

ACCOUNTING FOR CARBON SEQUESTRATION ON US RANGELANDS

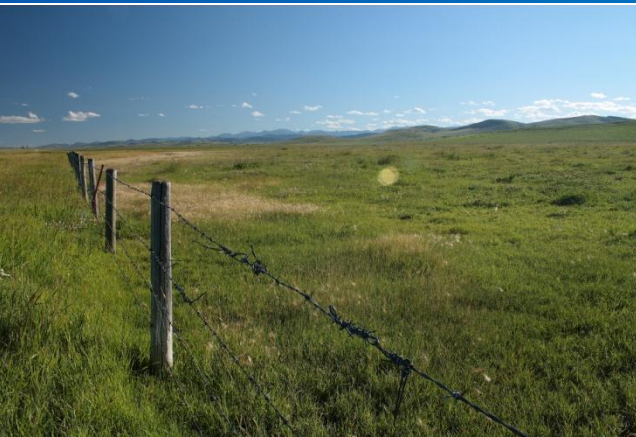
Environmental Defense Fund
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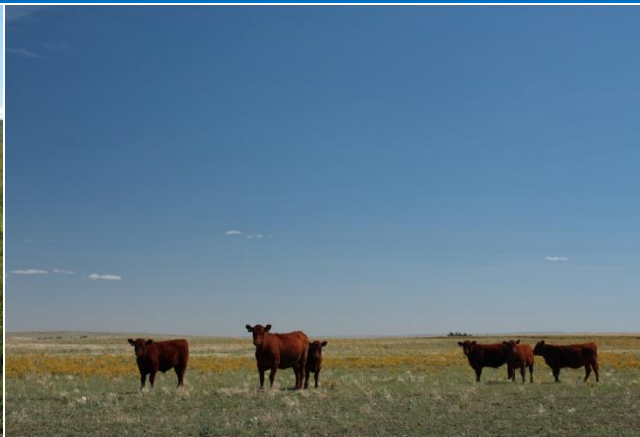
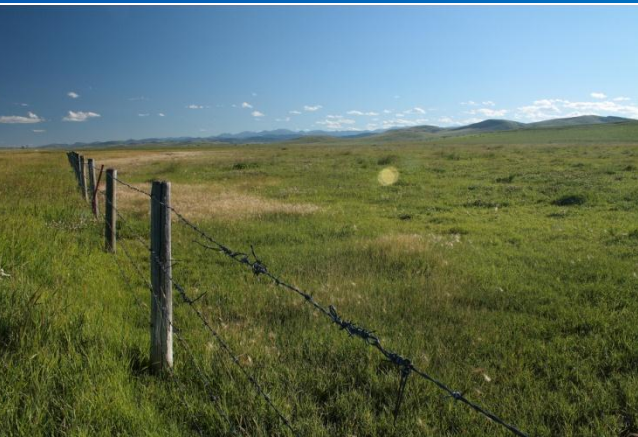
CIG Project's 3-year objectives

- Develop rangeland carbon accounting methodologies
- Test methodologies across ecosystems
- Analyze environmental and economic impacts



Three Project Types

- Avoided conversion of native rangelands and Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) lands
- Restoration of croplands to grasslands
- Management of working rangelands



Field Trials

- Five rangeland ecosystem types (2 to 6 private land sites within each ecosystem type)
 - Oak Woodlands (California) - *Restoration and management*
 - Northern Mixed Prairie (Montana) - *Avoided conversion, restoration, management*
 - Conservation Reserve Program Fields (Colorado) *Avoided conversion*
 - Sagebrush Steppe (Idaho) – *Avoided conversion*
 - Southern Mixed Prairie (Texas/Oklahoma) – *Avoided conversion, restoration and management*

Science & Modeling

- Lit review building on previous meta-analyses and compiling new data from USDA/ARS focused on the 3 project types
- Data used to validate grass and savanna vegetation sub models in CENTURY
- Estimate precision and adjust for significant biases in model predictions associated with project types

Methodology Development

- Project-level accounting methods for 3 project types
- Development of methodology/protocol for the 3 project types
 - Boundaries/baselines
 - Aggregation
 - Validation
 - Carbon pools
 - Etc.
- Environmental & economic impact assessments

Thank you

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