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September 22, 2006

## KANSAS RANGE TECHNICAL NOTE KS-7

### **SUBJECT: ECS – Range - Prescribed Grazing Monitoring and Exclusion Cages**

**Purpose.** To provide guidance on monitoring and exclusion cages

**Effective Date.** Effective upon receipt

Whereas monitoring is required for the purpose of education and documentation of conservation planning on grazed rangeland, the following guidance shall be used:

- At a minimum, a grazing exclusion cage will be located on a selected key grazing area in each identified grazing system.
- The key grazing area shall be identified as a site which is representative for the grazing system being monitored.

#### **Examples:**

A single grazing unit which serves as a grazing system shall have at least one grazing exclusion cage located on a key grazing area which represents the grazing system.

A grazing system which includes multiple grazing units shall have at least one grazing exclusion cage located on a key grazing area which represents the designed grazing system.

#### **Definitions:**

Exclusion Cage – A device used to restrict grazing on an area to be used for the purpose of measuring annual forage production. It will be approved by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) when used in conjunction with program requirements.

Key Grazing Area – A relatively small portion of a pasture or management unit selected because of its location, use, or grazing value as a monitoring site

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location for grazing use. It is assumed that key areas, if properly selected, will reflect the current grazing management over the entire pasture or management unit as a whole.

Grazing System – From one to multiple grazing units identified as a system where a prescribed level of management or grazing prescription has been identified or designed.

Grazing Unit – A defined or identified area which is to be targeted for grazing. A grazing unit shall contain either a fence or physical feature which allows the manager to keep livestock in or out of the grazing unit.

*(signed)*

JEFFRY L. HART  
State Resource Conservationist