



File Code: 2210/2230

Date: April 10, 2013

Bob Taylor Farming
PO Box 687
Aguila, AZ 85320

Dear Bob:

This document contains your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Government Mountain and Government Prairie Allotments during the 2013 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 2013 annual validation will allow for the following numbers and period of use:

Government Mountain Allotment: 362 Adult Cattle from 5/15 to 9/30

Government Prairie Allotment: 186 Adult Cattle from 6/15 to 10/31

2. Pasture Use

The following is the pasture grazing sequence for the 2013 grazing season:

Government Mountain

Pasture Name	Dates	Number of Animals	Number of Days
Red Tank South	5/15 – 6/2	362	18
Southwest Pasture	6/3 – 6/19	362	16
Northwest Pasture/Spring Valley	6/20 – 8/02	362	43
Newman South/Red Tank North	8/03 – 8/30	362	27
Antelope North	8/31 – 9/17	362	17
Antelope South	9/18 – 9/30	362	13
Newman South	Rested	0	0



Government Prairie

Pasture Name	Dates	Number of Animals	Number of Days
Mineral Oaks South	6/15 – 8/14	30	60
Mineral Oaks North	8/15 – 9/15	30	30
Northwest	6/15 – 7/15	156	30
Southwest	7/16 – 8/16	156	30
East	8/16 – 9/15	156	31
East	9/16 – 10/04	186	19
Brannigan	10/5 – 10/31	186	26
McDermitt	Rested	0	0

3. 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).

Mexican spotted owl and goshawk habitat has been designated on the Government Mountain and Government Prairie Allotments (a map will be provided upon request). See your Term Grazing Permit for details regarding utilization guidelines in these areas.

4. Range ImprovementsMaintenance 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.

The Permittee may request a Forest Products Free Use Permit in order to cut juniper fence posts and stays for use only on their Forest Service allotment. No tree cutting is allowed without a forest products permit.

Hazard trees may need to be cut to prevent them from falling on fences. However, no tree cutting may be conducted without specific written permission from the Forest Service.

The Permittee must follow the Heavy Equipment Policy (amended December 2008) before initiating work involving soil disturbance.

The permittee has requested 500 t-posts, 16 rolls of barbed/smooth wire, 20-8' treated posts, 10 steel H-brace bars, and 500 stays to rebuild dilapidated fences throughout the Government Mountain Allotment. The Forest Service will provide materials as they are available.

5. **Travel Management**

The Forest has implemented Travel Management. This decision prohibits the use of motor vehicles for cross-country travel, as well as on closed roads. We understand that you regularly use vehicles to maintain range improvements and to check on livestock, forage, and water conditions. Authorization for this use is granted in this AOI as long as it remains limited in scope, and occurs when the soils are dry and/or frozen.

6. **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.

7. **Fire**

Be careful with campfires. Pile burning is not permitted. During periods of critical fire danger the Forest Supervisor may issue special fire restrictions. Under these conditions, the building or use of fires, the use of power saws, heavy equipment, vehicles, ATVs, and other motorized equipment may be prohibited on Forest Service land.

8. **Grazing Intensity Monitoring and Recordkeeping**

All Permittees are encouraged to keep records of Grazing Use and Intensity in each area and submit them to their district grazing permit administrator in the middle and at the end of the permitted Grazing Period. 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, and date of observation.

Other notes may be recorded, such as precipitation records or observations. A form is attached. If you are not familiar with methods of estimating Grazing Intensity, we can arrange for some training.

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

Enclosure