

Quemado Ranger District
2003 Annual Operating Plan/Instructions
(9/16/02)

Allotment Name: Spur Lake

Permittee: Marie D. Scarlett

Permit Number: 06-1148

Term Permitted Livestock Numbers: 478 Cow/Calf 6/1 to 10/31 Term Permit
315 Cow/Calf 11/1 to 5/31 Term Permit
85 Cow/ Calf 11/1 to 5/31 Pvt. Land

2003 Annual Validation: 408 Adult Cattle 6/1 to 10/31 Term Permit
315 Adult Cattle 11/1 to 5/31 Term Permit
85 Adult Cattle 11/1 to 5/31 Pvt. Land

Grazing System:

The current grazing system being utilized is a modified rest rotation system using separate summer pastures (Black Peak/Karruth, Jenkins Creek/SA and Canovas), winter pastures (Basin, Canyon, and Antelope), bull pastures (Todd Browning) and special calving/hospital pastures (Holding, Marie, Reservoir, Stateline and Coyote). All of the pastures are used during any one-year. The specific time and duration of use each year is designed in order to provide growing season rest for cool and warm season species in each pasture.

2003:

Antelope	11/01/02 - 01/31/03	314 head	Allowable Use	40%
Canyon	02/01/03 - 03/31/03	314 head	Allowable Use	40%
Basin	04/01/03 - 05/31/03	314 head	Allowable Use	40%
Simpson	11/01/02 - 01/15/03	33 head	Allowable Use	40%
Stateline	11/01/02 - 01/15/03	30 head	Allowable Use	40%
Lower Coyote	01/16/03 - 04/01/03	63 head	Allowable Use	40%
Lake Marie	04/01/03 - 05/31/03	63 head	Allowable Use	40%
Todd Browning	11/01/ 02 - 05/31/03	23 bulls	Allowable Use	40%
Karruth/Black Peak	06/01/03 - 08/15/03	408 head	Allowable Use	35%
SA/Jenkins	08/16/03 -10/31/03	408 head	Allowable Use	35%
Canovas	Rested			
Antelope	11/01/03 - 01/31/04	315 head	Allowable Use	40%
Canyon	02/01/04 - 03/31/04	315 head	Allowable Use	40%
Basin	04/01/04 - 05/31/04	315 head	Allowable Use	40%

Grazing Restriction:

The following grazing restrictions will apply as they did in your 2002 Annual Operating Plan. If you do not have a map of this restricted area please, call and we will mail you a copy of the map.

No salt, mineral or supplemental feed may be placed in this area from February 1 to August 31, 2003 and no concentrations of livestock, i.e., corral use, traps or large gathering of livestock is allowed. Routine maintenance of range developments is allowed. Stock tank cleaning must be approved in advance prior to any activities.

Coyote Creek riparian area is excluded from livestock grazing (from the center of Section 15 downstream to the center of Section 3 - see map sent to you in 1998). This exclusion is maintained by a combination of fences and natural barriers. Coyote Creek will be monitored periodically during the season with special attention to periods when livestock grazing is scheduled in adjacent pastures.

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

Allowable Use:

Proper utilization of forage plants is a necessity to maintain long term productivity of the rangeland and to protect soils from erosion. Proper utilization will maintain sufficient ground cover to prevent erosion and meet the physiological needs of key forage plants for maintenance and reproduction over the long term. Allowable use is determined from considering proper use and all influencing factors such as grazing system, range condition, watershed condition, timing and duration of livestock use and scheduled amount of rest between use periods.

The Decision dated 12/13/99 set guidelines for forage utilization in key areas of 35% allowable use during growing season and 40% during the dormant season. Within riparian areas that contain woody riparian plants, utilization is limited to no more than 25% of the riparian sprouts/seedlings within a riparian area heavily hedged.

Utilization Monitoring of Key Areas:

Key forage area utilization monitoring will continue. Forest Service personnel will visit the key monitoring areas within two weeks before or after livestock leave a pasture. The percentage of grazing utilization will be determined at that time. Participation by the permittee is always welcome and appreciated. Monitoring to be utilized will be based on ocular estimates, grazed plant method, clip/weigh and/or Grazing Intensity Guidelines.

If use rates exceed the allowable use rates, appropriate action will be taken on the permit or through the Annual Operating Plan. If any one key area in a pasture being grazed by livestock exceeds 60% utilization on the uplands or exceeds the 25% of woody riparian sprouts/seedlings heavily hedged, livestock will be moved to another area of the pasture where actual use is less than allowable use. If all the remaining key areas in the scheduled pasture are at maximum allowable use, livestock will be required to be moved

early to the next scheduled pasture. The riparian areas include: Coyote Creek, SA Creek, Rita Blanca Spring canyon, Jenkins Creek, Badger Creek, and Smith Creek.

Utilization Monitoring Results:

The following key areas were monitored during the 2002 grazing season for utilization:

Pasture	Key Area	Use	Pasture	Key Area	Use	Pasture	Key Area	Use
Antelope	Miner Pt.	5%	Antelope	U2(March)	0%	Antelope	U1(March)	0%
Antelope	C5(March)	0%	Antelope	C4	18%	Antelope	U2	33%
Antelope	U1(June)	28%	Antelope	C5(June)	0%	Antelope	C4(June)	36%
Jenkins	P2	5%	Jenkins	P28	22%	Jenkins	P3	20%
Jenkins	C8	33%	Jenkins	P25	15%	Jenkins	P1	28%
Jenkins	P27	15%	Jenkins	C9	20%	SA	C11	16%
Basin	P9	23%	Basin	C3(June)	59%	Basin(Mar)	P9	5%
Basin	C3	6%	Simpson	P13	35%	Simpson (Mar)	P9	21%
Stateline	P14	16%	T.Brown	C10	36%	Reservoir	#1	28%
L. Marie	#1	24%	L. Coyote	P15	19%	Canovas	C1	14%
Canovas	C10	15%	Canovas	C2	34%	Canyon	C6	12%
Canyon	P8	16%	Canovas	#3002	6%	Canovas	#3003	0%
Canovas	#3026	35%	Canovas	#3027	1%	Canovas	#3029	0%

Monitoring results indicated 1 key area, C3 within the Basin pasture exceeding the allowable use rate. Mackey, please be aware of the heavy use on this area. I recognize that this overuse is in isolated area within this pasture and that this does not reflect the average use throughout the pasture, however to avoid a decline in forage condition on this area I would appreciate it if you were able to distribute livestock use away from this area this grazing season.

I appreciate your efforts during the 2002-grazing season, specifically during the summer drought. Your management effort to manage livestock use during this period was exceptional and is reflected in the above monitoring data.

Forage Growth and Water Availability:

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

Range developments:

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

In addition specific maintenance discussed included:

1. Clean out existing Karruth well and install pump system and plumb this well into existing Karruth pipeline.
2. Reconstruct the Trap in the corner of the S.A. pasture.

3. Rebuild branding trap in S.A. Canyon.
4. Maintain the branding trap in Miller Scott Valley.

No new range developments were discussed.

Actual Use:

The actual use for the allotment was calculated from records provided during your annual validation meeting as 4021 AM's. For your reference the 10-year average is 5620 AM's

Other Information:

Mackey, you continue to achieve a large amount of maintenance on the improvements on the allotment. This work is greatly appreciated and recognized. If you have any comments or questions concerning these Annual Operating Instructions, please do not hesitate to call John Pierson or Collin Ewing at (505) 773-4678.

Janice Stevenson

JANICE STEVENSON
District Ranger

1/27/03

Date