

# **AGENDA**

## **2014 Patch-Burn Grazing Working Group Meeting**

**Grand Island, Nebraska**

**August 13-14, 2014**

### **Wednesday August 13**

(Lunch on your own)

- 12:30-1:30pm** Managing for biological diversity at The Nature Conservancy's Platte River Prairies, Nebraska. Patch-burn grazing and other crazy schemes. - Chris Helzer.
- 1:30-1:45pm** BREAK
- 1:45- 2:15pm** Winter grazing simulation as a surrogate for patch burn grazing. - Patricia Johnson.
- 2:15 – 3:30pm** Examination of patch-burn grazing on a north/south gradient. Does it work less well/differently in northern prairies? How does cool-season grass dominance affect results? - Steve Winter, Sandy Smart, and group discussion.
- 3:30-3:45pm** BREAK
- 3:45 – 4:15pm** Hoof rot/pink eye. Treatments, implications for patch-burn grazing?  
- Dave Trauba and Joe Blastick.
- 4:15 – 4:45pm** Figuring stocking rates in patch-burn grazed systems. Joe Blastick and Dave Trauba.
- 4:45-5:00pm** BREAK
- 5:00-6:00pm** Potential application of patch-burn grazing on a private ranch in the Nebraska Sandhills. Discussion with Sarah Sortum of Switzer Ranch/Calamus Outfitters.
- 6pm** Supper on your own
- 8pm** Social/Mixer at hotel. Cash bar.

## **Thursday August 14**

(Breakfast on your own)

### **8:30am – 2pm - Field Tour of The Nature Conservancy's Platte River Prairies.**

We will carpool to the site. (15 minutes west of the hotel). Catered lunch provided at noon.

Topics explored will include:

- Effects of different stocking rates on habitat structure and plant community
- Patch-burn grazing, "patch-hay grazing", and other variations on the theme
- Using patch-burn grazing as a restoration tool (addressing invasive grass dominance and low plant diversity)
- Revisit of topics from Wednesday

### **2pm – Depart from Platte River Prairies for home.**