DECISION NOTICE and Finding of No Significant Impact

Placement of the Brushiest Allotment Under Management

Tonto National Forest Globe Ranger District

An Environmental Assessment that discusses proposed management of the Brushiest Allotment has been prepared.

Based on the analysis and evaluation described in the Environmental Assessment, it is my decision to adopt the proposed alternative for placement of the Brushiest Allotment under management. The proposed action will provide for range resource improvement and opportunities for increased grazing capacity, while enhancing wildlife habitat, watershed, and soil quality. Based upon cost effectiveness screening, the proposed alternative represents the most cost effective method for achieving the desired goals.

This proposal will be carried out specific to the coordinating requirements and constraints identified in the assessment document. In addition to the proposal, three other alternatives were evaluated: (B) Implement a three-pasture rotation system with a 6-month rotation schedule and needed structural improvements, (C) Implement a Santa Rita three-pasture grazing system with the needed structural range improvements, and (D) continue current grazing system with no capital investment. All alternatives were evaluated using the criteria found in the assessment.

I have determined, based on the Environmental Analysis, that this is not a major Federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment; therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not needed. This determination was made considering the following factors:

a. There is no effect on future designation of Rare II area as wilderness.

b. There are no significant irreversible resource commitments.

c. There are no cummulative or secondary effects.

d. Sensitive resources will be adequately protected, thereby ensuring resource recovery.

e. Improved livestock distribution through development of the proposed structural range improvements will benefit range, wildlife, and recreation resources.

This decision is subject to administrative review pursuant to 36 CFR 211.19.

ALAMES L. KIMBALL, Forest Supervisor

Date