

**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM**  
**(EQIP)**  
**2010 Practice Implementation Sheet**  
**Prescribed Grazing (528)**  
**Zone 3**

\_\_\_\_\_  
EQIP Participant

\_\_\_\_\_  
EQIP Contract Number

**Purpose:** To encourage producers to implement a planned rotational grazing system to manage livestock grazing as a part of a management system to improve or maintain: the desired composition and vigor of plant communities, quantity and quality of forage, and riparian and watershed functions. A properly designed and managed grazing system will improve rangeland health, similarity index and range trend. The grazing system must be maintained for the life of the contract. Units with existing systems are not eligible. Up to three payments over a three year period, one per year.

**I. NRCS will:**

- Assist producers with forage inventory and determining carrying capacity.
- Will prepare Rangeland Health, Rangeland Similarity Index and/or Range Trend evaluations.
- Give the producer a complete assessment of their current management system and what changes would have to be made to comply with the NRCS Prescribed Grazing Standard.
- Assist in the design of a planned grazing system for the ranch.
- Assist the producer in determining where to locate grazing cages.



**II. Participant will:**

- Balance livestock and wildlife numbers with available forage based on forage inventory. (This may require a reduction in livestock and/or wildlife numbers.)
- Develop and implement a drought plan when rainfall is below normal
- Construct and maintain grazing cages on key grazing sites for monitoring forage production and determining use.
- Units without any livestock currently in place must go through an entire growing season before being eligible for payment and they must re-stock with at least 51% of the recommended stocking rate based on the current forage inventory.
- Certification of the practice will be done at the end of February.
- Provide written documentation on number of animal units, dates when herd(s) were moved, and pastures which were grazed or deferred.
- Work with NRCS personnel to learn how to determine when livestock should be rotated.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date