

Quemado Ranger District
2003 Annual Operating Plan/Instructions
(12/10/02 & 1/10/03)

Allotment Name: West Sand Flat

Permittee: Lucille Milligan Lumpkin and Steve Lumpkin;
Aurora Kline, Justiniano Kline

Permit Number: 06 - 1113
06 - 1117

	Milligan	
Term Permitted Livestock Numbers:	15 cow/calf	3/1 – 5/30
	15 cow/calf	9/1 – 2/28
	Kline	
	15 cow/calf	1/1 – 2/28
	15 cow/calf	3/1 – 4/15
	59 cow/calf	4/16 – 5/31
	15 cow/calf	6/1 – 8/31
	74 cow/calf	9/1 – 11/30
	15 cow/calf	12/1 – 12/31

2003 Annual Validation: Same as permitted.

Grazing System: Modified Season-Long grazing system. There are three main areas on this allotment - Tularosa Mtn., Kline Tank (Sand Flat) and Apache Mtn.

Pasture Rotation: 2003 Milligan and Kline Cattle.

Kline Tank Area	Lumpkin cattle (15 head)	1/1 – 4/ 15	allowable use – 35%
	Kline cattle (15 head)	1/1 – 4/15	allowable use – 35%
Tularosa Area	Lumpkin cattle (15 head)	4/16 – 5/31	allowable use – 35%
	(15 head)	6/1 – 8/31	OFF FOREST
	Kline cattle (59 head)	4/16 – 5/31	allowable use - 35%
	Kline cattle (59 head)	6/1 – 8/31	OFF FOREST
Apache Mtn.	(15 head)	6/1 – 8/31	allowable use – 35%
	Lumpkin cattle (15 head)	9/1 – 11/30	allowable use - 35%
	Kline cattle (74 head)	9/1 – 11/30	allowable use – 35%
Tularosa Area	(59 head)	12/1 – 2/28	OFF FOREST
	Lumpkin cattle (15 head)	2/1 – 2/28	allowable use – 35%
	Kline cattle (15 head)	12/1 – 2/28	allowable use - 35%

Grazing Restriction:

The following grazing restriction will apply as it did in 2002. Please refer to the attached map.

No livestock grazing within the Tularosa guaging station enclosure.

The purpose of this restriction is to provide measures to mitigate wildlife issues.

Allowable Use: The 1995 Environmental Assessment and Decision Notice set the allowable use guidelines for this allotment.

Guideline: Allowable utilization is 35% on grasses. This equates to 35% of the total annual production of forage that can be removed.

Utilization Monitoring of Key Areas: Key forage utilization monitoring will continue. Within two weeks before or after livestock leave a scheduled pasture, those key areas will be visited by the Forest Service to determine actual grazing use by livestock/wildlife. These areas are the existing cluster transects sites.

Key area utilization checks may also be conducted mid way through a pasture use period to determine actual grazing use. I encourage you to participate in these key area utilization surveys.

Estimated forage use determinations will be consistent with the Region 3 Range Analysis Handbook. Monitoring methods will be ocular estimates, grazed plant method, clip/weigh and/or Grazing Intensity Guidelines.

Utilization Monitoring Results:

The following key areas were read during the 2002 grazing season:

C-2	31%
P-2	0%
P-3	2%
P-4	0%
C-1	42%
U-1	61%

2002 monitoring indicated overuse at C-1 and U-1. It is the responsibility of the grazing permittees to comply with the allowable use standards.

Forage Growth and Water Availability: If forage growth and water availability are not adequate during all or portions of the 2003 grazing season, total or partial livestock removal may be necessary. Part 2, clause 8(c) of the grazing permit provides this option.

Range improvements:

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

1. Tanks along road #870 on Apache Mtn. need to be cleaned: Char Tank, #9080; Edna Tank, #9081; and Susie Tank, #9082. Contact Joe or John prior to cleaning the stock tanks.

Actual Use:

Actual use for the 2002 grazing season was calculated to be 447 AM's for Klines and 105 A.M.'s for Milligans for a total of 552 A.M.'s. The ten year average is 665 A.M.'s.

Other Information:

During the summer of 2003 Joe Giron will meet with the permittees and examine the allotment to decide on a fence location that would divide the Negrito/Tularosa Mtn. area from the Kline Tank/ Sand Flat area. Once the fence is built, the West Sand Flat Allotment will be divided into three pastures.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact John Pierson at (505) 773-4678.

Sincerely,

/s/ Janice S. Stevenson
JANICE S. STEVENSON
District Ranger

cc: so