

**DOUGLAS RANGER DISTRICT
CORONADO NATIONAL FOREST
ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTION (AOI)**

**Price Canyon Allotment
2023 Grazing Year**

The annual validation for your term grazing permit has been approved for the following numbers and season:

I. AUTHORIZED USE:

Authorized Use

Allotment	Date On	Date Off	# of Days	# of Cows	Dry Cows	# of Bulls	# Yrlng	Horse	AUMs	HMs
Price Canyon	3/1/2023	2/29/2024	366	173		18			2342	2298
Private Land Permit	3/1/2023	6/15/2023	107					9	38	32
	1/5/2024	2/29/2024	56					9	20	17
Total									2399	2347

Non-Use

Allotment	Date On	Date Off	# of Days	# of Cows	Dry Cows	# of Bulls	# Yrlng	Horse	AUMs	HMs
Price Canyon										
Total									0	0

Reason:

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

Pasture	Acres in Pasture	Date On	Date Off	# of Days	# of Cows w/calf	Dry Cows	# of Bulls	# Yrlng	Horse	AUMs	HMs
Jackwood		3/1/2023	3/31/2023	31	173		18			198	195
Upper Brushy/Lower Brushy		4/1/2023	5/15/2023	45	173		18			288	283
Upper Price/Lower Price		5/16/2023	6/30/2023	46	173		18			294	289
Redhill		7/1/2023	7/31/2023	31	173		18			198	195
Heifer		8/1/2023	9/30/2023	61	173		18			390	383
Mayday/ Burro		10/1/2023	10/15/2023	15	173		18			96	94
Behind the Hill		10/16/2023	11/15/2023	31	173		18			198	195
Southwest		11/16/2023	1/15/2024	61	173		18			390	383
House		1/16/2024	2/29/2024	45	173		18			288	283
Horse (Prvt. Permit)		3/1/2023	6/15/2023	107					9	38	32
Horse (Prvt. Permit)		1/5/2024	2/29/2024	56					9	20	17
Grey cells are calculated fields									Applied For	2399	2347
White cells are editable									Permitted	2338	2328

Please note that the authorization for the 9 horses is a private land permit. Although you had applied for 9 horses yearlong, the annual validation has been approved for the maximum AUMs available. The permit only allows for a maximum of 4 horses to be run year-round, for a total of 58 AUMs. It is understood that the actual stocking rate of your horses is extremely variable and should rarely approach the maximum 58 AUMs.

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 without prior authorization may be considered a violation of your Term Grazing Permit.



Pasture rotation is designed to incorporate growing season rest or deferment to allow for grazed plant recovery. Pastures grazed during the summer growing season (July – September) will not be grazed during the growing season the following year.

Due to the severe drought during the summer of 2020 we all experienced in this region, changes to various types of management were needed in most cases. Although most locations had abundant moisture during the monsoon seasons of 2021 and 2022, there may be lasting effects of drought that are impacting your allotment. Please keep the natural resource conditions in the forefront of your mind when making management decisions that affect your allotment, and please keep the range staff here at the Douglas District well informed of any deviation from your proposed plan.

Please be sure to not exceed the permitted number of livestock.

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 insure 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.

Continued on next page.

Previous Year Improvement Accomplishments				
Permit Mod #	Improvement Type / ID #	Completion Date	Description/Comments	Status Done /Date
			Road maintenance	On-going
			Trimmed Trails	On-going
	117014		Price Canyon Spring Repaired	2022
	Water System		Trough repaced in Heifer	2022

Current Year Improvement Schedule				
Permit Mod #	Improvement Type / ID #	Completion Date	Description/Comments	Status Done /Date
	Fence/ 117024		Finish rebuilding fence #117024 between Jackwood pasture and the Horseshoe allotment prior to locating cattle in this pasture. Material has been delivered to the site via helicopter by the Forest Service	
	Fence	Undetermined	Building of fence between Jackwood pasture and Upper Brushy pasture was discussed. Prior to construction NEPA analysis must be complete.	
	Road		Install "road closed" signs in three unauthorized roads on the allotment. FS will provide the signs and will coordinate with you to get them installed	
	Road/Cattleguard		Clean out or otherwise investigate the removal of cattleguards in the Behind the Hill and House pastures.	
	Water System		Repair the drinker in Brushy associated with Jacks Tank	
	Trails		Clear the trail to Price Spring. As this trail is located in the wilderness, coordinate with the District to request assistance or primitive tools.	

VI. 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.

VII. PROTECTION:

The permittee, his agents and employees, when acting within the scope of their employment, and his contractors and subcontractors will protect the land and property of the United States, waived private land and other land under jurisdiction of the Forest Service covered by and used in conjunction with this permit. During periods of high fire danger, branding fires will be allowed by permit only. Please report all fires to the Tucson Interagency Fire Coordination Center at 1-800-549-0661.

VIII. PERMIT CONDITIONS:

This Annual Operating Instruction is hereby made a part of the Term Grazing Permit as provided for in Part 2, Section 8(a). It complies with the standards and guidelines found in the Forest Plan. Failure to comply with 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. This is found in Part 1, Section 3, of your permit.

Management direction applies as specified in the September 27, 2019 Amended Biological Assessment for Coronado National Forest Livestock Grazing Program and the September 30, 2021 Biological Opinion on Ongoing Grazing on the Coronado National Forest.

Keep this copy of the Annual Operating Instruction for your personal files. Thank you.

Sincerely,

DOUG RUPPEL
District Ranger