

File Code: 2230
Date: April 24, 2017

Pratt Brothers Ranch LLC
Edward Pratt

(b) (6)
[REDACTED]

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN
RECEIPT REQUESTED
NUMBER: 7010 1870 0001 0587 8737

Dear Edward,

Term Grazing Permit #12202, issued to Pratt Brothers Ranch LLC, authorizes the grazing of 160 cow/calf pairs on the Bull Springs Allotment for a March 1st through February 28th designated period of use.

On May 23, 2016, I notified you by certified mail regarding management situations that did not comply with the terms and conditions of your term grazing permit. Specifically, I informed you that in order to come into compliance with the terms and conditions of your term grazing permit you must:

1. Rebuild and maintain to standard all boundary, pasture, drift, and trap fences on Polles Mesa by October 31st, 2016. This is a violation of Part 2, Section 8(i) of your term grazing permit.
2. Provide documentation for the number of animals authorized to be stocked on the allotment.

In that letter, I also informed you that failure to correct these violations within the prescribed timeframes may result in the initiation of permit suspension or cancellation procedures.

On April 13th, 2017, Tonto Range Program Manager Chandler Mundy, North Zone Range Staff Jeff Sturla, and Range Specialist Kelly Bedson inspected the Bull Springs Allotment and found fences on Polles Mesa (as identified in your 2015, 2016, & 2017 AOI's) have still not been maintained. When discussed with your manager, Maryann Pratt shared that Forest Service priorities are not her priorities, and that there were other fences she needed to repair before the ones identified by the Forest Service.

You have failed to correct the permit violations as requested and have not provided me with justification for your continued non-compliance. 36 CFR 224 provides authority for a District Ranger to suspend or cancel a term grazing permit in whole or in part. Further direction is found in the Forest Service Handbook 2209.13, Section 16.2. Based on this authority and subsequent



violations of the terms and condition of your Term Grazing Permit, it is my decision to suspend your permit in full for two years.

Please remove all cattle from the Bull Springs Allotment no later than July 31st, 2017. You are to submit Arizona Department of Agriculture inspection certificates to document all animals removed from the Tonto National Forest. It is my intention that by removing cattle from Bull Springs, you will be able to reprioritize your work and regain compliance with your Term Grazing Permit.

You must complete the following corrective actions within the time and periods prescribed below in order to remedy these violations of your term grazing permit:

- Repair or reconstruct all assigned fence (boundary, pasture, drift, and trap fences) on the Bull Springs allotment to functional condition by April 24th, 2019.

Failure to correct these violations within the prescribed time frames may result in the initiation of cancellation procedures in whole or in part.

This decision is subject to administrative appeal pursuant to 36 CFR Part 214. Your appeal must be received by the Appeal Deciding Officer within 45 days from the date of the decision at the following address:

Neil Bosworth, Forest Supervisor
Tonto National Forest Supervisor's Office
2324 E. McDowell Rd.
Phoenix, AZ 85006

In accordance with 36 CFR 214.8, your appeal must include:

1. Your name, mailing address, daytime telephone number, and email address, if any;
2. A brief description of the decision being appealed, including the name and title of the Responsible Official and the date of the decision;
3. The title or type and, if applicable, identification number for the written authorization and the date of application for or issuance of the written authorization, if applicable;
4. A statement of how you are adversely affected by the decision being appealed;
5. A statement of the relevant facts underlying the decision being appealed;
6. A discussion of issues raised by the decision being appealed, including identification of any laws, regulations, or policies that were allegedly violated in reaching the decision being appealed;
7. A statement as to whether and how you have attempted to resolve the issues under appeal with the Responsible Official and the date and outcome of those efforts;
8. Any statement of the relief sought;
9. Any documents and other information upon which you rely; and
10. Your signature and the date.

The following specific requirements also must be included in your appeal, where applicable:

1. A request for oral presentation.
2. A request for stay.
3. Additionally, if you file a notice of appeal, you may simultaneously request mediation pursuant to 36 CFR Part 222 Subpart B. If mediation is desired you must request mediation as part of filing your appeal.

As the Responsible Official for this decision, I am willing to meet with you to discuss any issues related to the decision. Please contact my office at 928-474-7900 if you would like to arrange a meeting.

Sincerely,



DEBBIE CRESS
District Ranger

cc: Neil Bosworth; Chandler Mundy