



The Trail Boss News

June 2002

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Why Did I Join SRM?

Dick Hart, Director

Because it's my "invisible college." Robert Boyle coined that term in 1656, for an informal companionship of persons united by their enthusiasm for science. In 1662, Boyle and his scientific sidekicks (all amateurs; in those days there were no professional scientists) became the nucleus of the British Royal Society, the world's oldest scientific society. As an invisible college, SRM has no campus, football team, or alma mater anthem. But it does have a faculty, united by their common enthusiasm for rangelands and the people who study, manage, and make their living from it.

My first scientific society was the American Society of Agronomy, which I joined as a sophomore agronomy major at Iowa State. It was explained to me that this was how a professional kept up with what was going on his field, and how he communicated with other professionals. Later, articles based on my theses were published in the *Agronomy Journal*, and later still results of my research appeared in the *Agronomy Journal*, *Crop Science*, and *Crops & Soils*.

I also attended several ASA annual meetings, but noticed that everyone there seemed to be a researcher or university professor. Once, when the meeting was near my parents' home, my Dad came to hear my talk and sit in on a session on corn research. He grumbled, "That was the first time those jokers had ever seen a guy who grew corn for a living!"

That changed when I finally moved into rangeland research in 1974, joined SRM, and started to attend SRM meetings. There were people attending the meetings who were actually using our research! Ranchers, public land managers, restorers of disturbed land, even a few wildlife managers. SRM still had a magazine for non-scientists, then called *Rangeman's Journal*, later *Rangelands* (Happy 25th birthday, *Rangelands*!), whereas ASA soon dropped its equivalent magazine, *Crops & Soils*. SRM Section meetings, I discovered, are smaller but equally lively versions of the parent society meetings.

I was already familiar with the *Journal of Range Management*. When USDA abolished their Forage & Range Research Branch in 1972, Gus Hanson, the last Branch Chief, offered me his collection of *JRM*, volumes 7-25 (1954-1972). I snapped them up and when I joined SRM in 1974, and bought the back issues from 1973. My collection of *JRM* is now in the library at the High Plains Grasslands Research Station. Since college days, I've joined at one time or another the American Society of Agronomy, American Forage & Grassland Council, American Society of Animal Science, Council on Agricultural Science and Technology, American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Society for Range Management. I became an emeritus member of the Agronomy Society when I retired last year, and dropped all the rest except SRM. I became a life member of SRM in 1992, but each year I donate a dollar for each year of membership. Which brings me to the proposed dues increase. It's obvious that dues must go up. This year alone, SRM must pull \$60,000 out of savings to continue to provide member services. Some have protested that the increase is too large, but it might be instructive to compare the proposed increase to increases in other costs of living on the range. In 1980, when SRM dues went up to \$43, a year-old pickup cost about \$6,000; a pair of Levi's cost \$18; and a case of Coors was \$8. Now year-old pickups are \$18-26,000; Levi's are \$30-35; and Coors (Continued on Page 2).

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is \$16. It looks like the proposed increase is right in line with other increased costs of doing business. I intend to increase my contribution to \$2 per year of membership, and apply it to a sustaining membership. As in the original "invisible college," the comradeship of SRM is essential. I've been to dozens of SRM and Section meetings, plus several International Rangeland Congresses and other international meetings, and found I have more in common with a range person from Florida, Russia, or Argentina than I have with a stock-broker from Denver.

SRM also brings me into the larger world of ecological/environmental organizations, and gives me an opportunity to point out to such organizations the contribution of SRM to achievement of their objectives. More SRM members need to attend the meetings of these organizations and write for their publications, which might encourage their members to write for *JRM*. Writing for other journals doesn't necessarily divorce you from the readers of *JRM* and *Rangelands*, thanks to Jeff Mosley and his "Browsing the Literature" pages in *Rangelands*. I received the first requests for reprints of my articles in *Great Plains Research* and *Plant Ecology* within three weeks of their mention in "Browsing the Literature." Well, that's why I'm a member of SRM. I always encourage range students to join SRM, and other professional societies if appropriate. When my daughter became a teacher, I encouraged her to join the teachers' union. The next thing I knew, she'd become Norma Rae and was walking a picket line, but that's another story.—*Dick Hart*

Vancouver Selected As 2006 Annual Meeting Site

After detailed study and analyses of two excellent bids for the SRM 2006 annual meeting site, Vancouver, British Columbia was selected by the SRM BOD. The decision was quite difficult because of the excellent bid from Calgary, Alberta as well as Vancouver. Only occasionally does SRM have this quality of bids from two fine meeting sites. SRM is hopeful that Calgary will be prepared to submit an equal quality bid for the 2009 meeting site. The BOD congratulates both of the meeting site committees on a job well done.

Onward & Upward

Kim Stine, from Stapleton NE, will be making a move to Lincoln, NE on July 15.

If you have SRM member news you would like to share email Maura Laverty at mlaverty@fs.fed.us

CPRM Certification Corner "By way of introduction"...

Greetings to all! I am Leonard Jolley, the new Certification Program manager and staff range management specialist for SRM here in Denver. I succeed Jeff Burwell in this position, as his three year period in this NRCS liaison position came to an end, and he moved to the NRCS State office nearby. I have been a member of SRM since 1974, and am enjoying the challenge of working in SRM headquarters with the great staff here.

My background includes working for SCS/NRCS since 1976 in various positions in California, Nevada, and Colorado. I graduated from the University of California at Davis with BS and MS degrees in Range, and am currently enrolled at Colorado State University. I have worked as a soil scientist, a range conservationist, District Conservationist, and most recently State Range Management specialist for California. I was involved in the creation of the California Section Certification program from its inception in 1992.

The CPRM program has been very successful to date, with the hard work of Jeff and the intense interest by SRM members. We have 593 CPRMs when I last checked the list, and more pending! If you have called in to check your CEUs and status you may have listened to the lilting voice of Natalie Bolleurs, who has replaced Svetlana Glushko and has done a great job of inputting our Continuing Education Units into the SRM membership database. Many of you have tested the new web site and checked on our CEUs and dues at www.rangelands.org.

We look forward to hearing from you – thanks!

Rangelands Gears Up For 25th Anniversary

In 2003, *Rangelands* will celebrate its 25th anniversary. And, we'd like your help in commemorating this special occasion. Throughout the 2003 we plan to feature special articles and memories from the past 25 years in the six issues of *Rangelands*. If you would like to submit an article or have a photo or comment to share relating to *Rangelands*, please submit it to Kindra Gordon, PO Box 645, Spearfish, SD 57783 or e-mail kindras@gordonre-sources.com.

Note, the *Rangelands* editorial staff will carefully consider all items that are submitted, but will not guarantee that all submitted items will be published.



Notes From the EVP

by Sam Albrecht

Just a short note from me this month to mention a couple of hot topics.

Every member should have now received logon and password information for the new SRM website – www.rangelands.org. This has been a major project for the staff, and is still “under development”. Initial reviews have been very favorable and we are hoping that you will check back frequently to see the new information we are planning to host.

SRM now has an office in Washington D.C.! We signed the lease and Deen Boe has picked up a key. We’re shipping a computer from Denver, and hopefully can get a desk or at least a couple of milk crates and 1 x 12’s – maybe even a chair! This is certainly an achievement for SRM as it will allow us better access to our partners and key government officials. *Better* access will result in *more* access, more relationship building, and more trust. As more than one agency chief mentioned during the Kansas City Annual Meeting – relationships and trust are key to a good working partnership.

A letter has gone out to every section president containing a list of strategic plan projects that fell below the funding line. These are projects where the sections have an opportunity to help fund. The top priority of the Board of Directors was the Washington DC office. While we have moved forward and opened the office – we still need funding from the sections to keep it open. All the other projects are also important – but have not been prioritized in any order – we are leaving it to the sections to decide. Your section president should bring these items to you soon. Sections do not have to fund the entire amount of any one projects, partial funding of the project will help! Please contact your president, any member of the Board of Directors, or myself if you have any questions. Here’s the list:

Washington DC Office: In order to provide important range management information to key decision makers, SRM will open an office in the DC area in 2002. Estimated startup costs: \$12,000, estimated annual cost; \$7,500, estimated annual staff cost \$60,000.

Special Topics Publications: Publish monographs, brochures, issue papers, synthesis papers on special issue topics as directed by the Board. Estimated Costs: \$10,000

Electronic Publishing: Hardware, software, and staff to provide SRM publications electronically. Estimated costs: \$4,000 initial, \$6,000 recurring.

Range Video: Develop and market a rangeland video. Estimated Phase 1 costs: \$10,000

Grant Writing: Hire a grant writing firm to prepare proposals for submission. Estimated costs: \$2,500.

Trademarks: Provide protection for expired SRM Trademarks. Estimated costs: \$2,000– 6,000.

Newsletter Contest: Provide a prize for a section newsletter contest: \$200 annually.

Membership Contest: Provide \$3,000 in cash incentives to individuals and Range Clubs to increase SRM membership.

Sandpiper Technologies announces the 2002 Equipment Grants winners

Sandpiper Technologies celebrates its fifth year of providing free use of its rental fleet to students conducting wildlife research. Sentinel Surveillance Video systems were granted to Jeffrey Ball of Simon Fraser University for his study, “Variation in parental provisioning and fledging success of Red-throated Loons in western Alaska” and Mary Ann Furedi of West Virginia University for her study, “The effects of browsing by white-tailed deer on individual plant fitness and population growth of American ginseng.” Steven Sykes of the University of California received a Peep-A-Roo grant for his study on California Tiger Salamanders. Peeper Video Probes were granted to Karen Beck of North Carolina State University for her work on “Determining free-ranging red wolf litter sizes” and Craig Thompson of Utah State University for his study on “Reproductive ecology of den-dwelling mammals.” The TreeTop Peeper Telescoping Video System was granted to Julie Gibson of the University of Wisconsin to study “Predation incidence and habitat relationships between nesting woodland raptors and mammalian predators in the upper peninsula of Michigan.” **The deadline for submitting proposals for the 2003 spring/summer field season is December 1, 2002.** For a list of available equipment and proposal requirements, go to the Sandpiper website at: <http://www.Peeperpeople.com>.

Position Announcement

Rangeland Scientist/ Research Ecologist (GS 11/12/13). USDA, Agricultural Research Service; Grassland, Soil & Water Research Laboratory, Temple, Texas. We seek a broadly-trained scientist to advance understanding of global change (atmospheric CO₂ enrichment, vegetation change) effects on plant and soil processes that control the productivity and sustainability of rangeland ecosystems. The successful candidate will participate in experiments conducted in a novel CO₂ enrichment facility on grassland and will have opportunity to develop and direct research into consequences of vegetation change. Research should emphasize global change effects on root growth and turnover as related to the sequestration of soil carbon and cycling of elements essential to plant growth. For information on the research program, contact Dr. Wayne Polley at 254-770-6629 or polley@brc.tamus.edu. Applications must be postmarked by **June 21, 2002**. For a complete copy of the vacancy announcement and application procedures, visit

<http://www.afm.ars.usda.gov/divisions/hrd/hrdhomepage/empopp.htm>, and link to Research Scientist vacancies. The vacancy announcement is ARS-X2S-2195. The USDA prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities and is an equal opportunity employer.



SRM Watershed/Riparian Committee at the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society (AFS)

Last fall the executive and elected leadership of the Society for Range Management, Society of American Foresters, American Fisheries Society, Ecological Society of America, Soil and Water Conservation Society, and the Wildlife Society, met to begin establishing stronger working relationships, share information, and commit to taking action on issues of common interest. With this same collaboration in mind, the Watershed/Riparian Committee of SRM took the lead in developing a joint SRM/AFS symposium entitled *Livestock Grazing for Fishable Waters: A Catchment Approach*. A task group assembled a diverse, interdisciplinary set of speakers to present a program designed to promote the concept that watershed and riparian function can be maintained and enhanced with planned, goal-based livestock grazing. The committee presented this in February at the SRM Annual Meeting in Kansas City and then again at the end of April, at the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society Conference in Spokane, Washington. The latter was a multi-disciplinary conference addressing barriers, and strategies relative to successful ecosystem-based management.

The livestock grazing symposium at the AFS conference was well attended. People were receptive and interested in a topic that has often been the source of conflict and division. The audience, from both the United States and Canada, was very diverse. Attendees included people from federal, state, and local agencies, provincial government, Tribes, and watershed councils. The presenters fielded many questions from managers, researchers, practitioners, and even a county commissioner. Like SRM, AFS is comprised of individuals representing many viewpoints. They are working on many of the same issues such as membership recruitment and retention, and effective advocacy. The SRM Watershed/Riparian Committee was pleased to hear that this symposium has served to provide the template for similar exchange being planned at the Section/State level of SRM and AFS.

Rangelands in the New Millennium VII International Rangeland Congress

Durban, South Africa
26 July–1 August 2003
www.ru.ac.za/rgi/irc2003/IRC2003.htm

Commercial Membership Campaign by Rod Heitschmidt, SRM President

Since the annual meeting in Kansas City, I have spent a considerable amount of time and energy thinking about SRM membership and how we can make it grow. It seems to me that we have considerable opportunities to grow our membership in four broad classes, those being regular, associate, student, and commercial. I think most of us are well aware of the merits of the first three classes, but what about commercial? To whom could or should we sell commercial memberships?

In my opinion, this should be an “easy sell” membership particularly when I consider all the commercial businesses that depend of various rangeland users as their core customers. The first and foremost of these businesses are our financial institutions! How many customers of banks in “SRM country” are dependent upon rangelands as their core resource? Think about that, and then ask yourself— why wouldn’t a bank want to invest a very small portion of their assets to support the profession of rangeland management. Is not the value of their assets closely linked to sound rangeland management? And what about livestock auction yards, feed and mineral companies, chemical and mechanical weed and brush management enterprises, guide hunters, etc.

My challenge to each and every SRM member is that we commit to visit, over the next four months, with at least one commercial business about the merits of buying a commercial membership in SRM. Think about the link between the varying commercial “rangeland dependent” businesses and sound range management! This is an easy sell when you think about it. Lets just do it!

PLEASE READ!!!

The July *Trail Boss News* will be produced by Kindra Gordon as Patty Rich will be traveling. Please send all of your columns, advertising, articles, etc. to Kindra at kindras@gordonresources.com by **June 15th** for the July issue.

Any questions please call Kindra at (605) 722-7699.

**This is only for the July issue
of the *Trail Boss News*.**



Range Society Supports BLM's Review Process For Vegetation Management

In a recent letter to Kathleen Clark, director of the Bureau of Land Management, the Society for Range Management (SRM) expressed their support of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) review process the agency is using for a new vegetation management initiative.

"We are most encouraged and supportive of the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) plans to develop a programmatic EIS for vegetation treatments, watersheds and wildlife habitats on public lands administered by BLM in the Western United States, including Alaska," the letter from the SRM stated.

The SRM represents nearly 4,000 professional resource managers committed to sustainable management of rangelands.

"Our membership has participated in most of the scoping meetings held across the western states this spring. We have been impressed by the professionalism of the BLM staff and the clarity of their thoughts in developing the preliminary information to support writing the EIS," said Rod Heitschmidt, current president of the SRM. Heitschmidt is research leader of USDA's Fort Keogh Agriculture Research Service at Miles City, MT.

"It is imperative that this programmatic EIS be completed such that the scope and magnitude of BLM's land management and restoration efforts can proceed effectively. Their emphasis on using a blend of natural restoration practices (e.g., prescribed fire) and proven agronomic practices (e.g., application of registered herbicides) provides a strong foundation that will result in genuine improvement in the public lands we all value," Heitschmidt adds.

The BLM has proposed increasing the scale of rangeland treatments to six million acres each year, as well as integrating the EIS with ongoing BLM programs, such as the Federal Wildland Fire Policy.

"We congratulate BLM on this effort," Heitschmidt says. "It will benefit the land and people of the United States of America in a substantial way. The challenges associated with the management of these rangelands can only be addressed by including the kinds of activities supported in the proposed EIS in conjunction with the thoughtful land management programs traditionally operated by the BLM," he adds.

MOVING

Be sure to let the Denver office know of your move so you won't miss any of your publications or any important information.

Soil and Water Conservation Society 2002 Conference

July 13-17, 2002

Westin Hotel
Indianapolis, IN

"Set the pace for conservation" at the 2002 Soil and Water Conservation Society's annual conference in July. Highlighted topics will include: land use—reconciling economics, ethics, and ecology; managing nonpoint source water pollution; and measuring conservation progress. The annual conference of the Soil and Water Conservation Society will be an opportunity for integrated learning and sharing across key natural resource topic areas. The preliminary program with more details and registration form is on the SWCS website at http://www.swcs.org/t_what2002conffrontpage.htm Contact Pat Mulligan, patm@swcs.org or (515) 289-2331, ext. 17 with any conference questions.

Sustaining Western Rural Landscapes, Lifestyles and Livelihoods Conference

Sheridan, WY

September 24-26, 2002

West-wide Conference

Agricultural entrepreneurs and professionals are invited to attend a national conference, which will be held in Sheridan, WY on September 24-26, 2002. The conference will include panel discussions, producer testimonials, technical information, enterprise-specific workshops and tours of diversified operations. Topics include minimizing personal liability and financial risk, marketing, business planning, natural resource conservation, agri-tourism, linking to your local community, selecting appropriate enterprises and crisis planning.

Speakers from across the United States will be invited to share their expertise. Speakers will include landowners, consultants, economists, natural resource specialists, business management specialists, researchers and attorneys. A copy of the proceedings from the conference will also be available.

The conference will be held at the Holiday Inn in beautiful Sheridan, WY. A block of rooms has been reserved under Ranch/Farm Diversification Conference. Call (307) 672-8931 to make your reservations.

For more information contact Boyd Byelich, NRCS, (307) 772-2015 x 119 or Cindy Garretson-Weibel, WY Business Council (307) 777-6589.



Society for Range Management

56th Annual Meeting

Casper, WY

February 1–7, 2003

CALL FOR PAPERS AND SYMPOSIA

This is the first announcement and call for papers for the 56th meeting of the Society for Range Management, 1–7 February 2003 in Casper, Wyoming. The theme is “Rangelands—Diversity Through Time,” and the primary focus of the technical sessions and symposia will be rangeland ecology, and multiple values associated with rangeland ecosystems. Symposia that include multiple disciplines will be a priority. Sessions will be arranged around the following topics, although other technical sessions and symposia may be arranged:

RANGELAND ECOLOGY

Fire Ecology
Riparian Ecology
Drivers in Rangeland Ecosystems

Rangeland Bird Ecology
Endangered Species
Nutrient Dynamics

RANGELAND ECONOMICS AND SOCIOLOGY

Conservation Easements and Grass Banks

Cooperative Management

PLANT/ANIMAL RELATIONSHIPS

Animal Behavior

Plant/Animal Interactions

RANGELAND MANAGEMENT

Invasive Species
History — Pleistocene to Present

Interspecies Dynamics

TECHNOLOGY AND MONITORING

Rapid Assessment Techniques

GIS and Remote Sensing

GRADUATE STUDENT COMPETITION

Paper-M.S.
Poster-M.S.

Paper-Ph.D.
Poster-Ph.D., N/A

In addition to traditional Society programs, this meeting will include specific training sessions for federal agencies, programs oriented toward the general public, and sessions for open discussion of current events, either political or scientific. All sessions will include invited speakers and submitted papers.

If you are interested in presenting a paper, hosting a symposium, or have ideas for topics that should be addressed, please contact Bob Budd at (307) 332-3388, or by email at bbudd@tnc.org or Kelly Crane at (307) 766-3666 or by email at kkcrane@uwyo.edu.

Reminder that the deadline date is July 1, 2002.



CALL FOR PAPERS

56th Annual Meeting February 01 – 06, 2003 Casper, Wyoming

The theme for the 2003 Annual Meeting will be ***Rangelands: Diversity Through Time*** with scientific and technical programs to enhance our understanding of the history, ecology, values and sustainable management of rangeland ecosystems. We invite you to participate in this educational program through a presentation of research results, technical perspectives or innovations in rangeland management.

For poster or contributed paper presentations, submit your abstract and associated information in one of the following forms:

1. Attach a WordPerfect (.wpd) or MS Word (.doc) file, PC or MAC, to an e-mail message with "SRM ABSTRACT" on the subject line to:

e-mail: tbooth@lamar.colostate.edu

Note: Special symbols, superscripts, and Greek letters will be more likely to come through in Word or Wordperfect files on disk or attached.

Submit a WordPerfect or MS Word file on a 3.5" (IBM) diskette to:

SRM 2003 Abstracts
Attn: Terry Booth
Phone: (307) 772-2433
HIGH PLAINS GRASSLANDS RESEARCH STATION
8408 HILDRETH ROAD
CHEYENNE, WY, 82009-8899

If there are any problems or questions, or if you do not receive confirmation of your email submission within two weeks, contact: Bob Budd, Program Co-Chair @ 307-332-3388 (bbudd@tnc.org) or Kelly Crane, Program Co-Chair @ 307-766-3666 (kkcrane@uwyo.edu).

IMPORTANT:

Submit the abstract and associated information in the same format as the example provided below. Abstracts should be no longer than 250 words. Authors are solely responsible for all editing of abstracts. Authors need to select a Subject Matter Topic Code (Item 2 on Abstract Format) to match their presentation.

Abstracts should include a statement of objectives, a brief description of methods, a concise presentation of the actual results, and a summary statement or conclusions. Abstracts and titles are due **September 30, 2002**. Authors will be notified of acceptance or rejection by **November 15, 2002**.

Subject Matter Topic Codes:

01 Animal Ecology	09 Management/Hydrology/Riparian Ecology	17 Rangeland Assessment and Monitoring
02 Animal Interactions	10 Insects	18 Soils
03 Animal Nutrition	11 Invasive Species	19 Vegetation Management/Reclamation/Restoration
04 Animal Physiology	12 Measurement/Sampling	20 Water Quality
05 Economics	13 Plant-Animal Interactions	21 Wildlife Habitat
06 Education	14 Plant Ecology	22 Other (Please Specify)
07 Excellence in Rangeland Management	15 Plant Physiology	
08 Grazing	16 Rangeland Social Science	

**Abstract Format—2003 SRM Annual Meeting, Casper, Wyoming**

1. Author(s) (Author's Last Name, First MI; separate multiple authors with a semicolon)
2. Subject Matter Topic Codes: First Choice, Second Choice (separated by comma)
3. Presentation Preference: Traditional, Poster
4. Institution:
5. Address: (separate address elements with commas)
6. Phone Number, Fax Number, Email Address: (separate by comma, enter N/A if not available)
7. SRM Membership of Contact Author: Member, Student, Non-member
8. Who will present the paper? (Presenting author must be a paid registrant at the annual meeting.)
9. Graduate Student Competition Category (Choose One): Traditional-M.S., Traditional-Ph.D., Poster-M.S., Poster-Ph.D., or None.
10. Presentation Preference: Traditional, Poster
11. Title/Author information
12. Abstract
13. Special symbols (see previous instructions)

EXAMPLE ABSTRACT SUBMISSION (Remember to include the numbers):

1. Pfister, James A.
2. 36
3. Traditional
4. USDA-ARS Poisonous Plant Research Lab
5. 1150 E. 1400 N., Logan, UT 84341
6. (435) 752-2941, (435) 752-2943, jpfister@cc.usu.edu
7. Member
8. James A. Pfister
9. N/A
10. CATTLE CONSUMPTION OF PONDEROSA PINE NEEDLES IN THE BLACK HILLS. James A. Pfister, USDA-ARS Poisonous Plant Research Lab, Logan, UT 84341.
11. Consumption of ponderosa pine needles by pregnant cattle often causes abortions, and the Black Hills region has a history of serious abortion problems from pine needles. The objectives of these studies were to (1) determine the amount of pine needles eaten by grazing and pen-fed cattle, and relate consumption to weather variables; (2) determine if pine needle temperature (degrees C) influenced acceptability to penned cows. Trial 1 was conducted from December 1991 to February 1992 about 20km west of Pringle, South Dakota, using 8 mature pregnant cows. The winter of 1991-1992 was mild, and cattle averaged < 0.5% of their bites as pine needles. Trial 2 was conducted in the same location from January to March 1993. Six pregnant cows were penned individually, and offered 1 kg/day of fresh pine needles. Six open cows grazed a pine tree infested pasture.

Normal winter weather prevailed, and grazing cattle consumed 20% of bites as pine needles. Cattle selected primarily green pine needles as consumption increased, particularly from small (< 2m) trees. Pen-fed cows ate 438 g/day of needles, but consumption was not related to weather. No abortions occurred. In 2 pen trials using heated and frozen needles, cattle showed no clear preferences. Weather is a major factor influencing consumption of needles by grazing cattle, but needle temperature alone may not be important.



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

The Department of Animal and Range Sciences (ARSc) invites applications for the position of Department Chair. The department has 25 full-time faculty and 40 support personnel. Strong programs of research are conducted in several areas ranging from animal production systems to molecular biology. Centers of excellence include reproductive physiology, ruminant nutrition, range science and natural resource management. Departmental facilities include extensive animal units and an off-campus range research facility. ARSc faculty advise approximately 220 undergraduate students and 45 graduate students. Strong extension programs are conducted in range, beef, dairy, sheep, swine and animal products. The successful candidate will serve as administrative officer and program leader for the department and will provide leadership and participate in the ARSc research, teaching and extension programs. The Chair will represent the department to the university, professional associations and related groups, and will interact with Directors of the Ag Experiment Station, Extension Service and off-campus Research and Extension Centers. The successful candidate must have a doctorate in Animal or Range Sciences or a related field, demonstrate significant accomplishments in teaching and research, and be qualified for appointment to the rank of Professor with tenure in the department. Candidates must demonstrate leadership, communication and team-building skills and possess strong interpersonal abilities. Preference will be given to candidates with administrative experience in fiscal and personnel management, and with a commitment to the land grant mission. For further details see the departmental web site:

<http://www.ag.ndsu.nodak.edu/ars/templates/indexes/programindex.htm>. Review of applications begins September 1, 2002 and will continue until a suitable candidate is identified. Send 1) a statement of interest and evidence of qualifications for the position, 2) curriculum vitae, 3) a statement of the role of an Animal and Range Sciences Department in the college, state, and region, and 4) names, telephone numbers, postal and e-mail addresses of 5 references to: Dr. Douglas A. Freeman, Committee Chair, Department of Veterinary and Microbiological Sciences, 150 Van Es Hall, 1523 Centennial Blvd, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND 58105, PH. 701-231-8504, FAX. 701-231-7514, email: douglas.freeman@ndsu.nodak.edu. NDSU is an equal opportunity institution.

Position Announcement

USDA, REE, Agricultural Research Service (ARS), Rangeland Resources Research Unit, Crops Research Lab, Fort Collins, Colorado, Ecologist/Weed Scientist. The aim of the research program is to develop new knowledge and concepts for understanding the biology, ecology, and population dynamics of invasive weeds, and to develop principles and mechanisms for their control, including restoration of desirable vegetation where necessary. The incumbent will develop and evaluate strategies involving livestock management practices, biological control, along with integrated weed management practices, for restoring rangelands degraded by invasive weeds and preventing the further spread of invasive weeds in the future. Research of the Unit is directed to determining the effects of grazing management and global change on animal production, soil and vegetation resources, ecosystem plant health, and to developing healthy, sustainable and economically viable management systems. The incumbent works closely with public land managers, private ranchers and range scientists to develop strategies for combating invasive weeds on public and private lands. Entry level salary is from \$45,285 - \$58,867 per year (GS-11) to \$54,275 - \$70,555 per year (GS-12), depending on qualifications. PhD preferred. A comprehensive benefits package includes paid sick leave and annual leave, life and health insurance, and a savings and investment plan (401K type), and a Federal retirement plan. For more information, contact **Dr. Jack Morgan, 970-498-4216; 307-772-2433, ext. 103; morgan@lamar.colostate.edu**. Application procedures and general information may be obtained by contacting Kathie Peterson, 307-772-2433, ext. 105, kathiep@lamar.colostate.edu, or go to www.ars.usda.gov and click on "Careers with ARS", and then under "Current Job Openings", click on "Research Scientist". Applications will be accepted from May 6 through the closing date, June 17, 2002. Applications must be postmarked by the closing date. Applicants should reference Announcement Number: ARS-X2W-2292. USDA/ARS is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

RANGE, WATERSHED, AND LIVESTOCK ADVISOR, Modoc County, Alturas, CA.

Academic position beginning in the Cooperative Extension Assistant Advisor rank (\$38,600 to \$42,600), salary commensurate with experience and professional qualifications. A Master's degree in Animal Science, Range Science, or Watershed Science, or a closely-related field is required. Competency and practical experience in the fields of watershed management, range management and livestock systems management is preferred. The Advisor will conduct a comprehensive research and extension program addressing important issues that integrate rangeland livestock production systems and watershed function. **SUBMIT:** letter of interest, UC DANR Academic Application Form, resume, college level transcripts, six potential references. **CONTACT:** **Sydni Gillette, DANR: North Coast & Mountain Region, University of California, One Shields Ave., Davis, CA 95616-8575. Phone message: 530-754-8587; FAX: 530-754-8540; email: skgillette@ucdavis.edu. Refer to: ANCM-01-11. DEADLINE:** June 17, 2002.

For application, go to <http://ncmr.ucdavis.edu>, Employment Opportunities, pdf file at bottom lower right.



Range Society Pleased That Bush Administration Is Emphasizing Range Management, Multiple Use

Management of federally owned rangelands is a top concern for the current administration, according to Under Secretary of Agriculture Mark Rey.

Rey, who oversees management of public lands, says he recognizes the importance of multiple use on rangelands for wildlife habitat, open spaces, watersheds and production agriculture, including grazing. And, he emphasizes that he is committed to managing for a balance of these uses to assure the sustainability of rangeland resources.

Rey made his remarks at the 67th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference held in Dallas, TX, in early April.

The Society for Range Management (SRM), an international professional organization that represents nearly 4,000 professional resource managers committed to sustainable management of rangelands, appreciates Rey's approach.

"We are pleased that rangelands are held at a high level of esteem by Mr. Rey, so much so that he made their management the theme of his address at this conference," said Rod Heitschmidt, current president of the Society for Range Management (SRM).

During his comments, Rey said he recognizes that stewardship of public lands has become an increasingly contentious issue over the past several years, but says he has some "revisionist thinking" on the subject, including attitudes toward grazing. "...Grazing is perhaps the most fundamental and historic of the multiple uses mandated by law for the federal lands, including the national forests. Most people don't realize that range was far more important than timber for the early Forest Service," Rey said.

He emphasized that his aim is to foster a cooperative effort toward managing rangelands for multiple use by realistically evaluating land-use decisions that are made.

Rey said that to evaluate land-use choices he often asks himself these questions, "Ok...and then what? What are we giving up? What exactly are we gaining in return? And, if we are not satisfied, is there a better way?"

The SRM leadership believes such an approach should help streamline management efforts on public lands. "We think the questions 'OK...and then what?', 'What are we getting in return?', and 'Is there a better way?' cut to the core of much of the controversy associated with various Federal rangeland management problems," Heitschmidt says.

During his remarks, Rey went on to say he considers urban sprawl and new development the single, most important environmental issue facing the West. He points out that the West is the fastest growing and most urbanized region of the country.

"The conversion of ranches into subdivisions is a critical concern driving a number of environmental and land management problems, including wildland fire policy, water rights conflicts, wildlife, and water quality degradation," Rey said.

Rey recognizes that as ranchers are forced to sell, range for wildlife is being fragmented and lost. "The net effect is that we lose habitat needed to maintain viable populations of native wildlife. As ranches turn into ranchettes, many native

species are declining and being replaced by species adapted to human habitations," Rey said. "Is this the West we want?" he asked.

"I think the answer is no. I think most Americans want to conserve native species, but they also want to conserve the tradition of family ranching. They don't want to force people off the land, and give them nowhere to go, and no hope for the future. We need to conserve our western wildlife and our western lifestyle," he said.

"I believe that the single, greatest environmental contribution I can make is to foster initiatives that 'keep private ranchlands in ranch family hands and out of developers' plans.' Fortunately, I oversee two agencies that can contribute to that objective," Rey said. Those two agencies are the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Forest Service.

With the Farm Bill now before Congress, the Natural Resources Conservation Service will have increased opportunities and resources with the objective of keeping private ranchlands in ranch families' hands, Rey said. He points to land easements, grassbank programs and the provision of technical and financial assistance to address air and water quality concerns.

"With regard to the Forest Service, we must get back to more actively engaging ranchers as partners," Rey said. "For that to occur, we will first need to get reacquainted as friends. But we will also need to overcome some of the procedural roadblocks to collaborative management that we have experienced in recent decades."

To that end, he said that within the Forest Service efforts are underway to review procedures under the National Environmental Policy Act and streamline the decision making process to: (1) get decisions made more quickly; and (2) better respond to new information and developments.

"We especially want to encourage local collaborative stewardship efforts to reduce the number of conflicts that drive too many national forest decisions. That's a priority for me," Rey said.

Lastly, Rey says his objective in setting future rangeland policy will be to help people exercise skill and insight in managing the land based on what they have in common. He also hopes to focus on managing noxious weeds.

"Rangeland is a renewable resource," Rey said. "But we cannot repair rangeland after it's gone - after it has been subdivided, roaded, and converted into condominiums. Let's work together to keep our ranchers on the land," Rey concluded.

Speaking on behalf of the SRM, Heitschmidt says that Rey's assessment of how the administration, agencies and landowners need to work together is in line with his organization's principles. "His understanding of the controversies and his appreciation for partnering as a solution follows SRM's Coordinated Resource Management paradigm."

"In addition, SRM has long been an advocate of the need for standardized rangeland assessment and monitoring, more on-the-ground technical assistance, and focusing on the management and control of invasive species," Heitschmidt said. "Good range science, good range management, and good business go together. We look forward to working with Under Secretary Rey and the leadership of those federal agencies, such as NRCS, USFS and BLM, that are responsible for the stewardship of America's federal and private rangelands," he added.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE 2002 SRM SUMMER MEETING!!

WHAT:

**SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT SUMMER MEETING
HOSTED BY THE ARIZONA SECTION, SRM &
NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY**

WHEN:

MONDAY, AUGUST 12 -- THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2002

WHERE:

**duBOIS CENTER, NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY (INDOOR SESSION)
COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS (BBQ AND SOCIAL)
COCONINO NATIONAL FOREST (FIELD TRIP)
FLAGSTAFF, AZ**

THEME:

"ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION IN THE SOUTHWEST PONDEROSA PINE FORESTS"

Schedule of Events

Sunday, AUGUST 11 (Board of Directors and Advisory Council Meetings, Location TBA)

Monday, AUGUST 12 (INDOOR SESSION, duBOIS CENTER)

NOON - 1:00PM -- Sign-in/Registration

- **1:00-1:05 Welcome, Opening Remarks Dr. Bruce Fox, Department Chair and Co-Host, School of Forestry, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff.**

- **1:05-1:15 Introduction to the Symposia Tom DeGomez, County Agent and Co-Host, Coconino County, The University of Arizona, Flagstaff**

- **1:15-1:45 Model for Ecological Restoration of the Southwest Ponderosa Pine Forests Doc Smith, Program Liaison, Northern Arizona University Ecological Restoration Institute, Flagstaff.**

- **1:45-2:15 Forest Restoration and Weeds. Carolyn Hull Sieg, Research Plant Ecologist, US Forest Service and Judy Springer, Research Specialist, Northern Arizona University Ecological Restoration Institute, Flagstaff.**

- **2:15-2:45 Effects of restoration treatments and herbivory on *Ceanothus fendleri* David W. Huffman, Graduate Assistant, Northern Arizona University School of Forestry, Flagstaff.**

2:45-3:15 Break

- **3:15-3:45 Effects of Restoration on Understory Animal Species Diversity Dr. Carol Chambers, Associate Professor, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff.**

3:45-4:15 Issues Related to Forest Genetics and Restoration Dr. Laura DeWald, Associate Professor, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff.

- **6:00-9:00 - BBQ and Social, County Fair Grounds in Flagstaff, Fort Tuthill, Navajo Ramada**



Tuesday, AUGUST 13 (FIELD TRIP TO COCONINO NF)

- 7:30am Bus/Vans Depart Hotels
- 8:00am-noon Arrive at field stop where 3 groups will rotate among the following 3 sites:
 - USFS Gus Pearson Research Plots Dr. Pete Fule, Assistant Professor, Northern Arizona University Ecological Restoration Institute, Flagstaff
 - Taylor Woods Research Plots Dr. John Bailey, Associate Professor, Northern Arizona University Ecological Restoration Institute, Flagstaff
 - Grand Canyon Forest Partnership Large Demo Plots, Doc Smith, Program Liaison, Northern Arizona University Ecological Restoration Institute, Flagstaff
- Noon-1:00 Box Lunch
- 1:00-1:30 Bus/Vans Return to Hotels
- 2:00-5:00 Arizona Section Meeting and SRM Committee Meetings at NAU (3 classrooms reserved in the College of Ecosystem Science & Management Building)
Wednesday and Thursday, AUGUST 14-15 (SRM COMMITTEE MEETINGS)
- 8:00-5:00 - SRM Committee Meetings at NAU (3 classrooms reserved in the College of Ecosystem Science & Management Building)

Please see the *April Trail Boss News* for Registration Form