

The Trail Boss News

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Trail Boss News

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Few Student Range Majors—Do We Have an Image Problem?

John Malechek, SRM Board Member

These are uncertain times for the future of our profession. Nowadays, I look at our membership numbers with almost the same sense of anxiety and trepidation as I do the Dow Jones Industrial Average. President Heitschmidt reported in last month's *Trail Boss News* that we may have turned the corner. I hope he is correct.

I would like to address specifically a segment of our profession that I view as especially important to our present and future membership—students majoring in range programs. From my position as an academician and past department head of a "range" department, I have had the opportunity to talk to many, many students about our profession, what it can offer to them as a fulfilling potential career, and to hear back from them what they know, think, or do not know about the range management profession. Generally, I have dealt with two broad classes of students: a) The Committed—those that come to the university firmly committed to a career in range management or science, usually based on past work, family, or educational experience; and b) The Uncommitted. This latter group includes those (mostly graduate students) who know little, if anything, about the range profession, but find themselves in range-related academic departments because of professors who teach and do research in the field of ecology. It also includes those (mostly undergraduates) who know that they want to be involved in a profession dealing with the "environment," but who also know little to nothing about the range profession.

The first group, The Committed, are easy. Provide them the appropriate courses and the membership application form, and we often have another life member. Unfortunately, there are simply too few of them these days, and their numbers are diminishing yearly. We can no longer sustain academic departments based on this group of rural and small-town westerners who have so long been the mainstay clientele of range programs.

There is great potential for recruiting future members and professional leaders from the other group, but I believe we have an image problem of at least two dimensions: One, range simply has no image with a large segment of natural resources/environmental studies/conservation-oriented students. Even though they are passionately committed to "the environment," they don't know that rangelands exist and that there is a profession that cares for them. Two, those others that do have some inkling about rangelands all too often view us variously as cowboys, or dealing only with livestock production. The concept that range is a unique kind of land and not a land use is deceptively simple and difficult to convey.

For several years, I have taught two courses that expose me to both kinds of students in the uncommitted category mentioned above. One is a graduate-level class designed to give students from non-range backgrounds an overview of the history, principles, and issues of the range profession. The other is a general professional orientation class for freshmen students in all areas of natural resources. Observations

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and comments by these students have amused, distressed, and occasionally shocked me and have forced me to confront our image problem. The following anecdote illustrates one example of this.

One morning early in the semester in the graduate-level class we were discussing the history and origin of the range profession. I happened to be drinking the last dregs of earlymorning coffee from my trusty Trail Boss-emblem mug, and on a spur-of-the-moment impulse, I passed the cup around the group of 12 students (about half male, half female) and asked them to take a few moments and write down words that came to mind when they viewed this revered emblem of our society. Here, from that class day's notes are excerpts of what they wrote: "the Old West," "the trail herd era," "cowboys and Indians," "cattle production," "ranching" (or some variation of that theme), and "violence." Violence? "Yes," answered the young lady, "everyone knows that era was marked by extreme violence and the philosophy that might makes right." "And, look, that guy on the horse is wearing a gun!" I have repeated this exercise in subsequent years with very similar outcomes.

Now, to all of you Trail Boss fans who are sharpening your pencils in preparation of passionate, indignant letters to me, please note that these are not my sentiments—I am merely reporting what these young, bright people thought. If this is indicative of the image that our main symbol portrays to the public, then I believe we have a problem. I don't know if it is more or less of a problem than I face when I ask my Freshman orientation class of 50 to raise their hands if they know any-thing at all about rangelands, and only 3 hands appear! One thing is clear—we are dealing with a vastly different kind of student population than we were 20 or 30 years ago.

So, what's the answer?, you are probably asking. I have to admit that I don't have it. But, whatever, it will probably not be a single factor. I recently noted that one of our sister organizations, the Society of American Foresters, is running some very eye-catching national TV ads during prime time. Perhaps this is one (costly!) approach. I certainly believe that dropping any further discussion of our image and name issues, as some of our members advocate, is not the right approach. My biggest concern is that we may simply not care, as suggested by President Heitschmidt's recent report that 95% of our membership did not respond—either for or against—in the recent straw poll on changing our name. Like it or not, image and names are important, especially to young people who grew up on glossy TV nature shows, MTV, and video games. What do you think we should be doing to attract more young people to our profession?

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Sam's Annual Pilgrimage

Sam Albrecht, SRM, EVP

I make an annual pilgrimage to southeast Colorado each September 1st. I try to closely inspect the health and welfare of the mourning dove population. As many of you know, this inspection procedure starts with shooting the birds and ends with biscuits and gravy! This year, the numbers of inspected birds were about 1/3 of normal levels.

While I do not make any claims on being classically trained range manager, I've been making this trip for 15 years and the rangelands looked worse this year than I've ever seen. Now I guess I could make a hypothesis between the number of doves and range condition, but I know that's a stretch. The truth is that this area has been hit hard by the drought all spring and summer. It got some rain in late August, and as I write this column in early September, it is still getting some rain - but it is too late. I drove into clouds of dust where the higher points in the field were turning to dust, with water pooled at the bottoms. Stubble height is low, duff and soil is washing and blowing off, and the caretakers of this land are hurting. This latest precipitation will help, but the cows are already hungry, or gone, or have been moved over to CRP under emergency procedures. The feedlot in Lamar was chock full.

I am sure that other areas of the country are similarly affected. A little closer to home, I drove through the 100,000 acre Hayman fire area. Some sections are nothing but charred ground and stumps, some hillsides were skipped, and most of the riparian areas are intact. Now that we're getting rains, we're getting some green coming up in some areas, and mudslides in others.

I know that many of you are field types that see this condition every day – but I want to encourage the people like myself, sitting in cities, or universities, or offices, to get out and see what is going on. Private landowners are under tremendous stress. Government employees are taking heat for difficult decisions based on extreme conditions.

Is there a point to this? Yes, and that's to try and look for that proverbial silver lining in the storm clouds. We have a great opportunity to educate the general public on rangeland condition, the effects of extended drought, and even the effect on dove and other wildlife populations. I would venture to say that most casual conversations turn to weather at some point – this is the time to mention the challenges that we face in range management and planning.

As elected officials plan on emergency relief, I see agency personnel focusing on developing mitigation plans for future events. How do we restore prescribed fire and other management techniques to ecosystems that need it, and educate the public that some fire is good? How do we develop drought-resistance plans and programs for range? The key to selling these plans is education. SRM is working hard to be more proactive in this arena. We are working with elected officials, scores of partners, and the general public. We have upcoming trips to Washington DC, we are issuing press releases, we are developing a whole new line of educational issue papers.

I believe that while these efforts are valuable, and will provide significant payout, they are not as effective as the one-on-one conversations between SRM members and the general public. Don't forget that SRM is not just a group of technical range managers – we must be educators also. Nature has given us almost too many casual conversation topics this year.

Day Workshops To Focus On Integrated Resource Management

Maximizing forage resources and cow-calf profitability are the focal points of a Northern Integrated Resource Management (IRM) conference series set for four locations this fall. The one-day conferences will be held at the following locations:

- Nov. 19, Bismarck, ND; Best Western Doublewood Inn; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Contact Kris Ringwall, North Dakota State University, 701/483-2427, kringwal@ndsuext.nodak.edu; or Greg Lardy, North Dakota State University, 701/231-7660, glardy@ndsuext.nodak.edu.
- **Nov. 21,** Chadron, NE, Chadron State College; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Contact Trey Patterson, 605/394-2236, patterson.trey@ces.sdstate.edu.
- Dec. 3, Moline, IL, The Mark of the Quad Cities; 3 to 9 p.m.; Contact Rich Knipe, University of Illinois, 309/792-2500, rknipe@uiuc.edu or Alan Miller, University of Illinois, 217/333-1786, ajmiller@uiuc.edu.
- **Dec. 5,** St. Joseph, MO, Stoney Creek Inn, 3 to 9 p.m.; Contact Amie Schleicher, University of Missouri, 660/744-6231, schleichera@missouri.edu.

The sessions will feature presentations on how to evaluate production and economic changes within the cow-calf operation, strategies to manage year-round forage supplies, implementation of forage and herd management practices, and profit optimization of these beef systems practices. Besides these presentations, each seminar will also feature breakout sessions highlighting topics of local interest on grazing and cattle management.



Society for Range Management Advocacy Guidelines (Rev. July 2002)

These guidelines provide guidance to SRM members and sections who propose or prepare advocacy statements on behalf of the parent Society (hereinafter referred to as Society) or its subunits (Sections and Chapters). The guidelines that follow were designed to ensure that:

SRM's external advocacy will be ethically and professionally sound; advocacy statements will not degrade the SRM's reputation as the most reliable source of scientific information on rangeland resources; rangeland related scientific information will be used appropriately when members address rangeland resource issues; and advocacy statements will be widely supported within the SRM because they will be technically correct, respectful of alternative views, and consistent with SRM Policy Statements, Position Statements, Bylaws, the SRM Code of Ethics, and Standards for Conduct for SRM Members Providing Public Service.

Members and Sections planning to influence an external issue and to invoke the credibility of the SRM or its members shall adhere to the SRM's Bylaws, which state:

Sections, in their speech, writing, and action shall conform to the principles, policies, and objectives of the Society, as set forth in its Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, or duly approved statements of policy and principle (SRM Bylaws, Article VII. Sections, Section 6.)

The purpose and functions of a Chapter shall, in general, be the same as those specified for Sections, and in all their actions and activities Chapters shall conform to the principles, policies, and objectives of the Society as set forth in its Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, or duly approved statements of policy and principle (SRM Bylaws, Article VIII. Section Chapters, Section 5.).

Each Chapter and Section shall have the authority to formulate statements within the area of its jurisdiction and consistent with Society Policy Statements (SRM Bylaws, Article XI. Policy, Section 7. (g)).

A. What is Advocacy?

Advocacy may be simply defined as arguing for a cause, often on behalf of others. Arguments may be written or expressed orally, and sometimes they must be developed reasonably quickly. Advocacy is on its strongest ground when it is based on a hierarchy of instruments used as official expressions of SRM views.

The principal instruments are SRM Policy Statements, Position Statements, legislative briefing statements, and Resolutions.

Policy statements are general statements of principle about resource topics that explain and justify the SRM's perspective or attitude in largely philosophical terms. Policies generally have a long life span, perhaps 10–20 years. Policies may be approved by the Board of Directors or referred to the membership for ballot vote.

Position statements are specific stands on specific issues. They are prepared by experts, scientifically documented, and rigorously reviewed. They must be consistent with SRM policies, and are approved by the Board of Directors.

Legislative briefing statements include written statements detailing specific stands on specific items of legislation. These are developed and approved like position statements, with which they must be consistent. Legislative briefing statements also include testimony made before legislative committees and other information provided to legislative bodies. Anyone offering such testimony or information as a representative of SRM, or a section or chapter of SRM, must ensure that it is consistent with SRM policies. SRM Board of Directors approval must be given before a member represents SRM in providing testimony or information.

Resolutions are issue statements that are peer-reviewed by committees and approved at an official Society or Section meeting. They are less analytical than position statements or legislative briefing statements but must be consistent with SRM position statements and policies.

Position statements, legislative briefing statements, and resolutions become void when the issues they address become moot. Use of any of these instruments to promote the principles, policies, and positions of the SRM may be considered a form of advocacy, especially when it is used to influence public policy.

B. Criteria for Advocacy at the Parent Society Level

The following criteria shall be used to determine whether it is appropriate for the SRM to prepare an advocacy statement on an issue, and they provide a checklist of the steps needed to properly arrive at a statement on a particular issue. The criteria were developed to ensure, without unnecessary restrictions on advocacy, that a member does not improperly attribute personal views to the Society or one of its Sections or Chapters. Sections or Chapters preparing statements on a position should consider the additional criteria outlined in the subsequent section.

- 1. The issue is pertinent to SRM's goals and objectives as stated in its Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.
- 2. The importance of the issue warrants the effort of SRM's officers, members, and staff to address, given the existence of other issues. Urgency may be a factor if failure to act will place a resource in jeopardy.
- 3. The appropriate organization level of SRM was considered to address the issue (ie; parent Society, Sections, chapters). Considerations include the geographic limits of the issue and the locations of experts able to prepare an accurate position.
- 4. Significant membership support for action is evidenced or known, or if not, the reason why members are unaware of the issue is legitimate.

- 5. Alternative views on the issue were considered.
- 6. Administrative resources and funds to pursue the action to completion are available or can be secured.
- Consideration has been given to joint action with other concerned organizations in order to strengthen the position taken.

C. Guidelines for Subunits on Development of Advocacy Statements

Sections or Chapters should adopt internal procedures to manage the development and advocacy of policy statements, position statements, legislative briefing statements, and resolutions. The internal procedures should address the criteria used to select issues. Procedures should provide sufficient guidelines for quality control, such as peer review, of written products that advocate a position or action. Subunits should consult SRM headquarters to develop a mechanism for relaying and promoting their policies and positions to all concerned parties. The following steps provide procedures for developing and advocating subunit policy statements, position statements, legislative briefing statements or resolutions:

- 1. A member or committee raises a formal concern or issue.
- 2. The subunit's executive or other committee reviews the issue based on the following questions:
 - a. Is the issue pertinent to the subunit's goals?
 - b. Do (or will) subunit members support the position?
 - c. Is the position consistent with parent society position?
 - d. Does the subunit have adequate expertise and technical information to develop a position?
 - e. Have alternative views been considered?
 - f. Is the urgency of the issue so great that the officers or executive committee would have to act without full membership approval?
 - g. Would the subunit be willing, and does it have the resources, to follow through?
 - h. Do geographic boundaries and other aspects of the issue make subunit involvement appropriate?
 - i. Should other subunits or entities be involved?
 - j. Do the potential benefits of taking action outweigh the risks?
- 3. When the subunit determines that the issue is appropriate for action, it:
 - a. subjects the issue to further development if necessary,
 - b. solicits an independent review (necessary for all but the most minor issues; the greater the sensitivity and importance of the issue, the more intensive the review should be), and
 - c. takes the recommended action and notifies SRM headquarters.
- 4. The actions taken by the subunit may include (but are not necessarily limited to):
 - a. sending a letter with a request for action or comments;
 - b. drafting and sending a resolution;
 - c. preparing a position paper, legislative briefing paper, or policy paper (copied to SRM headquarters);

- d. referring the issue to SRM headquarters with recommendations;
- e. recommending an educational forum;
- f. taking no action but providing supporting rationale to proponents.

D Accountability and Oversight

The SRM must be assured that when members advocate their own interests or personal opinions, they clearly distinguish their views from those of the SRM. Members must not leave the impression that personal views represent the Society or subunit views. When a position is identified with the Society or subunit, some level of review is essential to ensure quality control and membership concurrence with the position expressed. However, this must be balanced with the equally valid concern that an overly lengthy or structured review process interferes with SRM's ability to act or respond quickly when necessary.

The following guidelines address the accountability for and oversight of advocacy activities:

- New subunit leaders should attend the orientation and training that is to be provided for emerging leaders at annual meetings of the SRM, and when possible at the Section level. Training sessions should include a section on the sensitivity, policies, and oversight associated with advocacy.
- 2. When it develops, reviews, and promulgates advocacy statements, each subunit must conform to the SRM's established position on the subject and to the overall policy on development and advocacy of SRM positions, as stated at the beginning of this chapter.
- 3. When possible, the subunit's executive committee should review the relevance and urgency of advocacy statements, the appropriateness of a response by the subunit, general membership support, minority views, available resources, and potential for achieving the desired effect.
- 4. In an emergency, when lack of action may result in serious harm to a resource, the SRM president and/or other officers, including the executive director, should be consulted. With their concurrence, the executive director or a subunit member should forward the best professional opinion or position to appropriate officials. Prior consultation with SRM experts or concerned subunits should be conducted by whatever means possible. If time permits, membership approval should also be obtained.
- 5. Except for emergency resolutions, subunit resolutions advocating a position must undergo a rigorous review by an appropriate number of independent experts knowledgeable on the subject. Subunits advancing resolutions are directed to follow the guidance provided in SRM Bylaws, Article XI. Policy, Section 7. Resolutions submitted by subunits for adoption by the SRM at its annual meeting will be considered by the Public Affairs Committee, which may solicit additional independent reviews.
- 6. For each formal position taken, the organizational sponsor Society, Section, or Chapter should be clearly identified so there is no confusion as to the position's source.





E. Authorized Representation

The SRM and its subunits must have mechanisms to ensure that their letterheads, logos, and other identifiers are used for advocacy purposes only as specifically authorized pursuant to the SRM's advocacy policies and procedures. It is emphasized again that when members present an SRM position, they must state the position accurately, identify the SRM organizational unit responsible for it, and refrain from embellishing with personal opinion unless the opinion is identified as such. All of the foregoing is to be guided by the SRM Bylaws and Code of Ethics.

F. Education and Outreach Need

The SRM's advocacy guidelines must be conveyed to newly elected officers and representatives at all SRM organizational levels. Newer members entering leadership positions often lack exposure and sensitivity to SRM's concerns about advocacy of issues. Longtime members may find advocacy a new experience in the SRM, even though many other professional societies have assumed advocacy roles for many years. For these and other leaders, the SRM should develop training and information programs that foster awareness of and adherence to established advocacy protocols.

Training and Information

The SRM will offer leadership orientation each year at the annual meeting, and at as many subunit meetings as opportunities permit. This instruction will cover advocacy procedures as well as introductions to SRM's Bylaws, Policy Statements, Positions Statements, Legislative Briefing Statements, Resolutions, Code of Ethics, and Robert's Rules of Order. It will cover any training materials and documents that have been developed by the SRM and its subunits as well as manuals, videos, or other media that record current positions or roles. All members, and subunit officers in particular, are encouraged to attend any such orientation available to them.

Subunit leaders and developing leaders should stay abreast of SRM advocacy activities as published in *Rangelands*, The *Trailboss News*, and other SRM communications. They are expected to become familiar with the legal ramifications, risks, and liabilities pertaining to their professional activities as representatives of the SRM. Before engaging in any advocacy action on behalf of the SRM, members should be thoroughly familiar with these guidelines and with all related material in SRM Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation. To help members and officers to become familiar with the positions of the SRM at all levels, a central registry of Policy statements, Position Statements, legislative briefing statements, and resolutions will be maintained on the SRM homepage (http://www.rangelands.org).

In addition to the above training, the SRM will offer continuing education workshops at the annual meeting regarding legislative affairs and formulation of public policy. Members and officers representing policies and positions of the SRM or its subunits are expected to present themselves and their positions in accordance with the highest standards of professionalism, including but not limited to matters of dress, language, demeanor, and sensitivity to the rights and opinions of others. Subunits are encouraged to institute multi-year progressions for elected officers or multi-year presidencies to expand corporate memory.

USDA Unveils New Electronic Technical Guides

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) sponsored a media roundtable and demonstration yesterday to unveil the new electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG). NRCS Chief Bruce Knight presented opening remarks. This project makes the scientifically proven and time tested NRCS conservation technology available online to anyone who uses the technical resources in the guides. Content includes links to technical handbooks and manuals, technical tools that help generate conservation alternatives, conservation practice standards, conservation effects case study reports, and technical tools that evaluate effects of conservation treatment.

For more information see the NACD News Release at http://www.nacdnet.org/news/ElTecG.htm. To access electronic technical guides, visit the NRCS website at http://www.nrcs.usda.gov. Look under Technical Resources for eFOTG and then select a state.

SRM Welcomes New Members

The following is a list of SRM's new members:

David Albus Cynthia Buckert Robert Campbell Justin Clary Fara Ann Currim Bob Drake Camilo Garcia Graham Good Stephen Griffith Xulin Guo Boyd Hatch John Hughes Gene Hull Chris Jasmine John Jefferies Jeff Mortenson Michel Oliver James Robinson James Shackelford Kathryn Sheehan Samuel Smallidge Marni Thompson Cal Thorson David Trujillo Ken Zimmerman

Certification Corner

Leonard Jolley, Certification Program Manager

My thanks to the many Certified Professionals in Rangeland Management who contacted Natalie and myself this summer to submit and check on CEUs. I also sent out a reminder to all of the CPRMs for whom I had an email address – if you did not receive one, please let us know an email address you prefer for occasional updates.

Many of you have visited the new web site at www.rangelands.org to check on your records, change addresses or phone numbers, add emails, etc. You can also check CEU status there. If you have trouble logging in, it may be a problem with your password, or as we found in couple of cases, your membership may have lapsed. Both are easily fixed! As the Annual Section meetings are coming up, most have CEUs available.

Some of our CPRMs (and a lot of our Certified Range Mgt Consultants) are in a position to be interested in the new Technical Service Providers program USDA NRCS is developing. I have only had about 20 interested responses so far.

The recent 2002 Farm Bill contains an increase in funding for conservation that will likely exceed the ability of NRCS field staff to keep up. As the funding for EQIP and other programs increases, there will be a role for CPRMs who can function as a Technical Service Provider to conduct range inventory, planning, and design work for conservation practices on rangeland. The August *Trail Boss News* provided background on this by Deen Boe under his Washington byline.

On Sept. 12 NRCS and Chief Bruce Knight hosted a satellite teleconference to unveil a few details about the program. 'Technical Service Providers' will be able to assist with the design and layout of conservation practices on private land, to augment NRCS field staff. They will be compensated at a level equivalent to 'full federal cost', and will be required to be certified. Many details remain to be worked out. As we went to press there was a link to this site at www.nrcs.usda.gov.

Chief Knight said that he was determined that this increase in 2002 Farm Bill funding for conservation would stimulate a more robust private sector conservation industry to complement the NRCS and District staff nationwide. Since he envisions having this in place under Interim rules in October, we hope to see new policy and rules soon.

NRCS certification requirements will likely mean that an MOU will be necessary between SRM and NRCS in your state to facilitate the employment of CPRMs as Technical Service Providers. I have tried to keep your Section leadership informed – please let me know how I can assist in your state.

Please contact me if you have questions or wish to express interest in the program.

Dr. Brown Accepts Outstanding Achievement Award

The Texas Cooperative Extension Natural Resources Leadership Course for Extension Agents (NRLC) has been selected to receive the 2002 RNRF Outstanding Achievement Award. The two-year, four-workshop course, developed by the Texas A&M Institute of Renewable Natural Resources, provides county extension agents with first-hand knowledge of resource management conflicts, solutions and regulations. Workshop activities prepare agents to help local leaders make sound resource management decisions and to resolve local conflicts over endangered species listings, wetland regulations, water rights and other conservation issues.

Sixty extension agents have graduated from the NRLC, and 32 currently are enrolled. Funding for the course is provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. For more information on the NLRC, contact Dr. Robert D. Brown, director of the Institute of Renewable Natural Resources, at (979)-845-1261, email: rdbrown@tamu.edu.

SRM member Dr. Brown will accept the award on behalf of the program at the annual meeting of the RNRF Board of Directors on November 19, in Potomac, MD.

BUD'S ADOBE DOG HOUSE, a children's book by Thad Box and Marie Dwyer was released September 10. The story, originally told to Thad's grandkids in Mesilla, New Mexico is about the problems of housing a dog named Bud who wants a house made of mud. Award winning artist Marie Dwyer from Las Cruces, New Mexico has captured both the dog's impish personality and the charm of adobe construction in her original watercolors. The 28 full color pages delight children and grownups alike. The book retails from \$13.99. It may be ordered directly from the publisher, www.Xlibris.com/bookstore, at a 15% discount or ordered through your favor bookseller.





Range Society Raises Concerns About New Report's Recommendations for Future Management of Riparian Areas

The content of a recent National Research Committee (NRC) report entitled "Riparian Areas: Functions and Strategies for Management," is of considerable concern to the 3600+ members of the Society for Range Management (SRM). Of particular concern to SRM is the report's unbalanced approach to sustaining Western US riparian zones wherein the primary recommendation was simply to eliminate livestock grazing.

"The problem with this over-simplified recommendation," according to Dr. Rod Heitschmidt, President of SRM, "is that it limits management options. Certainly, carefully managed grazing is important to sustaining riparian areas, and the scientific literature provides insight into ways that managed grazing can increase both the ecological and economic benefits derived from riparian areas." He goes on to add that "this is particularly important because appropriate management of Western US riparian zones is critical for sustaining the rural industries and communities associated with these systems. SRM is most disappointed in the committee's failure to either acknowledge or appreciate the merits of wellmanaged livestock grazing in sustaining riparian zones."

Heitschmidt stated that SRM believes the two fundamental reasons the report was so unbalanced were: 1) the NRC's failure to include on the Committee a senior rangeland ecologist with experience in arid and semi-arid riparian zone ecology; and 2) the Committee's heavy reliance on non-peer reviewed publications in shaping their conclusions and recommendations. As such, the Committee failed to either acknowledge or consider that most degradation of Western US riparian zones occurred in the late 1800s and early 1900s and that there are numerous examples today wherein riparian conditions have improved with properly managed livestock grazing.

SRM also found it ironic that the conclusions in this report are in direct conflict with those from another recent NRC report on ungulate grazing in Yellowstone National Park (YNP). In that report, it was concluded that heavy intensity, unmanaged grazing of riparian areas by wild ungulates, primarily elk, was "natural" and therefore totally acceptable. "The contrasting conclusions forwarded by these two NRC reports simply serve to emphasize the risks associated with unbalanced scientific reviews," says Heitschmidt. "We find it ironic that the National Academy of Science would concurrently publish one report that concludes well-managed, moderate intensity livestock grazing is inappropriate for sustaining riparian areas and another report that concludes unmanaged, heavy intensity grazing by wildlife is appropriate," he said.

Learn more about SRM and rangelands at www.rangelands.org.

(This was issued as September SRM Press Release).

The American Fisheries Society Holds Annual Meeting

by Deen Boe, Washington DC Representative

The American Fisheries Society (AFS) held their 2002 annual meeting in Baltimore, MD in mid-August. More than 1500 attended with about 700 oral presentations and 12 concurrent sessions.

At the invitation of AFS leadership, I had the opportunity to represent SRM at their Governing Board Meeting and attend a number of other activities during the opening weekend of the meeting. I was also able to visit one-on-one with most of AFS's top leadership to explore partnership opportunities with SRM. AFS has placed a high priority as has SRM on actively seeking out and implementing mutually beneficial partnership activities.

There are a number of internal operations where AFS and SRM could share experiences to help each other strengthen activities. Several AFS operational items of note include their Info-Base system, certification program, electronic tracking system for manuscripts, and book publication activities. AFS also has a program titled the Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Program, wherein grant money is used to place high school students with mentors at a variety of agencies. AFS is also doing some early exploration of forming a Fisheries Foundation to raise funds for implementing Society programs.

As a peripheral item, I noted that the AFS annual meeting registration fee for members was \$295 (which AFS graciously waived for a SRM representative). They also charged additional fees from \$60 to \$200 for a variety of continuing education courses offered during the annual meeting.

Since the August meeting AFS has named several members to represent AFS in development of the Range Environmental Assessment Program (REAP). The REAP development effort is being led by Jim O'Rourke for SRM.

Sam Albrecht and I have committed to meeting with AFS's new President Fred Harris and Executive Director Gus Rassam in the latter part of September. During this meeting we will identify additional partnership opportunities and discuss in more detail those which could be implemented in the next year or so.

\$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.

UI Launches New Restoration Ecology Certificate Program

This fall, people interested in learning about a variety of ecological disciplines can do so at the University of Idaho without having to earn a second bachelor's degree.

The UI College of Natural Resources is introducing a new web-based restoration ecology certificate designed for students who have completed an undergraduate degree in a related field from an accredited institution. The certificate will appeal to a variety of non-degree seeking natural resource professionals who desire further training in ecology.

The program was developed over the past two years through funding by the State Board of Education Technology Grants Program and can be completed entirely online. It also is open to others who might be only interested in taking one or two of the following courses, rather than completing the entire certificate.

The restoration ecology certificate consists of five courses (12 credits total) and covers such integrated subjects as general restoration ecology, social and human dimensions of restoration ecology, aquatic restoration, and fire ecology. Together these courses provide an in-depth knowledge of current concepts and tools currently used in the field of restoration ecology and may be of substantial interest to government agency employees, non-governmental organizations, and private companies who wish to understand current issues and new techniques in restoration ecology. A list of the courses and available credits are as follows:

Restoration Ecology, 3 credits;

Aquatic Restoration Ecology, 3 credits;

Fire Ecology, 1 credit;

Human Dimensions in Restoration Ecology, 3 credits;

Practicum in Restoration Ecology, 2 credits.

Fire Ecology and Human Dimensions in Restoration Ecology are open for fall registration. Contact UI Admissions for registration information at:

http://www.uidaho.edu/admissions.

Five veteran instructors will be available by email and phone to advise and assist students with coursework and the program prerequisites. Anyone who meets the prerequisites or has permission from the instructor may enroll in these courses. More detailed information is available at

http://www.its.uidaho.edu/cnr/certificates.



Onward & Upward

Kindra Gordon has left her post as editor of the Tri-State Livestock News in Sturgis, SD, and is an adjunct faculty in the Mass Communications Department at Black Hills State University in Spearfish, SD. Her new position is part-time which Kindra says will allow her more time with her family and to expand her freelance writing assignments. This summer Kindra also took on the role of editor of the Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI) newsletter. You may contact her at 605-722-7699 or kindras@gordonresources.com.

Lost Resources

Noy Brackett II, 88, of Three Creek, ID died August 27, 2002. A long time member of SRM, Noy was raised on his parent's ranch at Three Creek. He was in the third generation of the Brackett family ranching in southern Idaho that began with his grandparents in the 1880's. Priorities in Noy's life were family, ranching and politics. He was a classic cowboy but he understood the necessity of not only belonging to but also providing leadership for organizations that protected ranching and promoted range management. He served as secretary-treasurer for the 71 Livestock Association (one of the oldest associations in the U.S.) for 37 years. He served as a director and as president of the Idaho Cattlemen's Association and as a regional vice-president in the National Cattlemen's Association. He was president of the Southern Idaho Chapter of the Society for Range Management and was later president of the Idaho Section. He served six terms in the Idaho State Legislature, where he introduced several bills related to range management. Noy grew up before the Taylor Grazing Act, when local livestock operators had to compete for grass with itinerant herds from other states. Following the establishment of grazing allotments, he was innovative in establishing rotational grazing practices and piping water with plastic pipe for miles into the desert to provide water for his cattle and wildlife.

The Southern Idaho Livestock Hall of Fame honored Noy in 1969 for his contribution to the livestock industry, and later he was inducted into the Northern International Livestock Exposition Association Hall of Fame in Billings. More recently he was named Cattleman of the Year by the Idaho Cattle Association. The family ranch is continuing on in the able hands of the fourth and fifth generations.

If you have SRM member news you would like to share in the next edition of the Trail Boss, please mail it to Maura Laverty, C/O SRM, 850 E. Whiteley Ave., Council, ID 83612 or e-mail mlaverty@fs.fed.us

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Tri-Societies Host Annual Meetings Nov. 10–14 in Indianapolis, IN

The American Society of Agronomy (ASA), Crop Science Society of America (CSSA) and Soil Science Society of America (SSSA) will hold their Annual Meetings, Nov. 10–14, at the Indiana Convention Center, Indianapolis, IN, under the theme, "Uniting Sciences: Solutions for the Global Community."

The event also features exhibits, five guided tours, companion activities, full or half-day childcare, and the ability to earn 16 board approved CCA CEUs that also qualify for other ARCPACS certification programs. The deadline to pre-register is Sept 27 and fees can be found in the Preregistration Brochure, available for download on our Web site at www.asa-cssa-sssa.org/anmeet/, or call the Societies headquarters office at 608-273-8080 for the Preregistration Brochure. You can register for the Annual Meetings and make housing reservations online by visiting: www.asa-cssa-sssa.org/anmeet/.

The American Society of Agronomy (ASA) www.agronomy.org, the Crop Science Society of America (CSSA) www.crops.org and the Soil Science Society of America (SSSA) www.soils.org are educational organizations helping members advance the discipline and practice of agronomy, crop and soil sciences by supporting scientific, educational and professional outreach, and public policy initiatives.

Carbon as a Potential Commodity The Renaissance Denver Hotel December 3-4, 2002 Denver, CO

Objective of the Carbon Sequestration Conference

The intent of the conference is to address current policy directions, the subject of carbon (C) in terms of where and by whom it is stored, the potential for C storage in an environmentally friendly and sustainable manner, and issues associated with C trading.

The conference is unique in that it brings together producers and researchers to provide practical information about the storage of C, people who can discuss the aggregation of marketable quantities of C, and those with expertise to discuss policy, projects, and potential markets for sequestered C.

Certified Crop Advisor and Certified Professional in Rangeland Management CEUs will be available. (This information will be posted on the Colorado Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society's web site www.ccswcs.org once it is finalized.)

Certified Professional in Rangeland Management CEUs - 9 If you have questions, please contact **Rich Rhoades at 719-543-8386 ext. 3 or Mary Miller at 719-384-5408**.

SRM ENDOWMENT FUND

By **Charles McGlothlin**, Chair, Endowment Fund Board of Governors

In 1980 the SRM Board of Directors approved the establishment of an Endowment Fund to support SRM programs. The Endowment Fund operated as part of the Finance Committee until 1986 when the Board of Directors decided to establish an Endowment Fund Board of Governors.

The SRM Endowment Fund was expressly established to guarantee a strong, vital future for continuing the beliefs and ideals of the Society. Contributions are strongly encouraged with the commitment to keep the fund intact and to utilize only a portion of the annual earnings from the Endowment Fund. This will enable SRM supporters to make gifts to SRM to further its objectives on a sustaining basis.

There is a continuing need to fortify SRM's financial position supported by the permanent Endowment Fund.

The Endowment Fund has been supported in years past by direct cash contributions, silent auctions, raffles, life insurance policies and bequests to the SRM.

For further information please contact the Executive Vice President of the Society for Range Management.

SRM Undergraduate Student Paper Session

This notice represents a **CALL FOR PAPERS** for the Undergraduate Student Paper Session for the 2003 SRM Annual Meetings in Casper WY, Feb. 2–7.

The undergraduate papers tend to be very diverse in both subject area and nature, spanning the realm of scientific investigation to observations from work experiences. The experience gained from presenting a paper can be valuable as students either continue with graduate work or go into the work force where presentation skills are always important.

The abstracts should follow the same format as shown in the June 2002 issue of the *Trail Boss News*. The deadline for this years title and abstract submissions is **November 1**, 2002. Please send all submissions to:

Dr. Val Anderson 493 WIDB Dept. Integrative Biology Brigham Young University Provo, UT 84602

If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns regarding this session, please feel free to contact Dr. Anderson at the address above or phone 801-422-3527 or e-mail val_anderson@byu.edu



Assistant/ Associate Professor New Mexico State University

New Mexico State University is seeking an Assistant/Associate Professor, Tenure Track, 12 month, full-time, (~30% teaching and ~70% research) for the Range Science program in the Department of Animal & Range Sciences. Demonstration of proficiency and competence in teaching is essential. Teaching duties will include undergraduate and graduate courses in areas of grazing ecology and management, incorporating such topics as rangeland ecology, research methods, livestock grazing management, and plant-herbivore interactions. Other courses may be offered depending on the interests and abilities of the successful candidate. Support and participation in all aspects of the undergraduate and graduate teaching programs is required. Ability to develop and maintain an independent research program is a requirement of this position. Research activities should be devoted to the area of grazing ecology and management as related to land use policy, and may include specific research in areas such as fire ecology, rangeland management principles, and plant-herbivore interactions. The interest and ability to obtain extramural funding and direct graduate research is important. The selected candidate is expected to complement but not duplicate current research strengths in the department. Ph.D. degree in rangeland resources is required with a preferred emphasis in grazing ecology and management. The Ph.D. degree must be completed by date of hire. Evidence of strong teaching proficiency or aptitude and successful interaction with students is necessary. The ability to cooperate and communicate with diverse student and community populations, colleagues, and government or industry clientele is required. Demonstrated research experience (design, fund, conduct, and publish a project) in the area of rangeland management is highly desirable. Evidence of the applicant s ability to conduct both independent and collaborative research should be provided. Send a letter of application, resume, and academic transcripts, and request that four letters of recommendation be sent on your behalf, addressing the qualifications and responsibilities of this position to: Dr. Mark Wise, MSC Box 3-I. Animal & Range Sciences Dept. New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM 88003. (505) 646-2515, E-Mail mawise@nmsu.edu Fax: (505)646-5441 The selection process will begin November 1, 2002, and continue until the position is filled. Minority and female applicants are strongly encouraged to apply. New Mexico State University is an equal opportunity affirmative action employer. Offer of employment is contingent upon verification of the individual's eligibility for employment in the United States.

Deadline!!!

Deadline for the November $\mathit{Trail}\ \mathit{Boss}\ \mathit{News}$ is October 15, 2002. Email, fax, or mail your information to

Production Editor, Patty Rich P.O. Box 299, 3059A Highway 92, Hotchkiss, CO 81419-9548970-872-5932 (phone and fax) e-mail <u>prich@starband.net</u>

Animal Scientist

USDA-ARS, Appalachian Farming Systems Research Center, Beaver, WV is seeking a permanent full-time Animal Scientist to serve as a team member to develop pasture-based finishing systems for beef production. Emphasis will be placed on grazing behavior under different grazing systems, as related to animal performance. Specific objectives are to identify relationships among forage species, grazing behavior, meat quality, and age at slaughter; develop and apply models to help identify and quantify best livestock management practices for existing and emerging production systems; and assist producers and farm consultants with the transfer and adoption of grazing systems technology. Knowledge of animal management and physiological mechanisms governing animal behavior and skills in grazing animal behavior research techniques required. Ph. D. is desirable. U.S. citizenship is required. Salary range \$45,285 to \$73,146 per annum plus benefits. For more information, contact Dr. William Clapham, Research Leader, at (304) 256-2857. For information on application procedures, contact Janie Carr at (301) 504-1414. For full vacancy announcement visit our web site:

> www.ars.usda.gov/afm/hrd/resjobs. USDA-ARS is an equal opportunity employer.

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Research Service (ARS) Agronomist (Support Scientist) Pasture Systems & Watershed Management Research

The Pasture Systems & Watershed Management Research Unit, ARS, USDA, located on the campus of Pennsylvania State University, has a challenging position for a permanent full-time Agronomist. This individual will serve as a Support Scientist and will be responsible for coordinating the design, implementation, operation, and data management of the different projects that make up the grazing land ecology research program. Duties will include developing and implementing experimental plans to determine how to best manage grazing lands. This includes planning details, selecting appropriate methods and procedures and carrying out tests and experiments within prescribed approaches. Candidates must have knowledge of the principles, methods, and techniques of agronomy and plant ecology; knowledge of ecophysiology research techniques; knowledge of and skill in Statistical Analysis System (SAS) Software; skill in experimental design and statistical analysis; skill in multivariate statistical analysis techniques; and skill in calibrating, maintaining, operating, and modifying moderately complex analytical instruments. U.S. citizenship is required. Salary commensurate with experience, GS-9 to GS-11; \$37,428.00 to \$58,867.00 per year. For information about this position contact: Dr. Matt Sanderson at 814-865-1067 or email at mas44@psu.edu. Visit the ARS Vacancy Web Site: www.ars.usda.gov/afm/hrd/resjobs. For application, call Ms. Donita Gibboney at 814-863-0940. Applications must be marked by ARS-X2E-2561, be complete and postmarked by November 21, 2002.

> USDA/ARS is an equal opportunity employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply



Candidates for SRM Second Vice-President: Stroud, Williams



Michael C. Stroud San Diego, California

Education: B.S. Forestry (Range Option) 1969 and M.S. Range Management, 1970, Univ. of California, Berkeley

Occupation: Manager, Natural and Cultural Resources Program, SW Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (1980 to present) formerly Soil Conservationist, Navy (1975-1979) and Range Conservationist, Army (1971-1974).

Section Activities: California Section President (1978); Board of Directors (1975-1977); Secretary-Treasurer (1980-1988); Historian/Archivist (1976-1990); Spring Tour Coordinator (1976 & 1977); Chair, Section Officer's Handbook Committee (1982-1983); Chair, Range Camp Organizing Committee (1984-1985); Range Camp Finance Chair and Instructor (1985 to present); Chaperone & Coach for High School Youth Forum Delegates (1986 to 2000); Chair, Professional Certification Panel (1988-present); Recipient Range Manager of the Year (1988) and Special Service (1987) Awards.

SRM Activities: Member 36 years; Finance Officer and member Annual Meeting Planning Committee 2001 SRM meeting, Kona, HI; Planning Committee and Hospitality Co-chair 1980 SRM meeting, San Diego, CA; Chair Ad Hoc By-laws Review and Revision Committee (1979-1980); Chair, Finance Committee (1998); Chair, Student Affairs Committee (1992); Chair, National Range Conference Goals and Accomplishments Task Group (1988); Chair, Professional Affairs Committee (1988 & 1989); Member: Planning Committee (1984-1986); Awards Committee (1993-1995); Affiliations Committee (1993-1994); Leadership Development Task Force (1986-1988); Summer Meeting Planning Committee for 1990 meeting in Monterrey, Mexico; Editorial Review Board *Rangelands* (1980-1982). Recipient Fellow Award (1991).

Other: Member, Professional Foresters and Certified Rangeland Managers Examining Committee of the State Board of Forestry (1999-2002); Department of the Navy delegate to Department of Defense Task Force on Natural Resources Management Policy (1984); Department of Defense delegate to the Keystone Center "Dialogue on Biological Diversity" (1988-1990); Recipient of Department of Navy Special Achievement Awards (1988, 1989 and 1992); Recipient, Naval Facilities Engineering Command "Green Thumb" Award for Environmental Achievement (1998); Recipient Distinguished Service Award, California Chapter, Soil & Water Conservation Society (1993); Certified Rangeland Manager (California License); Registered Professional Forester (California License); Department of Navy Real Estate Contracting Officer(Warrant); Certified Professional in Range Management (SRM). Recipient Dept of Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award (2002).

Statement by Michael C. Stroud

It is truly an honor to be nominated for Second Vice President of the Society for Range Management. SRM has been an important part of my professional and personal life for over 35 years. To keep our Society strong and viable, we must continue to emphasize solid financial planning and strong, forward thinking strategic planning. We must have the combined efforts and talents of all of our dedicated members from students through retirees.

Our meetings, both international and section, must remain a focal point for our organization. They are a time for acquiring new knowledge, planning for the future, renewing old friendships and making new friends of colleagues who share the same commitment to rangelands and their resources.

Our journals and other publications serve as a foundation for our work and anchor our credibility. We must continue to provide to the profession and to the public at large, the most complete and comprehensive information on rangeland management and rangeland resources possible.

We must continue to challenge ourselves, our constituents and the public to better understand and thus make better decisions regarding these resources. We need to use all of the tools available to us (scientific, technological, social and political) to reach these goals and to share our story.

One of my goals would be to reemphasize the concept of mentorship within our organization. The need for mentorship is at all levels beginning in college and continuing throughout our careers. I'm proud of our heritage and our founders, I'm challenged by the rapidly developing technology and ever changing social and political perceptions of what "good" rangeland resource management should be and I'm excited and optimistic about what the future of rangeland resources and rangeland managers can be.



Angela S. Williams Paoli, Oklahoma

Education: B.S., Wildlife Management, Oklahoma State Univ.; B.S., Range Management, Oklahoma State Univ.; Oklahoma Agriculture Leadership Program graduate.

Occupation: Oklahoma State Univ. - Research Technician; Oklahoma Dept. of Wildlife Conservation - Research Technician; USDA-NRCS - Range Conservationist, Area Range Conservationist & District Conservationist.

Section Activities: Past-President of the Kansas-Oklahoma Section; Past-President of the Oklahoma Section.

SRM Activities: SRM Advisory Council, SRM Board of Directors; I&E Committee; Small Tract Rangeland Task Group; Excellence in Range Management Committee; Producer Affairs; *Rangelands* Editorial Board; Governmental Programs and Policy Committee.

Other: Oklahoma Chapter of Holistic Resource Management; Oklahoma Land Stewardship Alliance; Oklahoma Working Group for Sustainable Agriculture; Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association; International Ag Leadership Alumni Association.

Statement by Angela S. Williams

My vision for the Society for Range Management is to continue to support and facilitate the many changes that are already underway within this organization. I am encouraged that the Society's membership has taken



the responsibility for many of these charges as well as SRM's leadership. Communication, internally and externally, has increased ten-fold and

must continue to be a critical cornerstone in our professional society's growth, visibility and recognition. Our Washington image has flourished with the dedication of staff, leadership and members and we have joined diverse groups in critical issue discussions, technological transfers and general education and information. We must keep the momentum going.

We must also continue to value the diversity of our resources. This means not only the natural resources but people resources. Some may chose to differ but I feel this society has more cross-cultural/cross-professional member relationships than any other I've been affiliated with. We have a diversity of membership demographics that not many professional societies can brag about. Anyone who has not had the opportunity to participate in a National meeting has missed the spirit of our Society. As passionate as we are diverse, we work hard together, play hard together and ultimately strive for the same goal of caring for the rangeland resource.

I believe in the continued support of the core values brought forth through the Journey to Change's original workgroups Love for the Resource, Love for the Learning and Love of the fellowship and camaraderie. In addition, and most important to me is the continued commitment to providing a safe haven for member's ideas, discussions and education.

We have taken the steps towards planning our future and they involve change and sensitivity to these core values. Change is essential and to ease the aches and pains associated with it, everyone has been and will continue to be provided the opportunity to provide input into our Strategic, Business and Financial plans.

I hope to support change, maintain flexibility in implementing change and keep an open and positive attitude about the changes to come. I challenge you to join me by taking an active role in the future of our society.

Candidates for SRM Directors: Burwell, Drawe, Rasmussen, Stine



Jeff Burwell Ft. Collins, Colorado

Education: B.S., Range-Forest Management, Colorado State Univ. *Occupation:* State Resource Conservationist, USDA-NRCS, 2001-present; NRCS Liaison to SRM, 1999-2001; Resource Conservationist, USDA-NRCS, 1991-1999; Farm/Ranch Manager, Rush, CO, 1984-1991; District Conservationist, Range Conservationist, USDA-NRCS, 1975-1984; Range Research Technician, Agricultural Research Service, Central Plains Experimental Range, 1973-1975.

SRM Activities: CPRM Committee Co-Chair, 2002-present; Acting Executive Vice President, SRM, March-July, 2001; Certified Professional in Rangeland Management Program Manager and Public Affairs Manager, 1999-2001; Advisory Council, 1995-1997; CRM Committee, 1997-1999; Crested Butte Summer Meeting Chair, 1996;

CRP Committee, 1994-1996. Hospitality Committee Chair, 1994 Colorado Springs Annual Meeting.

Section Activities: President, Colorado Section 1996; Annual Meeting Chair, 1995; Director, 1983-1985; Secretary/Treasurer, 1981-1982; Initiated Southeastern Colorado FFA Range Judging Contest, 1978; President, CSU Student Chapter, 1974-1975.

Statement by Jeff Burwell

As a young range student at Colorado State University in the early 70's, I was fortunate enough to have some sage advice from Dr. Phil Sims. As I recall, he had a SRM application in one hand and my midterm exam in the other. In Phil's quiet and gentlemanly way, he suggested that it would be to my benefit to join SRM. I quickly filled out the application. I can honestly and sincerely say that Phil's advice was the best I've ever received. SRM's mission and vision are the compelling reasons why I belong. Professional development, educational opportunities, and networking are benefits derived from being a member and enable all of us collectively to be better stewards of the land.

I have been fortunate enough to work closely with the Board of Directors and several committees to craft our Certified Professional in Rangeland Management program. This program has helped raise the awareness of our professionals and instill the value of continuing education. The role for a highly educated and trained cadre of range professionals is just as important today as it was over 50 years ago when our Society was founded. This is an important service SRM provides to members. We need to continue this effort and explore new options to elevate our profession and strengthen our role as the leader in rangeland conservation.

As we've journeyed through change under the able leadership of Kendall, Jim, and Rodney, we discovered that perhaps we weren't serving the needs of our membership or the rangeland resource. So we met and met, and wrung our hands, and talked, and trained, and made new plans. This took us through a strategic planning process that provides the framework that will guide our society down the path to fulfill our mission and vision. The business, communication, and marketing plans that are being drafted from the Strategic Plan are key to reinvigorating membership and strengthening our society .I am confident this process will do just that. I have received so much from SRM and want to use this opportunity to give back what I can, which is my time and energy, my commitment to work with the Board, the Advisory Council, and committees, and my pledge to you.



D. Lynn Drawe Sinton, Texas

Education: Ph.D., Rangeland Ecology, Utah State Univ., 1971 M.Sc., Range Management, Texas Tech Univ., 1967 B.S., Agricultural Education, Texas A&I Univ., 1964

Occupation: 1999 to present, Director, Rob and Bessie Welder Wildlife Foundation (Assistant Director-1974-1998); 1970-74, Assistant Professor of



Range and Wildlife Management, College of Agriculture, Texas A&I Univ., Kingsville, TX; born and raised on a south Texas ranch; own and operate a weekend ranch (350 acres, 30 cows).

Professional emphasis and interests: My professional interests have been oriented toward the practical application of my research findings in the areas of rangeland-livestock-wildlife interactions, grazing systems, taxonomy of south Texas plants, and prescribed burning. My outlet for this work has been through publication of more than 80 professional and non-professional articles and three books.

Section Activities: 1971-74, Member Youth Activities Committee; 1972-75, Junction Youth Range Camp Director; 1974, Program Chairman, Corpus Christi Annual Meeting; 1975, 1981, 1983 Chairman Nominations and Elections Committee, Member, 1982; 1977-79, Director; 1980, Member Mexico Relations Committee; 1980, Member Outstanding Contribution to Range Management Committee; 1981, Member Planning Committee; 1982, Member Nominations and Elections Committee; 1984, Co-chairman Organizing Committee, Annual Meeting, Corpus Christi; 1988-90, Liaison between The Wildlife Society and SRM; 1991, Program Chairman, Endangered Species Symposium, Austin; 1990-1992, Member Wildlife Task Group; 1997, President; 2000, Co-chairman Organizing Committee, Annual Meeting, Corpus Christi.

SRM Activities: 1999, Chairman, Research Affairs Committee; 1998, Chairman Advisory Council; 1975-76, 1981-84, 1988-90, Member Publications Committee; 1975, 1977, Chairman Publications Committee; 1986-88, Co-chairman Local Arrangements Committee, Corpus Christi Annual Meeting; 1992-1996, Member Endangered Species Task Group; 1995-97, Member Advisory Council; 1996, Chairman Endangered Species Task Group.

Other: 1977, Distinguished Conservation Award, San Patricio Soil & Water Conservation Dist.; 1983, Honorary State Farmer, FFA Area X; 1983, Trustee, Sinton Independent School District; 1987 & 1998, President, Sinton Rotary Club; 1989, Outstanding Alumnus, Texas Tech Univ., Dept. of Range & Wildlife Management; 1993, SRM Outstanding Achievement Award; 1994, Honorary Chapter Farmer, Sinton FFA; 1994, Outstanding Contribution to Range Management, Texas Section, SRM; 1995, President, Texas Chapter, The Wildlife Society; 1998, Outstanding Range Alumnus, Texas Tech Univ., College of Agriculture & Natural Resources; 2000, Professional Achievement Award, College of Natural Resources, Utah State Univ.; 2000-2002, Chairman Texas Prescribed Burning Board.

Statement by D. Lynn Drawe

It is a distinct honor to have been selected as a candidate for director of the Society for Range Management. If elected I will strive to represent the membership and to be a part of the solution to the great challenges SRM faces. I want to participate in the current efforts to bring the Society out of the 'doldrums'. I feel that I have the qualifications to give positive input into this effort. I have both the traditional 'range' background and the ability and desire to think 'out of the box' which I feel is necessary to lead the society out of its current situation. My background and philosophy in range have been formulated through my upbringing on a familyowned, commercial cattle ranch, my professional training under Thad Box, Joe Schuster, John Hunter, Jim Grumbles, and Wayne Cook, and 32 years working as a professional range scientist and rangeland manager.

SRM is truly at a crossroads. I think it was Pogo who said, "We have met the enemy and it is us!" Thad Box [*Rangelands* 23(5):27-29] listed four options for SRM for the future. I want to be involved in the decision-making process that decides which option or combination of options we choose. I do not want to see SRM choose one of Box's two other options, i.e., "... we keep flailing around and die a slow death. Or fold our tent now and slowly walk away." We need to make some decisions soon and get on with business.

At the initial Journey to Change workshop held in Fort Collins, SRM officers, directors, and section members examined our declining membership and determined that, indeed, changes are needed. SRM must continue to serve the needs of its members and the range resource as its primary mission. We must be aware of the needs and mind-set of society in general.

Our society no longer lives on and obtains its livelihood from the land, and few voters understand the land and our natural resources; therefore, we must conduct SRM activities in a format that recognizes the urban/suburban mentality of our modern society.

In response to the need for change, SRM added an Associate Membership to encourage absentee landowners, conservationists, and others to join and receive assistance from the vast store of information SRM has developed over the years. This was only one small step towards a solution to the dilemma with which we are faced. The analysis of our financial situation by John Tanaka and the Finance Committee is excellent, and gives SRM a better view of what has to be done in the near future in terms of finances, dues, membership, and planning. The efforts to understand our needs in Washington D.C. by Jim O'Rourke and others will lead us eventually to decisions about SRM's role in D.C. and how that role will be carried out. We must continue SRM's 'Journey to Change' introspection, and carry through on our thoughts 'out of the box'.



G. Allen Rasmussen Kingsville, Texas

Education: B.S. Wildlife Ecology, Texas A&M University, MS Range Science Texas A&M University, Ph.D. Range Science Texas Tech University

Occupation: Texas A&M University - Assistant Dean College of Agriculture and Human Sciences.

Section Activities: Utah Section - Secretary, Treasure, President, 1992Summer Meeting Steering Committee, Co-chairman Publicity SRM 1992 summer meeting, Co-chairman for Field Tours SRM 1992 summer meeting, Finance Committee, Annual Meeting Committee 1994-1995, Rangeland Reference Committee, High School Youth Camp

SRM Activities: SRM advisory Council, Technology Transfer Committee (chairman), Student Affairs Committee, Sub-committee Graduate Student Contest (Chairman), Ad-hoc committee for evaluation of the journal *Rangelands*, International Affairs

Statement by Allen Rasmussen

I have been an active member of the Society for Range Management since 1980. I have worked for the USFS as a summer employee, been in private business as a native plant seed collector and consultant, worked for Utah State University as an Extension Rangeland Specialist and just recently started working at Texas A&M University-Kingsville in the College of Agriculture and Human Sciences and the Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute. I have been active at the section level serving the Utah section as Treasurer, Secretary, and President and on numerous committees. I have also been on several national committees.

The Society for Range Management was formed to provide a service



for people to share ideas about the understanding and management of rangelands. During the brief time that I have been a member, the Society has seen numerous changes. I feel our primary responsibility is to ensure our members continually improve their understanding and ability to manage these dramatic lands that most people ignore. To do this we must provide the opportunity for everyone to share their knowledge of the management of our rangelands.

As a member of the Board of Directors I would work to make sure we focus on helping and supporting our members to continually improve their understanding and management capability of this unique "forgot-ten" land type.



Kimberli R. Stine Lincoln, Nebraska

Education: B.S., Agronomy, Range & Forage Option, Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln; M.Ag., Range Science, Texas A&M Univ.

Occupation: Northern Plains Grazing Lands Coordinator, USDA-NRCS, 2002 to present; State Range Management Specialist, USDA-NRCS Nebraska, 1994 to 2002; Area Resource Conservationist, USDA-NRCS Oklahoma, 1991 -1994; Range Conservationist, USDA-NRCS Texas, 1988- 1991.

Section Activities: Participate with the Nebraska Youth Range Camp and Nebraska Family Range Camp. Served on the 2001 Awards Committee. Received the Range Management Service Award in 2000. Served on several annual meeting committees. Served as Financial Officer for the 1999 SRM/AFGC Annual Meeting at Omaha.

SRM Activities: Member since 1982, Life member since 2001. Chair Government Policy and Programs Committee, 2001-2002; Government Policy and Programs Committee, 2000; CRP Committee, 1995- 1999; I&E Committee (student member), 1884. Certified Professional in Rangeland Management since 12/2000.

Other: Certificate of Merits (1988, 1990, 2-1991, and 1993); Certificate of Appreciation (1993, 1995, 1996, 1997, 2-1998, and 2001), Non-monetary Awards (1989, 1990, 1993, 1998, 2-1999, and 2001); Cash Awards (1988, 1991, 2-1992, 1995, 1996, 2-1997, 2-1998, and 1999). USDA-NRCS National Range Conservationist of the Year (1998).

Statement by Kimberli R. Stine

I've been a member of the Society for Range Management since 1982. For me it's been a long journey in discovering the responsibilities of my profession. From 1982, I finished school, worked, returned to school, started my first "real" job, moved several times, and finally arrived to my present location I have had many tiny and big steps to my growth. Self confidence and understanding leadership and responsibility with my current job has brought me to take a giant step in my professional responsibilities to give back to the Society for Range Management and it's members.

I have always known that I need to be professional in my job and when working with the ranchers and conservation partners, but over the last few years I have come to a much deeper understanding of professionalism. To be the professional that I want to be, I must be willing to give back and not ever expect anything in return. This is why I desire to be a director for the Society.

For twenty years, I have been on the receiving end of the Society and it's members—it is time that I give back. As a life member to the Society that could amount to a long, long time, but it would still not be long enough for me to return to others what has been shared with me.

I cannot promise that I would make decisions that will please everyone, but I can say that I will listen to your view point, temper all viewpoints (even mine) and make honest decisions and recommendations with all the information that I have. The only thing that is constant is this world we live in is change. Change is difficult for everyone, but as an individual that tends to live on the edge or outside of the box, I am not afraid to try things that will propel SRM while bringing along the traditions that make us strong.

I would be my honor to be elected to serve as your director to the Society. You could not honor me more than to allow me to serve as your director.

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<u>CALL FOR PAPERS</u> First Interagency Conference on Research in the Watersheds 28-30 October 2003 Benson, AZ

(Benson is 30 miles east of Tucson, AZ) Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the USDA ARS Walnut Gulch Experimental Watershed

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Agricultural Research Service, Bureau of Land Management, Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Science, Environmental Protection Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, US Forest Service, US Geological Survey.

<u>The Purpose</u>

The conference will highlight current research being conducted in instrumented experimental watersheds that is relevant and applicable to the watershed scale. The conference is designed to encourage national and international cooperation and engage stakeholders. Invited speakers from ARS, USGS, USFS, BLM, NSF, EPA and CUAHSI will review their watershed research programs and outline future research direction. Investigators who have completed research on watershed-scale topics such as hydrology, erosion, economics, instrumentation, ecology, sociology, water quality, integrated management, remote sensing, climate change, watershed management, data management and fire are invited to submit abstracts for oral and poster presentations.

Abstracts must be submitted by **1 December 2002.** Electronic abstract submission and conference details are available at

http://www.tucson. ars.ag.gov/unit/ICRW.htm

For further information, contact Susan Moran at

smoran@tucson.ars.ag.gov or 520-670-6380 ext. 171.



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