

**ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS**

**2011 Grazing Season**  
**(3/01/2011-2/28/2012)**

**Reserve Ranger District**  
**Gila National Forest**

**Black Bob Allotment**



Agreed To By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Myrna Christensen, *Permittee*

Agreed To By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Glen McCarty, *Permittee*

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
John D. Pierson, *District Ranger*



## 2011 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI)

**Allotment:** Black Bob

**Permittees:** Myrna Christensen and Glen McCarty

**Permit Numbers:** 61351 & 61233

### Permitted Use:

Permittee	Numbers	Type	Season
Myrna Christensen	20 Cow/Calf	Term	3/01-4/30
			7/01-2/28
Glen McCarty	299 Cow/Calf	Term	3/01-5/15
			11/01-2/28

### 1. **Authorization:** Authorized to graze the following in 2011:

Permittee	Numbers	Type	Season
Myrna Christensen	*20 Cow/Calf	Term	3/01-4/30
			7/01-2/28
Glen McCarty	*299 Cow/Calf	Term	3/01-5/15
			11/01-2/28

\* As stated in letters sent to you dated January 20<sup>th</sup> 2009 and August 24<sup>th</sup> 2010, Per Part 2, Section 8(f) and Part 3, Section 4, 6 or 7 of your Term Grazing Permit; Cattle will be counted on and off the Forest and will be numerically tagged when returning on Forest to ensure accurate actual use data for the Black Bob Allotment. Please contact District Range Personnel to schedule cattle counting at least five days in advance.

**Counting Livestock:** The standard for counting livestock on an allotment is as follows:

- a. All cattle six (6) months of age or older **at the time of entering** the National Forest **and all weaned** animals regardless of age will be counted against the permitted numbers on the allotment and charged for at the current rate.

**Nonuse:** Application for credit or refund must be made in “**writing**” and “**in advance**” by the permittee to the District Ranger using Form FS-2200-1 (Refund, Credit, or Transfer Application). When it is not possible to be timely in getting to the Ranger District Office, the permittee may phone in a request for refund or credit. The permittee will then complete Form FS-2200-1 (Refund, Credit, or Transfer Application) at the next visit to the Reserve Ranger District Office. **Note:** Credit or refund applications will not be processed unless value is \$100.00 or more and District personnel have been notified either in advance or at the time livestock are removed from NFS Lands.



**2. Management: Black Bob 2011 Pasture Rotation**

<b>Pasture</b>	<b>Permittee/Cattle Number</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
SU/Cienega/West Mess Box	McCarty - up to 264 head	3/01-5/15/2011
East Largo	McCarty - up to 35 head	3/01/-5/15/2011
Landfill	McCarty - Cycle SU, Cienega and Mess Box cattle through Landfill and off the Allotment.	4/30-5/15/2011
	<b>McCarty – Cattle removed from Black Bob</b>	<b>5/16-10/31/2011</b>
Landfill	McCarty – Tag cattle in Landfill and disperse throughout SU, Cienega, Mess Box & E. Largo.	11/01-11/30/2011 (15 Days)
East Largo	McCarty - up to 35 head	11/01-2/28/2012
SU/Cienega/West Mess Box	McCarty - up to 264 head	11/01-2/28/2012
<b>Pasture</b>	<b>Permittee/Cattle Number</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
East Largo	Christensen/ 20 head	3/01-4/30/2011
Barreras Trap	Christensen-cycle through for shipping (15 days)	4/15-4/30/2011
	<b>Christensen – Cattle removed from Black Bob</b>	<b>5/01-6/30/2011</b>
SU Pasture	Christensen/ 20 head	7/01-9/30/2011
Landfill	Christensen- cycle through for shipping (15 days)	9/15-10/15/2011
East Largo	Christensen/ 20 head	10/01-2/28/2012
East Mess Box, 3 Section & West Largo Pastures are unavailable until San Francisco River riparian corridor is fenced.		Rest

The Reserve Ranger District will closely monitor SU Pasture to ensure that adequate feed remains in SU Pasture when McCarty cattle exit the pasture on 5/15/2011 to accommodate Christensen cattle scheduled to enter SU Pasture on 7/01/2011. In the event that adequate feed or water is unavailable, Christensen cattle may be placed in East Largo Pasture or Barreras Trap between 7/01-9/30/2011.

Please work together to manage your cattle during the time you are both scheduled to use the East Largo pasture. Cattle shall be distributed to the northern portion of the East Largo pasture using tools such as water and supplement/salt in order to reduce the risk of over utilization in the Higgins Flat area. No livestock are allowed within the East Mess Box/3 Section/West Largo pastures or the riparian areas of the San Francisco River on National Forest System land. Please maintain all fences and water gaps necessary to keep your cattle out of these pastures and the San Francisco River on NFS lands.

If you identify the need to differ from this management system by more than 15 days, please contact this office at least two weeks in advance so the District has time to conduct monitoring and assess your request.



### 3. Utilization Standards and Monitoring:

The maximum allowable use level set for the Black Bob Allotment is **35%**. Monitoring will be conducted within two weeks before or after livestock leave a scheduled pasture. If utilization levels within portions of a scheduled pasture approach allowable use, you are required to move livestock into areas not approaching allowable use. If cattle cannot be effectively managed away from areas within the pasture that have met allowable use or if utilization objectives are met throughout the pasture prior to scheduled rotation, contact District Personnel. Cattle will be moved into the next available pasture within the annual rotation. In the event that forage utilization objectives are met in all available pastures, livestock will be removed from the allotment. Management adjustments will be made to the following years Annual Operating Instructions to avoid recurring situations. The following dates have been tentatively scheduled for monitoring on the allotment. You are highly encouraged and invited to participate in monitoring with District personnel and/or on your own. Additional days will be scheduled to count cattle on and off the allotment and to inspect pasture fences as needed.

Pasture	Monitoring date	Comments
East Largo/SU	3/24/2011	Utilization
East Largo	4/30/2011	Count Christensen's cattle off & Utilization
East Largo, SU, Cienega, West Mess Box, Landfill Barreras Trap	5/12-5/15/2011	Count McCarty's cattle off
East Largo, SU, Cienega, West Mess Box, Landfill Barreras Trap	5/23-5/24/11	Utilization
SU	7/01/2011	Count Christensen's cattle & Production
East Largo/SU	10/05/2011	Production/Utilization
East Largo, SU, Cienega, West Mess Box, Landfill	11/01-11/03/2011	Count McCarty's cattle & Production

### 4. Forage Growth and Water Availability:

Per Part 2, Section 8(c) of your Term Grazing Permit; If forage growth and water availability are not adequate during all or portions of the 2011 grazing season, total or partial livestock removal from the allotment may be necessary.

### 5. Salt and Supplement Policy:

Supplemental feeding of livestock is allowed (to strategically manage livestock distribution and forage use) as follows:

- a) Place supplements on previously disturbed areas (i.e., borrow pits) or natural bedrock outcrops when possible (supplement sites).
- b) Locate supplement sites 0.25 mile or more from waters and key areas except where prior written permission has been obtained from District Ranger.
- c) Locate supplement sites where forage is abundant and utilized less than average.
- d) Limit supplement types to non energy feeds such as salt, protein and mineral blocks.
- e) Use products that prevent the spread of noxious weeds, no feeding of hay on National Forest System Lands.



**6. Range Improvements:**

All assigned range developments identified in your Term Grazing Permit must be maintained to a functional status. Fences must be maintained to ensure cattle remain in the correct pasture and are not allowed to access East Mess Box, 3 Section & West Largo Pastures or the San Francisco River riparian corridor.

Advance planning is needed for any range improvement reconstruction or replacement, including fences and water systems to evaluate the need for any additional surveys. General maintenance/repair is excluded. Advance planning is also needed for authorized stock tank cleaning so surveys can be scheduled accordingly. Please contact the district in advance if you are proposing any of this type of work.

Please protect natural springs and areas with riparian type vegetation. Drainage bottoms, creeks, springs, and cienegas, where water is available, are most susceptible to livestock concentrations.

The following range improvements were identified as areas of focus for the 2011 grazing season:

**Fences:** Please contact district personnel to inquire about the availability of materials and for a permit modification.

1. McCarty responsibility: Allotment Boundary Fence #006082 from Mail Trail north to rim road, approximately 1.5 miles need reconstructed.
2. McCarty responsibility: Allotment Boundary Fence #006085 bordering the SU Allotment needs repaired frequently due to high elk activity.
3. Christensen responsibility: Permittee plans to reconstruct fence #6412 (app. 0.5 mile) between Unit 1 and Henley pastures.

**Water Sources:**

4. McCarty responsibility: Repair Wild Olive Spring improvement #6112 in the East Largo Pasture.
5. Both Permittees; Please cooperate to maintain and use the Sawmill well.
6. Mountain Lion Tank #6111 and Higgins Flat Tank 2 #6110 need cleaned.

7. **The Annual Operating Instructions** are a part of the Term Grazing Permit as provided for in Part 2, Section 8. It complies with the standards and guidelines found in the 11/18/1983 Black Bob Decision Notice and in the 8/19/1983 Black Bob Allotment Management Plan and the Gila National Forest Plan. It also complies with the Endangered Species Act on-going grazing consultation for the Black Bob allotment. Any additional information collected during the year may be incorporated into the annual operating instructions.

