

**NOGALES RANGER DISTRICT
CORONADO NATIONAL FOREST
ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTION (AOI)
Bear Valley Allotment
2024 Grazing Year**

I. PERMITTED USE: The following table illustrates the number of livestock and period of use permitted on the Bear Valley Allotment as per Term Grazing Permit #50256.

KIND	CLASS	TERM PERMIT		PERMITTED PERIOD OF USE
		Numbers	AUMs	
Cattle	Cow/calf	350	4,200	03/01 – 02/28
	Yearlings			
	Bulls			
Horses	Mature			03/01 – 02/28
	Total	350	4,200	03/01 – 02/28

II. AUTHORIZED USE: Actual dates may vary dependent upon climatic conditions, potential fires, when utilization levels are reached, and time required to move cattle. The following numbers and classes of livestock are authorized to graze on the Bear Valley Allotment:

KIND	CLASS	NUMBER	AUMs	PROPOSED SEASON OF USE
Cattle	Cow/Calf	130	1560	03/01-02/28
	Bulls	10	144	03/01-02/28
Horses	Mature			
	Total	140	1,704	03/01-02/28

III. ROTATION SCHEDULE: Actual dates may vary dependent upon climatic conditions, when utilization levels are reached, and time required to remove cattle. It is understood that it may take 3 to 4 weeks to completely gather all cattle out of the larger pastures.

Pasture	Proposed Numbers	Proposed Season of Use	Use Standard
Bear Valley	140	03/01/2024-04/30/2024	45%
Sycamore	140	05/01/2024-06/15/2024	45%
Atascosa/Black Tank/House	140	06/16/2024-07/15/2024	45%
Border/ Road	140	07/16/2024-09/30/2024	35%
Atascosa/ Black Tank/ House	140	10/01/2024-10/31/2024	45%
Casita	140	11/01/2024-01/31/2025	45%
Montana	140	02/01/2025-02/28/2025	45%

IV. ALLOWABLE USE STANDARDS

Allowable use of forage is based on the amount and kind of forage on the allotment, plant needs, range condition, trend, and grazing management strategy. Duration, frequency, and timing may be manipulated within the grazing schedule to meet allowable use standards.

The allowable use levels for this allotment are established for key areas and key species by pasture for the time period livestock are in a pasture. The use on key species in key areas may determine the length of the grazing period in the pasture. The establishment of the utilization standards is consistent with 36 CFR 222 regulations, FSM 2210 and 2230, and FSH 2209.21.

For simplicity, key areas are generally considered as follows: 1) full capacity rangeland located on ridgetops/mesas within a 1/4 mile from available water sources; 2) canyon bottoms/riparian areas with free flowing water or springs regardless of distance from water; 3) any area containing full capacity range with erosive soils and insufficient/marginal ground cover to protect the soil; or 4) areas containing habitat, whether occupied, suitable and unoccupied, or potentially suitable habitat, for threatened, endangered, or proposed species that are of concern to the Forest Service.

Key areas may be further defined on a map or land description, which may be attached to this Annual Operating Instruction.

V. ADMINISTRATION

1. Grazing fees must be paid prior to March 1, 2024.
2. Sub-leasing is prohibited. Livestock placed on the allotment must be owned by the permittee and branded with the permittee's registered brand. A copy of the brand certificate must be on file at the District Office.
3. 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.
4. Any change or deviation from this Annual Operating Instructions is to be coordinated and confirmed in advance with the District. If emergency conditions require making a change immediately, the permittee will notify the District as soon as practical.
5. 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.
6. Livestock should be moved when forage utilization objectives have been met or within 1 week of planned rotation dates, unless changes have been confirmed with District Range personnel.
7. The District 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.

VI. SALT AND MINERAL BLOCK

Salt or mineral block will not be placed within 200 feet of a road or within a quarter mile of water or drainage bottom. 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.

VII. MONITORING

Monitoring and evaluation are an essential aspect of good rangeland management. Monitoring and evaluation can be described as the gathering of information, so the manager knows what is happening to rangeland resources and why. The intent of monitoring and evaluation is to test the success of the management strategy and if needed, make adjustments.

Besides participating with the District in collecting monitoring data the permittee is encouraged to also collect monitoring information on their own. If you would like to collect your own data, the District can provide the necessary equipment and training to assist with this effort. Common implementation monitoring includes forage production, forage utilization, photo points, condition of improvements, actual use, and precipitation data.

VIII. RANGE IMPROVEMENT CONSTRUCTION / MAINTENANCE

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.

Current Year Improvement Schedule			YEAR	2024
Permit Mod #	Improvement Type / ID #	Completion Date	Description/Comments	Status Done /Date
			Routine Maintenance	
			Rebuild Trap Fence	
Improvement Accomplishments			YEAR	2023
Permit Mod #	Improvement Type / ID #	Completion Date	Description/Comments	Status Done /Date
			Routine Maintenance	
			Needs 2 cattle guards for Casita, Bear Valley and Corral Nuevo at Corral Nuevo. Installed swin gates instead.	
			Needs 2 cattle guards at headquarters to avoid traffic entering corral	

IX. 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

