

**Winter 2019 and Spring 2020
ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS
SAND FLAT ALLOTMENT
CHINO VALLEY RANGER DISTRICT**

PLANNING OBJECTIVES

Prior to and during this grazing season, identify management constraints for the development and modification of this Annual Operating Instructions (AOI); such as:

- Identify specific management tools/resource objectives and constraints for this grazing season;
- Review general permit administration and livestock management requirements; and
- Document any needs or agreements beyond the standard directions.

MANAGEMENT TOOLS/RESOURCE OBJECTIVES

- Follow forage and browse use standards. Utilization needs to be at a level that allows for sufficient litter. Perennial grasses and major browse species need the opportunity to maintain or improve their vigor.
- It is imperative that moderate use levels (40% utilization) not be exceeded. We encourage you to have a plan of action incase partial or full destocking of your allotment is required to protect your herd and the rangeland resources. Please keep the District appraised of your water and forage availability within your allotment.
- The planned grazing schedule and period of use will be modified for moderate use levels regardless of dormant, slow or active plant growth periods.
- During the spring forage “green-up” period, utilization of perennial grasses must be watched closely to meet utilization standards and be prepared to move off to meet.

AUTHORIZATION

<u>Number</u>	<u>Pasture</u>	<u>Grazing Period</u>
250	Henderson	12/18/19-2/29/20
250	Witty Tom	3/1/20-4/5/20
250	Mexican	4/6/20-5/15/20
20 Horses	Bull	12/18/19-1/31/20

MANAGEMENT REQUIRMENTS

- Please give the Forest Officer actual use, by pasture, as livestock are moved off the allotment in the spring. Your cooperation is very much appreciated.
- Move your livestock early regardless of any agreed update, to avoid exceeding utilization levels.
- If you have a question about the utilization levels you are observing please contact your Forest Officer for a visit to your allotment.
- Any change from these Annual Operating Instructions must be coordinated and confirmed in advance with the District Ranger, a week or two in advanced notice is best. If emergency conditions require making a change immediately, notify your allotment administrator promptly.

You are responsible for your representatives and/or employees following all Forest Officer instructions.

ALLOWABLE USE

- **Uplands:** On palatable grasses of moderate to high vigor: 40% while actively growing, 40% during dormant periods. This percentage is of the total weight of the current year's production.
- **Shrubs:** Browsing of 40% of available leaders.

- **Riparian Herbaceous:** On palatable grasses and sedges: 30% of the total weight available, leaving a minimum of 4" stubble.
- **Riparian Woody:** On woody bush and tree species 20% of the current year's leader growth.
- Cattle will be moved off the allotment or to next authorized pasture regardless of dates when allowable use standards are met.

SALT AND SUPPLEMENTS

- The thoughtful placement of salt, mineral and protein is a valuable distribution aid. Salt will not be located in areas favored by livestock, including within ¼ mile of water (this includes seeps and springs). Instead, place supplements to draw livestock to areas that normally receive only light use.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT MAINTENANCE

- Maintenance will follow the standards in your Part 3 of your Term Grazing Permit.

In addition to routine maintenance, see permit modifications for more details.

- Install tire trough at Coyote trick tank by 3-31-20.
- Install tire trough at Mexican trick tank by 5-31-20.
- Finish rolling fence up at Pass tank, h-braces down and all wire hauled out by 3-15-20.
- Permittee will check cement at Coyote trick tank to see if still dry and useable, let RMS know either way.

MANAGEMENT COMMENTS

Salt and supplement in appropriate locations to take advantage of potential unused country this year due to drought. Push/herd cows away from limited water sources to ensure no overutilization near the sources. Permittee is responsible to move cattle if utilization is met within units, even if dates differ on AOI, call and update the RMS throughout the grazing season.

PERMIT CONDITIONS

- These Annual Operating Instructions are a part of the Term Grazing Permit as provided for in Part 2, Section 8(a). They comply with the standards and guidelines found in the Forest Plan. Failure to follow 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. (Refer to Part 1, Section 3, of your permit.)
- The Prescott National Forest designated a system of roads and trails that are open to motor vehicle use in 1989 through Forest Plan Amendment #4. Motor vehicle use off the designated road system by the permit holder to conduct activities associated with administration of the term grazing permit is allowed under the terms and conditions of the term grazing permit.

AGREED TO BY: Nancy Skew *Subject on all existing rights under NFMA* 12-9-19
 Grazing Permittee, Sand Flat Allotment Date

APPROVED BY: Karina Gutierrez 12/19/19
 Karina Gutierrez, Date
 Deputy District Ranger, Chino Valley District