

2023 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Glenwood Ranger District
Gila National Forest

Alma Allotment #400

Prepared By: /s/ Signatures
District Range Specialist

Date: 2/13/2023

Approved By: /s/ Signatures
District Ranger

Date: 2/13/2023

Annual Operating Instructions

I. INTRODUCTION

Kendall Brown (Forest Service) met with Brian Davis (Permittee) by phone on February 13, 2023 to discuss management of the Alma Allotment during the current grazing year and to plan grazing management for the upcoming grazing season. These Annual Operating Instructions are the result of that discussion.

Term Permitted Livestock Numbers:

Permittee	Number & Class of livestock	Dates
L-H Ranch, LLC	300 Cow/Calf	03/01 – 02/28

Authorized Use:

Permittee	Number & Class of livestock	Dates
L-H Ranch, LLC	200 Cow/Calf	03/01 – 08/31
L-H Ranch, LLC	225 Cow/Calf	09/01 – 02/28

Pasture Rotations:

Class of Livestock	Rotation Date	Pasture
Cow/Calf	03/01 – 05/15	Barlow Basin & Round Mountain (split herd)
Cow/Calf	05/15 – 11/15	Round Mountain (entire herd)
Cow/Calf	11/15 – 02/28	Barlow Basin & Cradle Mesa (split herd))
Cow/Calf	03/01 – 02/28	Holding/Relief Pastures

* Pastures that are scheduled for holding and/or doctoring. Livestock can be used until allowable use is reached.

NOTE: The above schedule for stocking the allotment depends upon the availability of forage and water. Some flexibility in the above pasture rotation dates will be allowed for justifiable causes such as weather conditions, livestock management needs, and range conditions. If there is a need to deviate from the above pasture rotation schedule by more than 15 days, you must notify the Range Staff at the Glenwood Ranger District of the proposed change in the pasture rotation date and the reason for the change. A deviation from the above schedule of more than 15 days must be approved verbally or in writing. Credit/Refund applications will not be processed unless District personnel have been notified either in advance or at the time of removal of stock.

II. MANAGEMENT OF LIVESTOCK

The permittee is responsible for monitoring water availability and forage utilization and moving livestock when sufficient water is no longer available or when proper forage utilization is achieved in a pasture. The permittee is responsible for keeping track of and maintaining control of livestock. In the event livestock are found to be out of the scheduled pasture, it is required to find, gather, and return those animals to the proper pasture as soon as possible.

III. IMPROVEMENT MAINTENANCE

All range improvements assigned in the 10-year Term Grazing Permit are to be maintained in a functioning condition. In the event these improvements cannot be brought up to a functioning condition, you should notify the Range Staff at the Glenwood Ranger District to schedule them for reconstruction as funds become available.

Range improvement projects planned for 2023:

Our recent NEPA decision (2019) authorized building a fence to split Cradle Mesa to improve distribution. Route has been determined and work is approved to start once a permit modification is in place and materials have been assigned.

Our recent NEPA decision also approved laying a waterline from Burns Well to Twin Sisters Corral/storage/trough. Work is approved to start once a permit modification is in place and materials have been assigned.

Our recent NEPA decision approved building water-lot fencing around the following tanks:

- Middle
- Hobble Steer
- Little Round
- Hell Acre

Work is approved to start once a permit modification is in place and materials have been assigned.

IV. SPECIAL MANAGEMENT CONCERNS

Keep track of conditions on your allotment. Make plans to reduce or remove livestock if vegetative/watershed conditions could be substantially harmed due to continued grazing

V. MODIFICATIONS

If unforeseen operational conditions require a change in the management specified in this AOI please contact rangeland management personnel at the Glenwood Ranger District. Change requests should be made in advance so that field inspections (if necessary) can be conducted. Approval of changes to this AOI may be verbal or written, depending on the nature of the change requested. Verbal changes will be documented to your file for record keeping purposes. Failure to follow the direction provided in this AOI, or other instructions (verbal or written) of a Forest Officer may lead to adverse action against your Term Grazing Permit (Part 1, Section 3 of your Term Grazing Permit).

Open and positive communications concerning all AOI content is encouraged. Feel free to contact Kendall Brown if you have any questions or concerns.