

NEVADA PASTURE CONDITION SCORE SHEET

Cooperator: _____

Farm No.: _____ Tract No.: _____

Pasture Forages: _____

Pasture Suitability Group: _____

Date: ___/___/___

Technician: _____

INDICATORS	PASTURE UNIT							
Percent Desirable Plants (<i>air-dry weight</i>) 1 2 3 4 5 <30% 30 to 50% >50 to 75% >75 to 90% >90%								
Plant Cover <i>Percent live cover (leaf canopy)</i> 1 2 3 4 5 <50% 50 to 70% 70 to 90% 90 to 95% >95% <i>Percent live cover (basal area)</i> <15% 15 to 25% 25 to 35% 35 to 50% >50%								
Plant Diversity The diversity of well-represented forage species: 1 2 3 4 5								
Plant Residue Ground cover, standing dead forage, or thatch buildup: 1 2 3 4 5								
Plant Vigor 1 2 3 4 5 <i>If plant vigor scores <4, see causative factors table and rate factors listed.</i>								
Percent Legume Percentage of legumes in pasture stand (by air-dry weight): 1 2 3 4 5 None <15% 15 to <25% 25 to <35% 35 to 45% or >60% 40 to 60% of a spreading legume with grass declining								
Uniformity of Use 1 2 3 4 5 >50% 25 to 50% 10 to 25% minor spp. only urine/dung ungrazed ungrazed ungrazed rejection spots ungrazed								
Livestock Concentration Areas 1 2 3 4 5								
Soil Compaction 1 2 3 4 5								
Irrigation 1 2 3 4 5								
Erosion (Always rate irrigation induced erosion; other kinds only if present) -3 -4 -5								
Pasture Condition Score (see back of form for implications to management)								

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CAUSATIVE FACTORS AFFECTING PLANT VIGOR	PASTURE UNIT						
Soil Fertility (P & K Status)* Phosphorous and potassium levels in the soil are: 1 2 3 4 5							
Soil Fertility (N Status)* Nitrogen status in grasses is: 1 2 3 4 5							
Soil pH pH status of the soil for the upper 4-inch root zone is: 1 2 3 4 5 ≤4.5 or >9.0 4.5 to 5.0 or 8.5 to 9.0 5.1 to 5.5 or 7.9 to 8.4 5.6 to 6.0 or 7.4 to 7.8 6.0 to 7.3							
Soil Electrical Conductivity (EC) Conductivity (mmho/cm) of solution extracted from saturated soil is: 1 2 3 4 5 ≥16 8 to 16 4 to 8 2 to 4 0 to 2							
Sodium-Adsorption Ratio (SAR) Ratio of exchangeable sodium to other soluble salts in a saturation extract is: 1 2 3 4 5 ≥30 ≥13 to <30 ≥5 to <13 >0 to <5 0							
Site Adaptation of Desired Species*: Presence of desired forage species is: 1 2 3 4 5							
Severity of Use Degree of forage removal is: 1 2 3 4 5							
Climatic Stress*: Degree of plant stress due to recent weather events is: 1 2 3 4 5							
Insects and disease: Degree of plant stress due to insects or disease is: 1 2 3 4 5							

*Reference to Nevada NRCS form NV-ECS-08b (page 3 of 3) and NRCS publication Guide to Pasture Condition Scoring for *causative factor* criteria.

CONDITION SCORE		MANAGEMENT CHANGE SUGGESTED
OVERALL	INDICATOR	
45-50	5	No changes in management needed at this time.
39-44	4	Minor changes will enhance pasture condition. Perform most beneficial actions first.
26-38	3	Improvements will benefit pasture productivity and environment.
17-25	2	Immediate management changes required. High return to management likely.
<16	1 (or -)	Major effort required in terms of time, management and expense to rehabilitate pasture.