

Reference Notebook of Rangeland & Riparian Habitat Assessment Methods

Range 357 - Fall 2008

Due Friday, December 12th @ 5:00 p.m.

This course is designed to help you gain skills to reach natural resource management goals:

- Select appropriate habitat attributes to assess and monitor.
- Determine appropriate field procedures and conduct field assessment.
- Analyze, summarize and present assessment results.

Some day you may have a job in natural resource management and you may actually need to apply these skills. Chances are, you won't remember exactly which method to choose to reach or your goal, or exactly how to apply the method. When that happens you can check your book shelves for your "Sampling Vegetation Attributes" and "Utilization Studies" books. You can also look through your personal "Habitat Assessment" reference notebook.

Some guidelines for creating a **Habitat Assessment Reference Notebook**.

- Obtain a 3-ring notebook (about 2- 2 ½ inch size).
- Organize information you collected in this class.
- Clearly identify sections in your notebook based on topics. The following topics are suggested:
 - Vegetation Attributes, Sampling Concepts, GPS/GIS, Photo Monitoring, Statistical Analysis, Riparian Assessment, Structure & Vertical Cover Characteristics, Frequency, Density, Cover, Biomass Production, Carrying Capacity, Botanical Composition, Dominance, Diversity, & Similarity, Utilization & Residual Biomass, and Rangeland Condition & Trend
 - You have a little flexibility on what to include. However, if you don't include one of the topics above, you are expected to add another section.
- Include very practical information in your notebook. Focus on "How To" information.
- Include a few "Useful Extras." These could be journal articles, web pages, guides collected in other classes, government documents.
- Do not include big sections of notes from other classes. Really focus on information necessary for habitat assessment.
- You can include the Technical References received in class or you could just include a reference to these document; for example, a copy of the cover and a table of contents.

Final Notebook Review:

Name: _____

Organization and Ease of Reference (10 points):

Poor Fair Good Excellent _____

Is information organized in clearly defined sections?
Is information within each section well organized?

Completeness (20 points):

- Vegetation Attributes
 - Sampling Concepts
 - Photo Monitoring
 - Statistical Analysis
 - Riparian Assessment
 - Frequency
 - Density
 - Cover
 - Plant Structure & Vertical Cover
 - Botanical Composition
 - Dominance, Diversity, & Similarity
 - GPS/GIS
 - Biomass Production, Carrying Capacity, Fuel Loads
 - Utilization & Residual Biomass
 - Rangeland Condition & Trend
- _____

Useful Extras (10 points):

Poor Fair Good Excellent _____

TOTAL (Of 40 points): _____