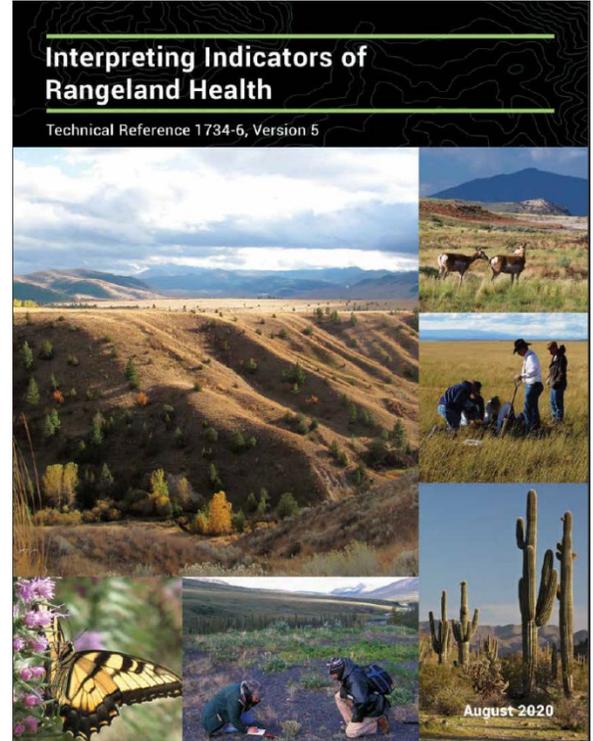


2023 BLM Interpreting Indicators of Rangeland Health Classes

What & Why:

Interpreting Indicators of Rangeland Health (IIRH) is a qualitative assessment protocol that is widely applied by individuals and agencies to provide early warning of potential ecological problems, improve communication about rangeland health and to help prioritize monitoring and restoration. Version 5 of the IIRH technical reference was developed in collaboration with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), US Forest Services (USFS), US Geologic Service (USGS), and Agricultural Research Service (ARS), and published in 2020. The technical reference can be downloaded from the [BLM Library Website](#). This flier describes the three BLM-sponsored classes that will be offered in 2023. Participants in the four-day course will learn appropriate applications of IIRH, how to conduct IIRH field assessments supported by quantitative indicator measurements, and interpret assessment results. The NRCS will also offer two classes as indicated in the text box below.



Who:

- Individuals with little or no experience with the IIRH protocols.
- Anyone interested in learning about and applying Version 5 revisions.
- Individuals who communicate with others about rangeland ecological processes.
- Anyone involved in managing, educating others, and using rangelands.

When and Where:



2023 BLM National Training Center (NTC) Classes

(non-BLM registration information follows)

- March 7-10th - Tucson, AZ (Register by February 7th).
- April 25-28th - Reno, NV (Register by March 15th).
- May 9-12th – Tooele, UT (Register by April 18).

Classes available through NRCS:

Contact: Josh Tashiro -

Joshua.Tashiro@usda.gov

- June 26-30th, Colorado, Location TBD
- July 11-14, Wyoming or Montana, Location TBD



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Natural Resources Conservation Service

Prerequisites:

Prior to registering for BLM IIRH classes, students are required to view the following six videos and should come to class familiar with the contents of these presentations. Additional prework is suggested for students who do not have prior experience with rangeland monitoring methods or using ecological site descriptions (links are provided in the registration process):

1. **Introduction to IIRH** (26:26 minutes)
2. **Ecological Concepts** (21:28 minutes)
3. **Indicator Concepts** (10:09 minutes)
4. **Indicators Attributes** (33:15 minutes)
5. **Quantitative Data** (16:14 minutes)
6. **Production** (14:07 minutes)

Students should be familiar with the line-point intercept and soil stability monitoring methods.

Videos covering these methods can be accessed at the following:

<http://www.ntc.blm.gov/krc/viewresource.php?courseID=813&programAreald=90>

Daily Class Schedule:

Each class day's activities assume knowledge of the previous day. Consequently, participants must be present for the entire class to receive credit and should plan travel accordingly.

Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:00-5:00: Mornings in the classroom and outside building, afternoons in the field.

Thursday 8-5: Field application of the IIRH protocol.

Friday 8-12: Classroom – discussion of field exercises, presentations and Q&A.

Current IIRH Cadre (2023 NTC instructors are underlined):

BLM: Nika Lepak, Brad Jost, Emily Kachergis, Mike Pellant (retired)

NRCS: Josh Tashiro, Jenni Moffitt, Pat Shaver (retired)

USFS: Gregg Riegel

USGS: David Pyke (emeritus)

ARS: Jeff Herrick, Beth Newingham, David Toledo

Sponsors and Participant Information:

This course is sponsored by BLM's for the purpose of encouraging the use of this rangeland health assessment tool by federal, state agencies, and others. Participants are responsible for their travel expenses, including transportation to the classroom, meals and lodging. We will carpool to travel to field sites.

Tuition:

- There is no tuition for all federal employees or current federal contractors or cooperators.
- In accordance with NTC policy non-federal participants for this class are required to pay tuition of \$1100. After you submit your request to attend this class through DOI Learn (see instructions below) you will be placed on the waitlist and receive additional instructions on

how to pay the tuition. After your tuition payment is processed you will be moved to the official class roster if space is available.

- **Tuition Waiver:** The tuition requirement for non-federal participants may be waived for those engaged in partnerships with or stakeholders with any federal agency associated with this class, current contractors with any federal agency associated with this class or associated with academia. For questions related to tuition and tuition waivers please contact Steve Bird (NTC), 602-906-5544 or sbird@blm.gov.

Registering for BLM NTC Classes

DOI TALENT for DOI Employees

Go to “Find Learning” in [DOI TALENT](#) and search for course name “Interpreting Indicators.” Complete the pre-work and follow the prompts to request the training (make sure your supervisor is up to date!).

DOI Talent for Interns and NON-Federal (DOI) employees

If you are needing to request a course/class through DOI Talent, you will first need to request an account. IF you already have a DOI Talent Account, simply sign in and request the Course/Seminar.

IMPORTANT: You **MUST** enter in the course and class you want to attend (see below). You can find the instructions and the request form here: https://www.doi.gov/doitalent/nondoil_learners

Here are the basic instructions:

- There are 3 sections to the form; "Username and Password", "More Details" and "Other Fields"; you **MUST** complete ALL THREE sections and enter data into EVERY field. See specific instructions for several fields below, other fields are self-explanatory.
- 'Username' field: insert the email address where you wish to receive system notifications. This will be your DOI Talent username. Please ensure that the spelling of your email address is correct in both the username and email address fields.
- The "Comments" field: indicate the specific COURSE NAME and LOCATION.
 - **Interpreting Indicators of Rangeland Health**
- The "Bureau" field: select the BUREAU that is offering the course you wish to attend (BLM)
- The "Affiliation" field : select the option that most closely matches your situation
 - **i.e. COOPERATOR**

Once this is completed and your account has been approved (7-10 days) you will be placed on the WAIT LIST for the course/class that you have request. The wait list is a good place to be.

Typically, you will receive an email stating that you are “Booked” for the requested training 3-4 weeks before the start of a class. At that time or shortly after, you may also receive other logistical information such as: pre work, hotel block rooms (if applicable) and the location (address) of the training.

Questions?

Questions on registering for the class should be directed to: Steve Bird, BLM National Training Center Coordinator, 602-906-5544 or sbird@blm.gov

Questions regarding logistics or class contents for specific BLM classes should be directed to: Nika Lepak, BLM Operations Center Rangeland Ecologist at dlepak@blm.gov