



File Code: 2230/2210

Date: April 19, 2011

Manterola Ranches, LLC
PO Box 11227
Casa Grande, AZ 85130

Dear Joe:

This document contains your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Garland Prairie and Pomeroy Allotments during the 2011 grazing season. This AOI is part of your Term Grazing Permit as indicated in part three of your permit.

1. Season of Use and Numbers to be Grazed

Your annual validation will allow for the following livestock numbers and period of use:
2240 Sheep from June 1 to July 15, 2011

You have expressed interest in bringing livestock back on the Kaibab National Forest during 10/15 to 10/31 for shipping. Please contact us prior to such so that an assessment can be made and permission granted given that the conditions allow for re-stocking during this 16-day period.

2. Pasture Sequence

The Permittee will operate with two bands of sheep, consisting of 1,120 sheep in each band. One band will graze on the Garland Prairie Allotment and the other on the Pomeroy Allotment.

The Garland Prairie Allotment rotation (1,120 head) will be clockwise, and as follows:

1	Gray
2	Judy
3	Pacchuco
4	Montoya
5	Airoport

The Garland Prairie and Pomeroy Allotments will be grazed in accordance with the Garland Prairie-Pomeroy Allotment Management Plan (April 2, 1984), stating that when the Permittee or Forest Service determines that utilization (i.e., use category) has been met within ¼ mile of a camp, the camp will be moved to another area that has not been used during the current grazing season. This is approximately 2 days in one camp site.

If changes are needed, please contact your permit administrator. It is a permit violation to make changes to the Grazing Schedule without first notifying and receiving approval from the Forest Service.



This rotation is tentative, and subject to adaptive management. It may be necessary to adjust the rotation based on the amount of available forage, grazing intensity (i.e., animal demand and level of defoliation), forage utilization, water availability, and livestock distribution.

3. Allowable Use (Utilization) Guidelines

Manage grazing intensity to not exceed **Moderate Use** category during the growing season (approximately March 15 - August 30), and to not exceed **Conservative Use** category at or near the end of the growing season when the potential for plant regrowth is limited (approximately September 1 – November 15). Details on determining Use categories were provided to the Permittee at the Annual Validation Meeting held on April 16, 2009 at the Coconino National Forest Peaks Ranger District in Flagstaff, AZ.

Mexican spotted owl critical habitat has been designated on the Garland Prairie/Pomeroy Allotments (a map will be provided upon request). The Northern goshawk is also located within the Allotments. See your Term Grazing Permit for more details.

4. Range Improvements

Maintenance of Range Improvements

Rangeland Improvements should be inspected and maintained on an annual basis. All fences should be maintained to standard before livestock enter a pasture.

The Permittee may request a Forest Products Free Use Permit in order to cut juniper fence posts and stays for use only on their Forest Service allotment. No tree cutting is allowed without a forest products permit.

Hazard trees may need to be cut to prevent them from falling on fences. However, no tree cutting may be conducted without specific written permission from the Forest Service.

No maintenance or new construction projects have been identified at the time of this writing. As needs arise, please contact the Forest Service.

The Permittee must follow the Heavy Equipment Policy (amended December 2008) before initiating work involving soil disturbance.

5. Travel Management

The Forest will be implementing its decision on Travel Management (alternative 3). This decision prohibits the use of motor vehicles for cross-country travel, as well as on closed roads. We understand that you regularly use an ATV and/or truck to drive and maintain your allotment boundary fences. You also said you travel cross country on a monthly basis to check on livestock, forage, and water conditions. Authorization for this use is granted in this AOI as long as it remains limited in scope, and occurs when the soils are dry and/or frozen.

6. **Drought Management**

Permittees are strongly encouraged to voluntarily reduce numbers of animals during drought periods. Allowable Use Standards will be met much earlier during the Grazing Period if the drought persists. If the Permittee is authorized to stock full numbers during drought periods, livestock may be required to move through the pastures more quickly and removed from the allotment at an earlier date if carrying capacity (i.e., Animal Unit Months (AUMs) available) is reduced due to low forage production.

7. **Fire**

Be careful with campfires. Pile burning is not permitted. During periods of critical fire danger the Forest Supervisor may declare a Red Flag Alert or issue other special restrictions. Under these conditions, the building or use of fires, the use of power saws, heavy equipment, vehicles, ATVs, and other motorized equipment may be prohibited on Forest Service land.

Cooperation in the prevention and suppression of fires will be expected as specified in Section 10 of General Provision and Requirements, page 2, of your Term Grazing Permit.

8. **Grazing Intensity Monitoring and Recordkeeping**

All Permittees are encouraged to keep records of Grazing Use and Intensity in each area and submit them to their district grazing permit administrator in the middle and at the end of the permitted Grazing Period. Data to collect include: pasture name, dates of actual use, type and class of livestock, number of livestock, approximate location of key area, Grazing Intensity class, and date of observation.

Other notes may be recorded, such as precipitation records or observations. A form is attached. If you are not familiar with methods of estimating Grazing Intensity, we can arrange for some training.

Contact

If you have any questions or wish to discuss anything further, please feel free to contact Rangeland Management Specialist Jason Stevens at (928) 635-5625 (jasonstevens@fs.fed.us), or FAX at (928) 635-5680.

Sincerely,

/s/ Mark W Herron (for)
MARTIE SCHRAMM
District Ranger