

Texas Section Society for Range Management

Providing Leadership for the Stewardship of Rangelands
Based on Sound Ecological Principles

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President's Notes



Charles Anderson
President, TSSRM

***I Wanted
To Change
The World***
When I was a young man, I wanted to change the world. I found it was difficult to change the

world, so I tried to change my nation. When I found I couldn't change the nation, I began to focus on my town. I couldn't change the town and as an older man, I tried to change my family.

Now, as an old man, I realize the only thing I can change is myself, and suddenly I realize that if long ago I had changed myself, I could have made an impact on my family. My family and I could have made an impact on our town. Their impact could have changed the nation and I could indeed have changed the world.

By Unknown Monk, 1100 A.D.

You may be wondering why I started President's Notes with this story. Following the TSSRM Board Meeting in February, the board and a number of committee chairs spent the better part of a day discussing a media plan for TSSRM. Mark Moseley and Willie Conrad had taken the lead in developing a structure for us to consider. To say the least, it was a very thought provoking day.

During the session we talked about how we could make TSSRM

more visible. We have a diverse membership that is actively involved throughout the state in promoting sound rangeland management and stewardship. Usually this is done through our "paying" jobs and TSSRM is not acknowledged. It got me to thinking about what each of us could do to promote TSSRM in our day-to-day activities. This is when I remembered the story printed above. I can only change what I do.

One thing I can change is in preparing a biographical sketch when I am on a program. It would be very easy to insert one sentence stating I am currently President of TSSRM. I am challenging all members to think about simple ways they can let people know they are a member, past director, or past president of TSSRM.

This morning I was listening to the radio and heard an ad. I think they mentioned the name of their product at least 4 times in 30 seconds. I have always been told that a good teacher will repeat key items 3 times so the student will better retain the information.

I decided to acknowledge TSSRM when I have the opportunity to speak to a group. The opportunity presented itself in Abilene the week after returning from Vancouver, B.C. I asked Lee Knox to come forward so he could be recognized as one of 3 TSSRM members that were honored by receiving SRM's Outstanding Young Professional Award. I did acknowledge that I was currently serv-

ing as president. Following the meeting I had one person come up requesting information about our organization. I told him to go to www.tssrm.org and he could find out about the Texas Section and SRM. Did that person join SRM. I do not know, but at least he asked me about TSSRM.

There was more that came out of the February meeting. One suggestion was to create a Texas Rangeland Coalition. The coalition would be comprised of a number of agencies and non-governmental organizations that rely upon rangeland for their group's existence. The prima-

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The Inside Story...

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Scientists Study Feasibility of Switchgrass for Energy Production

ARS News Service, Agricultural Research Service, USDA
 Don Comis, (301) 504-1625, comis@ars.usda.gov

—View this report online, plus any included photos or other images, at www.ars.usda.gov/is/pr

Two switchgrass plants per square foot the first year ensures a successful bioenergy crop harvest in subsequent years. That's the threshold level for success established by an economic study by the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and cooperators on 10 northern Plains farms in Nebraska, South Dakota and North Dakota.

Soil scientist Mark Liebig, at the ARS Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory in Mandan, N.D., worked on the study led by Ken Vogel, a geneticist at the ARS Grain, Forage and Bioenergy Research Unit at Lincoln, Neb.

As an expert in breeding and management of new, higher-yielding varieties of switchgrasses best suited to ethanol conversion, Vogel collaborates with many ARS labs in various regions of the country.

Liebig's contribution to the study was to quantify another potential switchgrass benefit: soil carbon stor-

age. The study is a cooperative project with University of Nebraska economist Richard Perrin.

Switchgrass is a native prairie grass long used for conservation plantings and cattle feed in the United States. Interest in switchgrass ethanol has intensified recently as the federal government gains confidence in its potential as a bioenergy crop because of its wide adaptability and high yields on marginal lands. The northern Plains region was chosen first because the economics seemed most favorable there. Farmers can expect switchgrass yields to be high enough there to produce 100 to 400 gallons of ethanol per acre with current varieties.

Results from the main part of the study—the economics of growing switchgrass for bioenergy—are promising. Those results will be issued in May.

Switchgrass can be converted to ethanol just as cornstalks can. It also

can be burned to produce electricity. Growing switchgrass for ethanol could bring new industries to rural areas.

As a perennial plant, switchgrass has the advantage of not needing annual planting and tillage. Skipping these can save soil and energy. It can also reduce sediment and other pollutant losses to waterways.

The study's seedling threshold results are reported in the January issue of Crop Science magazine.

ARS is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's chief scientific research agency.

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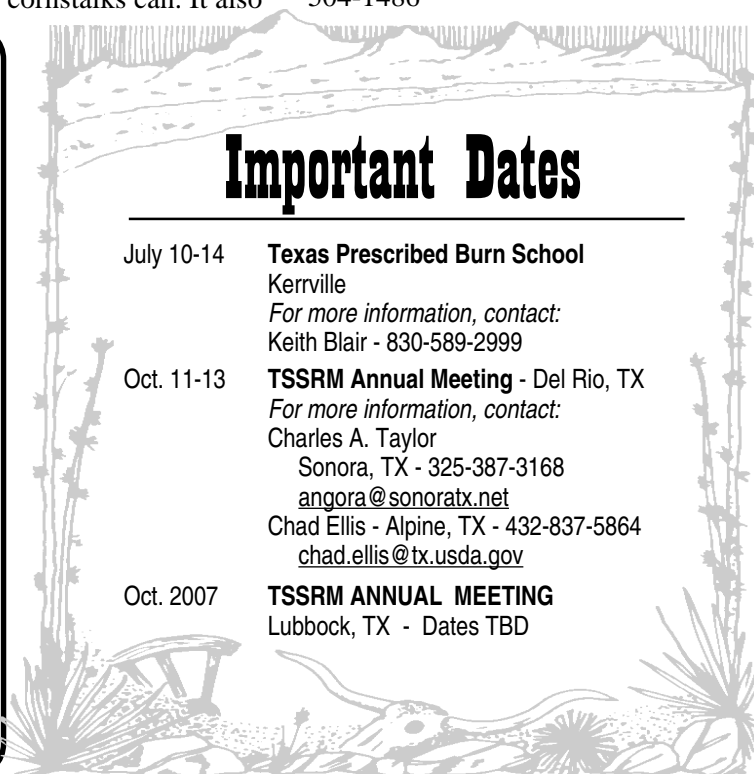
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Important Dates

- July 10-14 **Texas Prescribed Burn School**
 Kerrville
For more information, contact:
 Keith Blair - 830-589-2999
- Oct. 11-13 **TSSRM Annual Meeting - Del Rio, TX**
For more information, contact:
 Charles A. Taylor
 Sonora, TX - 325-387-3168
angora@sonoratx.net
 Chad Ellis - Alpine, TX - 432-837-5864
chad.ellis@tx.usda.gov
- Oct. 2007 **TSSRM ANNUAL MEETING**
 Lubbock, TX - Dates TBD



Innovations in Rangeland Monitoring

ARS News Service, Agricultural Research Service, USDA
 Rosalie Marion Bliss, (301) 504-4318, rbliss@ars.usda.gov
 February 10, 2006

—View this report online, plus any included photos or other images, at www.ars.usda.gov/is/pr

Four complementary software programs that provide cost-effective, new methods for monitoring vast tracts of U.S. rangelands have been developed by Agricultural Research Service scientists and a collaborator. The custom computer applications are geared to aid land managers in collecting and analyzing rangeland-monitoring data.

Project coordinator and rangeland scientist D. Terry Booth, with the Cheyenne, Wyoming-based ARS Rangeland Resources Research Unit, received funding from the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management. Booth collaborated with ARS biological science technician Sam Cox and Colorado-based independent programming consultant Robert D. Berryman to create the programs.

Light-weight, slow-flying airplanes equipped with a high-resolution digital still camera, a Global Positioning System and computers are used to collect thousands of data images.

The images are then used to measure the risk of soil erosion by quantifying and comparing levels of ground cover over time. Conventional methods, which are time-consuming, require ground crews to collect measurements on foot, using tape measures.

Two of the new software applications, LaserLOG and Merge, are bundled with a database, ImageMeasurement, as an interrelated package. The applications provide accurate image-resolution calculations and adjust for factors that affect object-to-camera distance.

The stand-alone application, SamplePoint, allows technicians to measure bare ground and ground cover, such as vegetation, litter and rock. Each data image contains millions of tiny picture elements, or pixels. SamplePoint helps the user visually classify ground cover using 100 sample pixels for each image. The measurements are then compared with measurements taken from other data images acquired in the same

geographic areas over a span of years.

Test studies so far show the innovative aerial process to be efficient and cost-effective for monitoring both dry and wet rangeland areas. Copies of the new applications can be obtained by contacting Booth at Terry.Booth@ars.usda.gov.

Read more about the research in the February 2006 issue of Agricultural Research magazine, available online at: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/AR/archive/feb06/range0206.htm>

ARS is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's chief scientific research agency.

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PRESIDENT'S NOTES *continued from page 1*

rily objective or goal for creating such a coalition would be to educate the public on 1) what rangeland is, 2) the many uses of rangeland, and 3) why rangeland is important to all of Texas. Allan McGinty, chair of the Resolutions Committee has agreed to visit with our membership and report

his findings to the board in July.

I would remiss if I did not recognize Jason Hohlt, Lee Knox and Melissa Teague who were recognized by SRM with the Outstanding Young Professional Awards. Keith Owens, editor of Rangeland Ecology and Management, received the Outstand-

ing Achievement Award for Research at Vancouver. Please congratulate these individuals when you see them. It is individuals like this that make the Texas Section the organization that it is.

Charles

Pecos River Ecosystem Project

In the early 1900s, government agencies and private landowners began planting saltcedar to control stream-bank erosion along rivers, such as the Pecos. Through the 20th century, an estimated 14,000 acres of water-consuming saltcedar thrive along the banks of the Pecos River in Texas and quickly dominated the area, out-competing native plants for sunlight, moisture and nutrients.

The Pecos River Ecosystem Project was conceived in 1997 to address alternatives for saltcedar control along the Pecos. In September 1999, North Star Helicopters from Jasper, Texas applied aerial Arsenal® treatments to 655 acres. Since that time, saltcedar treatments continued along the Pecos River and throughout the whole basin. From 1999 through 2005 approximately \$2,693,915 had been spent treating 13,497 total acres along the river and the entire basin.

“As of the end of the 2005 spray season, my estimate is that we’ve completed treating approximately 75 percent of saltcedar on the entire Pecos River in Texas,” said Charles Hart, professor and Extension range specialist in Fort Stockton.

Research continues, but current estimates show that each acre of saltcedar uses an average of 3 to 4 acre feet of water annually. Through the Pecos River management program, researchers hope to salvage at least 50 percent of this annual loss, he said.

“At this point, about all I can estimate is that we are salvaging about 2 acre feet (of water) for every acre of saltcedar we have treated,” Hart said.



This project has already seen significant water savings from these treatments. Throughout the project’s first seven years, total water salvage estimates are between 54,268 to 81,402 acre feet (17.7 to 26.5 billion gallons).

The Pecos River Management Plan focuses on three key areas: 1) Herbicide application on saltcedar, 2) debris removal through prescribed burning, and 3) long-term follow-up management through biological control, spot spraying and native plant restoration. A major concern is the revegetation of the river banks with native plants to complete the ecosystem restoration. The treatment methods selected needed to provide a high rate of saltcedar mortality while

minimizing detrimental effects on existing native vegetation.

“In summary, saltcedar control using the herbicide application described was successful with an average of 85 to 90 percent apparent mortality of saltcedar two years after treatment,” Hart said. “With long-term monitoring, treatment life of the control strategies should be further evaluated and follow-up management alternatives explored.”

Saltcedar control efforts continue along the river banks, as well as in other infested areas in the Pecos River Basin. Numerous agencies, organizations and companies are involved in helping along these project efforts.

“The Rio Grande Basin Initiative allowed us to enhance our monitoring and research efforts and helped to provide base data im-

portant in obtaining additional funding,” Hart said.

Major partners include the Upper Pecos Soil and Water Conservation District, Texas Cooperative Extension, Texas Department of Agriculture, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Red Bluff Water and Power Control District, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Pecos River Compact, International Boundary and Water Commission, BASF, local landowners, and irrigation districts in Loving, Reeves, Ward and Pecos Counties.

For more information on the Pecos River Ecosystem Project please visit <http://pecosbasin.tamu.edu> or contact Charles Hart at cr-hart@tamu.edu.

The Value of Riparian Baccharis

Steve Nelle, NRCS, San Angelo, Texas

Photos: Mike Haddock, Kansas Wildflowers and Grasses

Most folks involved in farming, ranching and natural resource management have a rather low opinion of *Baccharis*. This native shrub often grows in damp or seepy situations and sometimes it encroaches into old cropland fields, pastureland or rangeland where it is not welcomed. It is considered a poor browse plant, and it can become thick enough to limit the intended use of pastures. In upland



settings, control of *Baccharis* is sometimes needed and recommended.

However, *Baccharis* is a valuable native shrub for riparian protection and can play an important role in the restoration of degraded riparian areas. In this setting it serves as a pioneer woody plant that helps stabilize banks, floodplains and gravel bars. Granted, *Baccharis* does behave somewhat like a “weedy” plant, but this characteristic is desirable when it comes to stabilization of poorly vegetated riparian areas. Seed production is prolific and the fluffy seed is easily dispersed by wind. Seedlings establish readily under the right conditions, and growth is fairly rapid.

Most species of *Baccharis* are multi-stemmed shrubs. A good stand of *Baccharis* is very effective at slowing water velocity, thus decreasing the erosive power of flood flows. As water velocity is slowed, more sediment will drop, helping to build floodplains, banks, point bars and meandering. Because *Baccharis* is a non-preferred browse plant, it can establish and grow well even with high

deer and livestock numbers. As sediment and organic debris is trapped by a matrix of *Baccharis* stems, other desirable riparian plants can more easily become established. Furthermore, *Baccharis* helps provide physical protection from grazing and browsing to such newly developing vegetation.

Like other pioneer plant species, *Baccharis* is not long lived and is often replaced by other more persistent



thick, nasty stand of *Baccharis* growing on a raw gravel bar when he was a boy. No trees were present. Now, many years later, the exact same area is a very nicely wooded and well vegetated riparian area. A canopy of mature pecan, red mulberry, Western soapberry, American elm, cedar elm, hackberry and sycamore is present with a shrub understory of rough-leaf dogwood, indigobush amompha, and buttonbush. A dense herbaceous cover consists of wildrye, Eastern gamagrass, switchgrass, bushy bluestem and sedges.

This points out the need to be patient with the natural development of riparian vegetation. The first series of plants to establish will usually not be the ultimate plant community. Plant succession must be allowed to proceed and progress at its own pace. Some initial plant communities may seem weak and weedy and inadequate, but with time and proper management, they will develop more and more diversity and will evolve into stable mature riparian plant communities.

Bravo to *Baccharis*!

vegetation as riparian plant communities mature. An example of this is found in an account of a Pedernales River riparian site in Gillespie County. A rancher was describing his recollection of the riverside vegetation to NRCS Wildlife Biologist Jerry Turrentine. The rancher recounted that a certain segment of river bottom

It's Habitat Inspection Time

by Ricky Linex

Everyone is familiar with the yearly vehicle inspections required to drive a vehicle on public roads. This practice was established many years ago as a way of ensuring that the vehicles we meet on the roads are safe and roadworthy. Now let's change our thinking from vehicles to your ranch or hunting lease. If your ranch, or lease, faced an annual inspection, would it pass? In order to maintain and develop the quality of the deer you hunt, you need to know ways of evaluating the habitat you own or lease.

We know that all living organisms need food, cover, and water in a favorable mix to meet their habitat needs. Let's look at managing the food component, since it can be easily seen and evaluated every month of the year.

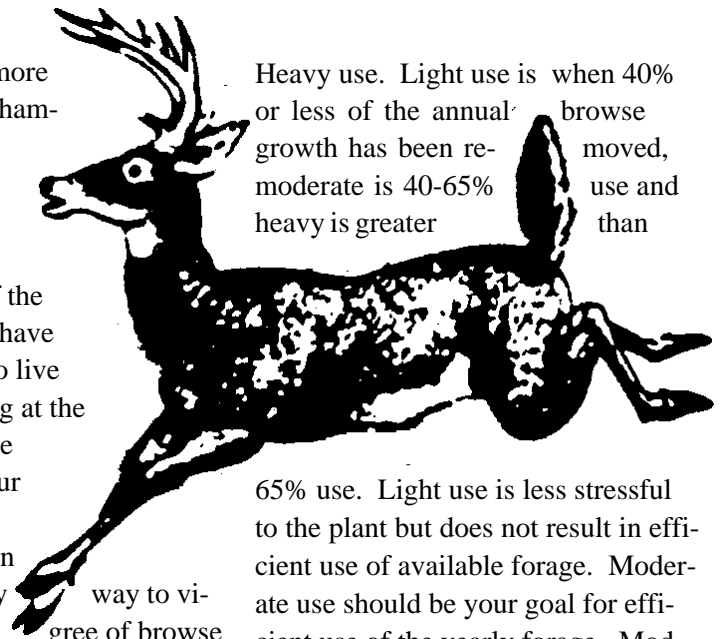
A deer's diet is largely made up by their deliberate selection of the best of what forages are available at any given time. Forbs, or broadleaf weeds, are taken first because they furnish the most protein and digestible matter per unit eaten. To compare forbs to our diet would be like eating prime rib, or whatever your favorite cut is. Browse, or the tender shoots, twigs and leaves of trees and shrubs, make up the bulk of a deer's diet because it is widely available. Browse is not as high in protein or as digestible as forbs and would compare to eating hamburger for us. When you go into a buffet restaurant, we always look to see what the choicest meat entrée is available; never do we look to see if they have a tray of bologna. Deer make these same choices every day, trying to eat the best diet they can find. By monitoring their habitat, you can deter-

mine if they have more prime rib, or more hamburger, to eat each day, which will influence how well they do.

Do you know if the deer on your lease have enough groceries to live and grow? Looking at the plants that have bite marks will start your education on what deer have to eat on your lease. An easy way to visually measure degree of browse use is to install browsing exclosures or cages around desirable browse. Small oaks, hackberry, Texas sophora or any species that you see moderate to heavy use on can be caged. A sixteen foot cattle panel can be bent into a circle and wired to a couple of tee posts driven into the ground for stability. Old rolls of net wire can be shaped into circular cages of 4-6 feet in diameter and at least 5 feet in height to serve as a cage. Find two of the same browse species and install cage around one and leave other plant exposed to browsing. Monitor this for a year, and you will be amazed at the amount of new growth that flourishes from within the cage. The time to install these cages is before new growth begins in the spring. You can then visually see how much browse the animals are consuming.

During late winter, few forbs are available on most range sites so deer will browse shrubs and trees for most of their daily intake. Use of these browse plants can be easily measured. Degree of use of browse can be divided into Light, Moderate or

Heavy use. Light use is when 40% or less of the annual growth has been removed, moderate is 40-65% use and heavy is greater than



65% use. Light use is less stressful to the plant but does not result in efficient use of available forage. Moderate use should be your goal for efficient use of the yearly forage. Moderate use will maintain healthy browse in its present condition. However if the rangeland is overgrazed moderate use will not allow good quality browse plants to reproduce and browse production will spiral downward. Heavy use will result in bonsai looking shrubs with few shoots of new growth. Continued heavy use will result in death of shrubs and trees that cannot escape the reach of browsing mouths.

By conducting a habitat inspection on your deer's available browse use each year, and learning which plants the deer prefer, you can make a relevant contribution to their health and well being each year. Just like on your car, the deer's ecosystem runs better when all of the parts are in good working order.

As the driver of this ecosystem, you can play a great part in the insuring all of the parts are working if you conduct your yearly inspection by monitoring forage use and adjusting your management to encourage growth of preferred plants and establishment of new plants.

Land Management After Wildfire

Mark Mosely, Acting State Rangeland Specialist, San Antonio, TX

What can landowners do to manage property after a wildfire?

Has your property been affected by wildfire? Are you unsure about what to do now and who to turn to for help?

Recent wildfires have been devastating to people, homes, barns, fences, livestock, hay bales, or standing grass that was needed for winter forage. In the areas burned by wildfires, it may look like the flames destroyed all the vegetation.

“Wildfires can affect the vegetation in ways that are very similar to the effects of prescribed fire and can provide valuable control of brush species,” states Susan Baggett, State Resource Conservationist for NRCS in Texas. “Loss of vegetation not only affects forages for livestock and wildlife habitat, but it can lead to increased soil loss due to erosion by wind and water.”

Many landowners may be left with the fear that vegetation will not return unless it is re-seeded. Even though the initial appearance on the land may be that of a moonscape, in most cases native plants evolved with fire and are still alive. They can recover with a management plan. Factors that affect recovery time include types of plants and their adaptation to fire, fire intensity, precipitation (before and after the fire), soil type, previous history of grazing and fire, presence of weeds (competition), season of fire, and management after the fire.

Burned vegetation still provides protection from soil movement due to remaining plant roots and plant parts. Instances where erosion could occur include areas where active erosion occurred prior to the wildfire, on very steep slopes, in very sandy soils, and along drainages until the vegetation recovers. Usually within two years, the erosion rates return to pre-burn conditions.

Most native trees, shrubs, forbs and grasses have mechanisms of coping with fire. Some will grow new leaves; some will re-sprout, while others have fire resistant seeds that will sprout following a fire. Bunchgrasses, like little bluestem, accumulate dead material above the root crown and the center of

the plant dies over time. After a fire, it sometimes appears that the plant was killed, when in fact the center of the plant was already dead. This can be observed by examining burned and unburned plants in the same area. In contrast, rhizomatous grasses, such as big bluestem or sideoats grama, have growing points below the soil surface and do not accumulate fuel next to the root crown.

Woody plants are adapted to fire by location of buds or protective bark. Most woody plants resprout if top growth is killed. Once top growth is lost, dormant basal buds below the soil surface begin growth. Plants such as Ashe juniper though, lack basal buds and do not resprout. Many woody plants have thick bark and are adapted to intense fire. Eastern cottonwood, post oak, and shortleaf pine are examples of fire tolerant woody plants.

Management prior to wildfire will affect recovery time. Plants that had a healthy root system at the time of the burn will recover the quickest. A flush of weeds could be expected the first season after a wildfire. However, these may be plants that benefit wildlife and typically within 2 years following a wildfire, will decline as grasses increase. The key point is to identify the weeds, understand their life cycle, evaluate their impact on recovery, then make a decision regarding weed control.

It is important to recognize three distinct growth stages of plants to plan for recovery.

1. During the “green-up” or early stage of the growth, perennial grasses can be defoliated rather intensively without permanent damage to the plant; *as long as the growing point remains below the point of defoliation and is unharmed.*
2. As soon as the grasses shift from the short-shoot growth stage to the early reproductive or long-shoot stage excessive grazing can be detrimental, but not necessarily “life threatening” to perennial grasses.
3. *It is the period between post-reproduction and dormancy during*

which perennial grasses periodically must be rested to insure their long-term survival and vigor.

Management considerations following a wildfire include:

- Some areas may need to have grazing deferred until plant growth is adequate to support grazing. This will be dependent on precipitation.
- Stocking properly.
- Avoiding grazing the same areas and plants at the same time each year.
- Rotate livestock between pastures to allow plant recovery. Additional practices such as temporary fencing and new water facilities may be needed.
- With adequate precipitation, areas can be grazed with intensive early stocking (IES). The key is to remove cattle by July 1 if using IES and not graze the area again until after frost.
- Apply fertilizer according to a soil test for introduced species.
- Utilize rotation of salt, mineral and feeding locations to better distribute grazing.
- Weed control may be necessary. Types of weed control include herbicides, flash grazing or intensive early stocking with livestock.
- Monitor to ensure management decisions are restoring desired plants.

Fire has been and still is an essential part of maintaining healthy native grassland, rangeland, and forest lands and has positive impacts. In many cases, prescribed fire can reduce the potential for future wildfires. The information is meant to provide some guidance in helping landowners make decisions following wildfire events. The impacts of wildfire will vary in each situation as will the course of action and management needed following the wildfire.

For further assistance in evaluating your land and planning practices to address concerns following a wildfire, contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) or Soil and Water Conservation District. Offices are located in almost every county and are listed in phonebooks under federal and state government.

Grazing Management Workshop

Bradley 3M Ranch - Minnie Lou Bradley, Childress, County, TX

On Wednesday, **April 26, 2006** there will be a Grazing Management Workshop on the Bradley 3M Ranch, owner Minnie Lou Bradley located in Childress County. This workshop will benefit livestock manager's that utilize rangeland to produce beef. Registration at the workshop will start at 8:30 am, the workshop will begin at 9:00 am. This workshop is open to any and all individuals interested in rangeland management.

The subject matter of the Grazing Management Workshop will include the basic Facts, Principals and Techniques of Proper Rangeland Management. The guest speakers for this event will be Dan Caudle - Grazing Lands Coordinator - Ft. Worth; Tony Garcia - NRCS Range Specialist - Lubbock; Clint Rollins - NRCS Range Specialist - Amarillo, Colter Gerald - NRCS Range Specialist - Dumas and Royce Seibman - NRCS - Childress. Please refer to the attached agenda for the specific topics and times. Also attached is a detailed map with directions to the Grazing Management Workshop at the ranch.

here will be a **FREE** Chuckwagon style meal at noon prepared by Kent Rollins of Hollis, Oklahoma. Compliments of DuPont and DowAgroSciences. Jack Lyons (DuPont) and Jodie Stockett (DowAgroSciences) will make presentations following the noon meal on Brush and Weed control on rangeland. **RSVP's are required for the meal.**

If you are interested in attending this Grazing Management Workshop, please contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service office in Childress to RSVP for the free meal. Please respond by Monday, **April 24, 2006** so we can provide a head count for the meal.

NRCS Office in Childress: (940) 937-8301 ext. 3
Clint Rollins, NRCS Range Specialist, Amarillo

When : 8:30 am , Wednesday , April 26 , 2006
Where : Bradley 3M Ranch - Minnie Lou Bradley (map attached)
Meal : *FREE - Chuckwagon Style Meal by Kent Rollins
***Compliments of DuPont & Dow AgroSciences -RSVP Required**

- 08:30 - 09:00 am - Registration
- 09:00 - 09:15 am - Welcome and Comments - Royce Seibman & Mrs. Bradley
- 09:15 - 09:45 am - Rangeland Management - Facts, Principals and Techniques - Colter Gerald - Range Specialist, NRCS - Dumas
- 09:45 - 10:15 am - Grazing Systems & Drought Plans - Dan Caudle, Grazing Lands Coordinator
- 10:15 - 10:30 am - Break - Ft. Worth Technical Center
- 10:30 - 11:00 am - Methods for Improved Grazing Distribution - Royce Seibman - NRCS Childress
- 11:00 - 11:30 pm - USDA Programs and Practices available for Rangeland Improvements, Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI) & Society for Range Management (SRM) - Tony Garcia - Range Specialist, NRCS - Lubbock
- 11:30 - 12:00 pm - Plant ID Contest (participation encouraged) - Clint Rollins & Royce Seibman
- 12:00 - 1:00 pm - Chuckwagon Meal
- 1:00 - 1:30 pm - Brush & Weed Control - Dow / DuPont - Jodie Stockett & Jack Lyons
- 1:30 - 2:30 pm - Forage Inventory Techniques - Clint Rollins Range Specialist, NRCS - Amarillo
- 2:30 till Questions, Comments and Dismiss

R.S.V.P. Please contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service Office in Childress by **April 24, 2006 : (940) 937-8301 ext. 3**

Sponsors: Childress County SWCD, DuPont Chemical and Dow Chemical

