2023 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Glenwood Ranger District

Gila National Forest

CEDAR BREAKS #404

Prepared By:/s/ Signatures Date: 1/31/2023

District Range Specialist

Approved By: <u>/s/ Signatures</u> Date: <u>2/9/2023</u>

District Ranger

Annual Operating Instructions

I. INTRODUCTION

Kendall Brown and Kaitlin Burrows (Forest Service) met with Hugh B. McKeen (Permittee) on January 31, 2023, to discuss management of the Cedar Breaks Allotment during the current grazing year and to plan grazing management during the upcoming grazing season. These Annual Operating Instructions are the result of those discussions.

The authorized stocking for the upcoming grazing season on the Cedar Breaks Allotment is as follows:

Term Permitted Livestock Numbers

Number and Class of Livestock	Dates
145 Cattle-Cow/calf	03/01 – 02/28
5 Horses-Saddle	03/01 – 02/28

Cedar Breaks Allotment Annual Authorization

Number and Class of Livestock Authorized	Dates Authorized
28 Cattle-Cow/calf	03/01 – 02/28
4 Horses-Saddle	03/01 – 02/28

Cedar Breaks Allotment Rotation Schedule

Class of Livestock	Dates	Pasture
Cow/Calf	03/01 – 07/31	East CCC
Cow/Calf	08/01 - 02/28	West CCC
Horses	03/01 - 02/28	Community

Note: No cattle or horses are allowed in the San Francisco River.

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 functioning condition. In the event these improvements cannot be brought up to a functioning condition, you should notify this office so we can schedule them for reconstruction as funds become available. You may apply for a free use post and stay permit for the maintenance of fences and corrals on your allotment. The following is a list of improvements that we discussed that need reconstruction.

- Clean out of Section 20 tank in Community pasture. Work can begin once tank is dry. – CLEARNACE GIVEN
- Section 5 tank washed out (breeched dam) during the floods in September 2013. Need to re-construct. Clearances have been obtained and reconstruction can proceed. The Glenwood District will have our FS dozer and operator perform this work. Was fixed but has blown out again. Will see if they will fix it again.
- Permittee proposes burying a pipeline from private land across (under) HWY 180 and into South Cedar Breaks pasture near Highway Tank and setting a drinker. This work will require environmental clearances.
- Permittee has interest in drilling a well in north end of Community pasture.
 Permittee want to repair/reroute road into the location of proposed well in Community pasture. The well and road will require environmental clearances.

IV. SPECIAL MANAGEMENT CONCERNS

Cattle are not authorized to be in the San Francisco River. Please promptly remove any cattle that stray into this area.

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.