

ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS  
BRADY ALLOTMENT

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

- review general permit administration requirements,
- identify livestock management requirements on Brady allotment, and
- document any needs or agreements beyond the standard directions.

I. AUTHORIZATION In 2001 you are authorized to graze no more than 65 head:

<u>Number of Cattle</u>	<u>Pasture</u>	<u>Grazing Period</u>
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See attached Rotation

II. ADMINISTRATION These procedures will be followed:

1. Grazing fees must be paid before March 1.
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 Bradshaw District office.
3. If you elect to take non-use, it needs to be requested in writing at least 45 days prior to the grazing period.
4. You are asked to record actual use as it occurs. "Actual use as it occurs" means livestock numbers and dates your permitted livestock are in a pasture. Please show the number of head and dates livestock are moved between pastures. Livestock on your allotment from an adjacent allotment as a result of broken fences or open gates will also be noted. You will be asked to provide the Forest Officer 2001's actual use record next winter.
4. Any change from these Annual Operating Instructions is to be coordinated and confirmed at least 14 days in advance with the Forest Officer. If emergency conditions require making a change immediately, notify the Forest Officer promptly.
5. You will be requested to move livestock before the date specified above if allowable use is reached earlier. You will have an opportunity to field check utilization with the Forest Officer. At least 14 days prior notice of an early move date will be given. See also Section IV.
6. *Start as early as needed to accomplish pasture moves on time!!* At least 90% of the permitted livestock must be moved by the rotation date specified above or the by Forest Officer. It is expected that remaining strays will be actively gathered after the scheduled date. Livestock allowed to remain in a pasture beyond this, allowed to drift between pastures, or allowed in a rested pasture may be considered a violation of your Term Grazing Permit.

7. Bradshaw District 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.

8. You are responsible for your representatives and/or employees following all Forest Officer instructions.

**III. KEY AREAS** Key areas are identified on the attached allotment map. A key area is used to monitor forage, browse and soil. 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. Where there are perennial or intermittent streams, key areas may be adjacent to the water.

**IV. ALLOWABLE USE** The scheduled rotation, season of use, and livestock numbers are indicated in Section I. Adjustments in the rotation schedule, season of use, or numbers, will be made if allowable use standards are 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. On grasses : The allowable use in areas other than riparian is from the current Range Analysis and Management Handbook. (Section 53.2). The percentage is of the total weight of the current year's production. The allowable use in riparian areas is the minimum suggested by Clary and Webster, 1989, after a review of literature that examined the results of riparian grazing management. On shrubs: allowable use in riparian areas is interpreted from the Prescott National Forest Plan.

**Key species and maximum allowable use on areas other than riparian:**

Side Oats Grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*) 35%  
Blue Grama (*Bouteloua gracilis*) 30%  
Black Grama (*Bouteloua eripoda*) 40%  
Curly Mesquite (*Hilaria belangeri*) 30%  
Junegrass (*Koeleria cristata*) 30%  
Squirrel Tail (*Sitanion hystrix*) 30%  
Three Awn (*Aristida* species) 40%  
Western Wheat Grass (*Agropyron smithii*) 40%

Mountain Mahogany 40% of available leaders browsed  
Ceanothus 40% of available leaders browsed  
Apache plume 40% of available leaders browsed

**Key species and maximum allowable use in riparian areas include:** Herbaceous maximum allowable use in riparian areas is 30% - 40%. Use the following stubble height only *as a guide*.

Blue grass (*Poa pratensis*) 3" stubble height  
Deer grass (*Muhlenbergia rigens*) 4" stubble  
Sedges (*Carex* species all) 4" stubble height  
Wire grass (*Juncus* species all) 4" stubble height  
All riparian woody species 20% of leaders available to livestock

## V. MONITORING PLANNED

Check each pasture when the grazing period is approximately 3/4 over. Inspection will entail utilization, species composition and soil conditions. Monitoring will focus on drainages and key areas. Utilization of restricted areas will also be monitored.

VI. SALT AND MINERAL BLOCK *Requirements:* Salt or mineral 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. Provide a salt map to the Forest Officer after salt or supplement blocks are distributed. *Suggestions:* Ideally, salt and mineral more than one-half mile from water helps widen livestock use. Moving salt to lightly used areas also helps. Blocks may be removed by the Forest Officer if found near water, over-utilized areas or meadow bottoms.

VII. FIRE PREVENTION All vehicles should be equipped with a properly functioning exhaust system. A shovel and axe for use in extinguishing camp and forest fires should be carried. All authorized open camp and branding fires must have a fire ring down to mineral soil, and be handled in a safe manner. All State and local fire regulations and restrictions will be observed. Report any fire to the Fire Center, phone 771-6110, or 445-4331.

It is your responsibility to take all reasonable precautions to prevent person caused fires from your actions. You are expected to take diligent efforts to suppress and report promptly all fires on or endangering lands and property used in conjunction with your Term Grazing Permit.

Work involving the use of heavy equipment will be done only with prior approval. The equipment will be inspected first to insure its spark arrestor and muffler system meets Forest Service standards.

Please notify the District if you plan to conduct debris burning on your private lands. This will allow us to notify our lookouts.

VIII. PREDATOR CONTROL The Prescott National Forest does not have a current Animal Damage Management Plan. If it is felt that predator control is necessary, please contact the Forest Officer.

IX. RANGE IMPROVEMENTS A permit modification will be prepared for new projects. The permittee will sign a permit modification and receipt for materials.

Maintenance and new 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 by hand is excepted from this requirement.

- A. Fences Proper maintenance of fences will help insure they will hold livestock in a pasture will extend their useful life. Many fences are very old and in need of major reconstruction. The permittee will help identify and prioritize fences in need of reconstruction.

*Unless agreed to in advance, on all fences this year:*

1. Pasture fences will be maintained before moving livestock to a new pasture.
2. Abandoned fence wire and steel posts will be removed from the Forest.
3. Broken wire will be spliced with good quality double strand, 12-1/2 gauge barbed or smooth wire.
4. Wire spacing will be similar to original spacing. Where possible, the top wire height will not exceed 42"; and the bottom wire will be at least 16" from the ground.
5. Wire will be stretched to remove slack.
6. Broken posts or rotten wood posts will be replaced with a steel post or a juniper or treated wood post greater than 5" diameter, unless on a fence identified for reconstruction.
7. Brace posts will be maintained in tight and serviceable condition.
8. Steel posts that have settled will be jacked up, and moved if necessary. Leaning steel posts will be straightened.
9. Gates will be maintained for easy opening. Gate sticks will be 2-3" diameter. Smooth wire will be used for for gate loops.
10. At least 90% of wooden fence stays will be sound. Replacement stays will be of good quality wood 1-1/2" by 3" in size. The bottom of each stay will rest on the ground. Galvanized stay wire will be used for tying stays.
11. Missing staples and fence clips will be replaced.
12. All trees that have fallen across the fence line will be cut and removed.

**B. Water.** Stock water is important for proper livestock distribution. If water sources are low you may need to haul water to obtain proper livestock distribution. Many water developments are in need of major reconstruction. You will be asked to help identify and prioritize water developments in need of reconstruction.

*Unless agreed to in advance, all water developments this year will have:*

1. **Springs**

- a. fences to protect the spring maintained to standard.
- b. collection boxes and inlet and overflow pipes clean of sediment and debris.
- c. broken pipe repaired or replaced. Material not usable is removed from the Forest.
- d. leaky troughs repaired. Troughs should be level.

e. functioning overflow pipes or float valves to avoid creating a boggy area at the trough.

2. Stock Tanks

a. leaks checked and noted with the Forest Officer.

b. spillways cleared of debris.

c. Maintenance on the spillway, eroded portions, or any cleaning will be approved by the Forest Officer *prior* to any work.

X. SHORT-AGE CALVES The following defines what will count as a permitted animal and be paid for:

- all animals six months of age or older "at the time of entering the allotment" (March 1),
- those animals that will become twelve months of age during the grazing year, 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 Bradshaw Ranger District Office.

XII. VANDALISM If you should suffer any damage to your improvements or have anything stolen contact the Bradshaw 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.

XIII. PERMITTEE COMMENTS and SUGGESTIONS

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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 and Ernest Del Rio, District Ranger 344 S. Cortez Street, Prescott, Arizona 86303 within 45 days of the date of decision.

APPROVED BY: David E. Martin 1/30/01  
District Ranger Date

AGREED TO BY: [Signature] 1/30/01  
Permittee Date

# Brady Grazing Rotation @ 65 Head

2001-2002	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Washeded 2 month												
Monument 2.5 mos												
Chalk 1.5 mos												
Brady 2 mos												
Mule 4 month												

