

**2017 Annual Operating Instructions
Cienega Allotment**

Resource Objectives For This Grazing Season

Perennial grasses and major browse species within these pastures need rest in order to provide time to recover from the drought we're currently experiencing. Due to some recent timely moisture the allotment is showing signs of recovery. When cattle are not in a pasture, ensure water is available for wildlife and escape ramps are in place on troughs.

To avoid damage to wells they do not have to be left on when cattle are removed from a pasture although we recommend you periodically check the availability of water and refill storage tanks and troughs.

Authorization

Upon payment of fees livestock are authorized as follows for 2017:

<u>Number of Livestock</u>	<u>Pasture</u>	<u>Grazing Period (may be modified)</u>
150 c/c	Creek	March
150 c/c	Racetrack	March
25 bulls	Flats	March
165 c/c & bulls	Dripping springs	April – July 31
165 c/c & bulls	Racetrack	March – April 30
165 c/c & bulls	Buckbed	May – August 31
165 c/c & bulls	Flats	Sept – Nov 30
165 c/c & bulls	Reimer	August – Nov 30
320 c/c & bulls	Creek	December – Feb 2018

The Forest Officer must be given actual use, by pasture, after livestock are off the allotment. Any change from these Annual Operating Instructions is to be coordinated and confirmed in advance with the Forest Officer, best if a week or two in advance. If emergency conditions require making a change immediately, notify the Forest Officer promptly.

Move your livestock regardless of the date shown above, to avoid exceeding allowable use (utilization) levels. If utilization levels are appropriate then livestock moves must be 90% accomplished by the dates given above. Reimer Springs enclosure fence must be functioning before cows are in Reimer Pasture.

Allowable Use

The following is maximum allowable use: Uplands: *On palatable grasses*: 35% while actively growing, 50% during dormant periods. This percentage is of the total weight of the current year's production. *On shrubs*: browsing of 50% of available leaders. Riparian: *On palatable grasses and sedges*: 30% of the total weight available. *On shrubs*: browsing of 50% of available leaders. Cattle will be moved to the next scheduled pasture or off the allotment when allowable use standards are met, no matter what the dates on paper are. Failure to remove your cattle to avoid use above the allowable levels is a violation of these instructions and the terms of your grazing permit.

Salt And Supplements

The thoughtful placement of salt, mineral, and protein is a valuable distribution aid. Salt will not be located in heavy use areas, including within ¼ mile of water. Instead, place supplements to draw livestock to areas that normally receive only light use.

Range Improvements

Maintenance on range improvements will follow the standards in your Part 3 of your grazing permit.

Permittee Comments And Suggestions

Travel management-

The Prescott National Forest designated a system of roads and trails that are open to motor vehicle use in 1989 through Forest Plan Amendment #4. Motor vehicle use off the designated road system by the permit holder to conduct activities associated with administration of the term grazing permit is allowed under the terms and conditions of the term grazing permit.

Permit Conditions

These Annual Operating Instructions are a part of the Term Grazing Permit as provided for in Part 2, Section 8(a). They comply with the standards and guidelines found in the Forest Plan. Failure to follow 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. (Refer to Part 1, Section 3, of your permit.)

PASTURES

Heifer	1463 acres	Flats	2451
Hooker	639	Racetrack	2611
Dripping Springs	4308	Buckbed	5477
Reimer	4365	Johnson Wash	1083
I-17 Right of Way	65	Logan	995
Creek	3362	<u>Bardshare</u>	<u>357</u>
Holding 1	700		
Hance Mesa	941	Total Acres	29369
Holding	32		

APPROVED BY: Todd W. [Signature] 2/8/17
District Ranger Date

AGREED TO BY: [Signature] 2/8/17
Permittee Date