



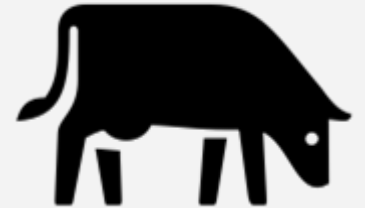
Match.Graze – Online Dating Service for Grazers and Landowners

Stephanie Larson, PhD
UC Cooperative Extension
Livestock & Range Management Advisor
Sonoma & Marin Counties, California
slarson@ucanr.edu

Vegetation Management Options

Considerations:

- Cost
- Availability
- Access
- Practicality
- Policy
- Social Acceptability
- Environmental Impact



Using Grazing- *How prescribed grazing can achieve your goals*

Range & Forest Lands

- What are your land goals?
- What do you want your land to look like after grazing?
- What resources do you have – fencing, water, etc.?
- What type of vegetation are you wanting to control?
- How long will you use prescribed grazing?
- In which order to use grazing with the other practices?



Choosing the right animal for the job

GOATS



SHEEP



BEEF



Which Vegetation Do You Want to Manage?



Grass



Forb



Browse



Conifer

What 's your short and long term plans to manage the vegetation?

Grazing- A Breakdown

Why Graze?

Grazing can be more cost-effective on landscapes that are too steep, rocky, or remote for conventional vegetation management (like mowing or chemical treatment), or in the urban-wildland interface where burning is not an option.

Targeted Grazing

Utilizing a specific type of livestock to impact invasive weeds, enhance habitat restoration efforts, and/or reduce fine fuels and ladder fuels to lessen wildfire hazard.

Choosing Livestock

Consideration of the site characteristics and vegetation management goals is paramount when selecting the appropriate species for the job, every piece of land is unique!

3-Grazing Tiers - Multiple Scales

Community

Small-scale livestock grazers use their animals to graze a community of small-scale properties. Properties can range from ¼ acre to several acres, animals graze one parcel then are moved to a neighboring parcel. Usually no money is exchanged; grazers received free forage.

Contract / Targeted Grazing

Targeted or contract grazing is the application of a specific kind of livestock at a determined season, duration and intensity to accomplish defined vegetation or landscape goals. Usually the grazer is paid for their service or no money is exchanged.

Commercial Grazing

Commercial / Traditional grazing is where livestock producers pay landowners to graze their properties, seasonally or year round; to meet nutritional and production goals of the livestock.

Economic Breakdown on Grazing

Labor

Managing grazing animals from pasture to pasture takes skilled labor that can calmly work with animals, while also dealing with the landowners, public or other animals.

Hauling Animals & Equipment

Moving animals from pasture to pasture requires equipment (truck, trailer) along with moving fencing and water to different grazing sites.

Animals Graze Year Round

A yearly source of forage is needed to maintain animal health. “Home” sites are not always available for contract/targeted grazers.

Animal Production Concerns

Nutrition / Toxic Plants

Timing for fuel reduction may not be when plants are most palatable. Novel plants, yard clippings, etc. can be a hazard when grazing different pastures or near urban settings.

Predation / Logistics

Moving to different pastures, neighborhoods or urban settings might not allow guarding animals with livestock. There could be increased predation pressure with the introduction of grazing animals.

Animal Welfare

Need for shade and shelter; manage animal health issues in a public setting, natural disasters, evacuations, etc.

Match.Graze

UC
CE | UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Agriculture and Natural Resources | UC Cooperative Extension



<https://matchgraze.com>



Match.Graze- An Overview

Match.Graze is a **FREE** online platform that connects livestock producers and landowners throughout the state of California. Match.Graze can help you pair up with the animals or land base that you need! With this service, University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) aims to support the expanded use of grazing to achieve California's collective habitat enhancement and fuels reduction goals.



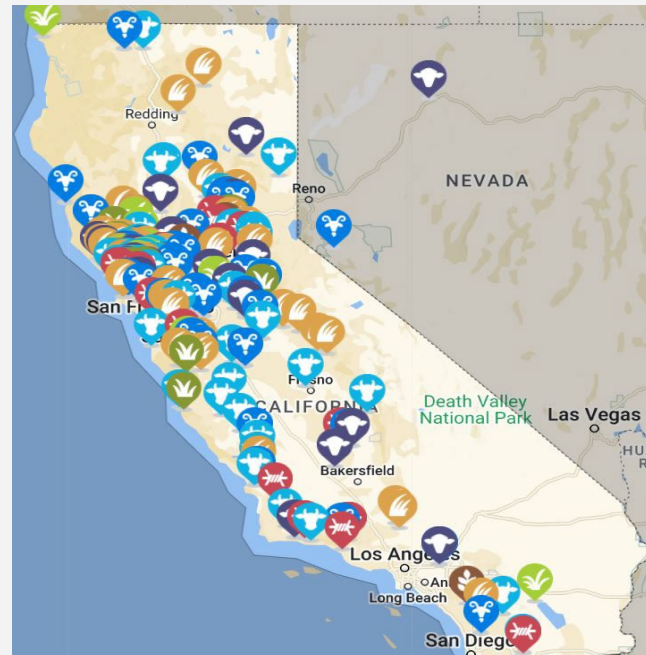
MatchGraze.com- Features

Match.Graze offers users tools which can help them find their best grazing match some of which include:

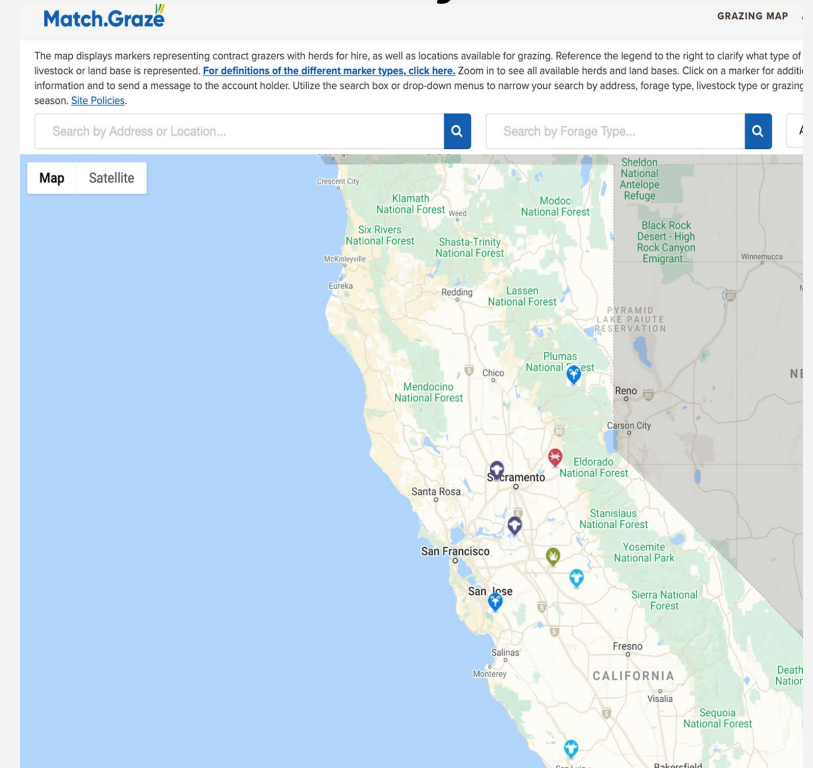
- Interactive Grazing Map
- Customizable Pins
- About Page
- Resources
- How-To Video

January 2023

Match.Graze



February 2021



Screenshots of the live map from
MatchGraze.com!

Match.Graze- Getting Started

1



Create a FREE account

To become a grazer or to have your property grazed, create your FREE account by visiting MatchGraze.com. Here, you can fill out basic information about yourself.

2



Register a Pin

Once you have created your free account, it's time to register a pin. You can do so by entering information about the animals you have available for grazing, or land that you are looking to have grazed on.

3



Start Grazing!

It is now time to connect with other users in your area! It really is that simple to find your perfect grazing match!

Grants Pass Me
okings
scot City
Klamath National Forest
Six Rivers National Forest
Eureka
Merced National Forest
Sheldon National Antelope Refuge
Black Rock Desert - Rock Cave Emigrant
RAMID PAIUTE RESERVATION
eno
80
son City
Stanislaus

Sheep
ELITE FLOCK GRAZING SERVICES
Number Available: 200
Distance to Travel: Up to 25 miles
Seasons Willing to Graze: Spring Summer Fall Winter
Willing to Install Fence: yes
Willing to Install Water System: yes
Willing to Haul Water: yes
Grazing tier(s):
• Tier 1 - Community/Neighborhood Grazing
• Tier 2 - Contract/Targeted Grazing
• Tier 3 - Traditional Grazing; land leased on an annual or long-term basis
Additional Information: Sheeps and goats available
[Contact Owner](#)

Final Thoughts

Every property is *different* and requires thoughtful consideration on how prescribed grazing can be implemented to managed vegetation to achieve fire fuels and other resource goals. UC Cooperative Extension is a good resource to assist with grazing services that can be funded through the CAL FIRE Wildfire Prevention Grants program.

Thank you!

Stephanie Larson, PhD

slarson@ucanr.edu

Match.Graze 