



File Code: 2200; 1900
Route To:

Date: OCT 24 2017

Subject: Supplemental Update to Rangeland Analysis and Planning Guide R5-EM-TP-004
To: Forest Supervisors and Directors

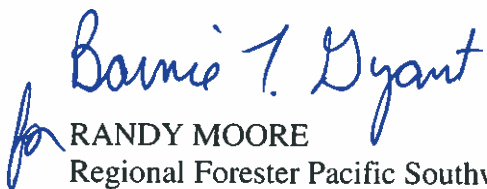
The intent of this memorandum is to inform you and your staff that we have completed a supplemental update to the regional Rangeland Analysis and Planning Guide R5-EM-TP-004; available to Forest Service employees and the public at:

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/r5/rangeland%20management>

You can also navigate to the Guide from the Region 5 internet website under: *Region 5/Land & Resource Management/Resource Management/Rangeland Management.*

This regional guide was first printed in March 1997, replaced both the FSH 2209.21 Range Environmental Analysis Handbook (January 1969) and R-5 Rangeland Analysis Field Guide (May 1993). This 2017 Supplemental Guide has been structured to incorporate analysis protocols and methods endorsed by the Forest Service and relevant to rangeland management in the Pacific Southwest Region. Many notable methodologies have been published since 1997 particularly relating to riparian ecology and management. I encourage you to also develop forest specific supplemental guides to include other rangeland analysis and monitoring protocols or methodologies which are not listed here and have added value to your unit. A full revision of this 1997/2017 Guide will be completed at a future date.

If you have any questions regarding this supplemental update of guide R5-EM-TP-004, please contact Diana Craig, Acting Director for Ecosystem Management at (707) 562-8975 or Tom Frolli, Range Program Manager at (707) 562-9164.


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Reply to: 2200 Rangeland Management

Date: MAY 23 1997

Subject: Rangeland Analysis and Planning Guide

To: Forest Supervisors

Rangelands are valuable and extensive ecosystems in the Pacific Southwest Region. Rangelands provide clean water, forage for grazing and browsing animals, cover for many wildlife species and a variety of recreational opportunities for our visitors. Rangelands are of vital economic importance to the many rural communities throughout our region. I want each of you to look at rangelands in a broad perspective, focusing on sustainable natural processes that provide healthy ecosystems for the needs and values of a diverse public.

The Rangeland Analysis and Planning Guide has been prepared to assist you with the analysis and planning needed to manage our rangelands.

The January 1997 Rangeland Analysis and Planning Guide replaces the 1969 Range Analysis Handbook. The new guide incorporates a number of significant changes that have occurred in the 25 years since the 1969 Range Analysis Handbook was issued. Some of the more significant changes include:

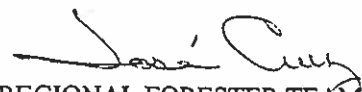
Since 1969, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and National Forest Management Act have been enacted, and provide considerable guidance as to how planning should be conducted on Forest Service administered lands. Chapter Two of the 1997 Rangeland Analysis and Planning Guide reflects the major shift from actions based on achieving a satisfactory range forage condition, to actions needed to achieve the Desired Condition established in the Land Management Planning process. Range forage condition is now a part of the desired condition.

Riparian areas were generally considered as inclusions in larger grazing areas, and not readily managed in 1969. The 1997 guide includes riparian management and monitoring as a separate chapter.

The use of key areas for measuring forage utilization was recommended in 1969. A "Proper Use Factor", adjusted by range condition, was determined for each forage species, and key areas were selected by the rangeland manager. The 1997 training guide provides direction that key areas are selected through an IDT process, with permittee involvement and other interested publics. Utilization levels are now established through a combination of Forest Plan direction and site specific environmental analysis of the allotment.

The Guide is a working document. It is our intent to review this Guide every few years and revise it with new information learned from field application and developing technology.

There has been a tremendous amount of energy and expertise put into the development of this Guide from personnel within the Forest Service, other agencies, research and universities. I would like to thank all those that contributed to this effort, particularly the Rocky Mountain Region who provided their "Rangeland Analysis and Management Training Guide" which served as the foundation for this Guide.


for REGIONAL FORESTER TEAM