

**2018 Annual Operating Instructions**  
**Horsethief Allotment**  
*318*

**Resource Objectives for this Grazing Season**

Perennial grasses and major browse species within these pastures need rest in order to provide time to recover from the drought we're currently experiencing. Due to some recent timely moisture the allotment is showing signs of recovery. When cattle are not in a pasture, ensure water is available for wildlife and escape ramps are in place on troughs.

**Authorization**

Upon payment of fees livestock are authorized as follows for **2018-2019**.

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<u>Number of Livestock</u>	<u>Pasture</u>	<u>Grazing Period (may be modified)</u>
50 cows	Horsethief Unit	Nov. 12, 2018 – April 30 2019

The Forest Officer must be given actual use, by pasture, after livestock at the next annual authorization meeting. 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.

Move your livestock regardless of the date shown above, to avoid exceeding allowable use (utilization) levels.

**Allowable Use**

Upland sites

Upland forage (growing season) – 31-40% (Sept 1 – 30th)

Upland forage (non-growing season) – 41-50%

Upland Browse – 50- 60%

Riparian

Riparian Woody - 20%

Riparian Herbaceous – 4-6” minimum stubble height where sedges and rushes are key species and 8” where deergrass is key species unless in area of concern”

**Site-specific Resource Protection Measures for Areas of Concern**

1. Conservative grazing intensity guideline (31-40% use) during the dormant season on impaired soils and to discourage concentrated livestock use on TES map unit 275.
2. Maintain minimum stubble heights on key herbaceous species at riparian and spring areas in partially functional status (functional – at risk), which includes Castle Creek, Poland Creek, Black Canyon Creek, and lower reach of Turkey Creek. The guideline is to maintain 8” of stubble where sedges and rushes are the key species, and 12” where deergrass is the key species.

