



NEVADA CONSERVATION CREDIT SYSTEM ANNUAL MANAGEMENT & MONITORING REPORT

This Report is to be completed annually for each credit project with the exception of years with verification. It should be filled out completely to document all relevant management activities & other noteworthy occurrences relevant to the project area for the reporting year. The annual monitoring component (Section V.) should be conducted every year between April 15th & June 30th. Submission of the completed Report to the SETT is required by July 31st of each year via email to your SETT representative. Photographs should be zipped (by *right-clicking* & selecting *Send To* & then *Zipped Folder*) & attached to the email. If not yet submitted, the deliverables requested in Appendix 1 on page 5-6 should also be submitted included a map & description of monitoring sites & bearings.

I. Project Information

Project Name	
Date Submitted	
Monitoring Date(s)	
Overall Project Acres	
Landowner, Email, & Phone Number	
Lessee, If the Land is Managed by a Non-Landowner, Email, & Phone Number	
Project Proponent, If Different than the Landowner or Lessee, Lead Contact, Email, & Phone Number	
Monitor(s), Affiliations, Email, & Phone Number	

II. Management Activities

When describing treatment or maintenance efforts, include the dates, the extent of efforts including 1) the number of people assisting, 2) the time the effort took, 3) the approximate acres treated or improved by the action, etc. & 4) the location(s) (GPS coordinates or more general location descriptions such as the location within a map unit(s)). For significant efforts, submit maps & pre- & post-treatment photographs as appropriate.

Noxious Weeds	<i>Describe all known noxious or invasive plant occurrences & treatment activities (timing, frequency, chemical type and application method, etc.) relevant to the project area that have occurred over the past year. Include relevant coordination efforts with local or state entities for weed control, including appropriate control measures.</i>
Cheatgrass	<i>Describe all known cheatgrass infestations in the project area, including general percent cover per map unit or area and whether it seems to be increasing or decreasing each year.</i>
Fuels Management	<i>Describe any specific cheatgrass grazing efforts, conifer removal activities, or other fuels management activities relevant to the project area that have occurred over the past year.</i>
Structural Range Management	<i>Describe all structural rangeland maintenance & improvements related to fences, livestock watering infrastructure, irrigation & hydrological management (e.g., ditches, culverts, check dams and other grade control structures, earthen dams, etc.), & any other infrastructural improvements relevant to the project area that have occurred over the past year.</i>
Non-Structural Range Management	<i>Describe all non-structural rangeland maintenance & improvements related to seeding efforts, planting activities, riparian improvements, soil improvements, & any other non-structural improvements relevant to the project area that have occurred over the past year. Include the species & quantity of seed or plants applied to treatment areas.</i>
Grazing	<i>Describe grazing operations for the overall operation over the last year. It is also recommended to completed the Grazing Response Index value for the individual pastures within the operation in that time. Refer to Post-Field Forms: 5.1 Grazing Response Index at http://sagebrushco.nv.gov/CCS/Program_Documents/</i>
Riparian Management	<i>Have you done a stream or meadow walk on the riparian areas lately, especially in areas of concern highlighted in the management plan? If so, which ones? Are there signs of further degradation or improvement? Anything new of concern?</i>
Efforts to Reduce Impacts of Predators	<i>Describe all efforts to reduce the impact of predators within, or in close proximity to, the project area. These can include efforts to reduce subsidies for predators (e.g., afterbirth & carcass disposal, waste management, etc.) or efforts to control predator populations.</i>
Other Management Activities	<i>Describe any other relevant management activities (e.g., haying operations, as agreed appropriate) occurring in the project area.</i>
Planned Activities for Upcoming Year	<i>Describe all management & monitoring activities planned in the upcoming year.</i>
Strategic Management Changes	<i>Were changes made to previous management strategies? Are changes to management strategies likely to be made in the coming year?</i>
Potential Additionality	<i>Describe any new participation in other programs, easements, or use of other funding streams within the project areas?</i>

Disclosure													
Ownership and Rights	<i>Have all rights been maintained, including water or subsurface rights? Is there any concern with split estate rights being called into play?</i>												
Financial Assurances	<p><i>What withdrawals, if any, have you made from your financial assurances this last year?</i></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 33%;">Financial Assurances Mechanism/Company</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Starting Amount</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Amount at the beginning of the year</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Current Amount</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Withdrawals for this year</th> <th style="width: 17%;">Reasons for withdrawal</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>Please include statements for the past year showing the solvency of the account.</u></p>	Financial Assurances Mechanism/Company	Starting Amount	Amount at the beginning of the year	Current Amount	Withdrawals for this year	Reasons for withdrawal						
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Management Commitments	<p><i>List <u>all</u> management commitments you made within the agreed upon CCS Management Plan below.</i></p> <p><i>Were all commitments within these two tables of the management plan adhered to within the reporting year?</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p><i>If NO, please describe any deviations from your CCS commitments.</i></p>												

III. Uplift Projects

Uplift Actions	<i>If applicable, describe any uplift actions taken over the year, such as the action; acreage of action; type and amount of chemical if used; type, amount, and application method of seed if used; length of time it took to conduct action; and the final cost of conducting the action. Include detailed before and after photos of the action to ensure completion for the release of additional uplift credits.</i>
Maintenance of Uplift Actions	<i>If applicable, describe any maintenance of past uplift actions taken over the year, such as the action; acreage of action; type and amount of chemical if used; type, amount, and application method of seed if used; length of time it took to conduct action; and the final cost of conducting the action.</i>

UPLIFT/MAINTENANCE PHOTOS: UTMS, & LOCATION DESCRIPTION	BEARING & MAP UNIT(S) IN PHOTOGRAPH	FILE NAME OF PHOTOGRAPH	NOTES ON ACTION (BEFORE OR AFTER PHOTO, DESCRIBE WHAT WE ARE SEEING)

IV. Biological Observations

Greater Sage-Grouse Observations	<i>Describe greater sage-grouse observations in the last year including breeding, late brood-rearing, & winter observations & habitat usage. Also, describe any knowledge of greater sage-grouse mortalities including the potential cause if possible.</i>
Other Relevant Wildlife Observations	<i>Describe your observations of ravens, other predators, wild horses, & if relevant, other wildlife. Provide the date(s) of activity, the animal species & number observed, a description of activities observed, the location, habitat use, etc., as relevant.</i>

V. Additional Notes

Precipitation Notes	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Greater than average precipitation in the last year</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Average precipitation in the last year</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Less than average precipitation in the last year</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Well below average precipitation in the last year</i> Notes:
Anthropogenic Influences	<i>Describe any changes in anthropogenic structures outside the immediate project footprint (up to 4 miles away), if applicable, including new anthropogenic additions.</i>
Project Specific Monitoring	<i>Please copy over bulleted list from annual monitoring section in management plan.</i>
Additional Notes	<i>Provide relevant notes on anything not covered in a separate section of this report, such as concerns on recent conditions/changes of vegetation, fuels, & wildfire in the CCS Project Area.</i>

VI. Annual Monitoring

If annual monitoring locations were not established through the management plan development process, please review Appendix 1 (pages 6-7) on establishing meaningful locations & bearings for photo-monitoring that best represent the project. The SETT should be part of the monitoring site establishment conversation & can assist as necessary in reviewing or establishing & generating maps of the sites.

Once carefully chosen using the guidance in Appendix 1 on page 6-7 & with agreement by the SETT, these sites & bearings will generally be used for annual photo-monitoring throughout the project term in all years in which verification does not occur. **The annual monitoring report answers should reflect the condition of the entire parcel enrolled.** This project component should be conducted between April 15th & June 30th (or when the vegetation is at peak growth with the entire Annual Management & Monitoring Report submitted to the SETT by July 31st of each year.

To complete annual photo-monitoring:

1. Visit each site & record the Photo-Monitoring Site Number, the GPS coordinates in UTM's or Lat/Long, & the Location Description. These will generally remain the same over the project term. Sites should be revisited with ± 5 feet accuracy.
2. Take a high quality landscape photograph (that maintains clarity when zooming in) to capture the habitat attributes in close proximity & the landscape behind it in the direction of the four bearings selected for monitoring at each site to document much of the surrounding area (nearly 360°) These bearings will remain the same over the project term & allow comparisons over time to detect changes. Use a photo-board to ensure the monitoring site number and bearing are included in each photo and include this information in the file names within the submission.
3. **Photos should be taken from the ground outside of a vehicle unless pre-approved by the SETT.**
4. Record the Map Units captured by each photograph as well.
5. Note the File Name of the photograph within the submission to the SETT.
6. Make notes on observations & perceived changes in habitat attributes relevant to the CCS (e.g., sagebrush cover & height, perennial grass cover, forbs, cheat grass cover).

Record the following for each annual-monitoring location. Copy the tables to accommodate the number of sites.

PHOTO-MONITORING SITE #, UTM'S, & LOCATION DESCRIPTION	BEARING & MAP UNIT(S) IN PHOTOGRAPH	FILE NAME OF PHOTOGRAPH	NOTES ON HABITAT ATTRIBUTES & OTHER OBSERVATIONS

PHOTO-MONITORING SITE #, UTMS, & LOCATION DESCRIPTION	BEARING & MAP UNIT(S) IN PHOTOGRAPH	FILE NAME OF PHOTOGRAPH	NOTES ON HABITAT ATTRIBUTES & OTHER OBSERVATIONS

VII. Certification of the Accuracy of this Report

Printed Name & Signature of <u>Landowner</u> Certifying An Understanding of & Accuracy to Your Knowledge of the Contents of this Report	
Printed Name & Signature of <u>Lessee, If the Land is Managed by a Non-Landowner</u> , Certifying An Understanding of & Accuracy to Your Knowledge of the Contents of this Report	
Printed Name & Signature of <u>Project Proponent, If Different than the Landowner or Lessee</u> , Certifying An Understanding of & Accuracy to Your Knowledge of the Contents of this Report	
Printed Name & Signature of <u>Monitoring Lead, If Different than the Landowner, Lessee, or Project Proponent</u> , Certifying An Understanding of & Accuracy to Your Knowledge of the Contents of this Report	

Appendix 1. Establishing annual monitoring locations.

The following is contained within the latest version of the Management Plan template. If not already completed, please follow the guidance to establish meaningful annual monitoring sites & bearings. The SETT can assist as necessary.

The Annual Management & Monitoring Report is required to be completed and submitted to the SETT by the end of July each year (with the exception of verification years) by all credit project proponents to maintain compliance in the Conservation Credit System. The report will serve as an account of the management actions performed in each year and confirm that the actions committed to were completed or in some cases unnecessary for the given year.

The goal of the monitoring component of this report is to assess and photo-document the condition of critical and general areas in the field during the CCS field season between April 15th and June 30th (or when vegetation is peaking). These efforts are meant to evidence whether or not habitat maintenance or improvement is occurring, in between more robust and diverse assessments by resource professionals. A minimum of five annual photo-point locations per 1000 acres of project area are recommended to be established. Four landscape photos accounting for nearly a 360° view will be taken from each location to depict the vegetation in close proximity and the greater landscape behind it. To establish these locations, the following should be considered:

- Monitoring locations should be able to be accessed and located on the ground and outside a vehicle repeatedly by the credit producer over the course of the project with minimal risk.
 - **Points photographed from anything other than a human on the ground and outside a vehicle must be preapproved by the SETT.**
- The sites should allow for adequate representation of the various map units and valuable project and habitat characteristics.
- Locations should capture sensitive areas of meadows and streams and areas with erosion issues (e.g., headcuts), as well as upland sites that best represent the general conditions and use of each map unit.
- Areas where treatments are planned or have occurred or where management activities are likely to have the most impact should be represented.
- Sites where invasive annual grasses (Cheatgrass and Medusahead) and noxious weeds are at risk of expansion should also be represented.
- Locations chosen should convey the most important project information. For example, with a 360° assessment, a site centered in a meadow or along a stream would allow capture of upstream, downstream and riparian perspectives, and locations transitional zones between vegetative communities will convey information about multiple habitats from one point.

Determine the locations of the monitoring sites to be used for annual monitoring. Once established, include a map below displaying the monitoring site locations as well as the map units for the project.

Place a map showing the locations of the monitoring sites here...

Describe the locations of the sites in the table provided below. Example monitoring site descriptions are provided in the table (italics). The credit producer will photo-monitor at these locations in all years in which verification does not occur for the length of project commitment.

Site Number, Name (UTMs)	Description of the location, the Map Unit(s) the photo-monitoring will capture, the headings so that photos are comparable over time, and the justification to include location in annual monitoring:
<i>#1 Downstream of Headcut Below Main Meadow (777777E, 777777N)</i>	<i>This site is located at the UTM(s) listed on the river right high bank downstream of the headcut below the main meadow. A photo upstream (0°) depicts the headcut & local riparian, the downstream photo (180°) shows the stream & local riparian, & photos directed away (90° & 270°) from the stream will depict transition from riparian to upland. Map units 1 & 2 will be assessed in photos. The site also indirectly assesses stability of Map Unit 3.</i>
<i>#2 Main Meadow From Lower Impoundment (777888E, 777888N)</i>	<i>Located at the UTM(s) listed, this site is on the center of the lower impoundment of the main meadow. Photos should depict the meadow upstream (0°), the lotic system downstream (180°) and the impoundment and transitional habitats in both directions (90° & 270°). Map Unit 3 is assessed directly and Map Units 4 and 5 are assessed in the background.</i>
<i>#3 Conifer Removal Area (777999E, 777999N)</i>	<i>This site is located in the relative center of the conifer removal treatment area at the UTM(s) listed and will serve to thoroughly monitor Map Unit 6, the response from the treatment, and its continued maintenance. The four cardinal directions will serve as photo-monitoring bearings.</i>
<i>#4 Main Meadow/Upland Western Ecotone (777666E, 777666N)</i>	<i>This site is located at the ecotone between the western Main Meadow and Upland (Map Units 3 and 5). The ecotone is currently quite distinct despite a gentle slope, therefore this area might indicate changes in water availability. 45° & 225° will depict the ecotone and 135° and 315° MUs 3 & 5.</i>
<i>#5 Main Meadow at Upstream Boundary (777555E, 777555N)</i>	<i>This site is located at the upstream boundary of the main meadow and thus serves as a good monitoring site of meadow conditions and the surrounding upland map units. 0° will assess the lotic system upstream, 180° the uppermost main meadow, and 90° & 270° MUs 4 & 5.</i>

For SETT Use Only:

Date Received:

Received By:

Comments (include Date and Name)

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