

Arkansas Checklist of Resource Concerns

PASTURE

CLIENT	LOCATION
PLANNER	DATE
LAND UNITS	Required:

This check sheet is designed to assist planners and clients in identifying resource concerns during the planning process. The planning criteria outlined in Section III of the FOTG sets the minimum level of treatment needed to sustain the resource and will be used when developing alternative solutions. The gray boxes indicate the resource concerns that are required. If a screening question is TRUE, this indicates no resource concern exists and no assessment is required. If a screening question is FALSE, the assessment must be completed to evaluate if there is a resource concern. If the Assessment is TRUE, Planning Criteria is met. If the Assessment is FALSE, the Planning Criteria is not met and a Resource Concern exists.

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions True = Stop, Meets Screening False = Go to Assessment	TRUE FALSE	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria True = Meets Planning Criteria False = Resource Concern	TRUE FALSE
SOILS RESOURCES					
SOIL EROSION: Sheet, rill and wind *	Permanent ground cover > 90% and slope < 10%		➤ RUSLE2	Water erosion rate ≤ T	
SOIL EROSION: Concentrated flow erosion *	Classic gullies are not present.		➤ Field measurements ➤ Planner observation	Classic gully management is adequate to stop the progression of head cutting and widening and are offsite impacts are minimized by vegetation and/or structures	
SOIL EROSION: Excessive bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels	Streams, shoreline or channels are not on or adjacent to site		➤ Planner Observation ➤ PCS	Bank erosion is beyond the client's control or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes OR PCS - streambank / shoreline erosion element score ≥ 4 (<i>Banks are grazed but stable with a mix of pasture plants and native water's edge species. Livestock stream crossings or pond entrances not used heavily. Alternative water sites present</i>)	
SOIL QUALITY: Subsidence	NOT A CONCERN IN ARKANSAS				
SOIL QUALITY: Compaction	Soil compaction is not a client identified concern. AND There are few scattered signs of livestock trails, confined to lanes or small areas.		➤ PCS	PCS – compaction element score ≥ 4 (<i>Infiltration capacity slightly lowered and surface runoff slightly increased due to reduced vegetative cover. Probe enters soil easily. Scattered signs of livestock trails, confined to lanes or small areas OR Infiltration capacity and surface runoff are equal to that expected from an ungrazed meadow. The area is not affected by livestock traffic.</i>)	
SOIL QUALITY: Organic matter depletion	Permanent ground cover > 80%.		➤ RUSLE2 ➤ PCS ➤ Planner observation	SCI > 0 OR PCS - plant cover element score ≥ 4 (<i>Canopy Cover >90%, little spot grazing</i>) AND PCS - plant residue element score ≥ 4 (<i>dead residue 20%-70% with no thatch buildup, little to no standing dead forage</i>)	
SOIL QUALITY: Concentration of Salts or other chemicals	Activities that cause salinity/sodicity problems are not observed.		➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation	Conservation practices and managements are in place to mitigate on-site effects	

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WATER RESOURCES					
EXCESS WATER: Ponding, flooding, seasonal high water table, seeps and drifted snow	Excess water is not a client identified resource concern. AND Activities that contribute to ponding/flooding problems not observed.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner observation 	Water is adequately managed through applicable practices to meet client's productive objectives.	
INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient moisture management	Inefficient moisture management is not a client identified resource concern. AND Activities that contribute to inefficient moisture management are not observed.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ PCS 	PCS – compaction element score ≥ 4 (<i>Infiltration capacity slightly lowered and surface runoff slightly increased due to reduced vegetative cover. Probe enters soil easily. Scattered signs of livestock trails, confined to lanes or small areas</i>) AND PCS - plant cover element score ≥ 4 (<i>Canopy Cover >90%, little spot grazing</i>)	
INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient use of irrigation water *	Land is not irrigated.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ State identified measurement and assessment tools - Farm Irrigation Rating Index (FIRI), State Version 	The irrigation system components and management meet state specific efficiency criteria	
WATER QUALITY: Excess nutrients in surface and groundwater	Organic or inorganic nutrient sources are not applied. AND There are no confined livestock areas.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Nutrient budget ➤ Planner Observations ➤ PCS 	Nutrients applications are based on a soil test, tissue tests or nutrient budget AND PCS - streambank / shoreline erosion element score ≥ 4 (<i>Banks are grazed but stable with a mix of pasture plants and native water's edge species. Livestock stream crossings or pond entrances not used heavily. Alternative water sites present</i>) AND PCS - livestock concentration areas element score ≥ 4 (<i>None to a few livestock trails and none to a few small livestock concentration areas with buffers between them and water bodies</i>).	
WATER QUALITY: Pesticides transported to surface and groundwaters	Pest control chemicals are not applied.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ WinPST 	Pesticides are stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching. AND Appropriate conservation practices and managements are in place to mitigate Pesticide Risks. AND Pesticide applications according to label requirements.	
WATER QUALITY: Excess pathogens and chemicals from manure, biosolids or compost applications	Biosolids, manures, compost or agriculturally related chemical sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals are not applied.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Organic materials are applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to surface water sources	
WATER QUALITY: Excessive salts in surface and groundwater	Excessive salt concentration is not a concern AND Activities do not contribute to excess salt problem.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Salt concentrations are managed to mitigate off-site transport to surface or ground waters.	
WATER QUALITY: Petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants	Activities that have the potential for contamination by petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants are not present.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants are stored and handled to avoid surface runoff or leaching into the soil.	

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WATER QUALITY: Excessive sediment in surface waters*	Permanent ground cover > 90% and slope < 10% AND Classic gullies are not present AND Streams or shoreline are not on or adjacent to site		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Upslope treatment and buffer practices address concentrated flows to water bodies AND SVAP2- bank condition ≥ 5 (<i>Banks are stable or moderately stable, protected by roots of natural vegetation, wood or rock. Little or no evidence of erosion or bank failures. Recreational use and/or grazing do not negatively impact bank condition</i>) AND Livestock and vehicle water crossings are stable AND Water erosion rate ≤ T	
WATER QUALITY: Elevated water temperature	Streams or shorelines not on or adjacent to site. OR Water courses on or adjacent to the site are not designated by a State Agency as a temperature impairment OR Water course temperature is not a client concern		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ SVAP2 	SVAP2 - riparian area quality element score ≥ 5 (<i>Natural and diverse riparian vegetation with composition, density and age structure appropriate for the site: Little or no evidence of concentrated flows through area. Invasive species present in small numbers</i>) AND SVAP2 - riparian area quantity quality element score ≥ 5 (<i>Natural plant community extends at least one bankfull width or more than 1/2 of active flood plain and is generally contiguous throughout property</i>) AND SVAP2 - canopy cover element score ≥ 6 (<i>>50% of water surface shaded within the length of the stream in landowner's property</i>) OR Existing planned practices are in place to address water temperature.	
PLANT RESOURCES					
DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Undesirable plant productivity and health	Plant production and health is not a client concern		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	The plant population is predominantly desirable and intermediate species. The diversity in the plant community ranges from medium to broad. The plant density of desirable and intermediates are considered medium to dense. The plant vigor of the desirables and intermediates are considered strong to medium. Moderate grazing pressure allows appropriate severity of use. Livestock are being rotated on at least a weekly basis.	
DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Inadequate structure and composition	Plant communities meet client objective, support intended land use and desired ecological functions.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input 	Plant communities contains adequate diversity, composition and structure to support desired ecological functions (Plant Communities meet Client's objectives and production goals).	
DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Excessive plant pest pressure*	Plant productivity is not limited from pest pressure		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Pest damage to plants does not exceed economic, environmental thresholds or other client-identified criteria. AND Plant pests, including noxious and invasive species are managed to eradicate, control or minimize spread.	

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PLANT RESOURCES (CONTINUED)					
DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Wildfire hazard, excessive biomass accumulation	Wildfire hazard is not a concern.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Fuel loads and fuel ladders are managed to provide defensible space and meet client objectives.	
LIVESTOCK RESOURCES					
LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: Inadequate feed and forage*	Client is not actively grazing animals. (No Grazing Modifier)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Forage and roughage, including supplemental nutritional requirements are provided to meet production goals.	
LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: Inadequate livestock shelter*	Client is not actively grazing animals. (No Grazing Modifier)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Artificial and/or natural shelter meets animal health and client objectives.	
LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: Inadequate livestock water*	Client is not actively grazing animals. (No Grazing Modifier)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Water of acceptable quality and quantity is provided and adequately distributed to meet client goals and animal needs.	

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NOTES: