

USDA FOREST SERVICE



Pike/San Isabel National Forests and Cimarron/Comanche National Grasslands ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM GUIDEBOOK

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4.5.1 – MONITORING AND MEASUREMENT

ISO 14001 REQUIREMENTS

This element describes how the organization will monitor and measure key parameters of the EMS. The parameters relate to: the operations and activities that can have significant impacts, accomplishment of objectives and targets, compliance to the legal and other requirements, and conformance to other EMS requirements. Monitoring equipment used in association with Operational Control procedures will be calibrated and maintained in accordance with manufacturer specifications. Currently, the operational control procedures do not require the use of calibrated equipment.

PURPOSE

This procedure outlines the process to establish, implement, and maintain the monitoring and measurement of PSICC operations that have a significant environmental impact. In particular, monitoring and measurement are conducted for the following elements of the EMS:

- Conformance with objectives and targets (refer to EMS Guide 4.3.3 – Objectives, Targets, and Programs)
- Monitoring of environmental performance and the effectiveness of operational controls
- Calibration of monitoring equipment

SCOPE

The Forest Supervisor and FLT are responsible for monitoring the overall performance of the EMS through the implementation of EMS Guide 4.6 – Management Review.

It is the responsibility of Grasslands and Forest employees involved with the significant environmental aspects of livestock grazing and prescribed fire to ensure that established operational controls are effective in reducing impacts to the environment. In addition, units (Supervisors Office, Ranger Districts) or staff groups that have equipment used to monitor and measure activities associated with the EMS, are responsible for maintaining the records associated with these monitoring and measurement activities.

DEFINITIONS

Environmental Performance – Measurable results of an organization's management of its environmental aspects. In the context of environmental management systems, results can be measured against the organization's

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environmental policy, environmental objectives, environmental targets, and other environmental performance requirements.

Environmental Objective – Overall environmental goal that is consistent with the environmental policy that an organization sets to achieve.

Environmental Target – Detailed performance requirement applicable to the organization or parts thereof, that arises from the environmental objectives and that needs to be set and met in order to achieve those objectives.

Measurement – Qualitative or quantitative measure of performance.

Monitoring – Collecting information, such as measurements or observations over time to determine how the Forest is managing its environmental aspects, achieving objectives and targets, and improving environmental performance.

PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands identified procedures to regularly monitor and measure each of the activities associated with identified significant environmental aspects and related specified impacts. Specific monitoring activity has been listed in combination with the narratives for Operational Controls ([Element 4.4.6](#)). Compliance with laws and other requirements is addressed during evaluation of compliance ([Element 4.5.2](#)). Monitoring conformance with other EMS components is completed during audits ([Element 4.5.5](#)). Tracking progress in achieving objectives and targets is found under [Element 4.3.3](#) Objectives, Targets, and Programs. A [general monitoring form](#) is available for documenting monitoring efforts, as needed, for operational controls or evaluation of compliance.

Supervisor Program managers will call for copies of inspection and any monitoring forms created by the district program managers periodically. Then the SO program managers will draft and submit a summary of findings related to the inspections to the EMS representative for consideration at the Management review (Element 4.6).

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Equipment Calibration Monitoring

Monitoring equipment used in association with Operational Control procedures will be calibrated and maintained in accordance with manufacturer specifications. Currently, the operational control procedures do not require the use of calibrated equipment.