

**RIM GRASS RANGE GROUP
A COLLABORATIVE MONITORING
GROUP AT ITS INFANCY**

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Other Universities





Other Universities





Start or End of Collaboration?



Collaboration

- **A working together:** the act of working together with one or more people in order to achieve something
- **Synonyms:** [cooperation](#), [teamwork](#), [partnership](#), [association](#), [alliance](#), [relationship](#)
- A Buzz Word Right?







the mule stomped the cat then pinned it to the ground and bit the heck out of the dead cat several more times.

Chatter vs. Communication

- 2009: South End of the Coconino National Forest
 - Chatter
 - NEPA, AOI's, AMP's, EA, EIS, CAT X...etc
 - Turnover
 - Communication
 - Monitoring
 - Utilization, TES, Production, Canopy Cover, Diversity Similarity Index
 - Cattle
 - Breed back, Culling, Weaning Weights, Preg checks
 - Catch 22: Diversity/Production vs. Economics

SO.....

- How did we attempt to quiet the chatter and dial up communication?
 - U of A Extension, NRCS, Forest Service
 - Developed a three part monitoring session spread out over 6 – 8 months
 - I) Why, What, When and How
 - II) Exhibit Monitoring Methods
 - III) Data Analysis
 - Goal
 - Improve communication through Collaborative Monitoring.....Create a COMMUNITY

Results.....

- 7 of 8 active ranches sent representatives to all three of the meetings!
- All identified that the trainings were informative and applicable for their operations!
- All wanted more on the ground collaborative monitoring on their allotments!

- Since the three part series
 - No monitoring has occurred
 - Turnover
 - Time
 - Comfort
 - Dr. Tolleson
 - Received a grant to continue the Collaborative Monitoring
 - Field Day in October 2012
 - 2013
 - Booking Reservations

What I've Come to Admit:

- It is sloppy
- It is frustrating
- Collaboration, more often than not, is driven by cost vs. benefit mentality
 - Pre Fencing
 - For those on Federal Land
- NEPA

Summary

Acknowledgments

