

**SIERRA VISTA RANGER DISTRICT  
CORONADO NATIONAL FOREST  
ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTION (AOI)  
Middle Canyon Allotment  
2024 Grazing Year**

**I. AUTHORIZED USE:** The following numbers and classes of livestock are authorized to graze on the Middle Canyon Allotment:

<b>KIND</b>	<b>CLASS</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>AUMs</b>	<b>AUTHORIZED SEASON OF USE</b>
Cattle	Cow/Calf	66	792	03/01/2024 – 02/28/2025
Cattle	Bull	4	72	03/01/2024 – 02/28/2025
	<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>864</b>	

**Non-use is approved as follows:**

<b>KIND</b>	<b>CLASS</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>AUMs</b>	<b>DATES OF NON-USE</b>	<b>NON-USE APPROVED FOR (REASON)</b>
Cattle	Cow/Calf	26	312	03/01/2024 – 02/28/2025	Resource Protection
	<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>312</b>		

Notes: Non-use is granted for Resource Protection due to lack of water/drought. The Middle Canyon Allotment has recently been transferred to a new permit holder. Most of the range water systems are need of maintenance and it may be several years before full permitted numbers can be stocked on the Allotment. A collaborative stock-up plan will be developed over the next several years between the permittee and the District.

**II. ROTATION SCHEDULE:** Actual dates may vary dependent upon climatic conditions, when utilization levels are reached and time required to remove cattle.

<b>Pasture</b>	<b>Proposed Numbers</b>	<b>Proposed Season of Use</b>	<b>Comments (i.e. Use Standard, special concerns or instructions)</b>
Forest	66 + 4	03/01/2024 – 03/31/2024	Cow/Calf + Bulls
Middle	66 + 4	04/01/2024 – 05/15/2024	Cow/Calf + Bulls
Starr	66 + 4	05/16/2024 – 06/30/2024	Cow/Calf + Bulls
Middle	66 + 4	07/01/2024 – 07/31/2024	Cow/Calf + Bulls
Star	66 + 4	08/01/2024 – 08/31/2024	Cow/Calf + Bulls
Trask	66 + 4	09/01/2024 – 10/15/2024	Cow/Calf + Bulls
Forest	66 + 4	10/16/2024 – 10/31/2024	Cow/Calf + Bulls
Cottonwood	66 + 4	11/01/2024 – 02/28/2024	Cow/Calf + Bulls

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.

**III. 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.

#### IV. 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.

#### V. RANGE IMPROVEMENT CONSTRUCTION / MAINTENANCE:

The Forest Service may spot check range improvements before the entry date to ensure improvements are in a satisfactory condition. Livestock will not be allowed to enter pastures if assigned improvements are not maintained to proper standards. 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.

Current Year Improvement Schedule			YEAR	2024
Permit Mod #	Improvement Type / ID #	Completion Date	Description/Comments	Status Done /Date
	Forest Corral		Permittee plans to rebuild the corrals at the Forest Well.	Planning
	Star Well Improvement		NRCS Project to improve Star Well for the new water system completed in 2020	
Previous Year Improvement Accomplishments			YEAR	2023
Permit Mod #	Improvement Type / ID #	Completion Date	Description/Comments	Status Done /Date

#### VI. ROADS:

Vehicular access on established roads can be essential for structural range improvement maintenance, supplement placement and general ranch duties. Any open road to the public (road on Motor Vehicle Use Map- *MVUM*) may be used at any time for any reason. The use of other established roads must be authorized within the Term Grazing Permit or in the Annual Operating Instructions. Cross country may be authorized by written permission from the District Ranger. Vehicular access is authorized on the following Forest Service inventoried roads not on the *MVUM*:

Road Number (From TMR Maps)	Reason for Use	Comments (i.e. Use Standard, special concerns or instructions)
4917	Access to Improvement	Starr Well Water Development
Decommissioned Portion of 4841	Allotment Access and Management	Access allowed through a Permit Modification

#### VII. 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.

