

INSTRUCTIONS—GRAZING LAND INVENTORY SUMMARY SHEET

Heading Information:

Fill in as applicable. MLRA information for Montana can be found at <http://www.mt.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/ecs/range/ecolsites/>.

Column A – Field Number: Enter field number from conservation plan and/or map. If a field has multiple ecological sites/land uses, the field number only needs to be entered once.

Column B – Acres: Enter the **TOTAL** acres of the respective field. If a field has multiple ecological sites/land uses, the total acres only need to be entered once.

Column C – Ecological Site or Land Use: Enter each ecological site or land use (i.e., pasture) occurring in each field. Column C subdivides Column A based on ecological sites and land uses. An ecological site may be listed several times within each field if the Similarity Index (S.I.) class is different between each one (see example).

Column D – Similarity Index (S.I.) Class or Pasture Condition: Enter values from clipping and inventory worksheets. Column D subdivides column C. For example, a field may contain a large Silty site, but a field visit/inventory determines two different S.I.'s exist for the Silty site, thus the Silty site would be listed twice in Column C, and each respective S.I. class in Column D.

Column E – Acres/Similarity Index or Pasture Condition: Enter acres of each S.I. class. Column E subdivides Column B. The total acres in Column E for each field should equal the total acres of the field in Column B.

Column F – Plant Community, Notes on Grazability, Usable Forage: List dominant plant species on the site; also include grazability notes, i.e., heavy use areas, ungrazed areas, limiting slope/terrain, etc. Enter, in lbs/acre, the consumable forage for the class of livestock to be grazed. Consumable forage is preferred and desired forage for a specific class of livestock.

Column G – Stocking Rate: Enter as AUMs/acre. This number can be acquired from several sources, such as clipping/inventory data (ECS-2), soil surveys, forage suitability group descriptions, or ecological site descriptions. $((\text{Lbs/acre} \times \text{harvest efficiency of } .25) / 915 = \text{AUM/acre})$

Column H – Grazability Adjustment Factor: This value adjusts the stocking rate based on landscape or attributes which limit livestock ability to graze, such as distance to water, slope, barriers, terrain, or site preference. Express this number as a decimal, for example, if a site is only 75% grazable due to rough terrain, then .75 would be entered here.

Column I – Total AUMs: This value is obtained by multiplying Columns E, G, and H. The value represents the AUMs for the specific ecological site with a specific S.I. within a field.

Column J – Total AUMs/Field: This figure is a running total of Column I. While Column I represents AUMs for each ecological site in a field, Column J is the total of **all** AUMs in the field.

Column K – Unused AUMs: This figure is obtained by multiplying Columns E and G, and then subtracting Column I from the product. This value takes into account AUMs which are not being utilized by livestock, due to factors listed above in Column H instructions. Figures may indicate areas where grazing efficiency may be increased by improving livestock distribution.

Total Acres – This figure is the total acres from column B. The total from all additional pages is displayed on the first page.

Total AUMs – This figure is the total AUMs for all the fields. The total from all additional pages is displayed on the first page.