

**DOUGLAS RANGER DISTRICT
CORONADO NATIONAL FOREST
ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTION (AOI)
Barboot, Turkey Creek, and Big Bend Allotments
2024 Grazing Year**

The annual validation for your term grazing permit has been approved for the following numbers and season:

I & II. AUTHORIZED USE and ROTATION SCHEDULE: The following numbers and classes of livestock are authorized to graze on the Barboot and Turkey Creek Allotments. Actual rotation dates may vary dependent upon climatic conditions, when utilization levels are reached, and time required to remove cattle.

Authorized Use

Allotment	Date On	Date Off	# of Days	# of Cows w/calf	Dry Cows	# of Bulls	# Yrlng	Horse	AUMs	HMs
Barboot	3/1/2024	4/30/2024	61	400					802	802
Barboot	11/1/2024	2/28/2025	120	400					1578	1578
Turkey Creek	3/1/2024	2/28/2025	365	72					864	864
Big Bend	3/1/2024	4/30/2024	61	400					802	802
Big Bend	11/1/2024	2/28/2025	120	400					1578	1578
Total									5625	5625

Non-Use

Allotment	Date On	Date Off	# of Days	# of Cows w/calf	Dry Cows	# of Bulls	# Yrlng	Horse	AUMs	HMs
Reason:										
Total										

Proposed Rotation

Pasture	Date On	Date Off	# of Days	# of Cows w/calf	Dry Cows	# of Bulls	# Yrlng	Horse	AUMs	HMs	
Barboot Allotment											
High Lonesome	3/1/2024	4/30/2024	61		400				802	802	
Off Forest	5/1/2024	10/31/2024	184								
Chalkhill	11/1/2024	12/31/2024	61		400				802	802	
Box	1/1/2025	2/28/2025	59		400				776	776	
Wildcat	As Available	As Available									
Turkey Creek Allotment											
Turkey Pen	3/1/2024	5/31/2024	92		70				212	212	
Bath Tub	6/1/2024	9/30/2024	122		70				281	281	
Upper Turkey	10/1/2024	2/28/2025	151		70				348	348	
Big Bend Allotment											
Hunsaker/Packsaddle	3/1/2024	4/30/2024	61		400				802	802	
Off Forest	5/1/2024	10/31/2024	184								
Big East/Beacon/Southwest/West End*	11/16/2024	2/28/2025	105		400				1381	1381	
									Applied For	5403	5403
									Permitted	5625	5625
									Non-Use	0	0
NOTES:											
The Big East, Beacon, Southwest and West End pastures may be used in conjunction; ensure adequate distribution through herding and salting											

The Wildcat pasture is available for use at any point throughout the grazing season pending the availability of stock water. If substantial water becomes available, please reach out to the range personnel at the Douglas Ranger District to discuss.

This rotation schedule is dependent on climatic conditions and the availability of water.



If you should need to deviate from this rotation schedule by more than two weeks, please notify this office in advance. Livestock remaining in pastures beyond the specified rotation date, that are allowed to drift between pastures, or grazing in rested pastures may be considered a violation of your Term Grazing Permit, unless specifically mentioned in the rotation schedule.

Due to the ongoing drought we all are experiencing in this region, changes to various types of management are needed in most cases. Please keep the natural resource conditions in the forefront of your mind when making management decisions that affect your allotment, and please keep the range staff here at the Douglas District well informed of any deviation from your proposed plan.

Please be sure to not exceed the permitted number of livestock.

III. ALLOWABLE USE STANDARDS:

Utilization in all pastures is not to exceed 45% in the key areas. Please refer to your key area map. Herding and salting will be used to ensure allowable use is not exceeded. If allowable use is in danger of being exceeded, the cattle should be removed from that pasture until the range recovers. Salt and supplement will be placed appropriately, on good feed, at least ¼ mile from water and out of livestock concentration areas and more than 200 feet from roads. Salt and supplement locations should be rotated so as not to degrade a particular site. Salt blocks may be removed by the District if found near water, over-utilized areas, or roads. Blocks should be placed on hard ground not susceptible to erosion.

IV. MONITORING:

The permittee will record actual use as it occurs, including livestock numbers and dates permitted livestock are in a pasture. This information will be reported at the next annual operating instruction meeting. Common implementation monitoring includes forage production, forage utilization, photo points, condition of improvements, actual use, and precipitation data. The District is planning on reading the effectiveness monitoring transects on the allotment this fall or winter. Your participation will be requested when we schedule the event.

V. RANGE IMPROVEMENT CONSTRUCTION / MAINTENANCE:

The Forest Service may spot check range improvements before the entry date to ensure improvements are in a satisfactory condition. Livestock will not be allowed to enter pastures if assigned improvements are not maintained to proper standards. Livestock will not be allowed to enter pastures if fences will not keep livestock where they are placed.

All troughs should have water when livestock are not present and be equipped so that small animals can safely enter and exit.

New range improvements and all ground disturbing activities will not be initiated until proper archeological clearances have been obtained. When improvements are completed, the permittee will inform District Range personnel to schedule an inspection. Before using machinery to clean any pond, the permittee is required to give the District Office at least 30 days advance notice so that the tank can be inspected for threatened or endangered species. All work involving the use of heavy equipment will be accomplished only after prior approval by the District Ranger. Improvement schedule is dependent upon funding.

Previous Year Improvement Accomplishments				
Permit Mod #	Improvement Type / ID #	Completion Date	Description/Comments	Status Done /Date
	Water		Repair/ Replace existing troughs along Big Bend Pipeline	Ongoing

Current Year Improvement Schedule				
Permit Mod #	Improvement Type / ID #	Completion Date	Description/Comments	Status Done /Date
	Water System/New Improvement		Possibly apply for grant funding to install the previously approved rainwater catchment in the Wildcat pasture. Please stay in contact with the District as we may provide materials, funding and/or support for the grant writing process and project.	
	Fence #122014		Repair/Rebuild ¼ mile of Fence #122014.	
	Water System/122018		Replace trough at Riggs Well. FS will supply 1 large tire drinker, permittee to install. Also add more storage and “bear proof” the improvement	
	Water System		Continue pipeline from Bauer Tank to Hilltop Tank, and ultimately to Tom Ketchum Dam in the Wildcat pasture.	
	Beacon Tank/# 124013		Investigate Beacon Tank (#124013) and possibilities for repair. Notify Douglas Ranger District for authorized access to the tank prior to any labor completion on this project.	
	Water System # 124018		Continue to Repair/ Replace existing troughs along Big Bend Pipeline (124018).	
	Fence #12413		Replace ½ mile of the allotment boundary fence #12413 between the Big Bend allotment and the Barboot allotment in the Tom Ketchum Canyon. The Forest Service will supply the materials required.	
	Roads		You are authorized to maintain all existing Forest Service system roads on the Barboot and Big Bend allotments.	

	Water Development/ 124003, 124030		You are authorized to pump out and clean out Upper and Lower Hunsaker Tank. Please coordinate with district range staff beforehand.	
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VI. REFUNDS AND CREDIT OF GRAZING FEES PAID (FSM 2238.11g)

Refunds will only be approved where the term grazing permit has been waived, the waiver of term grazing permit has been confirmed by the authorized officer, and a new permit issued to a qualified applicant indicated on the waiver of term grazing permit (FS-2200-12), or if a current permittee has applied for, and the authorized officer has approved, nonuse for which grazing fees have previously been paid.

Grazing fee credits will be approved when late entry or early removal of livestock is requested by the permittee for legitimate reasons and/or when delayed entry or early removal of livestock is requested by the authorized officer for reasons of resource protection. Credit for grazing fees will not be approved merely for the convenience of the permittee after the bill for collection is issued.

VII. PROTECTION:

The permittee, his agents and employees, when acting within the scope of their employment, and his contractors and subcontractors will protect the land and property of the United States, waived private land and other land under jurisdiction of the Forest Service covered by and used in conjunction with this permit. During periods of high fire danger, branding fires will be allowed by permit only. Please report all fires to the Tucson Interagency Fire Coordination Center at 1-800-549-0661.

VIII. PERMIT CONDITIONS:

This Annual Operating Instruction is hereby made a part of the Term Grazing Permit as provided for in Part 2, Section 8(a). It complies with the standards and guidelines found in the Forest Plan. Failure to comply with 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. This is found in Part 1, Section 3, of your permit.

Keep a copy of these Annual Operating Instruction for your personal files. Thank you.

Sincerely,

DOUG RUPPEL
District Ranger