

**Table 1.15 Riparian Vegetation Residue Allowances**

SEASON OF USE	IF EXISTING RANGELAND CONDITION IS:	
	SATISFACTORY	UNSATISFACTORY
Spring/Summer Use Pasture <sup>a</sup>		
Tall Carex Species	4 inches	6 inches
Kentucky Bluegrass	1-2 inches	2-3 inches
Fall/Winter Use Pasture <sup>b</sup>		
Tall Carex Species	4 inches	6 inches
Kentucky Bluegrass	1-2 inches	2-3 inches

<sup>a</sup> Spring/summer use: stubble height is present on all streamside areas at the end of the growing season.

<sup>b</sup> Fall/winter use: stubble height is present on all streamside areas at the end of the grazing season.

91. (GL) Apply the following mitigation measures to both occupied and unoccupied riparian habitat. *The Biological Evaluation for Sensitive Species in Riparian Grazed by Domestic Livestock* (USDA FS, Rocky Mountain Region, 1995) is the reference for the development and application of these measures.

- a. Avoid season-long grazing in riparian pastures.
- b. Implement short-duration spring grazing where possible to provide greater opportunity for regrowth and to avoid utilization of willows.
- c. Implement total rest where possible in riparian pastures with deteriorated range where conditions are not likely to improve with livestock grazing.
- d. Remove livestock from a grazing unit when the average stubble height on Carex (sedge) species reaches 3 to 4 inches in spring use pastures and 4 to 6 inches in summer and fall pastures.
- e. Remove livestock from a grazing unit when streambank disturbance (trampling, exposed soils, etc.) from the current year's livestock grazing reaches 20 to 25 percent of the key area stream reach.
- f. Limit utilization of woody plants to 15 to 20 percent of current annual growth.
- g. Control the length of the grazing period in spring-use riparian pastures to minimize utilization of regrowth. This is normally 20 to 30 days.
- h. Limit utilization of herbaceous species to 40 to 45 percent of weight.

## Wildlife

92. **(GL)** Selected management indicator communities for animals and plants will include: existing and developing old-growth forests; interior forests; young to mature forest structural stages; openings within and adjacent to forests; aspen forests; montane and prairie riparian areas and wetlands; montane and prairie aquatic environments; short-grass prairie; mid-grass prairie; and prairie dog towns. In addition, caves and mines on the Forests and prairie woodlands on the Grassland are identified as specialized habitat types.
93. **(GL)** Management Indicator Species. Providing for viability of native and desired non-native vertebrate animal populations is a management tenet that transcends management area and functional activity boundaries. To aid this goal, management indicator species have been identified to represent communities on the Forests and Grassland. Monitoring of these species will be done throughout the life of the *Plan*. For monitoring requirements see the *Forest Plan* Chapter 4 and Appendix G.

Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests Management Indicator Communities and Indicator Species. (See *Forest Plan* Appendix G, Section One for detailed information on these species.):

Existing and Potential Old Growth Forest:

Pygmy nuthatch

Interior Forest:

Golden-crowned kinglet

Young to Mature Forest Structural Stages:

Elk

Mule deer

Hairy woodpecker

Openings Within/Adjacent to Forest:

Elk

Mule deer

Bighorn sheep

Mountain bluebird

Aspen Forest:

Warbling vireo

Montane Riparian Areas and Wetlands:

Wilson's warbler

Boreal toad

Montane Aquatic Environments:

Greenback cutthroat trout

Colorado River cutthroat trout

Brook Trout

Brown Trout

Pawnee National Grassland Management Indicator Communities and Species:

Shortgrass Prairie:

Ferruginous hawk

Mountain plover

Midgrass Prairie:

Ferruginous hawk

Lark bunting

Prairie Dog Towns:

Prairie dog

Western burrowing owl

Prairie Aquatic Environments:

Plains topminnow

Plains killifish

Pawnee National Grassland Special Habitat Community and Indicator Species:

Prairie Woodlands:

Mule deer

*Terrestrial*

94. **(GO)** Maintain or improve habitat capability for terrestrial wildlife.

95. **(GO)** Retain the integrity of effective habitat areas.
96. **(ST)** Restrict seasonal use of travelways (under Forest Service jurisdiction) to reduce disturbance in sensitive big game areas such as birthing areas and winter ranges. This does not imply that all birthing areas and winter ranges are considered equally important, and not all will be considered "susceptible."
97. **(ST)** Structures, such as fences, roads, and canals, will be designed and built so that they do not create unreasonable or unnecessary movement barriers or hazards for wildlife.
98. **(ST)** Do not compromise wildlife habitat values when developing watchable wildlife opportunities for the public.
99. **(ST)** In riparian areas, cover that provides wildlife travel corridors will be maintained along the entire length of riparian zones on at least one side of the drainage. New corridor interruptions affecting both sides of the drainage will be of minimum width needed and no more than 60 feet.
100. **(ST)** Manage human disturbance at caves and abandoned mines where bat populations exist. When closing mines or caves for safety or protection reasons, reduce disturbance to residing bat populations and provide bat access.
101. **(ST)** Protect known raptor nest areas. Base the extent of protection on proposed management activities, human activities existing before nest establishment, species, topography, vegetative cover, and other factors. A no-disturbance buffer around active nest sites will be required from nest-site selection to fledgling (generally March through July). Exceptions may occur when individuals are adapted to human activity.
102. **(ST)** Restrict new developments, including new facilities, roads and trails, and concentrations of humans, within a one-mile sight distance of bighorn sheep lambing and mountain goat kidding areas if they would adversely impact lambing or kidding. Restrictions on activities are usually required from May 1 to July 15.
103. **(GL)** Maintain the function of key or unique habitats such as primary feeding areas, winter ranges, riparian habitat, breeding areas, birthing areas, rearing areas, migration corridors, animal concentration areas, wooded draws, and riparian areas. Human disturbance should be minimized during periods critical for wildlife.
104. **(GL)** In riparian areas where cover that would provide wildlife travel corridors does not presently exist due to past human activities, such areas should be managed to provide corridors in the future along the entire length of riparian zones, on at least one side of the drainage. Corridor interruptions affecting both sides of the drainage should be of minimum width needed and no more than 60 feet in length. Interruptions affecting one side of a drainage should be no greater than 300 feet (parallel to the drainage).