

## Daydreamer's Ranch – Setting a Stocking Rate

**Duration:** 50 minutes

**Group Size:** Variable (group of 3 to 4 students)

**Setting:** Classroom

The purpose of this activity is to give students the opportunity to practice determining AUM's and stocking rates.

### Goals:

Students will:

1. Explore differences productivity among rangeland sites.
2. Learn how to calculate an initial stocking rate based on forage production.

### Materials Needed:

- Handout/Worksheet
- Map
- Calculator

### Process:

- Put students in groups of 3 to 4 students per group.
- Handout the worksheet, instructions, and map. (Note: Just 1 map is needed per group.)
- Ask students to complete the questions asked.
- Go over the solutions to the problems in class.

### Variations:

- Have different groups of students answer the questions and set an initial stocking rate with different annual precipitation levels. (See Table 1). For example, one group could calculate forage production for an Unfavorable year, another could calculate it for a Normal year, and yet another group could determine values for a year with Favorable growing conditions. Then, each group could present their numbers in class. This will illustrate how much the amount of forage can vary depending on growing conditions.