



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Tonto National Forest
Globe Ranger District

7680 S. Six Shooter Canyon Rd.
Globe, AZ 85501
Phone: 928.402.6200
Fax: 928.402.6292

File Code: 2210

Date: April 16, 2010

Rockin Four Ranch LLC
John Fowler
3636 South 43rd Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85009

Dear John Fowler:

Thank you for meeting with district Rangeland Management Specialists to complete an annual authorization of your term grazing permit and a proposed rotation schedule for the 2010 grazing year. Included in your 2010 Livestock Management Rotation is an Addendum of your 2009 Annual Operating Instructions (in gray).

Following are your *authorized* livestock numbers and *approved* rotation schedule for 2010:

Livestock Numbers:

220	Cattle	10/15/2009	01/02/2010	Hicks
200	Cattle	01/03/2010	02/28/2010	Hicks
110	Cattle	10/15/2009	02/28/2010	Hicks
150	Yearlings	11/01/2009	02/28/2010	Pikes Peak
250	Yearlings	11/01/2009	02/28/2010	Hicks
200	Cattle	03/01/2010	04/10/2010	Hicks
100	Cattle	04/11/2010	02/28/2011	Hicks
110	Cattle	03/01/2010	05/10/2010	Hicks
150	Yearlings	03/01/2010	05/10/2010	Hicks
250	Yearlings	03/01/2010	05/10/2010	Hicks

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Livestock Management Rotation:

10/15/2009	11/30/2009	110 Cattle	Upper Big
12/01/2009	01/15/2010	110 Cattle	Lower Big
01/16/2010	02/28/2010	110 Cattle	Upper Schute
11/01/2009	12/15/2009	150 Yearlings	Holly
12/16/2009	02/13/2010	150 Yearlings	Kenny
02/14/2010	02/28/2010	120 Yearlings	Rip
11/01/2009	12/20/2009	250 Yearlings	North Steer
12/21/2009	02/28/2010	250 Yearlings	Upper Schute
01/03/2010	02/26/2010	200 Cattle	Ortega
02/27/2010	02/28/2010	200 Cattle	Hope
03/01/2010	5/20/2010	100 Cattle	Windmill
03/01/2010	06/05/2010	110 Cattle	Upper Schute
06/06/2010	11/01/2010	110 Cattle	Sycamore
11/02/2010	02/28/2011	110 Cattle	West
03/01/2010	05/10/2010	115 Yearlings	North Steer
03/01/2010	04/10/2010	120 Yearlings	Rip
04/11/2010	05/10/2010	120 Yearlings	Hicks

It is important to note that above dates are *tentative pasture use dates* and may change, as needed, to comply with Forest Plan Standards. For instance, length of time in a particular pasture may be extended if forage is underutilized or shortened if utilization standards are met early. Changes in your approved rotation and livestock schedule must be received in writing 5 business days prior to proposed change. The letter must be received at the above address and include pasture names, dates (mmddyyy - mmddyyy), and livestock numbers that are proposed. Also, contact district range personnel *prior* to move for discussion of the proposed changes, so that our records can be updated to reflect these changes, and an Amendment to your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) can be issued.

Grazing will be approved when managed to improve or sustain satisfactory watershed, riparian, and wildlife habitat conditions while providing forage for livestock and wildlife. A primary objective on upland watersheds is to maintain, or improve, hydrologic conditions and soils to enhance productivity, ecological functioning, and watershed sustainability.

Objectives will be accomplished by managing intensity, timing, and frequency of grazing. A considerable amount of research supports the concept that conservative use levels allow for sustaining or improving watershed conditions. The grazing strategy will be to manage toward 30- to-40% utilization levels in uplands. Utilization, as defined by the Society for Range Management, will be measured at the end of growing season. However, grazing intensity will be evaluated during growing season in order to practice adaptive management, and make management changes, that are needed to stay within the aforementioned utilization levels, by end of growing season.

Grazing intensity during grazing season, will be evaluated by estimating residual vegetation (stubble height or biomass), vigor of plants, precipitation, and phenological stage of key species. This information will be used to trigger management decisions such as moving cattle from one unit to another.

Utilization measurements will be conducted in key livestock grazing areas and on key forage plants. The selection process for key forage plants and key forage areas are defined in Forest Service Region 3 Rangeland Analysis and Management Guide dated June, 1997, and 1996 Interagency Technical References.

Range Improvement and Maintenance:

Permittee will perform maintenance on all necessary range improvements assigned as a maintenance responsibility in your allotment's term grazing permit. This is in accordance with Part 3 of the term grazing permit. These include: allotment boundary fences, interior fences, livestock handling facilities, and water developments. All ground disturbing activities must receive proper clearances by the Globe Ranger District prior to project initiation by the permittee.

2009 Completed Range Improvement Maintenance

- EQIP contact projects that have been previously approved by Forest Service.

2010 Proposed Projects and Range Improvement Maintenance

- Remainder of EQIP contract projects: Forest Service will send letter to NRCS identifying approved projects.

Any project work that is proposed or in planning stages must be approved in writing by this District Office before any project work is executed on the allotment.

Routine maintenance on existing improvements which do not need Forest Official's approval is oft times not clearly defined, each project is handled on a case-by-case basis. If in doubt, contact Ernie Gipson or A. Jamie Wages, before any project work is started.

Salt and Salt Meal:

All salt and salt meal will be located at least one-quarter mile from water. Salt will not be used in key areas, but will be placed to encourage livestock to graze areas of low use.

Bringing any plant material, such as hay (weed free or otherwise), by a grazing permittee upon any Globe District Allotment for purposes of supplemental feeding and/or as an attractant is prohibited, unless authorized prior to use.

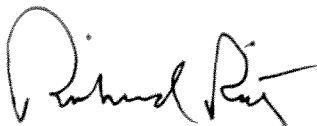
This AOI is subject to administrative review through the Forest Service, pursuant to 36 CFR 251; any appeal of this decision must be fully consistent with 36 CFR 251.90. In accordance with 36 CFR 251.84, if you file an appeal, I am willing to meet with you to discuss any concerns you may have with my decision. If you file an appeal, you may request an oral presentation in the appeal or at any time prior to closing of the appeal record (36 CFR 251.97).

Furthermore, if you file an appeal, you may request a stay of my decision in the appeal, or at any time prior to closing of the appeal record (36 CFR 251.91).

A notice of appeal must be filed with Tonto National Forest, Forest Supervisor at 2324 E. McDowell Road, Phoenix, AZ 85006, within 45-days of the date of this decision. A copy of the notice of appeal must be filed simultaneously with the District Ranger at 7680 S. Six Shooter Canyon Road, Globe, AZ 85501.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this AOI, please do not hesitate to contact Ernie Gipson or A. Jamie Wages at the above phone number.

Sincerely,



RICHARD REITZ
District Ranger

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