

# V-Double Slash Allotment (#00326)

## Allotment Management Plan

### Jemez Ranger District

### Santa Fe National Forest

Prepared by: *[Signature]* Date: 7/17/2008  
District Range Staff

Agreed to/Reviewed by: *[Signature]* Date: 7/17/2008  
Permittee

Approved by: *[Signature]* Date: 7/18/08  
District Ranger

## Objectives:

The following objectives are designed to move management toward the desired goal:

### ***Forest Plan Direction:***

The Forest Plan established overall management direction and management area specific standards and guidelines (S&G). The allotment management plan would be implemented under the direction of the Forest Plan. The Santa Fe National Forest Plan provides the following management direction regarding grazing on National Forest System lands:

1. The V-Double Slash Allotment contains lands identified as suitable for domestic livestock grazing in the Santa Fe National Forest Plan (forest plan). The project proposal was designed to conform to the forest plan goals, direction, and standards and guidelines, which are incorporated by reference. The Jemez National Recreation Area (Management Area X), the East Fork of the Jemez Wild and Scenic River, as well as portions of Management Areas, I, M, P, R, and S overlap this allotment.
  - **Management Area I** – Emphasis is on providing active management of cultural (heritage) resources including protection, stabilization, interpretation, evaluation, and opportunities for research. Use restrictions will be imposed as necessary to protect the cultural values (USDA FS 1987b, pg. 135). Less than one percent of the allotment lies within this management area, primarily along mesa tops. Standards and guidelines applicable to grazing include:
    - *Locate range structures to avoid the concentration of livestock on identified cultural resources (USDA FS 1987b, pg. 137).*
  - **Management Area P** – Approximately 51 percent of the allotment falls into this management area. The emphasis of management area P is on cultural resource location, inventory, nomination, and protection. Management area direction specific to grazing states, “Allotment plans typically utilize Levels B or C management to achieve management area objectives. Range management intensity levels B and C are defined on page 211 of the Forest Plan as follows:
    - **Level B** – Livestock grazing is very limited. Management is generally accomplished by moving livestock from one place to another. Capacity and actual use are kept in balance by removing or adding livestock. There is very little structural improvement work done, such as fences or water development, and no forage improvement work, such as seeding.
    - **Level C** – Livestock grazing is controlled through structural improvements and by physically moving livestock. Livestock capacities are balanced by adjusting numbers of livestock. Any forage improvement is generally the result of meeting other resource objectives, such as wildlife habitat improvement.
  - **Management Area R** – Cultural resource location, inventory, nomination, and protection are emphasized. The emphasis is also on wildlife habitat

- Key herbaceous riparian vegetation on riparian areas, other than streambanks, will not be grazed more than 30 percent during the growing season or 40 percent during the dormant season; and
  - Streambank instability attributable to grazing livestock will be less than 10 percent on a stream segment.”
2. The forest plan allows for cattle grazing in this area where it does not impair long-term soil productivity or exceed standards such as those for forage utilization or riparian area protection.

**Soil and Water Quality:**

The objective is to minimize soil and water impacts from cattle grazing. Prevent cattle from moving into a pasture until after appropriate conditions exist (range readiness and improvement inspection). Move cattle when utilization or residual levels of key forage species in key use areas reaches established guidelines. Stream bank instability attributable to grazing livestock will be less than ten percent on a stream segment. Annually vary salting location and locate salt at least ½ mile from water.

**Wildlife and Plants:**

The objective is to minimize impacts to wildlife and plants from continued cattle grazing, and locating and constructing range improvements, which includes the following: Construct fences to meet wildlife design specifications. If any listed or proposed Threatened, Endangered, or Sensitive species are found during project activities, work in the immediate vicinity will stop until a Forest Service wildlife biologist has resurveyed the area and the recommended mitigation measures have been implemented. Water troughs will have wildlife escape ramps. Fence lines will have minimal clearance and snags would be retained.

**Heritage Resources:**

The objective is to protect heritage resources through avoidance from direct or indirect impacts caused by ground disturbing activities associated with implementation of range improvements. No ground disturbing activities are to be conducted within the site boundaries in the V-Double Slash Allotment. Should any new range improvement projects (undertakings) be identified and proposed, they will be subject to Section 106 consultation, including heritage resource inventory and evaluation. Forest heritage personnel will periodically inspect any proposed projects during and after implementation to ensure that all project work remains outside of the boundaries of heritage resource sites. If any unrecorded heritage resource site(s) or cultural materials are discovered during the course of the implementation of a project, all project activity in the vicinity will cease and the District Archaeologist or Forest Archaeologist will be notified. Work in the vicinity of the discovered materials will not resume until appropriate evaluation and treatment recommendations are determined.

- The key area must provide an indicative sample of range conditions, trend or degree of seasonal use.
- Potential key areas are not low production sites (< 100 pounds/acre), within 100-yards of roads or fences, nor on land controlled by another entity.
- At a minimum the selected areas should be monitored in the spring to document range readiness and at the end of the growing season to document end of grazing season impacts.

Specific management goals (riparian areas, Endangered Species Act consultations, etc.) may require selection of monitoring locations that do not meet the previously listed criteria for a key area. The rationale behind selection of these critical areas should be documented.

Vegetation composition and trend will be monitored at five-year intervals using benchmarks. Benchmarks are reference points that are sensitive to management changes.

**Validation monitoring** will determine if the stocking rates are appropriate by comparing actual use records and effectiveness monitoring results.

**Management:**

A new 10-year term grazing permit will be issued for this allotment. Table 1.1 is a summary of the allotment analysis broken down by pasture. Range analysis studies will be used to document any needed adjustments to this allotment management plan.

**Table 1.1 Summary of V-Double Slash Range Analysis**

V-Double Slash				
Pasture	Grazing System	Typical Season of use	Average Duration of use*	Average Number of Livestock*
BANCO BONITO	DEFERRED	SUMMER	≈20 days	148 c/c 6 Bulls
NORTH	DEFERRED	SUMMER	≈30 days	148 c/c 6 Bulls
JEMEZ FALLS	DEFERRED	SUMMER	≈30 days	148 c/c 6 Bulls
LOS GRIEGOS	DEFERRED	SUMMER	≈35 days	148 c/c 6 Bulls
WATERSHED	DEFERRED	SUMMER	≈30 days	27 c/c
RIVERA	DEFERRED	SUMMER	≈35 days	148 c/c 6 Bulls

grazing season. Decisions regarding annual authorizations for season-of-use will be based primarily on monitoring results from this allotment.

Animal unit months (AUMs) refers to quantity of forage available for use by cattle, not the number of animals. Annual authorizations will range between 450 and 1200 AUMs. The AUMs authorized for this allotment may be reduced initially until the negative impacts to range conditions associated with unauthorized use are reversed. As the desired range conditions return, the number of authorized AUMs may be returned to current levels.

The initial anticipated normal number of authorized animals and AUMs for this allotment is displayed in Table 1.2. The number of animals authorized will be adjusted annually to reflect any adjustments in season-of use and resource conditions including forage availability. The decisions on these adjustments will be based on monitoring results from this allotment.

**Table 1.2 Average Numbers and Seasons of Use**

Number of Cattle	Season of Use	AUMs
148	3/1 – 2/28	2344
6 (Bulls)	5/1 – 8/31	36
27	6/1 – 9/30	143

Development of the AOI will be done 90 days before livestock are scheduled to transition to summer pastures. Considerations for developing the AOI and yearly rotation schedule would include but not be limited to: Range readiness; Number of days a pasture can be grazed; Availability of water and or means of getting water (hauling); Past monitoring; New range improvement implementations; and the growing seasons of cool and warm season grasses.

## **Improvements:**

### ***Existing Improvements:***

Maintenance - Maintenance of range improvements is a permittee responsibility. All permittees will be assigned responsibility for maintenance of all grazing related range improvements (Table 1.3). Maintenance includes the purchase and/or replacement of materials necessary to maintain the usefulness of any improvement. Non-Use does not exempt permittees from maintenance responsibilities.

<b>Table 1.3 cont. V-Double Slash Range Improvements</b>				
<b>Name</b>	<b>Kind</b>	<b>Imp. #</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENT</b>
Jarita Spring	Spring Dev.	003222	250 gal	V//
Barrel Spring	Spring Dev.	003223	250 gal	V//
<b>Santiago Spring</b>	<b>Spring Dev.</b>	<b>003224</b>	<b>250 gal</b>	<b>Rivera</b>
<b>Guacamalla Corral</b>	<b>Corral</b>	<b>003225</b>	<b>1 each</b>	<b>Rivera</b>
<b>Indian Corral Spring</b>	<b>Spring Dev.</b>	<b>003226</b>	<b>2 – 250 gal</b>	<b>Rivera</b>
<b>Indian Corral Pipeline</b>	<b>Pipeline</b>	<b>003227</b>	<b>0.5 mi</b>	<b>Rivera</b>
<b>Guacamalla Spring</b>	<b>Spring Dev.</b>	<b>003229</b>	<b>250 gal</b>	<b>Rivera</b>
Water Canyon Spring	Spring Dev.	003230	250 gal	V//
Rivera/Paliza Fence	PBF	003231	1.0 mi	V//
<b>Green Tank Spring</b>	<b>Spring Dev.</b>	<b>003232</b>	<b>250 gal</b>	<b>Rivera</b>
Puerto de Benao Spring	Spring Dev.	003233	250 gal	V//
Bear Wallow Spring	Spring Dev.	003234	250 gal	V//
Nicole Tank	Earthen Reservoir	003235	4' dam	V//
Rivera Spring	Spring Dev.	003236	2 – 250 gal	V// and Vallecitos
Red Fir Spring	Spring Dev.	003237	250 gal	V//
Bench Spring	Spring Dev.	003238	250 gal	V//
Lucas Trick Tank	Trick Tank	003239	1500 gal	USFS
Vallecitos Bndry Fence	ABF	003302	2.0 mi	Vallecitos
FS Road 10 Cattleguard	CG	003316	15'	USFS
Peralta/Jemez Fence	ABF	003131	1.2 mi	Peralta
Jemez Boundary Fence	ABF	003151	2.3 mi	V//
Jemez Cyn Cattleguard	CG	003152	18 ft	NM Hwy Dept
East Fork Fence	ROW	003153	7.0 mi	NM Hwy Dept
Division Fence	PBF	003154	0.3 mi	V//

<b>Table 1.3 cont. V-Double Slash Range Improvements</b>				
<b>Name</b>	<b>Kind</b>	<b>Imp. #</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENT</b>
Valles Caldera Fence	ABF	003155	6.0 mi	Valles Caldera NP
Jemez Falls Fence	PBF	003156	0.6 mi	V//
Jemez Falls Pipeline	Water System	003157	1 mi 2 troughs	USFS and V//
Jemez Falls Water Storage	Storage Tank	003158	10,000 gal	USFS and V//
Jemez Falls Cattleguard	CG	003159	18 ft	USFS
Los Griegos	CG	003160	18 ft	NM Hwy Dept
Caldwell Cattleguard	CG	003161	18 ft	NM Hwy Dept
Vallecitos Cattleguard	CG	003162	18 ft	NM Hwy Dept
Redondo Fence	ABF	003163	0.3 mi	V//
FS 134 Cattleguard	CG	003164	18 ft	NM Hwy Dept
Cox Ranch Fence	ABF	003165	0.75 mi	Pvt Landowners
Los Pinos Fence	ABF	003166	7.0 mi	Pvt Landowners
Las Conchas Fence	ABF	003101	0.75 mi	Pvt Landowners
Los Griegos Corral	Corral	003167	1 each	V//
Victor Spring	Spring Dev.	003168	250 gal	V//
Randy Spring	Spring Dev.	003169	250 gal	V//
Elk Trail Spring	Spring Dev.	003170	250 gal	V//
San Jose Boundary Fence	ABF	003251	1.7 mi	Ponderosa
San Jose Boundary Fence	ABF	003251	2.5 mi	V//
Burn Tank	Earthen Reservoir	003240	4' dam	V//
San Jose Grant Fence	ABF	003252	1.5 mi	San Diego
San Jose Grant Fence	ABF	003252	1.5 mi	Vallecitos
Ojo De San Jose Cattleguard	CG	003253	15 ft	Vallecitos
San Jose Grant Cattleguard	CG	003254	15 ft	USFS
Ponderosa Cattleguard	CG	003255	30 ft	NM Hwy Dept
Privateland Fence	ABF	003256	8.0 mi	Privateland Owners
Petaca Tank	Earthen Reservoir	003257	4' dam	V//
San Jose Tank	Earthen Reservoir	003258	4' dam	V//
Borrego Mesa Boundary Fence	ABF	003003	1.5 mi	V//
Borrego Mesa Boudary Fence	ABF	003003	5.5 mi	Jemez/Zia Pueblos
Canada de Cochiti Fence	ABF	003001	3.7 mi	Jemez Pueblo

Fences should be maintained to the standard to which they were constructed. Water developments should be maintained to reasonable standards of repair, orderliness and safety. Maintenance of stock water ponds with earthen dams includes the periodic cleaning, and repair of the ponds using bulldozers and/or loaders. Water troughs will have wildlife escape ramps.

***Proposed New Improvements:***

- None

**Monitoring:**

The District Ranger will notify the permittee sufficiently in advance of planned range analysis or evaluation work on the allotment so that the permittee may participate. The principles, purposes of the analysis, and the necessity for a thorough range inspection should be discussed with the permittee at the time of invitation to participate. Verbal invitations will be confirmed by letter. The permittee(s) participation will be documented in the analysis narrative and in photos.

Range readiness will be monitored before the grazing season begins. The following standards are used on the Santa Fe National Forest for determining range readiness. A combination of species and plants within key areas will be used as a guide.

Grasses/grass-like

Arizona fescue	6 inches or higher, heading out
Carex	seed formed
June grass	plants heading out
Kentucky bluegrass	panicles fully open
Mountain muhly	headed out
Western wheatgrass	6 inches or higher

Browse

Aspen	fully leaved, deep green
Mountain Mahogany	fully leaved
Serviceberry	fruit forming
Snowberry	flower buds evident

Residual vegetation (stubble height) will be measured in established key areas (see map for location of key areas) during the grazing season for each pasture and at the end of the growing season. Measured data will be compared with existing threshold data for plant sustainability. Acceptable species and minimum stubble heights for key areas would be (1) Arizona Fescue, 6 inches; (2) Blue Grama, 1.5 to 2.5 inches; (3) Western Wheatgrass, 4 inches; (4) Squirrel Tail, 4 inches. (5) Bluegrass, 4



Key Area Map

