



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Apache-Sitgreaves
National Forests
Lakeside Ranger District

2022 W. White Mountain Blvd.
Lakeside, AZ 85929
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File Code: 2230
Date: April 29, 2013

Troy Cooke
Cooke Ranches, Inc.
P.O. Box 3151
Show Low, AZ 85902

Dear Troy:

On April 19, 2013, Kendell and Andy met with you to discuss the 2013 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Pinyon Allotment. The numbers and rotation authorized are as follows:

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Pasture</u>	<u>Numbers</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Pinyon	West	56 cow/calf	June 1 to August 15
Pinyon	East	56 cow/calf	August 16 to October 31

You proposed to run 6 horses on the allotment in conjunction with the cows, which I have authorized for this year. We have subtracted 7 cow/calf pairs, the equivalent of 6 horses, from your permitted numbers, which was agreed on during the annual meeting. The desired utilization level for the 2013 grazing season will be 35% on grasses and forbs across the allotment. Adjustments to this rotation may be needed during the grazing season to accommodate to changing conditions. This letter will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions for the 2013 grazing season.

By this letter, I also authorize you and ranch personnel to cut, use, or remove any trees needed for fence posts and stays for maintenance of structural range improvements within the Pinyon Allotment. A copy of this letter must be in possession by you or them while engaged in tree cutting.

Coordination on the cattleguard on County Road 3144, across from the Brusally Ranch, is taking place. No answer has been given as to whether this will be completed this year as we are waiting on the county for the final decision. All the stock tanks on the allotment have been submitted to the archaeologist for cultural resource survey. These surveys have not been completed and will need to be completed before any maintenance can be performed. The Timber Mesa/Vernon analysis was completed and analyzed vegetation treatments on the allotment. Cultural resource surveys for the analysis area are currently in progress and must be finalized before any work can be performed. A date will be scheduled with you to go out and look at the fence you are proposing north of the private land to tie into Boundary Stock Tank.



Any new projects must be reviewed with the Forest Service and all clearances must be obtained before beginning the new project. Please be aware that these clearances may take a year or more to obtain. I am willing to meet with you to hear and discuss any concerns or issues related to these Annual Operating Instructions. If you have any questions, please contact Kendell or Andy at (928) 535-7300 (Black Mesa) or (928) 368-2100 (Lakeside).

Sincerely,

/s/ Edward W. Collins
EDWARD W. COLLINS
District Ranger