

Photographing Livestock Damage
(Record GPS point or exact location)

	Not Good	Good
Streambanks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No overhanging graminoids (grasses, sedges) • Sheared • Trampled • Raw banks (except where a meander is forming naturally) • High; creek/stream/wetland incised • Sloughing • Eroding • Headcuts • Hummocking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overhanging graminoids • Bank overhung (e.g., when your shin contacts bank before your toe contacts bank) • Heavily vegetated; bare soil is minimum
Stream/creek	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incised; isolated from floodplain • Wide and shallow • Exposed to sun; not shaded • Stringy algae • Sediment covering gravel • Straight; lacking meanders • Unnaturally turbid • Woody debris largely lacking • Beaver dams breached by humans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connected to floodplain • Narrow • Shaded by vegetation • Gravel streambed • Meanders • Pools and riffles • Woody debris • Beaver dams, with aspen, cottonwood, and/or willow present for food and materials • Diverse macroinvertebrates under stream rocks
Riparian area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upland vegetation encroaching • “Riparian” area isolated from water by high banks • Significant bare soil • Kentucky bluegrass-dominated (shallow soils) • Cottonwood, willow and/or aspen lacking recruitment of sprouts above 6’ • Dominated by exotic, invasive species • “Hummocked” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Tangled bank” diverse graminoids, forbs, shrubs, and trees • Cottonwood, willow, and/or aspen of multiple heights and ages • Minimal bare soil • Wide riparian area, as allowed by topography • Closely connected vertically to water • Dominated by deep-rooted native vegetation
Upland areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant proportion of bare soil (unless natural) • Leaders of cottonwood, aspen, willow, and/or other key native woody species heavily browsed • Pedestaled plants • Dominance by exotic invasive plants (e.g., cheatgrass, bulbous bluegrass) or exotic pasture plants (e.g., smooth brome, crested wheatgrass) • “Lollipop” browsing of woody trees/shrubs • Gullies, rills, erosion of soil downslope 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diverse native species of diverse height/age structure • Bare soil limited to natural/reference amount.

1. Make a brief note for EVERY PHOTO
2. Link photos to GPS whenever possible
3. If taking close-ups of damage, also take accompanying wider shots to document widespread damage
4. Label your photos each evening
5. Photograph representative areas, not rare bad “spots”
6. Photograph healthy areas where inaccessible to/not used by livestock/artificial numbers of wild ungulates