



**File Code:** 2210; 2230  
**Date:** October 3, 2024

Bruce A. Hunter  
P.O. Box 954  
Tonopah, AZ 85354

Dear Mr. Hunter:

This document serves as your 2024/2025 Winter Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Double A and Corva Allotments.

## **I. AUTHORIZED LIVESTOCK NUMBERS/PERIOD OF USE**

Your 2024 Authorized Use Request has been approved and you are authorized the following Livestock Numbers and Periods of Use:

250 Cattle (cow/calf)

September 1, 2024 through February 28, 2025

Any changes to the 2024 authorized livestock numbers will require that you file an additional Authorized Use Request. Be advised that the Forest Service will need a minimum of 45 days to assess resource conditions and process a supplemental grazing bill for additional livestock. Please contact your Rangeland Management Specialist prior to making any decisions regarding increased livestock numbers.

## **II. GRAZING SCHEDULE**

The following is the planned grazing sequence for the 2024/2025 winter grazing period. The pasture move dates shown are an estimate and may need to be amended based on actual conditions.

| Allotment | Pasture | Planned Graze Period | Livestock Numbers |
|-----------|---------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Double A  | NW      | 2/12-3/15*           | 63 cow/calf       |
| Double A  | NE      | 2/12-3/15*           | 63 cow/calf       |
| Double A  | SW      | 2/12-3/15*           | 62 cow/calf       |
| Double A  | SE      | 2/12-3/15*           | 62 cow/calf       |
| Double A  | NE      | 3/15-5/15*           | 250               |



allotment will continue to be based upon seasonal utilization guidelines and allowable forage utilization standards.

## **V. ALLOWABLE UTILIZATION STANDARDS**

### **Upland and Non-Riparian Areas**

The maximum allowable level of utilization on herbaceous and non-riparian woody vegetation is up to 40%. This allowable use level is the utilization level permitted by both livestock and wildlife. Utilization is defined as the proportion or degree of current year's forage production by weight that is consumed or destroyed by animals. It is a comparison of the amount of herbage left with the amount of herbage produced during the year. Utilization will be measured at the end of growing season when the total annual production can be accounted for and the effects of grazing in the whole management unit can be assessed.

## **VI. SEASONAL UTILIZATION**

Seasonal utilization is defined as the amount of herbage removed through grazing or trampling during the grazing period. Seasonal utilization will be measured at the end of each pasture's livestock grazing period.

The seasonal utilization guideline will be the primary factor in determining when livestock need to move to the next pasture; but other factors such as climatic conditions, opportunity for plant growth, and previous year's utilization level will also be considered. Annual reductions in the seasonal utilization guideline may be made based on resource conditions.

The maximum allowable use will be up to 40% in key areas.

## **VII. RESOURCE MONITORING**

### **Allowable Utilization**

Allowable utilization within each pasture will be monitored and the allowable utilization standards (section V) and the seasonal utilization guidelines (section VI) will be enforced. This may result in earlier pasture moves than indicated in the Grazing Schedule (section II).

Forage utilization monitoring will occur at locations within pastures using the "key area" concept. Key areas are defined as "...a portion of range, which because of its location, grazing or browsing value, and/or use, serve as an indicative sample of range conditions, trend, or degree of use seasonally. A key area guides the general management of the entire area of which it is a part." Key areas will generally have the following characteristics: they will be approximately 20 to 500 acres in size; they will be located on productive soils with slopes less than 15%; they will have a plant community that is representative of the larger area; and they will generally be located 0.25 to 1.0 miles away from livestock water sources.

Forage utilization monitoring and its specific application to your allotment should be discussed with your Rangeland Management Specialist. Permittee participation in utilization monitoring is encouraged.

### **Permittee Monitoring**

The permittee will monitor and document the following items on the enclosed Actual Use and Forage Utilization Monitoring Form: 1) Actual Grazing Period; 2) Actual Livestock Numbers; and 3)

This practice may be approved for use on all Kaibab National Forest allotments provided the following criteria are being met:

1. A deficiency supplement during sustained unusual heavy snow/ice events. This criterion is a Best Management Practice (BMP).
2. Only certified weed-free hay may be authorized to prevent the spread of noxious weeds. This criterion is a BMP.
3. Supplemental feeding will not be used in place of forage if forage runs low within a pasture. This criterion is a BMP.
4. This practice will only be allowed for a specific location and time under the authority of the District Ranger (FSM 2200 Range Management Chapter Zero Code – 2204.3 Item 2).

## **X. PORTABLE WATER HAULING**

Temporary sites for portable haul water may be needed and should be used as necessary to assist in livestock distribution. The following requirements will apply to portable haul water locations:

1. Coordinate with the District Rangeland Management Specialist to identify portable water haul locations for individual pastures prior to the grazing period.
2. To aid in livestock distribution, the portable water haul locations should generally be in areas of light forage utilization.
3. Portable water hauls will not be located in areas of depleted range, erosive soils, or sensitive plant or animal species.
4. Portable water haul locations will be moved when the desired forage utilization levels have been reached.
5. Portable haul water storage tanks and troughs will be removed when livestock leave the pasture.

## **XI. FIRE**

Please use caution during all ranch activities that could potentially start a fire. All ranch vehicles must be equipped with an axe, shovel, and water bucket. All open camp and branding fires require a ten foot fire ring cleared down to mineral soil.

During periods of critical fire danger the Forest Supervisor may declare a Red Flag Alert or issue other special orders. Under these conditions, the building or use of fires, the use of power saws, heavy equipment, ATVs and other motorized equipment may be prohibited on Forest Service land. All Federal, State and Local fire restrictions and regulations must be observed.

Report all fires to the Williams Ranger District Office at (928) 635-5600 or to the Kaibab National Forest Supervisors Office at (928) 635-8200.

Cooperation in the reporting, prevention, and suppression of fires will be expected as specified in Part 2, Section 10 of your Term Grazing Permit.

10. Grazing permittees that do not obtain a Restricted Road, Trail and Off-Road Administrative Use Permit are required to operate motorized vehicles only on the designated road system. Operating a motorized vehicle off the designated road system without a valid Restricted Road, Trail and Off-Road Administrative Use Permit will result in the immediate issuance of a Notice of Non-Compliance for violating the terms and conditions of your Term Grazing Permit (Part 2, Section 8a). A Notice of Non-Compliance may result in Term Grazing Permit suspension or cancellation proceedings.

### **XIII. PERMITTEE REVIEW**

On February 5th, 2025, Wade Biakeddy met with Ranch Manager David Hadley to develop the 2024/2025 Annual Operating Instructions for the Corva/Double A Allotments. You have reviewed and agreed with these instructions. If you have any questions or wish to discuss anything further, please feel free to contact Wade Biakeddy at (928) 635-5623.

Sincerely,



*/s/ Debra Mollet*  
DEBRA MOLLET  
District Ranger

cc: David Hadley