



CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY

E528105Z - Colorado

**CONSERVATION
STEWARDSHIP
PROGRAM**

Prescribed grazing that improves or maintains riparian and watershed function-erosion

Conservation Practice 528: Prescribed Grazing

APPLICABLE LAND USE: Pasture; Range; Forest (Grazed Modifier)

RESOURCE CONCERN ADDRESSED: Soil Erosion

ENHANCEMENT LIFE SPAN: 1 year

Enhancement Description

Grazing management employed will provide cover and density needed in the watershed in order to reduce runoff, improve infiltration, provide for above ground water filtration and sustain applicable fish and wildlife species habitat.

Criteria

- Must follow a written grazing plan for matching the forage quantity and quality produced with the grazing and/or browsing demand by livestock and wildlife.
- Enhance diversity of 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 a planning process that includes:
 - Clear objectives,
 - A resource inventory with ecological site description or reference sheet and structural improvements and existing resource conditions,
 - Grazing plan, and
 - A contingency plan.



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- Supplemental feed 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 and riparian/floodplain plant community structure and functions.
- Manage grazing or browsing so as to provide adequate ground cover and plant density to maintain or improve infiltration capacity and reduce runoff.
- Provide adequate ground cover and plant density to maintain or improve filtering capacity of the vegetation by moving livestock appropriately.
- Graze and rest pastures appropriately and with the right numbers, class, and kind of livestock so as to maintain adequate riparian community structure and function to sustain associated riparian, wetland, floodplain and stream species.
- Monitor vegetation to ensure that riparian goals and objectives are being met and progressing towards goals.



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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. In addition, the plan will include:
 - Identify existing conditions, state clear goals and objectives that will achieve riparian, wildlife and desired vegetation goals.
 - Monitoring plan which includes location, protocols, and field sheets.
 - During implementation, keep pasture/herd in/out records.
 - After implementation, make the follow items available for review by NRCS to verify implementation of the enhancement:
 - o Written grazing plan.
 - o Pasture/herd in/out records.
 - o Monitoring field sheets
 - o Utilization Records

NRCS will:

- As needed, provide technical additional assistance to the participant as requested. After implementation, verify implementation of the written grazing plan, by reviewing plan and pasture/herd in/out records kept during enhancement implementation. Reviews monitoring data and make recommendations for future grazing goals for continued riparian function.

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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