

ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

2024 Grazing Season
(3/01/2024-2/28/2025)

Reserve Ranger District
Gila National Forest

Apache Canyon Allotment



Agreed To By: Permittee

Date: 12/12/2023

Approved By: Bret Ruff
Bret Ruff, Deputy Forest Supervisor

Date: 1/16/2024



2024 Annual Operating Instructions (AOI)

Allotments: Apache Canyon

Permittee: Carolyn D. Julian

Permit Number: 61346

Permitted Use:

Permittee	Numbers	Type	Season
Carolyn D. Julian	100 Cow/Calf	Term	6/01-2/28

*Per the February 24th 2009 Apache Canyon Decision Notice, on and off dates will interchange annually from the above rotation to 3/01-6/30 & 10/01-2/28.

1. **Authorization:** Authorized to graze the following in 2024:

Permittee	Numbers	Type	Season
Carolyn D. Julian	100 Cow/Calf	Term	3/01-6/30
Carolyn D. Julian	100 Cow/Calf	Term	10/01-2/28

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 **A signed affidavit from the owner for the virgin status of bulls 12 TO 24 months of age is no longer applicable.** Non-virgin Breeding age Bulls must be tested negative prior to import into New Mexico.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.



2. Management: Apache Canyon 2024 Pasture Rotation:

PASTURE	LIVESTOCK	TIME FRAME
Private Land	100 Cow/Calf	03/01-05/31
Mesa Pasture	Up to fifty cow/calf	06/01-06/30
Piney Park	Up to fifty cow/calf	06/01-06/30
Piney Park	100 cow/calf	07/01-07/31
Wilson Canyon	100 cow/calf	08/1-09/30
Apache Canyon 1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd	100 cow/calf	10/01-11/30
Piney Park	100 cow/calf	12/01-01/31
Wilson Canyon	100 cow/calf	02/01-02/28

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

3. Utilization Standards and Monitoring:

In accordance with the Apache Canyon Allotment Decision Notice dated 2/24/2009 and the Apache Canyon Allotment Management Plan dated 5/18/2009, the allowable use level set for the Apache Canyon Allotment will be conservative use (30-40%). Permittee is authorized to use the water lot (access point) along the Tularosa River within Mesa Pasture.

If utilization levels within portions of a scheduled pasture approach allowable use, you are required to move livestock into areas not approaching allowable use. If cattle cannot be effectively managed away from areas within the pasture that have met allowable use or if utilization objectives are met throughout the pasture prior to scheduled rotation, contact District Personnel. Cattle will be moved into the next available pasture within the annual rotation. In the event that forage utilization objectives are met in all available pastures, livestock will be removed from the allotment. Management adjustments will be made to the following years Annual Operating Instructions to avoid recurring situations. The following dates have been tentatively scheduled for monitoring on the allotment. You are highly encouraged and invited to participate in monitoring with District personnel and/or on your own.

Pasture	Monitoring date
Wilson, Apache 1,2, 3 and Mesa	6/07/2024
Piney Park	7/05/2024
Piney Park, Wilson, Apache Canyon 1, 2, 3,	11/15/2024



4. 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 2024 grazing season, total or partial livestock removal from the allotment may be necessary.

5. Salt and Supplement Policy

Provide for supplemental feeding of livestock (to strategically manage livestock distribution and forage use) as follows:

- a. Locate supplement sites 0.25 mile or more from waters and key areas except where prior written permission has been obtained from District Ranger.
- b. Locate supplements where forage is abundant and current grazing use levels are low.
- c. Place supplements on previously disturbed areas (i.e., borrow pits) or natural bedrock outcrops when possible (supplement sites).
- d. Supplements should not be placed at any one location more than once during the grazing season to prevent the concentration of livestock.
- e. Limit supplement types to salt, protein and mineral blocks to reduce risk of spreading noxious weeds and to reduce the risk of creating areas of concentrated livestock use.
- f. If there is a need to use energy supplements such as grain, noxious weed free 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.

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. Evaluate extending pipeline into 1st Apache, 2nd Apache and Highway Pasture, from the First Apache Well (006041)
2. Evaluate potential locations for erosion control structures in 1st, 2nd and 3rd Apache Canyon and Wilson Canyon Pastures.
3. Elk Horn, 1st /2nd Piney Park, 2nd Upper Wilson, and Kerr need to be evaluated for cleaning.
4. White Mule and Sawmill springs need to be evaluated for repair.
5. Concrete Trough #6045 and Rock Dam #6042 needs to be evaluated for repair/cleaning
6. Evaluate the potential for Pinon and Juniper thinning in the Highway and Mesa Pastures



7. **The Apache Canyon 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 in the 2/24/2009 Apache Canyon Allotment Decision Notice, the 5/18/2009 Allotment Management Plan and in the Gila National Forest Plan. It also complies with the Endangered Species Act on-going grazing consultation for the Apache Canyon Allotment. Any additional information collected during the year may be incorporated into the annual operating instructions.

