

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
MONTANA CONSERVATION PRACTICE JOB SHEET

**PRESCRIBED GRAZING (ACRE)**

**CODE 528**

Landowner	Field/Management Unit	Date
Legal Description	Contract Item Number	Acres (Acres) Job Class

**SCOPE**

This is to be used as a basic summary of the more inclusive Montana NRCS, Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG), Standard and Specification for Prescribed Grazing (Code 528). A specific "Grazing Plan" is attached as part of this agreement.

**GRAZING LANDS OBJECTIVE**

Maintain an adequate forage base to meet the producer's objectives, yet maintain greater than 50% similarity to the potential plant community or an upward trend according to professional discipline standards. Grazing will be managed to promote desired conditions for upland and riparian area health and function.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

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**REQUIREMENTS**

The **Prescribed Grazing Plan** will, at a minimum, require:

- 1) Planned use of key herbaceous forage species will not exceed 50% of the current year's growth when grazed during the growing season, unless higher utilization is accounted for by more intensive grazing rotations, and increased rest periods.
- 2) Livestock forage requirements, wildlife use and pest damage (if significant) will be balanced with forage availability.
- 3) Browsing of woody species shall not exceed 50% of annual leaf and twig growth.
- 4) Changing season of use on native rangeland during the cycle of the grazing rotation.
- 5) Dormant season grazing will not exceed 65% use on native rangeland.
- 6) Winter feed areas will be selected away from riparian areas. Manure will be spread or scattered if build-up is likely to cause contaminated run-off or inhibit plant growth. Stocking rates and time of use will be selected as needed to prevent physical damage to herbaceous and woody plant species.
- 7) A monitoring plan developed for uplands and riparian areas.
- 8) Contingency plan for the entire grazing unit which includes drought, fire, hail, insect infestations and other catastrophic events that have the potential to be detrimental to the forage resource.

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

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**ADDITIONAL PRACTICES NEEDED TO COMPLETE GRAZING LANDS RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM  
(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)**

- Fence (Code 382)
- Water developments (various practices)  
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- Access Control (Code 472)
- Grazing Land Mechanical Treatment (Code 548)
- Wildlife Upland Habitat Management (Code 645)
- Range Planting (Code 550)
- Pasture and Hay Planting (Code 512)
- Brush Management (Code 314)
- Pest Management (Code 595)
- Herbaceous Weed Control (Code 797)
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIFIC SUPPORT DATA ATTACHED--USE THE SUGGESTED FORMS OR APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTATION**

- Goals, Objectives and Resource Concerns Clearly Stated
- Similarity Index, Trend, and Rangeland Health Worksheets (MT-ECS-2)
- Pastureland Inventory Worksheet(s) (MT-ECS-116)
- Grazing Lands Inventory Summary Sheet (MT-CPA-18A)
- Forage Balance Worksheet (MT-CPA-18, MT-CPA-18B, or Equivalent Electronic Worksheet)
- Planned Utilization Levels, (MT-ECS-414) Proper Grazing Use, or Equivalent
- Detailed Grazing Plan or Schedule
- Monitoring Plan Worksheet (MT-ECS-118)
- Contingency Plan
- Riparian Assessment (Environment Technical Note, MT-2) (if applicable)
- Wildlife Habitat Appraisal Guide(s)

**APPROVALS:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
NRCS Conservationist

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JOB APPROVAL AUTHORITY

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Producer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**CERTIFICATION:**

I hereby certify that this practice has been installed in accordance with NRCS standards and specifications.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NRCS Conservationist

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JOB APPROVAL AUTHORITY

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date