

Quemado Ranger District
2004 Annual Operating Plan/Instructions
(12/12/03 & 1/15/04)

Allotment Name: West Sand Flat

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

Permit Number: 06 - 1113
06 - 1117

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

2004 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: 2004 Milligan and Kline Cattle.

				<u>Allowable Use</u>
Kline Tank Area -	Lumpkin cattle	(15 head)		(REST)
	Kline cattle	(15 head)		(REST)
Tularosa/Negrigo	Lumpkin cattle	(15 head)	4/16 – 5/31	35%
		(15 head)	6/1 – 8/31	Other Lands
Negrigo	Kline cattle	(15 head)	3/1 – 4/15	35%
Tularosa/Negrigo	Kline cattle	(74 head)	4/16 – 5/31	35%
	Kline cattle	(15 head)	6/1 – 8/31	Other Lands
		(59 head)	6/1 – 8/31	35%
Apache Mtn.	Lumpkin cattle	(15 head)	9/1 – 11/30	35%
	Kline cattle	(74 head)	9/1 – 11/30	35%
		(59 head)	12/1 – 2/28	Other Lands
Tularosa Area Negrigo	Lumpkin cattle	(15 head)	12/1 – 4/15	35%
	Kline cattle	(15 head)	12/1 – 2/28	35%

Grazing Restriction:

The following grazing restriction will apply as it did in 2003:

No livestock grazing within the Tularosa guaging station exclosure.

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 2003 grazing season:

P-1	3%
P-2	40%
P-3	10%
P-4	2%
C-2	0%
C-5	0%
U-1	12%

2003 monitoring indicated overuse by 5% at P-2. Since this monitoring site is located close to Edna Tank. You will need to observe this area closely this year and distribute livestock to allow for recovery. 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 2004 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 stock tanks.
2. Steve Lumpkin will redevelop Negrito Spring during 2004. He asks that the Forest Service provide approximately 50 feet of 11/4" pipe and available fittings. He will provide a springbox (galvanized culvert) and a water trough.

Actual Use:

Actual use for the 2003 grazing season was calculated to be 127 AM's for Klines and 130 A.M.'s for Milligans for a total of 257A.M.'s. The ten year average is 664 A.M.'s.

Other Information:

Permittees will continue to meet with the Forest Service on a timely basis and discuss projects and ideas, on the ground. They are working on a list of viable projects to present to the Forest Service. For example:

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

Sincerely,

/s/ John Pierson for
JANICE S. STEVENSON
District Ranger

cc: so