

Ranch Camp Daily Outline and Learning Objectives

Sunday:

- A scenario overview of the ranch will be given to you for your ranch plan
- Introductions, team breakouts and decide on a team name
- Understand stocking rates, carrying capacity and how to calculate these based on an animal unit

Monday: BEEF DAY

Learning Objectives:

- Beef Fabrication
Retail Cuts, consumer demand, nutrition and global trade
- Beef Cow Nutrition:
Digestive anatomy, nutrient requirements, nutrition program development
- Beef Cow Reproduction
Reproductive anatomy, the estrous cycle, reproductive technologies
- Herd health
BQA certification, vaccination management and planning, proper animal handling

Ranch Plan Inputs

- Decide on the type of operation (cow-calf stocker or both) your plan will have
- Begin to estimate costs of nutrition and health programs (to determine overall cow/animal cost)

Day II (Tuesday): Economics and Marketing:

Learning Objectives

- Economics
 - Students should be able to identify their ranch assets and any liabilities necessary for day-to-day operations of their proposed ranch.
 - Students will determine the revenue generated from the ranch operations as well as the total expenses required to generate the revenue.
 - Specific expenses and revenues sources will be identified and compared to other Western ranches.
 - Students will understand the difference between cash costs and non-cash costs and the role each plays in the overall success of the ranch.
 - Students will identify the essential ranch labor and management to accomplish the productivity on the ranch.
- Marketing
 - Students will gain an understanding of the various cattle marketing concepts and strategies and the advantages and disadvantages of each strategy.
 - Students will learn how to determine dressing percent and importance of this in relation to live weight.

- Students will an understanding of quality grade factors and yield grade factors
- Students will learn the difference between live pricing vs formula pricing
- Students will learn how to Calculations of a final carcass price from a grid
- Students will learn the breed type advantages and disadvantages in relation to grid pricing

Ranch Plan Inputs

- Operating budget for each enterprise
- Identify marketing strategies to be used

Day III (Wednesday): Wildlife & Natural Resources

Learning Objectives:

- **Wildlife Management**
 - Habitat
 - Carrying Capacity
 - Compensatory and Additive Mortality
 - Density Dependence / Independence
 - Population Estimation
 - Predator Management Techniques and Ethics
- **Wildlife Enterprises**
 - Goals and Objectives
- **Vegetation Management and Procurement**
 - Plant Succession
 - Vegetation Treatments
- **Riparian Management**
 - Ecological Functions
 - Grazing Management

Ranch Plan Inputs

- Diversified Natural Resource Enterprises (Yes or No)**
 - **Wildlife Enterprise (Yes or No)**
 - Outfitter Managed
 - Employee Managed
 - Owner Managed
 - **Procurement of Natural Resources (Yes or No)**
 - Wood Products
 - Water
 - Forage (See Range Day for more information)
- Vegetation Management Plan (See Range Day for more information) (Yes or No)**

- Grass/Forage Management Plan
- Brush Management Plan
- Riparian Area Management Plan

Day 4 Thursday: Range Day

Learning Objectives:

Rangeland and Grazing Management

- Ecological Site Descriptions
- Soils
- Water
- Vegetation

Assessing and monitoring rangeland resources

- Monitoring methods
- Plant identification/control
- Stocking rates by Animal Unit and Animal Unit Equivalence

Adaptive Management

- Drought planning
- Regulations and Policy

Ranch Plan Inputs:

- Enterprises (Cattle, sheep, horse, or other?) goals and objectives for enterprise and rangelands related to the enterprise
- Grazing Plan- pasture, stocking rate, timing and duration, class and species of livestock, wildlife habitat, and improvements needed.
- Adaptive Management- what is your plan for adjusting the grazing plan if you encounter drought, fire, or other condition that affects forage growth or production.
- Identification of improvements (fencing, water development, brush control...) and plan when to do them.

- Finish Ranch Plans and Prepare Delivery**