



Rangeland News

June 2007
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Impressions From a Neophyte Director By Bruce Fox, SRM Director

First of all, thank you for the opportunity to serve as a Director of SRM. It's been about five years now since I was "in the trenches" of SRM business, and that was as Chair of the Public Affairs Committee. Our Reno meeting was my baptism by fire as a new member of the Board of Directors. I had thought the Public Affairs Committee could be a bit of a meat grinder during the Annual Meeting, trying to get all the resolutions, position statements, and policy processed in a timely manner. But I learned that my experience with the Public Affairs Committee was a fairly leisurely pace compared to the slate of business before the Board of Directors.

There were many things that impressed me during my first round of meetings as a new Director. I'll try to share just a few. The first was the sheer volume of business that a "volunteer" society such as SRM has in motion. At times during my membership in SRM I have heard criticisms that there isn't much going on, or that SRM isn't as progressive as we should be. It is my conclusion that those members who may share those perceptions are not very close to the business pulse of the Society. I promise that one Board of Directors meeting would change that perception. The total body of work produced by the various committees of SRM year in and year out is nothing short of amazing.

The second impression that I took away from the Reno meeting was how thoroughly knowledgeable our Officers and Directors (who have been to more than one meeting!) are about SRM business. With that acknowledgement, I would like to recognize the contributions of outgoing Directors Jeff Mosely and Kris Havstad. They have been dedicated servants of SRM and I'm sure we haven't seen the last of their leadership. They leave us new Directors with a huge challenge to become as productive and knowledgeable as they are.

The last impression I will share as a new director is how impressed I am with the "new blood" I see coming into the SRM. I took the opportunity to attend the Mentoring Needs Workshop hosted by the Young Professionals Conclave during the Reno meeting. I was very impressed by the numbers and the ambitiousness of the young professionals that attended. During the workshop, the attendees were divided into small working groups with a mixture of both "mentors" (us gray hairs!) and "mentees." During our small working group session, we discussed

issues and concerns that both mentors and mentees may have in establishing a mentoring program at SRM. One young professional, in an apologetic manner, shared a thought that older members in SRM may be concerned that the younger members were trying to take over the Society. Somewhat incredulously, I shared back that it was my personal hope as a Director that was exactly what should happen! It made me ask myself how well we are encouraging our young professionals to step up to the plate and become leaders in SRM, or are those of us with gray around the edges holding them back? I certainly hope not. We should be doing all we can to encourage and mentor the development of new leaders in SRM with the expressed intent that they will be taking over. So with that, thanks again for the opportunity to serve the Society for Range Management.

Provo Scientist Designated Forest Service “Super Scientist”

Research geneticist **Durant McArthur** from the Rocky Mountain Research Station’s Shrub Sciences Laboratory in Provo was recently named a “super scientist” by the Forest Service.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Forest Service have a ceiling on the number of scientists who can be awarded the Science Technical level classification. There are only a handful of researchers across the nation with the Science Technical grade and McArthur is the only Forest Service scientist in the entire Interior West given the honor of super scientist.

McArthur has written over 400 scientific publications – more than any other Forest Service scientist living or dead. He is the world’s expert on the sagebrush that is a critical habitat component for mule deer, sage grouse, and many other wildlife species.

In 2007 McArthur was designated leader of the Station’s research for grassland, shrubland, and desert ecosystems. In that capacity he oversees arid land research from Canada to Mexico and from the Sierras to the Great Plains. In recent years he has overseen research in restoring damaged ecosystems in Utah and the Great Basin, and worked to find ways to combat the invasion of cheatgrass that is degrading rangelands and critical wildlife habitat across the West.

Previous awards include the Utah Society for Range Management’s Manager of the Year Award in 2004, Shrub Research Consortium Distinguished Service Award 2002, Eminent Science Publication Award 2000, Forest Service Distinguished Scientist Award 1996, International Society for Range Management Outstanding Achievement Award 1992, and Forest Service Superior Scientist Award 1990.

McArthur has raised a family and been very active in church and community affairs near his home in Orem, Utah. He grew up in Utah’s Washington County and attended the University of Utah. He often rides his bike to work and plays pickup basketball at BYU.—*Submitted by Dave Tippets, Fort Collins, Colorado*

Symposium June 7–9, 2007

You are invited to attend the Faculty Diversity and Environmental Justice Research Symposium being held at the University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources and Environment from June 7–9, 2007. Activities will kick off with an environmental justice tour of Southeast Michigan on the afternoon of June 6. Conference participants include faculty, students, representatives from government environmental agencies, and mainstream and environmental justice nonprofits, consultants and corporate representatives.

There are still a few openings on panels. There are several openings to make poster presentations. If you are interested in making a presentation, please submit an abstract on-line at the conference website right away. Please register soon also if you are interested in participating in the conference.

We are still accepting entries into the Environmental Justice Research Directory—entries can be submitted on line at the url listed below.

The conference website can be viewed at: <http://sitemaker.umich.edu/diversityejresearchsymposium>.



Youth Award

The President's Environmental Youth Award (PEYA) application deadline is **October 31, 2007**—Don't Miss Out!

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8 is inviting students in grades K-12 from Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming to participate in the PEYA program. Since 1971, the President of the

United States has joined with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to recognize young Americans for protecting our nation's air, water, land, and ecology. Individuals, school classes, summer camps, public interest groups, and youth organizations are encouraged to promote environmental awareness and positive community involvement.

Congratulations to the Region 8 2006 PEYA Winner

Get Really Energy Efficient Now! (GREEN) Morningside Elementary GREEN Team, Salt Lake City, Details about the application form, selection process and past winner descriptions are available at:

<http://www.epa.gov/region8/ee/peya.html>

To submit 2007 project applications, please mail or email applications before October 31 to:

Wendy Dew

Environmental Education Coordinator

1595 Wynkoop Street, 80C

Denver CO 80202-1129

dew.wendy@epa.gov

For questions, please phone Wendy Dew at 303-312-6605.

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CPRM and You: What Are You Waiting For?

By Tommy Wright, CPRM, CRM

How will becoming a Certified Professional in Range Management (CPRM) be of benefit? This question has been discussed quite frequently over the past few years especially by those who work for the Federal Government. The CPRM program was established by SRM:

“to certify individuals who have the professional credentials required to plan and implement sound management of rangelands as a means of improving the standards of professional expertise used in managing public and private rangelands.”

The CPRM program is set up to help maintain a professional level of knowledge, and assists professionals in staying current in our field. Knowledge is important in our work. New research, studies and applications appear monthly in publications such as the *Rangeland Ecology and Management*, *Society of Ecological Restoration*, *Journal of Wildlife Management* and others. One requirement of maintaining the CPRM certification is obtaining 32 credits in training over a two year period. This gives the professional the advantage of being exposed to presentations, training, and hands on experience that will benefit you in your work, whether it is in a public or private endeavor.

For many of us in the federal government, training dollars are scarce and some of us have a difficult time meeting the 32-hour requirement. These hours can be met through the annual meetings, section meetings and even seminars or field events that provide information that affect our professional work. The CPRM program only requires that the 32 hours be obtained over a 2-year period, although, one can get all 32 hours in one year.

Having the CPRM provides a certain level of legitimacy for me when I tell a group of environmental engineers that they lack knowledge or understanding in this area of expertise. With responsibility for planning and implementing management projects on Federal lands, my CPRM certification often indirectly communicates to others that I have a level of proficiency to make knowledgeable decisions.

The same level of professional expertise is recognized by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). NRCS and SRM have an agreement that those individuals with a CPRM are recognized as Technical Service Providers (TSP). As a TSP, individuals are allowed to provide services to various NRCS programs that deal with rangeland planning and management.

I have both seen and written contracts that require the individual conducting rangeland management and planning be either a CPRM or a Certified Range Management Consultant (CRMC). By having this certification, the agency is assured that the personnel conducting the work have met the rigorous requirements necessary to obtain such certificates. Given a choice between two individuals with very similar resumes, but one has a certification while other does not, the CPRM could be a deciding factor.

SRM recently implemented a new policy stating that the top 10% of those students passing the Undergraduate Range Management Exam (URME) do not have to take the CPRM exam, but they still must go through the application process. This is definitely a great incentive to study for this exam and pursue the CPRM certification.

What does the future hold for CPRM? Certainly as more and more federal work becomes privatized, there may well be a greater demand for CPRMs that are able to develop and certify rangeland projects. Another opportunity on the horizon is the need to write approved rangeland management plans for those land owners who desire to participate in the Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX) Carbon Sequestration program. The CCX has approved protocols for earning tradable emission offsets obtain on the basis of carbon sequestration accomplished through sustainable grazing land management in the United States. Currently, there are no requirements that the person developing the plan be certified, but, the CCX may not even know that the CPRM or the CRMC exists. This is an excellent example where CPRM certification could provide a significant competitive edge for the CPRM program.

(Continued on Page 5).

SRM is working hard to make the CPRM website more interactive. The goal is to allow members to track their approved courses, meetings or symposia, track the number of credits that they have acquired and make any necessary changes. By doing this, members will have more control over their professional history.

Finally, SRM is here to help the individual professionals as well as provide standards of excellence to the membership and to the profession as a whole. SRM leadership should encourage federal and state agencies to support training for those in need of credits and support continued participation in the CPRM program. CPRM can provide opportunities and advantages that only come with membership. Supporting CPRM and maintaining your CPRM certification can open many doors in the future.

Dues Expiration Date Change

Starting with the August 31, 2007 expiration date, members will no longer receive a 30-day grace period before membership expires. For example, if your dues expiration date is August 31, 2007 your **membership will expire** on August 31, 2007.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lesley Radtke, 303-986-3309 or email LRadtke@rangelands.org

SRM Member Survey

Thanks to everyone who responded to the recent survey! We appreciate your feedback and are busy recording the results which will be published in an upcoming *Rangeland News*.

Membership Stats

SRM welcomes its new members. Following is a list of new members, their section and recruiter for April 16, 2007 to May 21, 2007.

<u>Member</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Recruited By</u>
Chadra Holifield Collins	AZ	
Wendy McCourt	AZ	Bethany Porter
Devii Rao	Cal-Pac	
Michelle Cowardin	CO	
Paul Mann	FL	
Mark Hayek	NC	Lance Smith
Brian Reynolds	NE	
Caren Cowan	NM	David Graham
Susan Poe	OK	
Andy James	TX	Robert Knight
Tony Bradley	TX	Dalson Merz
Eric Bolin	TX	Robert Knight
Phil Fay	TX	
Eric Grahmann	TX	
Ataollah Ebrahimi	UN	
Peter Adler	UT	

CHAIRPERSON AND PROFESSOR

The Department of Natural Resources Management in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources at Texas Tech University is seeking applicants for the Chairperson position. The Department includes disciplines of conservation, fisheries, range, and wildlife management. The Chairperson has administrative and leadership responsibilities, and has the opportunity to teach and conduct research. Qualifications include demonstrated administrative and leadership capabilities, experience in higher education teaching, and an established record of research productivity. A Ph.D. in conservation, fisheries, range, wildlife, or other closely related field is required. Applicants must apply on-line at <http://jobs.texas-tech.edu> (requisition number 73935) and arrange to have five letters of reference forwarded to: Sukant Misra, Search Committee Chair, Box 42123, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas 79409. The deadline for receiving applications is **August 1, 2007** or until a suitable candidate is identified.

Texas Tech University is an EEO/AA Institution.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Granite Seed Company currently has a job opening for a salesperson/consultant. We are looking for an individual who is passionately interested in the seed and erosion control business and would like to make their career with Granite Seed.

Granite Seed Company specializes in supplying seed, erosion control products, and environmental consulting to the land reclamation/restoration, turf and pasture industry. Our clientele includes professionals in federal and state agencies, private industry, private and public landlords and others who engage in land management, reclamation, restoration, pasture and turf.

The applicant should be knowledgeable in plant ecology and identification, land management principles, revegetation and erosion control techniques. Additionally, applicants should enjoy working with people and natural resource systems, possess good communication skills, and be well-versed in computer operations. Sales experience and/or management skills are a plus.

The successful candidate will be based in Lehi, Utah, which is situated on the outskirts of Salt Lake City. The compensation package is dependent upon experience but includes salary, plus generous benefits, which include paid holidays, paid vacation days, company paid health insurance for the employee and his/her family, company funded retirement plan, plus the opportunity to work with a fun group of people in an exciting industry.

Please send resume by mail, fax, or e-mail to:

Granite Seed Company, Attn. Don Bermant
1697 West 2100 North, Lehi, UT 84043
Fax: (801) 768-3967
donb@graniteseed.com



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Newsletter Deadlines

Deadlines for the *Rangeland News* are the 15th of the month prior to publication. Please send your articles, job postings, calendar of events dates etc. for the July issue of *Rangeland News* by June 15, 2007 to Patty Rich at prich@rangelands.org or call at 720-939-7173 if you have any questions.

Masters or PhD Research Assistantship Project title: Forest management effects on watershed health.

The position is based at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Field work will be based in Mora, New Mexico. The student will obtain a degree in Range Science with a specialization in Watershed Management.

Position responsibilities: Field measurement, laboratory analysis, and data analysis in hydrology, vegetation, soils, and water quality. Ability to travel to and work in Mora to conduct field work.

Start date: **May 2007** or as soon as available.

Stipend: \$18,000/yr

Contact: Dr. Sam Fernald, Watershed Management Assistant Professor, Dept. of Animal and Range Sciences, New Mexico State University, P.O. Box 30003, Dept 3-I, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003, tel: 505-646-1041, fax: 505-646-5441, email: fernaldd@nmsu.edu

**Supervisory Research Rangeland Management Specialist –
Research Leader (GS-14/15)**

Salary Range of \$89,115 to \$136,273 Per Year

The Southern Plains Range Research Station, Rangeland and Pasture Research Unit, Woodward, Oklahoma, is seeking a permanent full-time scientist/Research Leader; the successful applicant will serve as Supervisory Research Rangeland Management Specialist and Research Leader of the Unit. The mission of the Unit is to improve the region's rangeland and livestock management practices; promote better utilization of natural resources; and enhance production efficiencies. As Research Leader, you will be responsible for maintaining and enhancing the scientific productivity of the Unit; managing the human, fiscal, and physical resources assigned to the Unit; providing technical information and consultation both internal and external to ARS; and ensuring the proper reporting of scientific results and information generated by Unit researchers. In personal research, you will be responsible for planning, conducting, and reporting research on developing more efficient rangeland production systems for the Southern Plains. Research is focused on: development of rangeland and livestock management strategies for increased production efficiency and risk management in rangeland ecosystems such as sagebrush, sand sagebrush, mesquite, shrub steppe (intermountain rangeland), etc.; the biological mechanisms of soil-plant-animal interactions across rangeland landscapes; and investigations of the relationship of ecosystem structure to the efficiency of energy transfer from primary to secondary producers. For details and application directions, see <http://www.afm.ars.usda.gov/divisions/hrd/index.html> and click on ANN#: ARS-X7S-0122. To have a printed copy mailed, call 580-256-1873. U.S. citizenship is required. Announcement closes **June 29, 2007**.

USDA/ARS is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

Kleberg Endowed Professorship in Wildlife Ecology

The Department of Natural Resources Management in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources at Texas Tech University is seeking applicants for a tenure-track faculty position at the Full Professor level. This is a 9-month research and teaching position focusing on wetland ecology. The incumbent will be expected to teach undergraduate courses in wetland ecology and waterfowl management; and, is encouraged to develop a graduate course in their area of expertise. The incumbent will also be expected to participate in public service activities. Applicants must hold a Ph.D. degree in wildlife science or closely related area. Qualified candidates should have expertise in wetlands ecology and an appreciation for wetland habitat resources and waterfowl management. Demonstrated ability to obtain extramural funding is essential. Preference will be given to individuals with expertise in wetlands ecology, wetlands restoration, waterfowl management; conservation science, wildlife techniques, or similar areas. Applicants must use the on-line employment website at <http://jobs.texasstate.edu>. Requisition number 73861. In addition, applicants should arrange to have five letters of reference forwarded to: Warren Ballard, Search Committee Chair, Department of Natural Resources Management, Texas Tech University, Box 42125, Lubbock, Texas 79409. Review of applicants will begin **July 1, 2007**, and will continue until the position is filled. For other questions or assistance please contact Warren B. Ballard at warren.ballard@ttu.edu (806-742-2841)

Texas Tech University is an EEO/AA Institution.

Assistant Professor--Rangeland Habitat Restoration

The Department of Natural Resources Management (College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Texas Tech University) is seeking applicants for a tenure-track faculty position (Assistant Professor) for a 9-month teaching and research position. The successful candidate will teach undergraduate courses in range ecology and vegetation inventory; and is encouraged to develop a graduate course in their area of expertise. The successful candidate will also be expected to participate in outreach activities. Applicants must hold a Ph.D. with a research focus in rangeland habitat restoration or closely related area and have an appreciation for the rangeland wildlife habitat resource. Preference will be given to individuals with demonstrated ability to obtain extramural funding and expertise in restoration ecology, landscape ecology, plant ecophysiology, plant growth and development from a whole plant perspective, or ecohydrology. Applicants must use the on-line employment website <http://jobs.texasstate.edu>. Requisition number 73860. Applicants should have five reference letters and original transcripts forwarded to: David Wester, Department of Natural Resources Management, Texas Tech University, Box 42125, Lubbock, Texas 79409. Review of applicants will begin **July 1, 2007**. For other questions or assistance please contact David Wester at david.wester@ttu.edu (806-742-2841).

Upcoming Deadlines, Events and Meetings

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

June 2007

- June 1 Member Survey Deadline
- June 7-8 Kansas—Spring Meeting and Tour, Beloit, KS
- June 10-15 Nebraska—Range Youth Camp, Halsey, NE
- June 15 *Rangeland News* Deadline for July Issue
- June 19-21 Northern Great Plains—Workshop and Tour, Cypress Hills, SK
- June 21-22 Pacific Northwest—Summer Tour, Kamloops, BC
- June 21-22 Wyoming—Summer Tour, Medicine Bow, WY
- June 29, 2007 Colorado—Summer Tour, Taylor/Oswald Ranch, Cotopaxi, CO
- June 29 Nevada—Summer Tour, Smith Creek Ranch, NV

July 2007

- July 11-12 Utah—Summer Tour, Summit County
- July 12-14 International Mountain—Summer Tour, Lubrecht Forest, Missoula, MT

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