



Photos by USDA NRCS

December 2011
Volume 64 Number 12

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You Can Make a Difference at SRM

Summer Schulz, Advisory Council Chair-Elect

Greetings SRM Membership! This is my first time addressing you all as a whole and will admit that am actually a bit nervous in doing so. Nervous, not in the sense of being afraid of you all (though some heckling is anticipated); Nervous in that I feel the pressure of the importance of my new role as your in-coming Advisory Council Chair.



Having known and worked with many of you personally for a while now, I recognize how much each of you have and are invested in the Society on so many different levels. This makes me proud, and nervous, to serve as your in-coming liaison between the local Sections and the (inter-)national Board.

As a refresher, I'd like to hit on a couple of key definitions according to the Bylaws of the Society (as found on-line at www.rangelands.org/pdf/Bylaws.pdf):

Continued on page 2

Executive Vice President's Report

Jess Peterson

It's been another productive month here at SRM! As usual SRM members are doing amazing things for the Society through their dedicated involvement on various committees and projects. I want to send out a huge "thank you" to the Spokane Annual Meeting planning committee. These folks are hard at it every day, from early morning conference calls to late night follow up projects. They are on track to present an outstanding event come January 29, 2012.

Don't forget you need to register by **Dec. 18th** to receive the reduced rate package. Click here to register today: <http://www.rangelands.org/spokane2012/>

While you are on the SRM website take a minute and look over all the latest SRM apparel! Look your best at the Annual Meeting with your new SRM apparel: <http://www.americanbus.com/newaces/default.aspx?UID=societym>

Continued on page 3



SRM Action Update Call

Dec. 8, 2011

11 a.m. MST

Dial: 1-213-416-6650

At Prompt

Enter: 012010#

**Society for Range
Management
Headquarters
10030 W 27th Ave
Wheat Ridge, CO
80215-6601
(303) 986-3309
Website:
www.Rangelands.org**

Staff Emails:

Jess Peterson:
evp@rangelands.org

Vicky Trujillo:
vtrujillo@rangelands.org

Aleta Rudeen:
arudeen@rangelands.org

Melissa Schneider:
mschneider@rangelands.org

Denisha Marino:
dmarino@rangelands.org

Nick Dormer:
srm@allenpress.com

Kate Counter:
srmmeeting@allenpress.com

Richard Grosvenor
accounting@rangelands.org

Kelly Fogarty:
kelly@westernskies-strategies.com

Membership:
membership@rangelands.org

**Next Deadline:
Dec. 15, 2011**

You Can Make a Difference at SRM

Continued from page 1

The Advisory Council shall:

- Serve as the planning, consultative, and advisory body to the Board of Directors, to provide the means for discussion and evaluation of Society affairs by a broad spectrum of membership, and to provide the opportunity for reporting on, exchanging ideas about, and evaluating Section and Society activities and programs.
- The Advisory Council is composed of the President and two elected officers of each Section of the Society.

The Purpose and Functions of a Section shall be to: Bring about a closer personal acquaintance among members of the Society, an increased spirit of cooperation on matters relating to Society objectives, the encouragement of members to participate in both Section and Society functions, to study and observe local range-related situations, to work with other Sections or with other local organizations on matters of common interest and concern, and to confer on Society affairs. (I love this definition, as is what we so obviously strive for, and achieve, at our local levels!)

What does all of this mean to YOU? It means that you all, as the general membership, have a wonderfully defined opportunity to be involved in, and to affect, the goings-ons of the Society through the direct line to your (inter-)national Board via your local Section leadership – the way a grassroots organization should work.

It means that YOU have a stated ability to hold your leadership, on all levels, accountable for all actions.

It means that YOU are strongly encouraged to take the initiative and get involved

- whether by strengthening your personal and professional networks, by helping to reach and further define objectives of SRM, by mentoring students and peers, by being mentored yourself, by reaching out to other associations, societies, and clubs, or by stepping-up to perform those roles which are integral to maintaining a strong and worthwhile Society.

It means that YOU can make a difference. Am I coming across like a cheerleader? I hope so.

Not because my position implores me to. No, Stop. It IS BECAUSE my position implores me to. We, the Advisory Council, absolutely cannot do as the SRM By-laws define (see previous mention) alone, without your input and interaction. We would not feel good about it, and neither would you – so let us know what's on your mind.

What's next? Next is our 65th Annual Meeting in Spokane, WA – your opportunity to take your involvement to the next level by helping to fulfill the purpose and functions of Your Section, while helping to ensure Your Advisory Council and Your Board fulfill their roles and responsibilities.

Please be sure and have at least one Section Representative attend our Advisory Council meetings in Spokane! Remember, you can designate representatives as voting members on the Advisory Council.

Make a call, send a note, Skype – whatever it takes, share your insight, experience, concern, and enthusiasm with your leadership – we are here for YOU.

I am looking forward to hearing from and working for you over the next year.



Executive Vice President's Report Jess Peterson

Continued from page 1

Continuing on the note of SRM member involvement, I want to mention the SRM Building Taskforce, which includes Dr. Roy Roth, James Linebaugh, Jim Sullins, Jack Alexander, Wally Butler, Gary Frasier, and myself. The Taskforce is reviewing options regarding the SRM office building and evaluating whether or not SRM should remain in its current location or sell the building and move into an upgraded leased office space. If you have any questions about this project, please be on the Dec. 8th SRM Action Update Call.

Another team has also been hard at it. Under the SRM Board of Directors (BOD) directive, the SRM Investment Review Team took on the difficult and challenging task of reviewing three proposals from investment firms to manage SRM investment accounts. Endowment Fund Development Committee (EFDC) Chair, E.T. "Tom" Bartlett and Finance Committee Chair Curtis Talbot appointed the following individuals from their respective committees to serve on the Team. Chuck Jarecki and G. Allen Rasmussen represented the EFDC and Paul Loeffler and Martin Curry represented the Finance Committee. If you have every reviewed investment firm options and proposals, you know that this is no rookie endeavor. These individuals stepped up to the task in fine form and I can't say enough good things about the hard work and time intensive labor that these individuals put into reading and evaluating the proposals along with interviewing the firms. Furthermore this Team discovered that SRM has not updated its investment policy since 1996. This, along with a full report, including an investment firm recommendation, will be presented to the SRM BOD during the December BOD meeting. The SRM BOD and I greatly appreciate the contributions of these individuals.

I want to thank everyone who ran for a seat on the SRM BOD and Executive Committee. Congratulations to 2012 Board of Directors Dr. Kenneth O. Fulgham and

Dr. Barry D. Irving along with 2012 2nd Vice Present Jenny Pluhar. We had a low voter response rate. I want to let the SRM membership know that this will be brought up at the Spokane Annual Meeting. I won't speculate on what the decision will be, but will note that mail out will be discussed. If you feel strongly about this please be on the Dec. 8th SRM Action Update Call and let us know your thoughts. The information for that call is:

Thursday, Dec. 8

10:00 am CST, 11:00 pm MST

12:00pm CST, 1pm EST

Dial: 1-213-416-6650

Access Code is: 012010#

In closing, I want to brief the membership on an SRM pilot project. The SRM staff and Executive Committee evaluated the effectiveness and efficiency of continuing to mail out *Rangeland News* (RN). The majority of SRM members receive the RN via email or online. The mail out version of the RN provides additional cost in printing, postage and administrative overhead. SRM staff are developing an enhanced RN that will be more functional for online users and a printed RN that will be tailored for hard copy subscribers. With that being noted, the email and online version of the RN will be published on a monthly basis. The hard copy RN will be published on a bi-monthly basis. Again this is pilot project, but we are optimistic about its potential success. If you have thoughts or comments on this, please bring them up on the Dec. 8 SRM Action Update Call.

Thanks for your support and involvement in SRM! We'll talk to you Thursday, Dec. 8!

Find a Ride / Share a Room

Looking to reduce costs to attend the SRM Annual meeting? SRM has a message area available on the Annual Meeting website to coordinate anyone interested in finding a ride or sharing a room. For more info, visit: <http://www.rangelands.org/spokane2012/roomshare.shtml>

Visit the SRM eStore Today!

SRM
Society for Range Management

www.Rangelands.org



NEW FEATURE: YouTube on the Range

This month, as a bit of a holiday treat for our readers, we inaugurate a new *Rangeland News* feature, “YouTube on the Range,” where we highlight an interesting, noteworthy or merely entertaining rangeland video that we’ve encountered while surfing in cyberspace (along with a short critique from the submitter that, as an independent viewpoint, is not to be taken as an official SRM endorsement).

We submit that this e-venue is very much a part of 21st century rangeland education at all levels, and that SRM better start playing catch-up in this arena if it wishes to remain relevant. So to start with, we present: “Rangeland Utilization Monitoring - A Ranchers’ Perspective” located at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t1ktrC6S09c>.

This 15 minute, high production values video from Montana NRCS “discusses the benefits of rangeland utilization monitoring. Montana Ranchers demonstrate the utilization monitoring process and talk about why monitoring and evaluation are important tools for managing their rangelands.” Through carefully composed videography of “seeing is believing” examples, avoidance of technical jargon, and primary utilization of everyday ranchers for the talking head segments, this film makes its understated but persuasive case toward

“Rangeland Utilization Monitoring- A Ranchers’ Perspective”

MontanaNRCS 10 videos Subscribe



its targeted audience in a time frame that could coincide nicely with that 5 a.m. cup of coffee. And in case we’re not fully awake, the narration is echoed through the prominent subtitles.

Do you have a favorite range video to share (or do you need an excuse to go hunt one up?). Please send it c/o Vicky Trujillo, vtrujillo@rangelands.org.

Be sure to include a short “justification” as to why your submission should be our “YouTube Range Video of the Month” and convincing evidence that you/we have permission to so share it!

Nominations for Society for Range Management Officers Sought

By **Chuck Butterfield**,
SRM Nominations Committee Chair

Last February I challenged each of the sections present in the Advisory Council to submit a nomination for either the Board of Directors or Second Vice President position with YOUR professional society. To date we have had a few folks that have agreed to toss their names in the hat. Our goal is to have so many nominees that we spend well into the 12th hour interviewing them all.

Therefore, I am calling on all sections to submit names of potential candidates, you can even submit names from other sections. We are looking for well qualified candidates to lead our profession into the future.

The SRM Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for the office of Second Vice President and for the Board of Directors (two positions) to be filled begin-

ning in 2013. Nominations are sought from SRM members, Committees, and Sections. A total of six candidates, two for 2nd Vice President and four for each of two Director positions, will be selected from the list of nominees submitted.

Members or Sections who wish to put forth a nomination should submit for each nominee:

- Nominee’s name, address, phone number, email, and the office for which he or she is being nominated
- 2-page (maximum) biographical sketch highlighting the nominee’s qualifications (including education, employment, professional emphasis, SRM and other activities, and honors, awards, and recognitions)
- ½-page (maximum) statement of why the nominee wants to serve as an SRM officer at this time (including nominee’s qualities, skills, and passions)

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Are You Really a Top Candidate?

By Dan Simmons in "The Animal Science Monitor"
- Issue 129

Just about everybody wants a better job. Unfortunately, not everybody prepares for finding and getting that better job. They just wish for it . . . and you know how far that will take you.

When it comes to preparing for a better job, you have to ask the correct questions, specifically the tough questions. These are the questions people often do not like to ask themselves. (Wishing is a more attractive alternative.) However, you're ready to ask yourself the tough questions, which is why you're reading this. So let's start with perhaps the toughest:

Are you really a top candidate? This means that you're in the top 30% of your industry. Be honest with yourself and with me. Let me articulate what it means to be in the top 30%. If you're going to get top dollar, you'll need to show the following:

1. Track record of success—You can show consistent top performance for your employers. Having copies of employee evaluations, letters of recommendation, or copies of awards documents this.
2. Wise career decisions—Your resume makes sense and your choices propelled you forward to more responsibility or better employers.

3. Stability—You've shown that you're a low-risk hire because you normally stay five years with an employer.
4. Your income expectations are in line with the value you would bring to the employer.
5. You have continued to improve your skills since graduation and can list what you have done, whether it's reading books on selling, earning a technical certification, or being asked to speak on a topic in which you've become an expert.
6. Others think you're great—You have a list of references who will sing your praises and confirm your accomplishments.
7. You have a professional presence and can articulate your success with confidence, not conceit.
8. You are fun to have on the team.

If you aren't in the top 30%, then now is the time to stop daydreaming about a better job and change your situation so that you are at the top of your profession. Corporate America wants great talent and is not looking to hire the bottom two-thirds, but the top performers.

If you have any questions about this article or about the questions posed in the article, send an email to dan@consearch.com.

This is the first part in a series. Additional installments will be published in future issues of The ASM.

Nominations for Society for Range Management Officers Sought

Continued from page 4

- A cover letter with:
 - o A statement from the nominee consenting to the nomination and asserting a willingness to serve
 - o Evidence that the nominee's Section, if applicable, has been notified of the nomination (this could include copying the Section on the nomination or a note from the Section acknowledging awareness of and/or support for the nomination)

Additional materials, such as letters of support, will not be considered by the Nominating Committee. Members may nominate themselves or other SRM members.

For more information on position responsibilities and procedures please check the committee web page:

<http://www.rangelands.org/nomcom/index.shtml>, or contact a committee member or the chair, Chuck Butterfield at cbutterfield@csc.edu. Nominations should be submitted by **Dec. 26, 2011**.

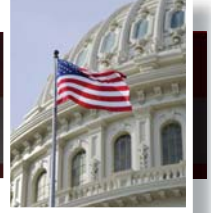
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Capital Update

From Kelly Fogarty



SRM Capital Update Kelly Fogarty, D.C. Liaison

SRM and agency partners held an Interagency Ecological Site Applications Workshop this past month as part of the Ecological Site Description (ESD) Workshop series. SRM provided administrative support and aided in the overall planning and execution of the ESD Workshop, which took place in Venus, FL. This workshop represents a successful collaboration of multiple agencies. In a time of continuing budget uncertainty in Washington, DC it is encouraging to see the strong level of support for these workshops.

The ESD workshop, my first, was held in the Lake Placid region at the Archbold Biological Station and spanned three days. About 40 registrants attended the workshop, representing more than 10 federal and state agencies, including the Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Air Force, Agriculture Research Service, National Park Service, Florida Natural Areas Inventory. This broad representation resulted in an effective series of discussions and field exercises.

The collaboration of multiple agencies and other organizations truly showcased the main objectives of the ESD Workshop series and I hope that those who participated will encourage their colleagues to attend one of the upcoming workshops.

On that note, two ESD workshops will be held at the SRM Annual Meeting in Spokane, WA. Additionally, a regional Interagency Ecological Site Applications Workshop is scheduled for Reno, NV in June 2012, and future regional workshops are in the planning stages for 2012 and 2013.

To learn more about the workshop series and to review ESD resources and past workshop materials, visit the SRM ESD Workshop webpage at: <http://www.rangelands.org/ESD>.

As noted in my previous update, Washington, DC has been consumed by budget talks for the better part of this year. Prior to Thanksgiving, it was announced that the Super Committee had failed in their directive to identify and put forth a plan to Congress that would contain needed cuts to the overall federal budget. Now, on the heels of what has been deemed a "failure" across the country and in DC, Congress must now pass multiple appropriation bills to secure funding for the government in Fiscal Year 2012. The timeline for this new budget directive is targeted to be completed by the middle of December, in time for the Congressional Winter Recess.

On a more specific budget issue, as a direct result of the Super Committee's inability to come to a cohesive agreement, talks on the 2012 Farm Bill must now start over. The comprehensive bill must go through a series of hearings across the country and in

DC with an end goal of completing the bill by Memorial Day in 2012. Now, the main concern centers on the prospect of farm bill negotiations having to occur next summer, during the heart of the election cycle. Any major spending bill, such as the Farm Bill, will be highly politicized during an election year, and many fear the impacts this will have on the overall product.

In addition, it is uncertain how the bill will be brought to Congress. Previously, the bill has been brought to the House floor as a "closed bill" that consists of members voting on the entire bill, without the option of debating specific pieces within the legislation. In the current House, it is seen as a likely possibility that House Speaker John Boehner will allow the bill to be debated once it reaches the floor. This will allow for members to target specific titles and opens the possibility for such programs as conservation to be stripped of funding. The Farm Bill proposal that was brought to the Super Committee in November contained cuts to conservation programs but kept them at a level that was not out of proportion to other cuts within this bill; whether this will hold true in 2012 is now in question. As this major piece of legislation unfolds, I will continue to keep everyone updated regarding pending cuts to conservation and range-based programs.

-Kelly Fogarty
kelly@westernskiesstrategies.com



Measures of Biodiversity Offer Information for Assessing Rangeland Health

Rangeland Ecology & Management – Rangeland managers need reliable data to determine the best course of action to preserve or restore ecosystems. Currently, biodiversity is not one of the parameters included in the evaluation of rangeland health. Two indicators of biodiversity, plant species richness and diversity, could prove useful in evaluating the state of our grasslands.

An article in *Rangeland Ecology & Management* discusses accepted measures for diagnosing rangeland health. The authors synthesize responses of plant species richness and diversity to drivers that guide management decisions in Great Plains grasslands, one of most threatened ecosystems in North America.

Indicators of rangeland health should be clearly documented with empirical evidence that has sufficiently low natural variability and known ranges of acceptable and unacceptable conditions. The authors concluded that plant richness and diversity do not yet meet all of the criteria of a good indicator, but, that these measures still provide valuable information for managing grassland biodiversity.

The full text of “Incorporating Biodiversity Into Rangeland Health: Plant Species Richness and Diversity in Great Plains Grasslands,” and other articles from

Rangeland Ecology & Management, Vol. 64, No. 6, November 2011 are available at: <http://srmjournals.org/doi/full/10.2111/REM-D-10-00136.1>

About *Rangeland Ecology & Management*

Rangeland Ecology & Management is a publication of the Society for Range Management (SRM) and is published six times a year in January, March, May, July, September, and November. Since its premiere in 1948, the journal has provided a forum for the presentation and discussion of facts, ideas, and philosophies pertaining to the study, management, ecology, and use of rangelands and their resources. *Rangeland Ecology & Management* (REM) is available by subscription. SRM members receive a special discount rate!



Next month look for an informative article from *Rangelands*



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.

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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 Recipe Of The Month: From: Trail Boss's Cowboy Cookbook, 1985

Nancy Reagan
Washington, D.C.

PUMPKIN PECAN PIE

4 slightly beaten eggs	½ tsp. cinnamon
2 cups canned or mashed cooked pumpkin	¼ tsp. salt
1 cup sugar	1 unbaked 9-inch pie shell
1 c. up chopped pecans	1 tsp. vanilla
2 cups milk	½ cup dark corn syrup

Combine ingredients except pecans. Pour into pie shell – top with pecans. Bake at 350° for 40 minutes, or until set.

Volunteers Needed for Spokane 2012

SRM is looking for individuals willing to work with session mediators to take care of the doors, lights, and other details for technical sessions at the 65th Annual Meeting. Other fun assignments are to be had, such as: signing people up for tours, taking pictures for the daily Trail Boss, helping with set up and tear down of poster sessions, helping with the plenary session, helping at the registration desk, the awards ceremony, the student sessions, so many jobs that will make Spokane 2012 a great meeting!

If you are planning to attend the Spokane 2012 Annual Meeting and want to volunteer, please e-mail Aubrey Woodcock (Aubrey.Woodcock@id.usda.gov) with your name, e-mail, and a cell phone number. As we get closer to the event, volunteers will have the option to choose an assignment. For now, we need to know who is willing to help. THANK YOU all in advance for signing up!!





Suggestions Needed to Help Applied Science Task Force

Submitted by Lisa Van Amburg,
Applied Science Task Force, Chair

To refocus the SRM on its core value of caring for rangeland resources, the Advisory Council approved a resolution during the 2011 annual meeting that created an Applied Science Task Force (ASTF). The resolution was brought forward by multiple SRM sections as a result of many SRM-member land managers having stated to Advisory Council representatives that their needs and interests in practical, relevant applications of science are not being fully addressed. The full resolution can be viewed on the SRM website under SRM resolutions. The ASTF includes members from five sections (Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, and Wyoming) and various affiliations (extension, consultant, rancher, NRCS, USFS, and a land trust).

The ASTF was tasked with further defining the relevant issues raised by the SRM-member land managers and to develop recommendations for specific actionable items to satisfactorily address stated concerns that could include:

- engaging the appropriate committees to assist in facilitating the solicitation of practical applied science content in Rangelands and other SRM publications, workshops, and outreach efforts, and
- engaging with SRM sections to promote practical and applied science to existing and potential members, and
- creating relationships with other groups (i.e., GLCI, extension, etc.) that promote practical and applied science.

The ASTF is seeking thoughts, comments and suggestions in an effort to address the aforementioned tasks. Please email those to: appliedsciencetaskforce@gmail.com

Applied Science for Land Managers

Whereas a significant component of the membership of the Society for Range Management are land managers; and

Whereas successful land managers greatly benefit from practical applied science in the art of range management; and

Whereas many SRM-member land managers have stated to Advisory Council representatives that their needs and interests in practical applications of science relevant to their rangeland management are not being fully addressed; and

Whereas such concerns are leading some of these SRM-member land managers to question the value of their continued membership; and

Whereas SRM continues to be uniquely positioned to promote, provide and facilitate practical applications of science for the use of rangeland managers.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Directors (BOD) of The Society for Range Management redouble its efforts to effectively promote and facilitate practical applications of science to land managers consistent with the mission of SRM; and

Be it further resolved that the BOD create a task force to further define the relevant issues raised by the aforementioned members and develop recommendations for specific actionable items to satisfactorily address stated concerns that could include:

- engaging the appropriate committees to assist in facilitating the solicitation of practical applied science content in Rangelands and other SRM publications, workshops, and outreach efforts, and
- engaging with SRM sections to promote practical and applied science to existing and potential members, and
- creating relationships with other groups (i.e., GLCI, extension, etc.) that promote practical and applied science.

The task force recommended to the board includes the following members:

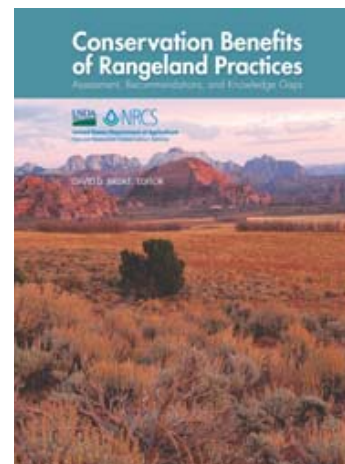
Lisa Van Amburg, CO - Chair
Doug Tolleson AZ
Summer Schulz WY
Jeff Goodwin TX
Jim Thorpe NM
Matt Barnes CO



Rangeland Literature Synthesis

Conservation Benefits of Rangeland Practices: Assessment, Recommendations, and Knowledge Gaps

The rangeland literature synthesis provides an unprecedented source of evidence-based information to guide the development and assessment of management practices and conservation programs on the nation's rangelands. It assesses the effectiveness of seven NRCS-recommended rangeland conservation practices: Prescribed Grazing, Prescribed Fire, Brush Management, Range Planting, Riparian Management Practices, Wildlife Management Practices, and Invasive Plant Management. Also assessed were two cross-cutting issues: A landscape approach to rangeland conservation, and a social and economic assessment of rangeland conservation practices. The publication is available at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/technical/nra/ceap/?&cid=stelprdb1045811>



2012 SRM 5th Annual Rangeland Job Fair

In order to better match job opportunities with job seekers, SRM announces its fifth annual RANGELAND JOB FAIR scheduled for Sunday Jan. 29, 2012, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

The Job Fair is open to all members and non-members and 2012 Annual Meeting Registration is not required for participation in the Job Fair. This is a free service for employers that represent SRM members and Trade Show participants. This is a free service for all job seekers interested in the rangeland profession.

Attendance at the annual meetings this year is expected to be between over 1500 people. Approximately 25 percent of attendees will be students and young professionals.

Employers will be provided space to display employment information, distribute vacancy announcements and interact with job seekers. Registered participants will be provided with one 6-ft table for displays within a large exposition area. All employers MUST register for this

program. Job seekers do NOT need to register.

To register, please complete the reservation form at: http://www.rangelands.org/pdf/AM12_jobfair_reg_form.pdf and return it to the address at the bottom of the form. Reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first served basis, and space is limited.

The deadline for receipt of all reservations is Friday, Jan. 13, 2012. On-site registrations may be accepted, depending on available



space, and will require payment of a \$100 late fee.

If you are interested in this program, or know of prospective employers who may be, contact the JOB FAIR Coordinator, Linda Coates-Markle, at lcmarkle@rangelands.org and/or 202-306-3282.

Former SRM President Publishes Memoir

Gerald W. Thomas, Past President 1983, is in poor health and living in an assisted living facility. Earlier this year he published an account of his World War II experiences as well as a memoir of growing up on a ranch in Idaho, living during the depression, attending college, and the early years of his professional career. Details on the books are available on this website: <http://doc45.com/>



November Rangeland Photo Quiz - Answer

November Quiz Question: Range folks roving across rangelands know they may expect the unexpected, like the “sudden” appearance of big fat mushrooms on semi-arid mesa tops (one of those occasional “monsoon miracles”). Being ever ready and resourceful, they whip out their handy digital recording device and dig out of their pockets some “everyday item” to provide “scale.” What is the colorful ready reference utilized here, and what Holmesian speculations might we make about this observer? And, in case we need a tie-breaker (and to please the quantitatively inclined), what might be the circumference of this horned-toad stool?

November Quiz Answer: Our quiz reveals that a lot of “pickers” are out on the range, and not those who are merely mycologists (in fact no one ventured any insights regarding mushrooms on mesa tops!). Among the respondents (our most ever!), Raven informs us from Afganistan that “the triangular-shaped device sitting on top of the stool is called a plectron (a device used for plucking on the strings of a guitar). From the colorful design I would say the owner plays the “fancy” guitar. Based on the approximate width of a plectron of $\sim 3/4$ ”, I would estimate the diameter of the mushroom to be 4-5”.

Lars Anderson notes, “The circumference should be about 18.8 inches or 48 cm. I’m not sure what to say about the observer, but tie-dye is a bold choice.” Rich LaCasse adds, “Near as I can tell the object they used to give the photo scale is a guitar pick. Which leads me to deduct, my dear Watson, that the observer is an avid musician. For who but a guitar player would carry a guitar pick with them everywhere they go (their gui-



tar was probably left in the truck). Most guitar picks are about 1” across which would make the mushroom about 7” in diameter or 22” circumference.”

Thomas Matza uses impeccable logic, “The item used to show scale may be a guitar pick. I’m not familiar with that particular maker; I favor the tortoise-shell colored ones of a famous guitar manufacturer . My Holmesian deduction is therefore that the person who submitted the photo is a player of guitar or mandolin.”

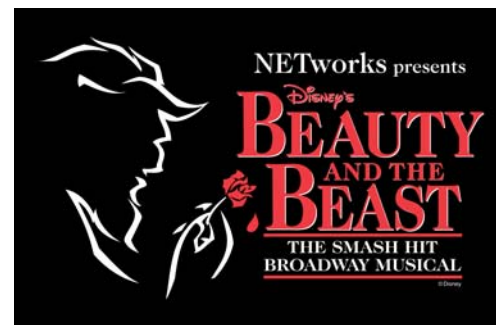
We had only one tone-deaf dissenter, Tim Steffens, who of course was wrong (but we value his contrarian comments nonetheless), “I would say the colorful thing is an earring or small pin, that the observer is female, and that the diameter of the mushroom is about 2.5-3”.

It’s a Fender “thin” as the cowboy plucks lights while “Ridin’ Down the Canyon” with his old F47. Thanks to all you SRM pickers – Keep on Pickin’!

Disney's Broadway Musical "Beauty and the Beast"

If you are arriving in Spokane for the 2012 annual meeting on Saturday, Jan. 28th or Sunday, Jan. 29th and are looking for some great entertainment, don’t miss the opportunity to see Disney’s Broadway musical “Beauty and the Beast” at the INB Performing Arts Center. A special discount rate has been established for the Society for Range Management. This show is perfect for the entire family and is within walking distance of our meeting hotels!

For more details about the show, please visit the Annual Meeting website at: http://rangelands.org/spokane2012/activities_beautybeast.shtml





December Rangeland Photo Quiz Question



December Range Photo Quiz picture and question submitted by Thomas Matza, District Ranger, Buffalo District, Bridger-Teton National Forest.

Range managers often lead various rehabilitation and restoration projects, or inspect and monitor the work of others. What might have led to the necessity for the restoration work that occurred along this stream?

The temporary structure in the foreground of the picture may provide a hint of the disturbance that took place here. What function does that structure perform and what is the purpose of the rolled geotex along the edge?

Send your observations (and your own quiz-worthy range photos) to vttrujillo@rangelands.org, subject line "Range Photo Quiz."

Excellence in Rangeland Management Award

The Excellence in Rangeland Management Award is a poster presentation and competition held at the SRM Annual Meeting in Spokane, Wash. This award honors exemplary rangeland management and recognizes the "best of the best" from among Section Excellence in Range Management Award winners.

The objective of the award is as follows: To demonstrate and publicize to the public, and other range managers, outstanding examples of management which result in long-term health of the range resource while providing efficient production of livestock, wood products, water, supporting wildlife, esthetic values, and other non-commodity values.

Sections are encouraged to present recent winners (2 per year maximum) of their Excellence in Range

Management award or other suitable nominations in a poster presentation representing outstanding ranches or other land management operations.

Existing procedures and poster criteria for the Spokane meeting will govern the poster presentations. The posters presented will be judged on which poster best conveys Excellence in Rangeland Management. They will be judged by the Awards Committee.

Sections must indicate their intent to bring forth an ERM poster(s) no later than Dec. 15 by submitting the following information to the SRM Awards Committee Chair, via email:

1. Section affiliation
2. Title of Poster
3. Abstract (max 100 words)

Contact your Section awards representative or the Chair of the So-

ciety awards committee if your section will be presenting a poster at the Spokane meeting.

Poster presenters can also submit Abstracts on line (follow the links on the SRM website to Abstract submissions for the Spokane Meeting). Posters submitted after Aug. 19 can still be submitted for the Excellence in Rangeland Management Award, but will not have the abstracts published. Only 15 poster spots have been reserved, so don't delay your submissions.

Please visit the SRM website at http://www.rangelands.org/awards/awards_handbook11.shtml for more information, including qualifications and judging criteria or contact Barry Irving, Awards Committee Chair at Barry.Irving@ales.ualberta.ca.



South Dakota SRM Annual Meeting Held in Wall

Article & Photo by Tate Lantz

The Annual South Dakota Society for Range Management Meeting was held Oct 12-13 in Wall, SD in conjunction with the South Dakota Soil and Water Conservation Society. Producers, agency and academia from across the state attended to share ideas about range, soil and water management.

Wednesday began with registration and welcomes from Jessica Michalski representing the SD SRM and Tom Martin representing the SD SWCS. The rest of the day was full of presentations on pollinators, water resources, salt cedar, prairie dogs, and the geology of the local area. These talks were given by experts in those fields to provide an educational aspect to the meeting. Paul Johnson, South Dakota State University Entomologist, Matthew Rigge, SDSU graduate student, Sara Brunette, United States Geological Service and SDSU, Michelle Ohrtman, SDSU, Randy Griebel, United State Forest Service, and Roger Assmus, Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Scientist provided these talks.

A banquet and awards presentation was held that evening where Excellence in Range Management Awards were presented to the Valburg Limited Partnership in Jones County, Dan and Sharon Anderson in Perkins County, Evenson Ranch in Corson County and Mike and JoAnn Deurmier in Campbell County east of the river. These winners received a plaque and will be hosting a tour next summer to



SD SRM President Jessica Michalski and 2011 Area III Excellence in Range Management Award Co - Winner Dennis and Shari Evenson, McIntosh, SD.

showcase their operations. Macayla Heisler from Newell then presented her High School Youth Forum speech that she will present at the International SRM meeting held in Spokane, WA next February. Macayla's speech was centered on sage grouse habitat and what we can do to preserve it.

Awards were also presented to the South Dakota SRM Outgoing President Jessica Michalski and Outgoing Director Mitch Falkner. The South Dakota SRM would like to thank these folks for their dedication to the range resource in the State! The night was capped off by a crazy auction that raised money to help support these two organizations that will provide scholarships to SD youth to attend college and to further range, soil and water education throughout the State.

There was a tour on Thursday to the South Dakota State University crop research facility near Wall where John Rickertson discussed their ongoing crop rotation trial. Then to the Badlands National Park where Roger Assmus from the Natural Resources Conservation Service discussed geology formations and soils in the Park. Pat Johnson from SDSU then explained her research on range recovery after prairie dog removal. Next was on to the Cottonwood Research Station east of Wall just off highway 14 so Roger Gates could discuss long term grazing trials that have been held at the Station. Finally on to Pat Guptill's ranch to discuss his mob grazing practices.

A great meeting this year and we look forward to the 2012 meeting that will be held in the Black Hills Area at the beginning of October.



Upcoming Events

Colorado SRM and Colorado Weed Management Association Meeting

The joint Colorado Section Society for Range Management (CSSRM)/Colorado Weed Management Association (CWMA) Winter Annual Meeting will be held Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 7-8, 2011 at the Cheyenne Mountain Conference Center in Colorado Springs, CO. A CSSRM Board of Directors meeting is scheduled Tuesday evening, December 6th at 7:00 pm.

New Mexico Section SRM Winter Meeting - Dust & Smoke: A Year of Drought and Wildfire on the Range, Jan. 4-6, 2012, Socorro, NM

The New Mexico Section Society for Range Management will hold its Winter Meeting on Jan. 5-6, 2012. The meeting will be in Socorro, N.M., and will be hosted by the Socorro County Extension Service. The meeting includes a field tour on Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2012.

2011 has been a tough year for New Mexico's rangelands. After a dry winter, unrelenting winds and continuing precipitation deficits resulted in exceptional drought conditions over much of the state. The hot, dry, and windy conditions also led to the worst fire year in New Mexico history with more than 1 million acres burned. These extreme conditions have presented numerous challenges for rangeland managers. The 2012 New Mexico SRM Winter meeting will focus on management challenges encountered during this time. Online registration will be available via Allen Press. For more information visit the NMSRM webpage at <http://nmsrm.nmsu.edu/index.html>.

For questions contact Les Owens at lowen@nmda.nmsu.edu or 575-646-2642. Online registration for credit card payments is available at http://timssnet2.allenpress.com/ECOMSRMA/timssnet/products/tnt_showprdsplash.cfm. Select New Mexico Section meeting.

Make check payments payable to "NM Section SRM and send to: New Mexico SRM Treasurer, c/o Michael L. Casados, P. O. Box 1551, El Prado, New Mexico 87529. There is a \$10 late fee for registrations received after Dec. 20.

Rangeland Events at UC Davis, Jan. 19-20, 2012

The 1st Rangeland Science Symposium will be held on Jan. 19, 2012 at UC Davis Freeborn Hall. This event is sponsored by the Russell L. Rustici Rangeland Endowment, University of California, Davis and the Kearney Foundation for Soil Science, University of California. Visit: http://rangelandwatersheds.ucdavis.edu/main/outreach/rangeland_science_symposium.html. It will be held in conjunction with the California Rangeland Conservation Coalition's 7th Annual Summit on Jan. 20, 2012, also at UC Davis Freeborn Hall. For more information please visit: <http://www.carangeland.org/home/2012summit.html>

2012 North American Invasive Plant Ecology & Management Short Course

A new course on invasive plants has been developed for researchers, land managers, graduate students, and policy makers. The North American Invasive Plant Ecology and Management Short Course (NAIPSC) is three days of intense instruction and learning for those interested in the basics of invasive plant ecology and management. The second annual course will be held June 26-28 at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln West Central Research & Extension Center in North Platte, NE. The 2012 NAIPSC will include presentations, hands-on workshops, site visits and instructor-led discussion sessions on the latest in invasive plant ecology and management. CEU and graduate student credit will be available. Click on the link (<http://ipscourse.unl.edu>) for more information.



Job Opportunities

Graduate Opportunities, Utah State University - Dept. of Wildland Resources

We seek a PhD and a MS student to join a NIFA-funded research team at Utah State University. The project is aimed at using sustainable methods to restore rangelands and providing landowners with new knowledge about medusahead and its control through grazing. The research team will investigate a supplementation and fertilization program, along with experience early in life with mother, to provide a positive nutritional environment to enhance grazing of medusahead by sheep. The students will be trained in the graduate program at the Department of Wildland Resources under the supervision of Dr. Juan Villalba starting in summer 2012. Strong verbal, written, analytical, and collaborative skills are essential. Candidates should also have experience with livestock handling and husbandry practices. For the PhD position, a student with a master's degree in biology, animal or range science is preferred. Inquiries about this position can be made to Dr. Juan Villalba (juan.villalba@usu.edu). If interested, please send an application letter describing research and career interests, a CV, and contact information for two references.

Colorado State University, County Extension Agent-Agriculture

Colorado State University, Extension, Job Vacancy #01-12: Country Extension Agent-Agriculture, Routt County, Steamboat Springs, CO. This position provides leadership, guidance, direction and educational program support to the agricultural, natural resources and horticulture programs in Routt County. This individual works as a member of a multi-county team of professionals and is a local representative of Colorado State University.

Application materials, including transcript(s) showing degree(s) conferred, must be RECEIVED no later than Noon Mountain Time 12/14/2011 for full consideration. Completed Bachelor's degree required, Master's preferred. Complete job description, application process and list of requirements located at: <http://www.ext.colostate.edu/coop/jobsmenu.html>. CSU conducts background checks on all final candidates. CSU is an EO/EA/AA Employer.

2012 Rangeland Careers

The demand for professionals who can manage rangelands is currently very high. Nearly all students graduating with degrees in range science & management are finding opportunities for jobs. Many mid-career professionals also appear to be switching to rangeland management as a second career choice. Though the demand for quality new recruits appears high, there also appears to be a decreasing supply of job-ready seniors from university programs.

The Society for Range Management (SRM) is concerned about the future management of rangelands. We are especially concerned about the future of the workforce dedicated to managing these lands. Information from the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) reveals that at least 30% of the workforce currently classified as "Rangeland Management Specialists" (i.e. 454-series) within the US Forest Service (USFS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will likely retire in the next 10 years. Who will fill their shoes?

In order to address these concerns, SRM plans to once again expand its job hiring and career development opportunities at the 65th SRM Annual Meeting and Trade Show in Spokane, WA, January 29-February 3, 2012. For more information visit the Annual meeting website at: <http://www.rangelands.org/spokane2012>.

Have news or photos to share?

Submit your news, articles and photos for the newsletter to vtujillo@rangelands.org

Next Deadline: December 15, 2011



Upcoming Functions & Continuing Education Pre-Approved Courses

Are you planning on sitting for the CPRM Exam at the 2012 Annual Meeting in Spokane, WA? If so, you must contact Vicky Trujillo at SRM Headquarters to get your name on the list. You must also have a paid application on file by no later than Jan. 13, 2012. For questions or concerns, and to send CPRM materials, contact Vicky at 303-86-3309 or vtrujillo@rangelands.org.

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
Dec 7-8	Colorado Springs, CO	Joint CO Section SRM (CSSRM)/CO Weed Management Association (CWMA) Winter Annual Meeting - http://www.rangelands.org/links_srm_sections.shtml	12 max
Dec 15-16	Winnemucca, NV	NV Section Winter Meeting http://www.rangelands.org/links_srm_sections.shtml / (TH pm-4/FRI am-4)	8 total
Jan 5-6	Socorro, NM	2012 NMSRM Winter Meeting Dust & Smoke: A Year of Drought & Wildfire on the Range http://www.rangelands.org/links_srm_sections.shtml	9 total
Jan 18-20	Tucson, AZ	AZ Section Winter Meeting - Rangeland CPR: Common Sense Practical Solutions & Mgmt Relevant Research - http://www.rangelands.org/links_srm_sections.shtml	TBD
Jan 19	Davis, CA	1st Rangeland Science Symposium: Managing Rangelands for Multiple Ecosystem Services -- http://rangelandwatersheds.ucdavis.edu/images_files_upcoming_outreach/Rangeland_Research_Symposium.pdf	6
Jan 20	Davis, CA	California Rangeland Conservation Coalition (CRCC) 7th Annual Summit http://www.carangeland.org/home/2012summit.html	6
Jan 26	Wichita, KS	KS Section Meeting http://www.rangelands.org/ks/	TBD
Jan 26-27	Wichita, KS	KS Natural Resources Conference http://www.kansasnrc.org	8 total
Jan 29-Feb 3	Spokane, WA	2012 SRM Annual Meeting http://www.rangelands.org/spokane2012/	16 max
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



Attend the Technical Service Provider Workshop at the SRM Annual Meeting in Spokane, Washington

If you are a Certified Professional in Range Management or Certified Range Consultant, you can become a Technical Service Provider by attending this free workshop on Tuesday, Jan. 31st at the SRM Convention in Spokane. The Technical Service Provider (TSP) program is building and opens up new opportunities for TSPs to be hired by land managers who participate in conservation programs with the NRCS.

Financial assistance is now available to qualified land managers for hiring TSPs to develop Grazing Management Conservation Activity Plans (CAP). Other financial opportunities are opening up for TSPs to work with ranchers involved in transitioning to organic grazing and in developing conservation plans for lands enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). Expand your business horizons by becoming a TSP and help extend the reach of grazing lands conservation.

The workshop will focus on the distinctive aspects of NRCS grazing management planning, including the required elements needed for developing the Conservation Activity Plan that is exclusive to USDA program participants. The workshop is also open to students and other SRM members who are not yet CPRMs or CRMCs, but plan to become certified within the year.

Workshop requirements: Participants need to receive a level 2 eAuth account before the end of the workshop. Stop by the NRCS booth at the trade show to complete this process. A government issued photo-id is required such as a valid driver's license.

Contact: Dana Larsen, NRCS at (202) 720-8970; dana.larsen@wdc.usda.gov to register for the workshop and to receive additional information on the TSP Program and other pre-workshop requirements.

Welcome New Members: November

Name:	City, State:	Section:	Name:	City, State:	Section:
Chelsea Kay Fullerton	Lincoln, NE	NE	Robert C Lopez	Pinedale, WY	WY
Retta Anne Bruegger	Tucson, AZ	AZ	Andrea J Limberger	Moscow, ID	ID
Brian Scofield	Avon Park, FL	FL	Matthew David Braun	Prince George BC	PNW
Joseph Prenger	Tallahassee, FL	FL	Steven Gibson	Culver, OR	PNW
Tyler Airola	Moscow, ID	ID	Bill Goddard	Ardmore, OK	OK
Kelley D. Paup-lefferts	Pasco, WA	PNW	Tim Sullivan	Bellingham, WA	PNW
Linda M Chappell	Richfield, UT	UT	Jacquelin Alysse		
J. Miles Proctor	Lusk, WY	WY	Ebeling	Bryan, TX	TX
Richard R McDonough	Pocatello, ID	ID	Colleen Ross	Castlegar, BC	PNW
Mary Long	Atlanta, GA	SO	Adam D Gebauer	Spokane, WA	PNW
Nicole Schwebach	Brookings, SD	SD	Todd W Golder	Fotuna, CA	CP
Tod Zechiel	Avon Park, FL	FL	Meagan Carter	Reno, NV	NV
Linda Appel	Carson City, NV	NV	Ellen Irene Miller	Lincoln, NE	NE
Cynthia Park	Stillwater, OK	OK	Samuel Parry	Las Cruces, NM	NM
John A. Ross	Milk River, AB	IM	Rebecca L Brown	Cheney, WA	PNW
Kathleen Ross	Milk River, AB	IM	Scott Andrew Dunn	Winfield AB	PNW
Stacey Lynn Clark	St. Paul, MN	NC	Tungalag Ulambayar	Fort Collins, CO	CO
Matthew Earl			Cindy Burton	Elma, WA	PNW
Simmons	Crookston, MN	NC	Claire Barrett	Emerald, QLD	US
Jeffery Dean Griffith	Redmond, OR	PNW	Wesley Hartmann	Custer, SD	SD
Jesse David Schroeder	Wellington, CO	CO	Carly Ann Hansen	Edmonton AB	IM