

# 2016 IRC

## Workshop

### Applications and Limitations of Extracting From Current Rangeland Evaluations to Determine Rangeland Soil Health Estimates

July 17, 2016

*Organized by the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service*

#### Overview

This half-day workshop on the morning of July 17, 2016 is designed to outline the applications of five evaluation tools or assessment concepts that are currently available and in use, or under construction, that are related to rangeland soil health.

A portion of the workshop will elicit different approaches, from the participants, to consolidate the pertinent portions of these five tools and concepts that would point to an estimate of soil health that must be accurate, cost effective and could be employed with a minimum of training needs.



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The five evaluation tools or assessment concepts that will be described by presenters and then considered in group context are:

- A) Rangeland Health Assessment
- B) Rangeland Soil Health
- C) Ecological Sites and Ecological Site Descriptions
- D) ESD State and Transition Models
- E) Rangeland Reference Sheets

# AGENDA

## NRCS Workshop July 17, 2016 | TCU Place, Saskatoon, SK

- 8:00 am **Welcome, Introductions, and Purpose of the Workshop**
- 8:10 am **Rangeland Health Assessment – Purpose, Utility, and Basic Methodologies**  
*Gene Fults, Rangeland Management Specialist, Western USA, and Sid Brantly, Rangeland Management Specialist, USA*
- 8:40 am **Rangeland Soil Health – Attributes of Significance**  
*Dr. Kenneth E. Spaeth, Rangeland Hydrologist, USA*
- 9:10 am **Ecological Site Descriptions – State and Transition Models**  
*Dr. Joel Brown [remote presentation], Range Scientist and Director of Ecological Site Institute  
Charles Stanley, Rangeland Management Specialist Specializing in Prescribed Fire, USA  
Sid Brantly, Rangeland Management Specialist, USA*
- 9:40 am **Rangeland reference Sheets – Purpose and Methodologies**  
*Gene Fults, Rangeland Management Specialist, Western USA*
- 10:10 am **BREAK**
- 10:40 am **Discussion and Group Dynamics Session to Explore Using the Components of Rangeland Health Assessment, Ecological Site Descriptions, and Rangeland Reference Sheets in order to Characterize Rangeland Soil Health**
- 11:30 am **Participatory Monitoring and Assessment of Land Degradation in Rangelands**  
*Dr. Vivian Onyango, FAO*
- 12:00 Noon **End of Workshop**

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