

<b>TERM GRAZING PERMIT - PART 3</b> (Reference FSM 2230)  <b>RUDD CREEK &amp; UDALL ALLOTMENTS</b>	<b>Page 12 of 17</b>
	Permittee Number <b>SPO634</b>
	Permit Number <b>R06057</b>

### RUDD CREEK ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

#### Current Permit and NEPA History

The May 15, 1998 Environmental Assessment (EA) and the March 23, 1999 Decision Notice (DN) for the Rudd Creek Summer and Voigt Allotment Management Plans are incorporated by reference into the Special Terms and Conditions. The pasture configuration in the DN was never implemented. The Rudd Creek Summer Allotment is hereafter referred to as the Rudd Creek Allotment. Changes that occurred after the DN was signed are summarized below:

1. On June 6, 2000, Harold and Amelia LeSueur waived the Rudd Creek Allotment to the Forest Service. At this time, the Allotment consisted of the following pastures: St. Mary's, Old Horse (San Salvador), Pat Knoll, Salt House, Red Hole and OD.
2. On June 21, 2000, Flying Box Ranch, Inc. was issued a Term Grazing Permit for the new Rudd Creek Allotment that included the Pat Knoll, Salt House, Red Hole and OD pastures. The St. Mary's and San Salvador Pastures were issued under another Term Grazing Permit to another permittee.

Subject to the above DN this portion of Part 3 constitutes the Allotment Management Plan for the Rudd Creek Allotment identified in Part 1.

#### Description of the Allotment

The Rudd Creek Allotment is located approximately eleven miles south of Springerville, Arizona. The Allotment contains 4,002 acres. The elevation ranges from approximately 8,900 to 9,661 feet. The Allotment is bounded on the east by the Colter Creek Valley and on the west by Forest Road 285. Terrain is mostly gentle rolling hills with a couple of larger knolls. The primary vegetation types on the allotment are pine bunchgrass grassland and mixed conifer forest. Common herbaceous species are Arizona fescue, mountain muhly, pine dropseed, muttongrass, sedges and spike muhly. Common woody species are ponderosa pine, Douglas fir, blue and engelmann spruce, gambel oak, aspen, wild currant and skunkbrush sumac. Sedges, hairgrass, bluegrass, Rocky Mountain iris and rushes are found in wet meadow areas.

#### Goals and Objectives

- a. Balance permitted livestock use with allotment capacity (page 25 of EA).
- b. Improve watershed and soil condition (page 25 and 28 of EA).
- c. Establish utilization standards and season of use that will provide for the physiological needs of the vegetation (page 113-114 of EA, 1 of DN).
- d. Improve vegetation and range condition (page 27 and 28 of EA).
- e. Increase density and distribution of cool-season forage species (page 27 and 28 of the EA).
- f. Achieve PFC in riparian areas within 10 years. Riparian areas are in satisfactory condition or better with an upward trend. Woody riparian vegetation exhibits a diversity of age classes (page 28 of EA).

#### Management Strategy

The livestock operation will consist of a single cowherd. The allotment will be grazed with a four pasture deferred rotational grazing system. Cattle will be either trucked to the allotment or trailed up the Water Canyon road (FR 285).

Number of livestock and season of use are:

The permitted number of livestock is 103 yearling cattle or 268 AUMs. The season of use is July 1 to October 20.

<b>TERM GRAZING PERMIT - PART 3</b> (Reference FSM 2230)  <b>RUDD CREEK &amp; UDALL ALLOTMENTS</b>	<b>Page 13 of 17</b>
	Permittee Number <b>SPO634</b>
	Permit Number <b>R06057</b>

Mitigation Measures

1. The Pat Knoll Cabin area and associated wet meadow and Bebb willow site will be fenced to exclude livestock and vehicular use (EA, Section I, pgs 6, 27-29). (completed)
2. A watershed restoration project will be developed in Upper Red Hole Draw on the Rudd Creek Summer Allotment (Biological Assessment for Voigt & Rudd Creek Summer Allotments, 07/09/98; Concurrence by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service via the Guidance Criteria, 09/18/98).
3. This decision will implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) that apply to the activities listed above to maintain/improve water quality and prevent accelerated soil erosion (EA, Appendix C).

<b>TERM GRAZING PERMIT - PART 3</b> (Reference FSM 2230)  <b>RUDD CREEK &amp; UDALL ALLOTMENTS</b>	<b>Page 14 of 17</b>
	Permittee Number <b>SPO634</b>
	Permit Number <b>R06057</b>

RANGE DEVELOPMENT CONSTRUCTION/RECONSTRUCTION

To fully implement this Allotment Management Plan, structural developments will be constructed to improve the distribution of livestock, reduce forage use in key areas and improve existing resource conditions (Table 1). Existing range developments throughout the Allotment will be reconstructed as necessary (Part 3 of the Term Grazing Permit). All fence construction and reconstruction will utilize smooth wire on the top and bottom strands.

**Table 1. Rudd Creek Allotment planned range developments – construction/reconstruction** (page 36 of Rudd Creek/Voigt EA).

DEVELOPMENT	UNITS	LOCATION	CONSTRUCTION RESPONSIBILITY	WHEN	MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITY
Fence (reconstruction)	8.0 mi.	Allotment interior fence, throughout the Allotment	USFS materials, permittee labor	As funding permits	Permittee
Fence (reconstruction)	3.0 mi.	Allotment Boundary fence, throughout the Allotment	USFS materials, permittee labor	As funding permits	Permittee
Fence (reconstruction)	0.3 mi.	Enclosure around Pat Sink	USFS materials, equipment & labor	As funding permits	Permittee (fence removed)
Fence (reconstruction)	0.3 mi.	Enclosure around Salt House Lake, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 36, T7N, R28E, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 1, T6N, R28E	USFS materials, equipment & labor	As funding permits	Permittee (completed)
Watershed Restoration Project (new)		For the Red Hole drainage, estimated cost = \$15,000, Sec. 5 & 6, T6N, R29E	USFS materials, equipment & labor	As funding permits	USFS
Fence (new)	0.6 mi. 2 gates	Pat Knoll cabin area and associated wet meadow, Sec. 29 & 30, T7N, R29E	USFS materials, equipment & labor	As funding permits	Permittee (completed)
Spring Development (reconstruct)	1	Pat Knoll Spring, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 29, T7N, R29E	USFS materials, equipment & labor	As funding permits	Permittee
Clean and maintain & reconstruct stock tanks	8	Udall #1, OD, House, Water, Salt House, Pat Sink, Pat Knoll & Road stock tanks, throughout the Allotment	USFS materials, equipment & labor	As funding permits	Permittee

<b>TERM GRAZING PERMIT - PART 3</b> (Reference FSM 2230)  <b>RUDD CREEK &amp; UDALL ALLOTMENTS</b>	<b>Page 15 of 17</b>
	Permittee Number <b>SPO634</b>
	Permit Number <b>R06057</b>

### UDALL ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

#### CURRENT PERMIT AND NEPA HISTORY

The May 6, 2002 Environmental Assessment (EA) and the August 23, 2002 Decision Notice (DN) for an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) is incorporated by reference into the Special Terms and Conditions. Major components of the Decision Notice and how the decision will be implemented are detailed below:

The reduction to the new term permit numbers will be phased in beginning July 1, 2004, with one-third of the reduction being implemented each year during 2004, 2005, and 2006. Season of use will change from June 1 – October 31 to July 1 – October 31 during year 2004. This action is in accordance with 36 CFR 222.4(8) which provides a notification period of one year prior to implementation of changes in season of use, permitted numbers, kind and class of livestock allowed under the permit. The permit number (c/c) and phased in livestock numbers (c/c) are shown in the implementation summary below:

<u>Grazing Year</u>	<u>Implement</u>
2004	New entry date – July 1, and
2004	One-third of the reduction in livestock numbers (618 - 95 = 523)
2005	Second one-third of the reduction in livestock numbers (523 - 95 = 428)
2006	Final one-third of the reduction in livestock numbers (428 - 94 = 334)

If, during the three year schedule, the permit is waived by sale of permitted cattle and/or base property, the new permit would be issued for immediate and full implementation of the decision upon approval of the application. (completed)

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE ALLOTMENT

The Udall Allotment is located approximately fifteen miles south of Springville, Arizona within portions of Township 6N, and Range 28 and 29E, Gila and Salt River Meridian (G&SRM), Apache, County, Arizona. The allotment contains approximately 10,821 acres with elevation ranging from 8,500 to 9,500 feet. The topography is mostly gentle with some steep slopes adjacent to the North Fork of the East Fork of the Black River (NFEFBR). The allotment is surrounded by mixed conifer and ponderosa pine forest on all sides. Aspen occurs in small stands, stringers and pockets. The central portion of the allotment is predominately open, rolling, montane grassland with timbered knolls and stringers.

The common herbaceous species are Arizona fescue, mountain muhly, spike muhly, screwleaf muhly, sedges, Junegrass, pine dropseed and muttongrass in the grasslands and forested lands; sedges, Kentucky bluegrass, Canada bluegrass, redtop bentgrass, tufted hairgrass, rushes and mat muhly are growing in the meadows and bottoms. Common forbs on the allotment include wild buckwheat, wood sorrel, Fendler sandwort, pussytoes and fleabane.

#### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- a. Balance permitted livestock use with allotment capacity (page 35 of EA).
- b. Improve watershed and riparian conditions (page 35 of EA).
- c. Establish utilization standards and season of use that will provide for the physiological needs of the vegetation (page 1 and 53 of EA and page 2 of DN).
- d. Improve vegetation and range condition page 6 and 80 of EA.
- e. Increase density and distribution of cool season forage species (page 6).
- f. Riparian habitats are trending toward proper functioning condition (page 13).

<b>TERM GRAZING PERMIT - PART 3</b> (Reference FSM 2230)  <b>RUDD CREEK &amp; UDALL ALLOTMENTS</b>	<b>Page 16 of 17</b>
	Permittee Number <b>SPO634</b>
	Permit Number <b>R06057</b>

**MANAGEMENT STRATEGY**

The livestock operation will consist of a single cowherd. The allotment will be grazed under a rotational deferred grazing system with four pastures. The new number of livestock and season of use are:

- The permitted number of livestock is 334 head of cows and calves.
  - The season of use is July 1 to October 31.
1. There is a series of four proposed livestock exclosures along NFEFBR to prevent livestock access to the river and promote accelerated riparian recovery and improved in-stream fisheries habitat. The Crosby Crossing Administrative Unit will no longer be grazed by livestock and will be expanded to become one of the four livestock exclosures on the NFEFBR. All of the stream segments within the exclosures will be excluded from livestock grazing for the term of the grazing permit (10 years) (completed).
  2. Trailing to and from the allotment will be accomplished over a two-day period, in both the summer and fall. Trailing includes an overnight stop in the Pat Knoll Springs Pasture of the Rudd Creek Allotment in the summer and an overnight stop, in the fall, at the Milligan Trap on the Water Canyon Allotment. The trailing route will require crossing through the Water Canyon and Murray Basin Allotments. When livestock are trucked to or from the allotment the primary shipping point will be to OD Trap and OD Corral. Small numbers of cattle may be shipped to and from the permittee's private land located near Crosby Crossing.
  3. Livestock will be rotated through the four main pastures in the grazing schedule. The first pasture entered at the beginning of the grazing season will be rotated within the grazing schedule every year to provide systemic warm season deferral for all pastures. Livestock will not graze the allotment during the active cool season plant growth period (April 15 to July 1).

**Allowable Use.** Allowable use is based on the amount and kind of forage on the allotment, plant needs, and range condition and trend. Forage utilization will be based on the monitoring of keys areas as outlined on the map. Key forage species will be identified in the Annual Operating Plan. The four main pastures and allowable grazing use will be: Milkpen Pasture - 35%, OD Pasture – 35%, Elk Pasture – 30% and Timber Pasture – 25%. The OD Trap has east and west side sorting pastures. The east side trap will have an allowable use of 35% and the west side trap will be 45%. The east side trap will be used as a combination of horse pasture and cattle hospital, branding and shipping pasture. The west side trap will be used in the fall for gathering and shipping.

**RANGE DEVELOPMENT CONSTRUCTION/RECONSTRUCTION**

To fully implement this Allotment Management Plan, structural developments will be constructed to improve the distribution of livestock, reduce forage use in key areas and improve existing resource conditions (Table 1). Existing range developments throughout the Allotment will be reconstructed as necessary. All fence construction and reconstruction will utilize smooth wire on the top and bottom strands.

**Table 1. Udall Allotment planned range developments – construction/reconstruction**

LOCATION	CONSTRUCTION RESPONSIBILITY	WHEN	MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITY
<b>Range Improvements for Udall Allotment.</b>			
Install a cattleguard on Forest Road 285 south of Crosby Crossing	USFS materials, equip. & labor	As funding permits (completed)	USFS
Construct 1.5 miles of new fence, Sect. 13, T6N, R28E, Sect. 18, T6N, R29E and Sect. 19, T6N, R29E	USFS material, & labor	As funding permits (completed)	Permittee #066207

<b>TERM GRAZING PERMIT - PART 3</b> (Reference FSM 2230)  <b>RUDD CREEK &amp; UDALL ALLOTMENTS</b>	<b>Page 17 of 17</b>
	Permittee Number <b>SPO634</b>
	Permit Number <b>R06057</b>

**Table 1. Udall Allotment planned range developments – construction/reconstruction**

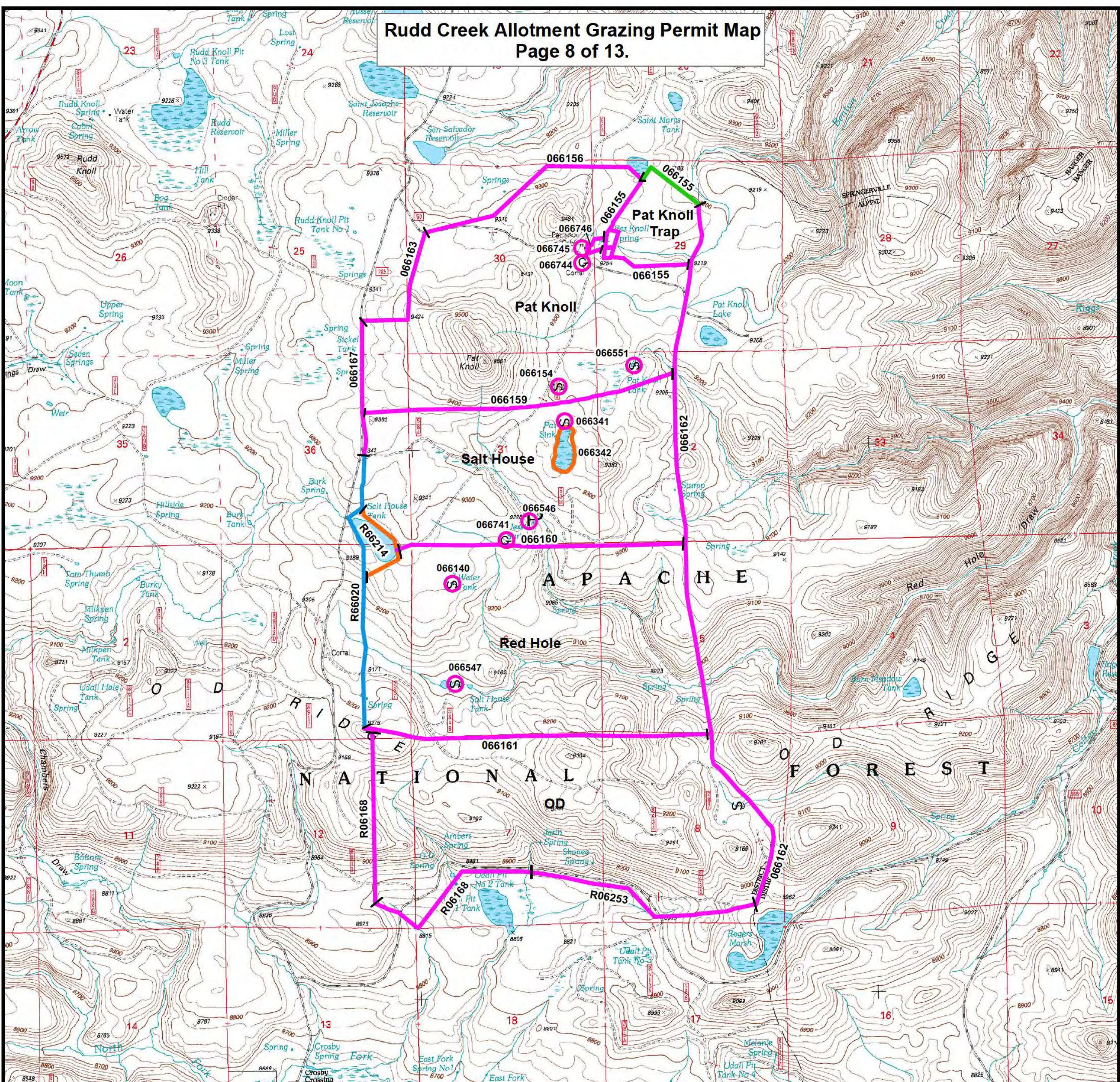
LOCATION	CONSTRUCTION RESPONSIBILITY	WHEN	MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITY
Remove 1.2 miles of fence from the CCAU to improve access for wildlife and recreation.	USFS material, & labor	As funding permits	N/A
Construct 1.5 miles of new conventional fence in Sections 14 and 23, T6N, R28E to create Exclosure #3 in the Timber Pasture.	USFS material, & labor	Completed by USFS	Permittee #066206
Construct 1.5 miles of new electric fence in Sections 15 T6N, R28E to create Exclosure #1 and Exclosure #2 in the Milkpen Pasture.	USFS Materials & Labor (Completed, conventional fence)	As funding permits	Permittee
Remove the vehicle gate on the dead-end two-track road and install a walkthrough gate at the allotment boundary fence between the Elk Pasture and the Black River Allotment on the Alpine RD in Section 31, T6N, R29E.	USFS materials/Permittee labor	As funding permits	Permittee
Clean 12 existing earthen stock tanks.	Permittee equipment and labor	Part of AOI	Permittee
Develop Ambers Spring and construction of approx. one mile of pipeline to a float box and trough in SW1/4, NM1/4, Section 18, T6N, R29E within OD pasture.	USFS materials & labor	As funding permits	Permittee
Construct 1.3 miles of new conventional fence in Sections 24 & 25, T6N, R28E, to create the southern portion of Exclosure #4 to form the eastern boundary of Elk Pasture.	USFS materials & labor (Completed)	As funding permits	Permittee #066208
Remove approximately 0.3 mile of conventional fence in Section 24, T6N, R28E and Section 19, T6N, R29E within the interior of Exclosure #4 after the exclosure has been complete.	USFS & labor (Completed)	As funding permits	N/A

**Permittee Review**

“I have reviewed the provisions of the term grazing permit, the standards and guidelines, and management required by the Forest Management Plan applicable to this allotment and the Allotment Management Plan with the grazing Permittee.”

  
 Rangeland Management Specialist

12/28/15  
 Date



Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests  
Springerville Ranger District  
Range Improvement Map  
**Rudd Creek Allotment**

**Legend**

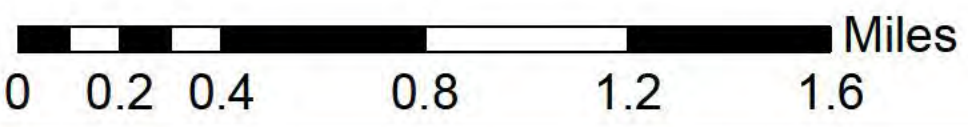
- " Cabin
- G Corral
- P Spring
- S Tank

**Maintenance Responsibility**

- SPO Land and Cattle Company
- Burk Permittee
- St. Mary's Permittee
- Forest Service

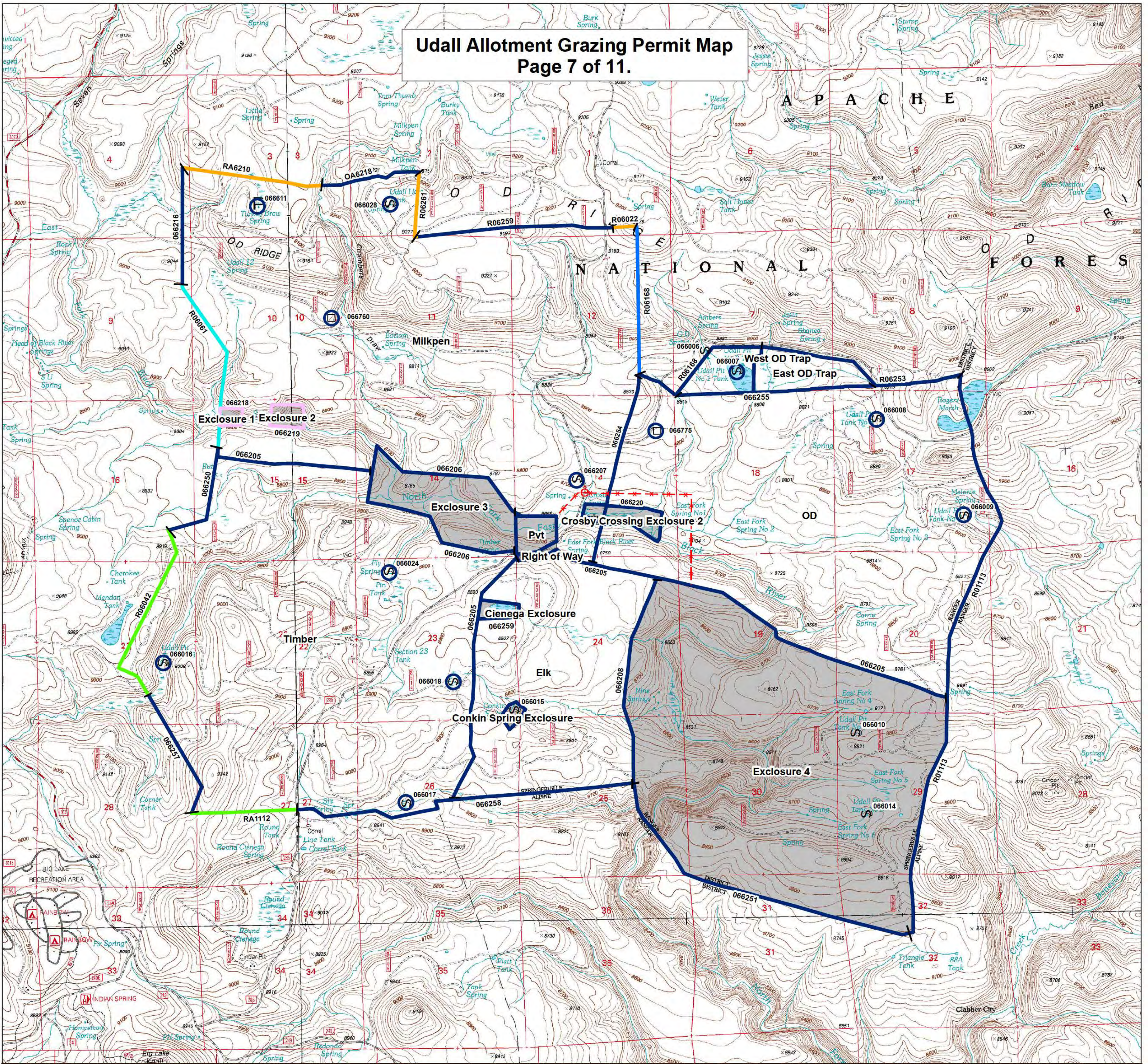


S.Weaver 3/15/06



This map is part of Grazing Permit No. \_\_\_\_\_  
issued to SPO Land and Cattle Company  
on \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_  
and shows the Rudd Creek Allotment.

**Udall Allotment Grazing Permit Map**  
Page 7 of 11.

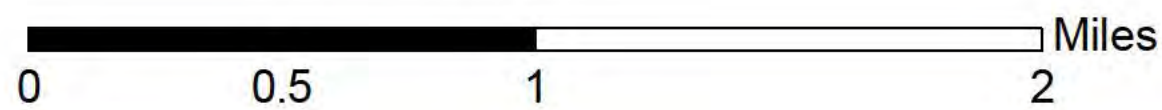


**Legend**

- P Spring
- S Tank
- Corral

Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests  
Springerville Ranger District  
Range Improvement Map

**Udall Allotment**



**MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITY**

- Udall Allotment Permittee
- SPO Land and Cattle Company
- Burk Permittee
- Dan Heap Udall Allotment Permittee
- Red Hill Ranch Corporation 26 Bar Allotment Permittee
- Rudd Creek Permittee
- Forest Service
- - - Proposed Fence and Cattle Guard
- Excluded from Livestock Grazing

This map is part of Grazing Permit No. \_\_\_\_\_ issued to SPO Land and Cattle Company on \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ and shows the Udall Allotment.