

**DOUGLAS RANGER DISTRICT
CORONADO NATIONAL FOREST
ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTION (AOI)**

**Granite Springs Allotment
2023 Grazing Year**

This letter will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions for the **2023** grazing season for the **Granite Springs** allotment. The annual validation for your term grazing permit has been approved for the following numbers and season:

I. AUTHORIZED USE/ROTATION SCHEDULE:

Authorized Use

Allotment	Date On	Date Off	# of Days	# of Cows w/calf	Dry Cows	# of Bulls	# Yrlng	Horse	AUMs	HMs
Granite Springs	3/1/2023	2/29/2024	366	117					1408	1408
Granite Springs	3/1/2023	2/29/2024	366					3	43	36
Total									1451	1444

Non-Use

Allotment	Date On	Date Off	# of Days	# of Cows w/calf	Dry Cows	# of Bulls	# Yrlng	Horse	AUMs	HMs
Granite Springs										
Granite Springs										
Total									0	0

Reason:

Proposed Rotation

Pasture	Acres in Pasture	Date On	Date Off	# of Days	# of Cows w/calf	Dry Cows	# of Bulls	# Yrlng	Horse	AUMs	HMs
Middle		3/1/2023	5/31/2023	92		112	6			361	357
Horse		6/1/2023	6/30/2023	30	118				2	119	118
Dirt Tank		7/1/2023	9/30/2023	92	118					357	357
Windmill		10/1/2023	11/15/2023	46	118					178	178
East		11/16/2023	2/29/2024	106	118					411	411
									Applied For	1426	1422
									Permitted	1447	1440

Pasture rotation is designed to incorporate growing season rest or deferment to allow for grazed plant recovery. Pastures grazed during the summer growing season (July – September) will not be grazed during the growing season the following year.

Actual dates may vary dependent upon climatic conditions, when utilization levels are reached and time required to remove cattle. If you should need to deviate from this rotation schedule by more than two weeks, please notify this office in advance. Livestock remaining in pastures beyond the specified rotation date, that are allowed to drift between pastures, or grazing in rested pastures may be considered a violation of your Term Grazing Permit.

It is understood that, during portions of May – September some of the cows will be culled and bulls will take their place. The dates for the horses are arbitrary, and it is understood that the horses will be in and out of the Horse pasture throughout the year.

Due to the severe drought during the summer of 2020 we all experienced in this region, changes to various types of management were needed in most cases. Although most locations had abundant moisture during the monsoon seasons of 2021 and 2022, there may be lasting effects of drought that are impacting



your allotment. Please keep the natural resource conditions in the forefront of your mind when making management decisions that affect your allotment, and please keep the range staff here at the Douglas District well informed of any deviation from your proposed plan.

Please be sure to not exceed the permitted number of livestock.

II. ALLOWABLE USE STANDARDS:

Utilization in all pastures is not to exceed 45% in the key areas. Please refer to your key area map. Herding and salting will be used to ensure allowable use is not exceeded. If allowable use is in danger of being exceeded, the cattle should be removed from that pasture until the range recovers. Salt and supplement will be placed appropriately, on good feed, at least ¼ mile from water and out of livestock concentration areas and more than 200 feet from roads. Salt and supplement locations should be rotated so as not to degrade a particular site. Salt blocks may be removed by the District if found near water, over-utilized areas, or roads. Blocks should be placed on hard ground not susceptible to erosion. Molasses roller tables that require delivery of the product with a vehicle are not authorized to be used on the Granite Springs allotment.

III. MONITORING:

The permittee will record actual use as it occurs, including livestock numbers and dates permitted livestock are in a pasture. This information will be reported at the next annual operating instruction meeting. Common implementation monitoring includes forage production, forage utilization, photo points, condition of improvements, actual use and precipitation data.

IV. RANGE IMPROVEMENT CONSTRUCTION / MAINTENANCE:

The Forest Service may spot check range improvements before the entry date to insure improvements are in a satisfactory condition. Livestock will not be allowed to enter pastures if assigned improvements are not maintained to proper standards. Please remember that all assigned range improvements will be maintained by the permittee. Livestock will not be allowed to enter pastures if fences will not keep livestock where they are placed.

All troughs should have water when livestock are not present and be equipped so that small animals can safely enter and exit.

New range improvements and all ground disturbing activities will not be initiated until proper archeological clearances have been obtained. When improvements are completed the permittee will inform District Range personnel to schedule an inspection. Before using machinery to clean any pond, the permittee is required to give the District Office at least 30 days advance notice so that the tank can be inspected for threatened or endangered species. All work involving the use of heavy equipment will be accomplished only after prior approval by the District Ranger. Improvement schedule is dependent upon funding.

Previous Year Improvement Accomplishments				
Permit Mod #	Improvement Type / ID #	Completion Date	Description/Comments	Status Done /Date
	Fence	1/1/2023	½ mile Repaired or replaced	
	Water Development	1/1/2023	East well wiring redone	
	Water Development	12/15/2022	Repaired damaged Pipeline	
	Water Development	12/30/2022	Replumbed tank that was vandalized.	
	Water Development	2022	Replace floats on troughs at various locations on the allotment	

Current Year Improvement Schedule				
Permit Mod #	Improvement Type / ID #	Completion Date	Description/Comments	Status Done /Date
	Water Dev/155025	2023	China Camp Trick Tank repair. This improvement has been requested to be repaired for many years now. Please make this a priority.	
	Fence/155006		Gate from Middle Pasture to State pasture. This gate may be locked to discourage off-road travel.	Ongoing
	Fence/155006		Gate from Windmill Pasture to State pasture. This gate may be locked to discourage off-road travel.	Ongoing
	Fence/155006		Gate from Dirt Tank Pasture to State pasture. This gate may be locked to discourage off-road travel.	Ongoing
	Water Development 155015	2023	Tenneco Well Storage. Tank needs an overflow pipe to prevent water from collecting adjacent to the tank. Alternatively, a float switch may be installed to turn solar pump off when the tank is full.	

V. REFUNDS AND CREDIT OF GRAZING FEES PAID (FSM 2238.11g)

Refunds will only be approved where the term grazing permit has been waived, the waiver of term grazing permit has been confirmed by the authorized officer, and a new permit issued to a qualified applicant indicated on the waiver of term grazing permit (FS-2200-12), or if a current permittee has applied for, and the authorized officer has approved, nonuse for which grazing fees have previously been paid.

Grazing fee credits will be approved when late entry or early removal of livestock is requested by the permittee for legitimate reasons and/or when delayed entry or early removal of livestock is requested by the authorized officer for reasons of resource protection. Credit for grazing fees will not be approved merely for the convenience of the permittee after the bill for collection is issued.

VI. PROTECTION:

The permittee, his agents and employees, when acting within the scope of their employment, and his contractors and subcontractors will protect the land and property of the United States, waived private land and other land under jurisdiction of the Forest Service covered by and used in conjunction with this permit. During periods of high fire danger, branding fires will be allowed by permit only. Please report all fires to the Tucson Interagency Fire Coordination Center at 1-800-549-0661.

VII. PERMIT CONDITIONS:

This Annual Operating Instruction is hereby made a part of the Term Grazing Permit as provided for in Part 2, Section 8(a). It complies with the standards and guidelines found in the Forest Plan. Failure to comply with 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. This is found in Part 1, Section 3, of your permit.

Management direction applies as specified in the September 27, 2019 Amended Biological Assessment for Coronado National Forest Livestock Grazing Program and the September 30, 2021 Biological Opinion on Ongoing Grazing on the Coronado National Forest.

Keep this copy of the Annual Operating Instruction for your personal files. Thank you.

Sincerely,

DOUG RUPPEL
District Ranger

ENCLOSE A COPY OF THIS BILL WITH YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER.
DO NOT SEND CASH. PLEASE INCLUDE BILL NO. AND PAYER CODE
NO. ON YOUR CHECK.
MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO:

USDA FOREST SERVICE

MAIL PAYMENT TO:

USDA Forest Service
C/O US BANK
P. O. BOX 6200-09
PORTLAND, OR 97228-6200
OR PAY ONLINE AT WWW.FS.USDA.GOV/BILLPAY/

TO: THREE SISTERS LAND AND CATTLE, INC.



PAYER INDICATE

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

2. NET AMOUNT DUE: \$ 1,949.40

3. DUE DATE: 03/08/23

4. BILL NUMBER BR030501AD038

5. PAYER CODE: 0003329666

6. AGREEMENT NO: CONTRACT NO:

7. DESCRIPTION:

8. REMARKS:

Permittee #: THREE SISTERS

Please pay at URL at right or use enclosed green envelope.

9. PRINCIPAL: \$ _____

10. INTEREST: \$.00

11. ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS \$.00

12. PENALTY: \$.00

13. AMOUNT DUE: \$ _____

14. AMOUNT CREDITED: \$ _____

15. NET AMOUNT DUE: \$ 1,949.40

NOTE:

PLEASE SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE, INQUIRIES, AND CHANGE OF ADDRESS TO:

DOUGLAS RANGER DISTRICT 520-364-3468
CORONADO NATIONAL FOREST
1192 W. SADDLEVIEW ROAD
DOUGLAS, AZ 85607

FAILURE TO MAKE PAYMENT BY THE DUE DATE WILL RESULT IN THE ASSESSMENT OF LATE PAYMENT CHARGES (INTEREST, ADMINISTRATIVE COST, AND/OR PENALTY CHARGES) IN ACCORDANCE WITH YOUR CONTRACT, PERMIT, OR THE DEBT COLLECTION ACT OF 1982, AS AMENDED. POSTMARKS ARE NOT HONORED. LATE FEES DO NOT APPLY FOR BILLINGS IN ADVANCE OF RECEIPT OF GOODS OR SERVICES.

LIVESTOCK OWNED AND/OR CONTROLLED BY THE PERMITTEE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED ON FOREST SERVICE ADMINISTERED LANDS UNTIL GRAZING FEES SPECIFIED ON THE BILL FOR COLLECTION ARE PAID.

2023 GRAZING SEASON FEE: HORSE @ \$ 1.35/hm CATTLE @ \$ 1.35/hm

FROM	TO	NO	LIVESTOCK KIND	CLASS	PERMIT TYPE	ALLOTMENT NAME	HEAD MONTHS	AMOUNT
3/ 1	- 2/ 29	3	Horse	Horse or Mule	TERM	GRANITE SPRINGS	36	\$ 48.60
3/ 1	- 2/ 29	117	Cattle	CC	TERM	GRANITE SPRINGS	1408	\$ 1,900.80
Total								\$ 1,949.40
								\$ 1,949.40

2023 GRAZING SEASON FEE: HORSE @ \$ 1.35/hm CATTLE @ \$ 1.35/hm

Total Head Months : 1,444

16. ORG | 17. JOB | 18. AMOUNT || 16. ORG | 17. JOB | 18. AMOUNT || 16. ORG | 17. JOB | 18. AMOUNT

0305 D8023F23 \$ 1,949.40