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**FOR IMMEDIATE  
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## **Hopi Tribe Practices Range Conservation**

(Kykotsmovi, AZ) – On April 5, 2015 the Hopi Resource Enforcement Services (HRES) and Hopi Office of Range Management (ORM) impounded sixty-six (66) head of cattle that were in trespass in Hopi Partitioned Land (HPL) Range Unit #262. The Tribe has the authority to impound livestock without permits in accordance with Hopi Tribal Ordinance 43 under Section 108 (B) and Section 108 (C) (b) and HPL Gazing Regulations, where applicable.

Prior to the impoundments, HRES had received several phone calls from HPL residents that there were an excessive number of cattle in the area. These calls were then validated by ORM when the field monitors made a site visit and observed the large number of cattle. Based on the two reports, HRES went out to HPL Range Unit #262 and verified the reports. Under Ordinance 43 Section 108 (B)(2)(c), HRES is required to post a five (5) day notice to the cattle owner(s). Public notice was posted and the cattle owners were notified through the mail and in person.

The Hopi Tribe did meet with the cattle owners after impoundments were conducted. The Office of Range Management informed the cattle owners that because they did not have grazing permits the cattle were considered to be in trespass. Permits for livestock allocated for Navajo HPL residents are issued based on the allocation recommendations of “Voices of the People” (VOP), a HPL committee representing the HPL Navajo families. In accordance with the accommodation agreement and Ordinance 43, VOP issues the allocations (SUYL) for the Navajo HPL permittees. These recommended allocations are submitted to the Hopi Tribe’s Office of Range Management and, upon review for compliance and verification of carrying capacity for each range unit, ORM will issue permits. Each permittee then pays the grazing permit fee and brings the receipt to the ORM to obtain their grazing permit. A total of 41 permits were issued by ORM to the permittee. In this case, the cattle owners were apprised that VOP had removed them from the allocation list due to non-compliance with Ordinance 43; therefore no permits were issued to them.

The Hopi Tribe has a duty to protect the range and that the best proper range management techniques be implemented to ensure the land is available for future generations.

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