



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Williams Ranger District

742 South Clover Road
Williams, AZ 86046
928-635-5200
Fax: 928-635-5680

File Code: 2210; 2230
Date: April 8, 2025

McNelly Ranches, L.L.C.

(b) (6)

Dear Mr. McNelly,

This document serves as your 2025 Summer Annual Operating Instructions for the Davenport Lake, Homestead, and Sitgreaves Allotments.

I. AUTHORIZED LIVESTOCK NUMBERS/PERIOD OF USE

Your 2025 Authorized Use Request has been approved and you are authorized the following Livestock Numbers and Periods of Use:

Sitgreaves	450 Cattle (Cow / Calf)	May 1 st , 2025 to August 15 th , 2025
Davenport Lake	450 Cattle (Cow / Calf)	August 16 th , 2025 to September 30 th , 2025
Homestead	450 Cattle (Cow / Calf)	October 1 st , 2025 to October 31 st , 2025

The 2025 authorized livestock numbers and the authorized period of use were determined based on past stocking rates and allotment inspections from seasons on the Davenport Lake, Homestead, and Sitgreaves Allotment.

Any changes to the 2025 authorized livestock numbers will require that you file an additional Authorize Use Request. Be advised that the Forest Service will need a minimum of 45 days to assess resource conditions and process a supplemental grazing bill for additional livestock. Please contact your Rangeland Management Specialist prior to making any decisions regarding increased livestock numbers.



Drought is an inevitable occurrence in the southwestern United States. Both the Forest Service and grazing permittees must plan for drought as a normal part of management. During periods of drought, the following management actions may be necessary:

1. Stocking levels may need to be reduced. Reductions may be necessary prior to the permitted season of use and/or during the permitted season of use.
2. Season of use may need to be shortened. Depending on the severity of the drought and the stocking level, a reduced grazing season may be necessary.
3. Pasture use periods may need to be shortened. Pastures will not be re-grazed during the same grazing season and this may ultimately result in an early exit from the allotment.
4. Utilization and/or seasonal utilization (grazing intensity) standards may need to be reduced. Depending on the severity of the drought and the stocking level, reduced utilization standards will likely result in shortened pasture use periods and may ultimately result in an early exit from the allotment.
5. Lack of livestock water, or poor distribution of livestock water, may result in reduced pasture/allotment use periods. Depending on forage conditions, this effect may be mitigated by hauling water to temporary livestock watering facilities.
6. Allotment Management Plan direction for pastures requiring rest or deferment will be followed. Livestock use of planned rested pastures due to drought will not be authorized.

IV. GRAZING STRATEGY

Graze livestock in a deferred, rest-rotation grazing system for the summer grazing period. The management of livestock pasture moves in this allotment will continue to be based upon seasonal utilization guidelines and allowable forage utilization standards.

V. ALLOWABLE USE STANDARDS

Utilization is defined as the proportion or degree of current year's forage production by weight that is consumed or destroyed by animals. It is a comparison of the amount of herbage left with the amount of herbage produced during the year. Utilization will be measured at the end of growing season when the total annual production can be accounted for and the effects of grazing in the whole management unit can be assessed.

Average allowable use in key areas will remain at 30% for the Davenport Lake Allotment. Allowable use in key areas will remain at 40% for the Homestead Allotment. Allowable use for the Sitgreaves Allotment is 35%. This allowable use level is the utilization level permitted by both livestock and wildlife.

livestock leave the pasture. **It is very important that this monitoring be completed during the time frames specified, and that the Forage Utilization Monitoring Form is submitted to your Rangeland Management Specialist at the end of the 2025 grazing period.**

VIII. MITIGATION MEASURES FOR SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

The following mitigation measures are required for threatened and endangered species on the Sitgreaves allotment.

Mexican Spotted Owl

Livestock grazing or livestock management activities will occur within Protected Activity Centers (PACs), but no human disturbance or construction activities associated with the livestock grazing operation will occur in PACs during the breeding season (March 1 through August 31).

Continue to monitor grazing use by cattle and wildlife in the ponderosa pine/gamble oak vegetation type and specifically within PACs.

In addition to the Salting and Protein Block practices identified in Section X, the following additional guidelines are required within Mexican spotted owl habitat:

1. Do not place salt, mineral block, or supplements within riparian areas, mountain meadows, or non-riparian drainages in ponderosa pine.
2. Do not place salt, mineral block, or supplements within spotted owl PACs.

Follow best management practices associated with watershed protection.

Livestock distribution techniques such as salting and herding should be used.

IX. RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

Please contact Rangeland Management Specialist Joey Dahms a minimum of 45 days before any ground disturbing activities are to begin to acquire proper clearances on the site and to complete a letter authorizing the ground disturbing activity.

Construction of New Structural Range Improvements

There are no structural range improvements scheduled for removal this year.

Removal of Structural Range Improvements

There are no structural range improvements scheduled for removal this year.

3. Limit supplement types to non-emergency feeds such as salt, protein, and mineral blocks. No more than three blocks (50 lb. blocks) of salt/protein will be placed at any location at any one time.
4. Salt/protein will not be placed at the same location twice during the same grazing season.
5. The use of portable salt/protein block containers is encouraged but not mandatory.

Supplementing with Hay:

This practice may be approved for use on all Kaibab National Forest allotments provided the following criteria are being met:

1. A deficiency supplement during sustained unusual heavy snow/ice events. This criterion is a Best Management Practice (BMP).
2. Only certified weed-free hay may be authorized to prevent the spread of noxious weeds. This criterion is a BMP.
3. Supplemental feeding will not be used in place of forage if forage runs low within a pasture. This criterion is a BMP.
4. This practice will only be allowed for a specific location and time under the authority of the District Ranger (FSM 2200 Range Management Chapter_Zero Code-2204.3 Item 2).

XI. PORTABLE WATER HAULING

Temporary sites for portable haul water may be needed and should be used as necessary to assist in livestock distribution. The following requirements will apply to portable haul water locations:

1. Coordinate with the District Rangeland Management Specialist to identify portable water haul locations for individual pastures prior to the grazing period.
2. To aid in livestock distribution, the portable water haul locations should generally be in areas of light forage utilization.
3. Portable water hauls will not be located in areas of depleted range, erosive soils, or sensitive plant or animal species.
4. Portable water haul locations will be moved when the desired forage utilization levels have been reached.
5. Portable haul water storage tanks and troughs will be removed when livestock leave the pasture.

XII. FIRE

will be limited to only that use which is necessary for compliance with the terms and conditions of the Term Grazing Permit.

3. To request site specific Restricted Road, Trail and Off-Road Administrative Use Permit, the grazing permittee must provide their Rangeland Management Specialist with the project details a minimum of 30 days prior to the proposed starting date for the permit.
4. A copy of the approved Restricted Road, Trail and Off-Road Administrative Use Permit must be with the vehicle operator while operating the vehicle off the designated road system.
5. A Permit Placard must be attached to all permitted vehicles while operating off the designated road system.
6. Off-Highway vehicles (ATVs, UTVs, and motorcycles) used for conducting activities required under the Term Grazing Permit must be licensed and permitted in accordance with Arizona State law.
7. The Motor Vehicle Use Map for the Kaibab National Forest identifies certain roads as "Roads Open to Highway Legal Vehicles Only". These roads are open only to motor vehicles licensed under State law for general operation on all public roads within the state. Grazing permittees operating motor vehicles on these roads must comply with the legal requirements. Operating a motor vehicle off the designated road system to avoid the legal requirements of "Roads Open to Highway Legal Vehicles Only" is not permitted.
8. Grazing permittees will utilize motorized vehicles off the designated road system in a manner that will not result in damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, wildlife, heritage, or other forest resources.
9. Failure to comply with the conditions of the Restricted Road, Trail and Off-Road Administrative Use Permit may result in the immediate cancellation of the Restricted Road, Trail and Off-Road Administrative Use Permit and may result in the issuance of a Notice of Non-Compliance for violation of the terms and conditions of your Term Grazing Permit.
10. Grazing permittees that do not obtain a Restricted Road, Trail and Off-Road Administrative Use Permit are required to operate motorized vehicles only on the designated road system. Operating a motorized vehicle off the designated road system without a valid Restricted Road, Trail and Off-Road Administrative Use Permit will result in the immediate issuance of a Notice of Non-Compliance for violating the terms and conditions of your Term Grazing Permit (Part 2, Section 8a). A Notice of Non-Compliance may result in Term Grazing Permit suspension or cancellation proceedings.

Permittee Review

On April 8th, 2025; Rangeland Management Specialist Wade Biakeddy met with Frank McNelly to develop and discuss the 2025 Summer Annual Operating