



File Code: 2230/2210

Date: April 30, 2012

Billy Cordasco
Babbitt Ranches, LLC
P.O. Box 520
Flagstaff, AZ 86002

Dear Billy:

This document contains your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Moqui Allotment for the 2012 grazing season. This AOI is part of your Term Grazing Permit as indicated in part three of your permit.

1. Season of Use and Numbers to be Grazed

Your annual validation will allow for the following livestock numbers and period of use:
560 Yearlings from May 7 to October 21, 2012

2. Pasture Sequence

Pasture Name	Dates	Number of Days +/-
Corbett	5/7 – 7/1	56
Peterson	7/2 – 8/26	56
Harbison	8/27 – 10/21	56

Grazing Periods and Number of Days in each pasture are tentative and subject to adaptive management. If changes are needed, please contact your permit administrator. It is a permit violation to make changes to the Grazing Schedule without first notifying and receiving approval from the Forest Service.

Livestock are to be actively herded from one pasture to the other. It is the Permittee's responsibility to ensure that all livestock are removed from each pasture within 5 days of the scheduled off date.

3. Utilization Guidelines

The Allowable Use Standards for the Moqui Allotment are 30% (conservative grazing intensity) in the grassland key areas, and 20% (light intensity) in Northern Goshawk habitat (the northern part of the Peterson Pasture).



Management requirements for the Northern Goshawk require that forage and habitat be maintained in a healthy condition for owl and goshawk prey species which are small mammals and various birds. Such conditions are generally met if forage utilization in forested areas and the small meadows under 200 feet in width does not exceed 40% and averages 20%. The permittee will take action so livestock grazing does not exceed these use levels.

4. Livestock Distribution

Grazing Intensity will be more uniform across the pasture if livestock are well distributed. Distribution aids include: water hauls, waterlot control, salt and supplement stations, and herding. Livestock may remain in each pasture for the entire grazing period if Grazing Intensity does not exceed the Allowable Use Standard. Areas exempt from this requirement are lands within ¼ mile of permanent water sources that are not fenced.

The following requirements apply to the use of salt, supplements, hay*, and/or water hauls (**the permittee is encouraged to use certified weed-free hay*):

- Place in areas of light utilization, at least ¼ mile away from permanent water, and at different sites from the previous year.
- Place salt in portable containers, rather than directly on the ground, in order to protect the soil.
- Place on soils that are not fragile or eroding and on sites that are not in wetlands or drainages.
- Remove the salt, supplements, hay, and water hauls when the livestock leave the pasture.

Gates in waterlot fences will be left open for wildlife, unless closed on a temporary basis to facilitate cattle distribution in the pasture.

5. Range Improvements

Maintenance of Range Improvements

Range improvements assigned to you need to be inspected and the problems found corrected on a yearly basis. All fences must be maintained to standard before livestock enter a pasture.

The Permittee may request a Forest Products Free Use Permit in order to cut juniper fence posts and stays for use only on their Forest Service allotment. No tree cutting is allowed without a forest products permit. Hazard trees may need to be cut to prevent them from falling on fences. However, no tree cutting may be conducted without specific written permission from the Forest Service.

The Permittee must follow the Heavy Equipment Policy (December 2008) before starting any work that involves soil disturbance and is responsible for removing any and all refuse from Forest Service land.

- **Maintenance projects for 2012**

- a) Replace the water trough at Corbett and install wildlife escape ramp. The Forest Service will provide those materials and the permittee will be responsible for installation, any fittings (valves, floats, etc.). and for removing old trough and any refuse from Forest System lands.
- b) Approximately 1 miles of fence #5956/5958 will be reconstructed this year. The Forest Service will provide the materials and the permittee will provide the labor.

There is a need for road maintenance from Harbison to the west for approximately 1 mile. The FS Engineer will be contacted to see if that road is on this year's maintenance schedule.

6. Travel Management

The Travel Management Rule (TMR) has been implemented on the Tusayan Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest. Implementation of the TMR will require active management of all motorized use, including that related to permitted grazing activities. Motorized travel off the designated road system by grazing permit holders should be based on need related to carrying out required management practices. Legitimate motorized use, including cross-country access, needed for conducting activities required under Term Grazing Permits will be authorized unless compelling natural and/or heritage resource issues are evident.

Any unplanned or emergency type travel not previously contemplated in the Term Grazing Permit will be discussed with appropriate authorization and guidance established in the AOI. If access is required in a motor vehicle restricted area or on a closed road, you must have special authorization in the form of an Off-Road Vehicle Permit or specific authorization through your AOI.

7. Drought Management

The Kaibab National Forest needs your help to ensure that any grazing authorized during drought periods does not damage the soil, watershed, vegetation, wildlife forage and cover, and livestock forage. Leaving an adequate amount of residual vegetation after grazing (approximately 50% of the plant canopy) is always important in order to maintain or improve rangeland health, but it is especially important during and after droughts.

As always, Permittees are strongly encouraged to reduce the number of animals stocked during droughts. Allowable Use Standards will be met much earlier in each pasture during the Grazing Period if the drought continues and only a minimal amount of forage is produced.

If the Permittee is authorized to stock full numbers, it is likely that livestock will have to move through the pastures more quickly and be removed from the allotment at an earlier date because carrying capacity (i.e. Animal Unit Months (AUMs) available) is reduced during a drought.

8. Fire

Be careful with campfires and branding fires. Pile burning is not permitted.

During periods of critical fire danger the Forest Supervisor may declare a Red Flag Alert or issue other special restrictions. Under these conditions, the building or use of fires, the use of power saws, heavy equipment, vehicles, ATVs, and other motorized equipment may be prohibited on Forest Service land.

Cooperation in the prevention and suppression of fires will be expected as specified in Section 10 of General Provision and Requirements, page 2, of your Term Grazing Permit.

9. Grazing Intensity Monitoring and Recordkeeping

All Permittees are encouraged to keep records of Grazing Use and Intensity in each pasture and submit them to their district grazing permit administrator in the middle and at the end of the permitted Grazing Period. Data to collect include: pasture name, dates of actual use, type and class of livestock, number of livestock, approximate location of key area, Grazing Intensity class, and date of observation.

Other notes may be recorded, such as precipitation records or observations. A form is attached. If you are not familiar with methods of estimating Grazing Intensity, we can arrange for some training.

If you have any questions please contact Rangeland Management Specialist Clare Hydock at 928.635.5623 office, 928.606.1265 cell, or email chydock@fs.fed.us

Sincerely,

/s/ Martie Schramm
MARTIE SCHRAMM
District Ranger

Enclosure