

**2020
Annual Operating Instructions
Antelope Hills Allotment**

100

This document serves as your 2020 Grazing Year, Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Antelope Hills Allotment. This AOI is part of your Term Grazing Permit as provided for in Part 2, section 8(a).

GRAZING SCHEDULE

The Annual stocking level (annual authorized livestock numbers and dates) are considered approximate. The actual dates and numbers may change due to many variables. Annual stocking level is based on current and expected forage production. The planned use period in a pasture and livestock numbers can/should be adjusted if conditions change, either (shortened or lengthened, depending on forage availability but not in excess of the permitted numbers and utilization in key areas).

*Any changes from these Annual Operating Instructions is to be coordinated and confirmed in advance and will be made only with prior written Forest Service Officer Approval. (An Amendment)

*If emergency conditions require making an immediate change, notify the Forest Service Officer promptly.

Authorization

Upon payment of fees, the following is the planned grazing sequence:

Number of Livestock	Pasture	Grazing Period
100	Mesa	3/1 – 5/1
100	Packard	5/2 – 8/1
100	McDaniel	8/2 – 11/1
100	Pocket	11/2 – 1/2/2021
100	Bakers	1/3 – 2/28

Rested (Ungrazed) Pastures for the 2020 Grazing Season

Bakers Pass

RESOURCE MONITORING

Allowable Use

The following is maximum allowable use: Uplands: *On key grass species*: 40% at the time livestock are moved from the pasture (area). On soils of sandstone parent material, forage utilization will not exceed 30% in key areas on key forage species at the time livestock are removed from the pasture (area). *On key shrub species*: browsing of 40% of available leaders.

Cattle will be moved to the next scheduled pasture or off the allotment when allowable use standards are met, no matter what the dates on paper are. Failure to remove your cattle to avoid use above the allowable levels is a violation of these instructions and the terms of your grazing permit.

The permittee is encouraged to participate in the allotment Monitoring process

Actual Use

The permittee will document the following items on the enclosed Actual Use Form during the 2020 grazing year: 1) Pasture; 2) Actual Grazing Period; 3) Actual Livestock Numbers.

***It is very important that this Actual Use form be completed and submitted to your Rangeland Management Specialist at the end of the grazing year.**

RESOURCE OBJECTIVES for THIS GRAZING SEASON

Proper livestock management practices, e.g. distribution, timing of grazing, and intensity of grazing, must be managed closely to provide for plant maintenance, improved vigor, and maintenance/improvement of vegetative ground cover. When cattle are not in a pasture, ensure water is available for wildlife and escape ramps are in place on troughs.

SALTING AND PROTEIN BLOCK PRACTICES

Proper salt and protein block location can be a good tool to aid in livestock distribution and they will be used in a manner to spread livestock utilization throughout the pasture. A detailed description of the Salting and Supplemental Feeding policy can be found in Part 3 of your term grazing permit; (See AMP and Term Grazing Permit for the complete list of the guidelines.) Place supplements to draw livestock to areas that normally receive only light use.

RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

Maintenance

Range improvements assigned to you are to be fully maintained annually to comply with permit requirements. Any maintenance you perform must conform to the standards specified by your District Rangeland Management Specialist. The grazing permittee is responsible for all maintenance materials, supplies and equipment necessary to properly maintain all range structural improvements. The Forest may replace range structural improvement materials and/or supplies at the end of the improvement's life if properly maintained; when maintenance and repair is no longer feasible to keep the improvement properly maintained and functioning.

Maintenance/Projects:

2020

BP Water Lot - split water lot east to northwest.

Expand Corral — submit drawings and time line for completion.

Heavy maintenance on water lots (Bakers Pass, & Packard Trail

Fence to prevent livestock from using the sediment trap at Mormon Pocket tank

Pipe water from SOB diversion to Packard Trail tank

2021

Clean Pocket Tank

Juniper treatment

Clean sediment traps at Mormon Pocket tanks

2022

Juniper treatment

Rebuild Black Seep spring development – add storage

2023

Black Seep Well

2024

Cress Spring Development – pump out of SMZ

DROUGHT MANAGEMENT

To aide in determining the initial livestock numbers the Standard Precipitation Index (SPI) and the US Drought Monitor Report was discussed. The SPI and the US Drought Monitor showed our area in a *low* drought. It was agreed that due to the above factors as well as that with the current precipitation conditions and the fact that there was abundant forage left over at the end of the growing season the livestock numbers would remain at (100 cattle/bulls) unless the allotment moves into a negative drought status.

TRAVEL MANAGEMENT

The Prescott National Forest designated a system of roads and trails that are open to motor vehicle use in 1989 through Forest Plan Amendment #4. Motor vehicle use off the designated road system by the permit holder to conduct activities associated with administration of the term grazing permit is allowed under the terms and conditions of the term grazing permit.

PERMIT CONDITIONS

Trailing to/from base property to/from Antelope Hills Allotment is allowed under the following circumstances:

Notify Forest officer at least two weeks prior to move. Provide specific date of trailing.

If move is cancelled, let FS know.

Trailing through a pasture on the Horseshoe Allotment while it is being grazed will only be approved with prior coordination of that permittee, and approval of the Forest Officer.

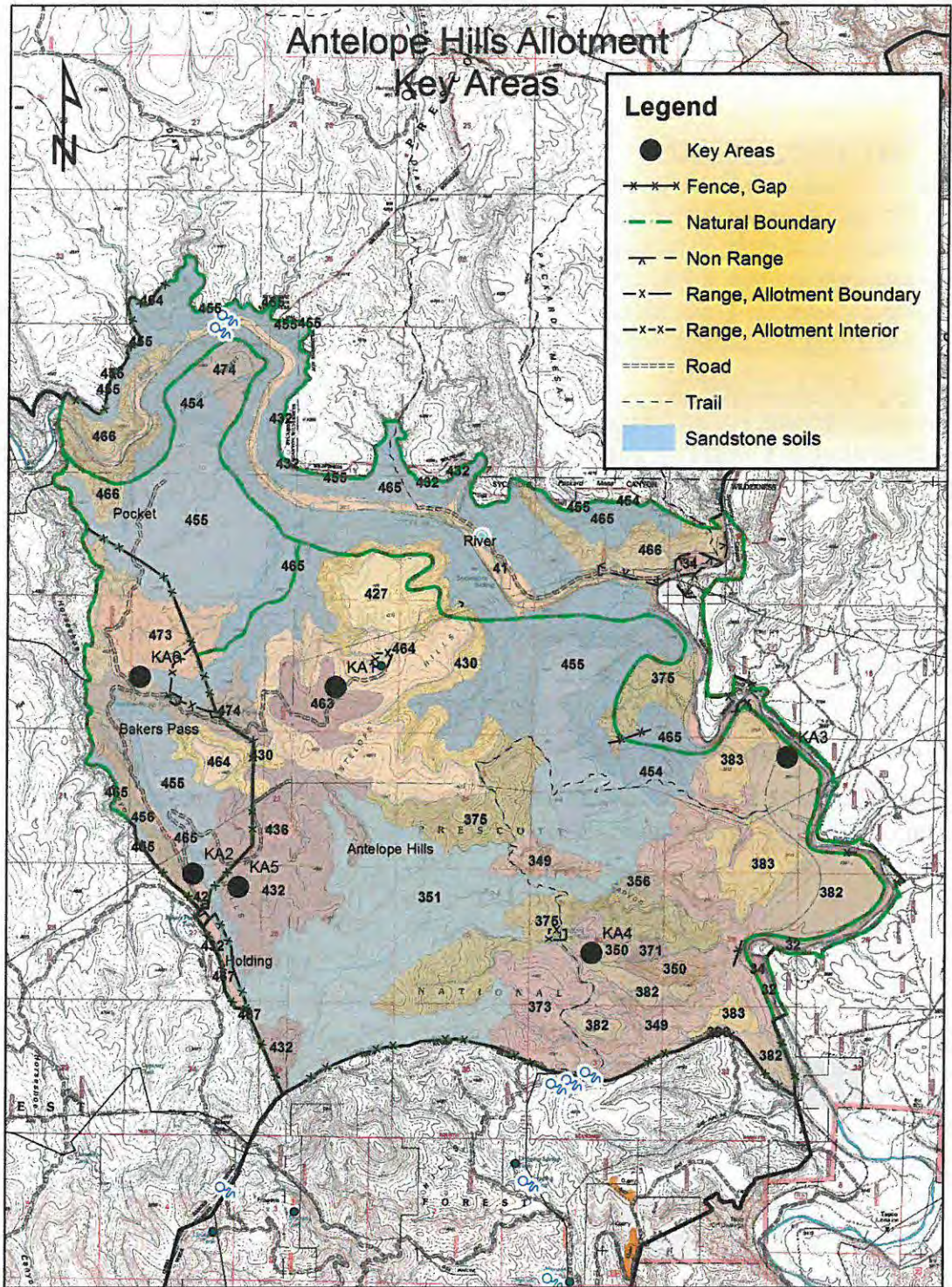
Approval of trailing will be through an AOI amendment.

Failure to comply may result in cancellation of crossing privilege.

These Annual Operating Instructions are a part of the Term Grazing Permit as provided for in Part 2, Section 8(a). They comply with the standards and guidelines found in the Forest Plan. Failure to follow any of the terms and conditions specified in Parts 1, 2, and 3 of your Term Grazing Permit may result in suspension or cancellation, in whole or in part, after written notice (Refer to Part 1, Section 3, of your permit).

ACCEPTED BY: provided a copy - Refused to sign. [Signature]
Permittee Date

APPROVED BY: [Signature] 02/10/2020
Sarah Clawson, District Ranger Date



file 2210

Antelope Hills Allotment
Annual Operating Instructions
Amendment #1

This document serves as Amendment #1 of your 2020 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI). This amendment only affects section II Grazing Schedule of the AOI.

The Planned Graze period was adjusted per Adaptive Management Principles. Livestock are allowed to stay mesa grazing area south of SOB canyon, along with the Packard grazing area starting May 2. Once utilization levels are reached in the mesa area south of SOB canyon all cattle will be moved to the Packard grazing area.

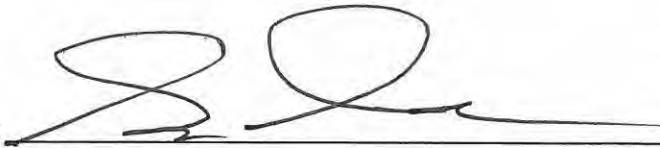
II. GRAZING SCHEDULE

PASTURE NAME	PLANNED GRAZE PERIOD	LIVESTOCK NUMBERS
Mesa (south of SOB canyon)	2 May-Utilization met then move to Packard	50
Packard	2 May 1 Aug	50

Requested By: Jerry Vonjic

April 17, 2020

APPROVED BY:



District Ranger

04/28/2020

Date

6/10/2020

Antelope Hills Allotment
Annual Operating Instructions
Amendment #2

This document serves as Amendment #2 of your 2020 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI).
This amendment only affects section II Grazing Schedule of the AOI.

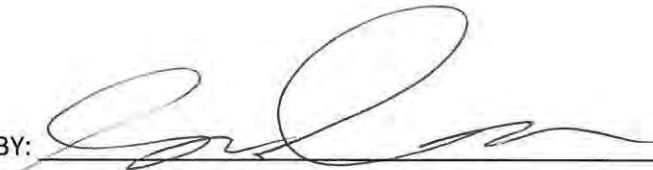
The Planned Graze period was adjusted per Adaptive Management Principles. Livestock are allowed to stay on in the mesa grazing through the end of May. Use was measured May 5 sand was 30% under the 40% allowable. This will allow reconstruction of boundary gate, and installation of drinker at Packard Trail TT. Cattle will be moved from Mesa to Packard grazing area by June 1, unless utilization levels are reached in Mesa earlier.

This amendment also reflects temporary increase of 50 cow calf, 10 bulls, and 4 horses.

II. GRAZING SCHEDULE

PASTURE NAME	PLANNED GRAZE PERIOD	LIVESTOCK NUMBERS
Mesa	Through end of May	150c 10 Bulls
Packard	1 June - 1 Aug	150
Packard	1 June - 30 June	10 bulls
Packard	1 June - 1 Aug	4 horses
McDaniel	2 Aug - 1 Nov	4 horses
Pocket	2 Nov - 2 Jan 2021	4 horses
Bakers	3 Jan - 28 Feb	4 horses

APPROVED BY:



Sarah Clawson, District Ranger

05/11/2020

Date

Antelope Hills Allotment
Annual Operating Instructions
Amendment #3

This document serves as Amendment #3 of your 2020 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI). This amendment only affects section II Grazing Schedule of the AOI.

The Planned Graze period is being adjusted per Adaptive Management Principles. Due to a lack of water in Packard grazing unit, permittee will be allowed to water at Jimmee tank (AZGFD Trick Tank), and graze to the east down to the area south of SOB Canyon, also grazing the Bakers unit (SOB and south) until Packard catches rains. This amendment does not authorize permitted livestock to water out of the Verde River.

This amendment also reflects temporary increase of 50 cow calf, 10 bulls, and 4 horses.

Extra herding is required to keep livestock out of the SOB north and McDaniel areas.

Notify your Range Manager when enough rain has been caught and livestock will be held at Packard grazing unit.

II. GRAZING SCHEDULE

PASTURE NAME	PLANNED GRAZE PERIOD	LIVESTOCK NUMBERS
		150c 10 Bulls
Packard	1 June - 1 Aug	150
Packard	1 June – 30 June	10 bulls
Packard	1 June – 1 Aug	4 horses
Bakers (SOB canyon & south)	Until monsoon rains fill Packard	
McDaniel	2 Aug – 1 Nov	4 horses
Pocket	2 Nov – 2 Jan 2021	4 horses
Bakers	3 Jan – 28 Feb	4 horses

APPROVED BY: /s/ Sarah Clawson 06/17/2020

Sarah Clawson, District Ranger

Date

Antelope Hills Allotment
Annual Operating Instructions
Amendment #4

This document serves as Amendment #4 of your 2020 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI). This amendment only affects section II Grazing Schedule of the AOI.

The Planned Graze period is being adjusted per Adaptive Management Principles. Due to EXTREME drought index, and adjustments made in Amendments 1-3, utilization levels have been reached across the allotment. Pocket pasture is allowed 30% use of key species due to the sandstone derived soils. Combined with no water in the primary stock tank in the Pocket pasture. Utilization has been met and cattle need to be moved.

Permittee will haul water to the temporary water haul near the gate along the south boundary fence with Jerome allotment. Permittee will salt ¼ - 1 mile from this water haul. Cattle can remain in this area until utilization is met. At the time utilization is met in this unit. Cattle will be required to be removed from the allotment, as all units have been grazed and not recovered due to drought.

II. GRAZING SCHEDULE

PASTURE NAME	PLANNED GRAZE PERIOD	LIVESTOCK NUMBERS
Pocket	November 30 - December 18, 2020	100
Packard grazing area	December 19 – February 28, 2021	100

APPROVED BY: /s/ Sarah Clawson

12/10/2020

Sarah Clawson, District Ranger

Date