

**Quemado Ranger District**  
**2004 Annual Operating Plan/Instructions**  
(1/8/04)

**Allotment Name:** Jewett Gap

**Permittee:** Phil Scott      **Ranch Manager**      Gene Baca

**Permit Number:** 06-1141

**Term Permitted Livestock Numbers:** 51 cow/calf      5/1 – 10/31

**2004 Annual Validation:**      51 cow/calf      5/1/04 – 10/31/04

**Grazing System:**

4 pasture deferred rotation.

**Pasture Rotation:**

**2004:**

Gap Pasture	5/01/04 to 6/30/04	All cattle	Allowable use – 35%
Gallo Pasture	7/01/04 to 8/30/04	All cattle	Allowable use – 35%
Fox pasture	9/01/04 to 10/31/04	All cattle	Allowable use – 35%

**Grazing Restriction:**

No current grazing restrictions apply to this allotment.

**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

**Standard:**

Forage use by grazing animals will be maintained at a level, which provides satisfactory range/watershed conditions and assures recovery and continued existence of threatened and endangered species of plants and animals.

**Guideline:**

The maximum allowable utilization on forage is 35%. This allowable use is based on a four-pasture deferred rotation. Range and watershed resources are estimated to be in Fair stable or better condition.

**Utilization Monitoring of Key Areas:**

Key area 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/pace transect 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. Methods to be utilized will be ocular estimates, grazed plant method, clip/weigh and/or Grazing Intensity Guidelines.

**Utilization Monitoring Results 2003:**

Pasture	Date	Key Area	Use
Fox	7/16/2003	P-2	23%
Fox	7/16/2003	P-3	5%
Fox	7/16/2003	C-2	0%
Fox	9/22/2003	P-2	23%
Fox	9/22/2003	P-3	15%
Fox	9/22/2003	C-2	15%
HQ	10/23/2003	P-1	17%

**Forage Growth and Water Availability:**

If forage growth and water availability are not adequate during all or portions of the 2004 grazing season, 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 improvement maintenance included:

1. Fence #4382, #4007, #4174, #4276, #4172 will be partially reconstructed; the district will provide the materials necessary for completion of this project.

In addition, new range developments discussed included:

Gene Baca will drill the Jewett Gap Well. The permit expires in July 2004.

**Actual Use:**

The actual use reported for the allotment in 2003 was 207 AM's. For your reference the 10 year actual use average has been calculated to be 65 AM's. The average actual use for when cattle have been stocked on the allotment (3 of 10 years) is 243 AM's

**Other Information:**

1. Gene plans to "stay ahead of the cattle" with his fence repair this coming spring.

- Gene please provide a list of the fences maintained for our records.
2. Permittee proposes that *Chrysothamnus nauseosus* (Rabbit Brush) needs to be cut in the H. Q. pasture with a mower mounted on a small tractor.
  3. The district appreciates Gene's efforts in responding to reports of cattle on other allotments, however this occurred far too often in 2003. According to the permit it is the permittees responsibility to keep cattle in the correct pasture. As discussed at the January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, fences must be in satisfactory condition prior to stocking in 2004.

If you have any questions or comments concerning these operating instructions, please call John Pierson at (505) 773-4678.

/s/ John D. Pierson (for)  
JANICE S. STEVENSON  
District Ranger

1/20/2004  
Date