

File Code: 2210
Date: February 9, 2022

DNH Cattle Co.

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The following are your 2022 annual operating instructions (AOI) for your allotment.

Authorized Use: Below are authorized livestock numbers per grazing unit, anticipated use dates, and proposed monitoring dates. Please fill out a Modification of AOI form in advance of the proposed dates and request approval. Please maintain and submit records that indicate your compliance to permitted use.

Grazing Unit	Dates of Use	Monitoring Date	Livestock numbers
Montana Mountain	2/28/2022 to 4/30/2022	3/15/2022	170 cattle 14 bulls 30 yearlings (on 4/1/2022)
Silver Canyon	5/1/2022 to 9/30/2022	8/1/2022	170 cattle 14 bulls 30 yearlings (added to herd)
88	10/1/2022 to 3/1/2023	1/5/2023	195 cattle 19 bulls (5 additional bulls added 10/1/2022)

Range Improvement Maintenance: All range improvements must be maintained to Forest Service standards (available at District Office) before cattle will be allowed to enter pastures. Stock Tank cleaning is authorized provided there is a Forest Service road or motorized vehicle trail to said stock tank, and only until fire restrictions begin. You must contact Ryan Summers or Jamie Wages 1 week prior to cleaning each tank to receive final clearance. Absolutely no exemptions will occur once fire restrictions begin.

Pasture	Location	Description of Work	Clearances Needed
Home pasture	Arnett Riparian #2663	Repair Arnett Riparian Fence	None

Salting, Supplements, and Attractants: In most cases, salt must be located no closer than ¼ mile from streams, rivers, riparian areas, trails, and known archaeological sites. Protein blocks, nutritional supplement, and other attractant may be authorized prior to use. No supplemental feeding is authorized, such as hay.



New Improvement: Gonzalez Water Haul

Start and End Date: Install Gonzalez Water haul, in 88 pasture, by November 1, 2022.

Construction Specifications: Minimal road work on Forest Road 1132 will be necessary to access either site (see map below). All specifications in the September 7, 2021, minimal road repair letter applies here. A small front-end loader or dozer may be used.

A 5,000-gallon storage tank and 500-gallon trough will be placed at either location below. If placed at stock tank, place outside stock tank fencing. The storage tank and trough location may have minimal vegetation cleared with a dozer to place the improvements. Contact Jamie Wages or Ryan Summers to get locations flagged prior to construction.

This project will be constructed with these design features to minimize or eliminate effects to other resources:

- Pipeline will be at minimum 1 inch in diameter.
- All troughs should be equipped with a wildlife escape and access ramps from which wildlife can escape or drink from the trough. This ramp must be fixed to one side of trough.
- Water troughs will be kept at heights that make them useable to livestock.
- For metal troughs, bottoms of troughs should be kept clear of the ground, when possible, with at least 2” to 4” of clearance under the bottom of the trough to prevent rusting or decomposition.
- 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.
- Storage tanks will be close topped.
- Trough will need to be drained at the end of pasture use. Water haul will only be used while cattle are scheduled in pasture.

The project is within Sonoran Desert Tortoise habitat. A Tonto Awareness Program is needed to comply with Arizona Game and Fish and United States Fish and Wildlife guidance for the species. This project will include mitigations to protect tortoise:

- Be on the lookout for tortoise and their burrows. Check under vegetation for tortoise and their burrows. Be careful not to collapse potential tortoise burrows. Check under vehicles for tortoise before moving the vehicle. Watch for tortoise crossing roads and only drive in authorized areas
- Report all tortoise sightings to the Forest Service Wildlife Biologist, Camden Bruner, 928-812-1900.



Figure 2: Close up view of potential location near stock tank. If location is used, place outside stock tank fencing.

If you have any questions, please contact Jamie Wages, Range Staff, at 480-291-4500, andrea.wages@usda.gov or Ryan Summers at 928-242-6125, ryan.summers@usda.gov.

Sincerely,

ADAM BROMLEY
District Ranger

Sonoran Desert Tortoise Awareness Program

Globe Ranger District – Tonto National Forest

On the Globe Ranger District, Desert Tortoise occur in Sonoran Desert habitat below 3,750 ft elevation primarily around Superior, AZ.



Size - Newly hatched tortoise are the size of a ravioli! They can grow up to 15” long and 14” tall

Age – Typical lifespan is around 35 years though they have been recorded living past 80!



Threats – Vehicle collisions, disease, illegal collection as pets, habitat loss, and increased predators near human developments all impact tortoise.

Conservation Status – Desert Tortoise are declining throughout their range. They are now protected by State and Federal law wherever found. The take, possession, or harassment of a wild Sonoran Desert Tortoise can be punishable with up to \$50,000 in fines and a year in prison.



Shelter – Tortoise spend most of their lives underground only emerging when rainfall provides fresh water and green forage. They may only drink water once a year!

They dig burrows with a distinctive shape, round on the top and flat on the bottom. Tortoise burrows have been recorded over 12' deep! The species will also use natural rock crevices and caves for shelter.



How we can help protect tortoise:

- Be on the lookout for tortoise and tortoise burrow
- Check under vegetation for tortoise and tortoise burrows
- Be careful not to collapse potential tortoise burrows
- Check under vehicles for tortoise before moving the vehicle
- Watch for tortoise crossing roads and only drive in authorized areas
- Report all tortoise sightings to the Forest Service – this helps gather important distribution information on the species

Do Not Handle Tortoises! If you see a tortoise or possible tortoise burrow, suspend any activity that may harm the tortoise or destroy the burrow and immediately call District Biologist Camden Bruner at (928) 812-1900



**Thank you for
protecting our unique
desert wildlife!**