



## **Developing a Framework and the Training Required to Expand Cooperative Permittee Monitoring in Nevada**

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Cooperative permittee monitoring (CPM) is embraced by U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management at the national level and the livestock industry at the organizational level through the Public Lands Council. Memorandums of Understanding between these federal agencies and the Public Lands Council provide the basis for developing and implementing permittee monitoring programs on lands administered by them. Despite acceptance of CPM at high levels in these agencies, there has been very limited promotion and participation in CPM at the field level, by both agency personnel and permittees. Nevada initiated a step-wise approach to implement CPM in 2007. The first step was a complete revision of the 1984 Nevada Rangeland Monitoring Handbook. The current Handbook includes guidance about managing and monitoring rangelands to meet management objectives and a specific Rancher's Monitoring Guide to assist producers with "Cooperative Rangeland Monitoring". Both publications provide agency personnel and permittees with approved "how-to" methods to establish a CPM program. Cooperative Extension is now hosting a series of training workshops that focus upon real case scenarios. Agency range staff and permittees are assisted by Extension faculty, and collectively work through the steps outlined in the Monitoring Handbook to develop monitoring systems for specific grazing allotments. This approach provides range staff and permittees training using real-world examples. Similar programs in other public lands states could provide the necessary vehicle for implementation of permittee monitoring on a broader scale.

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