

406 Grazing Academy

June 11th –13th

Miles City Town and Country Club

S 4th St & Eagle Ave, Miles City, MT 59301

The 406 Grazing Academy is a 3-day, hands-on workshop for ranchers wanting to hone their skills for solving grazing management challenges on their ranch. The Academy is offered cooperatively by the Rangeland Resources Program in the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Montana State University (MSU) Extension, and the Dan Scott Ranch Management Program in the MSU Department of Animal and Range Sciences.

The 2024 Teaching Team includes:

Stacey Barta, Montana DNRC Rangeland Resources Program Coordinator

Contact info: Sbarta@mt.gov (406) 594-8481

Shantell Martin, Montana DNRC Rangeland Resources Program

Contact info: shantell.frame-martin2@mt.gov (406) 531-4584

Rick Caquelin, NRCS Rangeland Management Specialist (retired)

Contact info: rcaquelin@gmail.com

Rachel Frost, MSU Dan Scott Ranch Management Program Leader

Contact info: frost@montana.edu (406) 994-3724

Jeff Mosley, MSU Extension Range Management Specialist

Contact info: jmosely@montana.edu (406) 994-5601

AGENDA

Tuesday, June 11th

8:00-8:30AM	Check-in and Gathering Time
8:30-9:15 AM	Welcome and Introductions - Stacey and Crew
9:15-9:30 AM	Vision, Goals, Objectives and Adaptive Management Principles - Rachel
9:30-9:45AM	Work Period to organize ranch vision and goals
10:00- 10:20 AM	BREAK
10:20-11:00AM	Healthy Plants, Healthy Soils - Jeff
11:00-12:00PM	Stocking Rate and Stock Density - Jeff
12:00-12:45PM	LUNCH
12:45-1:00 PM	Travel
1:00-3:00	Range Ecology 101 - Rick Clipping exercise and soil texturing? Hands on healthy plant vs stressed –
3:00-3:30 PM	BREAK-Travel
3:30-4:30 PM	Grazing Concepts - Jeff
4:30-4:45PM	What Comes Next? - All
5:00-6:30 PM	happy hour- Campfire cocktails-Featuring area ranchers in an informal setting to provide a forum to ask questions and gain insight
6:30-8:00 PM	DINNER At Country Club

Wednesday, June 12th
FIELD SCHOOL AND RANCH TOUR

7:30-8:00 AM	Gathering Time
8:00-8:05 AM	Review and Looking Forward
8:05-9:45 AM	Travel
9:45-10:30 AM	Ranch Welcome
10:30-10:45 AM	Introduction to Range Monitoring: Why, Where, and What to Monitor?
10:45-11:30 AM	Reading the Range: Identification of Indicator Plants station hands on? Rotate? 40min station
11:30-12:15 PM	LUNCH
12:15-1:00 PM	Reading the Range: Range Health Checklist
1:00-1:45 PM	Utilization Monitoring
1:45- 2:30 PM	Photo Monitoring for Range Trend
2:30-4:30 PM	Ranch Tour and Discussion
4:30-5:15 pm	Travel
5:30-6:30 PM	SOCIAL and DINNER BlackIron
6:30-8:00 PM	Café Class Q & A- pick the brain

Thursday, June 13th

7:30-8:00 AM	Gathering Time - All
8:00-8:10 AM	Review and Looking Forward - Stacey
8:10-9:30 AM	Grazing Decisions for Drought and Wildfire - Jeff
9:30-10:30 AM	Poisonous Plants and Targeted Livestock Grazing for Weed Control - Rachel
10:30-10:45 AM	BREAK
10:45-11:45 AM	Riparian Area Grazing PASTURE WALK? - Jeff
11:45-12:45PM	LUNCH
12:45-1:45 PM	Extending the Grazing Season - Jeff
1:45-2:00 PM	Wrap-up, Distribute Workshop Evaluation - Stacey and all
2:00 PM	ADJOURN AND SAFE TRAVELS HOME