

A successful riparian grazing strategy must be custom designed to fit the specific circumstances. However, many years of experience and research have tested and proven some common denominators and practical rules of thumb.

RIPARIAN Management Objective

A clearly defined objective or desired future condition for the riparian area is the foundation of a successful grazing strategy.

This seemingly obvious step actually represents a fundamental departure from traditional livestock grazing management on most western lands.

Grazing typically has been targeted on the far more extensive upland forage, predominately grasses. This, of course, was unlikely to result in proper grazing of riparian grasses, forbs or woody plants. In fact, until very recent years, some livestock grazing manuals referred to stream-side areas as "sacrifice areas."

