



Photos by USDA NRCS

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The Future

Gary Frasier, SRM President

The SRM Annual Meeting in Spokane, Wash., was an exhilarating week. I wish to thank the many SRM members and their guests for taking the time and effort to make the meeting one of the most comprehensive meetings SRM members have had the privilege to attend. The SRM Annual meetings are getting better every year. I am looking forward to the 2013 Annual SRM meeting in Oklahoma City. I am sure it will be a pleasant, informative, and rewarding experience.



It was a great honor for me to stand on the stage at the Wednesday business luncheon and take the gavel from President Jack Alexander. It is going to be a challenge to continue the work that Jack initiated.

Starting in June 2011 my writing for *Rangeland News* has been discussing some of my thoughts of SRM goals. I started with the concept that SRM was at a crossroad. Last month I stated that I believe that SRM is on the start of a new journey. At the

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Executive Vice President's Report

Jess Peterson

I'm glad February had an extra day because I am pretty sure I used every minute of February to the max! SRM had a very productive month as we moved forward with post-annual meeting work.

I am pleased to be reporting on several exciting range-related issues. First off, a big hats off to Mark Hayek and his colleagues for their work in putting together the 2012 Tri-state Conservation Grazing Workshop, which will take place Aug. 21 and 22. Click here: <http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/2012conservationgrazingworkshop> for more information about this event.

Karen Bassler, Rebecca Power and John Kriva with the University of Wisconsin Extension, along with a solid group of conservation leaders, are involved in an ex-

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**Next Online Deadline:
March 15, 2012**

**Next Print Deadline:
April 15, 2012**

EVP Report *continued from page 1*

citing project known as the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Readiness Initiative. SRM greatly appreciates Tren Hagman from Denver, Colo., and his involvement on this initiative as SRM's representative. For more information and to find a workshop that is coming to your area, please click here: <http://conservation-training.uwex.edu/>. We'll continue to keep you posted on the progress of these workshops in the SRM newsletter.

On Monday, Feb. 27 I attended the GLCI annual steering committee meeting that took place in Washington, D.C. These leaders are doing some great things and you need to make plans to attend GLCI's 5th Annual Conference on Grazing Lands, Dec. 9-12, 2012 in Orlando, Fla. Click here to get the latest scoop on GLCI <http://www.glci.org/>.

Tuesday, Feb. 28, found SRM Washington, D.C. Liaison Kelly Fogarty and I, along with SRM members John McClain, Tamzen Stringham, Kristie Maczko, and Pat Pfiel, at the U.S. Senate Agriculture Committee Hearing on the Conservation title within the upcoming Farm Bill. It was a positive hearing regarding the importance of the highly successful and critical sections within this title. The staff for Senate Ag Committee Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow followed up with SRM to pass along appreciation for SRM's support on this letter: <http://www.nature.org/ourinitia->

[tives/regions/northamerica/farm-bill-letter-2012.pdf](#), and for sending representatives to the hearing. More to come on SRM's work in the Farm Bill.

Speaking of Washington, D.C., SRM leadership will be making Congressional and Agency visits starting April 23 and 24. We are in the process of scheduling meetings and fine tuning the talking points regarding SRM's priorities for 2012.

SRM's work on the upcoming June 5-7, Winnemucca, Nev., ecological site description (ESD) workshop continues.

As you can see, we have a lot going on. Find out more details on all the points I just outlined here by joining us on next Thursday's SRM Action Update Call.

Thursday, March 8, 2012
10:00 am CST, 11:00 pm MST
12:00pm CST, 1pm EST
Dial: 1-213-416-6650
Access Code is: 012010#

We'll talk about the GLCI conference, ESD workshops, Farm Bill, the SRM spring fly-in and of course we'll have time available for any questions or concerns from SRM membership.

In closing, please mark your calendars for the April 12 SRM Action Update call as we will have representatives from the CRP Readiness Initiative project on the call.

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10:00 am CST, 11:00 pm MST
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Dial: 1-213-416-6650
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Next Action Update Call:
April 12, 2012
Watch www.Rangelands.org
or www.RangelandNews.org
for more information



The Future *continued from page 1*

business luncheon in Spokane I mentioned the founding start of SRM and what I see as coming with the thoughts of “Continuing Into the Future.” I am repeating much of my presentation at the luncheon here:

In January 1948, 500 men concerned about the management of our Nation’s rangelands gathered in Salt Lake City and formed the American Society for Range Management. Many were active in other societies and questioned whether they would have the personal energies and financial means to form another society. Yet these men felt that there was nowhere within the framework of the existent societies for individuals to work on bettering the natural resources of the rangelands. Quoting from Joseph Pechanic’s article in the first issue of the *Journal of Range Management*:

“Plainly, something had to be done. Our profession had no status or unity. We needed a medium for exchange of ideas and unified expression of standards. We needed also a common meeting ground for the highly varied group in the field. But it was clear that we needed to push ourselves because no one was going to do it for us.”

With this general goal in mind, the Society for Range Management was formed and today is recognized as the leader in providing information on the proper management of rangeland resources. There have been many challenges in the past 60+ years, yet the Society has prevailed and continues to tell the story. In the past few years we have had a decline in the number of members for many reasons. Yet our membership today of more than 3,000 members is even more committed than ever to ensure that the correct principles are used in managing our Nation’s rangeland resources.

We have lost most of the men who started the Society. Yet their ideas still remain. Today we have a group of people who are as passionate about proper resource management as the SRM Founding Fathers. They are young, like the SRM Founding Fathers were when they met in Salt Lake City. They believe in the same general concepts. I have no doubt these young people will carry into the future the knowledge that will allow us to always have a natural resource we call rangeland.

Some may think the SRM is outdated and past its prime. I do not believe that. Sure we could fade away, but we have

too many young individuals who have dedicated themselves to the Society for Range Management to allow that to happen. My goal for the next year is to ensure these young professionals have the resources to do the job.

We are starting on the next leg of the journey that was started in 1948 in Salt Lake City. Within the past week we have been asked to provide input to the upcoming Congressional Farm Bill. Several Organizations have asked us to “sign on” to various input documents on a variety of topics; global climate change, sage grouse habitat, wild horse and burro populations. Several SRM committees are providing valuable input to these critical issues.

The future of SRM looks brighter by the day. We have survived some trying times. I would challenge every SRM member to get involved from the Section to the International level. I plan to keep all members aware of what is happening at the BODs level every month. All you have to do is turn on your computer and look for some SRM updates or *RangeFlashes*. The information will be there. I know the younger members will do this (they use electronic media for communication and information in a way never envisioned even a few years ago). The problem is a few of us older members who still like to have something in hand like a piece of paper. For those of you who like the paper feel, let us know and you will have it.

I have to acknowledge that I consider anyone younger than me a “young professional.” Our recent SRM President, Jack Alexander, has stated several times, the young professionals are capable of carrying out the work if the “old timers” like me would just get out of the way.

Visit the SRM eStore Today!

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YouTube on the Range - Global Struggles with Drought

This month we have chosen a trio of short films depicting in stark challenges facing pastoral peoples in some of the other drought ravaged regions on the world. While the current droughts in North America have indeed inflicted both economic and ecological pain, they truly pale in comparison to the literally life-or-death predicaments facing fellow human beings on the far side of the globe. Of note are efforts to educate youth about drought, the institution of pastoralist “field schools” (including brush control, but maybe don’t burn pastures during drought), use of native livestock adapted to their environment (amid market incentives to switch to higher output/input breeds), developmental pressures and oft times deadly competition over resources. New technologies include cell phone facilitated payments at cattle markets and satellite based forage insurance (details a little sketchy on this one). Older technologies still prevail however; such as women gathering native “hay” and a chanting chain of men “pumping” precious well water into a cattle trough. It should give us all much food for thought...

Heat, Rain and Livestock: Impacts of Climate Change on Africa’s Livestock Herders

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kaKqsio88il>



“Among the poorest of the world’s poor, herders supply milk and meat not only for themselves but for large numbers of other poor people. Although their animals produce few of the greenhouse gasses harming the earth, these people will be among those most hurt by the climate changes we expect. Population growth and land degradation are already causing problems over much of the continent’s traditional rangelands. Many herders, having lost all their animals to droughts, are

facing the end of their way of life. Research-based approaches for adapting to climate change, however, offer options that can help herding communities sustain at least some aspects of their pastoral livelihoods.”

Living with Drought

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GIX2rPYCFvY>



“Pastoralists are able to survive in some of the most arid lands of Africa. However their way of life is under threat. The increasing frequency of drought, coupled with rapid population growth and inadequate government and humanitarian policies have combined to limit the most essential coping strategy of pastoralists - mobility.”

Against All Odds - The Success of Pastoralism

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ws8WXXKAThK8>



“Millions of people across the drylands of the Horn of Africa survive through pastoralism. Pastoralists are productive and resilient - running a multi-million dollar industry without any real support - yet decades of neglect by their governments has left communities highly vulnerable to drought and destitution.”



Awards Nominations for 2013 Annual Meeting Due April 30

The Awards Committee will be accepting nominations until April 30, 2012 for Honor Awards to be presented at the 2013 Annual Meeting.

SRM Honor Award categories are:

The **Frederic G. Renner Award** is the most prestigious award bestowed by the Society for Range Management. The primary criterion for selection of a recipient for this award is sustained outstanding accomplishment(s) in, or continuing contribution(s) to, any aspect of range science and range management by an active and contributing member of the Society. One award can be given annually

W. R. Chapline Land Stewardship Award gives special recognition to members of the Society for exceptional accomplishments and contributions in the application of the art and science of range management to specific rangeland entities such as wildlife and domestic livestock use on such lands. One award can be given annually.

W. R. Chapline Research Award gives special recognition to members of the Society for exceptional and sustained research accomplishments in range science and associated disciplines. One award can be given annually.

Sustained Lifetime Achievement Award is presented by the Society to members for long-term contributions to the art and science of range management and to SRM. More than one award can be given annually.

Outstanding Achievement Award is presented by the Society for outstanding achievement for eminently note-worthy contributions to the range profession to members and other qualified individuals and groups working with rangelands. This award is given in Stewardship and Academic streams. Several awards can be given annually.

Outstanding Young Range Professional Award is presented by the Society to an individual member who has demonstrated extraordinary potential and promise as a range management professional. This award is presented as an encouragement for outstanding performance by young men and women entering the profession of range management. The nominee shall not have reached his or her 40th birthday by Jan. 1st of the year the award is to be conferred. More than one award can be given annually.

The title of **Fellow** is conferred upon members of the Society in recognition of exceptional service to the Society and its programs in ad-

vancing the science and art of range-related resource management. This high honor is granted in the belief that special recognition should be given for exceptional and dedicated service to the Society.

For detailed information and instructions on the award nomination process (Instructions to Nominators, Award Nomination Form) visit <http://www.rangelands.org/awards/>

Electronic submissions can be made directly to Vicky Trujillo (vtrujillo@rangelands.org). Hard-copy submissions can be made to:
Awards Nominations
Society for Range Management
10030 W 27th Ave
Wheat Ridge, CO 80215-6604

Hard copies of the instructions and format for nominations are available from Vicky Trujillo at vtrujillo@rangelands.org, phone: 303-986-3309.

If you have specific questions regarding the nomination process, please contact the Awards Committee Chair, Melissa Teague, at melissa_budd@yahoo.com.

Thank you for taking the time and effort to nominate deserving individuals and groups for an SRM Honor Award.

Advance Your Career with a Degree from a Leader in Rangeland Education

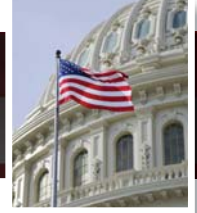
As a Colorado State University OnlinePlus student, you'll receive the same quality instruction, from the same expert faculty, carrying the same esteemed CSU reputation, as an on-campus student would receive – all delivered online or via DVD or correspondence. Learn more about this master's degree at <http://www.csurangeland.com>.





Capital Update

From Kelly Fogarty



The Society for Range Management has just wrapped up a busy week here in Washington, D.C. The Senate Committee on Agriculture Nutrition & Forestry hosted their second Farm Bill hearing this past week and SRM representatives were in attendance to witness the testimonies and questions that were raised regarding an issue of importance to all SRM members: Conservation.

The Conservation hearing was the second in what will be a series of hearings hosted by the Senate Agriculture Committee that focus solely on titles within the upcoming 2012 Farm Bill. Now that the fast-track Super Committee process is behind us, the hearings represent the traditional manner in which this comprehensive piece of legislation is formed. The Conservation hearing, held Feb. 28th in Washington, D.C., sought to bring both the agency and public perception on this issue to those lawmakers who hold seats on the Agriculture Committee. The current time table being discussed seeks to have all recommendations by stakeholders submitted by the end of March with a draft proposal coming shortly after. The Committee Chairwoman, Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-Michigan) has publicly stated her desire to have the Farm Bill drafted as soon as possible. This is a positive track to follow as many groups have worried over the possible ramifications to the bill that would be incurred should it be under debate during the high-point of

the election cycle. With this in mind, if the testimonies and response from lawmakers at this hearing is any indication of how conservation might fare within the 2012 Farm Bill it is a rather positive outlook for those who rely on the programs within this title. While there will be significant cuts across the board, lawmakers recognize the importance of the nation's natural resources and the title will not be completely gutted of its 2008 funding.

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Chief Dave White was on hand to provide his testimony on the programs offered through the NRCS based on the funds appropriated within the Farm Bill. Chief White's presentation focused on a slide show of before and after pictures that showcased specific ranches and farms where conservation practices had been utilized. The presentation was a great display of the benefits provided through the Farm Bill's Conservation Title and there was visible interest and appreciation by both the lawmakers and those in the audience throughout the entire presentation.

While Chief White's presentation might have seemed simple to those well-versed and dedicated to the nation's natural resources, to those unfamiliar with the specific application of

conservation practices on the land, the slides served as an effective tool to generate conversation on the issue. Presentations like these are vital in Washington, D.C. as they allow lawmakers to see the direct benefits of the legislation they approve. SRM directors will be heading to Washington, D.C. this year and I look forward to them sharing similar stories as Chief White's with both those on the Hill and within the agencies.

It will be vital for SRM and its members to continue raising the issue of rangelands and their importance to their local elected officials and agency offices. The course for the Farm Bill is never set in stone and more positive dialogue generated on this issue is always encouraged.

As more specific funding numbers and language are released I will continue to provide this information through both the SRM newsletter and the SRM Capital Updates. As always, feel free to contact me with any questions or suggestions regarding SRM's involvement in Washington, D.C.

*-Kelly Fogarty, SRM D.C. Liaison
Kelly@WesternSkiesStrategies.com*

Have news or photos to share?

Submit your news, articles and photos for the newsletter to vtujillo@rangelands.org:
 Next Online Deadline: March 15, 2012
 Next Print Deadline: April 15, 2012



A Sustainable Ranch is a Resource That Can Benefit Everyone

Rangelands – A healthy ranch can be a benefit to all. Sustaining an economically and ecologically successful ranch also preserves Western rural landscapes, lifestyles, and livelihoods. Business planning that incorporates resource monitoring offers the rancher measurable indicators of the health of a ranch.

The February issue of *Rangelands* presents a framework for such monitoring and planning developed by the Sustainable Rangelands Roundtable's Ranch Sustainability Assessment Group. This working group seeks to identify the best indicators for monitoring ecological, economic, and social conditions on an individual ranch and to integrate these with business planning goals.

Being aware of the conditions of soil, water, vegetation, and wildlife on a ranch means knowing what one's business assets are. They are the basis for good decision making. The Ranch Sustainability Assessment Group has identified 17 indicators to help ranchers effectively assess their resources.

These indicators include, for example, estimating the potential for erosion of the ranch's soil. By measuring the percent of bare ground using sampling techniques, one can see the possible impact of rain and wind on soil loss. Another indicator of erosion is soil aggregate stability—the degree to which soil clumps, or retains its structural integrity, when exposed to a water bath.

This type of assessment and business planning can help the rancher achieve goals beyond cattle production. The

use of grazing land for wildlife habitat and wildlife-related human activity is projected to increase during the next 50 years. Ranchers with a business plan can track such trends and incorporate them into their goals, with the possibility of increasing income and conservation.

The SRR Sustainable Ranch Management Assessment Guidebook is available online at <http://sustainable-rangelands.org/ranchassessment>. The document takes ranchers through a self-assessment survey to evaluate the current sustainability of their operation. Profitable cattle ranching operations can keep ranches intact, prevent development that divides the land, and protect biodiversity.

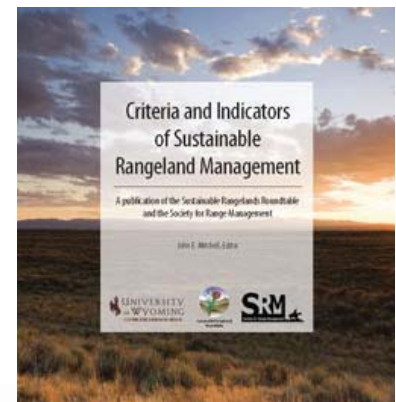
“Ranch Business Planning and Resource Monitoring for Rangeland Sustainability” and other articles in this issue of *Rangelands*, Vol. 34, No. 1, February 2012, are available at <http://www.srmjournals.org/toc/rala/34/1>.

About Rangelands: *Rangelands* is a full-color publication of the Society for Range Management published six times per year. Each issue of *Rangelands* features scientific articles, book reviews, and society news. Additionally, readers may find youth, technology, and policy departments. The journal provides a forum for readers to get scientifically correct information in a user friendly, non-technical format. *Rangelands* is intended for a wide range of individuals, including educators, students, rangeland owners and managers, researchers, and policy leaders. The journal is available online at www.srmjournals.org.

Sustainable Rangelands Roundtable Monograph Now Available.

After many long hours of dedication from the participants of the Sustainable Rangelands Roundtable (SRR), and especially from John Mitchell, the monograph titled “Criteria and indicators of Sustainable Rangelands Management” is now available at http://www.rangelands.org/publications_techbulletins.shtml online as a PDF file for all to access. The five criteria and 64 indicators of sustainable rangeland management developed by the SRR are discussed in-depth along with the application and challenges to employing them.

Please take a minute to view this very important document and even print yourself out a copy. Also, the next time you see John Mitchell or any of the other authors who contributed to the SRR, please extend a huge thank you for their work.





Calling All Cooks

Submit Your Recipes Now!

Do you have a family or ranch recipe that has been around for generations? Does it have a great story or background to go with it? Or maybe you have a great range story, ranch story or an awesome range photo that you would like to share. We are looking for you.

The Communications and Outreach Committee is collecting recipes, stories and photos for the next edition of the Trail Boss Cowboy Cookbook.

Submit Recipes, Range Stories and Range Photos to: srmcookbook@yahoo.com
Please Include Your Name, Ranch Name, SRM Section and City, State with each submission. In the subject line of your email please write SRM Cookbook.

All recipes must be original recipes (never published). If it is a published recipe it must be changed by 10%, (such as changing an ingredient or amount, adding an ingredient, changing cooking temperature or time.)

Featured Recipes:
From: Trail Boss's Cowboy Cookbook, 1985

**Jerry & Libby Toman, TT Ranch
Little Fort, British Columbia**

DUMPLINGS AND SWEET & SOUR CABBAGE (Served with Pork roast)

DUMPLINGS:

3 c. flour	2 Tbsp. butter	1 c. Semolina or Cream of Wheat
1 tsp. salt	1 tsp. baking powder	2 eggs, separated
1 c. milk	2 c. fried bread cubes	

SWEET & SOUR CABBAGE:

1 cabbage, shredded medium to fine	1 large onion, chopped	1/4 c. lemon juice or wine vinegar
1/4 c. sugar	2 Tbsp. caraway seed	

DUMPLINGS: Sift dry ingredients. Heat milk to melt butter in it. Cool, add egg yolks. Add to dry mixture to form stiff dough. Add bread cubes and whipped egg white. Form into two large dumplings (log shaped) and let rest one hour. Boil in salted water for about 20 minutes, until toothpick inserted comes out clean. Slice and serve with gravy from your pork roast.

CABBAGE: Fry onion in some bacon fat until transparent. Add cabbage and cover with a lid, stirring frequently until tender. Add lemon juice and sugar to taste (amounts vary according to size of cabbage) and caraway seed and simmer for one hour. This is better made one day before.

Background: Jerry is originally from Czechoslovakia and this is virtually the Czech National Dish. It is traditionally accompanied by lots of cold beer!



Final Results for SRM Graduate Student Competitions

Amy Ganguli and Laurie Abbott, Co-Chairs of the SRM Graduate Student Competitions

The SRM Graduate Student Competitions sub-committee is pleased to announce the Final Results of the Graduate Student Competitions held at the 2012 SRM meeting in Spokane, Wash. This year, 74 students representing 26 universities from four countries presented their graduate research during the meeting. Oral papers and posters were judged by faculty and research scientists. We congratulate and commend the students for putting together excellent presentations of their research, and we are pleased to recognize the first and second place winners in each of the four competitions (M.S. Oral, Ph.D Oral, M.S. Poster, and Ph.D Poster).

Oral Paper Competition

MS-level (27 participants)

1st Place, Megan Taylor, University of Wyoming, "Rehabilitation seeding and soil dynamics associated with invasive species in a semi-desert sagebrush shrubland," 59.0/65 pts

2nd Place, Adrienne Tastad, University of Manitoba, "The relative effects of grazing by bison and cattle on plant community heterogeneity in northern mixed prairie," 58.0/65 pts

Ph.D-level (16 participants)

1st Place, John Scasta, Oklahoma State University, "Impact of patch-burn grazing management on fly pressure on range cattle in the Great Plains," 61.0/65 pts

2nd Place, Cody Zilverberg, Texas Tech University, "Integrated crop-livestock systems in the shortgrass prairie," 60.5/65 pts

Poster Competition

M.S.-level (20 participants)

1st Place, Leticia Varelas, New Mexico State University, "Measuring the potential benefits of using targeted cattle grazing to alter fire behavior," 58.7/65 pts

2nd Place, Deborah Rigby, Brigham Young University, "Investigating the potential for piñon and juniper mastication to influence soil health and invisibility," 58.0/65 pts

Ph.D-level (11 participants)

1st Place, Morgan Russell, North Dakota State University, "Fire season and frequency effects on native grass bud banks in the Northern Great Plains," 57.5/65 pts

2nd Place, Sapana Lohani, University of Arizona, "A remote sensing approach for evaluating brush management caused transitions between vegetation states," 54.3/65 pts

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the 70+ judges who attended and evaluated the presentations, and provided valuable comments and feedback for the students. Each student contestant will receive scanned pdf copies of their evaluation forms via email.

We gratefully acknowledge the continued support of Dow AgroSciences for sponsoring cash awards to the first and second place winners (\$200 and \$100, respectively). Finally, thanks to the SRM membership for your commitment and continued support of students and student activities in the society.

UW Range Students Claim SRM Trail Boss Award

The University of Wyoming was awarded the Trail Boss Award for the top collegiate team during competition at the 65th Society for Range Management (SRM) meeting in Spokane. This is the first year the Trail Boss Award was presented by SRM.

In addition, two students claimed firsts and a professor received the top teaching award. UW teams also claimed seconds in the Undergraduate Range Management Exam (URME) against 24 other schools and in Rangeland Cup against 11 others.

The UW team comprised rangeland ecology and watershed management students in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Sage Askin of Douglas, Wyo., was first out of 203 competitors in the URME. He was also a member of the second-place URME Team. Ben Jones of Denton, N.C., won the Undergraduate Extemporaneous Speaking contest in which there were 13 teams. Megan Taylor of Swainsboro, Ga., won the Graduate Student Oral Pa-

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ROBC Russian Olive Survey

Submitted by Jennifer Muscha,
USDA-ARS

At USDA-ARS and CABI Europe-Switzerland, our research is guided by addressing stakeholder needs. We have been asked by some stakeholders to look for a classical (foreign) biocontrol agent(s) for Russian olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*). This tree has been labelled by several U.S. states as a noxious weed, an invasive weed, or a regulated weed species. There are also several reasons why individuals favor this naturalized exotic tree species (e.g., shelterbelts, erosion control, and providing food for bird and mammalian wildlife important for hunting) and would not want to see it eliminated. As someone who might be interested in research/management of Russian olive, we hope you will provide your responses to a questionnaire that we have prepared on this subject. Only by gaining a sense of stakeholder needs concerning Russian olive can we try to address the varied issues

associated with trying to manage and/or preserve this species in different parts of its naturalized range. We also hope that by engaging stakeholders and other interested parties early in the process, any future petition to USDA-APHIS for approval of releasing a classical biocontrol agent to target Russian olive will be based on a careful, science-based assessment of stakeholder needs and concerns.

New APHIS petitioning/permitting protocols for biological control agents are in place that require consideration of a potential new agent's environmental impact across the entire 48 U.S. continental states. If you know of any reason that a biocontrol agent for Russian olive may not be acceptable anywhere in the USA, we would like to know. We may be able to address research needs about, and anticipated problems that may arise from, biocontrol of Russian olive. However, this can only be done if such issues are brought to our attention with this

questionnaire in the pre-petition research phase. To begin addressing some potential concerns, researchers at CABI Europe-Switzerland are currently studying two agents that would reduce flower/fruit/seed production, but not severely defoliate or kill Russian olive trees.

We foresee that the results of this questionnaire will be made available on a public access website. We also seek feedback from this questionnaire on whether there is sufficient interest to have a conference focusing on Russian olive management, and specifically covering issues about biological control.

Please use the following link to access the questionnaire: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RO_5.

Also, feel free to pass this survey on to others you think might be interested in Russian Olive.

From the Russian Olive Biocontrol Consortium (ROBC)

You Can Have Both. Today's agricultural managers are challenged to manage their land, animal, and natural resources in ways that ensure both long term profitability and sustainability of farms, ranches, and rural communities.

Our customizable Integrated Resource Management master's degree teaches students how to operate an agricultural business efficiently and sustainably without sacrificing profits.

CSURangeland.com

Colorado State University
OnlinePlus 

 Courses offered through the Division of Continuing Education.



February Rangeland Photo Quiz - Answer

February Quiz Answer: Our February photo quiz depicted a situation not that unfamiliar to range folk - “How many SRM’ers does it take to get a field tour stuck in the mud?”

“One – the Leader,” pondered Michelle Buzalsky (USFS – though she didn’t comment on the likely affiliation of the two-wheel drive lime-green pick-up), “Everyone else is thinking ‘if they can do it so can I!’”

And how many does it take to get it unstuck? “Well, according to this picture, two drivers and two spotters, the rest are just providing moral support.”

Drought stricken Texas rancher Jay O’Brien was more appreciative of signs of significant winter precip, even as the previous season’s production seemed to have been none-to-negligible. He also had a very pragmatic observation: “What does deserve comment is people standing so close to the tow cable. Whether cables, chains or ropes, this is extremely dangerous. There are not many people who have pulled vehicles out who have not had pops and seen how dangerous it is. The man in the road is playing with his life, but even some of the others are in jeopardy.”

Fortunately in this case there was more mayhem than mishap. NMSU’s Laurie Abbot (who was a witness to the merry scene), notes “To get stuck: All of ‘em to muck up the road going IN... And to get unstuck: All of ‘em again - some got muddier than others, but everyone is lending a hand in one way or another - some working the winch, some pulling, some crossing their fingers, shading their eyes, snapping photos, some praying... that’s a very encouraging bunch, and we all had a good chuckle after it was over.”

Freshman SRM BOD member Barry Irving also chimed in: There are two answers to this quiz. The first is if you are going to own a Ford, you need to own two so you always have one to get you home. The second is, it looks like the group was caught in a spring thaw. From the shadows and the short sleeves on the participants it looks like the photo was taken in late afternoon.



There is snow under the trees, so the photo was most likely taken in the spring. Frontier travelers need to beware that you can drive in on frost in the morning, and find yourself in muck while driving out in the afternoon. This situation is worse in the spring when the top of the soil is wet, than in the fall when the soil is often drier. Frost also seems to last longer in the fall than in the spring, so if you are driving on frost in the spring, best to go for a shorter tour and be back on hard ground by noon, or better yet, walk and not have to worry about getting stuck while appreciating the smells and sounds of spring rangeland. [Good advice, especially as this freeze-thaw cycle can be a daily occurrence south of I-40].

Retired BLMer Rich LaCasse had a more whimsical comment: “They are not really trying to get out of the mud. On the contrary it’s a Forest Service rig having a tug-o-war with an NRCS truck to see which one ends up in the mudhole.” (Actually it was the BLM tour leader who saved the day).

And finally, an anonymous permittee grouched to us about how the us.gov rigs full of erstwhile “range managers” were tearing up the roads!

Send your observations (and your own quiz-worthy range photos) to vtujillo@rangelands.org, subject line “Range Photo Quiz.” Be sure to include a question and answer with the photo! Watch for the next photo on Facebook and fill out the comment form on www.RangelandNews.org



March Rangeland Photo Quiz Question



Field work can involve all kinds of unique tools and specialized equipment. What is the thing-a-ma-jig depicted here, and how might it be an illustration of a kind of adaptive management?

Send your observations (and your own quiz-worthy range photos) to vtrujillo@rangelands.org, subject line "Range Photo Quiz." Be sure to include a question and answer with the photo! Watch for the next photo on Facebook and fill out the comment form on www.RangelandNews.org

2013 Annual Meeting: Call for Symposia, Workshops & Forums

This is the first call for submission of proposals for Symposia, Workshops, and Forums for the Society for Range Management's 66th Annual Meeting. Following are criteria for these events:

Symposium - A set of presentations that covers a distinct topic. A published proceedings or summary of presentations may be provided to convey the information beyond the event but is not required. The organizer is completely responsible for any publication that might result from the event. Symposia may include one or more organizations or agencies that will partner in developing, promoting, and conducting the event.

Workshop - A meeting featuring presentations designed to update or educate a specific group for training, becoming certified, or receiving credit on a topic. Participants would be expected to attend the entire workshop. Workshops may be sponsored by any organization or agency that partners with SRM without SRM being involved.

Forum - A set of presentations that covers a distinct topic similar to a symposium. However, forums must include a discussion period(s) for the audience to participate. A written record of the event is not required, but if conducted it is the responsibility of the organizer.

Proposals for Symposia, Workshops, and Forums are due by **May 7, 2012**. Information and instructions for submitting Symposia, Workshops, and Forums are on the meeting website, <http://www.oksrm.okstate.edu/events.html>. Direct your questions to: Dwayne Elmore (Dwayne.elmore@okstate.edu) or Dave Engle (david.engele@okstate.edu)

UW Range Students Claim SRM Trail Boss Award, from page 9

per competition with her presentation "Rehabilitation seeding and soil dynamics associated with invasive species in a semi-desert sagebrush shrubland." There were 27 participants. She is advised by Professor Ann Hild. UW also claimed third place in the University Chapter Display contest.

Travis Decker of Craig, Colo., was elected Vice-President of the SRM Student Conclave (all university students). Professor Tom Thurow in the Department of Ecosystem Science and Management in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources received the Range Science Education Council's Undergraduate Teaching Award, the top teaching award in the profession.

Associate Professor Dan Rodgers is the Range Club adviser and coaches the Plant ID Team. The URME Team is coached by Assistant Professor Jeff Beck. Dean Houchen, a recent graduate in Rangeland Ecology and Watershed Management, was mentor for the Rangeland Cup Team. Associate Professor Jim Waggoner assists with the Extemporaneous Speaking Contest, and Assistant Professor Brain Mealor and Extension Range Specialist Rachel Mealor coordinate the Rangeland Cup completion for SRM.

SRM is the professional society dedicated to supporting persons who work with rangelands and have a commitment to their sustainable use. The conference was Jan. 29-Feb. 3, 2012.



Upcoming Functions & Continuing Education Pre-Approved Courses



Emerging Botanical Technologies - March 22

The California Native Grasslands Association presents: Emerging Botanical Technologies: Using New Tools to Identify, Map, and Explore Wild Diversity to be held March 22, 2012. American River Parkway Foundation, Sacramento. Fees: \$120/CNGA members, \$140/Non-members, \$75/Students w ID. For more information go to <http://www.cnga.org/>.

Integrated Ranch Management Symposium - May 7-11, 2012

Join the University of Wyoming Range Club for a week of progressive and informative workshops and field days to gain new ideas and reinforce profitability in ranching today! The Club is sponsoring an Integrated Ranch Management Symposium, May 7-11, 2012 in Laramie, Wyo.

Featuring: Tom Noffsinger DVM – Low Stress Livestock Handling - Cost: \$50
May 7: 9:00am-4:00pm Classroom Instruction
May 8: 8:00am-12:00pm Field Day

Scott Sims: Sims Cattle Company- Grazing Management School - Cost: \$50
May 8: 3:00pm-5:00pm UW Extension: Range Management Workshop
May 9: 8:00am-5:00pm Grazing Management Field Day

Space is limited, register by April 1, 2012. Contact: uwrangle.irms@gmail.com for registration and more information.

Nebraska Range Shortcourse - June 18-22, 2012

The Nebraska Range Shortcourse is scheduled for June 18 to 22, 2012 on the campus of Chadron State College. The shortcourse is sponsored by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), Chadron State College, and the Nebraska Section Society for Range Management. It is designed to provide individuals who have a background in range management, natural resources, or agriculture an opportunity to increase their knowledge in the field of range management.

The week-long course taught through a series of classroom and field sessions focuses on underlying principles of range management for efficient, sustainable use of rangeland for multiple purposes. The diversity of course topics include plant identification, plant growth and development, rangeland soils, assessing range condition and health, prescribed burning, ecosystem services, wildlife management, grazing management, and range livestock production.

The shortcourse can be taken for credit through UNL or Chadron State College. Sixteen Continuing Education credits are available for the SRM “Certified Professional in Rangeland Management” program.

Applications are due **May 18, 2012** and enrollment is limited to 50 participants. The registration fee of \$225 includes educational materials, transportation associated with field trips during the week, and breaks. Food and lodging can be arranged with Chadron State College.

Contact Walt Schacht (wschacht@unl.edu; 402-472-0205) if you have questions or visit the course’s website is at <http://agronomy.unl.edu/nebraskarangeshortcourse>.

2012
Nebraska Range
Short Course
June 18–22, 2012
Location:
Chadron State College
Chadron, Nebraska



Sponsored by:
University of Nebraska–Lincoln,
Chadron State College,
& Society for Range Management
Nebraska Section





Upcoming Events

2012 North American Invasive Plant Ecology & Management Short Course

A new feature, "Interviews with NAIPSC", has been added to the North American Invasive Plant Ecology and Management Short Course (NAIPSC) website (<http://ipscourse.unl.edu>). The NAIPSC has been conducting interviews with individuals who are familiar (or not so familiar) with invasive plants. Read about some of the NAIPSC instructors and their thoughts on invasive plants and similar topics. The first interview is with Steve Young, organizer, moderator, and an instructor for the NAIPSC, who shares his thinking behind the development of the NAIPSC and what makes an outstanding course. Be sure to check back regularly or follow the NAIPSC on Facebook or Twitter. The second annual NAIPSC will be held June 26-28, 2012 at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln West Central Research & Extension Center in North Platte, NE.

2012 Tri-State Conservation Grazing Workshop - Aug. 21-22, 2012

The 2012 Tri-State Conservation Grazing Workshop will bring together natural resource professionals and livestock producers from North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota to learn more about the application of livestock grazing as a grassland management and conservation tool. On Aug. 21, participants will learn about the current opportunities, information, and challenges of managing grassland habitats and achieving conservation objectives with livestock. On Aug. 22, the workshop will consist of a field tour and on-site discussions about livestock grazing for conservation objectives.

Save the Date Poster: Please feel free to electronically distribute or post our Save the Date Poster.

Call for Presentations: If you would like to present a topic at this workshop please fill out the Presentation Flyer and send to Pete Bauman at pbauman@TNC.ORG. If you have any submission questions please contact Pete Bauman – pbauman@tnc.org (605) 874-8517 or Carmelita Nelson - carmelita.nelson@state.mn.us (651) 259-5014.

Call for Field Tour Proposals: If you would like to submit a field tour site in or around the Hankinson, ND area please fill out the Field Tour Flyer and send to Pete Bauman at pbauman@TNC.ORG. If you have any submission questions please contact Pete Bauman – pbauman@tnc.org (605) 874-8517 or Carmelita Nelson - carmelita.nelson@state.mn.us (651) 259-5014.

Visit our website at <http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/2012conservationgrazingworkshop> for updated information.

5th National Conference on Grazing Lands, Orlando, Fla., Dec. 9-12, 2012

Call for Papers: The Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI) is pleased to announce the 5th National Conference on Grazing Lands (5NCGL), which will take place in Orlando, Fla., Dec. 9-12, 2012.

The conference objective is "To Heighten Awareness of the Economic and Environmental Benefits of Grazing Lands." The 5NCGL will draw producers, academics, conservationists, and virtually anyone interested in effective natural resource management. A few of the planned high profile speakers include: Temple Grandin, Kit Pharo, and Dr. Fred Provenza.

What truly sets the NCGLs apart from all other conferences is that roughly half of all presenters are producers recounting their own success stories so that others may benefit. The 5NCGL will be no exception. Abstracts are now being accepted and more information can be found at: <http://www.glci.org/5NCGL.html>, or contact Monti Golla, GLCI Initiative Administrator, at 979-777-9779 or grazinglands@verizon.net. Abstract deadline is May 1st, 2012.



Job Opportunities

Director - Research and Extension Center System, Davis, Calif.

The University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR), a University Division with state-wide delivery, is seeking the Research and Extension Center System (REC System) Associate Director (AD). The REC AD will work with each REC Director and Research Advisory Committee (RAC) to ensure that academic programs and directions are implemented and in-line with the REC system strategic plan. The AD must advocate for REC system needs and be able to analyze and interpret UC and Division policies and procedures in order to effectively meet REC system needs.

The AD, in close coordination with the REC System Director, will be responsible for managing a total budget of approximately \$10.3million with an annual operating budget of \$6.2 million, of which the budget for the operation and maintenance of equipment and physical plant is approximately \$2.8 million. The AD works closely with the FP&M Manager and REC personnel on minor and major capital projects, with an approximately budget of \$200K per year in minor capital and \$1.5 million per year for major capital projects.

The AD must demonstrate the following skills, knowledge and abilities:

- Understanding of UC ANR continuum
- Demonstrated knowledge of research and extension functions.
- Ability to independently interpret all applicable regulations, codes and policies and establish clear, concise written procedures to ensure initial and long term compliance.
- Ability to effectively develop and implement all applicable policy and guidelines
- Ability to work independently, and in collaboration with REC Directors and REC System Director
- Demonstrated communication skills, both orally and written
- Demonstrated skill in managing a complex academic and staff organization
- Demonstrated experience in working with and with a field station system
- Knowledge of UC Davis campus and Division policy including familiarity with Davis campus budget, personnel, and accounting procedures
- Familiarity with ANR activities including relationships among Program Council, Statewide Programs, Program Teams, Workgroups and the RECs.

A minimum of a Master's Degree is required, though a Ph.D. is preferred, in disciplines of agriculture, natural resources or related human resources programs. A minimum of five years of experience managing multi-disciplinary academic programs, experience which includes resource allocation, and the ability to analyze and interpret UC and Division policies and procedures. Experience in ANR Cooperative Extension or similar UC structure is desirable. Must possess organizational and management skills and abilities to facilitate and conduct group process and supervise academics and staff.

A background investigation will be required for the successful candidate, including fingerprinting and a criminal history clearance by the Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Salary will be in the UC Academic Administrator series, dependent upon applicable experience and professional qualifications. For information regarding Cooperative Extension salary scales, please refer to the University of California, ANR website: <http://www.ucop.edu/acadpersonnel/1112/>

For a full position vacancy announcement and application procedures, please visit <http://ucanr.org/jobs> or contact Pam Tise at pdttise@ucdavis.edu, (530) 754-8509. To assure full consideration, applications should be submitted to anracademicsearch@ucop.edu or mail to address in PVA by April 13, 2012 (open until filled).



Job Opportunities

Fire Ecology & Modeling Assistant / Associate Professor - Texas Tech

The Department of Natural Resources Management, College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources (CASNR), Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas is accepting applications for a tenure-track faculty position in Fire Ecology and Modeling at the Assistant/Associate Professor level. This is a 9-month teaching and research position. Summer salary is dependent upon availability of research grants. Applicants must have a strong commitment to teaching and research. The area of expertise and research interest should include use of prescribed fire for habitat restoration and manipulation, fuel reduction management, and wildland-urban interface ecology. The successful applicant will be expected to develop and maintain an active research program conducting prescribed fire and training students in the use of prescribed fire. Extramural support through grants and contracts is expected. Primary teaching responsibilities may include undergraduate courses in Conservation, Fire Ecology, Prescribed Burning, and a graduate course in the area of expertise. Service activities for the department, college, and university are also expected. This position will participate in the Sustainable Land and Water Use Initiative, one of the CASNR designated "Areas of Research Excellence". Anticipated start date is fall semester, 2012.

The Department of Natural Resources Management consists of 14 full-time faculty members. About 250 undergraduate students and 60 graduate students are currently enrolled. Degrees are offered at the B.S. level in Natural Resources Management with emphasis areas in Wildlife Biology, Fisheries Biology, Range Conservation, Ranch Management, and Conservation Science. M.S. and PhD degrees are offered in Wildlife, Aquatic and Wildlands Science and Management with concentration areas in Range Science, Aquatic Science, Wildlife Science, and Conservation Science. The department encourages multidisciplinary research and also houses management and research staff from state and federal natural resources agencies.

Texas Tech University is one of four major state-supported multidisciplinary universities in Texas. The University consists of 10 colleges, a School of Law, The Graduate School, and the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. Currently, more than 31,000 students attend classes at the Lubbock campus. A newly created Water Center resides within the CASNR. The City of Lubbock has about 210,000 residents, a moderate to low cost of living, and is situated on the Llano Estacado (Southern High Plains).

Applicants must hold a Ph.D. degree in a natural resources management-related field with a research focus in applied fire ecology. Qualified candidates should have an appreciation for the rangeland and wildlife habitat resource including modeling the effects of fire on multiple landscapes while addressing climate change, habitat restoration and manipulation using prescribed fire, fuel reduction management, and fire risk assessment. Preference will be given to individuals with demonstrated ability to obtain extramural funding and to publish research findings. Ability to teach and relate to students at the undergraduate and graduate levels is necessary. Ability to organize and conduct research is essential. Appropriate publication of research results is expected of departmental faculty.

Salary will be competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience. The individual will be eligible for a generous benefit package made available to all faculty members at Texas Tech University.

To be considered for this position applicants must use the online employment website at <http://jobs.texastech.edu>. Consult requisition number 84926. The applicant should attach a complete vita and a statement of research/teaching philosophy. In addition, applicants should arrange to have five letters of reference and original transcripts forwarded to: Dr. Ernest B. Fish, Search Committee Chair, Department of Natural Resources Management, Texas Tech University, Box 42125, Lubbock, Texas 79409. Review of applicants will continue until the position is filled. Contact Dr. Ernest B. Fish via email at ernest.fish@ttu.edu or by telephone 806-742-2841 with questions. AA/EOE



Job Opportunities

Environmental Conservation Program Manager - City of Austin's Wildlands

The City of Austin's Wildlands is now hiring an Environmental Conservation Program Manager to lead the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve (BCP). BCP is not one single tract of land but a system of preserves that exists as a multi-agency conservation effort operating under a regional 10(a) permit issued under the Endangered Species Act by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFW). The City of Austin's BCP manages habitat for eight endangered species—two neotropical migratory songbirds and six karst invertebrates—and 27 species of concern. In addition to existing as habitat for endangered species, these lands provide habitat for numerous native plants and animals and contribute to improved air and water quality and quality of life for the people of Austin. For more information visit <https://www.austincityjobs.org/postings/30525>.

The ideal candid will have the following knowledge, skills and abilities:

- working with endangered species
- knowledge of land management practices
- experience negotiating regulatory compliance issues with state and federal environmental agencies;
- managing and review programs/projects; performing supervisory duties;
- developing, monitoring, and evaluating program and resource budgets,
- performing public relations,
- developing short- and long-range planning activities.

Range & Forage Production Manager - University of Nebraska

The University of Nebraska's U.S. Meat Animal Research Center near Clay Center, Neb., has an opening for a Range & Forage Production Manager. Applicant will develop, implement and monitor a comprehensive pasture/forage management system compatible with research programs. BS in Animal Science, Range Management or relevant area, plus five years of production agriculture experience. Irrigated pasture experience a plus. Salary is negotiable based on qualifications and experience. Excellent benefits. Visit <https://employment.unl.edu> (search for Requisition Number 120053) to view entire job description and/or apply for this position. UNL is committed to a pluralistic campus community through affirmative action, equal opportunity, work-life balance, and dual careers. Questions regarding this position can be addressed to: john.riekman@ars.usda.gov or Terry Madson @ 402-762-4151.

Director of Conservation Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust

Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust is looking for a Director of Conservation to lead all projects, including oversight of due diligence, submission of funding applications and, communications and negotiations with landowner partners. A working knowledge of Wyoming agricultural production, appreciation for the people, values and conservation ethic of rural communities and proven track record of successful conservation project completion required.

Send resume and cover letter to: Executive Director, WY Stock Growers Land Trust, PO Box 206, Cheyenne, WY 82003 or pam@wsglt.org.

SRM Action Update Calls:

Thursday, March 8, 2012
10:00 am CST, 11:00 pm MST
12:00pm CST, 1pm EST
Dial: 1-213-416-6650
Access Code is: 012010#

Next Action Update Call:
April 12, 2012
Watch www.Rangelands.org
or www.RangelandNews.org
for more information



Upcoming Functions & Continuing Education Pre-Approved Courses

DATE	LOCATION	EVENT	CREDITS
Varies	Online	Ecology and Management of Grazing http://californiarangeland.ucdavis.edu/Grazing%20Management/online_course.htm	16/module
Online	WEB	2010 Jornada Web Seminar-Practical Tools for Multi-scale Sample Design & Selection -- jkarl@nmsu.edu - http://www.landscapetoolbox.org/train	1
May 1-5	Tucson, AZ	Madrean Archipelago III Conference: Merging Science and Management in a Rapidly Changing World http://www.madreanconference.org	TBD
Jun 26-28	North Platte, NE	2012 North American Invasive Plant Ecology & Management Short Course - http://ipscourse.unl.edu/	TBD

If you know of a function that you want to attend but do not see it here, please send the information to: SRM, ATTN: Vicky Trujillo, 10030 W 27th Ave, Wheat Ridge, CO 80215-6601; Fax 303-986-3892 or email: vtrujillo@rangelands.org

Welcome New Members: February

Name:	City, State:	Section:	Name:	City, State:	Section:
Tammy Goforth	Austin, TX	TX	Philip Greer	San Rafael, CA	CP
Doug Gillham	Parshall, CO	CO	Jim Howell	Boulder, CO	CO
Michael Trammell	Ardmore, OK	OK	Ethan Walker	Manhattan, KS	KS
Wendy West	Placerville, CA	CP	Brian Scherer	College Station, TX	TX
Wayne Monsen	Saint Paul, MN	NCENT	Francisco Javier	Chihuahua,	
Kristen Newman	San Angelo, TX	TX	Gonzalez-gonzalez	Chihuahua	MX
Antone Mattias	Lebec, CA	CP	Virginia Smith	Los Lunas, NM	NM
Ken L. Brunson	Pratt, KS	KS	Sergio Adrian Arispe	Davis, CA	CP

Now there are two ways to share your SRM News:

Submit your news, articles and photos for the printed version of *Rangeland News* or the online version at www.Rangeland-News.org by sending your information to vtrujillo@rangelands.org.

Next Online Deadline: March 15, 2012
Next Print Deadline: April 15, 2012





Get Ready for SRM in Oklahoma City 2013

Blayr Gourley, Oklahoma State University

Oklahoma is more than crazy weather, open plains and Outlaw country. The SRM 2013 Annual Meeting will be held, Feb. 3-7, 2013, in the heart of Oklahoma City, specifically in Bricktown, a progressive, culturally diverse part of Oklahoma City. The theme for OKC is exciting and fitting: “Native America, Native Rangelands.”

While in Bricktown you are not limited to the SRM functions. Catch a professional basketball game if the Oklahoma City Thunder is in town, or sit by the penalty box at an Oklahoma City Barons ice hockey game. If sports are not your thing, but beer-drinking is, try a taste of Oklahoma City, with Bricktown Beer Tasting. Bricktown is home to many local brewing companies such as the Bricktown Brewery. Stop in for a famous “Made in Oklahoma” meal prepared using ingredients made specifically in Oklahoma and wash it down with a 46-Star Oklahoman Amber Ale.

A short drive outside of Bricktown can lead you to more history of Oklahoma. Experience the Oklahoma City National Memorial, the State Capitol and the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. After a tour of the Oklahoma State Capitol building with lunch in the beautiful rotunda the tour will lead to the Oklahoma City National Memorial. It is dedicated to the victims, survivors and all those who were affected by the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. Another tour will lead you to the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum, which locals call the “The Cowboy Hall of Fame.” In the museum you will find the very best of classic and contemporary Western art. In the exhibition wing you will find a turn-of-the-century town and interactive history galleries that focus on the American cowboy, rodeos, Native American culture, firearms and more! Join this tour for the dining experience at the museum restaurant, “Dining on Persimmon Hill,” which is decorated around the Oklahoma prairie and western heritage.

Technical tours of Oklahoma include the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve and others. Located southwest of Oklahoma City in the heart of the Mixed-grass prairie, the Wichita



Mountains Wildlife Refuge is a unique part of Oklahoma. Managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the 60,000 acre refuge provides habitat to deer, elk, bison as well as a grazing land to Texas longhorn cattle. Learn about current research being conducted on the refuge and experience the Oklahoma “mountains.”

A little ways to the northeast of Oklahoma City you will find the Nature Conservancy’s Tallgrass Prairie Preserve, located near Pawhuska, Okla. The Tallgrass Prairie Preserve is the largest protected remnant of tallgrass prairie left on earth. While on the trip you will get to see unfragmented tallgrass prairie, as well as learn about the fire and grazing management and research being conducted on the preserve. If you are in the right place you might also witness the local bison herd, and check out their “jewelry.”

Start planning your trip to Oklahoma in 2013 for the 66th Annual Meeting of the Society for Range Management. There will be activities galore to suit every attendee. Come ready to experience the history, heritage and culture of Oklahoma. The culture is unique unto itself. Expect a warm welcome as you arrive, friendly faces throughout your stay and a humble “so-long” as you head back home. We will be looking forward to meeting everyone and showcasing our great state to all!