
Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development has a mandate to administer and sustainably manage approximately seven million acres of public rangelands in the province. Sustainable range management is achieved through the stewardship practices of about 7200 grazing disposition holders. Stewardship outcomes are guided throughout the province, at the district level, through the long standing role of professional Rangeland Agrologists as they apply the grazing disposition management policies and processes, working in collaboration with disposition holders.

A distinct body of knowledge and collection of ecological tools have been developed to support rangeland stewardship outcomes. Although originally intended for application by district Agrologists and disposition holders, this tool kit has found an expanding appeal in other sectors and professions including wildlife management, reclamation, environmental assessment and land use to name a few. This CPD session will provide a high level overview of the Alberta Rangelands Ecological Tool kit and is designed as a primer to further study and apply the ecological tools. The three hour session will include the following components:

• an overview of Alberta Rangelands,

• the Alberta rangeland extension paradigm including range management principles and practices and the Stockmen’s Range Management Course

• an introduction to the Alberta ecological classification system and plant community guides,

• rangeland health assessment tools and practices,

• land cover mapping including the Grassland Inventory and Primary Land Vegetation Inventory, and finally,

• an overview of three broad provincial ecosystems (Grassland/Parkland, Boreal and Foothills/Montane) with reference to key plant communities, range management practices, and resource integration issues.