

MD OF RANCHLAND AG BULLETIN

News, updates, and information for our community.



MANAGING RANGELAND FOR DROUGHT

Drought can put major stress on native rangelands, decreasing forage production, litter, and water quality. Grazing too heavily during a drought can lead to severe long-term impacts that are difficult for the land to recover from, even years after the drought is over.

Management strategies for dealing with drought depend on rangeland condition. For healthy range (with plenty of litter), reduce stocking rate to the low forage production level and preserve the litter layer. For healthy with problems range (with patchier litter and visible bare soil), reduce stocking rate for several years after precipitation returns to normal, in order to rebuild litter reserves and restore plant health. For unhealthy range (with little/no litter, significant bare ground, and weak, shallow rooted plants), rest land for multiple years and carefully manage to restore rangeland health.

Other drought management options include: 1) Adjust herd composition/numbers to match forage production. 2) Use herding, fencing, salt, and water source placement to improve distribution and prevent overgrazing of sensitive areas. 3) In years of adequate moisture, establish reliable and healthy water sources to prepare for drought. For more information, contact Erin at erin@ranchland66.com or 403-646-3131.

GRANT TO APPLY FOR

<https://bit.ly/acagrants>

Alberta Conservation Association: Conservation, Community, and Education Grants

For individuals or organizations with non-research projects related to conservation of wildlife, fish, & their habitats. Also supports hunting, fishing, trapping, & outdoor activities, as well as conservation education. Can apply for small or large projects. If interested, contact Erin at erin@ranchland66.com or 403-646-3131.



WEED TO WATCH

Diffuse Knapweed

Centaurea diffusa

ID characteristics: leaves greyish-green & divided, flowers urn-shaped & white with sharp spines on the lower part, 1-3 flowers at the end of each branch.



Government of Manitoba

REDBOW AG PRESENTS
RANCHING OPPORTUNITIES
 FEBRUARY 9, 2023- OLDS COLLEGE






This years event will include sessions on utilizing forage legumes, genetic tech, animal handling, ranch-crop land sharing, and much more!

To Register Visit www.RedBowAg.com

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If you would like to contribute to this bulletin by writing an article, submitting a photo to be featured, recommending an organization, noxious weed, or grant, or any other suggestions, please send an email to erin@ranchland66.com with the subject line "Bulletin". Thanks for reading and I look forward to your feedback!

ORGANIZATION HIGHLIGHT

Southwest Alberta Sustainable
 Community Initiative

<http://sasci.ca/>



SASCI works to promote sustainable economic, environmental, and social development. They support services/programs that share sound information, facilitate dialogue, and build collaboration. The group hosts information sessions and forums to bring together diverse stakeholders with common interests. SASCI is especially focused on environmental stewardship, social wellness, and prosperity. For more information, visit the website above.

