

**2021
Annual Operating Instructions
Tank Creek Allotment**

This document serves as your 2021 Grazing Year, Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Tank Creek Allotment. This AOI is part of your Term Grazing Permit as provided for in Part 2, section 8(a).

GRAZING SCHEDULE

The Annual stocking level (annual authorized livestock numbers and dates) are considered approximate. The actual dates and numbers may change due to many variables. Annual stocking level is based on current and expected forage production. The planned use period in a pasture and livestock numbers can/should be adjusted if conditions change, either (shortened or lengthened, depending on forage availability but not in excess of the permitted numbers and utilization in key areas).

*Any changes from these Annual Operating Instructions is to be coordinated and confirmed in advance and will be made only with prior written Forest Service Officer Approval. (An Amendment)

*If emergency conditions require making an immediate change, notify the Forest Service Officer promptly.

Authorization

Upon payment of fees, the following is the planned grazing sequence:

Number of Livestock	Pasture	Grazing Period
282 Cows 25 Bulls	South (Tank Creek)	1 – 30 March
282 Cows 25 Bulls	Wood Holding pastures	1 – 15 April
282 Cows 25 Bulls	D1 West	15 April – June 30
282 Cows 25 Bulls	Moving pastures	July 1 - 15
282 Cows 25 Bulls	Sycamore or D1 East	15 July – Sept 30
282 Cows 25 Bulls	Moving Pastures	Oct 1 - 15
282 Cows 25 Bulls	D1 East or South	15 Oct – Jan 15
282 Cows 25 Bulls	Moving Pastures	Jan 16 – 31, 2022
282 Cows 25 Bulls	Tonto or D1 East	1 Feb – Feb 28, 2022

Rested Pastures

RESOURCE MONITORING

Allowable Use

The following is maximum allowable use: Uplands: *On key grass species*: 35% while actively growing, 50% during dormant periods. This percentage is of the total weight of the current year's production. *On key shrub species*: browsing of 50% of available leaders. Riparian: *On key grass*

and sedge species: 30% of the total weight available. On key shrub species: browsing of 50% of available leaders.

Cattle will be moved to the next scheduled pasture or off the allotment when allowable use standards are met, no matter what the dates on paper are. Failure to remove your cattle to avoid use above the allowable levels is a violation of these instructions and the terms of your grazing permit.

The permittee is encouraged to participate in the allotment Monitoring process.

Actual Use

The permittee will document the following items on the enclosed Actual Use Form during the grazing year: 1) Pasture; 2) Actual Grazing Period; 3) Actual Livestock Numbers.

***It is very important that this Actual Use form be completed and submitted to your Rangeland Management Specialist at the end of the grazing year.**

RESOURCE OBJECTIVES for THIS GRAZING SEASON

Proper livestock management practices, e.g. distribution, timing of grazing, and intensity of grazing, must be managed closely to provide for plant maintenance, improved vigor, and maintenance/improvement of vegetative ground cover. When cattle are not in a pasture, ensure water is available for wildlife and escape ramps are in place on troughs.

SALTING AND PROTEIN BLOCK PRACTICES

Proper salt and protein block location can be a good tool to aid in livestock distribution and they will be used in a manner to spread livestock utilization throughout the pasture. A detailed description of the Salting and Supplemental Feeding policy can be found in Part 3 of your term grazing permit; (See AMP and Term Grazing Permit for the complete list of the guidelines.) Place supplements to draw livestock to areas that normally receive only light use.

RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

Maintenance

Range improvements assigned to you are to be fully maintained annually to comply with permit requirements. Any maintenance you perform must conform to the standards specified by your District Rangeland Management Specialist. The grazing permittee is responsible for all maintenance materials, supplies and equipment necessary to properly maintain all range structural improvements. The Forest may replace range structural improvement materials and/or supplies at the end of the improvement's life if properly maintained; when maintenance and repair is no longer feasible to keep the improvement properly maintained and functioning.

Projects:

Two Trick Tanks in D1 East

Construct Corral in Tonto pasture

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2021
Annual Operating Instructions
Amendment
Tank Creek Allotment


This document serves as Amendment #1 of your 2021 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI).
This amendment only affects section II Grazing Schedule of the AOI.

Due to the continuing drought and recent allotment visit, the grazing rotation is being adjusted as follows. Livestock numbers will be reduced and the herd moved to Sycamore/Dougherty pasture during the first 15 days of July. Once in Sycamore/Dougherty pasture use the best area method outlined below to locate all livestock. This will provide deferment to areas within this pasture where plants are actively growing. The reduced numbers and concentration of use in selected areas of the pasture will have less impacts pasture wide during drought recovery.

II. GRAZING SCHEDULE

PASTURE NAME	PLANNED GRAZE PERIOD	LIVESTOCK NUMBERS
Sycamore/Dougherty (west mesa)	July 15-Aug 15	150
Sycamore Dougherty (Dougherty Spring)	Aug 15-Sept 5	150
Sycamore/Dougherty (Queens Paradise)	Sept 6 – Sept 30	150
Moving pastures	October 1- October 15	150
South	October 15 – January 15	150
Moving pastures	January 15-30	150
D1 East	February 1-28	150

ACCEPTED BY: _____
Permittee Date

APPROVED BY:  _____
Sarah Clawson, Bradshaw and Chino Valley District Ranger Date 06/04/2021