

2023 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Glenwood Ranger District

Gila National Forest

Pleasanton Allotment #416

Prepared By: /s/ signatures
District Range Specialist

Date: 01/10/2023

Approved By: /s/ signatures
District Ranger

Date: 01/10/2023

Annual Operating Instructions

I. INTRODUCTION

Kendall Brown & Erick Stemmerman (Forest Service) met with Russ Slaughter & Brent Laney (Permittee & Manager) on January 10, 2023 to discuss management of the Pleasanton 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:

| Number & Class of livestock | Dates |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| 500 Cow/Calf | 03/01 – 02/28 |
| 12 Horses | 03/01 – 02/28 |

Authorized Use:

| Number & Class of livestock | Dates |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| 350 Cow/Calf | 03/01 – 02/28 |
| 10 saddle horses | 03/01 – 02/28 |

Pasture Rotations:

| Class of Livestock | Rotation Date | Pasture |
|--------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Cow/Calf | 03/01 – 05/30 | Powerline/Lloyd |
| Cow/Calf | 06/01 - 09/30 | Lightning Mesa |
| Cow/Calf | 10/01 - 02/28 | Pine/Cherry Canyon/Cherry |
| Horses | 03/01 – 02/28 | Holliman/Shipping Traps* |

* Livestock (holding) can remain in the pasture 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.

- You may use juniper for posts and stays for the maintenance of fences and corrals on your allotment. You are authorized to use portable cattle panels as needed to hold and load/unload cattle at junction of County Road C057 and Forest Road 4055G.

IV. SPECIAL MANAGEMENT CONCERNS

Keep track of conditions on your allotment and make plans to reduce or remove livestock if vegetative/watershed conditions could be substantially harmed due to continued grazing. Forage is good at this time, but the weather forecast calls for continued dry conditions through the spring. If dry conditions occur through the summer growing season, a reduction in herd size may be recommended. If the herd size is reduced, restocking of the allotment to full numbers will not take place until forage plants regain vigor.

Thank you for your attention to keeping cattle off the river. Please continue this effort to ensure that no cattle are within the river.

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.