



File Code: 2230

Date: February 20, 2025

Dear Mrs. Birkemeyer,

This document serves as your 2025 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Dugas Allotment. This AOI is part of your Term Grazing Permit as provided for in Part 2, section 8(a).

**I. AUTHORIZED LIVESTOCK NUMBERS/PERIOD OF USE/APPROVED NON-USE**

Your 2025 Authorized Use Request has been approved and you are authorized the following livestock numbers and periods of use:

151 Adult Cattle (cow/calf)	3/01/2025-2/28/2026
21 Heifers	5/01/2025-2/28/2026
12 Bulls	3/01/2025-2/28/2026
8 Horses	3/01/2025-2/28/2026

**II. GRAZING SCHEDULE**

Annual stocking level (annual authorized livestock numbers and dates) are considered approximate. The actual dates and numbers may change due to many variables. The annual stocking level is based on current and expected forage production. The planned use period in a pasture and livestock numbers can/should be adjusted if conditions change, either shortened or lengthened, depending on forage availability but not in excess of the permitted numbers and utilization levels in key areas.

**Changes to the grazing schedule will be made only with prior Forest Service approval**

The following is the planned grazing sequence for the 2025 grazing season:

PASTURE NAME	PLANNED GRAZE PERIOD	LIVESTOCK NUMBERS
Cottonwood	03/01-04/30	151C/12B
Larkspur	05/01-06/30	151C/12B
Yellowjacket	07/01-07/30	151C/12B
Yellowjacket	08/01-09/30	151C/21H



Dry	Clean out Dry Pasture Tank pending AZ GFD funding	02/28/2026
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#### **IV. RESOURCE MONITORING**

##### Allowable Grazing Intensity/Utilization Guidelines

###### Grazing Intensity

Grazing intensity is defined as the amount of herbage removed through grazing or trampling during the grazing period. Grazing intensity would be managed to allow for the physiological needs of plants, as a result, the planned use period indicated in the Grazing Schedule (section II) in a pasture may be lengthened or shortened depending on forage intensity in key areas.

###### Forage Utilization

Utilization is defined as the proportion or degree of current year's forage production that is consumed or destroyed by animals (including insects). It is a comparison of the amount of herbage left compared with the amount of herbage produced during the year. Utilization is measured at the end of the growing season when the total annual production can be accounted for and the effects of grazing in the whole management unit can be assessed. This allowable use level includes both livestock and wildlife. If use levels in key areas exceed the maximum allowable use before livestock enter a pasture, the pasture will not be used.

###### **Upland Areas:**

A maximum allowable intensity/utilization level in upland areas during the growing season is 35% on key grass species (perennial), up to 50% on key grass species during the dormant season, and 50% of available growth leaders of shrubs. 8" tobosa stubble height must remain for antelope fawning cover.

###### **Riparian Areas:**

A maximum allowable intensity/utilization level in riparian areas is 35% on key grass, rush, and sedge species, and a maximum allowable utilization level of 20% of available growth leaders on key woody species under 6 feet. 20% streambank alteration maximum.

###### Permittee Monitoring

The permittee will document the following items on the enclosed Actual Use Form during the 2023 grazing year: 1) Actual Grazing Period 2) Actual Livestock Numbers.

The permittee is encouraged to participate in Intensity and Utilization Monitoring.

**\*It is very important that the Actual Use Form is completed and submitted to your Rangeland Management Specialist at the end of the grazing year.**

#### **V. SALTING AND PROTEIN BLOCK PRACTICES**

Proper salt and protein block location can be a good tool to aid in livestock distribution and they will be used in a manner to spread livestock utilization throughout the pasture. A

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, ATV's 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 Prescott National Forest Fire Dispatch Office at 928-777-5700. Cooperation in the reporting, prevention, and suppression of fires will be expected as specified in Part 2, section 10 of your Term Grazing Permit.

#### **X. TRAVEL MANAGEMENT**

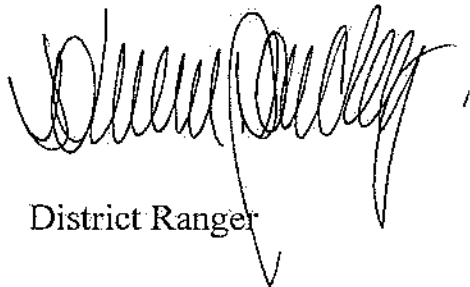
The Prescott National Forest designated a system of roads and trails that are open to motor vehicle use in 1989 through Forest Plan Amendment #4. Motor vehicle use off the designated road system by the permit holder to conduct activities associated with administration of the term grazing permit is allowed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

#### **XI. 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.)

If you have any questions or wish to discuss anything further, please feel free to contact Amanda Sacek at (520) 345-3489.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William [unclear]", written over the printed name "District Ranger".

District Ranger