



Natural Areas Department Staff Report

Katie Donahue, Director and Matt Parker, Ecological Stewardship Manager

Collaborations and Partnerships











ONRCS





Natural Fort Grazing Association









Trends and Challenges in Land Management





Grassland Indicator Species Richness and Restoration Units - 2020 *McKee Strips*

Move toward Adaptive Management Cycle

- Species classification vs diversity and function
- Start at the soil; increase absorption
- Build nutrient cycles not dead ends
- Disturbance through grazing and prescribed fire

Decisions based on monitoring feedback

- Plan, do, check, act
- Catch restoration projects before degradation
- Bring a correct, planned disturbance at the right time
- High quality habitat for specialized species

Function-based Management on a Landscape Scale







Linda Stanley Receives Conservation Achievement Award

- This award recognizes community-wide, multi-generational impacts to conservation in our region.
- Award presented at the annual Natural Areas Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.
- Ms. Stanley is the second recipient of the Kelly Ohlson Natural Areas Conservation Award.







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