

# GRAZING SYSTEM PLAN CHECKLIST

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**A grazing system plan will include the following items:**

## **Introduction**

- Farm/Farmer specific grazing goals
- Total livestock by type, class, number and weights
- Field inventory: estimate of acres available, broken into zones/areas if applicable
- Estimated grazing season duration
- Any buildings/infrastructure in place relating to the grazing plan

## **Soils information** – document expected or known limitations

- Soils map, soil fact sheets
- Current soil tests

## **Livestock exclusion sites** – summary of riparian and/or sensitive areas with map

## **Forage inventory** – list/description of forage species present.

- Note as desirable and undesirable and how to use animal impact to accomplish desired outcome.
- Include need for any overseeding, re-seeding or establishment

## **Pasture math**

- Herd/flock dry matter demand
- Estimated dry matter from pasture measurements
- Paddock size and overall acreage calculations
- Non-grazing season forage need calculations

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## **Grazing plan checklist continued:**

**Fencing** – assessment of current system (if any) and overall needs for both permanent and temporary materials.

**Water system** – livestock water analysis/demand, source, capacity, delivery system, layout, power

**Other infrastructure** - laneways, heavy use area, or stream crossing needs

**Grazing plan practice map** for planned/new practices such as fence, water, trails, etc

**Winter plans** – stockpiled feed, bale grazing, confinement

## **Manure and nutrient management**

### **Contingency information**

Management of excess or mature pasture

Weed control

Mud/wet weather

Dry conditions or drought

Hot weather/shade options

### **Implementation schedule** (for NRCS or state funded projects)

### **Monitoring plan information**

Troubleshooting pasture problems

Using the grazer's toolbox – stocking rate, stock density, residual/  
trampling, clipping, etc

Re-planning as needed

Record keeping with holistic planned grazing charts



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