Montana Rangelands Getting to Know the Pieces

Agriculture in Montana Schools

United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
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Find the picture that matches each sentence:

1. Ranchers improve plant growth on rangelands by rotating cattle through a series of pastures.
2. Guardian dogs, also known as working dogs, protect livestock from predators.
3. Sheep will graze on forbs, including weeds, which makes room for more native plants.
4. Goat nannies can have up to four young at a time, called kids.
5. Ranchers depend on rangelands to provide grass forages for their cattle herds.
6. Sheep are often found with a herder; someone who stays with the flock at all times and moves them to their grazing grounds.
7. Controlled burns are used as a tool to improve plant production on rangeland.
8. Alternative energy sources provide water for livestock and wildlife in remote areas.
9. Native rangeland that is mostly grasses and shrubs along with grazeable woodlands make up 70% of Montana's landscape.
10. Healthy riparian areas have a lush growth of vegetation.
11. The first stewards of the range were Native Americans.
12. Montana rangelands provide recreational opportunities.
13. Rangeland definition: Land that produces grass forbs and shrubs that can be eaten by grazing animals.
14. Invasive species, such as spotted knapweed and leafy spurge, crowd out native rangeland plants.
15. Bluebunch wheatgrass, the Montana state grass, is a perennial bunchgrass that is preferred by most grazing species.
16. Sagebrush provides habitat for all species that share the range.
17. Bitterroot, the Montana state flower, is a rangeland forb and the root was part of the Native American diet.
18. Ponderosa pine, the Montana state tree, is a species found in the grazeable forests.
19. Wildflowers, considered a forb, add beauty to Montana rangeland.
20. Sage grouse will make their nests under sagebrush or grass stands and feed on sagebrush, insects, and other plants.
21. Species of bees like this one, Bombus huntii, pollinate rangeland plants for reproduction.
22. Meadowlarks, the Montana state bird, spend their summers and raise their fledglings on rangelands.
23. Pronghorn antelope can sprint up to 60 miles per hour and live in herds on rangeland.
24. Elk can be found in grazeable forests at higher elevations.
25. Wildlife browse on shrubs during the winter months.
26. Fences, like this jackleg style fence, are used to keep livestock in specific areas and distribute grazing.