



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Mesa Ranger District

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File Code: 2230 / 2210  
Date: January 10, 2024

Reavis-Tortilla Allotment Permittee

Dear Stud Camp Ranch, LLC.,

On Tuesday, January 9, 2024, you met with Matthew Kilford, Kimberly Cole, and myself to discuss your 2024 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for Reavis-Tortilla Allotment.

Your AOI is attached. If changes are needed to your rotation and/or management concerns exist, please contact the District Range Staff in advance to adjust your AOI.

Monitoring of forage conditions and water availability will continue over the next several weeks and into the summer season. A second AOI meeting may be needed to adjust management in response to resource conditions.

The AOI is made part of your Term Grazing Permit as specified in Part 2, Number 8(a) of the permit. If you have any questions, please contact Matt or Kim at (480) 595-3331.

Sincerely,

MATTHEW LANE  
District Ranger



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## **2023 -2024 Annual Operating Instructions**

### **Reavis-Tortilla**

This AOI is a guide for management for the 2024 grazing year. Your average "on" weight for your 2024 yearling herd is 550 pounds. According to the AMP you are allowed to stock 630 on Tortilla and 785 on Reavis. The pasture rotation and numbers discussed are as follows:

<b>Pasture</b>	<b>Numbers</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Reavis A	435 Yearlings	January 01 – March 31
Reavis B	435 Yearlings	April 01 – June 15

Tortilla A/B will not be utilized for the 2024 season unless requested in a modification. Please provide on/off shipping paper as stated in the AMP.

A one-week buffer is allowed on either side of the date to get cattle moved from one pasture to the next. If additional time is needed it must be discussed and approved by the Forest Service prior to the move date.

#### Management

Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines applicable to Reavis-Tortilla livestock grazing will be followed (Forest Plan, p. 24).

- Salt and/or supplements will be placed where forage is abundant and current grazing use levels are low. Salt and/or supplements will not be placed any closer than one quarter mile from available water, recreation sites, or designated trails except where prior written approval had been obtained from the District Ranger. No salting will occur within or adjacent to identified heritage sites. Salt will be removed from pastures when cattle have left an area, and not placed within a pasture until the cattle arrive. Additionally, salt will not be placed in the same location(s) each year.
- Troughs will be left full of water and operational year-round for wildlife accessibility, unless in limited circumstances where extreme freezing conditions may damage facilities.

- When entering the next scheduled pasture, all livestock will be removed from the previous pasture within two weeks (dependent on terrain) and will ensure that enough time is allowed to remove livestock to meet the pasture move date(s).
- You will ensure all infrastructure is in functioning condition prior to entering the next scheduled pasture.

Forage utilization will be managed at a level corresponding to light to moderate intensity to provide for grazed plant recovery, increases in herbage production and retention of herbaceous litter to protect soils. Reavis-Tortilla utilization is as follows according to the 1990 AMP.

FORAGE TYPE	USE LEVELS
UPLANDS	30% to 40% on primary "key" forage species.
RIPARIAN	Utilization does not exceed 20% by volume of the current annual growth of woody species.

- If use levels are reached before schedule move dates, livestock will be moved to the next scheduled pasture. If all pastures have been utilized before the end of the grazing season livestock will be removed from the allotment until the start of the next growing season.

You are encouraged to participate in all monitoring activities. Please keep records of actual use and movement dates to provide to the district range staff at the annual authorization meeting each year.

#### Improvements

You shall maintain all range improvements that are assigned for maintenance in the Term Grazing Permit. You must receive District approval prior to bringing heavy equipment onto the Forest. Any maintenance or reconstruction will be confined within original site disturbance and construction design.

As discussed, please catalog improvements, and send them to the district Range Staff so that they can be verified and added to the permit. Use of mechanized equipment in the wilderness for maintenance has not yet been approved. Please contact the district Range Staff if you have any additional questions about existing improvements.