

Ranch Sustainability Assessment: Monitoring and Business Planning WORKSHOP EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES (Feb. 2013)

There were 11 respondents from people registered for the workshop at the Society for Range Management 2013 annual meeting; actual attendance was approximately 30 people. The response rate based on 30 people was 37 percent. Two surveys that appeared to contain mis-recorded responses due to confusion over the rating system were recalculated. The numeric responses were averaged and that number appears below. Questions that required an "x" as a response to indicate an opinion or category list the percentage of respondents who marked each answer. Responses to open-ended questions as well as voluntary, unsolicited comments are recorded verbatim.

RESPONDENT INSTRUCTIONS

Response to this survey is voluntary. Please do not put your name on this form. Results will be used to evaluate this workshop and your assessment of what you learned. Only aggregate data will be reported. Please circle your responses. Rate aspects of the workshop on a 1 to 5 scale:

- 1 = "Strongly Agree," or the highest, most positive impression
- 2 = "Agree"
- 3 = "Neither Agree nor Disagree," or an adequate impression
- 4 = "Disagree"
- 5 = "Strongly Disagree," or the lowest, most negative impression

WORKSHOP CONTENT (Circle your response to each item.)

For each topic please indicate whether your knowledge has improved?

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Rangeland sustainability. | 1.82 |
| 2. Goals of sustainable ranch management assessment project. | 1.64 |
| 3. NRCS conservation planning and sustainable rangeland management assessment. | 2.00 |
| 4. NRCS financial and technical assistance for rangeland sustainability. | 1.82 |
| 5. Joint cooperative monitoring, federal grazing allotments and rangeland sustainability. | 1.82 |
| 6. Monitoring of soil and water indicators for rangeland sustainability. | 1.82 |
| 7. Monitoring of plant and animal indicators for rangeland sustainability. | 1.91 |
| 8. Monitoring of rangeland productive capacity indicators for rangeland sustainability. | 2.09 |
| 9. Evaluation of sustainable rangeland ecosystem services production potential. | 1.82 |
| 10. Monitoring social and economic indicators for sustainable rangeland management. | 1.64 |
| 11. Monitoring legal, educational, and institutional indicators for sustainable rangeland management. | 1.82 |
| 12. Sustainable ranching business planning concepts and methods. | 1.55 |
| 13. The business planning process for sustainable rangeland management. | 1.82 |

WORKSHOP DESIGN (Circle your response to each item.)

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 14. I was well informed about the objectives of this workshop. | 2.45 |
| 15. This workshop lived up to my expectations. | 1.82 |
| 16. The content is relevant to my job. | 2.27 |
| 17. The workshop stimulated my thinking and learning. | 1.55 |
| 18. The examples provided in this workshop were sufficient. | 2.00 |
| 19. The difficulty level of this workshop was appropriate. | 2.00 |
| 20. The pace of this workshop was appropriate. | 2.09 |

WORKSHOP INSTRUCTORS (Circle your response to each item.)

21. The instructors were well prepared. **1.82**
22. The instructors were responsive and helpful. **1.73**

WORKSHOP RESULTS (Circle your response to each item.)

23. The workshop accomplished its objectives. **1.64**
24. I will be able to use what I learned in this workshop. **1.55**
25. The workshop was a good way for me to learn this content. **1.55**

WORKSHOP FEEDBACK (Check all that apply.)

26. How would you improve this workshop?
- | | |
|--|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Provide better information before the workshop. | 36% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clarify the workshop objectives. | 9% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reduce the content covered. | 9% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Increase the content covered. | 9% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Update the content covered. | 0% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improve the instructional methods. | 27% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make workshop activities more stimulating. | 27% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improve workshop organization. | 0% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make the workshop less difficult. | 0% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make the workshop more difficult. | 0% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Slow down the pace. | 9% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Speed up the pace. | 0% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allot more time. | 9% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shorten the time. | 9% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | 27% |

Workshop Feedback Comments:

- Provide more interaction among participants
- Promote more attendance
- Hands-on activity to go through a business plan example
- I would have liked more info on workshop well before the meeting

27. What did you find most valuable about this workshop?

- Web/internet resources, guidebook
- Importance of monitoring ecological, economic, and social and legal/institutional indicators
- Business planning and indicator measures
- All was valuable. Learning about government programs, business planning and process were very helpful.
- EGS and incorporating into a business plan
- Assessment and monitoring practices
- It organized my thoughts concerning ranch planning
- Planning template
- It was interesting
- Handouts appear to be of great value. Each speaker was great and well-informed.

28. What did you find least valuable about this workshop?

- Would have loved a producer perspective
- All was valuable.
- NRCS programs because I already knew about them
- Nothing
- It was repetitive
- Continual speeches for an entire day can be mundane

29. Do you have any other comments?

- May be beyond the scope for SRR, but are there ways to connect aging ranchers whose children have no interest in ranching with young people who want to enter agriculture but don't come from an ag background.
- It was the best program I have ever attended concerning ranch management
- I enjoyed the overall workshop but I thought it would provide more "hands-on" instruction. I don't know to implement something like this on my own.

DEMOGRAPHICS

30. For whom do you work?

A. Federal agency	9%
B. State agency	0%
C. Local agency	9%
D. Tribal government	0%
E. Academia/Extension Service	27%
F. Private	0%
F. Rancher	18%
G. Other _____	36%

31. How long have you worked for that organization (circle)?

<1 year	0%
1-5 years	18%
5-10 years	27%
>10 years	36%
Blank	18%

32. What is your highest educational level (circle)?

BS/BA	36%
MS/MA	27%
PhD	9%
Other	18%
Blank	9%