

2017 Annual Operating Instructions Verde Allotment

Resource Objectives For This Grazing Season

Perennial grasses and major browse species within these pastures need rest in order to provide time to recover from the drought we're currently experiencing. How? Continue using low numbers, utilize supplement and water placement for distribution. The objective is to make livestock utilize lightly grazed areas of the pastures.

Ensure waters are working in pastures the cattle are not in and wildlife escape ramps are in place on troughs.

Authorization

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

<u>Number of Livestock</u>	<u>Pasture</u>	<u>Grazing Period</u>
188 c/c	Goat camp/ Wilber (Jerome allot)	3/1- 4/30
188 c/c	South	5/1- 8/15
188 c/c	Central	8/16-12/15
173 c/c	North	12/16-2/28
15 c/c	Smoke (Verde)	12/16- 2/28

The Forest Officer must be given actual use, by pasture, after livestock are off the allotment. 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 (utilization) levels. If utilization levels are appropriate then livestock moves must be 90% accomplished by the dates given above.

Allowable Use

The following is maximum allowable use: *On perennial grasses (aristida [3-awn] and sideoats):* 35% while actively growing. This percentage is of the total weight of the current year's production. *On shrubs:* browsing of 50% of available leaders.

Cattle will be moved off the allotment (or to the next scheduled pasture, if conditions permit) 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 thoughtful placement of supplements (salt, mineral, and protein) is a valuable distribution aid. Supplements will not be located in heavy use areas, including within ¼ mile of water*.

Instead, place supplements to draw livestock to areas that normally receive only light use.

* Supplements may be placed closer to water while in the South Pasture, in areas of heavy tobosa only.

Range Improvements

Maintenance will follow the standards in your Part 3 of your grazing permit.

Travel management-

The Prescott National Forest designated a system of roads and trails that are open to motor vehicle use in 1989 through Forest Plan Amendment #4. Motor vehicle use off the designated road system by the permit holder to conduct activities associated with administration of the term grazing permit is allowed under the terms and conditions of the term grazing permit. ****

Allowed vehicle use in the Hayfield road closure area as needed for grazing management on the Verde allotment and access to private land FDR 9703 and 9603X roads. Order number 09-187.

When need arises to maintain some FS roads for administering the allotment, Andy has permission to do light maintenance on the following roads for ease in his use for water hauling, livestock hauling, etc. FDR 9603X, 9603V, 9603S, 361,9604a, 360, 9604D, 9604C, road from I-17 /general crook trail to Gaddis Cyn, well. There is no appendix B supplement with this road permit. Stay within the road prism and only do enough maintenance for allowing passage of your water tender as necessary.

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.)

APPROVED BY:  2/9/2017
District Ranger Date

AGREED TO BY:  2-9-17
Permittee Date