



File Code: 2210/2230

Date: May 17, 2011

Mr. Joe Auza  
Auza and Son Farms  
PO Box 10008  
Casa Grande, AZ 85230

Dear Joe:

This document contains your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Anita/Cameron Allotment for the 2011 summer 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 annual validation will allow for the following livestock numbers and period of use:

**400 adult cattle from May 16 to November 16, 2011**

**200 adult cattle from May 20 to November 20, 2011**

**2. Pasture Sequence**

Anita Allotment (400 head)			Cameron Allotment (200 head)		
Pasture	Use Dates	Days	Pasture	Use Dates	Days
Red Butte	May 16 - June 15	30+/-	Bucklar	May 20 - July 18	60+/-
Dillman	June 16 - July 15	30+/-	Strip	July 19 - August 15	30+/-
East Skinner	July 16 – Aug. 15	30+/-	<i>These cattle will join the Anita herd on August 16 and remain with them for the season</i>		
<b>600 Head</b>					
Headquarters	Aug. 16 - Sept 15	30+/-			
Tusayan	Sept. 16 – Oct. 15	30+/-			
West Skinner	Oct. 16 – Nov. 16	30+/-			

The pasture sequence, use dates, and numbers of cattle per pasture are tentative and subject to adaptive management. If changes are needed, please contact your permit administrator. It is a permit violation to make changes to this schedule without first notifying and receiving approval from the Forest Service.

Livestock are to be actively herded from one pasture to the other. It is the Permittee's responsibility to ensure that all livestock are removed from each pasture within 5 days of the scheduled off date.



### **3. Utilization Guidelines**

The utilization guideline for the Anita/Cameron Allotment allows up to 35% use by livestock and/or wildlife at the end of the cattle grazing season. This is equivalent to conservative intensity, which is measured before the end of the growing season and is used in determining when livestock will move to the next pasture in the rotation, in combination with other factors such as weather patterns, potential for plant regrowth, and past utilization levels. Livestock would move to the next pasture when grazing intensity approaches a conservative level (35-40%) before August 30. The pasture will not be grazed again during the same grazing season.

### **4. Livestock Distribution**

Grazing Intensity will be more uniform across the pasture if livestock are well distributed. Distribution aids include: water hauls, waterlot control, salt and supplement stations, and herding. Livestock may remain in each pasture for the entire grazing period if Grazing Intensity does not exceed the Allowable Use Standard. Areas exempt from this requirement are lands within ¼ mile of permanent water sources that are not fenced.

The following requirements apply to the use of salt, supplements, hay\*, and/or water hauls (*\*the permittee is encouraged to use certified weed-free hay*):

- Place in areas of light utilization, at least ¼ mile away from permanent water, and at different sites from the previous year.
- Place salt in portable containers, rather than directly on the ground, in order to protect the soil.
- Place on soils that are not fragile or eroding and on sites that are not in wetlands or drainages.
- Remove the salt, supplements, hay, and water hauls when the livestock leave the pasture.

Gates in waterlot fences will be left open for wildlife, unless closed on a temporary basis to facilitate cattle distribution in the pasture.

### **5. Range Improvements**

#### Maintenance of Range Improvements

Range improvements assigned to you need to be inspected and the problems found corrected on a yearly basis. All fences must 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 (December 2008) before starting any work that involves soil disturbance.

**Maintenance projects for 2011**

- a) Anita/Cameron Boundary Fence #5849 - down north of Hammer Tank in Section 21 and south of Skinner Trick Tank on Forest Road 2736.
- b) Antelope Tank #5858- fence in fair condition and needs work on the west side
- c) Muders Tank Waterlot #5861 - fence in very poor condition; repair
- d) Camp 36 Tank #5863- fence in very poor condition; repair
- e) Red Horse Tank #6026- fence in very poor condition; repair

If additions to this list are needed, the permittee will prioritize those needs and supply that list to the Forest Service. This includes work needed on any pasture or allotment boundary fence, corrals, waterlots, earthen tanks, trick tanks, water storage tanks, and troughs.

The permittee will also provide a list of pasture fences that are no longer needed and can be removed.

**6. Travel Management**

The Forest will be implementing its decision on 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 an ATV and/or truck to drive and maintain your pasture and allotment boundary fences. You also travel cross country on a monthly basis 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.

**7. Drought Management**

The Kaibab National Forest needs your help to ensure that any grazing authorized during drought periods does not damage the soil, watershed, vegetation, wildlife forage and cover, and livestock forage. Leaving an adequate amount of residual vegetation after grazing (approximately 50% of the plant canopy) is always important in order to maintain or improve rangeland health, but it is especially important during and after droughts.

As always, Permittees are strongly encouraged to reduce the number of animals stocked during droughts. Allowable Use Standards will be met much earlier in each pasture during the Grazing Period if the drought continues and only a minimal amount of forage is produced. If the Permittee is authorized to stock full numbers, it is likely that livestock will have to move through the pastures more quickly and be removed from the allotment at an earlier date because carrying capacity (i.e. Animal Unit Months (AUMs) available) is reduced during a drought.

## **8. Fire**

Be careful with campfires and branding fires. Pile burning is not permitted. During periods of critical fire danger the Forest Supervisor may declare a Red Flag Alert or issue other special 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.

Cooperation in the prevention and suppression of fires will be expected as specified in Section 10 of General Provision and Requirements, page 2, of your Term Grazing Permit.

## **9. Grazing Intensity Monitoring and Recordkeeping**

All Permittees are encouraged to keep records of Grazing Use and Intensity in each pasture 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.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss anything further, please feel free to contact Range Staff Clare Hydock at 928/635-5623, 928/606-1265 cell, or [chydock@fs.fed.us](mailto:chydock@fs.fed.us).

Sincerely,

*/s/ Clare Hydock (for)*  
MARGARET HANGAN  
Acting District Ranger

Enclosure