Wildlife Friendly Fences:
Mythical Creatures or Practical Solutions

Paul F. Jones
WARNING

THIS PRESENTATION CONTAINS IMAGES AND GRAPHICS THAT MAY BE OFFENSIVE OR EMOTIONALLY DISTURBING TO SOME VIEWERS.

VIEWER DISCRETION IS ADVISED
Play and important role for society:

- Mark property boundaries,
- Control distribution of domestic livestock
- Protect us from collisions with wildlife when they stray onto roads and highways
If It Isn't Broken - Why Fix It?
Negative Effects:

1. Direct Mortality
Negative Effects:

2. In-direct Mortality
   • Hair Loss
WARNING

THESE ACTS ARE PERFORMED BY NON-PROFESSIONAL AND NON-TRAINED INDIVIDUALS.

PLEASE DO NOT ATTEMPT THESE ACTS AT HOME – SEVERE INJURY MAY OCCUR
Negative Effects:

3. Barriers
Species Friendly Fence
Species Friendly Fences

What's the common theme?
Fence Wire Height
Solutions to make fences species friendly:

- Goat Bar
- Open Gate
- Staple Lock Method

Or Are They??

Drawings: K. Rumbolt
To Fence or Not to Fence?
Legend
- Rangeland Assessments
- Fences
- Range Sites

Roads
- Gravel Road
- Truck Trail

Range Health
- Healthy
- High Healthy with Problems
- Unhealthy
- Riparian
- Cropland/Unassessed


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What is the intended future use of the reseeded parcels?
Option #1: No Grazing

Legend
- Rangeland Assessments
- X- X- Fences
- Range Sites

Roads
- Gravel Road
- Truck Trail

Range Health
- Healthy
- High Healthy with Problems
- Unhealthy
- Riparian
- Cropland/Unassessed


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Option #2: Grazing

Legend
- Rangeland Assessments
- Fences
- Range Sites

Roads
- Gravel Road
- Truck Trail

Range Health
- Healthy
- High Healthy with Problems
- Unhealthy
- Riparian
- Cropland/Unassessed

2016 Spring re-seed
What type of fence??

1. What’s the intended purpose of the fence?
2. Life span of the fence?
   - short-term
   - permanent
3. Species in the area?
4. Species of concern?
   - SAR

Photo: K. Wilson
short-term – electric fence
Electric fence for short term protection of re-seed
Permanent – fence design

Appropriate Wire Spacing

bottom
top
in-between
Marking top wires with reflectors for SAGR and Waterfowl
Innovative approach to defer raptor perching
Locations of Gates – leave open at times
Species Friendly Fences

Don’t forget the most important species!

A Landowner's Guide to Fences and Wildlife

Practical Tips to Make Your Fences Wildlife Friendly

Wildlife Friendly Fences

Fences are like highways across the prairie landscape. They facilitate movement from one place to another. But not only can fences be beneficial, they can also act as a barrier to wildlife movement. The creation of a fence near a wetland or stream can make it difficult for wildlife to move between areas. This can lead to habitat loss and the degradation of wildlife populations. To help mitigate these effects, wildlife-friendly fences can be used to create temporary barriers that can be adjusted to accommodate the needs of different species. By using these fences, landowners can help to promote the health and well-being of local wildlife populations.
Are they RANCHER friendly fences?
Questions