

Describing Indicators of Rangeland Health Tasks Workflow/Checklist*		✓
Before going to the field	Identify evaluator(s).	
	Select evaluation area(s).	
	Assemble soils information and ecological site description(s) (if available).	
	Gather available information about management actions, disturbance history, and recent weather at evaluation areas (e.g., fire history, vegetation treatments, precipitation records).	
At the evaluation area	Delineate evaluation area.	
	Dig a soil pit (≥ 35 cm, where soil depth allows) near the center of the evaluation area. Identify soil components and/or ecological site if possible.	
	Describe the evaluation area using the DIRH Evaluation Area Description Form or alternate forms (e.g., AIM Plot Characterization and Plot Observation forms).	
	Evaluator(s) should independently observe indicators throughout the evaluation area.	
	Use the Functional/Structural Groups Worksheet to record plant species and document the relative dominance of functional/structural groups for the evaluation area using cover data and/or annual production data, or ocular estimates.	
	Test soil stability and record results on the DIRH Evaluation Form.	
	Dig a second soil pit (≥ 35 cm, where soil depth allows) and complete the Soil Surface Loss and Degradation indicator data table for this pit, as well as the pit used for the evaluation area description (one should be under perennial plant canopy, and one should be in an interspace between perennial plants).	
	Collect cover data (line-point intercept or other method) and record bare ground, litter cover, biological soil crust, and foliar cover values on the DIRH Evaluation Form and Functional/Structural Groups Worksheet.	
	Collect canopy gap; record proportion of gaps in each size class on DIRH Evaluation Form (optional).	
	Measure or estimate annual production, using appropriate methods and forms, and record on the DIRH Evaluation Form. Annual production estimates by functional/structural group may also be recorded on the Functional/Structural Groups Worksheet.	
	Collect additional quantitative data and take photos. List any additional methods.	
	Describe the 17 indicators using the classes and criteria included on the evaluation form for each indicator. Include detailed notes addressing the criteria in parentheses in the notes field.	

* Specific references, equipment, and forms will vary depending on project objectives and protocols. Blanks are provided for additional items that may be needed for specific projects.