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Allotment Management Plan

Sleeping Beauty Complex Allotment

Globe Ranger District
Tonto National Forest
Arizona

This Allotment Management Plan implements direction established in the October 1985 Tonto National Forest Plan and the August 2005 EA decision for Sleeping Beauty Allotment. This Allotment Management Plan is made part of your Term Grazing Permit in accordance of that permit.

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Sleeping Beauty Allotment Management Plan

Allotment Description

Sleeping Beauty Allotment is located approximately 6 miles northwest of Globe, Arizona. Allotment encompasses about 8,850 acres of National Forest System, an on/off with 32% (2,802 acres) owned by permittee. On/off permit is intended for use where only a part of the natural range unit is administered by the Forest Service and it is not practical or impossible to issue private land permits. Such permit is issued to promote efficient use of intermingled ownership.

Allotment Management

Permitted Use

Permit is issued for 193 adult cattle plus additional natural increase of up to 110 yearlings, progeny of permitted livestock, from 1/1 to 5/31. Grazing season is yearlong from **March 1** to **February 28**. Any annual adjustments would be planned and authorized by District Ranger, not to exceed the maximum numbers.

Grazing System

A five pasture deferred grazing rotation system will be implemented based upon utilization standards. If all pastures are utilized prior to end of grazing season, cattle will be moved to private land, or base property until first pasture has sufficient rest. This rotation allows each pasture to rest during growing season and use to occur during a deferred time period each year. See Table 1 for a general outline of pasture rotation, this will guide yearly meetings.

Rotation schedule identifies implementation of deferred pasture rest and may be altered for resource or management reasons by an authorized officer in Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) each year. An example rotation schedule, below, illustrates how deferred rest pasture rotations could look based on the 5 pastures within Sleeping Beauty Complex.

Table 1: Example Rotation Schedule

Sequence	Year A	Year B	Year C	Year D	Year E
First	Pasture A	Pasture E	Pasture D	Pasture C	Pasture B
Second	Pasture B	Pasture A	Pasture E	Pasture D	Pasture C
Third	Pasture C	Pasture B	Pasture A	Pasture E	Pasture D
Fourth	Pasture D	Pasture C	Pasture B	Pasture A	Pasture E
Rest	Pasture E	Pasture D	Pasture C	Pasture B	Pasture A

Range Improvements

Responsibilities

Permittee is responsible for maintenance of all range improvements, listed on Table 2 and in term grazing permit for course of their usable life. Improvements will be maintained to standards and practices agreed upon and detailed in yearly AOI. When range improvements are beyond point of normal maintenance and heavy maintenance or reconstruction is required, that work will be authorized by separate permit modification. Any maintenance or reconstruction of improvements throughout allotment will need to meet Forest Plan standards and management for Management Area 2D (1985 TNF Plan, as amended). Archeological and biological clearance may be required for reconstruction of existing improvements.

A schedule of maintenance of listed improvements in term grazing permit, requires normal maintenance to maintain the improvements in usable, sound condition. If range improvements deteriorate beyond point that normal maintenance may repair, improvement will be considered a new project. Permittee and Forest Service range staff will coordinate to determine appropriate course of action.

Specific improvement maintenance will be detailed in AOI's and discussed at yearly meetings.

Table 2: Improvement List

Improvement Number	Improvement name	Type	Year Constructed	Location
235071	BOHME SLEEPING BEAU FENCE	RANGE, ALLOTMENT BOUNDARY	03/01/1930	
235070	BELLEVUE BOHME FENCE	RANGE, ALLOTMENT BOUNDARY	03/01/1930	Grizzly Mt. to cattle guard in Sec. 36; and south from cattle guard.
235069	BOHME PINTO CK FENCE	RANGE, ALLOTMENT BOUNDARY	03/01/1930	
235068	CASTLE DOME CORRAL	MULTIPLE PENS	03/01/1950	
235067	GRIZZLY BEAR CORRAL	MULTIPLE PENS	03/01/1960	
235066	JUNIPER FLAT CORRAL	MULTIPLE PENS	03/01/1930	,
235065	HORSE BASIN CORRAL	MULTIPLE PENS	03/01/1930	
235064	EMPRESS WELL	WELL, WINDMILL STEEL TOWER	03/01/1960	
235063	UPPER GRAPEVINE SPRING	SPRING, CONCRETE TROUGH OR TANK	03/01/1930	T1N, R14E Sec. 9 NESW
235062	GRAPEVINE SPRING	SPRING, CONCRETE TROUGH OR TANK	03/01/1930	T1N, R14E Sec. 9 SWNE

Improvement Number	Improvement name	Type	Year Constructed	Location
235061	EMPRESS STOCK TANK		03/01/1950	T1N, R14E Sec. 16 SWNE
235060	MEXICAN STOCK TANK		03/01/1958	T1N, R14E Sec. 16 NENW
235059	JUNIPER FLAT STOCK TANK		03/01/1959	T1N, R14E Sec. 17 SENE
235058	GRIZZLY MTN STOCK TANK		03/01/1960	T1N, R13E Sec. 26 SWSE
235057	EAST WATER SPRING	SPRING, CONCRETE TROUGH OR TANK	03/01/1930	T1N, R14E Sec. 17 NWNW
235056	WEBSTER TANK		03/01/1956	T1N, R14E Sec. 20 NENE
235055	COTTONWOOD STOCK TANK		03/01/1930	T1N, R14E Sec. 32 SWNW
235054	CASTLE DOME STOCK TANK		03/01/1961	T1N, R14E Sec. 28 NWNW
235053	HEADQUARTERS PASTURE FEN	RANGE, ALLOTMENT INTERIOR	03/01/1930	
235052	BOHME NF BDRY FENCE	NON-RANGE, PROPERTY BOUNDARY	03/01/1930	
235051	OAK FLAT SPRING	SPRING, CONCRETE TROUGH OR TANK		
235050	HORREL CORRAL/CHUTE	MULTIPLE PENS		T1N, R15E Sec. 5 NWSE
235049	HORREL WELL	WELL, WINDMILL STEEL TOWER		T1N, R15E Sec 5 NWSE
235048	GRAPEVINE SPRING TROUGH	DISTRIBUTION PIPELINE		T1N, R14E Sec. 10 S ½ NE ¼
235047	GRIZZLY BEAR SPRING	SPRING, CONCRETE TROUGH OR TANK		T1N, R13E Sec. 36
235046	MILLER SPRING	SPRING, CONCRETE TROUGH OR TANK		T1N, R14E Sec. 31 (On private inholding)
235045	MILLER SPRING CORRAL	MULTIPLE PENS		T1N, R14E Sec. 31 (On private inholding)
235044	BLACK TUNNEL SPRING	SPRING, CONCRETE TROUGH OR TANK		T1N, R14E Sec. 30 (On private inholding)
235043	YO TAMBIEN SPRING	SPRING, CONCRETE TROUGH OR TANK		T1N, R14E Sec. 6 SWNE

Improvement Number	Improvement name	Type	Year Constructed	Location
235042	BUCKHORN SPRING	SPRING, CONCRETE TROUGH OR TANK		T1N, R14E Sec. 28 NENW
235041	OAK DRAW CORRAL	MULTIPLE PENS		
235040	LODE CHUTE CORRAL	MULTIPLE PENS		
235039	WILD SPRING	SPRING, CONCRETE TROUGH OR TANK		
235038	HAIRPIN SPRING	SPRING, CONCRETE TROUGH OR TANK		
235037	GRAPEVINE SPRING PIPELINE	DISTRIBUTION PIPELINE	2006	T1N, R14E Sec. 10 S ½ NE ¼
235036	SLEEPING BEAUTY CATTLEGUARD	CATTLEGUARD		
235035	SLEEPING BEAUTY PASTURE FENCE 2	RANGE, ALLOTMENT INTERIOR	2006	
235034	LOWER SPRING	SPRING, CONNECTED TO SIPHON BASIN PL		
235033	SLEEPING BEAUTY PASTURE FENCE 1		2006	
235032	PIEBALD GULCH PIPELINE			
235031	SIPHON BASIN PIPELINE		2007	
235030	SIPHON BASIN CORRAL	MULTIPLE PENS		
235029	BOHME SLEEPING BEAU FENCE	RANGE, ALLOTMENT BOUNDARY	03/01/1930	
235028	SLEEPING BEAUTY PIPELINE	DISTRIBUTION PIPELINE		
235027	AMATEUR SPR	SPRING, CONCRETE TROUGH OR TANK	03/01/1960	T1N, R14E Sec. 1 NWNW
235026	GERALD CORRAL CHUTE	MULTIPLE PENS	03/01/1958	T2N, R15E Sec. 30 SWSE
235025	BOHME SPR	SPRING, CONCRETE TROUGH OR TANK	03/01/1950	T1N, R14E Sec. 1 NWNW
235024	PIEBALD WELL	WELL, WINDMILL STEEL TOWER	03/01/1960	T1N, R14E Sec. 2 NESW

Improvement Number	Improvement name	Type	Year Constructed	Location
235023	CHICKEN PL	DISTRIBUTION PIPELINE	03/01/1960	Point of diversion – T1N, R15E Sec. 5 NWSE. Point of use – T1N, R15E Sec. 5 NENW
235022	DAGO WELL	WELL, WINDMILL STEEL TOWER, STORAGE TANK, TROUGH	03/01/1960	T2N, R14E Sec. 35 SWSW
235021	SLEEPING BEAUTY SPR	SPRING, CONCRETE TROUGH OR TANK	03/01/1930	T2N, R14E Sec. 35 SESW
235020	WALNUT SPR	SPRING, CONCRETE TROUGH OR TANK	03/01/1930	T1N, R14E Sec. 5 SWNW
235019	MONEY METAL SPR	SPRING, CONCRETE TROUGH OR TANK	03/01/1950	T1N, R14E Sec. 10 SENE
235018	SKUNK SPR	SPRING, CONCRETE TROUGH OR TANK	03/01/1930	T1N, R14E Sec. 11 SENW
235017	COTTONWOOD SPR	SPRING, CONCRETE TROUGH OR TANK	03/01/1930	T1N, R14E Sec. 2 NWNW
235016	GERALD WELL	WELL, WINDMILL STEEL TOWER	03/01/1960	T2N, R15E Sec. 30 SWSE
235015	SKUNK CYN STK		03/01/1960	T1N, R14E Sec. 11 SENW
235014	FLAT TOP MTN STK		03/01/1960	T1N, R14E Sec. 3 SWNE
235013	SLEEPING BEAUTY STK		03/01/1930	T2N, R15E Sec. 31 SWSW
235012	FLAT TOP STK #2		03/01/1950	T1N, R14E Sec. 3 NESW
235011	GRAPEVINE CORRAL	MULTIPLE PENS	03/01/1950	T1N, R14E Sec. 9 NENE
235010	DAGO CORRAL	MULTIPLE PENS	03/01/1930	T2N, R14E Sec. 34 NESE
235009	SLEEPING BEAUTY CORRAL	MULTIPLE PENS	03/01/1930	T2N, R15E Sec. 31 SWSW
235008	WEBSTER PAS FENCE	RANGE, ALLOTMENT INTERIOR	03/01/1930	
235007	GRAPEVINE PAS FEN	RANGE, ALLOTMENT INTERIOR	03/01/1930	

Improvement Number	Improvement name	Type	Year Constructed	Location
235006	SLEEPING BEAUTY FENCE	RANGE, ALLOTMENT BOUNDARY	03/01/1930	
235005	SLEEPING BEAUTY NF FENCE	NON-RANGE, PROPERTY BOUNDARY	03/01/1930	
235004	FLAT TOP STK #3	DAM	03/01/1950	T1N, R14E Sec. 3 SWNE
235003	PINTO SLEEPING BEAUTY FEN	RANGE, ALLOTMENT BOUNDARY	03/01/1930	Maintain from Granite Basin to Dago Spring
235002	PIKES PK SLEEPING BEAUTY	RANGE, ALLOTMENT BOUNDARY	03/01/1960	
235001	GERALD SLEEPING BEAUTY FENCE	RANGE, ALLOTMENT BOUNDARY	03/01/1930	

Water Development Standards: Troughs, Water Systems, and Stock tanks

1. Spring source facilities should be adequately protected (i.e. buried or encased) or fenced and fences maintained to prevent livestock from getting into the source box, unless otherwise stated.
2. Open top storage tanks are potential traps for wildlife and wildlife ramps are also required, otherwise will have a top placed.
3. Head box lids or covers shall be in place to prevent dirt, rodents, or other refuse from entering head box. Head boxes will be constructed of concrete, metal, treated wood or other durable material. The start of the pipeline, inside the box, should be fitted with a tee to prevent debris from entering the pipe.
4. All outlet pipes and valves from head boxes should be functioning and must not leak.
5. All pipes should be large enough to carry the flow of the water development, generally no smaller than 1" for above ground HDPE pipe.
6. Troughs which become elevated from trampling livestock should be periodically backfilled to maintain a useable height for livestock, authorization may be needed.
7. Troughs which become uneven due to settling should be reset and leveled, authorization may be needed.
8. Metal troughs should be kept clear of ground, when possible, with at least 2" to 4" of clearance under the bottom of the trough to prevent rusting or decomposition.
9. On troughs, overflow pipes must be kept clear. Overflow water should be piped away from troughs at least 50 feet away from trough. End of overflow pipe must be protected from livestock trampling.
10. Inlet and outlet pipe shall be protected by anchoring to trough with a single post next to a section of vertical pipe and a brace or pole supporting a section of horizontal pipe. Inlet and outlet pipeline should be buried to the extent possible for their protection.

11. Troughs will be equipped with a wildlife escape and access ramps from which wildlife can escape or drink from trough. Ramp must be fixed to one side of trough.
12. Troughs, storage tanks, and pipelines will be drained and cleaned periodically to minimize moss growth, debris buildup, and damage from freezing.
13. Poles, posts, and trough framing materials used in water development construction will be maintained, repaired, or replaced as needed. Materials must not be taller than the trough and wires should not be placed over trough to allow access for watering avian species.
14. All above ground pipeline should have support structures, to keep pipe at gradient and prevent sagging.
15. Horizontal wells must contain a shut off valve and reducer. Entire exterior of a well can be earth covered to prevent freezing.
16. Pipelines with air and drain valves will be covered with fine screen to prevent rodents and dirt from entering pipeline. Screens must be replaced as needed.
17. Pipeline leaks will be repaired or damaged section repaired with materials similar to materials from construction.
18. Pipelines with valve cover boxes will be kept covered and repaired as needed.
19. Stock tanks will be cleared of debris, floating logs, dead animals, etc. Spillways will be cleaned and maintained to prevent washing out or plugging. Rodent damage and damaging vegetation on dams will be reported to Forest officer.
20. Water development components (e.g., rusted out troughs, broken sections of pipe, etc.) replaced during maintenance or reconstruction will be removed from Forest and properly disposed of.
21. All water improvements will be maintained to these standards prior to livestock entering pasture. After livestock leave pasture, all water improvements will be prepared for winter and potential freezing conditions. These improvements will be left in good order and ready to be turned on for following pasture rotation. All troughs will be filled with water for wildlife prior to water shut off.

Fence and Corral Standards

1. All broken wire will be spliced and repaired in such a manner that tension on a wire is maintained. Wire splices will be made with similar wire used in construction. A 12 gauge wire is preferred.
2. Broken or rotten posts, broken braces and missing staples will be replaced as needed to fence.
3. Wires will be re-stretched as needed.
4. Broken or missing stays will be replaced as needed.
5. Top wire on range fences should be kept at 42 inches in height, and bottom wire should be smooth and 18 inches above ground. Standard range fences are 3 strands barbed wire and 1 smooth wire.
6. Staples should not be driven so deep into post that wire is compromised.
7. All gates will be closed before livestock enter new pastures.
8. Wire gate tension should be sufficient to prevent sagging while maintaining functionality. Gate loops are constructed of smooth wire.

9. Trees which fall on fences will be cut and removed as needed. Broken wire will be spliced and re-stretched. Broken poles will be replaced.
10. Compromised sections of log or pole fences and corrals will be replaced.
11. Corrals are to be kept clean of trash, in good repair, and in useable condition.
12. Fences are maintained at, or near as possible to, the standards required to turn livestock.
13. Metal components of range fences and corrals (e.g., wire, stays, t-posts, gates, etc.) replaced during maintenance or reconstruction will be removed from Forest and properly disposed of.
14. Any reconstruction of improvements throughout allotment will need to meet Forest Plan standards and management for Management Area 2D (1985 TNF Plan, as amended). Maintenance of fences will be to existing standards.

Travel Management Guidelines

Road maintenance that is required to access range improvements or livestock management must receive a permit or prior authorization for any road work.

Once a Travel Management decision is made and implemented, a letter sent to permittee will void existing permit modification. After decision, a new permit modification will be issued, outlining road maintenance, with updated travel management language.

Cattle Allotment Management Practices

Livestock Management

Livestock management, including herding and salting, is critical to controlling cattle in appropriate pastures. Permittee will furnish sufficient riders or herders for proper distribution, protection, and management of cattle on the allotment. Tonto National Forest Grazing Practices are as follows:

- Salt, placed by permittee, for livestock management should not be any closer than quarter of a mile from developed or live water, recreation sites or designated trails. No salting will occur within or adjacent to identified/known heritage sites. Salt placed by permittee will be removed from pastures when cattle have left.
- Cattle should be drifted instead of trailed wherever possible.
- When entering next scheduled pasture, all livestock shall be removed from previous pasture within two weeks.
- Time spent in each pasture may vary depending on weather and when seasonal utilization standards are met. It is permittees' responsibility to monitor the utilization and move cattle before utilization standards are exceeded.
- Permittees will ensure enough time is allowed to remove livestock in order to comply with pasture move date(s) and avoid unauthorized or excess use.

- An actual use record and/or improvement maintenance record may be required from permittee at discretion of Forest Service.

Monitoring

Practices

Following monitoring activities will be carried out by grazing permittee and Forest Service either during or at the end of grazing season. Not all types of monitoring practices need to be conducted during this time frame. Forest Service monitoring results will be shared with permittees to improve livestock management. All monitoring information collected by permittees and Forest Service will be included in the applicable district allotment file.

Allotment Inspections/Compliance Monitoring

Compliance monitoring ensures livestock are distributed in correct pastures and areas authorized for grazing. Monitoring includes but is not limited to, improvement maintenance inspections, forage utilization and livestock counts. These inspections will occur throughout grazing year.

Utilization measurements are accomplished by following by procedures in the Sampling Vegetation Attributes (1999), Utilization Studies and Residual Measurements (1999). Possible data monitoring could include browse utilization measurements, perennial grass stubble height measurements, photo points, and or height/weight relationships for certain perennial grass species. Utilization would be monitored on key forage species, which are native perennial grasses along with native perennial shrubs that are palatable to livestock.

At a minimum, monitoring would in key areas should be monitored. Data may also be collected from other locations, meeting key area definition. Collection procedures and interpretation would consider guidance contained in the Principles of Obtaining and Interpreting Utilization Data on Southwest Rangelands (Smith et al. 2005) publication.

Noxious Weed monitoring

Noxious weeds located in these allotments would be treated as needed. Weed inventory and treatment will be coordinated with permittee. Noxious weed monitoring is carried out at the same time as allotment inspections are conducted. As noxious weed populations are found they are mapped, monitored, and treated. Treatment methods would follow guidelines established in "Final Environmental Assessment for Integrated Treatment of Noxious or Invasive Weeds".

Wildlife monitoring

Wildlife biologist will conduct project related monitoring on Indicator and/or T&E species, according to United States Fish and Wildlife Service protocols. Range management related monitoring will be spread out over season and limited to any critical area during essential times.

Table 3: Threatened and Endangered Species determinations

Common Name	Species	Status	Determinations
Mexican Spotted Owl (species)	*Strix occidentalis*	Endangered	May affect, not likely to adversely affect
Mexican Spotted Owl (habitat)	*Strix occidentalis*	Endangered	May affect, not likely to adversely affect
Southwestern Willow Flycatcher (habitat)	*Empidonax traillii extimus*	Endangered	May affect, not likely to jeopardize critical habitat

Heritage Resources monitoring

In cooperation with Forest Archaeologist special care will be taken to protect heritage resources, historic and prehistoric sites, from impacts caused by range construction projects or livestock concentrations. An archaeological survey will be conducted prior to construction of any new range improvements and/or location selection where impacts to heritage resource sites are avoided.

Existing range facilities (water troughs, corrals) where cattle regularly congregate are periodically inspected to determine whether or not livestock are causing damage to heritage resource sites.

Key Areas

A key area is a portion of rangeland selected because of its location, grazing or browsing value, or use. It serves as a monitoring and evaluation point for range condition, trend, or degree of grazing use. Annual monitoring in key areas can be used for short term data evaluation. These key areas are selected to reflect overall acceptability of current grazing management over total rangeland condition.

These monitoring methods could include, but are not limited to utilization and stubble height monitoring, annual riparian monitoring, and photo point protocols.

Data will be used, along with supporting information to determine when livestock must be moved from one pasture to another and to make any necessary adjustments to livestock numbers and/or season of use (determined in AOI).

Final utilization and/or stubble height readings, where appropriate, will be taken at the end of pasture use, along with end of growing season use of each year. Annual monitoring will follow accepted Forest Service protocols set forth by the monitoring handbook.

Key areas include but are not limited to:

- Benchmark locations: reading the range plots and parker 3 step locations
- Additional locations that meet definition above

Benchmarks

Condition and long-term trend monitoring will be conducted in some of the key areas used for annual monitoring. Information will be used to determine if the area is meeting or moving towards desired

conditions. Long-term trend data will be used to measure changes in plant community composition, cover, structure, soil conditions, frequency, and management of grazing in a trend status. Annual adjustments may be conducted in order to progress toward long-term desired conditions.

Periodic monitoring of vegetative trend, on decade intervals, will include cover and frequency, in which Parker 3 Step Clusters or other similar procedures will be used.

Indicators of downward trend for vegetation include:

- Desirable and intermediate species decreasing in vigor
- Lack of young plants from desirable and intermediate species
- Invasion by undesirable species.
- Hedged and high lined shrubs. Dead branches, generally indicating that shrubs are dying back.

Indicators of downward trend in soil stability include:

- Rill marks, which are small but conspicuous water channels around vegetation.
- Active gullies are raw, actively down cutting, and may have head cuts. This type of gully may vary in depth from a few inches to several feet deep.
- Alluvial deposits; soil material transported and laid down as small fans in headwater drainages.
- Soil remnants; original topsoil held in place by vegetation or roots.
- Active terraces; usually caused by hooves of animals; stair step in appearance on side-slopes
- Pedestalled plants; exposed plant crown or roots.
- Wind-scoured depressions between plants, or wind deposits of soil
- Soil buildup behind plants, logs, and trees on upslope side.

Long-term monitoring will follow accepted Forest Service protocols determined by the Forest Service Monitoring Handbook, including documents listed above.

Table 3: Benchmark Locations

Study Name	Location
Cluster1	NE corner of allotment
Cluster2	Near J. Pliech's camp
Pace1	SW corner of allotment
Pace2	Between Flattop STK and Flattop STK #2
Browse A&FC	NE slope of Webster Mountain.
Key Area 4	0511462E - 3703474N
Key Area 5	0511561E - 3703390N
Key Area 6	0505161E - 3692638N
Key Area 7	0504882E - 3698096N
Key Area 8	0510062E - 3702952N
Key Area 9	0510015E - 3702939N

Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines

Forest Plan

Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) defines long-term direction for managing Tonto National Forest. Forest Plan provides for multiple use and sustained yield of goods and services from lands in a way that maximizes long-term net public benefits in an environmentally sound manner [36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 219.1(a)]. In October of 1985 the Tonto National Forest implemented Forest Management Plan with direction related to livestock grazing and Range Management Program Criteria (Forest Plan pg. 24).

Forest Plan Management Practices

Management criteria for the Range Program on each allotment are as follows:

- A proper level of permitted use per forage capacity will be established through range analysis and/or production utilization surveys and set by agreement with permittee,
- Develop an Annual Operating Instructions, and schedule for improvements through program planning and budget systems.
- Riparian utilization will be measured seasonally in pastures while livestock graze. Livestock will be moved from critical area or pasture when recommended guidelines are met.
- Management practices such as herding, salting, and controlling access to waters will be used to achieve proper distribution of cattle and to lessen their impact throughout allotment. Once livestock have moved from unit, all waters will be filled and maintained for wildlife.
- Restricting livestock use in riparian areas during and after climatic events, such as drought and flooding to limit physical impacts to alterable stream banks and/or green lines, minimize annual impacts to seedlings and sapling riparian woody species, and to maintain herbaceous vegetation along stream banks and green lines.
- Archeological survey will be conducted prior to construction of any new range improvements.
- Existing range facilities (i.e. water troughs, corrals) where cattle regularly congregate should be periodically inspected to determine whether livestock are causing damage to heritage resource sites.

Allowable Utilization & Stubble Height Standards

Grazing will be managed to achieve long-term goals of pasture management. It is the responsibility as permittee to take action so that livestock grazing does not exceed vegetative use thresholds. Please arrange for an allotment inspection by Forest Service if seasonal vegetative use of available forage approach threshold presented below.

Table 4: Allowable Use

Vegetation	Use Threshold
Upland Herbaceous Use	35-45% of current year's growth
Upland Browse Species	50% of current year's growth
Riparian Herbaceous Use	35-45% of plant species biomass and maintain 6-8 inches of stubble height of species like Deer Grass
Riparian Woody Species	Limited to 50% of leaders from current year's growth

Administrative Actions

If monitoring indicates that desired resource conditions are not being achieved in a desired time frame, management may need to be modified. The range specialist, permittee and district ranger will evaluate potential causes for not meeting desired conditions. If changes are needed, group will outline potential strategies that may be implemented. When determinations are made, documentation will occur through annual instructions and in permit and allotment files. Such changes may include adjustments to specific livestock numbers, specific grazing dates, class of animal, or pasture rotations. These changes will not exceed limiting for timing, intensity, duration, and frequency as already described.

Necessary changes will be implemented through annual operating instructions. These instructions may be modified throughout grazing season to respond to unforeseen events.

If the following occur it may necessitate changes in management of this allotment:

- Through monitoring, management objectives are not being achieved, or trend toward desired conditions are not occurring;
- Annual indicators of grazing use or guidelines are not met;
- Climatic events, fire, flood, or uses and activities detrimentally impacting resource conditions.

Then the following actions may be enacted to comply with Forest Plan:

- Extending or shortening time in pastures based on utilization levels in uplands and riparian areas;
- Assessing pasture readiness and changing its position in the seasonal rotation;
- Time or season of pasture use;
- Resting a pasture for one or more growing seasons;
- High intensity, short duration or other grazing strategies;
- Complete removal of livestock in event of extended drought, severe fire, or depleted rangelands until rangelands have recovered;
- Decrease or increase herd size within limits of permitted numbers;

- Temporarily close off water in a portion of pasture to manipulate grazing pressure and intensity of use;
- Herding livestock;
- Excluding livestock from specific areas temporarily or permanently for other resource objectives; or
- Changing or limiting season of use to minimize impacts to riparian vegetation and water quality.