



File Code: 2210/2230

Date: May 16, 2013

Nancy Shiew
23755 N. Hwy 89
Paulden, AZ 86334

Dear Nancy:

This document contains your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Tule Allotment during the 2013 grazing season. This AOI is part of your Term Grazing Permit as indicated in part three of your permit.

1. Season of Use and Numbers to be Grazed

Your 2013 annual validation will allow for the following livestock numbers and periods of use:

20 horses from February 6 to December 15, 2013*
300 cattle from May 15 to December 15, 2013*

2. 2013 Pasture Sequence

| Pasture | Period of Use | Number of Days |
|------------------------|---|----------------|
| May | February 6 to May 1 (horses) | 85 |
| | May 15 to 31 (cattle) | 17 |
| Tule/Lee | May 1 – August 31 (horses) | 123 |
| | June 1 to August 31 (cattle) | 92 |
| Sycamore | September 1 to October 31 (horses & cattle) | 61 |
| Wagner | November 1 to December 15 (horses & cattle) | 45 |
| Pine/Whitehorse/Pocket | RESTED | 0 |

**Livestock may have to move off the Forest prior to December 15, depending on forage conditions and/or weather (ex: no regrowth from last season due to drought, forage utilization by wildlife and/or livestock is approaching 30%, heavy snow is expected which will limit access to these pastures, etc.).*

If changes are needed, please contact your permit administrator. It is a permit violation to make changes to the Grazing Schedule without first notifying and receiving approval from the Forest Service.

Without prior notification from you and Forest Service approval, any livestock remaining in pastures or on the Forest after the off-dates are permit violations and may result in suspension or cancellation of all, or a portion of your Term Grazing Permit.



3. Allowable Use (Utilization) Guidelines

Allowable use in the May Pasture is 30%. This equates to the lower end of conservative intensity: approximately equal to a maximum of 30-40% utilization of forage standing crop at the end of the growing season (approximately November 15).

Allowable Use for the remainder of the Tule Allotment is 40% in the key areas (conservative intensity).

Allowable use is 20% in Mexican Spotted owl and/or Northern Goshawk habitat. This equates to light intensity in the upland, forested areas of the allotment.

Mexican Spotted owl restricted habitat is scattered within every pasture; Protected Habitat is found entirely below the rims of Sycamore and Tule Canyons. Northern Goshawk habitat is found in the Tule, Pine, White Horse, Lee, and Sycamore pastures.

4. Livestock Distribution

Grazing Intensity will be more uniform across the pasture if livestock are well distributed. Distribution aids include: water hauls, waterlot control, salt and supplement stations, and herding. Livestock may remain in each pasture for the entire grazing period if Grazing Intensity does not exceed the Allowable Use Standard. Areas exempt from this requirement are lands within ¼ mile of permanent water sources that are not fenced.

The following requirements apply to the use of salt, supplements, hay* and/or water hauls (**the permittee is encouraged to use certified weed-free hay*):

- Place in areas of light utilization, at least ¼ mile away from permanent water, and at different sites from the previous year.
- Place salt in portable containers, rather than directly on the ground, in order to protect the soil.
- Place on soils that are not fragile or eroding and on sites that are not in wetlands or drainages.
- Remove the salt, supplements, hay, and water hauls when the livestock leave the pasture.

Gates in waterlot fences will be left open for wildlife, unless closed on a temporary basis to facilitate cattle distribution in the pasture.

5. Range Improvements

Maintenance of Range Improvements

Range improvements assigned to you need to be inspected and problems found corrected on a yearly basis. All fences must be maintained to standard before livestock enter a pasture. You may request a Forest Products Free Use Permit in order to cut juniper fence posts and stays for use only on their Forest Service allotment.

The Permittee must follow the Heavy Equipment Policy (December 2008) before starting any work that involves soil disturbance.

- **Projects for 2013**

Pot Tank Corral #7999 – general maintenance

Tule Corrals - general maintenance

Any materials needed for these projects will be supplied by the permittee.

*Fences to be rebuilt:

- White Tail Trap (#7704A) also called JD Dam Trap
- #7602A – Going from Bar Cross Tank to Wildlife Tank No. 2, approximately, 1.7 miles
- #8069 – Going from Oak Tank to PG Tank, approximately, 1.4 miles

*The Forest Service will contract this work out as soon as funding becomes available. We may not be able to accept bids until next year. However, we will let you know when we advertise for bids, when the contract is awarded, and when work will begin.

**The permittee would like to clean the following tanks:

- Winter Camp Tank (#7890)
- Secret Tank
- Pine Mtn. Tank

**The Forest Service is unable to provide any financial assistance at this time to clean these tanks, therefore you may want to look for outside funding (i.e. NRCS, AZ Game & Fish) to provide all or partial funding.

6. Travel Management

The Travel Management Rule (TMR) has been implemented on the Williams Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest. Implementation of the TMR will require active management of all motorized use, including that related to permitted grazing activities. Motorized travel off the designated road system by grazing permit holders should be based on need related to carrying out required management practices. Legitimate motorized use, including cross-country access, needed for conducting activities required under Term Grazing Permits will be authorized unless compelling natural and/or heritage resource issues are evident.

Any unplanned or emergency type travel not previously contemplated in the Term Grazing Permit will be discussed with appropriate authorization and guidance established in the AOI. If access is required in a motor vehicle restricted area or on a closed road, you must have special authorization in the form of an Off-Road Vehicle Permit or specific authorization through your AOI.

7. Drought Management

Permittees are strongly encouraged to reduce the number of animals stocked during droughts. Allowable Use Standards will be met much earlier if drought continues and only a minimal amount of forage is produced. If authorized to stock full numbers, it is likely that livestock will have to move through the pastures more quickly and be removed from the allotment at an earlier date because carrying capacity (i.e. Animal Unit Months (AUMs) available) is reduced during a drought.

8. Fire

Be careful with campfires and branding fires. Pile burning is not permitted. During periods of critical fire danger the Forest Supervisor may declare a Red Flag Alert or issue other special restrictions. Under these conditions, the building or use of fires, the use of power saws, heavy equipment, vehicles, ATV's, and other motorized equipment may be prohibited on Forest Service land. Cooperation in the prevention and suppression of fires will be expected as specified in Section 10 of General Provision and Requirements, page 2, of your Term Grazing Permit.

9. Grazing Intensity Monitoring and Recordkeeping

All Permittees are encouraged to keep records of Grazing Use and Intensity in each pasture and submit them to their district grazing permit administrator in the middle and at the end of the permitted Grazing Period. Data to collect include: pasture name, dates of actual use, type and class of livestock, number of livestock, approximate location of key area, Grazing Intensity class, and date of observation.

Other notes may be recorded, such as precipitation records or observations. A form is attached. If you are not familiar with methods of estimating Grazing Intensity, we can arrange for training.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss anything further, please feel free to contact Rangeland Management Specialist Kerri Lange at 635-5621, kdlange@fs.fed.us or Clare Hydock at 635-5623 office, 606-1265 cell, chydock@fs.fed.us.

Sincerely,

/s/ Martie Schramm
MARTIE SCHRAMM
District Ranger

Enclosure