

ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS  
2017 GRAZING SEASON  
V-DOUBLE SLASH ALLOTMENT (326)  
SANTA FE NATIONAL FOREST  
JEMEZ RANGER DISTRICT

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
V Double Slash Cattle Co                      Permittee


3-27-17  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patrick Trujillo                      Permittee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William J. Eaton                      Range Staff

4/1/2017  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian Riley                      District Ranger

3/27/2017  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Annual Operating Instructions Meeting held on:

3/27/2017  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Persons Attending Meeting:

Lupe Trujillo \_\_\_\_\_

Pat Trujillo \_\_\_\_\_

Ramon Trujillo \_\_\_\_\_

Mat Chavez \_\_\_\_\_

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## I. AUTHORIZATION

### 2017 Grazing Season

Permitted Numbers				2017 Authorized Use			
Permittee(s)	Head	Season	AUM	Head	Season	AUM	% of Permitted
V// Cattle Co.	148 c/c 6 Bulls	3/1 – 2/28 Yearlong	1800	163	3/1 – 2/28 Yearlong	1980	110%
Patrick Trujillo	27 c/c	6/1 – 9/30	108	30	6/1 – 9/30	120	111%
Total	152	Yearlong	1908	193		2100	110%

### 2016 Grazing Season

Permitted Numbers				2016 Actual Use			
Permittee(s)	Head	Season	AUM	Head	Season	AUM	% of Permitted
V// Cattle Co.	148 c/c 6 Bulls	3/1 – 2/28 Yearlong	1800	148	3/1 – 2/28 Yearlong	1800	100%
Fred Rivera	27 c/c	6/1 – 9/30	108	27	6/1 – 9/30	108	100%
Total	152	Yearlong	1908		184 Days	1908	100%

## II. ROTATION SCHEDULE

Numbers of Cattle	Pasture	Grazing Period	Days
163	San Jose/Borrogo	3/1 – 4/15	45
163	East Paliza	4/15 – 5/8	23
163	Middle Paliza	5/8 – 6/8	31
193	Los Griegos/Watershed	6/9 – 6/23	14
193	North/Jemez Falls/Banco Bonito	6/24 – 8/15	52
193	Los Griegos/Watershed	8/15 – 9/30	45
193	Riveras /West Paliza	10/1 – 10/31	31
163	Borrogo/San Jose	11/1 – 2/28	120

The above authorized numbers and season of use is no guarantee that they will stay on the allotment for the full season. Drought conditions, below average forage production and range readiness may require that cattle will enter or be removed from the allotment later or earlier than expected. This decision will be made in cooperation with you and Forest Service personnel. Decisions will be based on the utilization of key species in key areas as outlined in this Annual Operating Instructions.

The routing plan described above is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances such as lack of water in pasture, adequate forage needs to avoid overuse within the pasture, etc. The Forest Service or the permittee can initiate changes of pastures outside of the above routing plan in coordination with this office. A written justification must be submitted by the permittee to this office before a change is made.

## III. UTILIZATION/MONITORING

The proper utilization of forage is a critical factor in livestock management on the Simon Allotment; allowable use is set at 30%. We will be checking levels of use during the grazing season. We will be visiting the allotment to insure that utilization levels are within recommended levels. This method will give us an accurate reading on the utilization levels on key grass species. Within the Simon Allotment the Key Areas to be monitored will be:

Both the Forest Service and the permittee are responsible for monitoring use and stubble height on the allotment to ensure that proper use levels are not exceeded. If areas within a pasture or the pasture as a whole begin to approach the identified stubble heights, actions will need to be taken to limit additional forage use. We are primarily concerned with use levels in canyon bottoms where cattle tend to concentrate use on palatable feed. We have identified key areas to be monitored on this allotment (see attached map and Key Area description Table 1). The primary grass species on this allotment are outlined above. Please refer to Table 2 below for utilization characteristics.

Forage use levels should be monitored periodically by the permittee to aid in determining when livestock should be moved between pastures. Forest Service personnel will attempt to visit at least one key area within each grazed pasture during the second half of the scheduled grazing period. If use within that key area is approaching allowable stubble heights then the remaining key areas will also be monitored and the pasture inspected to determine overall use patterns. This information will be used to determine if cattle are to be re-distributed within the pasture or removed from the pasture. See the monitoring Schedule for the Simon Allotment Table 2.

**TABLE 2**

Pasture	Key Area	Monitoring Date	Monitoring Type	Utiliz. %	Stubble Ht.
East Paliza		April 5 <sup>th</sup> 2017	Range Readiness		
Middle Paliza		June 1 <sup>st</sup> 2017	Monitoring		
North		August 1 <sup>st</sup> 2017	Monitoring		
ALL	ALL	November 10 <sup>th</sup> 2017	End Season Monitoring		

**The grazing permit holder is encouraged to participate in these inspections.** We will try to follow this schedule as close as possible but due to our ever-changing circumstances they may be cancelled, changed or not completed. We will try our best to keep you informed on changing events.

**IV. DEVELOPMENT WORK**

In order to further develop the allotment, the Forest Service and the permittee have cooperatively agreed to complete the following projects. In general, Range Betterment Funds (derived from the grazing fees) can be used for approximately one-half of the cost of any project. Please be aware that it usually will be necessary to plan projects with at least one year lead time to allow required documentation and to obtain the necessary funding and clearances. Project work agreed to under Cooperative Improvement Modifications is to be completed within established time frames and to the standards attached to and made a part of the agreement unless otherwise modified by the Forest Officer.

◆ **Tasks and Projects From Previous Year(s)**

- Borresgo Corral

◆ **Projects for this year**

- Gates on Borrego Corral
- Riveras Spring
- Borrego Cattleguards
- Channel 2 Towers Fence

◆ **Maintenance Projects For this Year**

## V. MAINTENANCE OF IMPROVEMENTS

Maintenance of improvements i.e. (fences, springs, tanks, wells) should be complete and in satisfactory condition prior to entry date. Please refer to attached map for your responsibilities.

**If your maintenance responsibilities do not meet satisfactory condition you will not be permitted to turn out or your entry date may be delayed.**

## VI. SPECIAL MITIGATION MEASURES

To attain conformance with Amendment of Forest Plans and the final U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service "Biological Opinion for Ongoing Livestock Grazing Activities on Allotments" which determine a No Affect and/or May Affect Not Likely to Adversely Affect on your allotment, **the following conditions must be met.**

### Forage Utilization

Forage use by grazing animals will be maintained at or above a condition, which assures recovery and continued existence of threatened and endangered. In order to attain this standard, the above site-specific key areas and key forage utilization standards have been developed for the Simon Allotment.

### Construction Activities

Seasonal restrictions (March 1-August 15) on construction activities apply in known breeding areas for threatened and endangered species. Any new construction or reconstruction activities will need to be coordinated with this office. **This does not apply to routine maintenance of existing range improvements.**

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your Annual Operating Instructions please feel free to contact our office and talk to Jim Eaton (Acting Range Staff), Mathew Chavez (Range Conservationist), or Brian Riley (District Ranger).

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