

Public Rangelands Improvement Act

43 U.S.C. §§1901-1908

“Public rangelands” means **western grazing lands** administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the Bureau of Land Management or by the Secretary of Agriculture through the U.S. Forest Service. [43 U.S.C. §1902(a)] The Act exempts from its provisions all national grasslands. [43 U.S.C. §1907]

Congress establishes a national commitment to **improve the condition and productivity** of the public rangelands, to establish equitable grazing fees, and to avoid economic disruption and harm to the western livestock industry. [43 U.S.C. §1901]

The Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior shall develop and maintain an **inventory** of range conditions and record of trends of conditions on public rangelands. They shall categorize such rangelands according to range conditions and trends. [43 U.S.C. §1903(a)]

The Secretary of the Interior shall manage public rangelands in accordance with the Taylor Grazing Act,

the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, and other applicable law consistent with the public rangelands improvement program established by the Public Rangelands Improvement Act. The goal of the **management** of public rangelands shall be to improve range conditions so that the rangelands become as productive as feasible. [43 U.S.C. §1903(b)]

The Act authorizes annual **appropriations** for range improvement projects. [43 U.S.C. §1904(a)]

The Act establishes a formula for determining **grazing fees** for grazing years 1979 through 1985 that reflects the economic value of the use of the land by the user. [43 U.S.C. §1905]

The Act directs the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior to develop a program to explore and reward innovative grazing management systems that improve range conditions. [43 U.S.C. §1908]