

Ranchers field day offered in Wray June 11

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

Livestock owners, managers and landowners are invited to attend an informative Ranchers Field Day Tuesday, June 11.

Those attending field day will meet at Dwight and Nancy Rockwell's headquarters west of Wray. Registration, coffee and rolls will begin at 8:30 a.m. at the ranch headquarters. The field day will begin at 9 a.m. and end by 3 p.m.

Plants can say a lot about how much the drought has affected them, but only if it is known how to read them. Once what to look for is identified, more informed decisions can be made.

Attendees will learn how the drought of 2012 has affected the plants found on both sandy and hard ground sites. The group will learn how to look at the plants to judge the health of the rangeland. Most significantly, decisions that need to be made will be heard and actions should be taken to protect the ground.

Pat Reece will be the instructor. He has over 30 years of experience working with ranchers and the climatic extremes of the high plains. Reece's combined research, extension and consulting experiences will provide unique insight for dealing with drought. He is a great speaker who gives information that anyone can understand, take home and use.

It is suggested that those who lease rangeland for cattle bring the property owner. Property owners are encouraged to bring the lease. Both owners and renters will gain valuable information from this field day to help develop a win-win drought management strategy. Young aspiring ranchers are particularly invited to attend.

Grazing management this year is crucial to keeping rangelands intact.

For more information or to save a lunch, contact the Yuma County Conservation District in Wray by Tuesday, June 4. Call 970-332-3173 ext. 3 or go to the Yuma County Conservation District website at www.ycconservation.com.

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The Yuma County Conservation District can also be reached by email at julie.elliott@co.usda.gov. There is no registration fee. Late registrations and walk-ins are welcome, but will not be guaranteed lunch.

To get to Rockwells, go west of Wray eight miles or east of Eckley six miles on Highway 34 to County Road Z. Turn south and drive 2¾ miles to a lane on the east side. Follow the lane to the shop. There will be signs.

Holyoke Enterprise June 6, 2013