

NRI On Pasture - Regional Overview

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There is an Annual Start-up Conference Call/ Live Meeting for Pasturelands

Overview of NRI Grazing Lands

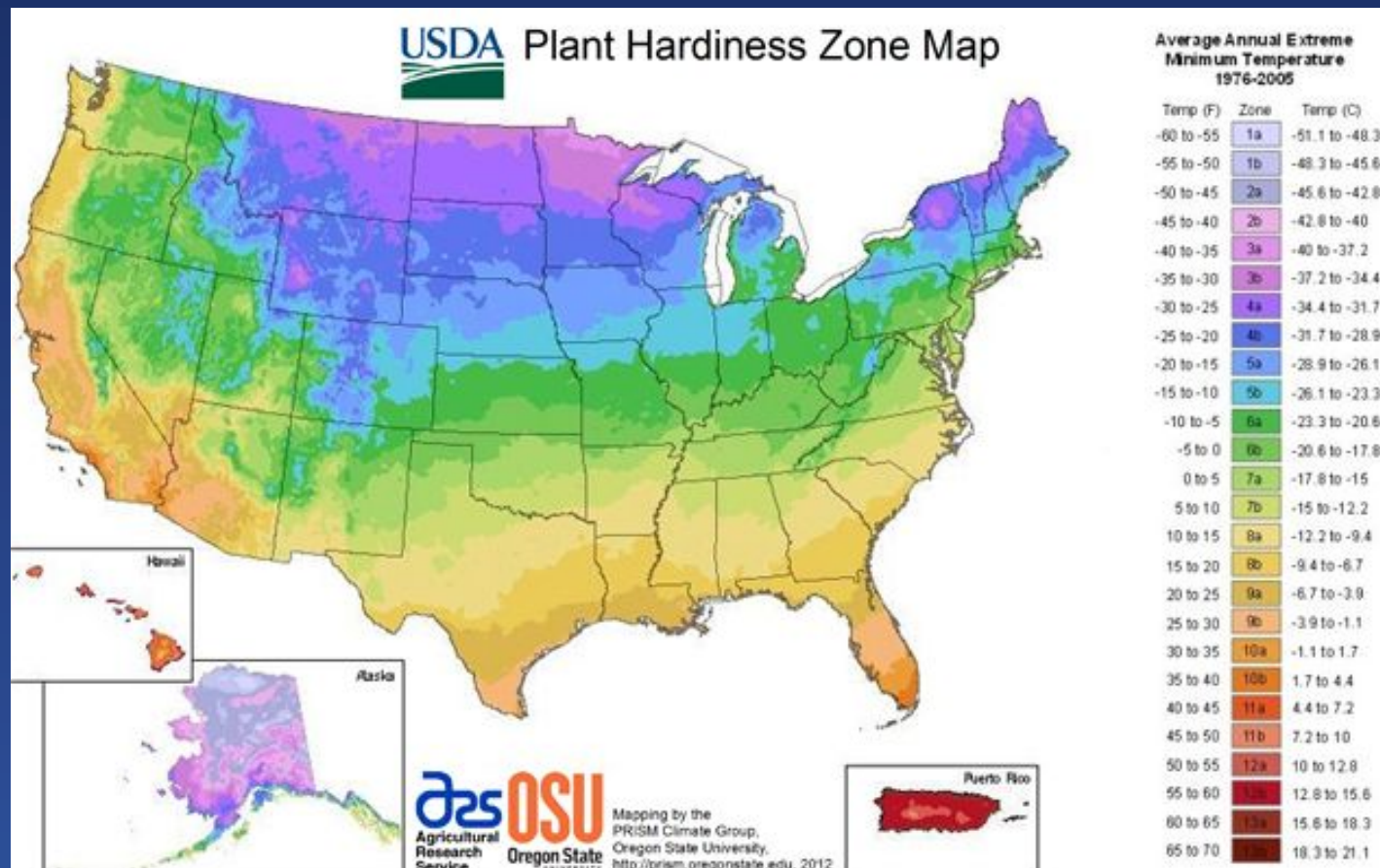
- NRI Grazing Land on-site data collected on rangeland since 2003
- NRI pasture pilots conducted 2009-2011
- No data collection on pasture in 2012
- NRI grazing land on-site survey data is collected on pastureland, started in 2013

2014 Non-Federal Pasture Sample

- Part of 2014 photo-interpreted NRI
- 48 states / sample segments
- Collect data for first two eligible points (non-federal pastureland)

NRI Grazing Land Data Collection Timeline

- Defined with the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map (<http://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/PHZMWeb/>)



NRI Grazing Land Data Collection Timeline

- Pastureland
 - Southern Zones in East U.S. by July 15th
 - Northern Zones in East U.S. by Sept. 1st
- All data review completed within 2 weeks of data collection
- Timelines will be tweaked in 2014

Chapter Number	Ownership Land Cover / Use	Non-Federal Range	BLM-Manged Range	Non-Federal Pasture
	Protocol ¹			
3	Point Locations and Plot Transect Layout			
4	Data Gatherers			
5	Ownership			
6	Land Cover/Use			
7	Landscape and Soils			
8	Ecological Site/Forage Suitability Transect Information and Use			
9	Line Point Transects for Cover Composition			
10	Line Intercept Transects: Basal and Canopy Gaps			
11	Soil Stability Test			Opt
12	Plant Height			
13	Dry Weight Rank	Opt	Opt	Opt
14	Species Composition by Weight (production)		N/A	N/A
15	Standing Biomass	N/A	N/A	
16	Plant Census (replaces noxious/invasive)			
17	Resource Concerns			

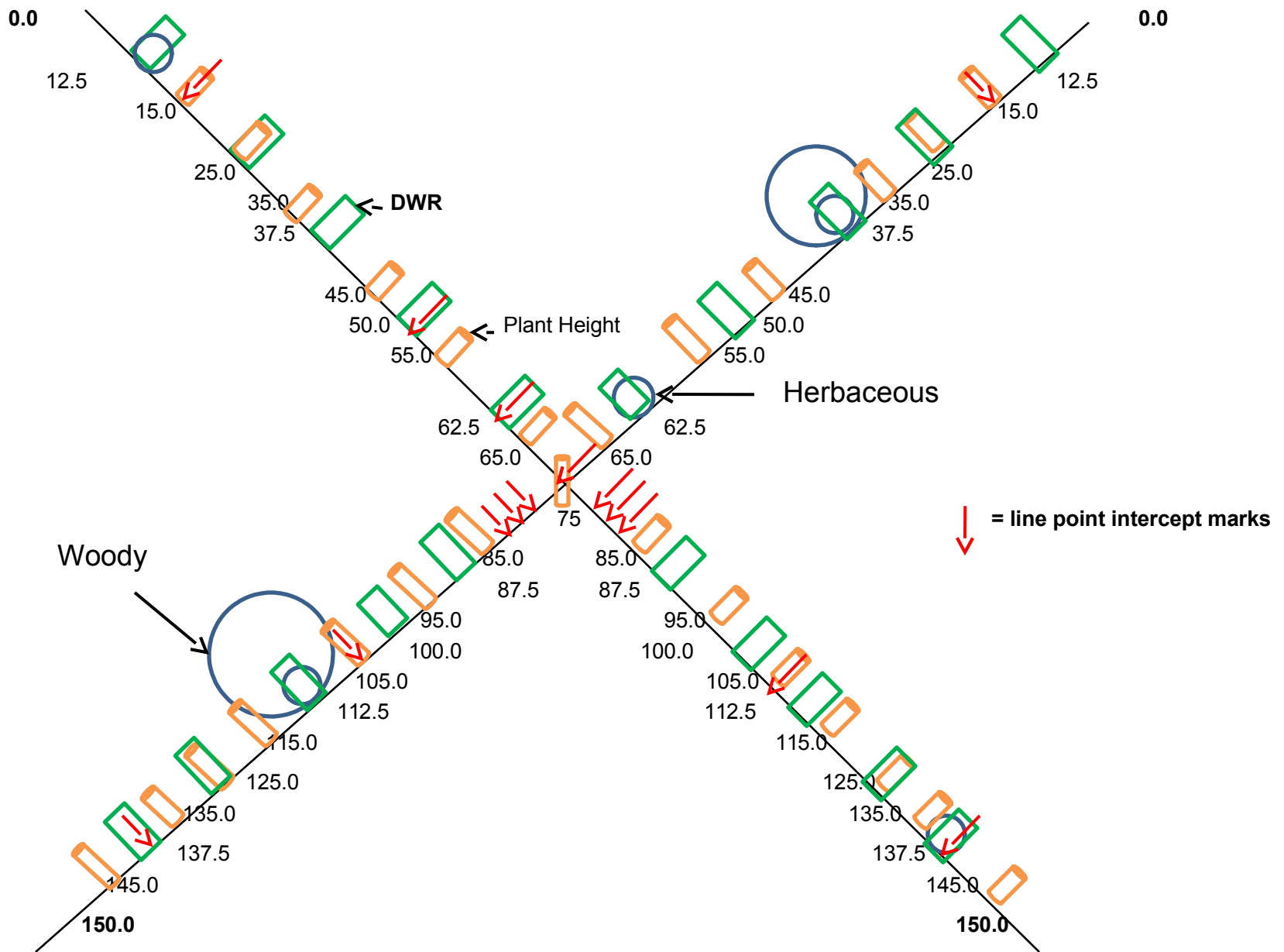
¹Status:

Green: No change in protocol

OPT: Optional

N/A: Protocol does not apply

Transect 1 (NE – SW)




NRI Grazing Land Survey Instrument

- Web-based CASI
- Download/upload segments (PSUs)
- Editing data

Field PC & GPS Support



A man wearing a white mesh hat and a striped shirt is shown from the side, looking down at a handheld electronic device. He is standing in a grassy field. The text "The CASI Makes all this data collection much faster and easier!" is overlaid in the upper right corner.

The CASI Makes all this data
collection much faster and
easier!





NRI On-Site Survey Progress Reporting Status Online

- Provides status of sample segment by survey year and state
- Technical leaders at state, regional, and national levels can see what the status is on data collection of points by state.

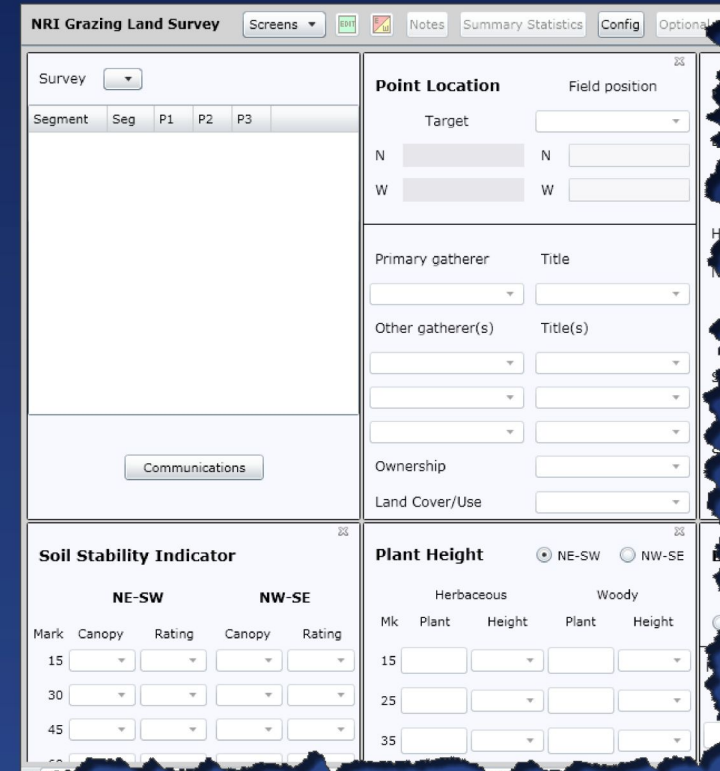
Training Videos

- Transect Layout
- Documenting the Plot with Photographs
- Ecological Site Determination
- Canopy Gap
- Line Point Intercept
- Soil Stability
- Production

Videos (Produced by NMSU and ARS) Herrick Production Company

Desktop CASI

- Web-based NRI Grazing Land Desktop CASI new in 2010
- Does not have to be loaded by IT
- Supports on-site surveys beginning in 2009



The screenshot displays the 'NRI Grazing Land Survey' desktop application interface. The top menu bar includes 'Screens', 'Exit', 'Notes', 'Summary Statistics', 'Config', and 'Options'. The main window is divided into several sections:

- Survey Section:** Features a 'Survey' dropdown menu and a table with columns 'Segment', 'Seg', 'P1', 'P2', and 'P3'. A 'Communications' button is located at the bottom of this section.
- Point Location Section:** Includes a 'Field position' dropdown, a 'Target' dropdown, and input fields for North (N) and West (W) coordinates.
- Gatherer Information Section:** Contains fields for 'Primary gatherer' and 'Title', and 'Other gatherer(s)' and 'Title(s)'. It also includes 'Ownership' and 'Land Cover/Use' dropdowns.
- Soil Stability Indicator Section:** Divided into 'NE-SW' and 'NW-SE' subsections. Each subsection has a table with columns 'Mark', 'Canopy', and 'Rating', with rows for values 15, 30, and 45.
- Plant Height Section:** Includes radio buttons for 'NE-SW' (selected) and 'NW-SE'. It has two sub-tables: 'Herbaceous' and 'Woody', each with columns 'Mk', 'Plant', and 'Height', and rows for values 15, 25, and 35.

Data Collector Authorization

- Goal: To ensure data collectors are proficient in NRI grazing land on-site study protocols before they begin collecting data
- Formalize authorization process for all grazing land on-site study data collectors
 - Standardize training of data collectors
 - Pass calibration exercises
 - Written post-training test
 - Performance-based post-training test

Two Levels of Authorization

- Technical leader
 - Highest level of authorization
 - Must be proficient in all grazing land on-site study protocols
 - Each field crew must have at least one member authorized as a technical leader
- Crew member
 - Lower level of authorization
 - May not be proficient in all grazing land on-site study protocols

Training Requirement

- All data collectors (NRCS or contract) are required to complete an annual training session to be authorized to collect NRI on-site data for the data collection year.
- Data collectors may attend the national training or a state or multi-state training

NRI Data Requirement

- All data collectors (NRCS or contract) responsible for data are required to complete a confidentiality agreement. NRI data and points are protected from private and public viewing.

So What Have We Seen So Far in NRI Points on Pasture?

Differences from anecdotal
observation and measured results
in:

- % Legumes
- Idled grasslands
- Diversity of Pasture VS. Range
- Amount Pasture in Poor Condition
- Amount of Pasture Lost to 'Other'



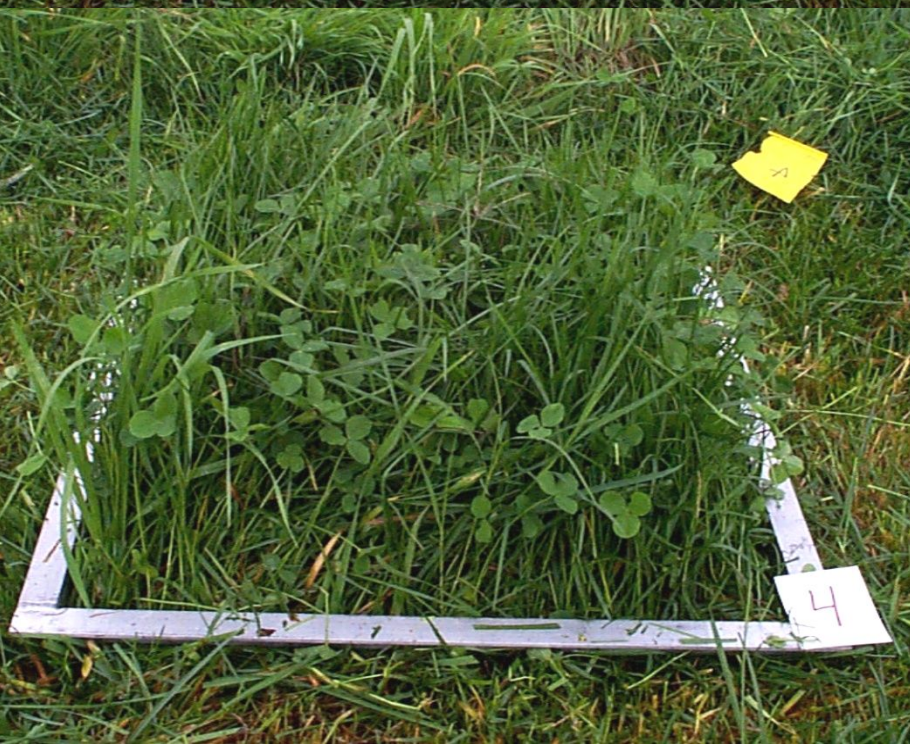
This is still pasture. We err on the side of collecting data if not very confident that the land use has changed from pasture or grassland to something else



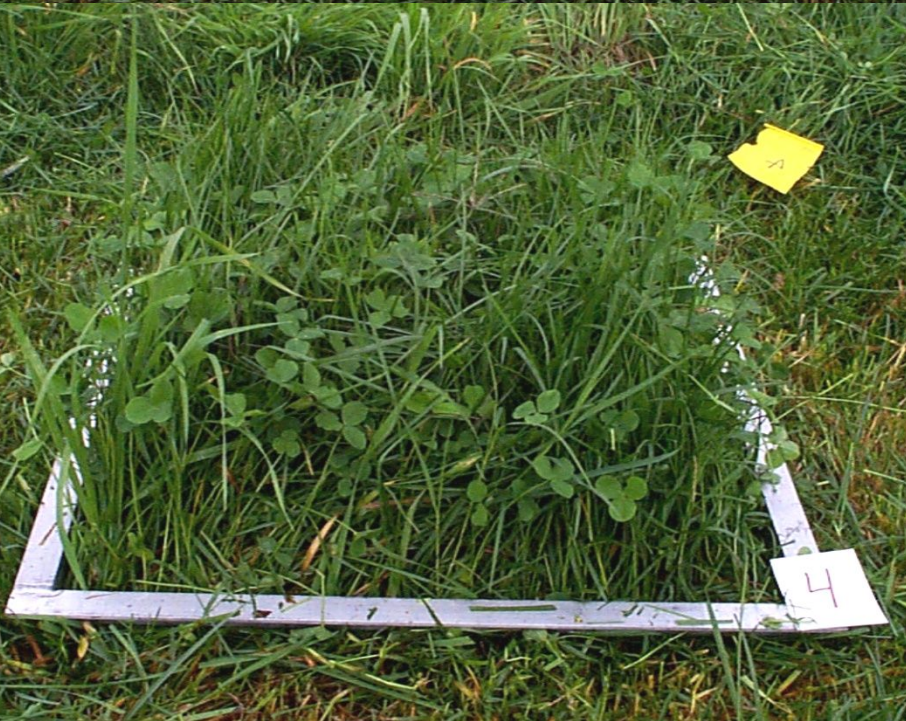




DWR



DWR



**19% clover
2150 lb DM/acre
canopy ht. 9.0"
plate ht. 7.5"**

Questions?