



**CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY**

**E528104Z - Colorado**

**CONSERVATION  
STEWARDSHIP  
PROGRAM**

Grazing management that protects sensitive areas from gully erosion

**Conservation Practice 528: Prescribed Grazing**

**APPLICABLE LAND USE: Pasture, Range**

**RESOURCE CONCERN ADDRESSED: Soil Erosion**

**ENHANCEMENT LIFE SPAN: 1 year**

**Enhancement Description**

Grazing management employed will provide vegetative cover and density needed in the watershed in order to protect sensitive areas such as sinkholes, streams, highly erodible areas, or locations that cannot tolerate plant defoliation.

**Criteria**

- Must follow a grazing written plan matching the forage quantity and quality produced with the grazing and/or browsing demand by livestock and wildlife.
- Enhance diversity of rangeland plants to optimize delivery of nutrients to the animals by incorporating the intensity, frequency, timing and duration of grazing and/or browsing needed as determined by an erosion control planning process.
- 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.
- Minimize concentrated livestock areas to enhance nutrient distribution and improve or maintain ground cover.
- Plan the intensity, frequency, timing and duration of grazing and/or browsing to:



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- Minimize deposition or flow of animal wastes into water bodies or sinkholes,
  - Minimize animal impacts on stream bank or shoreline stability,
  - Provide adequate ground cover and plant density to maintain or improve infiltration capacity and reduce runoff, and
  - Provide adequate ground cover and plant density to maintain or improve filtering capacity of the vegetation.
- Livestock feeding and watering facilities will be located and designed/installed in a manner to improve livestock distribution and avoid overland flow to sensitive areas.

*Payment for this activity will be calculated based on the entire area covered by the grazing plan (i.e. the full pasture and not just small acreages within that pasture as long as the plan is addressing these uplands to improve condition in these sensitive areas as well.*



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### Documentation and Implementation Requirements

Participant will:

- Prior to implementation, obtain a written grazing plan with guidelines and recommendations for matching the forage quantity and quality produced with the grazing and/or browsing demand. Plan will include a contingency plan for potential events that trigger adverse results, such as concentrated flow and gully erosion. Considerations for a grazing plan could include residual heights/production, deferral during critical periods, grazing rotation which considers plant establishment, litter accumulation, infiltration needs.
- Prior to implementation, develop a map delineating potential sensitive areas to be protected.
- During implementation, keep livestock herd management records during seasonally important periods of soil erosion potential.
- During implementation, keep grazing intensity records for key grazing areas that accommodate the criteria above, indicating the protective nature of the grazing system to the sensitive areas.
- After implementation, make the follow items available for review by NRCS to verify implementation of the enhancement:
  - Written grazing plan.
  - Livestock herd management records.
  - Grazing intensity records.

NRCS will:

- As needed, provide technical additional assistance to the participant as requested.
- Prior to implementation, as needed, assist participant with the development of map delineating potential sensitive areas to be protected.
- Prior to implementation, verify a grazing plan has been developed, which includes written objectives.



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- After implementation, verify implementation of the written grazing plan, by reviewing plan and records kept during enhancement implementation.
- After implementation, verify with the participant on site the protection and condition of the sensitive areas.

### 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

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