




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




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

Technical Assistance



Technical assistance supports and encourages better grazing management, improved livestock production, soil protection 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 resources remain healthy and productive.




Helping people help the land is the primary mission of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Through GLCI, NRCS has helped farmers and ranchers develop more than 37,700 grazing land conservation plans covering 25 million acres in fiscal year (FY) 2008. The "prescribed grazing" conservation practice was applied to 12.5 million acres by farmers and ranchers, resulting in environmental and economic benefits for the both producers and the public.

Grazing Land Projects





Over 800 grazing land demonstration projects, involving 1,180 farms and ranches nationwide, exhibited grazing land technologies and management in FY 2008.

Education and Awareness



Over 1,800 education and awareness activities (grazing land workshops, field days, and tours) with over 155,000 participating were conducted. Over 1,900 newspaper and magazine articles were circulated to over 5 million households. Approximately 300 copies of grazing radio and television PSAs were sent to stations that reached an estimated 7.3 million people.

Staffing and Training



Over 1,050 NRCS employees devoted the majority of their time providing technical assistance to private landowners and on activities related to grazing. Many are range conservationists, forage agronomists, and grazing land specialists. More than 19,500 individuals, including NRCS staff, personnel from other agencies, landowners, and managers received training in grazing land science and technology.