

# Instructions

## **Utilization Documentation-Landscape Appearance**

**NE-ECS-5**

### Instructions for use of NE-ECS-5

Use to record ocular estimates of forage utilization based on the general appearance of pastureland.

**Observation #:** Enter the observation number. The most important factor in obtaining usable data is selecting representative areas (critical or key areas).

**Date:** Enter the day of the observation.

**Client:** Enter the name of the client.

**Pasture Name:** Enter the name of the pasture.

**Location:** Use at least one of the methods for identifying where the site is located as precisely as possible. Sec. (Section), T (Township) R (Range); if this method is used, be sure to mark the location in the section in the box provided. UTM (Universal Transverse Mercator); this will likely be from a GPS unit. Long. (Longitude) and Lat. (Latitude); this will also likely be from a GPS unit; however, if determined from a topographic map, attempt to determine degrees, minutes, and seconds for both longitude and latitude.

**Kind or Class of Animal:** Enter cow-calf pairs, yearlings, horses, bulls, goats, sheep, etc..

**Examiner:** Enter the name of the observer.

#### *Utilization mapping (optional).*

Delineate major grazing use patterns within the pasture or evaluate the pasture as a whole. Indicate on the planning map the appropriate landscape appearance class for the entire pasture or major use pattern within the pasture. [NE-ECS-5 Utilization Documentation-Landscape Appearance](#) can be used to record ocular estimates of forage utilization based on the general appearance of pastureland. This option should be used when livestock grazing distribution has been identified as a cause of resource concern.

### Support References

Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG), Section IV, Conservation Practice Standard – Prescribed Grazing, 528  
<http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/NE/NE528.pdf>

Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG), Section IV, Conservation Practice Standard – Design Procedures Prescribed Grazing, 528DP  
<http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/NE/NE528DP.pdf>

Technical Note 15. Procedures for Conducting a Grazing Land Inventory  
[http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/NE/NE\\_TECH\\_NOTE\\_15.pdf](http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/NE/NE_TECH_NOTE_15.pdf)

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