

**South Wahoo C&H Allotment**  
**2009 ANNUAL OPERATING PROVISIONS**

**1. Permitted and Authorized Use**

The 2009 cost per Head Month will be added to your Bill for Collection when received. The Bill will be sent to you. Payment must be received by the due date listed on the Bill for Collection.

**Your permit reads as follows:**

<u>Permittee</u>	<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Term Permit</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>AUMs</u>
Robert C. Weed (#61285)	South Wahoo (#219)	350 c/c	09/1-12/15	1,610

**Upon payment of fees, you are authorized to graze as follows:**

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Authorized</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>AUMS</u>
South Wahoo	400 c/c	11/1-1/31	1,597

**Actual on-dates and off-dates are dependant on range readiness and when allowable use standards are met. The Forest Service may approve changes to the grazing rotation in consultation with you, to address range condition and situations that may occur due to forage condition or weather related circumstances.**

**2. Grazing Management**

**It is strongly suggested that livestock be moved before utilization standards are met. If allowable use levels are met early in the scheduled pasture, cattle will be rotated into the next pasture or off the Forest This should prevent non-compliance of standards, allowing for time to clean the unit of stragglers.**

**Monitoring will be conducted to measure utilization of riparian and upland vegetation throughout the grazing year.**

**The following illustrates last year's rotation:**

<i>PASTURE</i>	<i>ON</i>	<i>OFF</i>	<i>NUMBER</i>
South	10/01/2007	12/31/2007	350

**The following illustrates any changes made during the annual Validation Meeting to the 2009 grazing rotation on the allotment.**

<i>PASTURE</i>	<i>ON</i>	<i>OFF</i>	<i>NUMBER</i>
North	11/01/2008	01/31/2009	400

Cattle are to be completely removed from a pasture by the off date. I will allow you two weeks prior to the off date to begin moving cattle into the next pasture. If two weeks is not adequate, you must request additional time from this office. Please notify this office when you begin to move cattle and when a pasture rotation is complete.

Permittees with livestock in rested units, grazing units outside the season of use, and grazing areas not authorized in advance, will be non-compliant with the terms and conditions of their Term Grazing Permit. Appropriate action, including billing at the unauthorized use rate, may be taken.

### **3. Gila National Forest Management Direction**

Your Term Grazing Permit includes the specific maximum allowable utilization levels applicable to your allotment. Allowable use is calculated at a point-in-time. To comply with standards in the Gila National Forest Plan, livestock must be moved to another unit or remove them from National Forest System lands regardless of the time remaining in the grazing season before utilization standards are met.

You are responsible for tracking and complying with your permitted forage use levels. For your convenience, the South Wahoo C&H Allotment maximum allowable forage utilization levels are listed below:

#### **South Wahoo C&H Allotment:**

The following utilization standards will be applied on the South Wahoo Allotment:

- Up to 30% allowable use on all key areas.

#### **Range Improvements**

Range improvements must be maintained to standard before cattle are allowed into a pasture. It is the permittee's responsibility to ensure that range improvements remain functional. This includes boundary fences in pastures not currently being grazed. Routine maintenance of existing improvements does not require written clearance; however, construction/reconstruction of new improvements must be authorized in writing from this office.

#### **2006 Improvement Planned:**

- We apologize that we were unable to complete the work on the two dirt tanks that we began last year. At our annual validation meeting we discussed that cleaning out the Bear Tank would be our first priority for grazing year 2006 and we will try and accomplish that work this spring. Completed ☐ Not Completed ☐

#### **2009 Improvements Planned (Work or Supplies Needed from 2006 and New Projects)**

Bear Tank Possible EQIP Project for 2009 \_\_\_\_\_

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**When improvements have been maintained, please call the Black Range Ranger Station and report that maintenance has been completed. If verification is not received from the permittee,**

**inspections will be made. During that inspection, if we find maintenance has not been completed, and livestock are grazing an area unscheduled for use at the time, they will be considered unauthorized. Permittees may be billed for unauthorized use and/or permit action taken for maintenance.**

All water developments must provide access and escape to and from water for all types of wildlife. Please contact the Kameron or Shane for assistance.

## **1. Monitoring**

Key areas for monitoring are identified as riparian areas and transect cluster locations. Additional key areas may be identified during the season based on routine monitoring.

The idea of a key area is to find a site that is representative of a larger area in which cattle obtain the majority of their required forage resources. Key area monitoring will avoid areas directly adjacent to permanent water sources, cattle trails, roads, and fence lines.

Upland areas will be monitored for use on perennial grass species.

District personnel will contact the permittees to coordinate site visits to monitor key areas. Permittee participation is encouraged. Forage utilization estimates will be consistent with the Forest Service Range Analysis Handbook methodology, and may also include FS Regional stubble-height standards, as well as other techniques generally accepted in the field of range management.

## **2. Special Management Instructions**

The following restrictions will be implemented so that management remains in compliance with the Endangered Species Act. The instructions below relate to threatened, endangered, and proposed to be listed species as well as range/watershed conditions.

- There are no documentations that identify any protected and restricted Mexican Spotted Owl habitat on the South Wahoo Allotment, therefore there are no restrictions regarding the Mexican Spotted Owl.
- Stock tanks must be surveyed for possible aquatic habitat before earth-disturbing maintenance is authorized.
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service listed the Chiricahua leopard frog as a threatened species in 2002. We have completed grazing consultation on your allotment regarding the effects of livestock grazing on the Chiricahua leopard frog. We determined that livestock grazing will either have no effect or will not adversely affect the Chiricahua leopard frog. As a result of this determination, there were no changes required of your grazing permit. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concurred with this determination. Therefore, consultation has been completed. A copy of this consultation is on file with your local Ranger District.

*The Endangered Species Act requires that actions funded or carried out by the federal government go through the consultation process to insure these actions do not jeopardize the continued existence of a listed species. Please notify this office of any planned earth disturbing activities involving riparian areas, dirt tanks, or other sources of open water.*

### 3. Other Instructions

**On yearlong ranges, calves under six months of age on January 1st will be counted against the authorized numbers. By April 1st, these calves must be removed from the Forest or counted against the authorized numbers.**

The permittee must obtain permission from this office, before conducting earth-disturbing activities on the National Forest. The Forest Service will arrange inspections of project areas and will prepare appropriate environmental and cultural documents before earth-disturbing activities proceed. These activities include road/earthen tank maintenance, as well as construction/reconstruction of trails, roads, earthen tanks, etc. Do not conduct any earth-disturbing activities using heavy equipment on the Forest without written clearance from this office.

Salt must be located at least ¼ mile from water, and preferably on ridges and/or areas of low use. Do not place salt blocks in the same location as the previous year, and locate blocks on hard ground not susceptible to erosion. Supplemental feeding, other than mineral or supplement block, is not authorized on the National Forest.

Accurate records of your operation will aid in planning and determining the effectiveness of the grazing system. Please maintain reasonably accurate records of cattle numbers throughout the grazing season.

The Annual Operating Instructions are a part of the Term Grazing Permit as provided for in Part 1, Section 3. These instructions comply with the standards and guidelines found in the Forest Plan, including the 1996 Forest Plan Amendment. They also comply with the Endangered Species Act found in the Biological Assessment for the South Wahoo Allotment. Any additional information collected during the year may be incorporated into the Annual Operating Instructions.

These instructions are not subject to administrative review, pursuant to 36 CFR 251.

Your compliance with these instructions is essential for the proper management of National Forest System lands. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of your permit and these instructions may result in issuance of a notice of noncompliance with the terms of your grazing permit. If needed during the grazing season, changes can be made in these instructions, provided the changes are first approved and documented by the District Ranger or other authorized Forest Service officer.

We look forward to working with you and solicit your cooperation and involvement in bringing about sound range and livestock management practices that will enhance all of the allotment's resources. If you have any ideas or suggestions that will improve the management of this allotment, we would like to hear from you.

**This 2009 Annual Operating Provisions for the South Wahoo C&H Allotment was discussed with the Permittee on October 30, 2008. Understand that these operating instructions are issued by the Forest Officer in charge of the area under permit as provided in Clause 8a of your term grazing permit. As such, they require the same degree of compliance as the regular terms of your permit.**

Approved By: /s/Larry D. Cosper, District Ranger 11/19/2008  
Forest Officer in Charge Date

Reviewed By: /s/ Robert Weed 10/30/08  
Permittee Date

South Wahoo C&H  
2009 ACTUAL USE RECORD

Planned use from the AOI:

<b>Allotment</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Numbers</b>	<b>Season</b>
<b>South Wahoo</b>		<b>c/c</b>	

Please fill in your actual use by the unit grazed and the number of livestock and dates grazed in each unit. Bulls count as part of your permitted numbers.

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Number of Livestock</b>	<b>Date entered Unit</b>	<b>Date left Unit</b>

LOSSES: Indicate number and class of animals lost by cause.

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Class of Lvstk</b>	<b>Predators</b>	<b>Poison</b>	<b>Other</b>

Days spent maintaining allotment improvements: \_\_\_\_\_ Approximate cost of materials: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate cost to manage livestock on National Forest, including riding, salting etc.: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMENTS:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_