

**Gallo Mountain
 Quemado Ranger District
 2012 Annual Operating Instructions
 (02/16/12)**

Term Permitted Livestock Numbers:

| Permitted | From | To | Type |
|-------------------|-------|-------|------|
| 433-662 yearlings | 05/15 | 10/15 | Term |
| 17 yearlings | 05/15 | 10/15 | PVT |

2012 Annual Authorization:

| Authorized | From | To | Type |
|----------------|----------|----------|------|
| *600 yearlings | 05/15/12 | 10/15/12 | Term |
| 17 yearlings | 05/15/12 | 10/15/12 | PVT |

**An additional 67 head from previous 3 years.*

2012 Pasture Rotation:

| Pasture | From | To | Numbers | Allowable Use |
|-----------|----------|----------|---------|---------------|
| Negrito | 05/15/12 | 07/15/12 | 500 | 35% |
| Castillo | 05/15/12 | 07/15/12 | 25 | 35% |
| Private | 05/15/12 | 07/15/12 | 92 | NA |
| Gallito | 07/15/12 | 09/15/12 | 617 | 35% |
| Headwater | 09/15/12 | 10/15/12 | 617 | 35% |

As shown above, an additional 67 head will be authorized for the 2012 grazing year. This increase is in accordance with the NEPA decision dated 12/13/99 and associated Environmental Assessment (EA). Appendix B of the EA allows the option of permitting additional numbers if additional capacity has been demonstrated. Due to the increase in numbers, during the 2012 grazing season monitoring will be conducted more frequently. In order to continue to graze the additional 67 head in future years, it is imperative that utilization monitoring does not exceed the allowable use and livestock are kept in appropriate pastures.

Grazing Restrictions:

The following grazing restrictions will apply as they did in 2011 for portions within the Gallito pasture. A map displaying these areas was provided to you with your permit; if you need a new map please contact the District office.

No salt, mineral or supplemental feed may be placed in these areas from February 1 to August 31 and no concentrations of livestock, i.e., corral use, traps or large gathering of livestock is allowed. Routine maintenance of range developments is allowed. The purpose of this restriction is to mitigate wildlife issues.

Allowable Use:

The Environmental Assessment and Decision Notice dated 12/13/99 set guidelines for utilization of key forage species at 35% allowable use.

Utilization Monitoring:

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. Monitoring dates will be set according to the previous year's monitoring results. If pastures were approaching allowable use during the 2011 grazing season they will be monitored at the mid-point of the pasture use period to determine if it is necessary for livestock to be moved to the next pasture in the rotation. Please note the following approximate dates that are scheduled for monitoring on the Gallo Mountain Allotment. You are encouraged to participate in monitoring utilization levels.

2012 Monitoring Dates:

| Pasture | Monitoring Date |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Negrigo & Castillo | 06/01/12 & 07/03/12 |
| Gallito | 08/03/12 & 09/03/12 |
| Headwater | 10/02/12 |

If any one key area in a pasture being grazed by livestock exceeds utilization on the uplands or heavily hedging of woody riparian plant sprouts/seedlings, livestock will be moved to another area of the pasture where actual use is less than allowable use. If all remaining key areas in the grazed pasture are at allowable use, livestock will be required to be moved early to the next scheduled pasture. This requirement is necessary to prevent overuse on forage plants.

2011 Monitoring Results:

| Pasture | Date | Key Area | Use% | Pasture | Date | Key Area | Use% |
|---------------|----------|----------|------|--------------|----------|----------|------|
| Negro Springs | 06/22/11 | C1 | 6 | Negro Spring | 07/15/11 | C3 | 5 |
| Negro Springs | 06/22/11 | C6 | 6 | Upper Mallet | 07/18/11 | PW | 13 |
| Negro Springs | 06/22/11 | C3 | 2 | Lower Mallet | 07/18/11 | PW | 12 |
| Negro Springs | 06/22/11 | P1 | 14 | Gallito | 08/17/11 | PW | 2 |
| Negro Springs | 06/22/11 | C4 | 6 | Headwater | 11/18/11 | PW | 13 |
| Negro Springs | 06/22/11 | C5 | 4 | Headwater | 11/18/11 | C6 | 30 |
| Upper Mallet | 06/23/11 | P3 | 6 | Gallito | 11/18/11 | PW | 6 |
| Lower Mallet | 06/23/11 | PW | 5 | Gallito | 11/18/11 | C1 | 0 |
| Negro Spring | 07/15/11 | P1 | 2 | | | | |

2011 MSO Monitoring Results:

| Pasture | MSO # | Date | Use % |
|---------|-----------|----------|-------|
| Gallito | 030609006 | 07/20/11 | 6 |

2011 monitoring results show 0 accounts of over utilization; I appreciate your efforts in management of livestock to comply with utilization standards.

Forage Growth and Water Availability:

If forage growth and water availability are not adequate during all or portions of the 2012 grazing season, total or partial removal of livestock from the allotment may be necessary. Part 2, clause 8(c) of the grazing permit provides this option.

Range Developments:

All assigned range developments identified in the Term Grazing Permit will be maintained to a functional status.

Actual Use:

Actual use data provided to the District was calculated at 2,699 AM's for the 2011 grazing season.

If you have any questions or comments concerning the Annual Operating Instructions, please contact Monte Topmiller or Sara Marta at (575) 773-4678.

Janice S. Stevenson
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District Ranger

4-2-12
Date