

INSTRUCTIONS—GRAZING LAND FORAGE 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 Exhibit MT11-103A).

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

Column G – Plant Community, Notes on Grazability: List dominant plant species on the site; also include grazability notes, i.e., heavy use areas, ungrazed areas, limiting slope/terrain, etc.

Column H – Stocking Rate: Enter as AUMs/acre. This number can be acquired from several sources, such as clipping/inventory data, soil surveys, forage suitability group descriptions, or ecological site descriptions.

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

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

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

EXAMPLE-GRAZING LAND FORAGE INVENTORY SUMMARY SHEET

PRODUCER _____ RANCH/RANGE UNIT _____ DATE _____

COMPLETED BY _____ MLRA/LRU: 58AE MEAN ANNUAL PRECIPITATION: 12 inches

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
FIELD NO.	ACRES	ECO. SITE OR LAND-USE	S.I. CLASS OR PASTURE CONDITION ^{1/}	USABLE FORAGE ^{2/} (lbs/acre)	ACRES/ S.I. OR PASTURE CONDITION	PLANT COMMUNITY, NOTES ON GRAZABILITY	STOCKING RATE (AUMs/ac)	GRAZABILITY ADJUST. FACTOR ^{3/} (%)	TOTAL AUMs (FxHxI)	TOTAL AUMs/ FIELD	UNUSED AUMs ^{4/} (FxH) - J
1	200	Si	25-34%	350	75	Western wheatgrass & short grasses, heavy use near reservoir	.11	1	8.25		
		Si	35-44%	450	25		.17	1	4.25		
		Cy	35-44%	450	75	Prairie junegrass, some green needlegrass	.17	1	12.75		
		Sw	45-54%	600	25	Steep slopes	.22	.75	4.12		1.4
										29.4	
2	150	Si	35-44%	450	100	Western wheatgrass, needlandthread	.17	.9	15.3		1.7
		SiSt	55-64%	750	50	Steep slopes, lower use	.24	.75	9.0		3
										24.3	
3	85	Si	25-34%	300	50	Heavy use near reservoir	.10	1	5		
		SiSt	55-64%	550	25	Steep slopes, lower use	.21	.8	4.2		1.05
		Ov	<25%	450	10	Very heavy use, western, rose, blue grama	.17	1	1.7		
										10.9	
4	175	Si	25-34%	400	25	Heavy use near reservoir	.11	1	2.75		
		SiSt	55-64%	900	75	Steep slopes, lower use	.34	.5	12.75		12.75
		Sw	65-75%	580	50	Upper ridge, high condition	.22	.5	5.5		5.5
		VS	65-75%	400	25	Upper ridge, high condition	.14	.5	1.75		1.75
										22.75	
	610								TOTAL	87.35	27.2

^{1/} Similarity Index Classes: A = >75%, B = 65-75%, C = 55-64%, D = 45-54%, E = 35-44%, F = 25-34%, G = < 25%.
^{2/} Usable Forage: Enter the total pounds per acre (dry weight) of consumable forage for the class of livestock to be grazed.
^{3/} Grazability Adjustment Factor: A value used to adjust the recommended stocking rate for landscape or other attributes which limit livestock ability to capture forage, such as distance to water, slope, barriers, terrain, or site preference. (Express as decimal, example 75% = .75)
^{4/} Unused AUMs: These are based on grazability factors that prohibit livestock from utilizing all usable forage. These can be used to highlight areas where grazing efficiency may be increased by improving livestock distribution.