

Annual Operating Instructions

BUSH CREEK ALLOTMENT
Alpine Ranger District
Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest

2024 grazing season

Term Permitted Livestock Numbers and dates:

Bush Creek Allotment	11 to 27 AUMs*	11/01 to 4/30**
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*Livestock number will vary between 11 and 27 AUMs annually

**Season of use will be from November to April for a total of 141 days.

Annual Validation livestock numbers and dates:

Bush Creek Allotment	4 Horses	03/01/2023 to 04/30/2023 & 12/01/2023 to 02/29/2024
	4 head of Cattle	11/01/2023 to 11/30/2023

Pasture Schedule: I have approved your application to graze up to 4 head of mature cattle or 4 head of horses on the Bush Creek Allotment per the schedule below. The following table represents your grazing rotation schedule for the grazing season. The schedule & level of authorized use above is an estimate and may be modified at any time prior to or during the grazing season if utilization levels, identified below, are met, if water availability is inadequate, or for other resource management reasons.

Allotment	Pasture	On	Off	Number/Class
Bush Creek	Mountain	03/01/24	04/30	4 Horses
	Bush Creek	11/01	11/30	4 Cattle
	Mountain	12/01	02/28/2025	4 Horses
	Steeple	Rest	Rest	Rest

Utilization Standards: The following utilization standards will be applied on the Bush Creek Allotments. A management guideline of conservative use of 30-40% in the uplands as measured at the end of the grazing season will be employed to improve vegetative and soil conditions. Our priority will be to maintain satisfactory vegetative and watershed conditions. Livestock distribution and subsequent utilization levels will help determine management.

Key Area Monitoring: Utilization levels, at a minimum, may be checked prior to livestock entering the allotment and near the midpoint, of the grazing period for each pasture at key areas. District personnel may contact permittees to coordinate site visits to monitor key areas, when practical. Permittee participation is encouraged. Forage utilization estimates will be consistent with the Forest Service Range Analysis Handbook methodology as well as other techniques generally accepted in the field of range management.

Range Improvements: Permittees will maintain assigned range improvements within their allotment(s). This is in accordance with Part 3, clause 2 of the term grazing permit. If your neighbor is turning out before you on an adjacent pasture and the boundary fence is your responsibility, this fence must be repaired before your neighbor turns out. The permittee must

obtain permission from the District Ranger, before conducting earth- disturbing activities on the National Forest.

Livestock Distribution: Salting and maintaining improvements are good ways to achieve proper livestock distribution. Salt should be located at least ¼ mile from water, and preferably on ridges and/or areas of low use. Do not place salt blocks in the same location as the previous year and locate blocks on hard ground not susceptible to erosion. Supplemental feeding, other than mineral or supplement block is not authorized on the National Forest. Frequent riding may be necessary to achieve livestock distribution. A full-time rider may be needed to herd livestock to lightly used areas, reducing grazing pressure on riparian areas and meadows.

Fire Prevention: All vehicles should be equipped with a properly functioning exhaust system. A shovel and axe for use in extinguishing camp and forest fires should be carried. All open camp and branding fires, when allowed, must have a fire ring down to the mineral soil, and be handled in a safe manner. All State and local fire regulations and restrictions will be observed. Report any fires to fire dispatch at **928-333-6360**.
Thank you.