

SMITH CANYON ALLOTMENT 120
2017 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

PLANNING OBJECTIVES

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

MANAGEMENT TOOLS

- A management guideline of 35-45% utilization of key forage plants in upland key areas as measured at the end of the growing season or seasonal use period;
- Up to 50-60% leaders browsed on key upland woody species;
- Minimum stubble height on key riparian herbaceous species: four to six inches where sedges and rushes are key and eight inches where deergrass is key;
- Up to 20% use by weight on key woody species within riparian areas; or less than 50% of terminal leaders browsed on woody species less than 6 feet tall.

SITE SPECIFIC MEASURES

- Smith Canyon pasture: Incidental use levels (0-30%) to promote biomass retention and subsequent litter development (TEUI 427 & 461), and seasonal deferment and/or rest and improving livestock distribution by controlling access to waters and herding.
- Granites pasture: deferred season of use to allow further graminoid biomass retention (TEUI 461) and control access to water facilities to improve distribution. An additional water source is proposed that would distribute cattle away from the area needing improvement.
- Spider pasture: incidental use (0-30%) in the no capacity areas of TEUI 486 (Dillon field, south of Fair Oaks Road).
- Smith Mesa pasture: rest and incidental use (0-30%) in TEUI 490. Control access to water and place salt and supplement in locations to discourage concentrated use in TEUI 490.
- The thoughtful placement of salt, mineral and protein is a valuable distribution aid. Do not place salt, protein, or other supplements in heavy use areas or within a ¼ mile of water (this includes seeps and springs). Instead, place supplements to draw livestock to areas that normally receive only light use.

AUTHORIZATION

Upon payment of fees livestock are authorized as follows for 2017 - 2018:

| <u>Number of Cattle</u> | <u>Pasture</u> | <u>Grazing Period (may be modified to meet utilization)</u> |
|-------------------------|----------------|---|
| 50 | Moana | 3/1/17 - 6/1/17 |
| 166 | Spider | 3/1/17 - 6/1/17 |
| 226 | Smith Mesa | 6/2/17 - 7/31/17 |

(continued) ↓

226

Cottonwood

8/1/17 - 9/31/17

226

Smith Canyon

10/1/17 - 2/28/18

Permittee will utilize Canyon PVT when needed for Smith, potentially 2-1-18, permittees will coordinate with forest officers.

- The Forest Officer must be given actual use, by pasture.
- Any change from these Annual Operating Instructions is to be coordinated and confirmed in advance with the Forest Officer, best if a week or two in advance. If emergency conditions require making a change immediately, notify the Forest Officer promptly.
- Move your livestock regardless of the date shown above, to avoid exceeding allowable use levels. If utilization levels are appropriate then livestock moves must be 90% accomplished by the dates given above.
- You are responsible for your representatives and/or employees following all Forest Officer instructions.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT CONSTRUCTION OR BETTERMENT

- Maintenance will follow the standards in your Part 3 of your grazing permit. In addition to routine maintenance, the following is planned for this year:

Work with Williamson Valley Permittee on the following cleared projects: Stinson/Cottonwood trick tank, longer development and Jaybird development. The ~~above~~ above improvements will dependant on EQIP, HPC etc. funding.

MANAGEMENT COMMENTS

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.)

AGREED TO BY: [Signature] 2/10/17
Permittee Date

APPROVED BY: [Signature] 2/10/17
District Ranger Date