

# MANAGED GRAZING PLAN

FOR NRCS EQIP

Need a grazing plan? Contact us at [grazing@goldensandsrcd.org](mailto:grazing@goldensandsrcd.org) or (715) 343-6215

## 3 FIND A PLANNER

Find a certified grazing planner to get the ball rolling on your grazing plan. NRCS may put you in contact with a grazing planner or tell you to choose one from a list of certified planners. NRCS requires a grazing plan before you can apply for EQIP.



1-2 weeks

## 2 CONTACT NRCS

Reach out to your local NRCS office to let them know your ideas and that you may be interested in cost share through EQIP. You can find your local NRCS office by going to <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/contact/fin-d-a-service-center>



## 1 ESTABLISH GOALS

So you're interested in grazing livestock. Do you know where? Animal type? Financial goals? Land goals? Marketing strategy? It is also important to attend pasture walks and/or work on a grazing operation before committing to starting your own. **Do this before contacting NRCS.**



2-3 weeks

## 4 INITIAL SITE VISIT

Once you have found a Grazing Planner to assist you in writing your plan they will schedule an initial site visit with you to see the land, document resource concerns and go over your goals and objectives.



4-6 weeks

## 5 DECIDE ON INFRASTRUCTURE

The grazing planner will take their notes from the site visit and come up with some ideas and maps of what infrastructure could look like based on your needs/goals and EQIP practices available. Producer should do their research and take some time before deciding on a design.



2-3 weeks

## 6 SECOND SITE VISIT

Often times a second site visit is necessary to gather any remaining information needed to finalize details of a grazing plan. Planner and producer will discuss contingency plans, overwintering strategies, animal handling, etc.



1-2 weeks

## 7 REVIEW & SIGN PLAN

An email of the completed grazing plan will be sent to producer for review and to make any final changes before signing. At signing planner, producer and NRCS sit down and review and sign the final plan together to make sure we are all on the same page and answer any final questions!



\*Getting a grazing plan is the first step in being able to apply for EQIP. Receiving a grazing plan from Golden Sands RC&D does **NOT** contractually require you to implement the plan or automatically make you eligible for EQIP cost share.

**NOTE:** It is always advised to start the planning at least 6 months BEFORE you want to apply for cost-share through NRCS. There are two sign up deadlines a year for EQIP, Spring (May) and Fall (November).