

MT 528 Prescribed Grazing

Tribal Implementation Requirement



Introduction

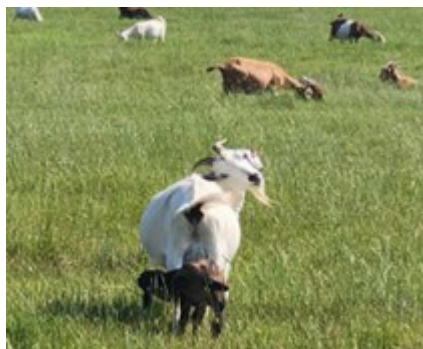
The Prescribed Grazing Tribal Implementation Requirement (IR) was developed to address ownership and land management complexities faced by tribal members operating in Indian Country. The Tribal IR allows flexibility when developing a grazing plan for producers who run livestock in common on allotted lands. The overall goal of the Tribal IR is to allow for adjustments needed within a prescribed grazing plan to overcome the difficulties of fractionated land ownership while maintaining an upward trend in grazing land conditions.

Prescribed grazing is controlling how much, how long, and when livestock graze vegetation. While producer's goals may vary, prescribed grazing achieves one or more of the following purposes:

- ♦ Improve plant growth and health
- ♦ Maintain desired plant species
- ♦ Maintain or increase soil quality and soil health
- ♦ Provide food and escape cover for wildlife
- ♦ Maintain livestock health and productivity

Developing a Grazing Plan

A grazing plan should be designed to assist producers in achieving goals, while conserving resources for future years. Your local NRCS Tribal District Conservationist will help develop your customized grazing management plan. If you prefer, you can work with other qualified planners like a Technical Service Provider, range or pasture management professional, or a Society for Range Management certified range professional, to create the plan. Since many tribal producers run livestock in common and may not have complete control over a grazing unit, monitoring is an important component of the grazing plan. By monitoring conditions and documenting forage use of certain areas, producers can identify when a change in management is needed to maintain appropriate forage resources. For example, by observing the amount of remaining forage, managers can decide if they need to move minerals, turn water on or off, or use different entry and exit points within a grazing unit to encourage livestock to graze different areas.



Next Steps

Stop by your local NRCS Tribal Service Center and talk to a conservation planner about your land and how the prescribed grazing Tribal IR can benefit your operation. NRCS has designated Tribal District Conservationists that serve each of the eight federally recognized tribes in Montana. To identify your point of contact, visit <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/contact/find-a-service-center>. Select Montana, then the county where you operate.

- ♦ Hill County - Chippewa Cree Tribe (Havre Service Center)
- ♦ Blaine County - Fort Belknap Indian Community (Fort Belknap Service Center)
- ♦ Glacier County - Blackfeet Nation (Browning Service Center)
- ♦ Lake County - Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (Pablo Service Center)
- ♦ Roosevelt County - Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes (Poplar Service Center)
- ♦ Cascade County - Little Shell Chippewa Tribe (Great Falls Service Center)
- ♦ Big Horn County - Crow Nation (Crow Agency Service Center)
- ♦ Rosebud County - Northern Chyenne Tribe (Lame Deer Service Center)

