazed in accordance with the Garland Prairie-Pomeroy Allotment Management Plan, signed by Forest Service Staff on April 2, 1984, stating that when the Permittee or Forest Service determines that utilization (i.e., use category) has been met within ¼ mile of a camp, the camp will be moved to another area that has not been used during the current grazing season. This is approximately 2 days in one camp site. The same operating procedures will be required on the Chalender Allotment.

Grazing is prohibited at Mineral Lake, Scholz Lake, Dogtown Reservoir and Campground, and the Sherwood Forest residential area. It is the permittee's responsibility to ensure livestock do not enter these areas. In addition, livestock are not to use the earthen tank at Mineral Lake until water has receded to within the Mineral Lake livestock enclosure and the soil has completely dried out.

This rotation is tentative, and subject to adaptive management. It may be necessary to adjust the rotation based on the amount of available forage, grazing intensity (i.e., animal demand and level of defoliation), forage utilization, water availability, and livestock distribution. It is important for both the Permittee and Forest Service personnel to notify each other promptly if it appears that an adjustment to this rotation is necessary. It is a permit violation to make changes to the Grazing Schedule without first notifying and receiving approval from the Forest Service.

It is the Permittee's responsibility to actively herd livestock in order to comply with the suggested rotation. All livestock are to be removed from the allotment(s) within 5 days of the scheduled off date. If the Permittee can not meet this time frame, the Permittee should contact the Forest Service before this period has expired to request an extension.

Note: The Permittee has expressed interest in bringing livestock back on the Kaibab National Forest during 10/15 to 10/31 for shipping. Please contact the Forest Service prior to such so that an assessment can be made and permission granted given that the conditions allow for re-stocking during this 16-day period.

3. Range Improvements

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

Maintenance of Range Improvements

Rangeland Improvements should be inspected and maintained on an annual basis. All fences should be maintained to standard before livestock enter a pasture.

No projects have been identified at the time of this writing. As needs arise, please contact your permit administrator.

Construction of New Range Improvements

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

4. Livestock Distribution

Again, as stated in the Garland Prairie-Pomeroy Allotment Management Plan, signed by Forest Service Staff on April 2, 1984, when the Permittee or Forest Service determines that utilization (i.e., use category) has been met within ¼ mile of a camp, the camp will be moved to another area that has not been used during the current grazing season. This is approximately 2 days in one camp site.

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 grazing permit administrator prior to the grazing period to identify portable water haul locations for individual pastures.
- 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 sheep 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 pastures 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

Manage grazing intensity to not exceed **Moderate Use** category during the growing season (approximately March 15 - August 30), and to not exceed **Conservative Use** category at or near the end of the growing season when the potential for plant regrowth is limited (approximately September 1 – November 15). Details on determining Use categories were provided to the Permittee at the Annual Validation Meeting held on April 16, 2009 at the Coconino National Forest Peaks Ranger District in Flagstaff, AZ.

Mexican Spotted Owl critical habitat has been designated on the Garland Prairie/Pomeroy Allotment (a map will be provided upon request). See Term Grazing Permit for more details.

The Northern Goshawk is also located within the Garland Prairie/Pomeroy Allotment. See Term Grazing Permit for more details.

In the Chalender Allotment Mexican Spotted Owl Pine-Oak Restricted Habitat is found in the NE, NW, and Southern parts of the West Pasture; in the North half and the SW part of the Middle Pasture; and in the NW and East parts of the East Pasture. These areas include parts of Aspen Hill, Davenport Hill, 7 Bar K Hill, Pine Hill, and Horse Hill. Mexican Spotted Owl Mixed Conifer Restricted Habitat is found in two very small locations on Davenport Hill.

In the Chalender Allotment Northern Goshawk habitat (territory or home range) is found in the Southern part of the West Pasture; in the NE part of the Middle Pasture; and in the NW and East parts of the East Pasture. These areas include parts of Aspen Hill, Pine Hill, and Horse Hill. Management requirements for the Mexican Spotted Owl and the Northern Goshawk require that forage and habitat be maintained in a healthy condition for owl and goshawk prey species which are small mammals and various birds.

7. Grazing Intensity Monitoring and Recordkeeping

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:

- 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

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) 635-5680

Sincerely,

/S/MARTIE SCHRAMM
MARTIE SCHRAMM
District Ranger

