

COURSE OUTLINE EXAMPLE GRAZING MANAGEMENT FOR RIPARIAN-WETLAND AREAS

The course was developed to follow the format of Technical Reference 1737-20. However, much information will be presented in a different format or additional material will be included by instructors.

NOTE: It is recommended that this training course take place with an interdisciplinary group of trainees. Maximum benefit will be derived if trainees are from various agencies, special interest groups and land owners.

Day 1 (Classroom)

I. Introduction (1 hour)

- A. Purpose of course
- B. Overview of course
- C. Training Materials and Reference Review
- D. Grounding/Expectations of course

II. Grazing and Riparian-Wetland Area Attributes and Processes (30 minutes)

- A. Vegetation
 - 1. Key plant species identification
 - 2. Channel Stability
 - 3. Upland Connection

III. Grazing Management Planning

- A. Proper Functioning Condition Assessment (PFC) (15 minutes)
- B. Identifying Issues (15 minutes)
- C. Developing Management Objectives (30 minutes)
 - 1. Elements
 - 2. Class Exercise

(Field)

IV. Planning assignment group exercise in a field setting.

- A. Form teams
- B. Review PFC assessments, management history, etc.
- C. Other observations to understand the management situation
- D. Group Exercise
 - 1. Each group will discuss proposed management objectives, alternatives and monitoring needs

Day 2 (Classroom and Group Plan Development)

V. Grazing Management Principles and Concepts (30 minutes)

- A. Livestock Behavior
- B. Forage Selectivity

VI. Management Tools and Techniques Common to All Grazing Strategies (30 minutes)

- a. Techniques that Attract Livestock Away from Riparian-wetland areas
- b. Herd Management and Animal Husbandry Practices
- c. Techniques that Exclude or Promote Avoidance of Riparian-wetland Areas

VII. Key Grazing Management Strategies (30 minutes)

- 1. Timing, Duration, and Frequency of Grazing
- 2. Grazing Response Index – USFS Region 2
- 3. Distributions of Livestock
- 4. Stocking Rates
- 5. Utilization Levels and Patterns
- 6. Pasture Design

VIII. Grazing Management Treatments (30-45 minutes)

- A. Winter (Dormant-Season)
- B. Spring Grazing
- C. Hot-Season Grazing
- D. Deferment Until the Late Season (Fall Grazing)
- E. Grazing Passive, Continuous Grazing; Spring-Summer, Summer-Fall, or Season-Long Grazing
- F. Spring and Fall Grazing
- G. Deferred and Rotational Deferred Grazing
- H. Rest-Rotation grazing (Rotational Stocking)
- I. Short Duration Grazing
- J. High-Intensity-Low Frequency Grazing
- K. High-Intensity, Short-Duration Grazing
- L. Rest.
- M. Riparian Pasture

IX. Monitoring (30 minutes)

- A. General
- B. Short-Term Monitoring
 - a. Implementation
 - b. Seasonal, Annual, and Cyclic Events
 - c. Utilization and Stubble Height
 - d. Streambank Alteration
- C. Mid and Long-Term Monitoring
- D. Photo Monitoring
- E. Examples of Methods
 - 1. Monitoring the Vegetation Resources in Riparian Areas - Winward
 - 2. Multiple Indicator Monitoring – Cowley/Burton
 - 3. Specific methods developed by state

X. Group Exercise – (continued from field)

- A. Develop group plans
- B. Each team will develop a brief presentation which include:
 - 1. Goal(s) based on the issues
 - 2. Objective(s) including what, which direction, how much, where, and when,
 - 3. Selected management alternative including livestock management, infrastructure, sequence of steps, etc.
 - 4. Monitoring method(s)

7-23-09

Day 3 (Classroom)

XI. Overview of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) (Optional)

a. Incorporating Endangered Species Act (ESA)

XII. Other special Interest or Requested Information

XIII. Group Plan Presentations

XIV. What have we learned?

XV. Course Evaluation and Wrap-up.