

## *Grazed Forestland* **Planning Resource Management Systems**

Successful resource management on forestlands is the correct application of a combination of practices that will meet the needs of the total forest ecosystem – the soil, water, air, plant, and animal resources and the objectives of the landuser.

Grazed forestland includes areas that are naturally forested or planted to forest and are being managed for a combination of wood and forage production. All grazed forestland requires forest management to enhance forage production and the management of livestock grazing to insure desired forestland production.

In planning a grazed forestland Resource Management System (RMS), vegetative management (forest management and grazing management) is the foundation on which the RMS is built. Forest Stand Improvement and Prescribed Grazing are essential to vegetation management. A grazing management plan that balances the forage and feed to the animal numbers, describes the animal movement through the pastures and meets the needs of the soil, water, air, plants, and animals is essential to the formulation of a RMS on grazed forestland.

All other practices planned on grazed forestland are either to: (1) facilitate the application of the forest stand improvement or prescribed grazing and are identified as DESIRABLE practices, or (2) cause or accelerate changes in the forest ecosystem and are identified as NEEDED practices. These NEEDED practices are planned when necessary to treat specific resource problems to meet the criteria for managing the soil, water, air, plants, and animal resources.

A RMS on Grazed Forestland include a combination of practices that are:

1. **ESSENTIAL** – Vegetative management practices, Forest Stand Improvement, Prescribed Grazing, and livestock water are essential to the successful management of grazed forestland and are always planned in the RMS.
2. **NEEDED** – These practices are planned when necessary to cause or accelerate changes in the grazed forestland ecosystem that cannot be achieved through application of vegetation management (**ESSENTIAL**) and facilitating (**DESIRABLE**) practices alone and are required to meet the RMS Quality Criteria.
3. **DESIRABLE** – These practices facilitate or enhance the vegetative management of grazed forestland.

An RMS for grazed forestland is developed by selecting a combination of the **ESSENTIAL**, plus the **DESIRABLE** and/or **NEEDED** practices whose combined effects will meet the criteria established for each resource (soil, water, air, plants, and animals) and the objectives of the landuser. When multiple land use is an objective, the needs of each use and the effects of each practice must be considered in the selection and application design of each practice to ensure compatibility. The following is a list of practices applicable to grazed forestland:

ESSENTIAL PRACTICES –

Forest Stand Improvement (666)  
Prescribed Grazing (528 A)

NEEDED PRACTICES –

Forest Preparation (490)  
Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)  
Bedding (310)  
Filter Strip (393)  
Range Planting (550)  
Prescribed Burning (338)  
Firebreak (394)  
Critical Area Planting (342)  
Diversion (362)  
Grade Stabilization Structure (410)  
Structure for Water Control (587)  
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)  
Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)  
Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)

DESIRABLE PRACTICES –

Fence (382)  
Animal Trails and Walkways (575)  
Access Road (560)  
Pipeline (516)  
Pond<sup>1</sup> (378)  
Pond Sealing or Lining (521 A-E)  
Spring Development<sup>1</sup> (574)  
Watering Facility<sup>1</sup> (614)  
Water Well<sup>1</sup> (642)  
Dike (357)

<sup>1/</sup> one or more practices will be essential when no water exists in newly created pastures.