Grazing Management Plan
Practice Activity Code (110) (No.)

1. Definition

A grazing management plan is a site specific conservation plan developed for a client which addresses one or more resource concerns on land where grazing related activities or practices will be planned and applied.

The grazing management plan will:

A. Meet NRCS quality criteria for soil erosion control, water quality, fish and wildlife, rangeland/pasture/grazed woodland health and productivity, and other identified resource concerns.

B. Will be developed following the principle provided in Chapter 11 of the National Range and Pasture Handbook.

C. Comply with federal, state, tribal, and local laws, regulations, and permit requirements.

D. Meet the client's objectives.

2. Grazing Management Plan Technical Criteria

This section establishes the minimum criteria to be addressed in the development of Grazing Management Plans.

A. General Criteria: A Grazing Management Plan shall be developed by certified Technical Service Providers (TSPs). In accordance with Section 1240 (A), the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) program provides funding support through contracts with eligible producers to obtain services of certified TSPs for development of Grazing Management Plans. The specific TSP criteria required for Grazing Management Plan development is located on the TSP registry (TechReg) web site at:
http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/technical/tsp

B. Background and site information

1. Landowner information – name, address, operation, size
2. Location and plan map of parcel

C. Identify Client Objectives such as:

1. Improve forage yield, quality, diversity, and persistence.
2. Meet livestock nutritional needs.
3. Maximize browse, forage and roughage pasture yields.
4. Improve production cost efficiency.
5. Maintain or improve wildlife habitat.
6. Maintain or improve water quality
7. Prevent or reduce erosion
8. Others as appropriate

D. Existing Conditions

1. Consult Ecological Site Description as reference condition
2. Vegetative species, diversity, and condition by land use, ecological site and forage suitability group.

3. Animal types, (breed and species including wildlife) and number
4. Acres available
5. Waste handling and storage
6. Watering system
7. Fencing
8. Documentation of existing practices/history/grazing records
9. Current forage and roughage conditions
10. Current Animal demand/forage balance (livestock and wildlife)
11. All Resource concerns (not meeting Quality Criteria)

E. Desired Future Conditions

1. Record Keeping
2. Monitoring Plan
3. O & M for practices
4. Nutrient Management as applicable
5. Fencing
6. Animal Demand / Forage/Roughage Balance
7. Adequate Water Source(s)
8. Plant species composition

F. Grazing Land Planning Documentation

1. Conservation plan map –scale, north arrow, planned and existing boundaries, fields, paddocks, watering systems, fence, land use, appropriate map symbols, identification of forage suitability groups and/or ecological sites by field
2. Grazing distribution and key grazing sites and species
3. Soils map – legend, interpretations, forage suitability index for grazing activities, ecological site descriptions
4. Resource Concerns addressed by the conservation plan
5. Contingency plans for winter, drought, fire, flood mud, mortality, bio- security, etc.
6. Planned Animal demand /forage balance (livestock and wildlife)
7. Conservation plan (record of decisions) *(MsWord Document)* to address the resource needs for the "Grazing Management Plan". The record of decisions shall include the planned practice, schedule for implementation, and site-specific specifications to apply the conservation practice. The site-specific specifications can be on an NRCS Jobsheet available for the conservation practice or in a narrative form for the non-engineering type practices. Planned engineering type practices shall include the conservation practice, schedule of implementation, and identified on the plan map. The plan may include, but are not limited to the conservation practices listed below:

   * Practices requiring site-specific specifications:

Code	Practice Name
314	Brush Management
315	Herbaceous Weed Control
382	Fence
511	Forage Harvest Management
512	Forage and Biomass Planting
528	Prescribed Grazing
548	Grazing Land Mechanical Treatment

550	Range Planting

8. Additional practices for planning consideration but not requiring site-specific specifications include:

Code	Practice name
322	Channel Bank Vegetation
338	Prescribed Burning
342	Critical Area Planting
378	Pond
380	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment
381	Silvopasture Establishment
382	Fence
390	Riparian Herbaceous Cover
394	Firebreak
395	Stream Habitat Improvement and Management
472	Access Control
516	Pipeline
561	Heavy Use Area Protection
574	Spring Development
575	Animal Trails and Walkways
580	Streambank and Shoreline Protection
590	Nutrient Management
595	Integrated Pest Management
614	Watering Facility
642	Water Well
644	Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management
645	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management
657	Wetland Restoration
658	Wetland Creation
659	Wetland Enhancement

3. Deliverables for the Client – a hardcopy of the plan that includes:

- Cover page – name, address, phone of client and TSP; Total Acres of the Plan, signature blocks for the TSP, producer, and a signature block for the NRCS acceptance.
- Soils map and appropriate soil descriptions
- Resource assessment results (wind and water erosion, water availability, soil fertility, and others that may be needed)
- For the practices listed above that require site-specific specifications prepare and document the site-specific specifications on how each practice will be applied; when the practice will be applied, and the extent (acres or number) that will be applied.
- For all other planned practices identify in the plan when the practice will be applied, the extent, the practice location, and for structural practices locate the practice on the conservation plan map.

3. Deliverables for NRCS Field Office:

- Complete Hardcopy and Electronic copy of the client's plan (MsWord copy) and other appropriate digital supporting documents.
- Digital Conservation Plan Map with fields, features, and structural practices located.
- Digital Soils Map.