## United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service www.nrcs.usda.gov

Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative GLC

The Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI) is a nationwide partnership of individuals and organizations working to maintain and improve the management, productivity, and health of the nation's privately owned grazing land.

GLCI provides technical, educational, and related assistance to those who own and manage private grazing land. Healthy and productive grazing land is a substantial component of the agricultural economy and is the largest of all agricultural land uses, with over 575 million acres being grazed in the United States

Through GLCI, NRCS provides technical assistance that supports and encourages better



grazing management, improved livestock production, protection of the soil from wind and water erosion, reduction of drought impacts, control of invasive weeds, and the use of energy-efficient production techniques. It also provides opportunities for water conservation, wildlife habitat development, streambank protection, and water quality improvement. Technical assistance ensures that the resources remain healthy and productive.

Helping PEOPLE Help the LAND.



Helping people help the land is the primary mission of the NRCS. GLCI is one way NRCS has helped farmers and ranchers develop more than 40,700 grazing land conservation plans covering 26.4 million acres in Fiscal Year (FY) 2007. The "prescribed grazing" conservation practice was applied to 9.8 million acres by farmers and ranchers, resulting in environmental and economic benefits for the producers and the public.

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**Technical Assistance** 

In FY 2007, over 1,600 education and awareness activities (grazing land workshops, field days, and tours) were conducted with over 260,000 individuals participating in the events. Over 1,700 articles were published in newspapers and magazines that were circulated to more than five million households. An estimated 6.5 million people were reached with 430 radio and television spots and programs on grazing.

Over 600 grazing land demonstration projects, involving 1,050 farms and ranches, were carried out nationwide to exhibit grazing land technologies and management in FY 2007.

Over 1,100 NRCS employees allocated the majority of their time to providing technical assistance to private landowners and activities related to grazing during FY 2007. Many of these employees are ran9 TD0Tpertecyo ds,dud(azidu-)]J00 NRsiff