

# SARE Exit Survey

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## Start of Block: Introduction

Q14 Hello Farmers and Graziers! As part of our research we are asking that you please fill out this short survey about what you have learned and how you are using this knowledge as a result of this project. This information will be used to track the impacts of our trainings and help us to ensure we are offering educational activities that are accessible and advantageous. This will also help us better understand the role of education in decision making and how that impacts your wellbeing. Ideally the survey will take less than 10 minutes to complete.

Although this survey is not anonymous, all results will remain confidential and only shared within the project team as per requirements for research involving humans (MSU Study ID: STUDY00005404). Your participation in this research is voluntary. You have the right to withdraw at any point during the study and for any reason, without any prejudice. You may choose to stop participating at any time. Whether you choose to participate or not will have no effect on you. If you would like to contact the researchers of the study to discuss this research, please contact: Dr. Morgan MathisonSlee at mathiso9@msu.edu.

By clicking the button below, you acknowledge that your participation in the study is voluntary, you are 18 years of age or older, and that you are aware that you may choose to terminate your participation in the study at any time, for any reason.

Please note that this survey will be best displayed on a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet. Some features may be less compatible when using a mobile device.

## End of Block: Introduction

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## Start of Block: Monitoring

Q29 Through conversations with producers, we have learned that the concept of monitoring is very broad and includes a range of techniques. Often as academics we think of monitoring as a specific protocol that is being followed, but that is not necessarily true. So, we want to understand how all of you conceptualize monitoring.



Q30 Which of the following best describes how you define or describe monitoring?

- Observations (i.e., taking time to look at forages, insects, water, or other factors) (1)
  - Scores or Ratings (i.e., assigning a score or ranking to your grazing spaces) (2)
  - Biogeochemical Tests (i.e., soil tests, infiltration tests, brix tests, species diversity counts, etc. that require measuring specific variables) (3)
  - I would prefer to explain what monitoring means to me. (4)
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End of Block: Monitoring

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Start of Block: EOV Questions

Q19 In this section of the survey we want to know about your engagement with the Ecological Outcomes Verification – Short-term monitoring course we held. The questions will ask you to compare your knowledge before being involved with the project to what you know now after being a participant. When we say “monitor”, please consider it according to your own definition/understanding of monitoring.

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Q1 Please select the response that best describes you. How often did/do you:

	Before the project (pre-pandemic)				Currently			
	Always (1)	Sometimes (2)	Rarely (3)	Never (4)	Always (1)	Sometimes (2)	Rarely (3)	Never (4)
Monitor your pastures for ecological factors/outcomes? (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Estimate the amount of forage available in the pasture/paddock? (2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Intentionally take photographs of your farm to record changes as part of monitoring? (4)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

*Display This Question:*

*If Please select the response that best describes you. How often did/do you: : Before the project (pre-pandemic) != Monitor your pastures for ecological factors/outcomes? [ Never ]*

Q20 In the past when you monitored ecological factors and/or outcomes, did you keep written records? This does not include the reports we gave to you.

- Yes (1)
- No (2)
- Self describe (4) \_\_\_\_\_

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*Display This Question:*

*If Please select the response that best describes you. How often did/do you: : Currently != Monitor your pastures for ecological factors/outcomes? [ Never ]*

Q21 Currently, when you are monitoring ecological factors and/or outcomes, do you keep written records now? This does not include the reports we give to you.

- Yes (1)
- No (2)
- Self describe (4) \_\_\_\_\_

**End of Block: EOY Questions**

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**Start of Block: Grazing Questions**

Q18 In this section of the survey, questions will ask you to compare how you were grazing your livestock prior to the project to how you graze now after participating.

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Q4 Please select the response that best describes you. How often did/do:

	Prior to participating (pre-pandemic)				Currently			
	Always (1)	Sometimes (2)	Rarely (3)	Never (4)	Always (1)	Sometimes (2)	Rarely (3)	Never (4)
You move your livestock more than four times during the grazing season? (i.e., rotations less than 35 days) (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
You subdivide your pastures into smaller, temporary grazing spaces? (2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The length of your grazing season match your goal? (3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
You feed hay bales in the pasture(s) not including supplemental feeding? (4)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Display This Question:

If Please select the response that best describes you. How often did/do: : Prior to participating (pre-pandemic) != You feed hay bales in the pasture(s) not including supplemental feeding? [ Never ]

Q24 You indicated that you fed hay bales in your pastures prior to participating in the project. What season(s) were you doing this? Select all that apply.

Spring (1)

Summer (2)

Fall (3)

Winter (4)

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*Display This Question:*

*If Please select the response that best describes you. How often did/do: : Currently != You feed hay bales in the pasture(s) not including supplemental feeding? [ Never ]*

Q25 You indicated that you currently feed hay bales in the pastures. What season(s) are you doing this? Select all that apply.

Spring (1)

Summer (2)

Fall (3)

Winter (4)

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Q23 As a result of what you learned in this project, have you changed how frequently you move your livestock?

Yes (1)

No (2)

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Page Break

Display This Question:

If As a result of what you learned in this project, have you changed how frequently you move your li...  
= Yes

Q22 You indicated that you have changed how frequently you are moving your livestock. Have your movements increased or decreased in frequency?

- Increased (i.e., more frequent rotations, shorter grazing periods) (1)
- Decreased (i.e., less frequent rotations, longer grazing periods) (2)
- Self-describe (3) \_\_\_\_\_

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Q11 Please click and drag to rank the following with number one as the most influential factor in deciding when to move your livestock.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Forage height (1)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ensuring adequate recovery/rest period (2)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Length of grazing period (7)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Livestock behavior (3)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Color of forage (4)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Forage biomass calculations (5)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Self-describe (6)

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Q12 Now that we are nearing the end of the project, please click and drag to rank the following with number one as the most influential factor in deciding when to move your livestock.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Forage height (1)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ensuring adequate recovery/rest period (2)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Length of grazing period (7)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Livestock behavior (3)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Color of forage (4)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Forage biomass calculations (5)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Self describe (6)

End of Block: Grazing Questions

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Start of Block: Sources of Learning

Q28 In this section of the survey we would like to know more about which information and training opportunities were most helpful to you so we can continue to improve our approaches and make learning more accessible to everyone.

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Q31 When we host trainings at the Lake City Research Center, which of the following are barriers to attending? Please select all that apply.

- Distance (1)
  - Time of event (i.e., trainings occurring at 9am) (4)
  - Length of event (i.e., from 9-3, over multiple days, etc.) (5)
  - Location (i.e., university farm vs. producer farm) (6)
  - Other (please share) (7)
- 
- I do not face any barriers to participation (8)

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Q32 When we come to your farm to do EOv, do you want to walk along with us?

Yes (1)

No (2)

Self describe (4) \_\_\_\_\_

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Q34 We recognize that this may be a difficult question, and you are not required to answer, but if you have questions about grazing or educational opportunities, do you feel like you are able to talk to us?

- Yes (1)
  - No (2)
  - I prefer to share an example or story for context (3)
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Q35 At the end of every monitoring season we provide you with a report of our findings. Do you find these reports useful?

Yes (1)

No (2)

Self describe (4) \_\_\_\_\_

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*Display This Question:*

*If At the end of every monitoring season we provide you with a report of our findings. Do you find t...*  
= Yes

Q36 Please share an example of how you have used the report.

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*Display This Question:*

*If At the end of every monitoring season we provide you with a report of our findings. Do you find t...*  
= No

Q37 Please share what information you would like to see in a report.

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**End of Block: Sources of Learning**

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**Start of Block: General Questions**

Q15 Farm name

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Q16 Which classes did you participate in during the summer of 2022 or 2023 at the Lake City Research Station? Select all that you attended.

- Introduction to Holistic Management (1)
  - Ecological Outcomes Verification Short-term Monitoring (2)
  - Holistic Planned Grazing (3)
  - Holistic Financial Planning (4)
  - Holistic Land Planning (5)
  - I was not able to attend any trainings (6)
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Q17 Do you self-identify as a regenerative farmer/grazier?

- Yes (1)
  - No (2)
  - Self-describe (3) \_\_\_\_\_
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Q18 How many acres (approximately) do you have available for grazing?

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Q19 How many grazing animals do you have? If you do not have one of the species listed below, please enter a zero in the box.

	Number (1)
Cattle (1)	
Sheep (2)	
Hogs (3)	
Goats (6)	
Horses (4)	
Other (please tell us what species) (5)	

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Q37 Clicking the "next" button will save and submit your responses. If you would like to change any of your answers, please do so before progressing past this page.

End of Block: General Questions

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