

## NRI Grazing Land On-Site Data Collection Course

February 26-28, 2019

Tucson, AZ

The course begins at **8:00 a.m.**, Tuesday, February 26 and ends at **5:00 p.m.**, Thursday, February 28. **You are expected to stay for the entire course.** *If you cannot attend the entire session, please contact your Training Officer immediately so they can cancel your participation.*

The NRI is the USDA's most comprehensive data gathering and information dissemination effort for natural resource status, condition, and trends on U.S. non-Federal land. The NRCS, other USDA agencies, and government agencies outside of USDA use NRI data in program development and program assessment and planning. On-site data are collected on grazing land as an integral part of the NRI.

This training seeks to ensure standardization of data collection among all States participating in NRI grazing land on-site data collection. This standardization and consistency are essential for ensuring the integrity of the NRI.

### **Eligible Participants**

All individuals who will be conducting the data collection or training (trainers) within their state. -- All data collectors must complete training biannually to be authorized for NRI on-site data collection (Please see National Bulletin 290-17-7 <https://grazingland.cssm.iastate.edu/national-bulletin-290-17-7>). NRI on-site data collection is conducted in the 48 conterminous States.

### **Review with Supervisor**

You and your supervisor are jointly responsible for determining course eligibility. Please review the course objectives and agenda with your supervisor prior to attending this course. *If you have special needs, please contact your state Training Officer.*

### **Prerequisite**

None

### **Lodging Arrangements**

A block of rooms has been reserved until **February 10** at:

**Hampton Inn Tucson-Airport**  
**6971 S. Tucson Blvd.**  
**Tucson, AZ 8575**

Make your own reservation either by calling **(520) 918-9000** (ask for booking under **USDA Natural Resources Inventory Training**) or using the Booking Link: <http://group.hamptoninn.com/usdanaturalresourceinventorytraining> (Contact: Bonnie) Rooms under the block will not be available after February 10!

- If lodging will be necessary, class participants are required to stay at the hotel designated. EDS has negotiated a sleeping room/meeting room package that is based on the number of rooms blocked. If it is imperative for you to stay outside of this room block, please contact EDS immediately to request an exemption. A strong justification will be required.

- The per diem rate for this area is **\$180** of which **\$119** is for lodging and **\$61** is for M&IE. The hotel room rate will be **\$119** for single occupancy. You may claim only your actual room rate plus M&IE. **Note:** You will be calling the hotel directly — not making your hotel reservation in Concur.
- **A reservation has created for each participant and instructor at the selected hotel. To reserve your room, you must call the hotel as quickly as possible to complete the reservation that was created by providing your credit card details.**
- It is your responsibility to make the hotel reservation and be sure that the rates are honored.

### Travel Arrangements

#### Arrival:

- If you are flying, the closest airport is the Tucson International Airport (TUS). The hotel is approximately .4 miles from the airport. Inquire about transportation options to/from the hotel when making your room reservation.

#### Departure:

- We recommend that you travel home on Friday.
- When making air travel arrangements for returning home on Thursday, allow at least 2 hours between the end of the session and your flight time. Class on the final day will not conclude until 5:00 p.m. and your attendance is required. Please plan accordingly.

### Meals

You are responsible for all meals. You will need to bring a box/sack lunch. Drinking water and a couple of ice chests for storing bag lunches will be provided.

### Training Location

Classroom training will be held at the Tucson BLM office (located at 3201 E. Universal Way, Tucson, AZ 85756) and field training will be held at the Empire Ranch located 50 miles southeast of Tucson. **Please dress appropriately for spending all day in the field.** Transportation will be provided by NRCS participants from the hotel to the training sites. Contractors will be responsible for their own transportation. **Participants will meet in the hotel lobby at 7:30 AM each morning** Tuesday thru Thursday for transport to the training location.

### Items to Bring

- **Field data collection unit with current year's CASI software installed** (Please see NRI Grazing Land website (<https://grazingland.cssm.iastate.edu/>) or contact the NRI Grazing Land Help Desk (nri-graze-help@iastate.edu ) for additional information.)
- **During the training session, casual attire such as blue jeans is acceptable. No commercial logo hats, commercial logo or inappropriate T-shirts, shorts, tank tops, or bare midriffs are allowed during training sessions.**

- Field clothes, hats, and field foot wear suitable for all weather conditions (no shoes with open toes in the field). Should include long pants, as a significant portion of the course will be in the field.
- Rain gear
- Sun Screen
- Bag lunch
- Government Photo ID
- Government Travel Card

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.