

FLECHADO ALLOTMENT #453
CARSON NATIONAL FOREST
Camino Real Ranger District

ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS 2010

The annual meeting for the Flechado Allotment was held on May 11, 2010, at the District Office in Peñasco, New Mexico with Herman Manzanares. Tammy Malone, Sean Kelly and Melvin Herrera represented the Camino Real Ranger District.

These annual operating instructions are hereby made a part of the Term Grazing Permit for Herman Manzanares.

The Camino Real District and permittees discussed improving drought conditions, current snow depth and water content on the allotment, and the outlook on predicted weather patterns for this coming grazing season. Considerable snowfall and moisture has occurred making it possible to offer full numbers to the permittee this year.

Table 1-Permittee Permitted and Authorized kind and number

1. Permittee	Permitted Number and Kind	Authorized Number and kind
Herman A. Manzanares	100-131 cow/calf	100 cow/calf

Table 2- Season of use

2. Season of Use	
06/16 - 9/30	(107 days)

Table 3-Pasture Rotation Estimated time and actual use

3. Pasture Rotation Pasture	Estimated Dates	Estimated Time	Actual use	utilization %
Flechado	06/16 – 07/15	30 days		
Osha	07/16 – 08/20	35 days		
La Jara	08/21 – 09/22	32 days		
Riparian/Gathering	09/23 – 09/30	9 days		
Siemental	REST			

Adaptive management will continue to be applied to the management of the Flechado allotment which means that the season of use, numbers grazed, and rotation schedules may be adjusted throughout the grazing season based on resource conditions. Range improvements, i.e. Fences, will be maintained prior to moving to a different pasture.

4. Maintenance of Improvements

Improvements maintenance is the responsibility of the permittee. Assigned allotment boundary fences, pasture division fences, stock tanks, springs, cattleguards, and other range structural improvements must be maintained prior to the permittee going on to the allotment.

5. Other Items of Discussion

The 2009 grazing season went well with good production of forage and use being within the guidelines. The Osha pasture was again rested last year due to lack of fence between the allotment and Angel Fire. Maintenance of assigned range improvements was good.

There was some progress made last year on the fence between the Osha pasture and Angel Fire. About one mile of fence is still needed to complete the fence. More work will be scheduled for this year so that the permittee can use this pasture. Recreational users continue to cause problems with gates being left open, off road travel on closed roads, and fences being cut. Most problems are caused by ATV users. Permittee asked for spring loaded or gravity closing gates to automatically close gates.

The elk enclosure in the riparian pasture was discussed and the permittees again expressed their expectation that it be removed within a few years. FS discussed that a monitoring plan will be implemented and will occur over the next five years. The permittee was fine with this effort.

Permittee was briefed on current and upcoming activities in the La Jara Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) project. The fuelwood area on the northwest corner of the Siemental pasture will have more thinning this year and the public will be provided access the forest to retrieve firewood. Other areas in La Jara pasture and possibly Flechado pasture will also be thinned this year.

Utilization guidelines for 2010 are 40% of available annual forage in key use areas, and 4 inches stubble height in riparian zones. Forage utilization will be measured in key use areas.

The grazing fee this year is \$1.35 per head month for cattle.

Permittee and FS will look at range together to determine range readiness and on-date.

The Forest Service discussed ongoing efforts with the Travel Management Rule. A decision is expected by the end of the season. If permittees need to use ATV's and motor vehicles for performing their required improvement maintenance and other duties such as checking that gates are closed, checking cattle distribution, monitoring, and placing of salt; the Forest Service should be able to accommodate with a written letter issued to the permittees.

Priority for Range Betterment work for 2010:

1. E boundary fence in the Osha Fire area needs reconstruction about 1 mile.
2. Construct tank N of Sec. 34 private property
3. Replace the waterline for the drinker in Apache canyon.
4. Stock trail E of Sec. 34 private property needs to be cut out.
5. Reconstruct fence between private land and Flechado pasture to provide a division between the Flechado and Osha pastures.

6. Clean out spring between Apache and Bull passes.
7. Spring development at Palo Flechado Pass.
8. New trough for Siemental.
9. Remove old trough from Bull spring.

The fence reconstruction on NM 64 right-of-way fence should be scheduled to be reconstructed by the NMDOT this upcoming summer from the east side of the Siemental pasture up to the top of Palo Flechado Pass. It seems to have been delayed due to funding issues.

Some discussion on the ongoing NEPA process for this allotment took place. The decision is ready to be implemented. Forest Service reviewed the new Term Grazing Permit with the permittee and also discussed priorities for scheduled range improvements.

Forest Service would like at least 2 weeks notice prior to any proposed change in management (either season or numbers) so that they can go look at the allotment with the permittee.