

Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Forest Service
Perspectives on Ranch Level
Assessments Using SRR
Indicators



SRR Ranch Assessments

- The careful collection and use of monitoring information about social, economic and ecological aspects of a ranch operation provides the information needed to make sound decisions



Agency Data Needs

- Agencies always need more data
- Ranchers can provide information that wouldn't be available from other sources
- Joint Cooperative Monitoring Agreements
- Inclusive public process



Limitations on the Use of Data Provided by Outside Sources

- Data provided can be inaccurate or even biased
- No approval of data in advance
- Must be filed timely – the agency must have the opportunity to review the data
- Must include metadata – what was collected, how, when, and where it was collected



Cooperation and Communication

- This is the most significant factor in agency acceptance and use of data
- If this occurs in advance of data collection everyone benefits



Value of Working Together

- The data and the ability to use the data is improved
- Working toward common goals is more important than the data itself



Resource Monitoring

- Ranchers and agency rangeland management specialists are constantly faced with new issues that require data
- Upland data – soil, vegetation, wildlife
- Riparian data – water, riparian, fish



Agency Effectiveness is Influenced by the Uses on Adjacent Land

- Benefits from keeping our neighboring lands in open space and natural plant communities
- Even more important when you look at land ownership patterns which are often closely intermingled with private lands



Wildlife Habitat



Fire/Fuel Reduction Management



Our Next Door Neighbor



Business Planning

- Primary benefit is stronger more sustainable ranches
- The agencies shouldn't have personal financial information
- The value of the grazing permit to the overall operation



Summary

- Actions that help maintain open space and natural plant communities on adjacent lands, benefit public lands
- Better information gained through these SRR Ranch Assessments helps maintain those compatible uses
- Any information provided on public land could be used in decision making and help defend those decisions.



How Agencies Use the Data

- Information supplements agency data
 - Information on socio/economic impacts
 - Improved NEPA analysis produces better management and better conditions
 - More defensible decisions
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