



Rangeland News

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Universal Outreach: Describing SRM Visions of Land Management

by Ann Hild

Last time I wrote to you all, the Sredistuo visitation had just occurred. That was almost nine months ago. Just when I started to think that bunch was off to another universe, I get another flash on my handheld electronic listening device (yea- I gave it up for a while, but I'm trying to learn Spanish and I thought it would be safe again). Since I'm starting to learn the Sredistuo vocabulary (still not doing too well on Spanish though), this got my interest up. I guess they're still here. It appears they are watching many organizations that manage glurpies (wildlands) with great interest. From what I can gather, we on this planet are going through the same stages they went through a few millennia ago. They allowed their planetary population to grow and resource use to expand until they used up all their own glurpies. Because their own understanding of what happened back then is sketchy, they are watching to see how our earthly species manages their way through the same dilemmas. It is like they are tuned in and their favorite soap series is the Society for Range Management! But this soapie isn't gonna continue along the traditional old story line (good guy gives up gal (traditional approaches to resource use) for her own good, while bad guy (energy squanderer?) kidnaps her, and mother in law (the executive branch?) hooks up good guy with evil twin (maybe exotic species?)...). Instead, the Sredistuo audience is shocked to see some unique trajectories being developed by the human species in the SRM!

Well, ok, here is the deal. The communications I'm getting are actually observations from students working on a giant inter-galactic graduate research project. An intergalactic grad student is actually called a reknih (pronounced reck-n-it). I should mention that a reknih is actually an alien combination of field veteran and scientific researcher. They are expected to work within the systems they study (which is why they were in Reno last spring) and conduct research in the Universal Training Center (on the planet Placebo, I think). So in our world, they would be something like a FS or BLM field manager crossed with a Harvard doctoral student. They are very smart, and field work savvy! Anyhow, here are the reknih research questions:



- ◆ What is the relationship between glurpy managers who are trying to care for habitat and managers of glurr (wildlife)? In what cases do these two management types unite their efforts and when do they detract from each other's success in glurpy management?
- ◆ How do these managers educate and train the rest of their own species to use resources so that glurr and glurpies are retained for infinity and beyond?

So, being on the BOD and an academic (translates to knows less than I think I know), I felt it my duty to help them out with their study. Have you ever tried to explain something you know in great detail to someone from another universe?? (And then type it with your thumbs into a palm-sized keyboard?) As best as I can remember, here's some of the interaction.

Rekniht Transmission: "Why SRM no like glurr?"

HUH? My answer: "SRM members manage wildland (glurpy) for the benefit of wildlife (glurr)."

Transmission: "SRM dislike glurr managers? Data = Many SRM members angry at sage-grouse, Wildlife Habitat Committee and sage-grouse issue paper make conflict, Rangelands 28(3) issue, Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies...."

Yes, we have has some conflict in the past, but most of the negative data this rekniht listed is historic. I'm sure each of you can think of other examples. But they are ancient history in our minds (although maybe not so long ago in alien terms).

Answer: "No, you don't understand. SRM is working to unite all sorts of management efforts including wildlife habitat management. We do lots of training and public education."

Transmission: "Data?"

Answer: Ok, I get this. "Data =A member of the SRM BOD spent time last week visiting with a circuit court judge on managing habitat for a candidate wildlife species being considered for listing under the Endangered Species Act. Our SRM Executive Vice President is working in Washington D.C. to develop a liaison position between SRM and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Our Wildlife Habitat Committee is working hard to "make known the ecology and management behind wildlife habitat issues, to foster relationships with wildlife interests and to provide vision and solutions for wildlife habitat challenges". SRM is presenting a Sagebrush Steppe Workshop with potential joint sponsorship by NRCS, BLM, the Wildlife Society, Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Western Governor's Association and others. This event will unite land manager expertise with sage-grouse biologist expertise to draft ecological site descriptions for management applications." [By the way, if you readers haven't heard about this one, it will be in Park City, Utah, 22-25 October 2007, and I would sign up as soon as possible!] Anyhow, I was on a roll, and making a good case for SRM until the next transmission interrupted me.

Transmission: "Gurpy managers will train glurr managers, judges, F&WS, to be more like glurpy managers?"

AAARRRRRGGG! Answer: "NO! Actually, the goal is to learn from each other. Glurr managers know many things that will help glurpy managers. Glurr managers will not come if glurpy managers do not listen."

Transmission: "Glurpy managers not superior?"

Hmmm, well now, we DO know a lot about plants and soils and watersheds- all the stuff that makes habitat for animals. hmm. But then there is all the population biology, migration patterns, recruitment success, food choice stuff. hmmm.

Answer: "No, glurr managers equal and very smart."

Transmission: "How glurpy manager control glurr managers to keep glurpy function?"

My thumbs were tired! Answer: "No control. Cooperation = synergy. Still learning what makes glurpy function."

Transmission: "Don't know how glurpy function? Then cannot manage glurpy?"

Ok, so I'm not explaining this so well. For now, the rekniht questions are waiting for better answers than I can provide. You try. Next time you want to 'educate' someone who is new to understanding wildland management, try a practice run at explaining it to a Redistuo rekniht. Keep trying. It's like explaining infinity-you know it's out there-isn't it? SRM needs all of us to help with outreach. Redistuos are not much different from explaining our vision to most national decision-makers. Meanwhile, hope to see you in Park City, Utah in October. Watch for the Redistuo rekniht observers there. I'm sure they will be asking challenging questions.



From the Desk of the EVP.....

July was a very busy month for SRM officers, Board Members, and Staff. Our Annual Summer Board Meeting was held at the Marriot Park City Hotel in Park City, Utah. The event was well attended and successful with several new measures, reports on the status of existing issues, and further resolution of some on-going measures.

During the meeting the Board approved their support for the creation of the SRM Center for Professional Development. The Center will be housed within our current SRM structure. It will form the backbone of a larger effort to work cooperatively with our members to provide high quality local and regional professional educational workshops and training events that benefit SRM and other professionals in natural resource based fields. Still in the works for this project is how this cooperative relationship will be developed with other interests outside of SRM, forming some pilot type educational or training events to respond to member needs and then linking the trainings and educational values to our continuing development of CEU's under our CPRM and CRMC programs.

The Advisory Council, Annual Meeting Subcommittee, that was created at last year's meeting in Reno, Nevada, also met. This group is doing the initial background research to facilitate annual meeting planning discussion among all of the SRM Sections. The group met with Kristin House, from Conference Direct, to discuss future options for SRM in planning annual meeting events, locations, and venues. Kristin explained how the present and future hotel and convention markets fit with SRM and our needs for economical hotel rates, various locations, use of meeting space and appropriate venues. The group discussed a preliminary decision to move forward, having the Cal-Pac Section host the 2011 annual meeting, and to work with Kristin to participate in some site visits at several suitable hotels and resorts in California later this month.

The Board discussed the on-going issue of having SRM host a joint rangelands ecology workshop. Currently there is such an event scheduled to occur on October 22 -24, at the Park City Marriott Hotel in Park City, Utah. A major step forward occurred last month when a meeting was convened to develop a common ground approach to jointly hosting a meeting. SRM President Dennis Phillippi followed up this event by attending and speaking to the Bird Conservation Committee of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) in Flagstaff, Arizona on July 12. In moving forward with this event SRM is now working with the support of WAFWA Western Governor's Association(WGA), and The Wildlife Society(TWS) to bring this workshop about. A major focus of this workshop will be engaging the expertise of all of the regional/local working groups, rangeland scientists and practitioners who bring some new tools to the management table. Ecological site descriptions, for example, can be used to support a more practical and functional assessment of the ecological factors that are affecting sage grouse throughout the western states.

Other issues presented to the Board (to be reported on later and in greater detail) also included a draft report from the *Rangelands* Task Force on an analysis of *Rangelands* and how it might be better used within SRM as an outreach or marketing tool; and the initial results of a short membership survey that the Denver Staff undertook this Spring to try to better understand and service the needs of our members.

K. Jason Campbell
Executive Vice President



ESD as a Management Tool

Ecological Site Descriptions as a management tool: Understanding and improving applications for wildlife habitat management in sagebrush ecosystems

October 23-25 2007

Park City Marriott Hotel

Park City UT

Sponsors: Society for Range Management, Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Natural Resources Conservation Service, The Wildlife Society

Background and Purpose: Widespread loss, alteration and degradation of sagebrush ecosystems have created complex challenges for managers seeking to conserve sagebrush-dependent wildlife species. A half century of research has created a diverse and extensive base of information upon which to plan and implement land management decisions. However, this mass of highly variable technical information has exposed a critical need to develop and use transparent tools for organization and communication of this information in conservation decision-making. Ecological Site Descriptions are one such management tool that potentially could improve our ability to describe and manage sagebrush ecosystems.

The purposes of this workshop are to:

- 1) Introduce habitat managers, planners and policy makers to the use and development of Ecological Site Descriptions.
- 2) Encourage interdisciplinary improvement of wildlife interpretations in Ecological Site Descriptions and enhance the utility of this tool for managing sagebrush ecosystems.
- 3) Identify information gaps and define priorities for research and development.

Audience: Western North American land and wildlife/habitat managers, biologists, range ecologists and soil scientists, technical assistance professionals, local sage-grouse working group members, consultants, and petroleum industry land managers.

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Kempthorne Lauds President's Intention to Nominate Jim Caswell as Director of the Bureau of Land Management

WASHINGTON, D.C - Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne today praised President Bush's intention to nominate James L. Caswell, a veteran public land ecosystem manager, as the next Director of Interior's Bureau of Land Management.

"I've known Jim Caswell personally and admire his 'can do' attitude, pragmatic leadership style and outstanding management skills," Secretary Kempthorne said. "His considerable supervisory experience with the U.S. Forest Service, his proven expertise in coordinating endangered species programs on public lands and his ability

to build strong, effective partnerships make him well-qualified for this position."



Caswell currently heads the State of Idaho's Office of Species Conservation, which was established in 2000 by the state legislature to bring a policy focus to endangered species issues and to coordinate state and federal efforts on endangered species management in Idaho. Under Caswell's leadership, the office won the state legislature's approval in 2001 for two emotionally and politically-charged issues -- a Wolf Management Plan and a Yellowstone Grizzly Bear Management Plan.

Before that Caswell spent 33 years in various positions with the Bureau of Land Management, Bonneville Power Administration, and the U.S. Forest Service, 16 of those years serving as forest supervisor on the Clearwater and Targhee National Forests. He was also deputy forest supervisor at Boise National Forest, and acting deputy regional forester in Missoula, Montana.

Caswell, a Vietnam War veteran, is a 1967 graduate of Michigan State University, where he received a bachelor of science degree in forestry. He is married and has three grown children -- two daughters and a son -- as well as four grandchildren. He and his wife Susan, who have been married for 42 years, currently reside in Emmett, Idaho.

The BLM, which has about 10,800 employees and an annual budget of about \$1.8 billion, manages more land -- 258 million surface acres -- than any other federal agency. Most of this public land is located in 12 western states, including Alaska. These public lands make up about 13 percent of the total land surface of the United States and more than 40 percent of all land managed by the federal government. The Bureau also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation.

If confirmed by the Senate, Caswell would assume the BLM director position, which has been vacant since February 2007, when Director Kathleen Clarke left the Department. Jim Hughes has been serving as Acting Director since then.

More information on the Bureau of Land Management is online at <http://www.blm.gov/>.



Calling All Students and Young Professionals

2008 SRM RANGELAND JOB FAIR

January 26 - 31, 2008

at the

61st Annual SRM Meeting and Trade Show in Louisville, Kentucky
Joint meeting with the American Forage and Grasslands Council (AFGC)

Just as rangelands are diverse, so are rangeland careers. Just look at the SRM membership as an example of this diversity! In order to better match job opportunities with job seekers, SRM will expand its employment efforts at the 61st Annual SRM Meeting and Trade Show (2008 Joint SRM/AFGC Meeting) in Louisville, Kentucky. SRM announces the **2008 RANGELAND JOB FAIR** scheduled for Sunday January 27, 10-6 pm.

The mission of the 2008 Rangeland JOB FAIR is to match prospective employers from the Federal Agencies, State and Provincial Governments, Private Industry, Academia, and Conservation Organizations with the high caliber of educated and enthusiastic prospects from SRM/AFGC. We are also hoping to recruit potential employers from non-traditional sources. Employers will be provided space to display employment information, distribute vacancy announcements and interact with job seekers.

We will encourage all interested meeting attendees to drift through and browse the JOB FAIR between other Sunday activities, meetings and workshops. Students and young professionals will have two 2-hour blocks of time (10am-noon and 4pm-6pm) completely devoted to the Job Fair. During these times, we would expect all employers to staff their tables/displays and be prepared to answer questions.

Attendance at the joint meetings at the Galt House Hotel and Suites in Louisville this year is expected to be ~1500 people, 25 percent of which may be students and young professionals representing upwards of 40 universities and colleges. We encourage all interested job seekers to update their resumes and have transcripts in hand as they prepare to attend these meetings.

Career Development Workshops

Career Development Workshops are also being planned for these upcoming meetings!! In addition to the successful Student Employment Workshop, where you can ask questions on how to really succeed in the job market, SRM is planning to host additional workshops on: "Thinking about Graduate School", "What are Employers Looking For", and "What are Agencies Looking For". Most workshops will be about one hour in length and will be offered concurrently with the 2008 SRM Rangeland JOB FAIR on Sunday afternoon, January 27, 2008. Top quality professionals from both the private and public sectors of rangeland management have volunteered to guide these workshops to benefit SRM/AFGC members.

If you are interested in either of these programs, please feel free to contact the SRM JOB FAIR Coordinator, Linda Coates-Markle, BLM Liaison to SRM at: lcmarkle@rangelands.org and/or 303-986-3309 for more details.



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Position Announcement - PhD Research Assistantship

The Dept. of Ecosystem Science and Management in collaboration with the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences at Texas A & M University is offering a PhD research assistantship for a highly motivated student who wishes to participate in a multidisciplinary project: “Ecological, Economic and Social Dimensions of using Summer Fire to Restore Ecosystems in the Southern Plains of the USA.” We are seeking a person who is interested in the use of prescribed fire as a restoration tool and in the role of landowner associations in promoting fire to improve rangelands and wildlife habitats. The student’s research project will provide information for the social dimensions of this NRCS-funded project and will include a survey of landowners in three eco-regions of Texas.

Applicants should have completed an MS degree in Natural Resources, Environmental Science, Environmental Economics or Rural Sociology. Experience in conducting surveys and the use of qualitative and quantitative statistical techniques is preferred.

The position is available in the fall of 2007. The stipend is \$19,200 per year. An out of state tuition waiver will be provided and instate tuition will be paid for up to 24 credit hours per academic year. Health insurance and other benefits are also provided.

Please send a letter of application, vita and list of three references by July 15, 2007 to Dr. Urs Kreuter, Dept. Ecosystem Science and Management, Texas A&M University, 2138 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-2138.

Texas A & M University is committed to excellence and invites applications from all qualified applicants. EEO/A/ADA.



Conservation Easement Stewardship Director Position Available

Marin Agricultural Land Trust (CA), Conservation Easement Stewardship Director – Person with excellent organizational and interpersonal skills needed to manage all aspects of MALT's Conservation Easement Stewardship Program, currently encompassing over 38,000 acres. Assist in easement drafting, ensure timely completion of baselines and ranch monitoring, evaluate requests to exercise reserved rights, provide technical assistance to landowners, oversee a grant program, maintain and update policies, and supervise other Stew staff. This full-time, regular position requires an MS degree; ability to attain Certified Rangeland Manager status within three years; ability to work and communicate effectively and personably with landowners, agricultural producers, and conservation professionals; capacity to hike up to 6 miles per day over steep and rugged terrain. See www.malt.org for full description. Send resume and cover letter to: Marin Agricultural Land Trust, P.O. Box 809, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956, ATTN: Stew Dir Search; or email to bpetty@malt.org with Stew Dir Search in subject line. Desired starting date is mid-late August, position will remain open until filled.

Colorado State University – Job Positions Available

**Colorado State University
Extension #17-07, Area Extension Agent (4-H Youth Development, and
Range/Livestock Management)
and Baca County Unit Leader, Southeast Area Baca County, Springfield, CO**

Provide leadership, guidance, direction & implementation of Extension 4-H Youth Development & range/livestock management programs in Baca County & the Southeast Area. Completed bachelor's degree, master's degree preferred. Receipt of application & transcript(s) by 7/30/07 for full consideration. For application & all required qualifications:

<http://www.ext.colostate.edu/coop/jobsmenu.html> or 970-491-1617. CSU is an EEO/AA Employer.



**Colorado State University
Extension #19-07, Area Extension Agent (Range & Livestock Management)
& Crowley County Extension Unit Leader Crowley/Otero Counties, Ordway, CO**

Provide leadership, guidance, direction & implementation of Extension range & livestock management programs. Completed bachelor's degree required, master's degree preferred. Receipt of application & transcripts by 8/6/07 for full consideration. For application & all required qualifications: <http://www.ext.colostate.edu/coop/jobsmenu.html> or 970-491-1617. CSU is an EEO/AA Employer.



Alicia Hargrave – Another Lost Resource

Alicia Nairn Hargrave was born September 1, 1980 in Medicine Hat, Alberta. She passed away at the young age of 26 on July 4, 2007, in Calgary hospital from complications sustained in a riding accident at the Family Ranch. Alicia grew up on the Hargrave (JH) Ranch north of Walsh where she was able to continue to live a life she loved; raising cattle and managing the native prairie grasslands. She left behind close relationships with her brother James and partner BJ Haubrich. Alicia began her post secondary education at Lethbridge Community College earning an Agriculture diploma and continued in Range Management at the University of Saskatchewan graduating with distinction in 2002. Alicia and James took over managing the JH Ranch where Alicia became very involved in minimizing the impact of gas well development on native prairie grasslands. She was contracted by the Saskatchewan Government and worked diligently to complete a series of field guides for the Saskatchewan Forage Council. Alicia was here for only a short time, but definitely made a mark in the world of Range Management. She will be missed by her SRM friends and colleagues.

New Members

SRM welcomes its new members. Following is a list of new members, their section and recruiter for June 16, 2007 to July 26, 2007.

<u>Member</u>		<u>Section</u>	<u>Recruited By</u>
Debbie Castle	Roosevelt, AZ	AZ	
Yvonne Wood	Bishop, CA	Cal-Pac	Robert Pearce
Trish Moore	Pueblo, CO	CO	
Arkansas Valley Seed	Longmont, CO	CO,AZ, KS	
Noble Donkor	Lacombe, AB	IM	
Holly Sessoms	Bozeman, MT	IM	
Brian Laycraft	Nanton, AB	IM	
Jorge Dewey	Monterrey, NL	MX	
Amin Kashipazha	Minneapolis, MN	NC	
Jeff Rose	Hines, OR	PNW	
Tim Leadingham	Coulee Dam, WA	PNW	Kris Ray
Arthur Litteken	Windtorst, TX	TX	Jerry Payne
Dustin Ratliff	Big Spring, TX	TX	Charles Anderson
Jacob Shaffer	Mount Pleasant, TX	TX	Mike Stellbauer
Derek Scasta	Corsicana, TX	TX	Dr. Barron Rector
Natalie Wolff	Throckmorton, TX	TX	Dr. Robert Knight
William Juett	Alpine, TX	TX	
Kiketso Tshireletso	Logan, UT	UT	Dr. John Malechek

Deadline for the *September 2007 SRM Rangeland News*

Remember to get your position announcements, columns, section announcements, agency information, etc. in by the 15th of August for the September issue of the newsletter.

Send to Lesley Radtke at: lrادتke@rangelands.org



Upcoming Deadlines, Events and Meetings

(For more information www.rangelands.org Links, SRM Sections)

August 2007

- Aug 7-8 Idaho, Summer Tour, Dubois, ID
- Aug 8-11 Arizona-Summer Tour, Alpine, AZ
- Aug 10 Colorado with SWCS, South Park, CO
- Aug 17 Deadline for abstract submission for the 2008 Annual Meeting

September 2007

- Sept 20-21 South Dakota Summer Tour, Brookings. SD
- Sept 26 North Central Summer Meeting, Shelbyville, IL

October 2007

- Oct 10-12 Texas Sections Annual Meeting, Lubbock, TX
- Oct 11-12 Nebraska Section Annual Meeting, Hastings, NE
- Oct. 18-20 Pacific Northwest Section Annual Meeting, Corvallis, OR

2008

- Jan. 26-Feb. 1 SRM/AFGC 2008 Joint Annual Meeting, Louisville, KY
- June 29-July 5 Joint International Grassland Congress and International Rangeland Congress Hohhot, Inner Mongolia, China



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