

TERM GRAZING PERMIT - PART 3 (Reference FSM 2230) ELC ALLOTMENT	Page 11 of 12
	Permittee Number 01-194
	Permit Number R06058

ELC ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

CURRENT PERMIT AND NEPA HISTORY

The December 5, 1995 Environmental Assessment (EA) and Decision Notice (DN) for the ELC Allotment Management Plan are incorporated by reference into the Special Terms and Conditions.

Subject to the above DN this portion of Part 3 constitutes the Allotment Management Plan for the ELC Allotment identified in Part 1.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ALLOTMENT

The ELC Allotment is located approximately eleven miles southeast of Springerville, Arizona. The Allotment contains 31,224 acres. The elevation ranges from approximately 7,275 to 10,540 feet. The terrain and the vegetation types on the ELC Allotment are highly variable. The northern, lower end of the Allotment consists mainly of piñon/juniper woodland interspersed with grama grass prairie. There are mesas and fairly broad valleys. Common herbaceous plant species are blue grama, western wheatgrass and squirreltail. Common woody species are piñon pine, one-seed and Utah Juniper, skunkbrush sumac and mountain mahogany. The piñon/juniper lowlands grade into ponderosa pine, mixed conifer and aspen forest farther south. The terrain farther south on the Allotment is more rugged, choppy and steep. Coyote, Mamie, Romero and Trout Creeks and a couple of unnamed drainages dissect the allotment on the southern end. Open areas are fairly uncommon. They are usually stringer meadows. Common herbaceous species on the south end of the Allotment are blue grama, western wheatgrass, pine dropseed, Arizona fescue, muttongrass, junegrass and mountain muhly. Common woody species are ponderosa and white pine, gambel oak, aspen, douglas fir and blue spruce. Alders, willow, bluegrass, rushes, sedges, spike muhly and Rocky mountain iris are common in riparian and meadow areas.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- a. Balance permitted livestock use with allotment capacity (pages 3 and 4 of EA).
- b. Appropriate Season of Use (page 4 of EA and page 2 of DN)
- c. Promote satisfactory resource conditions to achieve long-term sustainability of grazing (page 3 of EA).
- d. Establish utilization standards that will provide for the physiological needs of the vegetation (page 6 of EA and page 2 of DN).

MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The allotment will be grazed with a deferred rotational grazing system. The number of livestock and season of use are:

- The permitted number of livestock is 434 head of cattle.
- The season of use is June 16 to October 31.

The ELC Allotment will be grazed with a 12 pasture and 4 trap deferred rotational grazing system. Cattle will be trailed to the allotment from the permittee's off-forest private land. The large number of pastures in the Allotment allows for deferment or resting of pastures without adversely affecting the cattle operation. A decision to rest or defer a pasture will be made on a case-by-case basis with consultation with the permittee or their employees. Due to the large size of the Allotment, there may be large variations in forage production and vegetative vigor in different parts of the Allotment.

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STANDARDS, PRESCRIPTIONS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

1. Applicable Grazing Use Standards and Guidelines to be Implemented on the Allotment.

a. Riparian areas. A forage and browse utilization of no more than 45% by weight in riparian areas (Forests Plan, pg. 155-2).

b. Upland areas outside of threatened/endangered/sensitive species habitat. A forage and browse utilization of no more than 40% by weight on upland sites (FSH 2209.21 Ch. 53.2 and 53.3 based on a deferred grazing system).

c. Threatened/endangered/sensitive species habitat.

- 1) Within Northern goshawk territories, a utilization level within forested areas (includes small openings) of: 20% average by weight, not to exceed 40% in any one area, on grasses and forbs; and 40% average by weight, not to exceed 60% in any one area, on browse (per GTR RM-217, "Management Recommendations for the Northern Goshawk in the Southwestern United States").
- 2) Within Mexican Spotted Owl Habitat, in order to maintain prey species habitat needs, a utilization level of 20 to 40%.

2. Monitoring. Utilization will be a point in time measurement taken in designated key areas upon which pasture moves are predicated. Monitoring of grazing use will be according to the Monitoring Plan in Appendix B in the ELC Allotment Grazing Permit EA.

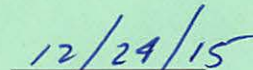
3. Mexican Spotted Owl (MSO) Habitat.

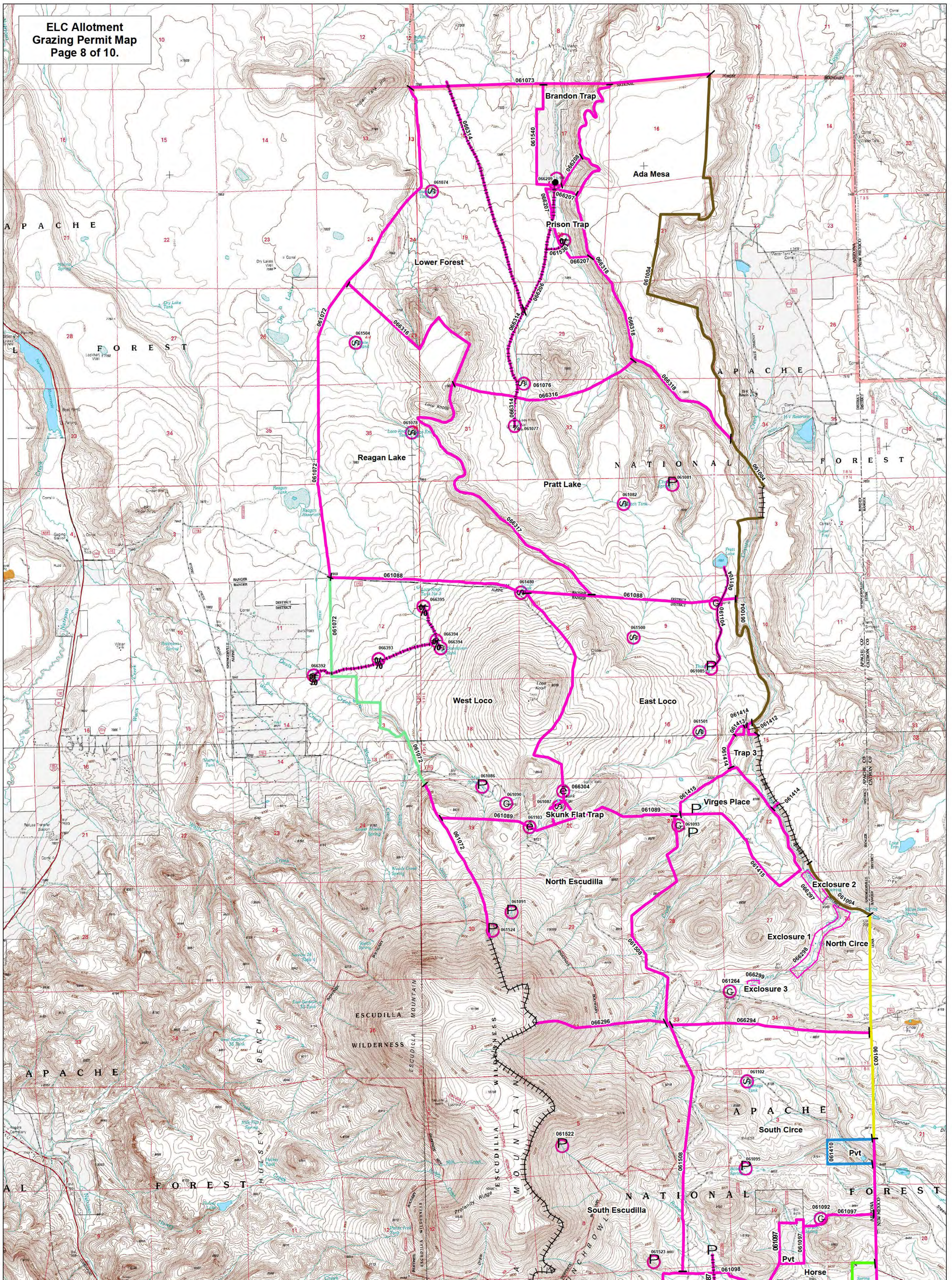
a. Regarding livestock gathering and mineral supplement sites. Livestock concentration impacts to prey species habitat within MSO protected activity centers (PACs) must be avoided. Therefore there will be no mineral supplement sites and no herd-size gathers or trailing done within PACs unless specifically authorized by the Forest Service. PACs are designated 600-acre areas, which include the nest site; however, due to rugged topography and dense canopies it is rare that salting and gathering sites coincide with PACs. In suitable habitat outside of PACs, mineral supplement sites will be regularly rotated to reduce trampling and grazing impacts to vegetation used by MSO prey species for forage and cover. The Annual Operating Plan addresses mineral supplement sites.

Permittee Review

"I have reviewed the provisions of the term grazing permit, the standards and guidelines, and management required by the Forest Management Plan applicable to this allotment and the Allotment Management Plan with the grazing Permittee."


 Rangeland Management Specialist


 Date



Legend

- P Spring
- W Well
- Storage Tank
- ⊕ Tank
- ⊙ Drinker
- ¼ Wind Mill
- G Corral
- ê Cattleguard
- HHHH Pipeline
- - - Ditch
- ▭ Private Land

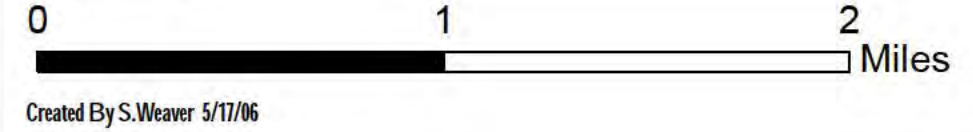
Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests
Springerville Ranger District
Range Improvement Map

ELC Allotment



Maintenance Responsibility

- Yost Ranches
- Boy Scouts
- Bud Becker
- Elaine Rogers
- Alpine Permittee
- New Mexico Permittee
- Quemado Permittee
- Yost Ranches/Az Game and Fish
- Natural Boundary
- Pasture



This map is part of Grazing Permit No. _____
issued to Yost Ranches
on _____ by _____
and shows ELC Allotment.