

**SIERRA VISTA RANGER DISTRICT  
CORONADO NATIONAL FOREST  
ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTION (AOI)  
San Rafael & Blacktail Allotments  
2024 Grazing Year**

**I. AUTHORIZED USE:**

A. The following numbers and classes of livestock are authorized to graze on the **San Rafael** Allotment:

KIND	CLASS	NUMBER	AUMs	AUTHORIZED SEASON OF USE
Cattle	Cow/Calf	475	2138	03/01/2024 – 07/15/2025
Cattle	Cow/Calf	408	3060	07/16/2024 – 02/28/2025
	<b>Total</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>5198</b>	

B. The following numbers and classes of livestock are authorized to graze on the **Blacktail** Allotment:

KIND	CLASS	NUMBER	AUMs	AUTHORIZED SEASON OF USE
Cattle	Cow/Calf	75	563	07/16/2024 – 02/28/2025
	<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>563</b>	

\*Note: Blacktail livestock are currently on San Rafael Allotment due to lack of water and feed from drought conditions. If summer precipitation is good, they will be put back on the Blacktail Allotment in July.

**II. ROTATION SCHEDULE:** Actual dates may vary dependent upon climatic conditions, availability of water in springs/dirt tanks, when utilization levels are reached and time required to remove cattle for both the San Rafael and Blacktail allotments.

**A. San Rafael Allotment Rotation:**

Pasture	Proposed Numbers	Proposed Season of Use	Comments (i.e. Use Standard, special concerns or instructions)
North Red Rock	408	03/01/2024 – 04/15/2024	
South Red Rock	408	04/16/2024 – 06/30/2024	
West Kennedy	408	07/01/2024 – 10/31/2024	
Dunham	408	11/01/2024 – 02/28/2025	
Upper Robinson	67	03/01/2024 – 05/15/2024	Blacktail livestock on San Rafael allotment
Lower Robinson	67	05/16/2024 – 07/15/2024	Blacktail livestock on San Rafael allotment
East Kennedy & Headquarters	-0-	03/01/2024 – 02/28/2025	-Rested-

**B. Blacktail Allotment Rotation:**

Pasture	Proposed Numbers	Proposed Season of Use	Comments (i.e. Use Standard, special concerns or instructions)
Sunnyside	75	07/15/2024 – 09/15/2024	This rotation is dependent upon summer rain
Sundown	75	09/16/2024 – 10/15/2024	
Tom's	75	10/16/2024 – 12/15/2024	
Menefee	75	12/16/2024 – 02/28/2025	

If you should need to deviate from these rotation schedules 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 may be considered a violation of your Term Grazing Permit.

**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.

To continue to meet Biological Opinion requirements for exclosures across the district, they need to be inspected at a minimum of three times a year. The San Rafael Allotment has the Silver and Bog Hole exclosures. The Cott Tank Exclosure is now considered a Riparian Pasture and can be used a gathering trap for short periods of time. Cattle cannot be allowed to remain here for long periods of time and should still be checked for cattle presence when livestock are in adjacent pastures. We are asking you as the permittee to take note of the following topics when you visit the exclosure(s) and report the status of them on the attached Exclosure Monitoring Form.

- Date of Inspection
- Status of Fence (up or down)
- % of Fence Inspected
- Livestock use observed
- Level of livestock use (if observed)
- If livestock use did occur, what is the estimate of how long livestock were in exclosure?

If Livestock use has occurred in an exclosure, please notify the district with specifics of the incident.

**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.

Vehicular access to range improvements listed in the term grazing permit is authorized for routine maintenance. Vehicular access is also approved for the construction of any new improvements not yet listed in the term grazing permit.

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.

Current Year Improvement Schedule			YEAR	2024
Permit Mod #	Improvement Type / ID #	Completion Date	Description/Comments	Status Done /Date
Previous Year Improvement Accomplishments			YEAR	2023
Permit Mod #	Improvement Type / ID #	Completion Date	Description/Comments	Status Done /Date

**VI. ROADS:**

Vehicular access on established roads can be essential for structural range improvement maintenance, supplement placement and general ranch duties. Any open road to the public (road on Motor Vehicle Use Map- *MVUM*) may be used at any time for any reason. The use of other established roads must be authorized within the Term Grazing Permit or in the Annual Operating Instructions. Cross country may be authorized by written permission from the District Ranger.

**VII. 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.

