Western Rangeland Management: Management: Balancing Diverse

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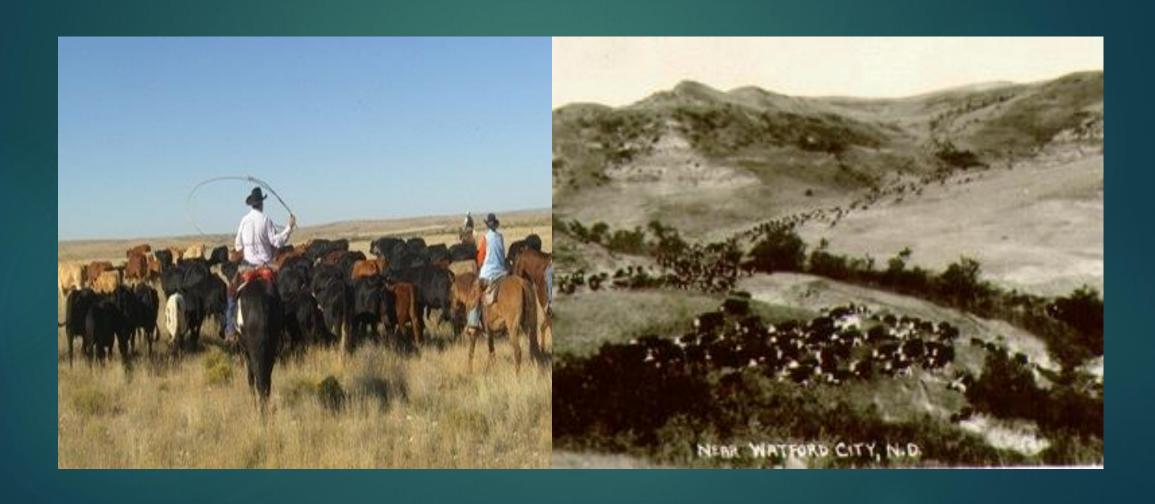
Western Rangelands

- Rangelands include prairies and grasslands, sagebrush steppes, and desert, and woodland areas.
- ▶ Rangelands comprise more than 40% of the total productive land base in the western U.S.
 - ▶ Almost 50% of the land mass world wide.

Western Rangelands

- Rangeland management objectives include grazing, recreational uses (including hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, etc.) and mining (in some cases timber harvest).
- ► Rangelands are diverse and rich in natural resources and provide an essential fresh water source for all of the western U.S.
 - North Dakota is found in the Northern Great Plains region

Cowboy Life



Ranching for Today and Tomorrow

- Cost-effective
- Stewards of Land and Livestock
- Sustainable
- Manage under new policy directives
- Raise and enjoy your family

Don't be afraid of adding income through being an entrepreneur



Probably the biggest factor affecting the ranching community and Rangeland?

- ▶ Land Conversion
- Lack of Protected Grasslands
- Overgrazing
- ▶ Under-grazing





Future Policies will Impact Rangelands of Tomorrow

Our current climate conditions and management strategies are reducing the plant diversity of our rangelands



- Kentucky bluegrass in the Northern Plains
- Cheatgrass in the western rangelands
- Eastern red cedar and Mesquite in the Southern Plains

Why is this Plant Diversity Important?

- ► Threatened and Endangered Species
- ► Pollinator species
- ▶ Passerine birds



Grazing Management – Improving Efficiency



Without Overgrazing

- Protect the land and our resources
 - ▶ Reduce erosion
 - Reduce weed encroachment
 - ▶ Protect our water
 - Increase plant diversity



Minimize Under-grazing and No Grazing

- Protect the land and our resources
 - Increase plant diversity
 - ► Reduce risk of wildfire
 - ► Stabilize streambanks



Proper Grazing Management of Rangeland enhances the Rancher and Wildlife Community





Communication and Education

Stakeholders with different values and opinions improve communication and working relationships to develop improved rangeland management strategies





Summary

Create a <u>Sustainable System</u> that enhances the resource!



► Happy family that support a local community

Any Questions?

