MANAGEMENT SYSTEM TEMPLATE

A. BENCHMARK SYSTEM WORKSHEET

1.	STATE	OK
2.	FIELD OFFICE	Ardmore, Duncan, Chickasha, Pauls Valley, Purcell, Norman, Shawnee, Wewoka, Ada, Anadarko
3.	MLRA	84A - Northern Cross Timbers
4.	COMMON RESOURCE AREA (CRA)	084A.40.004
5.	RESOURCE INTERPRETATIONS	
5.1	SOIL	
5.2	WATER	
5.3	AIR	
5.4	PLANT	
5.5	ANIMAL	
5.6	HUMAN	
6.	HYDROLOGIC UNIT	
7.	SYSTEM TEMPLATE LABEL	IDLB
8.	SYSTEM NAME	Northern Cross Timbers Urban (Ranchette)
9.	PLANNING PHASE	Benchmark
10.	PLANNING LEVEL	N/A
11.	NRCS LANDUSE	Urban
12.	EXISTING CONSERVATION PRACTICES	

1. 382 - Fencing
2. 560 - Access Road
3. 561 - Heavy Use Area Protection

13. SYSTEM NARRATIVE

The system typically involves sparsely populated developments (3 to 20 acres/home), with slopes ranging from nearly level to steep. Soil texture varies considerably, as does depth and exposure. The homesite areas are protected with bermudagrass with occasional cool-season species such as fescue, ryegrass or bluegrass in mixed stands or shaded areas. Application of nutrients and pesticides is generally performed without regard for production needs or pest infestation levels, and label directions are not always adhered to. Heavier applications and misuse commonly occurs around the homesites and lighter or no application occurs in the pasture or lot areas away from the homesites. Soil erosion is a major concern on new construction sites for new homes, as well as in the pastures and lots due to high stock densities and poor vegetative cover, causing safety hazards offsite, decreasing flow capacity of natural drainage systems, affecting storage capacity and water quality in local water bodies, and transporting nutrients and pesticides downstream. As the flow capacity and storage capacity of the drainage systems and water bodies become restricted with sediment, flooding and additional streambank erosion become a concern. Due to the lack of sufficient vegetation, animal health and management are also an issue. Economics and profitability are a major obstacle to proper conservation treatment of these areas in many instances.

14.	RESOURCE CONCERNS	MAGNITUDE/EFFECTS
	1. Soil Erosion - Sheet and Rill	1. 25 Tons/Acre/Year; Primarily a lack of sufficient vegetative cover due to severe stock densities.
	2. Soil Erosion - Concentrated Flow Classic Gullies	2. 100 Tons/Year; Inadequate vegetative cover, low plant vigor, and steeper slopes contribute to the problem which is then further intensified by overgrazing.
	3. Soil Erosion - Streambank	3. 100 Tons/Year; Inadequate vegetative cover and poor management techniques used in riparian areas.
	4. Soil Erosion - Roadbanks	4. 50 Tons/Year; Improper installation of access roads and no vegetative or structural measures use to prevent roadbank erosion.
	5. Soil Erosion - Construction Sites	5. 50 Tons/Acre/Year; No vegetative cover.
	6. Soil Erosion - Scoured Areas	6. 50 Tons/Acre/Year; Inadequate vegetative cover and overgrazing are the major source of the problem along with inadequate buffer areas next to the creeks and streams.

14.	RESOURCE CONCERNS	MAGNITUDE/EFFECTS
	7. Soil Condition - Soil Tilth	7. Soil tilth is very poor due to major erosion and low plant productivity.
	8. Soil Condition - Compaction	8. Soil compaction is a serious problem due to very high stock densities.
	9. Soil Deposition - Damage Onsite	9. Soil deposition onsite causes damage to existing vegetative cover and in many instances damages or covers up fences.
	10. Soil Deposition - Damage Offsite	10. Sediment deposition covers vegetation, creates safety hazards in roads and streets, reduces the flow capacity of drainage systems, reduces storage capacity of water bodies, and degrades water quality downstream.
	11. Soil Deposition - Safety Offsite	11. Sediment deposition in roads and streets creates safety hazards; reduced flow capacity in drainage systems and storage capacity in water bodies increases flooding hazards.
	12. Water Quantity - Excess Amounts Runoff/Flooding	12. Runoff and flooding problems increase as the percentage of the area covered with concrete and asphalt increases. Also, as more areas become overgrazed and compacted the amount of runoff increases which will also increase the potential for more flooding.
	13. Water Quantity - Restricted Flow Capacity From Sediment Deposition (Offsite)	13. Increased sediment deposition originating from construction sites, roadbanks and overgrazed pastures and lots restricts the natural flow in drainage channels.
	14. Water Quantity - Restricted Flow Capacity From Sediment Deposition (Water Bodies)	14. Increased sediment deposition originating from construction sites, roadbanks, and overgrazed pastures and lots restricts the flow and storage capabilities of downstream water bodies.
	15. Water Quality - Surface Water Contaminates - Pesticides	15. Uneducated and inappropriate use of pesticides in the homesite areas degrades downstream water quality.
	16. Water Quality - Surface Water Contaminates - Nutrients and Organics	16. Uneducated and inappropriate use of nutrients in the homesite areas degrades downstream water quality.
	17. Water Quality - Surface Water Contaminates - Suspended Sediment and Turbidity	17. As sediment loads from construction sites, roadbanks, and overgrazed pastures and lots increases, water quality degrades due to suspended sediments and turbidity.
	18. Plants Condition - Plant Productivity	18. Plant productivity is approximately at 25% of the potential due to severe overstocking and low plant health and vigor.
	19. Plants Condition - Plant Health and Vigor	19. Plant health and vigor is very low due to constant overuse of the area with little or no rest periods for the plants to rebuild.
	20. Plants Management - Establishment, Growth, Harvest	20. Vegetative management is a concern due to overstocking.
	21. Plants Management - Nutrient Management	21. Commercial nutrients are applied in many instances around the homesites without regard for plant uptake. Uneducated and inappropriate amounts are applied for what is thought to be increased beautification. Little or no application occurs in the pastures and lots further degrading plant productivity, health and vigor, and establishment, growth, and harvest.
	22. Plants Management - Pest (Brush, Weeds, Insects, Etc.)	22. Pesticides are applied without regard to pest populations with uneducated and inappropriate application techniques.
	23. Animal Habitat - Food	23. Food supplies are very low to nonexistent for both domestic and wild animals. A large percentage of domestic livestock food is purchased and brought in.
	24. Animal Management - Population and Resource Balance	24. Animal populations are far above what the resources can support.
	25. Animal Management - Animal Health	25. Animal health is poor in many instances due to malnutrition and having to live on bare ground.