

MANAGEMENT SYSTEM TEMPLATE

A. BENCHMARK SYSTEM WORKSHEET

1.	STATE	OK
2.	FIELD OFFICE	Marietta, Ardmore, Tishomingo, Madill, Waurika
3.	MLRA	84B - West Cross Timbers
4.	COMMON RESOURCE AREA (CRA)	084B.40.001
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	JADZO
8.	SYSTEM NAME	West Cross Timbers Grazed Range
9.	PLANNING PHASE	Benchmark
10.	PLANNING LEVEL	N/A
11.	NRCS LANDUSE	Grazed Range
12.	EXISTING CONSERVATION PRACTICES	
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 378 - Pond 2. 382 - Fencing
13.	SYSTEM NARRATIVE	<p>Grazed range is the primary landuse in this Major Land Resource Area. The landscape includes medium to fine textured soils with slopes ranging from gentle to strongly sloping. Many areas of the landscape are gullied. These areas require intensive management for erosion control. This area supports savanna vegetation. The original vegetation of the West Cross Timbers is of a tall to mixed grass aspect intermixed with post oak, blackjack oak, and other woody species. The tall grasses are interspersed with trees and underbrush. Natural fires and drought would cause some areas to develop into dense thickets. Some of the drainageways contain other oak species. Due to a history of consistent overgrazing by livestock there has been a shift to a mid to short grass aspect in many areas. Ecological condition ranges from poor to good condition, plant vigor is low, and forage production is typically less than 50% of the potential for the site. Woody plants will invade to severe conditions with prolonged overuse of the natural resources. Areas adjacent to rivers and streams are subject to scour erosion from out-of-bank flow. Air quality is good due to the existence of permanent native plant cover. Limited livestock watering sources tends to cause grazing distribution problems. The cost of reclaiming these sites and reestablishing grasslands is prohibitive due to the low production potential of many of the soils.</p>
14.	RESOURCE CONCERNS	MAGNITUDE/EFFECTS
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Soil Erosion - Concentrated Flow Classic Gullies 2. Soil Erosion - Streambank 3. Soil Erosion - Scoured Areas 4. Water Quality - Surface Water Contaminates - Suspended Sediment and Turbidity 5. Plants Condition - Plant Productivity 6. Plants Condition - Plant Health and Vigor 7. Plants Management - Establishment, Growth & Harvest 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 100 Tons/Year; Inadequate vegetative cover, low plant vigor, and steeper slopes contribute to the problem which is then further intensified by overgrazing. 2. 100 Tons/Year; Inadequate vegetative cover and poor management techniques used in riparian areas. 3. 50 Tons/Acre/Year; Inadequate vegetative cover and overgrazing are the major source of the problem. 4. High sediment yields from the erosion problems contributes to the sedimentation process which substantially degrades water quality in lakes and streams due to suspended sediment and turbidity. 5. Forage production is less than 50% of the potential for the site due to consistent overgrazing. Pests are a problem and plant vigor is low. 6. Plant health and vigor is low due to a long history of overgrazing. 7. Poor vigor, regeneration, and harvest efficiency due to overgrazing.

14.	RESOURCE CONCERNS	MAGNITUDE/EFFECTS
	<p>8. Plants Management - Pest (Brush Weeds, Insects, Etc.)</p> <p>9. Animal Habitat - Water</p> <p>10. Animal Management - Population and Resource Balance</p> <p>11. Human - Economics - Management Level</p>	<p>8. High pest levels, particularly woody species, due to the encroachment caused by the history of continuous overgrazing.</p> <p>9. Livestock water supplies are not adequately located in each grazing unit to facilitate grazing distribution and better disperse livestock usage of the natural resources.</p> <p>10. An imbalance between animal numbers and forage availability causes animal performance to decline due to reduced quality and quantity of forage. As forage and livestock performance decrease, soil erosion and water quality problems tend to worsen.</p> <p>11. Producers often lack an adequate knowledge of good grazing management techniques and strategies. They need in the field training on some of the basics to grazing management (plant identification, grazing heights, forage utilization, rotational grazing, etc.).</p>