

A. Benchmark System Worksheet

1	STATE	<b>ALASKA</b>	
2	FIELD OFFICE	<b>Delta, Homer, Wasilla, Fairbanks, Anchorage, Copper Center</b>	
3	MLRA	<b>Interior Alaska Lowlands 174, et al.</b>	
4	COMMON RESOURCE AREA (CRA)		
5	RESOURCE INTERPRETATIONS	<i>Enter available interpretative data for each resource</i>	
5.1	SOIL	<b>USDA-NRCS Soil Surveys</b>	
5.2	WATER	<b>DEC 303(d) List</b>	
5.3	AIR	<b>Local Information</b>	
5.4	PLANTS	<b>Forage Suitability Group</b>	
5.5	ANIMAL	<b>Local Information, T&amp;E List</b>	
5.6	HUMAN	<b>Pop. Census, Local Information</b>	
6	HYDROLOGIC UNIT	<b>HYDROLOGIC UNIT CODE 1940504</b>	
7	SYSTEM TEMPLATE LABEL	<b>AK004 DJ;HO;WA;FB;AN;CC BM</b>	
8	SYSTEM NAME	<b>Pasture with major access problem</b>	
9	PLANNING PHASE	<b>CONSERVATION SECURITY PROGRAM</b>	
10	PLANNING LEVEL	<b>PROGRESSIVE PLAN (does not meet RMS)</b>	
11	NRCS LANDUSE	<b>Pasture</b>	
12	EXISTING CONSERVATION PRACTICES	<i>List conservation practices currently in use</i>	
	1.	Fence - 382	
	2.	Watering Facility - 614	
	3.	Pipeline - 516	
	4.	Brush Management - 314	
	5.	Pasture & Hayland Planting - 512	
13	BENCHMARK NARRATIVE	<i>Describe the existing management system</i>	
		<p>There are some X-fences and watering facilities. The operator has removed brush and spent all his capital on seeding and pasture establishment. Unfortunately the livestock have reacted differently than anticipated because of insect harassment. There are areas of overuse and underuse in large pastures. Additional X-fencing and grazing management is needed to improve efficient use of forage. The pasture needs supplemental plant nutrients for acceptable levels of forage production. Irrigation is needed for high and moderate levels of production. Operator only has access to main part of farm by unimproved 4X4 trail which is eroding. There is a small gully in the trail which contributes to sediments and run-off in the creek. A road and bridge is needed for better access. Road development is the operators highest priority for the next 3 years.</p>	

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14	RESOURCE CONCERNS	BENCHMARK EFFECTS
14.1	Plant Condition; Productivity	Pasture needs to a rotational grazing system
14.2	Plant Management; Nutrient Management	An annual fertilization program need to be implemented
14.3	Animal Habitat; Water	Water needs to be developed in individual pastures
14.4	Animal Habitat; Cover &/or Shelter	Livestock needd additional windbreak development
14.5	Animal Management; Animal Health	Livestock needs a roundworm worming program to improve weight gains
14.6	Water Quality, Surface Water; Suspended Sediments & Turbidity	The access via trail crosses a creek and sediments run down the trail into the creek
14.7	Soil Erosion; Concentrated Flow	Water is channeled down the trail
14.8	Soil Erosion; Classic Gully	Water continues erode the active gully, creating more of a problem
14.9	Animal Management; Animal Health	Insects are creating management problems
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