

The Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) Program at North Dakota State University, FY 2008



The Renewable Resource Extension Act (RREA) program funds allocated to North Dakota State University are administered by the University's School of Natural Resource Sciences. The NDSU program focuses on two RREA Strategic Issues: Rangeland Stewardship and Health, and Forest Stewardship and Health.

Targeted audiences are primarily landowners, youth, land managers, and educators who influence a local community. RREA funds are leveraged with state and private funds, and institutional support. This collaborative use of funds allows partners, including government agencies and private associations, to develop educational materials and deliver programs to landowners and managers. Every RREA dollar leveraged \$8.73 in additional funds. Examples of RREA funds use are presented below.

Grasses of the Northern Plains – This publication was developed for pasture and hay development and conservation practices for cool-season (Vol. I) and warm-season (Vol. II) grasses in the Northern Plains. More than 16,000 copies were distributed in the seven northern states to landowners, managers, and educators to help them better select grasses for their region and soils.

The 12 Month Forage and Range Management School – A four-day intensive grazing, forage, and livestock management school had 28 ranchers representing 53,900 acres of range and pastureland. More than 96 % of the landowners surveyed stated they will implement an improved stewardship plan on some or all of their range and pasture land.

Forest Health Workshops – A series of four workshops taught diagnostic skills to 84 natural resource professionals and emphasized the need for a diverse forest to offset the future threat of Emerald Ash Borer. These professionals represented almost every county in North Dakota with a direct impact on more than 90% of North Dakota's forest and tree communities.



"I learned grazing management techniques can improve forest regeneration without damaging sensitive tree species." Ross Messner, landowner – Pekin, ND

Discussing riparian management with landowners and forest managers

North Dakota State University Contact: Kevin K. Sedivec, Extension Rangeland Specialist, School of Natural Resource Sciences, 100f Hultz Hall, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND 58108-6050; telephone (701) 231-7647; email: kevin.sedivec@ndsu.edu