

# Soil Indicators of Rangeland Health

Featuring Presentations by:

Susan Edinger-Marshall, Humboldt State University

Louise Jackson, UC Davis

Jon Gustafson, NRCS

Ken Oster, Templeton Service Center, NRCS



## Agenda

Friday, February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Brazil Ranch, Big Sur

Presented by the Coastal Training Program  
Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve

**Workshop Goal:** to bring together experts to help create useful, efficient methods of monitoring the sustainability of rangeland management practices as reflected in the soils of central coast rangelands and to gain feedback from these experts in how to tailor management responses to these soil indicators.

### 10:00 a.m. – Morning Welcome and Presentations

**Welcome:** Grey Hayes, Coastal Training Program Coordinator  
*How the Coastal Training Program improves land management by linking good scientists with skilled managers*

**Presentation:** Chris Potter, NASA Ames Research Center  
*Brazil Ranch Studies of Ecological Indicators*

**Presentation:** Susan Edinger-Marshall, Humboldt State University  
*Bare (soil) Facts*

**Presentation:** Louise Jackson, UC Davis  
*Soil Biology and Carbon Cycling*

**Presentation:** Jon Gustafson, NRCS  
*Soil Condition in the Context of Rangeland Health*

**Presentation:** Ken Oster, NRCS  
*Soil Structure and Macropores as Indicators of Rangeland Soil Health*

### 12:35 – Lunch

**1:30 – Field Component #1:** Monitoring soil erosion issues  
John Gustafson, Susan Edinger-Marshall, Louise Jackson  
Monitoring methods for rills, gullies, pedestals, and bare soil

**2:45 – Field Component #2:** Monitoring infiltration issues

Ken Oster

Monitoring methods for soil compaction and land use history

**3:30 – Discussion**

Discuss monitoring methodologies and attempt to classify the soils of the site as healthy or unhealthy; suggest ways of improving soils health.

**5:00 p.m. – Program Ends**