



CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY

E528A

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Maintaining quantity and quality of forage for animal health and productivity

CONSERVATION PRACTICE: 528 - Prescribed Grazing

APPLICABLE LAND USE: Pasture; Range; Associated Ag Land

RESOURCE CONCERN: Animals

ENHANCEMENT LIFE SPAN: 1 year

Enhancement Description

Managing the harvest of vegetation with grazing and/or browsing animals for the purposes of maintaining desired plant composition/plant vigor and improving/maintaining quantity and quality of forage for the animals' health and productivity. Follow the recommendations of a qualified professional, as detailed in the documentation and implementation requirements.

Criteria

- A written plan matching the forage quantity and quality produced with the grazing and/or browsing demand will be followed.
- Removal of herbage will be in accordance with site production limitations, rate of plant growth, the physiological needs of forage plants, and the nutritional needs of the animals.
- Deferments will be planned and implemented for critical periods of plant needs (such as post-planting or renovation, severe drought, etc.).
- Manage grazing and/or browsing animals to maintain adequate cover on sensitive areas (such as riparian areas, wetlands, habitats of concern, karst areas, etc.).
- Manage livestock movements based on rate of plant growth, available forage, and allowable utilization target. Develop and follow contingency plans to deal with episodic disturbance events.

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- Plan grazing and/or browsing to match forage quantity and quality goals of the producer within the capability of the resource to respond to management. Plan the intensity, frequency, timing, and/or browsing to reduce animal stress and mortality from toxic and poisonous plants.
- Supplemental feed and/or minerals will be balanced with the forage consumption to meet the desired nutritional level for the kind and class of grazing and/or browsing livestock.
- The qualified professional's provided recommendations (see documentation requirements) will be based on the National Research Council's Nutrient Requirements of Domestic Animals.

Documentation and Implementation Requirements

Participant will:

- Prior to implementation, make initial target livestock performance goals and mediation actions taken available to NRCS; including reasons for no action.
- Prior to implementation, obtain a written plan for collecting samples, sample analysis, and corresponding management recommendations as developed and provided by a Certified Range Management Consultant, Certified Professional in Range Management, Certified Forage and Grassland Professional, NRCS Technical Service Provider certified for development of a DIA 159, or a non-affiliated consultant with a bachelor or higher level degree in forage agronomy, range science, animal science, animal nutrition or other closely-related plant science discipline or a minimum of three years' experience in grazing lands conservation planning and grazing animal nutrition.
- During implementation, keep records to annually document prescribed grazing requirements are met.
- After implementation, make available documentation of protein and energy of consumed forages/browse based on a land grant university laboratory analysis, including corresponding management recommendations. The analysis be based on collected sample of the forage available to the livestock or fecal samples analyzed with appropriate Near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS). ON FOREST LAND USE, fecal samples can only be analyzed in Arizona and New Mexico at this time. This analysis needs to illuminate shortfalls and/or excessive amounts of protein and energy. **Samples must be submitted in a timely manner to allow for appropriate adjustments in management and/or supplementation.**



- After implementation, make grazing and supplementation records available for review by NRCS.

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NRCS will:

- Prior to implementation, assist the participant with development of a grazing plan if requested to do so.
- During implementation, as requested, assist the participant with adapting the grazing strategy and plan to current conditions, as it relates to sample analysis results.
- After implementation, review forage or fecal sampling schedule and corresponding management actions taken to determine if a supplementation plan was reasonably followed.
- After implementation, annually review documentation provided indicating that prescribed grazing specifications have been met and to verify the enhancement has been implemented.

NRCS Documentation Review:

I have reviewed all required participant documentation and have determined the participant has implemented the enhancement and met all criteria and requirements.

Participant Name _____ Contract Number _____

Total Amount Applied _____ Fiscal Year Completed _____

NRCS Technical Adequacy Signature _____ Date

*Sign and certify in the Oregon-Acknowledgment & Certification supplement below.



OREGON SUPPLEMENT TO CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

ACTIVITY E528A

Additional Documentation for Oregon

- In addition to the documentation requirements specified in the National job sheet E528A the following additional documentation requirements apply in Oregon.
 - Planner or Non-Affiliated Consultant must complete an Oregon Prescribed Grazing Implementation Requirement (528 IR) to accompany this enhancement.
 - Monitoring will include actual use records, permanent photo points, and will be provided to NRCS annually.
 - Document adjustments to grazing plan as result of monitoring and assessment data.

Additional References and Information for Oregon

- Non-Affiliated Consultant Form – Available on the [OR SharePoint CSP Site](#)

The Rangeland Health, Rangeland Trend, Forage Utilization, and Photo Plot Monitoring forms can be found at the following locations:

Rangeland Health:

[eFOTG: Section 3: Oregon Conservation Planning Documents: Grazing Land Inventory Documents: INTERPRETING INDICATORS OF RANGELAND HEALTH, CURRENT VERSION](#)

Rangeland Trend:

[eFOTG: Section 3: Oregon Conservation Planning Documents: Grazing Land Inventory Documents: RANGE INVENTORY TOOLBOS 2016: RANGELAND TREND](#)

More information and forms on Key Species Forage Utilization and Photo-Point monitoring can be found in the following links:

[Key Species Utilization](#)

[Photo Plot Monitoring Guide](#)

Design Approvals & Acknowledgements:

Design Approval	Date	Job Approval Authority
Designed by:		
Approved by:		

Client's Acknowledgement Statement:

The client acknowledges:

- I have received a copy of the specification and understand the contents and requirements.
- It is my responsibility to obtain all necessary permits and/or rights and to comply with all ordinances and laws pertaining to the application of this practice.
- I will not begin installation of this practice until I have received appropriate approval to do so. I understand NRCS also has Federal and state laws to comply with that may take some time to address (e.g. cultural resources).

Client's Signature	Date

Certification Documentation:

	Field Evaluation: Post-treatment inventory, measurements, notes, as-built, and supporting documentation (document completion in conservation plan), as required.
	Map(s): Including field numbers, fields treated, and units treated (may document on conservation plan map), as required.
	Photos or other supporting documentation (e.g., seed tags, soil tests, receipts, invoices, spray records, fertilizer records, etc.)
Brief Description of Work Accomplished (types of equipment used, date of application, extents and quantities installed, etc.)	

Certification Statement:

The employee certifies the implementation of this conservation practice:

- Meets the purpose, general criteria, and any required additional criteria as documented in the conservation practice standard and/or enhancement sheet.
- Meets the specifications contained herein and is complete.
- Conforms to my existing Job Approval Authority controlling factors and levels.

Name	Date	Job Approval Authority

Field Level Certification – For multiple applications of this design.				
Land Unit/ Contract Item Number	Date	Unit(s)	Amount Installed	Certifier