

Roles, Responsibilities, and Commitments of Committee members



COMMITTEE MAKEUP

- The committee is a 7-person committee made up of 4 RSA Board Members and 3 committee members who live in Blaine, Phillips, or Valley counties. Each committee member has a vote.

COMMITMENTS

- 3-year term
- Two in person meetings: Prior to the grazing season, and after the grazing season
- Rangeland monitoring day: attend the rangeland monitoring day (mid-July / August) on the property to assess land health
- As needed meetings (virtual or in person) to review applications and conduct potential tenant interviews
- Other meetings (virtual or in person) as needed to address program needs

LAND & GRAZING MANAGEMENT

- Reviews and formally approves the annual grazing management plan developed by the Program Manager
- Sets overall land health goals and stewardship benchmarks for the program
- Provides guidance to the Program Manager on significant land management decisions or concerns
- Reviews annual land health monitoring data and range condition reports

TENANT RELATIONS & PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

- Establishes and maintains the tenant commitment framework (program rules and expectations)
- Leads the tenant application and selection process, including interviews
- Sets annual grazing rates (currently based on DNRC rates)
- Reviews and acts on compliance issues elevated by the Program Manager
- Approves lease renewals and extensions
- Reviews and makes recommendations to the board for any grievance issues brought to the committee

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

- Develops the annual United Range program budget in coordination with RSA staff
- Reviews program financial performance, AUM revenue, expenses, and other source funding throughout the year
- Makes recommendations to the RSA Board on budget requests and financial needs

EDUCATION, MENTORSHIP & COMMUNITY

- Establishes education and mentorship requirements as part of tenant commitments
- Identifies mentorship needs within the tenant cohort
- Champions the program's mission within the broader ranching community

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT & EXPANSION

- Leads ongoing refinement of program policies, procedures, and tenant frameworks
- Develops recommendations for program expansion, including readiness criteria for Veseth Ranch activation
- Evaluates program performance annually and brings improvement recommendations to the RSA Board
- Identifies and cultivates partnerships with conservation organizations, agencies, and funders

RESTRICTIONS

- Committee members cannot be tenants (members) of the grassbank