



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Tonto National Forest
Globe Ranger District

7680 S. Six Shooter Canyon Rd.
Globe, AZ 85501
Phone: 928.402.6200
Fax: 928.402.6292

File Code: 2210

Hicks-Pikes Peak Allotment

Date: December 8, 2003

J Bar B Cattle Co.

ATTN: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6):

Thank you for meeting with Linny Warren, Globe Range Staff, on November 21, 2003, to discuss temporarily grazing the Hicks-Pikes Peak Allotment to provide drought relief to the Bar V Bar Allotment on the Tonto Basin Ranger District. On November 20, 2003, Linny and I conducted a site visit on the Hicks-Pikes Peak Allotment to verify that the allotment, which has been rested for 3 years, could adequately support the 130 cows you have requested. We concluded that, with proper management of your herd to provide resource protection, this is a viable option for you.

The following are the Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for 2003/2004:

Livestock Numbers - You have validated the following numbers for 2003/2004:

130 Adult Cows

Livestock Management: The following rotation is planned for 2003/2004:

Kenny Pasture	11/20/2003 – 12-31/2003
Holly Pasture	01/01/2004 – 02/15/2004
Murphy Pasture	02/16/2004 – 03/15/2004
Rip Pasture	03/16/2004 – 04/15/2004

It is important to note that the above are tentative pasture use dates only and that movement will be based on utilization levels. For instance, the length of time in a particular pasture may be extended if the forage has been under utilized or utilization standards are met early; these dates may be changed as needed to comply with the Forest Plan Standards. It is the permittee's responsibility to monitor forage utilization so as not to exceed the Standards and Guidelines listed below. An upcoming workshop with Cooperative Extension will provide training in utilization monitoring methods. You will receive a notice when a training date is confirmed. If your livestock have grazed key areas to utilization standards before the scheduled move date and it is necessary for you to move them to the next pasture early, or if the length of time in a pasture will be extended, please contact me or Linny Warren with the information.



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In order for the Lyon's Fork Allotment to be consistent with the Forest Plan, the following Standards and Guidelines are part of your AOI:

Herbaceous (Grass) Utilization - Limited to less than 50% of the plant species biomass.

Woody (Browse) Utilization - Limited to less than 50% of the leaders (branches) browsed.

Riparian (Grass) Utilization - Limited to less than 30% of the plant biomass.

Riparian - Do not salt within one-quarter mile of riparian vegetation.

Monitoring will be conducted in key areas on key forage plants that are defined as:

Key livestock grazing areas are defined as: "A portion of range, which because of its location, grazing or browsing value and/or use, serve as an indicative sample of range conditions, trend, or degree of use seasonally. A key area guides the general management of the entire area of which it is part (Forest Service Region Three Rangeland Analysis and Management Guide, June 1997, Chapter 4-3)." Key areas are at least one-quarter mile away from developed upland stock water. All full capacity riparian areas, where surface water may or may not be present, are key grazing areas where measurements will be conducted.

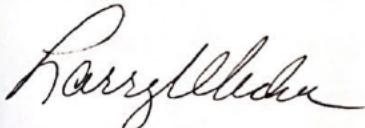
Key forage plants are defined as: 1) "Forage species of sufficient abundance and palatability to justify its use as an indicator to the degree of use of associated species. 2) Those species, which must, because of their importance, be considered in the management program (Society for Range Management, Glossary of Terms, 2nd edition, 1974."

This AOI is subject to administrative review through the Forest Service, pursuant to 36 CFR 251; and any appeal of this decision must be fully consistent with 36 CFR 251.90. In accordance with 36 CFR 251.84, if you file an appeal, I am willing to meet with you to discuss any concerns you may have with my decision. If you file an appeal, you may request an oral presentation in the appeal or at any time prior to closing of the appeal record (36 CFR 251.97). Further more, if you file an appeal, you may request a stay of my decision in the appeal, or at any time prior to closing of the appeal record (36 CFR 251.91). See enclosed 36 CFR, Subpart C, regulations.

A notice of appeal must be filed with the Tonto Forest Supervisor at 2324 E. McDowell Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85006, within 45-days of the date of this decision. A copy of the notice of appeal must be filed simultaneously with the District Ranger at 7680 Six Shooter Canyon Road, Globe, AZ 85501.

If you have any questions about these instructions or anything to do with your allotment, please contact Linny Warren at the number above.

Sincerely,



LARRY WIDNER
District Ranger

Enclosure

cc: (b) (6)