

Targeted/Prescribed
(Rotational/Deferral) Livestock Grazing
for Meeting Conservation Goals

*Central Coast Rangeland Coalition
Spring 2017 Membership Meeting*

*April 20, 2017
9:00 – 4:30*

*Cal Poly Beef Center
Pennington Creek Road
6 miles north of San Luis Obispo, California*

Goal: To increase awareness and familiarity with a variety of grazing practices (particular strategies and methods) can be used to meet specific conservation objectives.

Objectives:

1. Identify specific practices under the broader topic of targeted/prescribed and rotational/deferral grazing that could be used to meet specific conservation objectives. Examples of conservation objectives covered will include management oriented toward watershed function and special status species.
2. Consider how different grazing practices or strategies may be used to achieve conservation objectives, and the nuts and bolts of implementing these various practices.
3. Identify tradeoffs in management outcomes associated with different grazing strategies discussed.

Agenda

8:45 Preregistration and coffee

9:00 Program begins (presentation times include time for questions and answers)

Welcome, opening remarks

Marc Horney, Associate Professor, Cal Poly Animal Science Department

Aaron Lazanoff, Beef Operations Manager, Cal Poly Animal Science Department

Group exercises

Agenda, continued

Targeted and Prescribed Grazing on California's Central Coast

Erin Campbell-Craven, CCRC Scholar, Cal Poly

Summary: A broad overview of the current knowledge and practice of targeted and prescribed grazing practices on the Central Coast: topics discussed will include an outline of common conservation goals and the grazing practices currently being used on Central Coast rangelands to meet those goals, as well as recommendations for agencies, consultants, land managers, and ranchers on how to implement and/or improve upon targeted and prescribed grazing practices.

10:30 Break

Using Cattle Grazing to Mitigate Effects of Nitrogen Pollution on Native Plant Communities and Sensitive Species

Stuart B. Weiss, Chief Scientist, Creekside Center for Earth Observation

Summary: Stuart will speak about appropriate grazing regimes for conservation of serpentine grasslands, rare butterflies, and invasive barb goatgrass control.

Group exercises

12:00 Lunch

1:00 Panel Discussion: Conservation Goals and Grazing Management

Justin Fields, Rancher

Andrée Soares, Rancher and President Star Creek Land Stewards, Inc

Aaron Lazanoff, Beef Cattle Operation Manager, Cal Poly

Stuart Weiss

Summary: Panelists will share insights from their experience with targeted/prescribed and rotational/deferral grazing for meeting conservation goals and will be available for questions from meeting participants.

Field Site Introduction- Escuela-Walters ranch

Aaron Lazanoff

Transport to field

Field Presentation and Discussion: Grazing and Wildlife Conservation

John Perrine, Associate Professor, Cal Poly Biological Sciences Dept.

Marc Horney

Others, TBD

Summary: Review planning strategies for wildlife habitat conservation in grazed landscapes

Agenda, continued

Transport to second field site

Field Presentation and Discussion: Grazing and Riparian areas

Brian Dietterick, Marc Horney, Aaron Lazanoff, and Students

Summary: Review planning strategies for riparian habitat conservation in grazed landscapes

4:00 Review, discussion, and conclusion of day

4:15 Meeting concludes-transport back or drive out

Thanks to program sponsors: Cal Poly SLO, The Nature Conservancy, East Bay Regional Parks District, and Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve.

For more information, see:

http://www.elkhornsloughctp.org/training/show_train_detail.php?TRAIN_ID=CeQXNP3