

ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

2023 Grazing Season
(3/01/2023-2/28/2024)

Reserve Ranger District
Gila National Forest

Govina Allotment



Agreed to by: /s/ signatures
Permittee

Date: 01/31/2023

Approved by: /s/ signatures
District Ranger

Date: 01/31/2023



2023 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI)

Allotment: Govina

Permittee: Y Canyon Ranch LLC

Permit Number: 61437

Permitted Use:

Permittee	Numbers	Type	Season
Y Canyon LLC	105 Cow/Calf	Term	3/01-2/28

1. Authorization: Authorized to graze the following in 2023:

Permittee	Numbers	Type	Season
Y Canyon LLC	105 Cow/Calf	Term	3/01-2/28

Counting Livestock: The standard for counting livestock on an allotment is as follows:

- a. All cattle six (6) months of age or older **at the time of entering** the National Forest **and all weaned** animals regardless of age will be counted against the permitted numbers on the allotment and charged for at the current rate.

Nonuse: Application for credit or refund must be made in “**writing**” and “**in advance**” by the permittee to the District Ranger using Form FS-2200-1 (Refund, Credit, or Transfer Application). When it is not possible to be timely in getting to the Ranger District Office, the permittee may phone in a request for refund or credit. The permittee will then complete Form FS-2200-1 (Refund, Credit, or Transfer Application) at the next visit to the Reserve Ranger District Office. **Note:** Credit or refund applications will not be processed unless value is \$100.00 or more and District personnel have been notified either in advance or at the time livestock are removed from NFS Lands.

Bovine Trichinosis: Virgin bulls not exposed to breeding are exempt from testing if under 12 months of age. Bulls 12 months of age and older are required to have a negative trich test within 30 days prior to entry. **A signed affidavit from the owner for the virgin status of bulls 12 TO 24 months of age is no longer applicable.** Non-virgin Breeding age Bulls must be tested negative prior to import into New Mexico. Non-virgin Breeding age Bulls sold within the state of New Mexico must be tested negative within 30 days prior to change of ownership. Please contact the New Mexico Livestock Board for more details.

Management: Govina 2023 Pasture Rotation:

Pasture	Time Frame
John Kerr	3/01-6/30
Govina North	7/01-11/15
John Kerr	11/16-2/28
SU, Todd Cienega and Tularosa Pasture/Traps	**As needed for gathering, holding and calving only

*Livestock are not authorized in riparian exclosures on the Tularosa River. Please ensure that fences are maintained to prevent livestock access.

Please notify us of cattle movements onto and off the allotment, as well as refinements that may be needed to enhance the management system. If you identify the need to differ from these management systems by more than 15 days, please contact this office at least two weeks in advance so that the District has time to conduct monitoring and assess your request.

2. Utilization Standards and Monitoring:

Per the 12/13/1999 Govina Allotment Decision Notice, the maximum allowable use level set for the Govina Allotment is **35%** for growing season and **45%** for dormant season grazing of grass species.

If any one key area in a pasture being grazed by livestock exceed utilization, livestock will be moved to another area of the pasture where actual use is less than allowable use. If all the remaining key areas are maximum allowable use, livestock will be required to be moved early to the next scheduled pasture or even off the allotment if the allowable use is exceeded throughout.

The following dates have been tentatively scheduled for monitoring. You are highly encouraged and invited to participate in monitoring with district personnel and/or on your own.

Pasture	Monitoring date
John Kerr	7/06/2023
Govina North (Wagon)	11/08/2023
John Kerr	11/08/2023

3. Forage Growth and Water Availability:

Per Part 2, clause 8(c) of your Term Grazing Permit, if forage growth and water availability are not adequate during all or portions of the 2023 grazing season, total or partial livestock removal from the allotment may be necessary.

4. Salt and Supplement Policy

Supplemental feeding of livestock is allowed (to strategically manage livestock distribution and forage use) as follows:

- a) Place supplements on previously disturbed areas (i.e., borrow pits) or natural bedrock outcrops when possible (supplement sites).
- b) Locate supplement sites 0.25 mile or more from waters and key areas except where prior written approval has been obtained from District Ranger.
- c) Locate supplement sites where forage is abundant and utilized less than average.
- d) Limit supplement types to non energy feeds such as salt, protein and mineral blocks.
- e) If there is a need to use energy supplements such as grain, hay, surplus milk products, ethanol production by-products or molasses based products; a supplemental plan will need to be developed and approved by the District Ranger prior to placing these energy type supplements on National Forest lands.

5. Grazing Restriction:

The Govina allotment includes Mexican Spotted Owl Protected Activity Center's (PAC). In these PAC's the following activities are restricted during the breeding season (March 1- August 31): livestock concentrations or trailing, fence construction, and livestock salting. Routine maintenance of range improvements is allowed.

6. Range Improvements:

All assigned range developments identified in your Term Grazing Permit must be maintained to a functional status.

Advance planning is needed for any range improvement reconstruction or replacement, including fences and water systems to evaluate the need for any additional surveys. General maintenance/repair is excluded. Advance planning is also needed for authorized stock tank cleaning so surveys can be scheduled accordingly. Please contact the District in advance if you are proposing any of this type of work.

Please protect natural springs and areas with riparian type vegetation. Drainage bottoms, creeks, springs, and cienegas, where water is available, are most susceptible to livestock concentrations.

The following range improvements were discussed and planned for this grazing season:

1. Fence #6199 needs heavy maintenance.
2. All riparian enclosure fences along the Tularosa River need to be maintained to exclude livestock.
3. Evaluate a walk-through gate along the CDT Trail near Todd Cienega Trap.
4. GC 3 Tank #006220, Spurgeon Tank #6223 and South Cottonwood Tank #006405 need cleaned.

7. The Govina Allotment Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) are a part of the Term Grazing Permit as provided for in Part 3, Section 8. The AOI complies with the standards and guidelines found 12/13/1999 Govina Allotment Decision Notice, the 2/12/2014 Allotment Management Plan and in the Gila National Forest Plan. It also complies with the

Endangered Species Act on-going grazing consultation for the allotment. Any additional information collected during the year may be incorporated into the annual operating instructions.