

2018 Kansas Envirothon – Oral Presentation

Team Presentation Information

1. Oral Presentation is required for all teams competing in the Kansas Envirothon competition. 100 points are possible for a ten-minute presentation.
2. Oral Presentation topic: Rangeland Management: Balancing A Diverse Ecosystem
3. Presentation notes may only be printed on 3x5 index cards.
4. Visual aids and notes can be used in the presentation. (Visuals can only consist of poster board. Cannot include pictures, charts, and other graphics printed directly from any resource materials.)
5. If there are any violations on the above no. 3 and no. 4 rules, the team's total score in oral presentation will be reduced to the lowest placement in the room assigned. If there are more than one team in each room that violates no. 3 and no. 4, then they drop one placement for each violation below the scores of all qualified presentations in that room.
6. Presentations are a part of the testing rounds. Rooms within the State Envirothon complex will be used for the oral presentation round. You will be given your room no. at registration.
7. A time-keeper will use a stopwatch to keep track of presentation times. Teams will be alerted of the time that has passed via the following visual signals:
 - Green card warning at 9 minutes
 - Yellow card at 10 minutes
 - Red card and cut off at 11 minutes
8. Each team will then be allotted 3 minutes to respond to judges' questions. Judges will be allotted up to 5 minutes to finish tabulating their scores before the next team enters the presentation room. The new team will have one minute to compose themselves before beginning their presentation.
9. A portion of each team's presentation score will be based on equal participation of **ALL TEAM MEMBERS**. Each team member is expected to take an active role in the oral presentation.
10. If team captain allows, advisor(s) can be present during their presentation. Team advisors cannot video tape, take photos, record presentation or bring any type of electronic device into the presentation room.
11. Scoring will be based on the enclosed *Team Presentation Scoring and Judging Criteria* form.
12. Teams will receive the judges scoring sheets.

13. After the teams oral presentation round is completed, the visual aids and notes will be collected by the timekeeper and returned to the team at the end of competition day.

2018 Oral Presentation Scenario Rangeland Management: Balancing A Diverse Ecosystem

Of the Earth's total land surface, 47% is rangeland. In the U.S., 36% of the land area (nearly 1 billion acres) is rangeland. A total of 53% of the 19 states west of the Mississippi is rangeland and according to the Kansas Grazing Land Coalition Prairie Primer, the state of Kansas encompasses about 15.8 million rangeland acres. Rangelands are non-cultivated land and may have scattered trees, such as cedars and locust, but they do not include dense forests. Rangelands provide essential habitat for livestock and wildlife. Their rich ecological diversity provides food, cover and rearing-ground necessary for healthy fish, birds, wildlife, and livestock.

Robert Gaines grew up on 5,000 Kansas rangeland acres northeast of Wichita near Towanda. In college he met his wife, Sarah, and after graduation he took a position with a computer company in North Carolina where his wife's family is located. With Robert's busy schedule he seldom returned to the family's ranch in Kansas.

He does recall in his childhood hunting the Greater prairie chicken and fishing on the vast acreage. Walnut Creek flows through a portion of the property and the riparian areas were vegetated with forbs, trees, and shrubs. The seven springs provided adequate water for the 1,250 head of livestock that grazed the acreage. When Robert's dad, Joe, passed away last fall at the age of 85, Robert as the only child inherited his father's estate. After being contacted by several realtors in the area to sell a portion of the property for development, he decided not to take the offers since his dad's wishes were to retain the property in native rangeland.

Robert who is now retired decided to return to Kansas to manage the ranch. He found housing developments on the south side of the property. As his father aged and was unable to manage the rangeland, invasive species, (specifically eastern red cedar and seresia lespedeza), and noxious weeds began to encroach, the creek did not flow like it once did and several springs had dried up. His dad had leased the rangeland to an adjoining neighbor and because of overgrazing there was the depleted presence of the tallgrass species. Cattle trails lead directly to the creek and the riparian vegetation is depleted. Robert now has to make some important decisions to make as to how he can restore this rangeland.

Robert's objectives are:

- (1) To restore the native rangeland to the desirable grazing capacity.
- (2) To control invasive species and noxious weeds.
- (3) To restore adequate water supplies thus improving water quality.
- (4) To provide adequate habitat for wildlife and livestock.
- (5) To provide a sustainable cash flow.
- (6) To be a land steward and leave the rangeland in better condition than he found it for the next generation.

Your assignment is to provide Robert with the information, resources and tools necessary to meet his objectives.

You are to provide a plan that:

Identifies and inventories the resources concerns on this ranch and the uses (social, economic and ecological values).

Identifies technical and financial assistance available to assist in the management of the ranch.

Identifies Best Management Practices and describe the benefits they provide to support livestock production, pest management, fire management, and wildlife habitat maintenance.

Identifies how the use of rangeland by humans, domestic livestock, and wildlife affects the plant community.

Identifies ways to protect water quality and restore water quantity.

Describes how grazing is used as an effective management tool to control noxious weeds, reduce catastrophic wildfires and improve wildlife habitat.

Describe the impact on the public if fire is used as a rangeland management tool.

In the next 10 minutes as a team, present your plan to Robert.

Resources:

Kansas Grazing Land Coalition Website: <http://www.kglc.org/>

K-State Research and Extension: <https://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/forage.html>

KS Smoke Management Plan website: <http://www.ksfire.org/>

2018 Oral Presentation Score Sheet

Team No. _____

Judge No. _____

10 – Outstanding	5 – Outstanding
8 – Excellent	4 – Excellent
6 – Good	3 – Good
4 – Fair	2 – Fair
2 – Poor	1 – Poor

Collecting and Interpreting Data

CIRCLE ONE

- A. Team identified all the players/interest groups affected by the problem. 10 8 6 4 2
- B. Team identified major natural resource areas impacted by the problem. 10 8 6 4 2
- C. References were cited in the team presentation (number and quality of references should be considered). 10 8 6 4 2

(30 points maximum) **Subtotal** _____

Application of Data

- A. Team demonstrated a solid understand of:
- Environmental/ecological issues related to the problem. 5 4 3 2 1
 - Economic issues related to the problem, including the cost and benefits of the proposed plan. (Cost of implementing the plan, economic impacts on local resources, cost of doing nothing, future costs, funding sources, etc.) 5 4 3 2 1
 - Social and/or cultural issues related to the situation. (Private property rights, traditions, clean and healthy environment, urban issues, cultural differences.) 5 4 3 2 1
 - Political issues related to the problem. (Mandates, regulations, impact on political system/community.) 5 4 3 2 1
- B. Team presented one unified, viable solution to the problem addressing the resource issue. 10 8 6 4 2
- C. Main points were clearly stated and supported. (Conclusions were clearly defined and convincing.) 10 8 6 4 2

(40 points maximum) **Subtotal** _____

Quality

CIRCLE ONE

- A. Presentation was well organized with a clear introduction and strong conclusion. 5 4 3 2 1
- B. Participants exhibited professionalism and enhanced the presentation with eye contact, gestures, voice inflection, originality, etc. 5 4 3 2 1
- C. Visual aids were used to make major points and show conclusions. (Visual aids should be correct, eye appealing, readable and neat.) 5 4 3 2 1
- D. Judges' questions were answered logically and concisely. 10 8 6 4 2

(25 points maximum) **Subtotal** _____

Required Element

- Add up to 5 points for equal participation for all team members in presentation. 5 4 3 2 1

(5 points maximum) **Subtotal** _____

FINAL SCORE

Total points for collecting and interpreting data (30 max.) _____

Total points for application of data (40 max.) _____

Total points for quality (25 max.) _____

Total points for required element (5 max.) _____

Total Points _____

Presentation time: _____ minutes, _____ seconds

Deduct 1 point if presentation was less than 9 minutes or more than 11 minutes

FINAL SCORE (out of 100 possible) _____

Judging Note Taking Help Sheet for Parts 1-3: Collecting and Interpreting Data and Application of Data

Scoring Description:

- 2: Major misconceptions or gaps; ineffective, inadequate, inappropriate
- 4: Some misconceptions and flaws, minimally effective, somewhat appropriate
- 6: Complete and accurate; effective, adequate, and appropriate
- 8: Complete, very detailed, logical, ideas well supported and well organized; highly effective, all details appropriate.
- 10: Profound, in depth, done in an insightful manner; extremely organized, points to a most effective strategy.

References were cited in the team presentation (number and quality of references should be considered).

10 8 6 4 2

- 2: 1-2 sources
- 4: Several with gaps
- 6: 4-5 appropriate sources
- 8: Adequate, different pts of view
- 10: In Depth, all supported

Quality:

Participants exhibited professionalism and enhanced the presentation with eye contact, gestures, voice inflection, originality, etc.

5 4 3 2 1

- 1: Majority show limited skills
- 2: Several have limited skills
- 3: All do an adequate job
- 4: All show effective skills
- 5: Extremely effective, variety of ways: creative

Visual aids were used to make major points and show conclusions. (Visual aids should be correct, eye appealing, readable and neat.)

5 4 3 2 1

- 1: Major flaws
- 2: Minor flaws
- 3: Correct, adequate, convey major point
- 4: All mentioned before an eye-catching
- 5: Creative, very effective, greatly enhance presentation

Political: regulations, mandates, impact on political systems/community, etc.

Economic: costs and benefits, cost of implementation, economic impact on local resources, cost of doing nothing, future costs, hidden costs, funding source (s), etc.

Social & Cultural: ability to meet basic needs, private property rights, traditions, clean and healthy environment, right to farm, urban issues, cultural issues, environmental justice.