

HEART MOUNTAIN GRASSBANK SELECTION CRITERIA

DRAFT JUNE 2002

Every year, the Heart Mountain Grassbank receives more applicants than there is available forage. Therefore, we must decide which applicants will be able to use the grassbank. Since we offer the forage at a reduced rate and because we a nonprofit cannot legally give free forage away, it is essential that we demonstrate we are gaining sufficient conservation value in exchange for forage. We will rate the potential conservation value based on *management practices* that enhance conservation and existing *conservation values* on the land. Because this is a new process for all of us, we welcome your ideas and suggestions that could improve this selection process for the future.

Management practices that would increase conservation value would include: site conservation plans, conservation easements, restoration activities like prescribed burning, range improvements, management changes, predator friendly agreements and weed plans

The other criteria applicants will be evaluated on the existing conservation values of their land. What species of plants and animals does your land support? Riparian areas? Denning sites?