

**2017 Annual Operating Instructions
Long Gulch Allotment**

Resource Objectives For This Grazing Season

Perennial grasses and browse need close management in order to continue to recover from the drought effects. Livestock numbers will remain less than permitted to keep stocking in balance with currently available forage.

The drought has been hard on wildlife, even more so than livestock. To help the antelope fawn survival rate leave an 8 inch average stubble height should be left on the mesa west of the well in Cow Canyon when cattle return to the allotment. **Water must be available for wildlife when cattle are not in a pasture so leave storage tanks and troughs full.** To avoid damage to wells they do not have to be left on when cattle are removed from a pasture although we recommend you periodically check the availability of water and refill storage tanks and troughs.

Authorization

Upon payment of fees livestock are authorized as follows for **2017**:

Number of Livestock	Pasture	Grazing Period (may be modified)
360 cattle	Cow Canyon	5/1 – 5/21
100 cattle	Long Gulch	5/22- 10/15
100 cattle	22 Mesa	5/22- 10/15
100 cattle	Turret Peak	5/22- 10/15
60 cattle	Cow Canyon	5/22 – 11/15
300 cattle	Cow Canyon	10/16 -11/15

The Forest Officer must be given actual use, by pasture, when making the next annual application. 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.

Move your livestock regardless of the date shown above, to avoid exceeding allowable use (utilization) levels.

Allowable Use

The following is maximum allowable use: Uplands: *On palatable grasses*: 35% while actively growing, 50% during dormant periods. This percentage is of the total weight of the current year's production. *On shrubs*: browsing of 50% of available leaders. Riparian: *On palatable grasses and sedges*: 30% of the total weight available. *On shrubs*: browsing of 50% of available leaders. Again, 8" of stubble height must be left on grasses in Cow Canyon pasture. This measurement should be away from water in the middle of the grazing area.

Cattle will be moved to the next scheduled pasture or off the allotment when allowable use standards are met, no matter what the dates on paper are. Failure to remove your cattle to avoid use above the allowable levels is a violation of these instructions and the terms of your grazing permit.

Salt And Supplements

The thoughtful placement of salt, mineral, and protein is a valuable distribution aid. Salt will not be located in heavy use areas, including within ¼ mile of water. Instead, place supplements to draw livestock to areas that normally receive only light use.

Range Improvements

Repair Middle Water cattle enclosure to keep cattle out, repair as necessary when cattle tear down the fence. Maintenance of improvements will follow the Part 3 of your term grazing permit.

Permittee Comments And Suggestions

Travel management-

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.

Permit Conditions

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.)

PASTURES

Long Gulch	2200 acres	Decision Notice 5/14/2001
Cow Canyon	4016	AMP 7/12/1978
22 Mesa	2345	
Cabin Springs Trap	103	
<u>Turret Peak</u>	<u>2770</u>	
Total Acres	11434 acres	

APPROVED BY: Kelli Spleen 2/13/17
acting District Ranger Date

AGREED TO BY: Willy F. Keltz 2/13/17
Permittee Date