

4: Teach others to be wise water users and good stewards of our natural resources. It takes an average of 500 years to rebuild 1" of soil so the things we do will have a long lasting effect. Be a good steward of the land under your care so you can pass it on to the next generation in better shape that was passed on to you.

Watershed Management Consequences

by Dr. Jake landers

Rain on hills in ages past

Made the soil and grew the grass

That fed the deer and buffalo

Now cattle, sheep and goats, you know.

When the grass was over used

Rocks appeared and soil diffused

Into the river silt and sand

The Pecos and the Rio Grande,

And moved toward the end, you know,

To fill the Gulf of Mexico.

Now if you have excessive stock

And graze the hillsides down to rock

The soil your heirs should get, you know

Is in the Gulf of Mexico.

And your eternal price to pay

May rest upon that judgement day

When God commands: "You lay the track,

Return the soil upon your back".

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