



Development of Content Areas and Groups, Versions One Through Three: What's Working or Not

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This presentation will describe the development of the Rangelands West home site, versions 1 through 3. Initially in version 1, the idea was to follow a textbook format with original content identified or created by the University of Arizona team. However, as the dynamic nature of the Web became more understood and relevant content grew on other sites, the inclusion of hypertext links and externally-produced content was expanded. Following the evolution of Web technologies, the Rangelands West portal was again reconfigured as a database-driven system, called version 2, based on a new categorical structure developed by Western Rangelands Partnership member. The issues encountered with populating these categories in part related to metadata creation and difficulties in maintaining an easy to use technical architecture. As a result, recent efforts have been focused on creating educational modules and scope notes for the categories. The presentation will also set the stage for plans to create a version 3 that will involve users more directly in the development of the site.

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