Farm Production and Conservation Natural Resources Conservation Service

USDA NRCS Resources Assessment Branch Outcomes Team Beltsville, MD

July 5, 2024

To: Regional CESU Network Directors

Subject: Notice for Conservation Effects Assessment Project on Grazing Land (CEAP) Stakeholder/Partner In-Person 2024 Meeting

Action Requested By: July 22nd, 2024

Purpose: Announcement and Background for in-person CEAP-Grazing Land (Conservation Effects Assessment Project on Grazing Land) Partner meeting, August 6th and 7th, 2024 in Phoenix, AZ

Background: The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Conservation Effects Assessment Project for Grazing Land (CEAP-GL), within the Resource Inventory and Assessment Division (RIAD) of the Soil Survey and Resource Assessment (SSRA) Deputy Area assesses environmental effects of voluntary conservation efforts across the nation's grazing land. This includes conservation practices on rangeland, pastureland, grazed forest, naturalized pastures, hay land and grazed cropland.

The CEAP-GL team is hosting a networking and planning meeting with both internal NRCS partners and external current and potential partners from other federal agencies, universities, and NGOs. Participants invited include rangeland and pastureland grazing specialists, foresters, conservationists, regional technical staff and RIAD leadership. The meeting is an effort to update, inform and strategize with participants to increase awareness, establish understanding and share knowledge related to past and current CEAP-GL projects and resources as well as with potential research partners. The results of the meeting will include: identification of priorities, establish goals, and chart a path forward for future CEAP-GL outcomes and assessments.

The meeting will be most successful if a variety of subject matter experts (SMEs) are involved in discussions. The intent of this memo is to inform SMEs on conservation effects on grazing land within the CESU Network that their attendance and input would be welcome. We ask the regional office to share this memo with their members.

Space at the meeting is limited; we kindly ask that any interested grazing land specialists reach out to Carrie-Ann Houdeshell at the address below by July 22nd.

Travel dates would be August 5th to August 8th for most attendees. Information on hotel and meeting locations will be shared once names are added to the attendee list.

Contact: if you have any questions about the meeting, please contact National Co-Leader for CEAP-Grazing Land, Carrie-Ann Houdeshell, at carrie-ann.houdeshell@usda.gov.

Thank you, in advance, for your interest and help.

/s/ Carrie-Ann Houdeshell for

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