School of Natural Resources and the Environment

Seminar Series: Spring 2018

USING LAND POTENTIAL AND LEGACY EFFECTS TO GUIDE CONSERVATIONS PRACTICES ON NEW MEXICO RANGELANDS

SPEAKER: Amy Ganguli, New Mexico State

University

DATE: Wednesday, April 4th, 2018

TIME: 3:00-4:00 pm

LOCATION: ENR2, S107



ABSTRACT: For nearly a century, conservation practices implemented on rangelands by Federal agencies have sought to enhance ecosystem services through a wide suite of improvement and restoration treatments. Today these treatments center on removing unwanted species, improving plant species composition and abundance, and tailoring grazing strategies to meet conservation objectives. Although most contemporary restoration projects by agencies favor adaptive management strategies, few of these treatments are monitored in ways to assess efficacy and facilitate the adaptive process. Even fewer projects take in to consideration the legacy of previous land management and the potential of land to produce ecosystem services when designing specific treatments. Using BLM and NRCS conservation treatments in New Mexico as an example, this talk will describe the development of a framework that uses monitoring data, rapid assessments of land potential, and modeling to better tailor rangeland treatments to meet management objectives while minimizing risk of ecosystem service degradation.

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