

2017 Annual Operating Instructions Copper Canyon 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. Livestock numbers will be appropriate to the currently available forage. Ensure water is available for wildlife in pastures cattle are not in and ramps are in place on 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>
93 c/c	Copper Canyon	2/25- 3/31
93 c/c	John tomkins	4/1 – 6/15
93 c/c	Box T	6/16-9/30
93 c/c	Cottonwood	10/1-11/30
93 c/c	Lucky	12/1-12/31
93 c/c	Monroe	1/1-2/28/2018
7 horses	Corral/ Copper Cyn	3/1-2/28

- Don't use Copper Cyn pasture April to June for the willow flycatcher.

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.

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 1/4 mile of water. Instead, place supplements to draw livestock to areas that normally receive only light use.

Range Improvements

Maintenance on assigned 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.)

Approval of these Annual Operating Instructions is a decision is subject to appeal in accordance with 36 CFR 251. Appeals must be fully consistent with 36CFR 251.90 "Contents of Notice of Appeal". Appeals must be filed with Betty Mathews, Forest Supervisor, 344 S. Cortez Street, Prescott, Arizona 86303 with a copy simultaneously sent to Celeste Gordon, District Ranger, at Pox 670, Camp Verde, AZ 86322, within 45 days of the date of decision.

APPROVED BY: Todd Walker 2/21/17
District Ranger Date

AGREED TO BY: [Signature] 2/21/17
Permittee Date