

December 2002

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Images

Bob Budd, SRM First Vice President

I've only recently come to realize that I've been a range manager in training all my life. I think it started with frogs, but it could have been fish. Probably, it was fishing gone bad that led to frog hunting. As a range manager in training, you learn quickly that things can change fast, and they can stay the same for a very long time. What hooked me, and continues to keep me intrigued, is the sheer immensity of rangelands ecosystems. I could chase horned toads over sandstone ledges, then sit in place and watch cutthroat trout spawn, but it was all so clearly connected, so obviously tied together. No land type on earth is so widespread, so similar, and so common to peoples of different cultures. Could it be that the common currency of continents is something as simple as sagebrush and grass?

I live in one of the most incredible rangeland settings in the world, a place called Wyoming. My world includes frogs and fish, antelope and elk, moose and mustelids, birds that sing, birds that swim, and birds that strut. It is a world mostly defined by lack of settlement, a big open that was regarded as "wasteland" by settlers bent on reaching Oregon in the middle 1800s, recently regarded as "nothing" by tourists bent on reaching geysers and waterfalls and mountains today.

But this country is impressive. Geologists flock here to understand process at a scale in which humans are pretty much an asterisk. Those who once complained about the cold and lonely country now strive to own their piece of this landscape, and activists who once focused on waterfalls and mountains have found out that rangelands may be one of the greatest biological treasures on earth. Just as geologists marvel at long-term mysteries here, ecologists are awed by the immensity and complexity of these ecosystems.

Recent articles by John Malechek, Susan Edinger-Marshall and Marty Vavra have explored the current image of the rangeland science profession. As they point out, the issue is not one of a poor image. Rather, there is a total lack of connection people have to the word "range" or even "rangelands." That lack of resonance, coupled with a fascination with the word "ecology" contributes not to disdain, but pure and simple confusion. The one apparent connection the casual observer makes is that rangeland management has something (or, some would insist, everything) to do with cows.

Is this an oddity? Perhaps not. Most rangeland ecology programs are housed in colleges of agriculture, historically more closely associated with wool labs and artificial rumens than botanists and biologists. Despite the fact that rangeland programs have nearly always included fire ecology, riparian ecology, wildlife habitat ecology, and grassland ecology, there seems to be an unshakable sense that it is all about cows, or for that matter, grazing.

(Continued on page 2).

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(Continued from page 1).

At one time, there was truth to the image. Early on, the profession evolved to deal with grazing issues, at a time when production of food, fiber, and economy were paramount in the minds of people worldwide. The Society for Range Management emerged to deal with issues related to management of the land base, and the immensity of entire systems. Early literature focused on management of land, and sustained production was viewed as the key to success. And, that remains a focus, in part, of the rangeland profession.

Right now, the largest and most active committees in SRM deal with wildlife habitat, riparian, wetland, and watershed issues, coordinated resource management, remote sensing and GIS, and student activities. The majority of rangeland program graduate students do not come out with advanced degrees in grazing management – more focus on sociology than cow science (unless you consider the emerging field of animal behavior as cow science). A huge number in the profession (possibly a majority) are smart, dedicated women, and a whole bunch of men and women alike never set foot on rangeland soil until they entered college. Their primary interests lie in fascinating fields new to all of us—below-ground process, energy dynamics, landscape-scale ecology, huge systematic analysis, and restoration ecology. They find a home in rangeland ecosystem science programs because there is excitement and knowledge there, and always a sense of wonder at the immensity of rangelands.

For those who choose to continue in the spirit of great ecologists who founded not only the society, but the profession, it is time to return to those very roots of sound ecological principles, a holistic view inclusive of ecological process, soils, vegetation, habitats, and all that makes up rangeland ecosystems, including management of land and factors that affect its condition. The 2003 meeting of the society will feature symposia and technical sessions ranging from neotropical songbirds to carbon sequestration, from fire ecology to non-ungulate herbivores, from historic range of variability to the ecology of shortgrass prairie ecosystems. And yes, there will be discussions of grazing management because that is a predominant use of rangeland ecosystems in many parts of the world.

The future of this society and the profession is as bright or brighter than it has ever been, provided those of us in the profession can set aside attachments built over many years. Just as those who signed on as members at the beginning are passionate about SRM, so too are the young people now stepping up to the bar, and raising it for all of us. To those who remember early days, and frustrations of getting people to share a pas-

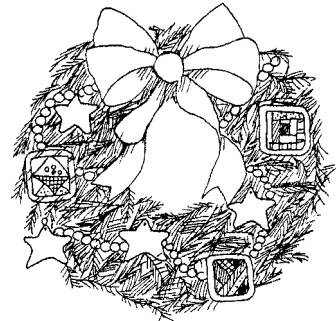
sion for rangelands, it may be incongruous and maddening to see the whole world suddenly aware of this precious natural resource, yet seemingly unable to call it by name. Even the spell-checker on this computer recognizes the word “grasslands,” but underlines the word “rangelands.” Whether you choose to call these lands grasslands, shrublands, rangelands, or prairie, it is the passion for these lands that is noteworthy. To those who envisioned a world that cared about rangelands, that time has arrived.

Lost Resources

Wayne Harris from Swift Current, Saskatchewan passed away on October 7, 2002 in a farming accident at home.

S. Clark Martin, 86, passed away October 28, 2002 in Houston, TX. Read the February *Rangelands* for Mr. Martin's obituary.

If you have SRM member news you would like to share in the next edition of the Trail Boss News, please mail it to Maura Laverty, c/o SRM, P.O. Box 652, Council, ID 83612 or e-mail mlaverty@fs.fed.us



Technical Service Provider Summit Nov. 7, 2000 “Expanding the Capabilities of Conservation Service on Private Lands”

Please visit the website, download the Interim Rule, and view the web cast if you are interested in the Technical Service Provider program of USDA coming out of the recent 2002 Farm Bill.

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/news/index.html>

Please direct any questions (and submit comments for forwarding from SRM) to Leonard Jolley at:

ljolley@rangelands.org

Thanks!



Opportunity for Outreach

A recent e-mail from a high school agricultural science teacher reminded us that there are opportunities to expand our audience.

This teacher wrote "We offer a Range Management class in coherent sequences and it is hard for me to keep students interested with our antiquated curriculum. I would like a subscription to *Rangelands* so we can have class discussion on current issues in rangelands management."

It goes without saying that we are making a subscription to *Rangelands* available to this school. This is a golden opportunity to expand our knowledge to the high school youth as a complement to the current High School Youth forum program.

As many readers know, the Society and many of the Sections made a concerted effort to get *Rangelands* subscriptions into high schools several years ago. At that time the effort was not successful.

Maybe the time is right to renew some of these efforts to reach the high school youth. If any member or SRM Section is interested in assisting a high school in obtaining a subscription to *Rangelands*, please contact the Lakewood SRM office. Depending upon the situation, a reduced subscription rate may be available.

If you have any questions please contact one of the *Rangelands*' editors.

SRM's Public Affair Manager Would Like to Hear From You!

In our efforts to better publicize SRM members' activities, the PAM wants to know when you or other SRM members are interviewed and/or quoted in a news story. Whether for a local paper or radio station, a national news program, a wire service, or an international magazine, SRM wants to hear about it.

Send clippings, a short email, or links to the story to ljolley@rangelands.org. We'll compile the information and create a new web page highlighting SRM member activities covered by the media.

Student Winner of SRM Plant Identification Contest

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) hosted the winner of the 2002 Society for Range Management Plant Identification Contest, held in Kansas City, MO. Abid Moo Cruz placed first of 85 participants to win the Plant Identification contest at the 2002 Annual Society for Range Management meeting.



Juan Martinez Reyna, BLM Director Kathleen Clarke and Abid Moo Cruz

Abid is a student at Antonio Narro University, in Saltillo, Mexico. After graduating in 2003 with a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science/Agronomy, he will pursue a Masters degree in wildlife management. His plans for the future include returning to his home region in southern Mexico to improve wildlife habitat.

Each year, the BLM hosts the winner of the Plant Identification contest for a week in Washington, D.C., providing opportunities for learning more about the history of the Bureau, policy making, and issues that the BLM faces as an agency with a "multiple use" mission for managing the public lands.

During his stay in Washington, Abid met with BLM Director Kathleen Clarke and members of her staff. He also visited the Natural Resources Conservation Service and Forest Service. Abid was accompanied by his professor, Juan Martinez Reyna.

Deadline for the January Trail Boss News

Remember to get your position announcements, columns, section announcements, agency information, etc. in by the 15th of December for the January issue of the *Trail Boss News*.



EPA Celebrates 30th Anniversary of Clean Water Act

October 18, 2002

Provided by Roger Dean

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Christie Whitman lead the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Clean Water Act. Among the accomplishments under the Clean Water Act:

- The federal government has provided more than \$80 billion in wastewater treatment assistance to the states and localities. Today more than 97 percent (201 million people) are served by secondary or better treatment. These important advances in wastewater treatment constitute one of the major achievements in modern American public health.
- The Clean Water Act permit program has resulted in the reduction of 700 billions of pounds of pollutants no longer discharged into waterways. The nation is close to achieving its goal of halting overall wetlands loss. In the past decade, the United States has preserved, restored and/or created hundreds of thousands of acres of habitat nationwide as part of the National Estuary Program. The nation is using the 30th anniversary as an opportunity to recommit to making all waters fishable and swimmable.

The History and the Future of Clean Water Act Section 319, the Nonpoint Source Control Program

The Nonpoint Program was first funded by Congress in 1990 at the \$37 Million level to do planning and implementation of controls on nonpoint sources. The funding level has grown to the current \$238 Million per year, for a total funding level, 1990 to 2002, of \$1.55 Billion of Federal funds. There is a 40% state/local/private match requirement, so the total of federal, state, and local funds to date is \$2.58+ Billion. The funds are distributed directly to the states based on a national allocation formula. The priority for use of these funds has been increasingly focused on control of nonpoint sources on streams that have water quality/beneficial use violations due to nonpoint sources, and to voluntarily implement the nonpoint component of Total Maximum Daily Load determinations. There are several unique features to the 319 program: 319 can be used for practices not funded by USDA (if authorized by the respective state 319 program management agency); and they can also be used to implement practices on federal lands (but other federal agency funds cannot be used for the

match unless specifically authorized by Congress).

Due to the large increase in the level of EQIP funding authorized by the 2002 Farm Bill, consideration is being given by the states to providing additional support to USDA at the state and local level through providing the water quality assessments, watershed planning assistance/watershed coordinators, and technical assistance for implementing practices to help fill the anticipated additional EQIP needs in those areas.

Another feature of the 319 program, is that there is a national data base for the program, called the Grants Reporting and Tracking (GRTS) data base, whereby anyone can request information on projects across the nation by contacting the NPS Program Coordinator in each EPA Regional Office. A key word search by the EPA GRTS Coordinator can be done for information such as Information and Education Materials produced, Demonstration Project results, and determining which Watershed Projects are implementing specific best management practices.

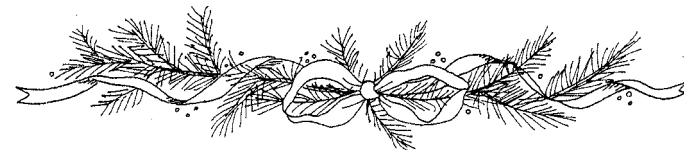
Grazing Management is Theme for New Children's Book

A new book, titled *Amazing Grazing*, has been published to help school children and the general public learn more about the positive aspects of grazing management.

The book spotlights three Montana ranchers—Bob Lee, Ray Marxer and Tom Milesnick— all of whom have been recognized by the beef industry for their devotion to environmental stewardship. The book includes colorful pictures of cattle grazing on these producers' ranches and easy to understand text that explains their grazing management practices throughout the year.

The Montana Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI) Committee has developed lesson plans about grazing management to compliment the book. The Montana GLCI has purchased over 100 books and are providing them along with the lesson plans to teachers at 124 schools in Montana for use in their curriculums.

The book sells for \$16.95. To order your copy visit the book publishers web site www.boydsmillspress.com. The Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI) is a national effort aimed to provide technical grazing assistance to private landowners.





Notice of 2003 SRM Board Meeting

The SRM Board of Directors will meet Friday, 1/31 8am–5pm; Monday, 2/4 1–5pm; and Friday, 2/7 8am–12pm. All meetings will be at the Parkway Plaza, Champagne Room, Casper, WY.

North Dakota Producer will Represent SRM on National GLCI Steering Committee

Sheldon, ND, producer Keith Bartholomay has been named to the National Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI) steering committee. He will represent SRM and fills the position formerly held by Montanan Pete Jackson.

GLCI is a national effort aimed to provide voluntary, technical grazing assistance to private landowners. Nine member organizations support GLCI including the American Farm Bureau Federation, American Forage and Grassland Council, American Sheep Industry, Dairy Industry, National Association of Conservation Districts, National Cattlemen's Beef Association, National Farmers Union, Society for Range Management and the Soil and Water Conservation Society.

As a member of the national committee, Bartholomay says, he feels a bit overwhelmed at the prospect of filling Pete Jackson's shoes. Keith did have the opportunity to know Pete and also knew his son while attending Montana State University.

"My goals are to support the GLCI mission to garner more funding for technical assistance on private grazing lands." Bartholomay also says he believes assistance should be provided to landowners in a manner that is voluntary and grassroots driven.

Bartholomay, his wife Sandi, and their five children run a 250–300 head commercial cow-calf herd on their farm about 50 miles southwest of Fargo. He also farms with his brother Kent, and they raise wheat, barley, corn, soybeans and sunflowers. They utilize native range, seeded pasture and crop aftermath in a rotational grazing system. They background the calves they raise and feed some to finish with the crops they produce.

Bartholomay is a director with the North Dakota Stockmen's Association, and serves on the state Soil Conservation Committee. He was active in founding the North Dakota Private Grazing Land Coalition (NDPGLC) and is a past chairman of that group. Most recently, the NDPGLC has established a statewide mentoring program that makes experienced land managers available to provide guidance on grazing land management to other producers and natural resource agency personnel. For more information on this mentoring network contact, Todd Hage1, North Dakota GLCI

Coordinator by phone at 701-530-2004 or toddhage1@nd.usda.gov.

Bud Purdy of Picabo, Idaho is the other SRM producer representative on the GLCI steering committee.—compiled by *Kindra Gordon*, I&E Committee

EVP Report 2003 Get Ready!

I'm excited about all the plans we have for SRM next year. First, Casper looks like it's going to be nothing less than fantastic. I think that you'll have a hard time picking which competing sessions to attend. Be sure and get your registration in early, and remember that Casper is a week earlier than Kansas City was.

Rangelands will be celebrating its 25th year of production. We have an exciting year planned, with lots of special features and articles. Each of the year's six issues will contain special anniversary content.

We will also have a new person in the office. This is the long awaited BLM position. We look forward to working closer with BLM on the many technical aspects of the Society. We anticipate a March or April arrival date. There are lots of other plans, but I better save something for future columns. I wish each of you a happy holiday season and the best of holiday cheer.—*Sam Albrecht*

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Synergy recently upgraded our website - check it out and sign up for our new monthly newsletter "THE GRASS-COUNTER" at www.countgrass.com



Annual Meeting Silent Auction Endowment Fund Board of Governors

The Endowment Fund Board of Governors will again have their **Silent Auction** at the annual meeting in Casper. At the Kansas City meeting SRM members requested we continue the silent auction.



One of our Endowment Fund Committee members, Pete Jackson, who got a great deal of satisfaction from donating to, and working with the silent auction, will not be with us this year. Pete, you will sorely be missed, not only by members of the Endowment Board, but by all SRM members who crossed your path. The Endowment Board of Governors dedicate this year's silent auction to the memory of Pete Jackson. Lets all strive to make this year's auction the best ever.

The Endowment Fund was established in 1980 to guarantee a strong, vital future for continuing the beliefs and ideals of the Society. Contributions are strongly encouraged with the commitment to help the fund grow. Your donations to the silent auctions help to keep these commitments ongoing.

We had a great time with the silent auction in Kansas City with over 200 items donated. When the dust settled and everyone had paid for their prizes your Endowment Fund was enriched by about \$11,000. When we added this to the raffle efforts a grand total of approximately \$18,000 went into the your Endowment Fund. What **great support** we had from both those who donated items and those who decorated their homes with their shopping spree. For those of us looking from the inside out it was great fun watching the strategy at work among the bidders, and the last minute hustle to get the last bid.

At the raffle held in Kansas City last year, Bill Hurst won the "Mountain Man" Remington Bronze. Bill has donated this bronze back to the Endowment Fund for the silent auction in Casper. The Board of Governors would like to thank Bill for this donation and for his continued support to the silent auction. **Bids on this Bronze** will be accepted until January 27th using the SRM's home page.

I would personally like to thank all the individuals and sections who have donated to the Silent Auction over the past years, and I encourage you to do so again this year. In 2001 we had a great variety of items which added to the success and perked everyone's interest.

If you have donations or questions about the silent auction, please contact any member of the Board of Governors, or contact me by e-mail or phone. Chuck McGlothlin 406-633-2455 or at crmccg@tgrsolution.net.

Again, thanks to all who have donated in the past and I hope to see all of you in Casper.



Bidding Procedures for the Bill Hurst Remington Bronze "The Mountain Man"

Bids on this Bronze will be accepted beginning Nov. 1st until January 27th using the SRM homepage at www.rangelands.org. **Submit all bids to the attention of Chuck McGlothlin at crmccg@tgrsolution.net. Progress on the bidding will be updated at least daily on the homepage. Bids will also be accepted at the silent auction at Casper.**

The starting bid on this Bronze is \$275.



The State of U.S. Grasslands and Shrublands

Written by Lori Hiding

On September 24, 2002, the H. John Heinz III Center for Science, Economics, and the Environment released its report on "The State of the Nation's Ecosystems: Measuring the Lands, Waters, and Living Resources of the United States" (available at

<http://www.heinzcenter.org/ecosystems/index.html>).

It is the first in a series of periodic reports on the condition and use of ecosystems in the U.S. The report was developed by experts from business, environmental organizations, academia, and federal, state, and local government agencies using a nonpartisan, consensus-based, collaborative process including extensive review and comment. It provides policymakers and the interested public with a succinct, comprehensive, scientifically credible view of "how we are doing," describing conditions of ecosystems without saying whether they are good or bad or recommending policies or actions.

Using indicators of system dimension, chemical and physical condition, biological condition, and human use, the report identifies major characteristics of ecosystems that should be tracked through time, not just those that have been measured, and where possible provides information on current and historic trends and highlights gaps where data do not exist or are not assembled to support reporting at the national level.

This ambitious effort identified a total of 103 indicators for six ecosystems plus a set of core national indicators: ecosystem extent (of the six ecosystem types); fragmentation and landscape patterns; movement of nitrogen, chemical contamination, at risk native species, condition of plant and animal communities, plant growth index, productivity of food and fiber and water withdrawal, outdoor recreation, and natural ecosystem services. It is divided into chapters on coasts and oceans, farmlands, forests, freshwater, grasslands and shrublands, and urban and suburban areas.

The chapter likely to be of particular interest to SRM members is the one on grasslands and shrublands, chaired by Duncan Patten, Montana State University, and written by a committee of experts including Hugh Barrett (BLM), Carl Brock (U Colorado), Jane Brock (U Colorado), Bob Budd (TNC), Len Carpenter (The Wildlife Management Institute), Leonard Jolley (NRCS), Bill Miller (Malpai Borderlands Project), John Mitchell (Forest Service), Timothy Seastedt (U Colorado), Gregg Simons (Ensign Group), Tom Stohlgren (USGS/CSU), and Steve Torbit (NWF). Grasslands and shrublands are defined as lands in which

the dominant vegetation is grasses and other non-woody vegetation or where shrubs and scattered trees are the norm and include prairies, sagebrush, scrublands, coastal grasslands, chaparral and savanna, deserts, shrublands, tundra, and non-cultivated pasture—in other words, rangelands.

Of the 14 indicators identified for grasslands and shrublands, partial or complete data is available for six indicators, four of which can show trends, and eight have no data reported at the national level, one of which needs further development as an indicator. The indicators are:

How much land is covered by grasslands and shrublands? There are 683 million acres of grasslands/shrublands in lower 48 states and approximately another 200 million acres in Alaska. A substantial amount has been converted to other uses, even in the last two decades.

How are grasslands and shrublands used? Data not available to report the acreage used for livestock grazing, oil, gas, and mineral development, rural residences, protected areas, and high intensity recreation.

What fraction of grasslands and shrublands is found in patches of various sizes? This indicator is a measure of landscape fragmentation and mixture of habitat types on grasslands and shrublands. Data are not adequate to report nationally on this indicator.

How much nitrate is there in groundwater in grasslands and shrublands? Increased nitrate can be a signal that plants are under stress or that the amount of nitrogen entering the system is increasing. Data are not adequate to report nationally on this indicator.

How much carbon is stored in grasslands and shrublands? This indicator provides a measure of soil organic matter. It is also of interest as increased carbon storage in ecosystem can offset CO₂ emissions. Data are not adequate to report nationally on this indicator.

How many streams have zero flow for at least one day a year? For these streams, are the periods of zero flow getting longer or shorter? Flowing water in streams and rivers is important for human and ecosystem needs. The percentage of streams experiencing periods of zero flow, as well as the number of streams and rivers with longer than average zero-flow periods, have appeared to have decreased.

What is the depth to shallow groundwater in various parts of the country? Shallow aquifers provide water for streamflow and lakes, as well as human and plant uses. The availability of shallow groundwater can be lowered by increased groundwater pumping and reduced percolation of water through soils due to development or soil compaction. Data are not adequate for national reporting on this indicator. How many grassland



and shrubland species are at different levels of risk of extinction? About 9% of 1,700 native grassland/shrubland animal species are considered “imperiled” or “critically imperiled.” About 17% of grassland and shrubland species are considered “at risk.” Information on population trends for these species is needed to enhance data interpretation.

What percentage of grassland and shrubland plant cover is not native to the region? The impacts of non-native species vary from being used to control erosion and fire and to feed livestock to those that spread aggressively, reducing habitat for native species. Data are not adequate for national reporting on this indicator.

Are invasive bird populations increasing more than non-invasive populations? Until recently, a similar proportion of invasive and native, non-invasive bird species were increasing. Then between 1996 and 2000, significantly more invasive species populations increased. This indicator will need to be tracked into the future to see if this disparity is a sign of changing ecosystem conditions, rather than a short-term fluctuation caused by other factors.

Are grassland and shrubland fires occurring more or less frequently than in presettlement times? Fire frequency is important in determining vegetation types in many grasslands and shrublands. Data are not adequate for national reporting on this indicator.

What is the condition of stream banks (riparian areas) in grassland and shrubland areas? Riparian areas provide habitat for many grassland and shrubland species. This indicator requires further development.

How many cattle are fed on grasslands and shrublands? The number of cattle on grasslands and shrublands declined from about 100 million to 93 million from 1994 to 2001.

How much recreational activity takes place on the nation’s grassland and shrublands? A variety of recreational activities, including hunting, fishing, and driving off-road vehicles, takes place on the nation’s grasslands and shrublands. Data are not adequate for national reporting on this indicator.

There has been much discussion of late regarding our inability to describe the conditions of U.S. rangelands and it is not surprising that the data for most of these indicators is not available at the national level. Efforts such as the Heinz report and the on-going Sustainable Rangelands Roundtable (see Tanaka November 2001 *TBN*) are important steps in developing a system for monitoring and assessing the rangelands of the U.S.

Share Your Success Stories

Has your department or university revitalized its range program or restructured its rangeland curriculum? Or, do you have a unique teaching program or educational strategy that you’ve found successful with your students? If so, we’d, like to hear about them and may spotlight you and your program in a future issue of *Rangelands*. Let’s help each other tell about the success stories in rangeland management. To share your ideas, contact Kindra Gordon at kindras@gordonresources.com.

The Wildlife Society Annual Meeting

Rod Heitschmidt, SRM President

It was my distinct pleasure to represent SRM at The Wildlife Society’s (TWS) annual meeting held September 24–28 in Bismark, ND. TWS kindly provided space to set up the SRM display which I manned for two days before NGP Section President, Mike MacNeil, and other NGP Section members manned it the final two days. In addition, I attended the opening night reception, plenary session, business meeting, awards ceremony and several concurrent technical sessions. As you can see, the format for TWS annual meeting is quite similar to SRM’s. Member registration was either \$195 (early) or \$240 (late).

The one item that impressed me the most about TWS was the over-whelming rangeland management component of the program. From a review of titles of talks and presentations, I found about 75% involved management of rangeland habitats. SRM and TWS have a lot in common and I came away from this meeting convinced that it imperative SRM and TWS strive to have an annual meeting together in the not too distant future. I will be exploring this possibility with the SRM BOD and TWS President, Robert Warren over then next couple of months. This is something we need to do and something I think we can do with the greatest challenge being when!

Anyway, it was a great honor to represent SRM at this meeting and I strongly encourage SRM members to attend TWS meetings whenever the opportunity affords itself. We have lots to share with each other.



Post Doctoral Research Associate

The USDA, Agricultural Research Service, United States Sheep Experiment Station, Dubois, ID, is seeking a POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, (Animal Scientist/Rangeland Scientist). Ph.D. is required. Salary is commensurate with experience (\$45,285 - \$70,555 per annum), plus benefits. Some citizenship restrictions apply. Associate will be a member of a team conducting research to identify sheep with a greater preference for leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula*) and other exotic weeds, to develop novel strategies for training sheep to consume exotic weeds that they would otherwise avoid, and to determine the consequences of a preferential consumption for exotic weeds on native plant species. Additional research will be conducted to determine the interaction of sheep and cattle grazing in exotic weed infested pastures. The goal of this research is to use these high-preference sheep as a major component in grazing strategies developed for the management of specific exotic weeds infesting rangelands in western North America. Knowledge of animal behavior, grazing management, diet selection, nutrition, genetics, and ecology are desirable. Refer to www.afm.ars.usda.gov/divisions/hrd/hrdhomepage/vacancy/03024.htm for the full text announcement. Send application materials and references to **Dr. Steven Seefeldt, USDA/ARS, U. S. Sheep Experiment Station, HC 62 Box 2010, Dubois, ID 83423** or e-mail (ssefeldt@pw.ars.usda.gov). USDA/ARS is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Post Doctoral Position

The USDA, Agricultural Research Service, High Plains Grasslands Research Station in Cheyenne, Wyoming, is seeking a POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, (Research Ecologist). Ph.D. is required. Salary is commensurate with experience (\$46,469 - \$72,400 per annum), plus benefits. There are some citizenship restrictions. This position is located in the Rangeland Resources Research Unit at the High Plains Grasslands Research Station, Cheyenne, WY. The incumbent will evaluate how various land management practices (1) affect soil carbon storage and trace greenhouse gas fluxes in grazinglands that represent vast areas of western rangelands, and (2) determine which land management practice(s) decrease net global warming potential while maintaining sustained productive use. Research sites will encompass shortgrass steppe, northern mixed-grass and Sagebrush steppe ecosystems with established stocking rate/grazing system treatments. Knowledge of biogeochemistry and field experience in monitoring greenhouse gas emissions are desirable. Refer to www.ars.usda.gov for the full text announcement and for complete application instructions. Send application materials and references to **Dr. Jack Morgan, USDA/ARS, Rangeland Resources Research Unit, Crops Research Laboratory, 1701 Center Avenue, Ft. Collins, CO 80526-2083 (970-498-4216)** or email (morgan@lamar.colostate.edu). Applications will be accepted until **February 12, 2003**. USDA/ARS is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Rangeland and Livestock Management Extension Educator

WSU, Cooperative Extension, Ellensburg, WA (12-month, tenure-track faculty position).

Required: Earned M.S. degree in Rangeland Management, Animal Science, related area. **Desired:** Program planning, management, evaluation skills; knowledge, expertise and/or experience in weed ecology/management, livestock grazing systems, rangeland improvements or animal science; experience and/or training in extension education, volunteer management or youth education; computer proficiency and ability to use electronic, audio/visual communications technologies to develop/deliver educational materials and programming; flexibility in exercising both leadership and team membership roles; capacity to engage diverse constituents in education programs; demonstrated ability to function independently with minimal supervision; ability to create and maintain collaborative relationships in which constituents are willing to work toward a common goal, accomplish documented outcomes, and obtain resources for educational programs; ability to disengage from a project once constituent capacity building has taken place; garner increased resources through grants, contracts and gifts, ability to develop and carry-out business plans for fee generating educational activities; excellent presentation and writing skills; Spanish language skills. Apply by submitting: letter describing how experience and training meet qualifications, vitae, transcripts, and three current letters of reference. Screening begins **December 18, 2002**, continues until filled. Send to **Rebecca Armstrong, PO Box 646241, Pullman, WA 99164-6241, 509-335-2822, Fax 509-335-2926, email armstro@wsu.edu. EEO/AA/ADA**

Assistant Professor – Agroecology (Sustainable Agricultural Systems)

The Department of Plant Science at the University of Wyoming is accepting applications for a nine month, tenure track, 50% teaching and 50% research faculty position beginning on or before August 26, 2003. The incumbent will be expected to teach an undergraduate course in the ecology of sustainable agricultural ecosystems (new course), which will also be offered on the web. One course will be taught in support of the School of Environment and Natural Resources. Additional courses in which the successful applicant may be expected to contribute include ecology of plant protection and crop and/or horticultural systems, dependent on the applicant's area of expertise. One of these will be a graduate level course in support of M.S. and Ph.D. programs. The successful candidate will be expected to lead in the development of ecologically-based and extramurally-funded research relating to sustainable agricultural systems. Applicants must send curriculum vitae, undergraduate and graduate transcripts, a detailed statement of teaching and research interests as related specifically to this position and have three letters of reference sent to: **Dr. David W. Koch, Chair, Agroecology Search Committee, University of Wyoming, Department of Plant Science, 4009 Ag Bldg., Laramie, WY 82071-3354; phone 307-766-3242; fax 307-766-5549; and e-mail, dwkoch@uwyo.edu**. Electronic applications will not be accepted. For more information about the Department Agroecology program and this position, visit the website at www.uwyo.edu/plants. The University of Wyoming is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.



SPATIAL/LANDSCAPE ECOLOGIST UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO

The Department of Environmental and Resource Sciences (ERS) seeks a tenure-track Assistant/Associate Professor in Spatial/Landscape Ecology (75% research, 25% instruction). Candidates must have a Ph.D. in Ecology or a closely related field. Two years of professional or post-doctoral experience, teaching experience, and experience with extramural funding are preferred. We will consider candidates with a broad range of interests in spatial patterns and processes at landscape scales. The successful candidate will play a central role in teams addressing the ecology and management of Great Basin ecosystems. We expect candidates to develop a nationally competitive externally funded basic and applied research program, establish a dynamic graduate training program and work with management agencies. Candidates will teach an undergraduate course in spatial ecology and a graduate course in their area of expertise. View at <http://www.ag.unr.edu/naes/employ.htm> and <http://www.unr.edu> or contact: **Dr. James Sedinger, Search Committee Chair (775-784-6556; jsedinger@cabnr.unr.edu) c/o Carole Rankin (775-784-4715; rankin@cabnr.unr.edu)**. Consideration of applicants begins January 24, 2003. EEO/AA.

PLANT ECOLOGIST UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO

The University of Nevada, Reno, Environmental and Resource Sciences Department is seeking candidates for a full-time, tenure track plant ecologist at the Assistant or Associate Professor level. A Ph.D. in Plant Ecology or closely related field (e.g., range ecology, forest ecology, or biology) is required. Candidates must have expertise in an area of disturbance ecology, global change ecology, restoration ecology and/or grazing management that compliments the existing faculty, the capacity to conduct research on ecological and management issues in the Great Basin, and the ability to integrate research and management activities across multiple temporal, spatial and biological scales. Candidates must possess strong written and oral communication skills, the capability to develop an externally funded research program, and a documented commitment to excellence in undergraduate/graduate teaching and advisement. He/She will teach undergraduate courses in plant ecology and related areas and at least one graduate course in an area of the applicant's expertise. For complete position description and requirements, view at <http://www.ag.unr.edu/naes/employ.htm> and <http://www.unr.edu> or contact: **Dr. Jeanne C. Chambers, Search Committee Chair (775-784-5329; chambers@equinox.unr.edu) c/o Carole Rankin (775-784-4020; rankin@cabnr.unr.edu)**. Consideration of applicants begins January 24, 2003. EEO/AA.



**Last Chance
Before the Dues
Increase**

Society for Range Management, Membership Application
445 Union Blvd., Suite 230, Lakewood, CO 80228-1259
Phone: 303-986-3309, Fax: 303-986-3892
Email: acbarr@rangelands.org

*(Please Print or Type) First Name MI *Last Name

*Company/Organization/Business Affiliation

Street Address Suite/Apt# City State Postal Code Country

Phone (Include Area Code) _____ Fax (Include Area Code) _____ Email _____

Name of Member that recruited you: _____

MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATION

- Regular Apprentice Student Associate Life Life Family
 Family Institutional Commercial-Supporting Commercial-Contributing Commercial-Major

Regular—\$55 (all Sections except Mexico/Unsection) **Associate—\$25** **Life—\$1,500** (Call SRM office for installment plan option)
\$50 (Mexico/Unsectioned) **Life Family—\$1,750** (Call SRM office for installment plan option)

Student—Varies by Section....please contact office for more information.

SECTION AFFILIATION (Call the SRM office for Section information)

SRM members must choose a Section affiliation. Section affiliation is determined by geographical region, but members may be affiliated with any and as many sections as desired upon payment of additional Section dues. If you wish to belong to more than one Section, please contact the SRM office at (303) 986-3309 for additional dues.

*Primary Section Affiliation _____ Add'l Sections _____

OPTIONAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members receive six issues of *Rangelands* and 12 issues of *The Trail Boss News* with their paid membership. Members may opt to receive 6 issues of the *Journal of Range Management* for \$15.00 per year.
I would like to receive the *Journal of Range Management* Yes No

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Payment must be made in U.S. funds drawn on a U.S. bank. Please make checks/money orders payable to: Society For Range Management

Dues \$ _____ Optional Subscriptions \$ _____ TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Credit Card Payment: Visa Mastercard American Express Discover Diners Club

Name as it appears on credit card

Card Number Expiration Date

Applications at this price must be postmarked by 12/31/02.



SRM Participates in the Cultivating Leadership for a Changing Agriculture: Shared Leadership I Workshop

Cultivating Leadership for a Changing Agriculture: Shared Leadership I is a workshop developed by the Council of Agriculture, Science and Technology (CAST) and the Institute for Conservation Leadership (ICL) with The W.K. Kellogg Foundation support. As a CAST member, the SRM administration recognized the opportunity for SRM to partake in the workshop to provide support and develop our leaders. By participating in the program the SRM hoped it would help us build an effective organization in a changing world, engage new people with diverse perspectives and create successful partnerships. The program was designed to support participating board members and executive staff to develop the abilities they need to effectively lead and govern their groups. The workshop is part of a three-year program, to strengthen the capacity of sustainable agriculture organizations and institutes in universities and agriculturally-based scientific societies. Over the next three years, four Shared Leadership I workshops and three Shared Leadership II workshops will be offered. The SRM was selected to become one of the first organizations to take part in this initiative.

Note the background on the cosponsors and the funding group:

CAST (Council of Agriculture, Science and Technology): CAST is a non-profit organization composed of scientific societies and many individual, student, company, non-profit, and associate society members. *{Note: the SRM is a member of CAST}*. CAST assembles, interprets, and communicates science-based information regionally, nationally, and internationally on food, fiber, agricultural, natural resource, and related societal and environmental issues to our stakeholders—legislators, regulators, policy makers, the media, the private sector, and the public;

ICL (Institute for Conservation Leadership): The Institute for Conservation Leadership empowers leaders with training and builds volunteer institutions that protect and conserve the Earth's environment. They do this by helping leaders lead better, building connections between groups with similar goals, and supporting groups' progress with fundraising, board development, and other activities;

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation: is a non-profit organization whose mission is to apply knowledge to solve

the problems of people. Its founder W.K. Kellogg, the cereal industry pioneer, established the Foundation in 1930. Since its beginning the Foundation has continuously focused on building the capacity of individuals, communities, and institutions to solve their own problems. The foundation's mission "To help people help themselves through the practical application of knowledge and resources to improve their quality of life and that of future generations."

The workshop's application required the nomination of three organizational leaders to attend, namely the Executive Director or key staff; a Current Leader and; an Emerging Leader. Those from SRM who made a commitment were: 1) SRM's Executive Vice-President **Sam Albrecht**; 2) Second Vice President **Mort Kothmann**, and; 3) our Wildlife Habitat Committee Chair **Dale Weisbrot**.

CAST and ICL had 4 objectives for this workshop: Improve the leadership abilities of the individuals participating; Help the participating organizations develop leadership within their group; Encourage and facilitate (support) the development of dialogue / partnership between the groups especially the traditional scientific CAST members and the "sustainable" non-CAST groups, and; Sponsoring the workshop would benefit CAST and ICL advance their objectives. Other groups attending were: American Forage and Grassland Council; American Phytopathological Society; International Indian Treaty Council; Rural Roots: The Inland Northwest Community Food Systems Association; Tri-Societies; University of Wisconsin Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems; and the Women, Food and Agriculture Network.

By participating SRM will maintain contact and communication with the CAST and ICL facilitators plus all of the other groups and their participants. There will be an additional 8 hours of hours of consultation provided, as well as ongoing communications including: Participation in a list serve – to share tools: problem solving and share success; A web site specific to the "Cultivating Shared Leadership Workshop" is/will be on line; Conference calls between or among groups may be facilitated, and; CAST and ICL are seeking ongoing evaluation.



Learning opportunities came from a) the facilitators formal “instruction” & hand-outs, b) our own group – SRM participants sharing thoughts and ideas with each other, and c) the other groups “reporting” to the rest and d) individuals from other groups who contributed during the discussions.

Note the following highlights of the session:

ICL’s “*Benchmarking Your Organization’s Development*” and the discussions about SRM during the Benchmarking exercise helped focus the discussion to significance points relevant to SRM. The benchmarks were grouped into 8 categories:

- ◆ Vision & Planning
- ◆ Programs & Campaigns
- ◆ Fundraising & Resources
- ◆ Budgeting, Accounting, and Reporting
- ◆ The Board
- ◆ Staff
- ◆ Members, Volunteers, & Leaders
- ◆ Public Communications & Alliances.

SRM is not alone in the challenges facing organizations today – most are facing declining memberships and are seeking stable funding. There is an opportunity to **partner and network**: The representatives of the four CAST societies participating in this workshop had many common issues. SRM is already partnering with the Tri-Societies and AFGC on several items. The officers of these organizations, as well as Karl Glasner from Washington DC, expressed a strong desire to seek further areas where we can expand networking and partnering. Plus the SRM has a chance to continue **Dialogue with Sustainable Agriculture Organizations**. The workshop provided considerable opportunity for dialogue among the representatives from the eight different organizations. The similarities were greatest within the four CAST organizations and the four Sustainable Ag. Organizations and the differences were greatest between the CAST and Sustainable Ag. Not surprisingly, the individuals representing these two types of organizations generally had widely differing worldviews of both the problems and the potential solutions related to natural resource management and conservation. These differences are indicative of the national and global differences that are creating much conflict over uses and management of rangelands. We anticipate that SRM will benefit from the time spent at this workshop. Also, it is our challenge to continue the dialogue and partnership developed here.

SRM Welcomes It’s New Members

| Members Name | Section |
|-------------------|---------|
| Kent Aden, | NE |
| David Anderson | NM |
| Jeffrey Ball | OK |
| Wayne Berrett | ID |
| Machael Bianchi | PNW |
| William Braid | WY |
| Kyle Brazil | OK |
| Lisa Coverdale | UT |
| Lance Criley | CALPAC |
| Charles Erickson | KS |
| Anna Ferguson | SD |
| Roger Gates | SD |
| Joel Gibbons | NCS |
| Megan Gibson | IM |
| Shawn Gray | TX |
| Courtney Hale | TX |
| Robin Heard | NCS |
| George Hendricks | FL |
| Amber Heverlock | WY |
| William Ingram | TX |
| Stephen Johnston | AZ |
| Dale Ladd | KS |
| Chad Miller | CALPAC |
| Chris Moller | ID |
| Adam Nelson | OK |
| J. Alfonso Ortega | TX |
| Zachary Palm | WY |
| Paiko Rho | TX |
| Mary Ritz | WY |
| James Roger | OK |
| Tim Roggasch | NE |
| Shawna Sangster | PNW |
| Rusty Schwartz | WY |
| Elizabeth Slusser | CO |
| Jacob Smith | IM |
| Douglas Sorenson | UT |
| Joshua Sorenson | TX |
| Etienne Soulodre | NGP |
| Grant Teplicek | TX |
| Reuben Verner | AZ |
| Kenric Wallburger | PNW |
| David Wilkinson | PNW |
| Rebecca Williams | PNW |

\$5.00 Rebate for Each New Member!

Don’t forget that you will receive a \$5.00 rebate applied to your dues for each regular member you sign up, we credit your account \$5. Now would be a great time to get out and recruit as many new members as possible. It’s a proven fact that people are more receptive to a personal invitation from someone they know. Please take the time to ask.

On the SRM membership application, just write your name (or make sure your recruit does) in the spot that says “Name of member that recruited you”. If you need a couple membership applications, please contact Aaron Barr at acbarr@rangelands.org.



Washington State University Drops Range Major

by Keith A. Blatner, Professor and Chair

I would like to take this opportunity to inform the membership of the Society for Range Management about some recent changes within the Department of Natural Resource Sciences at Washington State University. By a written ballot, the faculty in the Department of Natural Resources Sciences voted (completed on 4/24/02) to change the current major in Range Management to a minor. Students currently in the program will be allowed to complete their degrees. The department of Natural Resources Sciences at Washington State University will continue to work closely with the Department of Range Management at the University of Idaho to assure that the five remaining certified majors have the opportunity to complete the course work needed to graduate.

Range Management will remain an important part of the Department. We would be irresponsible not to at least offer supporting course work in this area for students majoring in forestry, wildlife ecology and other aspects of natural resources. Similarly, it is important to recognize that we will be maintaining our extension and research efforts in this area.

We are in the process of developing a new minor in Range Management, which we hope will reflect the changing nature of resource management in the region. We hope to have the minor in place by the end of 2003. Students completing the minor in Range Management will have a notation added to their transcript indicating that they have completed a concentration of course work in this area.

We recognize that students completing a minor in Range Management will not have the same level of academic training as those completing a major. However, we will be in position to provide students majoring in other aspects of natural resources with the opportunity to complete a concentration of course work in this area. We feel these students will be capable of making a meaningful contribution in the management of arid and semi-arid lands of Washington and other states in the western United States as well as in their primary area of expertise.

This action was not done in haste, but on the basis of declining student numbers that have been a concern for more than 10 years as well as other factors. The Department's ongoing problems in this area are reflected in a variety of ways; however, one of the most telling statistics is the fact that only 20 students completed a

major in Range Management over the past ten years.

The Department of Natural Resources Sciences, like most other units at WSU continues to be impacted by a series of budget cuts from the state that have resulted in significant consequences for the faculty, staff and students. Under this budgetary scenario, faculty are being asked to do more with less, staff positions are being eliminated, and students are incurring larger debt loads from increased tuition. It is critical that the public and especially our valued constituencies understand that we cannot continue to operate as we have in the past. In responding to these expectations, we must evaluate and often redirect our existing resources to serve those programs of highest demand.

Finally, we want everyone to understand that this was a difficult decision for the faculty in the Department of Natural Resource Sciences. We also understand that many of you will find this decision particularly frustrating and distasteful. Others, particularly alums, will experience a certain sense of loss with the elimination of the major in Range Management at Washington State University. However, in times like these we need to look to the future and seek new opportunities, which will allow us to build on the accomplishments of the past.

Footnote from the EVP

Washington State University is not alone with respect to major changes in their Rangeland program. Colorado State University and Utah State University have also been reorganized/consolidated/shuffled. Oregon State University has announced intent to do the same. Other rangeland programs are rumored to be threatened by budget cuts and declining student enrollments. On the positive side, there are some universities with strong programs.

SRM is concerned about this issue. In light of the increased conservation program spending in the new Farm Bill and efforts by SRM and other organizations to increase technical "on-the-ground" assistance to land owners/managers; the perception that recruitments may not match retirements; and massive new initiatives for rangeland inventory and classification work on private and public ground—we must do a better job in understanding, and predicting, the supply and demand sides of this human resource equation. Again, SRM is exploring this issue as part of our efforts in marketing and communication, which feeds into our strategic initiatives.



POSITION TITLE: RANGE AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST

Agency/Location: City of Los Angeles/Owens Valley & Mono Basin, CA

Responsibilities: Performing environmental analyses and research in the management of a range and wildlife program; analyzing grazing systems; making recommendations for sound ecological and range management practices; conducting forage inventories and vegetation monitoring program; studying the distribution, habits and classification of wildlife; consulting in the preparation of environmental impact reports and other environmental reports; cooperating with government agencies in the improvement, management and protection of wildlife and range on City-owned property; other related work.

Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in range management, plant or animal ecology, biology, watershed management, soil science, fisheries biology, or comparable field of study + 1 yr. experience or field coursework in above fields. Master's degree in same majors may be substituted for required experience.

Salary: \$54,292-\$80,868. Excellent benefits.

Job Opening: November 22, 2002.

Closing Date: On or anytime after December 12, 2002, until sufficient applications are received.

Contact: Applications and instructions available at <http://www.lacity.org/per/>.

12/02/02

CNS- 467517



Masonic-Range Science Scholarship

Applications are due January 15th, 2003. For the full four page Masonic-Range Science Scholarship please refer to the November 2002 *Trail Boss News* or check the SRM web site at www://rangelands.org

Be sure to check the SRM web site for current up-to-date Annual Meeting Information. The Pre-Convention Trail Boss News has been mailed to all members. Please contact the office if you haven't gotten yours.

Book Order Form:

SRM is Offering *Green Underwear* by Stan Tixier.

Please send \$14.95 plus \$4.00 shipping and handling to:

Society for Range Management
Attn: Kirsten Tardy
445 Union Blvd., Suite 230
Lakewood, Colorado 80228

You can fax your order with credit card number and expiration date at (303) 986-3892 or email: ktardy@rangelands.org

Name: _____

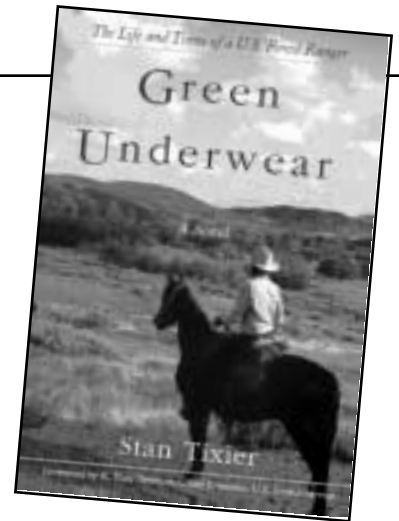
Address: _____

Phone number: _____ Fax number: _____

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Check enclosed MC Visa Amex Discover Diners
Credit card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Name as it appears on card _____





Seasons Greetings from the SRM Staff!

Sam Albrecht
Deen Boe
Gary Frasier
Ann Harris
Patty Rich

Aaron Barr
Natalie Bolleurs
Kindra Gordon
Leonard Jolley
Kirsten Tardy

