MANAGEMENT SYSTEM TEMPLATE

A. BENCHMARK SYSTEM WORKSHEET

1	STATE	OKLAHOMA
2	FIELD OFFICE	Eufaula, Muskogee, Poteau, Sallisaw, Stigler, Wilburton
3	MLRA	118A
4.	COMMON RESOURCE AREA (CRA)	118A.40.001
5	RESOURCE INTERPRETATIONS	*see Section II FOTG for interpretations*
5.1	SOIL	FOTG, SECTION I - EROSION PREDICTION FOTG, SECTION II - SOIL AND SITE INFORMATION FOTG, SECTION II - SOILS LEGEND FOTG, SECTION II - SOIL DESCRIPTIONS - NONTECHNICAL FOTG, SECTION II - SOIL DESCRIPTIONS - TECHNICAL FOTG, SECTION II - WATER QUANTITY AND QUALITY INTERPRETATIONS FOTG, SECTION II - HYDRIC SOIL INTERPRETATIONS FOTG, SECTION II - RANGELAND INTERPRETATIONS FOTG, SECTION II - WILDLIFE INTERPRETATIONS FOTG, SECTION III - RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS - SOIL FOTG, SECTION V-A-1 - CONSERVATION EFFECTS - SOIL FOTG, SECTION V-A-2 - EFFECTS FOR GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS
5.2	WATER	FOTG, SECTION I - CLIMATIC DATA FOTG, SECTION II - WATER QUANTITY AND QUALITY INTERPRETATIONS FOTG, SECTION III - RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS - WATER FOTG, SECTION V-A-1 - CONSERVATION EFFECTS - WATER FOTG, SECTION V-A-2 - EFFECTS FOR GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS
5.3	AIR	FOTG, SECTION I - CLIMATIC DATA FOTG, SECTION I - STATE/LOCAL LAWS, ORDINANCES, REGULATIONS FOTG, SECTION III - RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS - AIR FOTG, SECTION V-A-1 - CONSERVATION EFFECTS - AIR FOTG, SECTION V-A-2 - EFFECTS FOR GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS
5.4	PLANT	FOTG, SECTION I - THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES FOTG, SECTION II - RANGELAND INTERPRETATIONS FOTG, SECTION III - RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS - PLANTS FOTG, SECTION III - RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS - RANGE FOTG, SECTION V-A-1 - CONSERVATION EFFECTS - PLANTS FOTG, SECTION V-A-2 - EFFECTS FOR GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS
5.5	ANIMAL	FOTG, SECTION I - THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES FOTG, SECTION II - WILDLIFE INTERPRETATIONS FOTG, SECTION III - RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS - ANIMALS FOTG, SECTION III - RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS - WILDLIFE FOTG, SECTION V-A-1 - CONSERVATION EFFECTS - ANIMALS FOTG, SECTION V-A-2 - EFFECTS FOR GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS
5.6	HUMAN	FOTG, SECTION I - CULTURAL RESOURCE INFORMATION FOTG, SECTION I - STATE/LOCAL LAWS, ORDINANCES, REGULATIONS FOTG, SECTION V-B-1 - CONSERVATION EFFECTS - PRODUCER EXPERIENCES
6	HYDROLOGIC UNIT	
7	SYSTEM TEMPLATE LABEL	PADZ0
8	SYSTEM NAME	RANGELAND
9	PLANNING PHASE	BENCHMARK
10	PLANNING LEVEL	N/A
11	NRCS LANDUSE	GRAZED RANGE

12	EXISTING CONSERVATION PRACTICES	
	1. 314 - Brush Management 2. 378 - Pond 3. 382 - Fencing 4. 528-A - Prescribed Grazing	
13	SYSTEM NARRATIVE	
	This resource area includes a wide variety of range sites. Over 50% of the rangeland fields are currently being overgrazed and/or improperly managed. These areas include range that was previously converted to cropland and then abandoned. It also includes range sites that have been completely overgrown by brush species such as Blackjack oak, Post oak, Eastern Red cedar and Persimmon. Continued abuse has caused the plant community to revert primarily to increaser and/or invader species in many cases. Range condition is usually in a low fair to poor rating, and under current conditions, is still on the decline. Due to the continued abuse in many areas, plant health, vigor, and forage production are low. Due to overgrazing, many invading weedy grass and broadleaf plant pests are a problem. On the average, livestock water is available, however, it is often poorly distributed within each field. Due to livestock numbers and forage requirements exceeding forage production capabilities, higher amounts of supplemental feeding are required to make up for the lack of forage. Many of these range sites are currently only producing approximately 600 to 1,000 pounds of forage per acre per year, but should produce from 3,000 to 7,500 pounds of forage per acre per year when in good to excellent condition. Overgrazing and poor range condition provide little wildlife food, cover or shelter. Internal and external parasites create problems for livestock including weight loss, poor gains, and even death.	
14	RESOURCE CONCERNS	MAGNITUDE/EFFECTS
	1. Streambank Erosion	1. Trampling of streambanks by livestock and sediment load from other sources is resulting in streambank erosion. Current erosion rates are averaging 30 tons/acre/year on affected areas with approximately 3 acres of affected area for each 160 acres of rangeland.
	2. Plants Productivity	2. Plants productivity in many areas is much lower than its potential due to the continued abuse of the area and degraded plant community. Current forage production is only 600 - 1,000 lbs./acre/year with only 50% being usable by livestock without damaging the plant base.
	3. Plants Health and Vigor	3. Under current average conditions, health and vigor of native grass species will steadily decline. Most native grass range is in a low fair to poor condition index rating (20 to 30) at the current level of management. Range trend under current average conditions is for range condition to get steadily worse (-1), resulting in a steady increase of invader species.
	4. Plant Pests	4. Under current average conditions, invasion of broadleaf weeds and brush species tends to be a common problem.
	5. Domestic Animal Food Requirements	5. Under current conditions, many of the existing forage species are of poor quality and are highly unpalatable to livestock. This results in an increased need of providing supplemental feed in the form of hay, grain, and/or manufactured feed product.
	6. Domestic Animal Water Requirements	6. Within this area, livestock watering facilities are usually inadequate and/or improperly spaced to optimize livestock distribution and grazing and meet livestock watering needs.
	7. Wildlife Cover - Shelter	7. Commonly overgrazed fields, along with poor species composition have resulted in degradation of wildlife cover and shelter.

	8. Animals Population - Resource Balance Management	8. Under current average conditions, livestock numbers and forage requirements usually exceed forage production.
	9. Animal Health Management	9. Internal and external parasites are a problem in many locations within the area. Overgrazing contributes to some of the internal parasite problems. Lack of treatment for control of tick and hornfly are other contributing factors.