

2002 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS  
HORSESHOE ALLOTMENT

These instructions are to:

- identify specific management tools/resource objectives for this grazing season
- review general permit administration and livestock management requirements, and
- document any needs or agreements beyond the standard directions.

**I. MANAGEMENT TOOLS / RESOURCE OBJECTIVES for this GRAZING SEASON  
(SPECIFIC)**

Continue 2001's practices to:

- Minimize use in lower Orchard Draw. Spread use more evenly through Fry Pan pasture.
- Expand use east from Red Flat Tank – this is suitable range that receives little use.

**II. AUTHORIZATION In 2002 you are authorized to graze 165 total head as follows:**

<u>Number of Cattle</u>	<u>Pasture</u>	<u>Grazing Period (may be modified to meet utilization)</u>
141 cows	Woodchute	3/1/02 - 5/15/02
12 yearling hfrs	Woodchute	4/1/02 - 5/15/
13 bulls	Plateau	3/1/ - 5/15
13 bulls	Woodchute	5/1 - 5/15
166 cows/bulls	So. Henry's, No. Henry's	5/16 - 8/15 *
166 cows/bulls	Frypan	8/16 - 10/15 or to 9/1**
[166 cows/bulls	Plateau	9/1 - 9/21 **
166 cows/bulls	Frypan	9/22 - 10/15 **]
166 cows/bulls	Hackberry	11/06 - 11/18 - 12 days
166 cows/bulls	Shipping	11/19 - 11/25 6 d
160 cows	Woodchute	11/26/01 - 2/28
15 bulls	Plateau	11/26/01 - 2/28/03

**Notes:** - heifers are on deeded land from 3/1 - 4/1/02.

- Close off water's in South Henry's after about 6 weeks in this pasture, to get cattle to use north end (utilizing Red Flat Tank).

- \* Move out of this pasture may be hastened if the the rainy season starts early in July and is sustained, and forage utilization is reaching its limits.

- \*\* This move is optional. After approximately 2 weeks of the rainy season in Frypan pasture, move cattle to Plateau pasture for approximately 3 weeks. Active moving is expected to take approximately 5 days, with followup using triggers at key waters.

**III. ADMINISTRATION These procedures will be followed:**

1. Please pay the grazing fee before March 1, 2002.
2. Sub-leasing is prohibited. You must own the livestock placed on the allotment. They must be branded with Y-D right side, the brand registered in your name. A current copy of your brand certificate is on file at the District Office.

3. Let the Forest Officer know within two weeks of any livestock removed early, for credit.
4. Record actual use as it occurs. Note animals and dates livestock are moved between pastures. Livestock on/off your allotment as a result of broken fences or open gates will also be noted. You will be asked to provide the Forest Officer actual use records at next year's AOI meeting.
5. Changes from these Annual Operating Instructions is to be coordinated and confirmed in advance with the Forest Officer, best if 7 days in advance. If emergency conditions require making a change immediately, notify the Forest Officer as soon as you can.
6. Move your livestock regardless of the date shown in Section II to avoid exceeding utilization levels.

Changes in management practices may be requested to address utilization concerns. See Allowable Use, Section V. You will have an opportunity to field check utilization with the Forest Officer as indicated in Monitoring, Section VI. At least 14 days prior notice of an early move date will be given.

7. Start as early as needed to accomplish pasture moves on time. At least 90% of the permitted livestock must be moved when utilization is reached (as estimated by the date in Section II) or when specified by the Forest Officer. Actively gather remaining strays after the specified date, aiming to complete the job within 2 weeks.
8. Forest personnel may spot check improvement maintenance. Livestock will not be allowed to enter a pasture if fences would not keep livestock where they are placed.
9. You are responsible for your representatives and/or employees following all Forest Officer instructions.

**IV. KEY AREAS** Key areas need to be verified with your help. Key areas may or may not be where Parker 3-step clusters are located. A key area is used to monitor forage, browse and soil conditions. There is a minimum of one per pasture/grazing area. A key area is normally at least 1/4 mile to 1 mile out from water, located on productive soils on level to intermediate slopes, and is readily accessible for grazing.

**V. ALLOWABLE USE** The rotation, season of use, and livestock numbers are indicated in Section II. Adjustments in the duration of use or numbers, will be made if allowable use is about to be exceeded. Cattle will be moved to the next scheduled pasture or off the allotment when allowable use standards are met. Minimizing forage use in areas livestock prefer is important. See Section XIII. for special management practices that address livestock use in preferred areas.

Maximum allowable use follows. *On upland grasses:* During the growing season, 40% use of the current year's production is allowable on most species. Use during dormant period can be up to 15% higher, except on black grama, which should be favored if it is showing any green. *On shrubs:* Use on palatable shrubs should not exceed browsing of more than 50% of the leaders

within reach. With no grazing on the Verde River, there is no concern about grazing riparian species on the allotment.

**VI. MONITORING PLANNED**

Permittee monitoring can help predict timely moves. We would appreciate being invited along during formal monitoring, or a day to ride together and generally check each pasture.

The Forest Service plans to check each pasture when the planned grazing period is approximately 3/4 over. You will be invited to join in the check. Utilization and general inspection notes will be taken. If found necessary, adjustments in management practices will be discussed and placed in operation.

**VII. SALT AND MINERAL BLOCK** *Requirements:* Salt and protein block will be placed farther than a quarter mile of water. Place blocks on hard ground not susceptible to erosion. Remove blocks when allowable use has been met. *Suggestions:* Ideally, salt and mineral more than one-half mile from water helps widen livestock use. Moving salt to lightly used areas also helps. *Exception:* If the mineral supplement (granules in a feed trough) must be placed near water according to the label; this is acceptable.

**VIII. FIRE PREVENTION** The permittee and their agents, employees, contractors, and sub-contractors will take all reasonable precautions to prevent fires, make efforts to suppress fires without endangering lives, and report fires on or endangering the National Forest as soon as practical.

Work involving the use of heavy equipment will be done only with prior approval. Under red flag conditions the equipment will be inspected to insure that the spark arrestor and muffler system meets Forest Service standards.

**IX. RANGE IMPROVEMENTS** Maintenance and construction of range improvements that disturbs the ground must not take place until proper archeological and biological clearances have been obtained from the Bradshaw District. Maintaining fences and water developments by hand is excepted from this requirement.

Maintenance follows the standards in Part 3 of your grazing permit.

**Range improvements planned for work prior to October 2002:**

Plateau pasture – extend pipeline south and east from Lone Tree to drinker upslope from fence.

Fry Pan pasture – 1 roadside pit (Cat Ex needed – still waiting on Forest Service)

Woodchute/Fry Pan – 3 roadside pits (Cat Ex needed – still waiting on Forest Service)

~~Work on Road Canyon Gathering pasture.~~

Lone Tree pipeline is priority over Munds #1. These are cost shared with Wildlife Habitat Partnership monies. (Cat Ex needed – still waiting on Forest Service)

FS still needs to clean cattleguards at Horseshoe Tank (FDR 155) planned for March, 2002. The cattleguards on Rd.72 are County responsibility. Tim Burkeen at 771-3873 is the contact. However, Bill Townsend agreed to clean the one in Sec 9 when they are cleaning the one at Horseshoe.

**X. SHORT-AGE CALVES** The following defines animals counted for billing: all weaned animals as of January 1. (reference FSM22.38.11a)

**XI. OUTFITTER-GUIDE** Any guiding on National Forest, for which you or your representatives receive compensation, must be covered under an Outfitter-Guide Permit. A permit can be issued at the Chino Ranger District.

**XII. VANDALISM** If your allotment improvements should suffer any damage, or anything be stolen contact the Forest Officer immediately. We will contact the Sheriff's Department and conduct a joint investigation. This also pertains to cultural resources. If you notice unusual activity or a damaged Indian ruin, please call immediately. We are ordered by Congress and laws of the land to diligently protect cultural resources. You can assist us in meeting that responsibility by getting a good description of the individuals and/or vehicles plus license numbers. We encourage you not to contact suspected violators.

**XIII. SPECIAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES**

**Woodchute Pasture**

1. Commensurate with water availability south of Jerome Road, close the water-lot gates to Woodchute on Horseshoe and Contrary tanks during the period 1/1 – 4/30.
2. Repeatedly drive cattle that return to Horseshoe and Contrary tank up-country, locating them on upper waters.
3. Haul water to Sunset (aka Collins) Corral troughs toward the end of the grazing period. Cattle were located here when they entered the pasture, but did not stay.

**Fry Pan Pasture**

1. Shut off water in the Four Corner Waterlot and Orchard Draw Waterlot if needed.
2. Resume water hauling at Sunset Corral troughs if needed.
3. Salt only in south half of pasture.
4. Graze no longer than 2 months.

**Henry's Pasture**

1. Continue again this year to salt the upper ridges between Contrary and Henry's Tanks when grazing the south end of Henry's.
2. Salt the ridges east of Red Flat tank when grazing the north end of Henry's.
3. Move the cattle that frequent Baker Pass Tank and cattle using Red Flat Tank to these salt locations (in item 2).

