



DANCING MOOSE FARM
HUNTSVILLE ART & ECOLOGY CENTER
HUNTSVILLE, UTAH

INFRASTRUCTURE



Natural Resources Conservation Service
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September 24, 2014

To: Dan Dailey/ Dailey Family Limited Partnership
Ag operator/ Land Owner

From: Thomas Hoskins
Rangeland Management Specialist
USDA-NRCS
Coalville Field Office

Subject: Prescribed Grazing Objective Statement

Purpose:

I met with Dan Dailey on the property owned by the Daily Family Limited Partnership which lies in Weber County along the Ogden River, high in the Wasatch Mountains. The property has been overgrazed with horses for the last 10 years, and the vegetative community has degraded during that time.

The soil types for the property are Sub-irrigated wet meadow. These soil types are expected to produce 3000-6000 lbs. of forage per acre per year in good condition; however this property is no longer in good condition. Because of the overgrazing there has been a drastic change in the plant community in the pastures, which currently produce between 1000 – 1500 lbs. of forage per acre per year. The plants that would be expected to be on this site are deep rooted perennial grasses, but due to overgrazing the perennial grasses have disappeared and been replaced with two species of noxious annual grasses, Bulbous Blue Grass and Cheatgrass. Both of these grass species produce very little vegetation/forage, and they diminish soil health over time.

Because of the small size of the property (50 ac), it cannot support livestock year round without continuing to degrade the plant condition and causing damage to the Ogden River. It is Dan Dailey's objective to improve his forage base by implementing a Management Intensive grazing (MIG) system. I have worked with Dan to create a MIG system that will maximize the utilizable forage on the property, and improve profitability and agricultural returns. It is my expectation that the vegetation in the pastures will begin improving, and that the improvement will continue for years to come. At this time Dan and I are working on installing a livestock watering system, rejuvenation of the pastures by doing pasture seeding, implementing a MIG grazing system, planting trees, and installing hoop house growing systems on his small acreage.

The pasture seeding will require some of his acres to lie fallow during the growing season for the period of seed establishment, but weather permitting this period will not be longer than 2 growing seasons. Dan will be broadcasting seed onto the existing plant community and will be

utilizing livestock hoof action to create the necessary soil disturbance for the seed to get the appropriate amount of seed soil contact. This is essentially a no-till system that will not increase erosion or increase the already significant amount of weeds. A system of electric fences will be installed to aid the rotation of livestock, and improve the forage utilization and distribution of manure and nutrients on the pastures.

The ground is currently being deferred, and nutrient management (proper fertilizer application) and Pest management (weed spraying) are being conducted to prepare the ground for planting in the spring of 2015.

Final Objective

- Increase Perennial grass production. Current Production 1000 lbs/ac, 4000 lbs/ac goal
- Improve management of pasture by implementing a MIG system
- Plant trees to stabilize the soil and increase wildlife habitat
- Install livestock watering system
- Implement pasture planting and Fertilizer Management system.

See the attached Prescribed Grazing Plan for reference to the Management Intensive grazing specifications.