

**BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION**  
**FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**

**DEPARTMENT: NATURAL RESOURCES**

**PROGRAMME: Natural resources Management**

**COURSE CODE: NR222: Natural Resources Management**

**DURATION: 2 HOURS**

**TOTAL MARKS: 70**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

OCT 2024

Answer **THREE** questions out of the following five questions. You must answer question **One** from **SECTION A** and any **Two** questions from **SECTION B**.

**SECTION A (COMPULSORY) [30 Marks]**

1.(a) What do you understand by the term “Soil degradation”? [2 Marks]

(b) Write down **Two** (2) major threats to sustainable natural resources management in Zimbabwe. [2 Marks]

(c) Clarify how population pressure triggers land degradation. [2 Marks]

(d) Enlighten how acidification contributes towards soil degradation. [2 Marks]

(e) (i) What do you understand by the term “Soil erosion”? [2 Marks]

(ii) Write down the formula for the Universal Soil Loss Equation (USLE). [2 Marks]

(iii) Differentiate between “Erosivity” and “Erodibility” as key factors that contribute towards soil loss in the USLE estimation above. [2 Marks]

(f) (i) Which of these factors does not lead to forest degradation?

- A Fire damage
- B Deforestation
- C Agroforestry
- D All of the above
- E. None of the above

[1 Mark]

(ii) The major disadvantage of Community based natural resources management is that the approach is:

- A Exclusivity
- B selectivity
- C Inclusivity
- D All of the above
- E None of the above

[1 Mark]

(iii) Choose the correct answer. An appropriate technique developed for estimating soil erosion in Zimbabwean croplands is called:

- A Land use management plan
- B Participatory rural appraisal
- C Universal soil loss equation
- D Soil loss estimation model for southern Africa
- E None of the above

[1 Mark]

(iv) Choose the correct Answer. In the USDA land capability classification structure,

- A Class I is a highly suitable class
- B Class II is moderately suitable
- C Class III marginally arable
- D Class IV is unsuitable
- E Class V a water body

[1 Mark]

(v) What name do you give to international arrangements by different nations to protect natural resources and the environment? Choose the best answer.

- A Statement
- B Ruling
- C Convention
- D Consent
- E Communique

[1 Mark]

(g) Briefly describe the main arguments against conventional planning or management approaches in natural resource management in rural areas of Zimbabwe.

[3 Marks]

(h) Show how bush encroachment contributes towards land degradation in Zimbabwe.

[4 Marks]

(i) Suggest ways by which invasive alien plant species can be managed in Zimbabwean natural forests.

[4 Marks]

**SECTION B [40 marks]**

2. (a) Briefly explain what you understand by the term “Pressure - State - Response Model” as used in natural resources management. [4 Marks]
- (b) Demonstrate how this model is applied in conventional planning, implementation and management of natural resources programs in Zimbabwe. [6 Marks]
- (c) What are the merits and demerits of the conventional approaches in natural resources management? [10Marks]
3. (a) What do you understand by the term “Desertification”? [4 Marks]
- (b) Briefly explain the negative impacts of artisanal mining on natural resources in rural areas and suggest ways by which they can be reduced. [6 Marks]
- (c) Describe **Five** (5) common anthropogenic activities that trigger desertification and suggest ways by which they can be managed. [10Marks]
4. (a) Outline the structure of the SLEMSA soil estimation model as a tool for assessing soil erosion in crop land in Zimbabwe. [4 Marks]
- (b) Briefly mention the circumstances under which the SLEMSA model was developed. [6 marks]
- (c) What are the strengths and weaknesses of the SLEMSA model as a tool for natural resources management? [10Marks]
5. Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of land capability  
OR  
land suitability evaluation systems as strategies for inventory and assessment of natural resources for management in Zimbabwe. [20Marks]

**END OF PAPER**