

2002-2003
ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS
QUARTZ WASH ALLOTMENT

The objectives of these instructions are, prior to the grazing season, 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

To provide spring deferment on Fritsche/center in spring of '03

II. AUTHORIZATION In 2002 - 2003 you are authorized to graze:

<u>Number of Cattle</u>	<u>Pasture</u>	<u>Grazing Period (may be modified to meet utilization)</u>
75	Fritsche/center	11/1/02 - 1/31/03
75	Quartz	2/1/03 - 4/30/03

III. ADMINISTRATION These procedures will be followed:

1. Pay the grazing fee before March 1, 2002. In case livestock have to be removed credit for unused grazing fees may be granted, providing the permittee submits a credit application at or about the time of livestock removal. Credit forms are available at the District Office.
2. Sub-leasing is prohibited. You must own the livestock placed on the allotment. They must be branded with a brand registered in your name. A current copy of your brand certificate must be on file at the District Office.
3. Request non-use, if need be, in writing at least 30 days prior to the grazing period.
4. Record actual use as it occurs. You will be asked to provide the Forest Officer actual use records next fall.
5. Any change 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 promptly.
6. Move your livestock regardless of the date shown in Section II to avoid exceeding utilization levels. To fail to do so is serious. **If we cannot document that AOI utilization levels are not being exceeded or show that corrective action is being taken we cannot continue to authorize grazing on that piece of land! It's that simple!**

6. Continued. 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 if so 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 (the date in Section II is only an estimate) 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 developed with your help. There is a minimum of one per grazing unit. A key area is normally 1/4 to 1 mile from water, located on productive soils on level to intermediate slopes, and is readily accessible for grazing. If high riparian potential is present (generally described as areas with 3-4 obligate riparian species) it will be a key area.

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. Some encouraged practices are closing off waters, moving salt, and herding.

Maximum allowable use follows. **UPLANDS:** *On palatable grasses:* 40% while actively growing, 55% during dormant periods. This percentage is of the total weight of the current year's production. *On shrubs:* browsing of 50% of available leaders. **RIPARIAN:** *On palatable grasses and sedges:* 30% of the total available. *On shrubs:* browsing of 50% of available leaders.

VI. MONITORING PLANNED

Permittee monitoring can help predict timely moves. No monitoring by the Forest Service is planned at time of approval of these instructions. If a priority need arises for monitoring, it will be accomplished.

VII. SALT AND MINERAL BLOCK *Requirements:* Salt and protein block will not be placed within a quarter mile of water. Place blocks on hard ground not susceptible to erosion. Remove blocks when allowable use has been met. Let's review the salt map in this meeting. Provide a salt map to the Forest Officer after salt or supplement blocks are distributed, if it is different than the one on file. *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 Chino Valley District. Maintaining fences and water developments by hand is excepted from this requirement.

Maintenance will follow the standards in your Part 3 of your grazing permit.

List here those range improvements planned for heavy maintenance prior to October 2002:

None planned, just routine fence maintenance.

X. SHORT-AGE CALVES The following defines animals counted for billing:

- all animals six months of age or older at the time of entering the allotment,
- those animals that will become twelve months of age during the grazing period, and
- all weaned animals regardless of age. (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. The permit can be issued at the Chino Valley Ranger District.

XII. VANDALISM If your allotment improvements should suffer any damage, or anything be stolen contact the Chino Valley Ranger District 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.

XII. PERMITTEE COMMENTS and SUGGESTIONS

XII. PERMITTEE COMMENTS and SUGGESTIONS (cont.)

Would like to improve water on allotment in Quartz
pasture. We need to look @ this (SE, SE, NW 15).

Tom looking also into Redoing Quartz Well in Center
pasture. Would like us to supply storage tanks if he
does the well. Well check into it & see what we can
work out (would be past Oct 1, 2002).

XIV. PERMIT CONDITIONS These Annual Operating Instructions are a part of the Term
Grazing Permit as provided for in Part 2, Section 8(a). They comply with the standards and
guidelines found in the Forest Plan.

Failure to follow any of the terms and conditions specified in Parts 1, 2, and 3 of your Term
Grazing Permit may result in suspension or cancellation, in whole or in part, after written notice.
(Refer to Part 1, Section 3, of your permit.)

Approval of these Annual Operating Instructions is a decision is subject to appeal in accordance
with 36 CFR 251. Appeals must be fully consistent with 36CFR 251.90 "Contents of Notice of
Appeal, ". Appeals must be filed with Mike King, Forest Supervisor, 344 S. Cortez Street,
Prescott, Arizona 86303 with a copy simultaneously sent to Mark Johnson, District Ranger, PO
Box 485, Chino Valley, Arizona, 86323 within 45 days of the date of decision.

APPROVED BY: _____

Faith Ryan
FR District Ranger

Jan 16 '02
Date

AGREED TO BY: _____

Signature Redacted for
Privacy Reasons
Permittee

16 Jan 2002
Date