

**Compiling and Analyzing Management Case Studies (a project under development)**

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**2 main challenges:**  
1. Context-specific results  
2. Balancing multiple goals

**Conservation Benefits of Rangeland Practices**  
Assessment, Recommendations, and Knowledge Gaps

USDA NRCS  
National Resource Conservation Service

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**Goals:**

- Assess and quantify effects of management on environmental quality
- Build solid scientific foundation to improve natural resource assessment, planning and implementation

[http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb1045792.pdf](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb1045792.pdf)

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**Some conclusions:**

- Limited conclusions on many practices due to lack of monitoring data—especially at scales most relevant to management (e.g. pasture/watershed scale in 5-10 year time periods)
- Limited utility of generalized management recommendations (must be site-specific)

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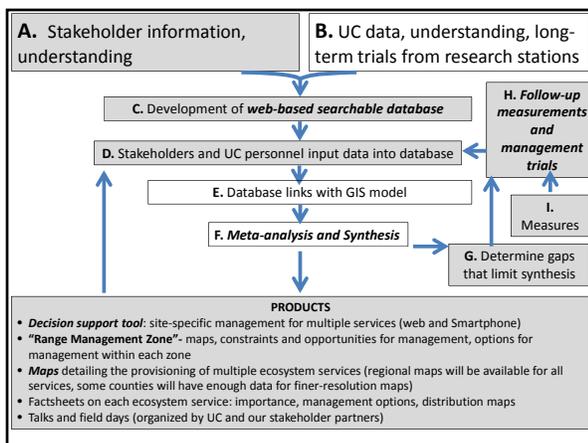
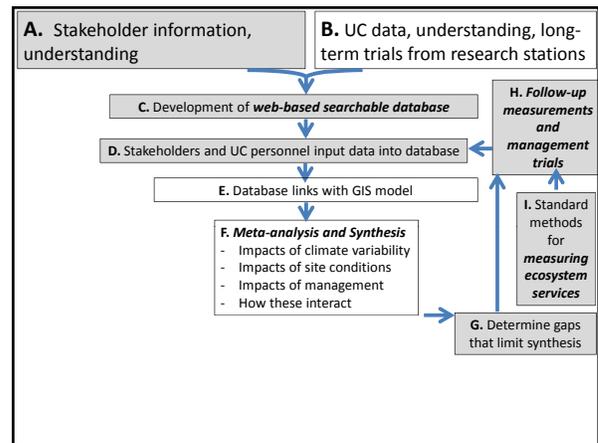
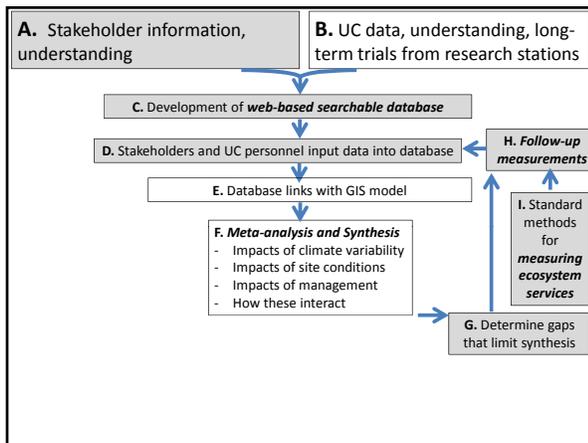
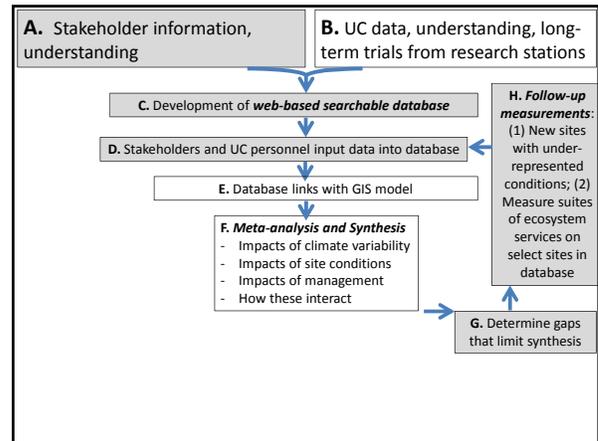
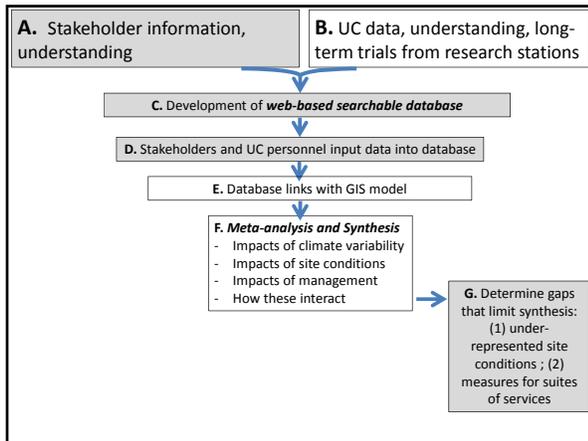
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**Need for:**

- Standardized data collection
- Long-term data across local to regional scales
- Improved collaboration between scientists and managers
  - Include broader range of managers, with diverse goals

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- ### Examples of questions that can be addressed:
- How do I reliably manage for a suite of goals on my site? (and is it even possible?)
    - How does this vary with annual weather?
  - How do we manage for ability of services to recover after a disruption (e.g. drought, erosion event)?
    - How do we manage to minimize this disruption?
  - Where are services provided? Where are specific services "bundled" vs. where are there tradeoffs between them?
    - Where can they effectively be managed?
    - How will effective management practices vary by site/year?
  - What is the short-term to long-term balance of the costs, risks and other benefits?

**Looking for feedback and collaborators**

- What questions do you want answered? (are we focused on the right services/questions?)
- Are you interested in participating? What would help you to participate?
- What are your concerns (e.g., data privacy)?
- Others?

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