File 2200

HITT WASH ALLOTMENT ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS Winter 2016 – Spring 2017

The objectives of these instructions are, prior to the grazing season, to:

- identify specific management tools/resource objectives for this grazing season
- review general permit administration and livestock management requirements, and
- document any needs or agreements beyond the standard directions.

MANAGEMENT TOOLS/RESOURCE OBJECTIVES for this GRAZING SEASON

Keep cattle distributed well in North Pasture.

AUTHORIZATION

The following livestock are authorized:

Number 86	Pasture	Grazing Period (modify if needed to meet utilization)	
	North	Jan 16, 2017 March 15, 2017	
86	South	Merchille- April 15	
86	Barney York	1 Dec - Jan 15, 2017	

- Please give the Forest Officer actual use, by pasture, as livestock are moved from one pasture to another.
- Any change from these Annual Operating Instructions is to be coordinated and confirmed in advance with the Forest Officer, best if a week or two in advance. If emergency conditions require making a change immediately, notify the Forest Officer promptly.
- 90% of cattle are moved by the agreed-to date as shown above or mutually modified, with active riding thereafter, to complete the move.
- Move your livestock early regardless of any agreed upon date, to avoid exceeding utilization levels.
- If you have a question about the utilization levels you are observing please contact your Forest Officer for a visit to your allotment.
- You are responsible for your representatives and/or employees following all Forest Officer instructions.

ALLOWABLE USE

Cattle will be moved to the next scheduled pasture or off the allotment when allowable use standards are met.

- Conservative grazing intensity (35-45% use) on key forage plants in upland key areas as measured at the end of the growing season or seasonal use period;
- Up to 50-60% browse use on key upland woody species;
- Minimum stubble height on key riparian herbaceous species, four to six inches where sedges and
 rushes are key and eight inches where deergrass is key;
- Up to 20% use by weight on key woody species within riparian areas; or less than 50% of terminal leaders browsed on woody species less than 6 feet tall.

Grazing would be adjusted if periodic monitoring indicates that desired resource conditions are not being maintained.

SALT AND SUPPLEMENTS

The thoughtful placement of salt, mineral and protein tubs is a valuable distribution aid. Salt will be located away from areas favored by livestock, including within ¹/₄ mile of water. Instead, place supplements to draw livestock to areas that normally receive only light use.

RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

Maintenance will follow the standards in your Part 3 of your grazing permit. In addition to routine maintenance, the following will be accomplished this winter: Finish North Hitt Well, Finish Fence to Rocky Tank.

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PERMIT CONDITIONS

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.

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.)

permit.)	(1)	
APPROVED BY:_	District Ranger	10/27/16 Date
AGREED TO BY:	miller	<u>10-25-16</u> Date