

PASTURE

Planning Resource Management Systems

Successful resource management on pastureland is the correct application of a combination of practices that will meet the needs of the pastureland ecosystem- the soil, water, air, plant, and animal resources, and the objectives of the land user. Quality criteria that must be met on pastureland for each of the resource concerns is explained in Section III of the Field Office Technical Guide. A Resource Management System (RMS) is developed by selecting a combination of the ESSENTIAL, plus the FACILITATING or SUPPORTING practices, or both, whose combined effects will meet the criteria for each resource.

ESSENTIAL Practices- These practices are essential for proper pastureland management and sustainability, and are always planned in the RMS.

Livestock Watering Facilities¹
Nutrient Management (590)

Prescribed Grazing (528)
Pest Management (595)

FACILITATING Practices- These practices facilitate the application of the essential practices.

Access Road (560)
Animal Trails and Walkways (575)
Fence (382)
Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
Pipeline (516)
Pond (378)

Pond Sealing or Lining (521 A-D)
Spring Development (574)
Stream Crossing (578)
Watering Facility (614)
Water Well (642)

SUPPORTING Practices- These practices are planned when necessary to establish, renovate, or accelerate changes in pastureland or to treat specific resource problems.

Access Control (472)
Brush Management (314)
Controlled Livestock Lounging Area (771)
Critical Area Planting (342)
Grade Stabilization Structure (410)
Waste Utilization (633)
Land Clearing (460)
Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
Prescribed Burning (338)

Residue Mgt., No-Till & Strip Till (329A)
Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
Streambank & Shoreline Protection (580)
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
Grazing Land Mech. Treatment (548)
Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)

¹Livestock watering facilities are comprised of a combination of (desirable) conservation practices. All potential water sources (well, public water supply, spring, pond, or stream) should be identified. Direct consumption from water bodies should be used only after other options to provide livestock watering facilities have been exhausted. If livestock are permitted to drink from streams or ponds, the Prescribed Grazing Plan must specify a frequency of rotation such that degradation of channel banks and water quality will be prevented. If channel banks and water quality will not be adequately protected through implementation of the Prescribed Grazing Practice, Heavy Use Area Protection (Standard 561) and Use Exclusion (Standard 472) must be used to control access and prevent degradation.