



File Code: 2230

Date: January 9, 2003

E.F. and Dorothy Pyle

Dear Jenks,

This letter along with the attached general instructions will serve as the annual operating plan for the 2003-grazing season on the Canyon Creek Allotment. Pasture use and management will be as follows:

**PERMITTED USE:**

ALLOTMENT	PERMITTED #	PERMITTED SEASON
Canyon Creek	20 Cattle	03/01-02/28
	4 Horses	03/01-02/28

**AUTHORIZED USE:**

ALLOTMENT	AUTHORIZED NUMBER	PASTURE	ON/OFF DATE	PASTURE INSTRUCTIONS
Canyon Creek	15 Cattle	Allotment	03/01-02/28	
	2 Horses	Allotment	03/01-05/31	
	3 Horses	Allotment	06/01-02/28	

**Management of Livestock**

The above schedule for stocking the allotment depends upon the availability of forage and water. Some flexibility is allowed for justifiable causes such as weather conditions, livestock management needs, and range condition. If there is a need to deviate from the above schedule by more than 15 days, you need to immediately notify the District Ranger of the proposed change. The District Ranger must be notified 5 days prior to the time livestock enter or leave the Forest if the placing on, or removal of livestock is not planned in the above schedule.

You are responsible for monitoring water availability and forage utilization. It is your responsibility to move your livestock when sufficient water is no longer available or when proper forage utilization is achieved in a pasture. You are responsible for keeping track of and



maintaining control of your livestock. In the event your livestock are found to be out of the scheduled pasture, you will be required to find, gather, and return your animals to the proper pasture as soon as possible. Failure to maintain control of your livestock could lead to adverse action against your Term Grazing Permit.

Forage use by grazing ungulates will be maintained at or above a condition that assures recovery of threatened and endangered species. Site-specific forage utilization standards have been developed for the Canyon Creek allotment, as per the Environmental Analysis and Decision Notice dated 4/14/99. Key areas and utilization standards are as follows:

KEY AREA	UTILIZATION STANDARD	KEY SPECIES
Elk Tank	25%	Blue grama
Flying V Tank	25%	Blue grama
Corner Tank	25%	Blue grama
Stovepipe	25%	Blue grama

If any one key area in the allotment exceeds 25% allowable use during both growing season and dormant season, livestock will be moved to another area of the allotment where actual use is less than allowable. If all remaining key areas in the allotment are at maximum use, livestock will be required to be moved from the allotment. Incidental use by livestock in Canyon Creek may occasionally occur. However, the intent is to restrict livestock use of this area to provide for riparian recovery.

### **Improvement Maintenance**

All range improvements assigned in the 10-year Term Grazing Permit should be maintained in a good functioning condition. In the event these improvements cannot be brought up to good functioning condition, you should notify this office so we can schedule them for reconstruction as funds become available.

Tentatively we have funding to complete the following maintenance work in 2002:

IMPROVEMENT NAME	IMPROVEMENT NUMBER	ACTIVITY	FUNDING SOURCE
Elk Tank	1221	Clean Tank & Repair Spillway	FS and Permittee

The process for authorizing you to cut posts and stays for use on your allotment has changed. It will no longer be necessary for you to get a "Free Use Permit". Authorization to cut posts and stays on your allotment will now be granted in this Annual Operating Plan by the following instructions.

You are authorized as the permittee on the Canyon Creek allotment to cut and utilize juniper fence posts and fence stays to maintain fences, corrals, and other improvements on National Forest System lands within the allotment. This authorization allows for cutting 100 line posts, 100 corner posts, and 300 stays. Line posts are no larger than 6.5 feet in length and have a 5-inch top diameter. Corner posts are no larger than 8 feet in length and have a 7-inch top diameter. Stays may be cut from the limbs of trees cut for posts, sapling sized trees, and down snags. You are authorized to use this material under 36 CFR 223.2(a), Free Administrative Use. This authorization is valid for the calendar year 2002.

The following instructions must be followed when cutting any posts or stays under this authorization:

1. Stumps should be no higher than 12 inches above the ground.
2. Slash should be lopped to within 24 inches of the ground and scattered.
3. Cutting and removal of posts and stays should not be done when the soil moisture conditions would permit ruts to be cut.
4. No posts, stays or by-products from them will be sold or used anywhere except on National Forest System lands within your allotment to maintain the range improvements assigned in your 10-year Term Permit.
5. All posts and stays will be cut within your allotment unless another specific area is designated for cutting by the District Ranger.
6. Motorized equipment such as chainsaws may not be used in wilderness areas.

Non-compliance with the instructions set forth in this authorization could lead to adverse actions taken against your Term Grazing Permit.

If you have any questions in regard to this plan or if a revision is in order, please contact me.

Sincerely,

/s/ Annette H. Chavez  
ANNETTE H. CHAVEZ  
District Ranger

Cc: S.O.

WILDERNESS RANGER DISTRICT  
GILA NATIONAL FOREST

ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN

2003

**CANYON CREEK ALLOTMENT**

E. F. and Dorothy Pyle

Prepared By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
District Range Staff

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
District Ranger

Agreed to By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Permittee