

HORSESHOE ALLOTMENT *108*
2017 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

PLANNING OBJECTIVES

- Identification of specific management tools/resource objectives and constraints for this grazing season.
- Review general permit administration and livestock management requirements.
- Document any needs or agreements beyond the standard directions.

AUTHORIZATION

Upon payment of fees livestock are authorized as follows for 2017-18:

<u>Number of Cattle</u>	<u>Pasture</u>	<u>Grazing Period</u>
190	Henrys	3/1 – 4/1
175	Woodchute	4/2 – 6/30
150	Fry Pan	7/1 – 7/31
150	Plateau or Hackberry	8/1 – 9/15
150	Leaning Post (<i>12' Y-15</i>)	9/15 – 10-1
150	Horseshoe Holding	10/2-10/14
150	Hackberry	10/15 – 12/15
150	Woodchute	12/16 – 2/28

MANAGEMENT TOOLS

Follow forage and browse use standards. Utilization needs to be at a level that allows for sufficient litter to protect soils and watershed conditions and provide an opportunity for perennial grasses and major browse species to maintain or improve their vigor. Minimizing forage use in areas livestock prefer is important.

- Maximum allowable use:
 - *On palatable grasses:*
 - Light use (0-25%) on key forage species in **critical areas on unsatisfactory soils**. Monitored during the growing season and used as an indicator to initiate moves between pastures.
 - Light to moderate use (0-40%) on key forage species in key areas as measured at the end of the growing season.
 - *On shrubs:* browsing of 50% of available leaders.
- Cattle will be moved to the next scheduled pasture or off the allotment when allowable use standards are met, regardless of the planned move dates shown above.
- The thoughtful placement of salt, mineral and protein is a valuable distribution aid. **Do not place salt, protein, or other supplements in heavy use areas or within ¼ mile of water (this includes seeps and springs).** Instead, place supplements to draw livestock to areas that normally receive only light use.

- The Forest Officer must be given actual use, by pasture.
- Any change from these Annual Operating Instructions is to be coordinated and confirmed in advance with the Forest Officer, best if a week or two in advance. If emergency conditions require making a change immediately, notify the Forest Officer promptly.
- You are responsible for your representatives and/or employees following all Forest Officer instructions.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT CONSTRUCTION OR BETTERMENT

Maintenance will follow the standards in your Part 3 of your grazing permit. In addition to routine maintenance, the following is planned for this year:

- ✓ Repair electric fence to ensure it turns cattle between Henrys and Fry Pan or replace with 4 strand barbed/smooth wire
- ✓ Woods trail tank is cleared for cleaning. Work with Perkinsville on cost sharing.
- ✓ If possible storage tank at Red Trail – helitack
- ✓ Electric fence between Fry Pan and Henry needs to be maintained – possible replacement.

MANAGEMENT COMMENTS

- Request Water Lot at Dirty Socks – need Heritage Resources survey.
- Need to ensure water is left for wildlife at pipeline fed troughs.

PERMIT CONDITIONS

The Prescott National Forest designated a system of roads and trails that are open to motor vehicle use in 1989 through Forest Plan Amendment #4. Motor vehicle use off the designated road system by the permit holder to conduct activities associated with administration of the term grazing permit is allowed under the terms and conditions of the term grazing permit.

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).

AGREED TO BY: X/George H. Gaudin _____
 Permittee Date

APPROVED BY: [Signature] _____
 District Ranger Date 2/17/17