Plant Identification Training Workshop for Grant-Kohrs Ranch Personnel

Peter Rice, Division Biological Sciences, University of Montana

Plant identification training workshops were held June 22, 2006 and June 11, 2007 at the Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site. There were two field sessions in 2006. A morning session focused on learning the more common vascular plants in the undeveloped upland grasslands and the riparian zone, identifying native and invasive species and included basic grass morphology as a foundation for grass species identification. The afternoon session focused on common plants in the developed areas of the Ranch identifying native and introduced species in irrigated fields and proximal to buildings. Numerous ranch resource and interpretative staff participated in the 2006 sessions along with high school teachers attending a multiday workshop on using Ranch resources as part of their high school curriculum. There was one session in 2007. Several Ranch permanent resource people and summer staff attended along with high school teachers. This was a field session starting with the basics of grass identification, visiting upland grasslands, irrigated fields, and the riparian zone. The 2007 session was also scheduled in concurrent with a multiday workshop on using Ranch resources as part of their high school curriculum. The curriculum resource utilization agenda and list of teachers attending the 2007 multiday workshop is appended.
Schedule of 2007 Workshop Topics and Activities

Monday June 11, 2007 -----

Learn the Resource (morning)/Range Management (afternoon)

8:00 a.m.  Welcome and Introduction
Julie Croglio, Park Ranger/Education Specialist

8:15 a.m.  Goals of the Workshop
Ben Bobowski, Chief of Resource Management

8:30 a.m.  Learning the Resource
Guided tour of the ranch house, etc.
Julie Croglio

10:30 a.m.  Cattle ranching; grazing practices and weed project
Dr. Ben Bobowski and Dr. Peter Rice, University of Montana

12:00 p.m.  Lunch 1 hour

1:00 p.m.  Vegetation Communities of Grant-Kohrs Ranch
Gary Swant

2:30 p.m.  Hands-on Vegetation activities
Gary Swant & others

4:30 p.m.  Depart

Tuesday June 12, 2007 ------

Range Management (morning)/Geology (afternoon)

8:00 a.m. - Meet at the High School Computer Lab
Lesson Plan Development (Range Management)  everyone

Visit park website:  www.nps.gov/grko/forteachers/lessonplansandteacherguides.htm

General Brain Storming on Range Management and
suitable class activities
Teams Develop Range Units
Sharing of Projects

12:00 p.m.  Lunch 1 hour

1:00 p.m.  Geology of the Deer Lodge Valley
Dick Berg, Senior Research Geologist
Montana Tech

4:30 p.m.  Depart

Wednesday June 13, 2007 -----  Geology/Learn the Resource (afternoon)

8:00 a.m.  Meet at the High School Computer Lab
Lesson Plan Development (Geology)  everyone

General Brain Storming on Geology and
suitable class activities
Teams Develop Water Units
Sharing of Projects

12:00 p.m.  Lunch 1 hour

1:00 p.m. - Preservation of the Past
Chris Ford, Curator
Tour of Curatorial storage facility

3:00 p.m. – Preservation Maintenance
David Beaver, Facility Manager

4:30 p.m.  Depart
Thursday June 14, 2007  ----------  Wildlife/habitat

7:00 a.m. - Meet at Dairy Barn  
Mist netting

10:00 a.m.  
Tools of Field Birding and Classroom Resources

12:00 p.m.  Lunch  1 hour

1:00 p.m.  
Habitat Characteristics –  
   riparian
   Wetlands
   grasslands

Principles of wildlife ecology/autecology

3:30 p.m.  Depart

5:30 p.m. (optional)  
Cookout at the Ranch – Meet at the Chuckwagon

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Friday June 15, 2007  ----------  Wildlife/habitat

6:30-8:00 a.m. (optional) - Meet at Visitor Center Parking Lot  
Bird Walk

8:00 a.m. - Meet at the High School Computer Lab  
Lesson Plan Development (Wildlife/Habitat)

General Brain Storming on Wildlife Habitats and suitable class activities  
Teams Develop Wildlife Units  
Sharing of Projects

12:00 p.m.  Lunch  1 hour

1:00 p.m.  
Group discussion/Workshop wrap-up

2:00 p.m.  
Course Evaluations

2:30 p.m.  
Closing
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kim Tozzi</td>
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<td>Lewis Cozby</td>
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<td>Maggie Hunter</td>
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