

**Gila National Forest
Wilderness Ranger District
ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS**

2011

John Richardson

INDIAN CREEK



Prepared By:

M. J. [Signature]
District Range Staff (detail)

Date:

2/9/11

Approved By:

Alan E. [Signature]
District Ranger

Date:

2-17-11

Agreed to By:

John H. [Signature]
Permittee

Date:

2/21/11

Permitted Use

Allotment	Permitted #	Permitted Season
Indian Creek	50 cattle	3/1 – 2/28
	4 Horses	3/1 – 2/28

Authorized Use

Allotment	Authorized Number	On/Off Date	Pasture Instructions
Indian Creek	50 cow/calf	03/01-02/28	Allotment used as one pasture
	4 horses	03/01-02/28	

Management of Livestock

It is your responsibility to move your livestock when sufficient water is no longer available or when proper forage utilization is achieved in a pasture or section of pasture. You are responsible for maintaining control of your livestock. In the event your livestock are found to be out of the scheduled pasture, you will be required to find, gather, and return your animals to the proper pasture as soon as possible. Failure to maintain control of your livestock could lead to adverse action against your Term Grazing Permit.

Salting

Placement of salt will be used as a management tool to obtain even distribution of livestock and utilization of forage. Salt will be placed on areas of good forage production and light utilization. There will be no permanent salt grounds. Once the salt at a given salt ground has been used, the salt ground will be moved. Occasionally, cattle may have to be driven to new salt grounds to show them where it is. In this manner, it will be possible to draw the cattle into areas needing utilization. At no time will salt supplement be placed in areas of natural livestock concentration, closer than ¼ mile to either permanent or semi-permanent stock watering locations, within drainage bottoms, or within visible distance to roads unless authorized by the District Ranger.

Utilization Guidelines

Proper utilization of forage plants is a necessity to maintain long term productivity of the rangeland and to protect soils from erosion. Proper utilization will maintain sufficient ground cover to prevent erosion and meet the physiological needs of key forage plants for maintenance and reproduction over the long term. Allowable use is determined from considered proper use and all influencing factors such as grazing system, range condition, watershed condition, timing and duration of livestock use and scheduled amount of rest between use periods. As outlined in the Decision Notice dated September 1, 1995, allowable use rates are set at 40 percent at all key areas on the Indian Creek Allotment.

Utilization monitoring will be conducted on or near key areas of your allotment. District personnel will monitor pasture use, and determine utilization percentage at that time. If allowable use exceeds 40 percent in any key area of a pasture during the season of use, livestock will be moved to the next pasture. If all remaining key areas in the allotment are at maximum use, livestock will be removed from the allotment.

Improvement Maintenance

All range improvement assigned in your Term Grazing Permit will be maintained in a good functioning condition. In the event improvements cannot be maintained in good functioning condition, you should notify this office so we may schedule them for reconstruction as funds become available. Please ensure that all fences are maintained and in satisfactory condition.

Appeal Rights

NEPA for the Indian Creek Allotment was completed on September 1, 1995. These Annual Operating Instructions are a reaffirmation of a prior decision and therefore may not be appealed.

Feel free to contact Tawnya Brummett or Al Koss if you have questions or problems. They will be happy to discuss allotment management, conditions of our allotment, Forest plan standards and guidelines, or any other concerns you may have.