

**File Code:** 2230  
**Date:** February 17, 2016

Clint Smith  
PO Box 445  
Clay Springs, AZ 85923

Dear Clint:

On February 10, 2016, Kendell and Andy met with you to discuss the 2016 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Clay Springs Allotment. The pasture rotation and numbers agreed upon are as follows:

<u>Pasture</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Powerline	18 cow/calf	March 1 to April 30
Summer North	18 cow/calf	May 1 to May 31
	32 cow/calf	June 1 to August 15
Summer South	32 cow/calf	August 16 to October 31
+IL	18 cow/calf	November 1 to November 30
Powerline	18 cow/calf	December 1 to January 7
Town	18 cow/calf	January 8 to February 28

Utilization for the 2016 grazing season should not exceed an average of 30% of herbaceous forage species, 25% of terminal buds of riparian shrubs and trees, and 45% on browse species. Adjustments to this rotation may be needed during the grazing season. Any adjustments to the rotation need to be coordinated and approved by the Forest Service. By this letter, I also authorize you or people working for you to cut, use or remove any trees needed for fence posts and stays for maintenance of structural range improvements within the Clay Springs Allotment. A copy of this letter must be in possession with you or them while engaged in any tree cutting.

Last year, Town Draw well was completed with the aid of a grant received by the Arizona Game and Fish Department. This project replaced the old pump jack with a new solar system and added a water storage and new troughs. You would like to develop the exploratory well located on Scott Ridge in a similar manner. This well is thought to be collapsed or the casing is plugged with an unknown object. More information needs to be obtained about this well to see if it is worth pursuing grant money to develop it. A location needs to be picked out for a corral south of Highway 260 and west of Cottonwood Wash. A cattle guard is needed on the allotment boundary with Willow Wash near +IL Tank. The Forest Service will furnish this cattle guard. Please coordinate any additional projects with Kendell or Andy.



If you have any questions, please contact Kendell or Andy at Black Mesa, (928)535-7300 or at Lakeside, (928) 368-2100. This letter will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions for the 2016 grazing year. I am willing to meet with the permittee to hear and discuss any concerns or issues related to these Annual Operating Instructions.

Sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER JAMES  
District Ranger