

# TECHNICAL NOTES

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
PORTLAND, OREGON

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
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## **RANGE TECHNICAL NOTE NO. 23**

### **USFS PHOTO POINT MONITORING HANDBOOK**

Photo monitoring is an effective way to document changes in vegetation over time and to provide a tool for analysis of the effects of conservation practices and resource management systems. The US Forest Service General Technical Report PNW-GTR-526, authored by Fred Hall (retired) is the latest and most complete guide to designing, performing, and utilizing a photo monitoring plan. Interpretations from photo-documentation can be used to determine the magnitude of effects (changes in plant communities), evaluate the efficacy of conservation treatments, and provide an effective format for transferring technical information to clients.

The handbook contains two parts: part A describes recommended field procedures based on successful photo monitoring techniques refined by Fred Hall over a 45 year period, part B contains useful technical information on the mechanics of photo monitoring as well as overriding concepts and suggested analysis techniques.

The publication is also available in Adobe Acrobat Reader PDF format at <http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/gtr526/>