

**DOUGLAS RANGER DISTRICT
CORONADO NATIONAL FOREST
ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTION (AOI)
Tex Canyon Allotment
2020 Grazing Year**

This letter will serve as your annual operating instructions for the **2020** grazing season for the **Tex Canyon** allotment. The annual validation for your term grazing permit has been approved for the following numbers and season:

I. AUTHORIZED USE: The annual validation for your term grazing permit has been approved for the following numbers and season:

Authorized Use	Date On	Date Off	# of Days	# of Cows	Dry Cows	# of Bulls	# Yring	Horse	AUMs	HMs
	11/1/2020	2/29/2021	121	570					2993	2268
	11/1/2020	2/29/2021	121			30			143	119
	12/1/2020	2/29/2021	91	120					474	359
	12/1/2020	2/29/2021	91			30			108	90
	11/1/2020	2/29/2021	121	56					294	223
	3/1/2020	2/29/2021	366					4	58	48
Total									4070	3107

The orange cell represents the Forests' 92% portion of the 60 head present in the on/off pastures. This represents full permitted numbers. However, your rainfall records indicate that the Tex Canyon allotment has received an average of 4.6" of precipitation to date, which is significantly below average. Due to the poor monsoon season, if utilization levels approach 45%, please be proactive and timely and move your cattle to the next pasture or remove them from the allotment. If no fall or early winter moisture is received, this scenario most likely will occur, so please be prepared for such an event. We will be keeping close contact with all grazing permittees this season, so please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns.

Term Grazing Permits are required to be stocked to 90% of capacity each grazing season, unless either Personal Convenience or Range Improvement Non-Use has been approved. Personal Convenience Non-Use may be taken for no more than 3 years consecutively and not more than 4 years out of any ten year period.

II. ROTATION SCHEDULE: Actual dates may vary dependent upon climatic conditions, when utilization levels are reached and time required to remove cattle.

Pasture	Date On	Date Off	# of Days	Dry Cows	# of Bulls	Horse	AUMs	HMs
Doane/Finger (On/Off)	3/1/2020	2/28/2021	365			4	58	48
Doane (On/Off)	10/22/2020	2/22/2021	124	60			245	245
Limestone (As Needed)								
Lower Tex	10/22/2020	11/30/2020	40	570	30		797	789
Lower Tex	12/1/2020	2/22/2021	84	120	9		361	356



Finger	12/1/2020	2/27/2021	89	80			234	234
Shake	11/15/2020	1/15/2021	62	200			408	408
Forest/Red Hill	12/1/2020	2/27/2021	89	50			146	146
Upper/Juniper	1/20/2021	2/22/2021	34	420			469	469

**On/Off Pastures are 92% FS and 8% Private and is billed as such

If you should need to deviate from this rotation schedule by more than two weeks, please notify this office in advance. The pasture rotation and the stocking rate in each pasture will be dependent on both water availability as well as forage availability. The distribution of livestock in the pastures should be monitored closely to ensure appropriate distribution and utilization levels. Livestock remaining in pastures beyond the specified rotation date, that are allowed to drift between pastures, or grazing in rested pastures may be considered a violation of your Term Grazing Permit, unless specifically mentioned in the rotation schedule.

III. ALLOWABLE USE STANDARDS:

Utilization in all pastures is not to exceed 45% in the key areas. Please refer to your key area map. Herding and salting will be used to ensure allowable use is not exceeded. If allowable use is in danger of being exceeded, the cattle should be removed from that pasture until the range recovers. Salt and supplement will be placed appropriately, on good feed, at least ¼ mile from water and out of livestock concentration areas and more than 200 feet from roads. Salt and supplement locations should be rotated so as not to degrade a particular site. Salt blocks may be removed by the District if found near water, over-utilized areas, or roads. Blocks should be placed on hard ground not susceptible to erosion.

IV. MONITORING:

The permittee will record actual use as it occurs, including livestock numbers and dates permitted livestock are in a pasture. This information will be reported at the next annual operating instruction meeting. Common implementation monitoring includes forage production, forage utilization, photo points, condition of improvements, actual use and precipitation data.

V. RANGE IMPROVEMENT CONSTRUCTION / MAINTENANCE:

The Forest Service may spot check range improvements before the entry date to insure improvements are in a satisfactory condition. Livestock will not be allowed to enter pastures if assigned improvements are not maintained to proper standards. Livestock will not be allowed to enter pastures if fences will not keep livestock where they are placed.

All troughs should have water when livestock are not present and be equipped so that small animals can safely enter and exit.

New range improvements and all ground disturbing activities will not be initiated until proper archeological clearances have been obtained. When improvements are completed the permittee will inform District Range personnel to schedule an inspection. Before using machinery to clean any pond, the permittee is required to give the District Office at least 30 days advance notice so that the tank can be inspected for threatened or endangered species. All work involving the use of heavy equipment will be accomplished only after prior approval by the District Ranger.

As requested in the past, you are authorized to use several non-system roads to access several improvements if need-be: the road that accesses Sunset Tank, Bee Tank and the Cemetery Road. These

roads should only be used if absolutely necessary to check for bogged livestock or improvement condition and not used on a regular basis.

Current Year Improvement Schedule				
Permit Mod #	Improvement Type / ID #	Completion Date	Description/Comments	Status Done /Date
	Fences/121009, 121014, 121015		Heavy maintenance on fences. You have been given posts for this project	
	Roads/FSR 719, a.k.a "Sunset Road"	Ongoing	Repair/replace several erosion control structures on the edges of the road where drainage crossings intersect. These structures were installed by the Forest Service using DOC crews. This work may either be done by the permittee or the Forest Service, which ever comes first. Also, the waterbars on the northern portion of the road need fortified and maintained, and you are authorized to use the stockpiled material adjacent to the road for this purpose.	
	Roads/FSR 719A and Water System 121032	Ongoing	Repair several places along this road route. The route also has a pipeline buried under it, and by protecting the road the pipeline will also be protected. You are authorized to use gabion baskets or other types of erosion control structures, like wood and wire structures, to complete this work.	
	Roads/FSR 721	Ongoing	Construct waterbars on the road, directly downstream of the Sunset Ranger Station area, to protect the water pipeline and road route from erosion. The material used to construct the waterbars will be obtained from the adjacent private land.	

Previous Year Improvement Accomplishments				
Permit Mod #	Improvement Type / ID #	Completion Date	Description/Comments	Status Done /Date
	Water System/Blacktail Trough	August 2020	Removed old trough and storage, installed new tire trough	

	Water System/121019	5/2020	Replaced pipeline under Tex Canyon road is coordination with FS road crew personnel	
	Water System/Upper Ranch Saddle	8/2020	Removed Old Storage Tank	
	Road	8/2020	Road work and erosion control near Ranger Station	

VI. REFUNDS AND CREDIT OF GRAZING FEES PAID (FSM 2238.11g)

Refunds will only be approved where the term grazing permit has been waived, the waiver of term grazing permit has been confirmed by the authorized officer, and a new permit issued to a qualified applicant indicated on the waiver of term grazing permit (FS-2200-12), or if a current permittee has applied for, and the authorized officer has approved, nonuse for which grazing fees have previously been paid.

Grazing fee credits will be approved when late entry or early removal of livestock is requested by the permittee for legitimate reasons and/or when delayed entry or early removal of livestock is requested by the authorized officer for reasons of resource protection. Credit for grazing fees will not be approved merely for the convenience of the permittee after the bill for collection is issued.

VII. PROTECTION:

The permittee, his agents and employees, when acting within the scope of their employment, and his contractors and subcontractors will protect the land and property of the United States, waived private land and other land under jurisdiction of the Forest Service covered by and used in conjunction with this permit. During periods of high fire danger, branding fires will be allowed by permit only. Please report all fires to the Tucson Interagency Fire Coordination Center at 1-800-549-0661.

IIX. PERMIT CONDITIONS:

This Annual Operating Instruction is hereby made a part of the Term Grazing Permit as provided for in Part 2, Section 8(a). It complies with the standards and guidelines found in the Forest Plan. Failure to comply with 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. This is found in Part 1, Section 3, of your permit.

Keep this copy of these Annual Operating Instructions for your personal files. Thank you.

Sincerely,

DOUG RUPPEL
District Ranger