



File Code: 2230

Date: March 25, 2011

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

This letter is in acknowledgement of your January 24, 2011, letter requesting that we “authorize the temporary increase from the current 15 head on our Red Hill Allotment (winter country) to 45 head, and increase our 32 head to 45 head on our Grandfather Allotment (summer country) that the prior decision had allowed us and Phil Settles had authorized in the prior 10-year permit. But for some unknown reason, the temporary number of cattle were taken away.”

We have reviewed your request and have found that the decision notice, dated February 1, 1999, (page 2 item #6) does allow for “a temporary 1-year grazing permit for up to three years will be issued for additional cow/calf numbers to bring the number to 45 cows with calves (Alternative 4 numbers) for the summer/fall period on Grandfather Allotment and the winter/spring period on Red Hill Allotment.” Additionally, a clause written into your current term grazing permit (#0106A dated 2/28/2011, pg. 10) notes that the temporary increase and monitoring provision of the Decision Notice has not yet been implemented. I’ve been told that this provision of the decision notice has not been implemented due to the lack of precipitation and forage growth in the years following the decision.

In discussing this with Alpine District Ranger Rick Davalos and his range specialists, I have learned that they also received your request, and are planning to contact you to discuss activating the Decision Notice provision during your annual operating meeting and through the Ranger’s Annual Operating Instructions, assuming current year conditions will allow it.

Ranger Davalos has also informed me that you have enlisted the help of the University of Arizona extension service to assist with monitoring. I commend you for seeking their assistance, and value these types of partnering opportunities.



[REDACTED]

I appreciate your concerns, and your efforts to address management challenges on the Grandfather and Red Hill allotments.

Sincerely,

/s/ James E. Zornes for
CHRIS KNOPP
Forest Supervisor

cc:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Alpine District Ranger
Ron Mortensen, Alpine Ranger District