

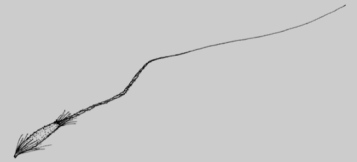


# Needlegrass Notes

Volume 68:1

Spring 2022

Society for Range Management  
California-Pacific Section



## Your 2022 Section Officers & Board

**President:** Allison Rofe

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## Board of Directors

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**2022:** Laura Snell

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**2023:** Ariel De Lara

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**2024:** Atalie Brown

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- Cal-Pac Officer Election Results
- Cal-Pac Section Member Awards
- Spring Meeting Update
- Range Camp Update
- Lost Resource: James Clawson
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## President's Message

Allison Rofe

Rangelands have been garnering international awareness and attention from both the general public and policymakers. On March 15, the UN General Assembly declared 2026 the *Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists* which is a huge success for the global recognition of our field. Working lands are considered instrumental in supporting local climate action policies and conservation goals. California's 30 x 30 initiative to protect 30% of the state by 2030 is one example. The message that healthy rangelands supply food and fiber, wildlife habitat, water quality, biodiversity, and are synergistic with conservation and climate change efforts help to educate the public of the importance of rangelands and the myriad of ecosystem services they provide.

Albeit, these massive expanses of rangeland still endure the misconception of a degraded system, with non-native ungulates blamed as the principal driver to this altered state. As such, livestock grazing, the most common land use on rangelands, is under attack from those that attribute animal agriculture as a leading cause of CO2 and methane emissions. A recent study suggested phasing out all global animal agriculture as a solution to offset [short term] CO2 emissions that would allow "the return of land currently used in



(Continued on page 2)

## **Your 2022 Committee Chairs & Members**

### **Audit:**

Larry Forero  
[lforero@ucanr.edu](mailto:lforero@ucanr.edu)

### **Awards:**

Denise Defreese  
[grassliver70@gmail.com](mailto:grassliver70@gmail.com)

### **Information & Education Co-Chairs:**

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### **Membership Chair:**

Genoa Starrs  
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### **Nominations & Elections Chair (President-Elect):**

Fadzayi Mashiri  
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### **Professional Affairs/ CRM Panel Chair:**

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### **CRM Panel Executive Secretary:**

Jim Bartolome  
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### **Student Affairs Co-Chairs:**

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Marc Horney

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## **President's Message — Continued**

*(Continued from page 1)*

livestock production to its native state.” This antiquated anti-grazing message suggests that grazed systems are an extractive land use, scientific research and experience on working lands proves otherwise.

Ranchers and pastoralists are land stewards, their livelihoods depend on the balance of animal husbandry and ecosystem health; taking too much from the land is not economically or ecologically sustainable. There is an interconnectedness involved with managing highly variable and resilient natural systems. Meanwhile, the consequences of “phasing out” grazing for indigenous and nomadic pastoralists or transhumant cultures around the world would be disastrous.

As range practitioners we know that rangelands do not receive inputs like fertilizers or tillage. We know grazed landscapes support a diversity of vegetation communities where numerous critters like to hang out, grassland birds’ nest, and winds blow and pollinate highly modified flowers, called grasses. They are places to view the most stunning wildflower displays and ponder ancient geologic rock formations among the ridgetops. We know they are complex and vast landscapes that support a plethora of ecosystem services and provide significant economic benefits.

These historically undervalued grazing production systems will continue to be threatened by development, looked upon as barren lands, and receive anti-grazing sentiment. As an organization, and as individuals, we need to expand our efforts in educating the public on the importance of rangelands and promoting the protection of these land resources.

With that in mind, I’m happy to announce Cal-Pac SRM will have its first in-person meeting held in Modoc County on June 23, more details to come. We also are planning on an October in person-meeting in Hawai’i. I look forward to continuing this conversation and channeling our passion and knowledge into policy action and positive change.

Allison Rofe  
Cal-Pac President  
Rangeland Specialist, East Bay Regional Park District

## **Cal-Pac Election Results**

Congratulations to the newly elected officers and board members for Cal-Pac!

**President Elect::** Fadzayi Mashiri

**2024 Board of Directors:** Sheila Barry and Atalie Brown

**2023 Board of Director :** Arie De Lara (replacing Mark Thorne)

## California Pacific Section Member Awards

### Conservation Planner 2021 Hugh Hammond Bennett Award for Conservation Excellence—Ling He

Ling He, Rangeland Management Specialist for USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Alameda County, California, has been named the winner of the Conservation Planner 2021 Hugh Hammond Bennett Award for Conservation Excellence for her outstanding efforts as a conservation planner. Read the full article [here](#). Photos on left of Ling He .



### 2021 Conservation Impact Award by California Rangeland Trust—Dr. Lynn Huntsinger

Dr. Huntsinger was honored by the California Rangeland Trust for her path-breaking research that is helping to change the way California values rangeland. Read more about Dr. Huntsinger's research [here](#). Photo on right of Dr. Lynn Huntsinger receiving the award.

### 2021 California Leopold Conservation Award—Marie and Glen Nader

Marie and Glen Nader's Witcher Creek Ranch in Modoc County has been selected as the recipient of the 2021 California Leopold Conservation Award®. Read the full article [here](#). Photo on left of Marie, Glen, and their son, Alan.



### 2022 SRM Rangeland Plant Identification—Cal Poly Humboldt State

Humboldt's Rangeland Plant Identification team took second place in the Plant Identification competition held virtually and in person at the annual SRM conference held in Albuquerque. Read the full article [here](#).



#### Individual Results—in person:

Ezra Huebner, 3rd place  
Caitlin Davis, 12th place  
Hunter Mortensen, 14th place  
Emma Kirschten, 19th place

#### Virtual Results:

Antonia Narro, 1st Place

Attendees to the plant ID competition (left to right): Kaleie Pena, Ezra Huebner, Stephanie Sandoval, Autumn Pecarovich, Michael Miller, Caitlin Davis, Britney Long, Jennie Hernandez, Hunter Mortensen, Tiffany Douglas, Emma Kirschten, Todd Golder, and Susan Edinger Marshall.



# SAVE THE DATE!

## CAL-PAC SRM SPRING MEETING & MODOC CATTLEMEN'S FIELD DAY

**JUNE 23, 2022**

**Alturas, CA**

### **Presentations and Lunch**

9:00am-12:00 Niles Hotel Presentations

12:00-1:00 Lunch with Keynote

California's Great Basin Rangelands

Draft Agenda

- Vernal Pools and Endangered Species
- Wild Horses
- Riparian and Sage Steppe Restoration
- Fire and Management
- Sage Grouse Habitat & Juniper Encroachment

### **Tour and Dinner**

2:00pm Leave Hotel Niles for Tour

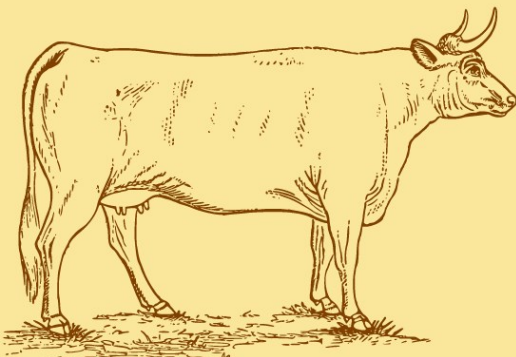
2:30pm Double Devil Wild Horse Corrals

4:00pm Marie and Glenn Nader, Witcher Creek Restoration

- Riparian Restoration
- Ranch Security
- And More!

6:00pm BBQ Dinner @ Canby Fire Hall

**Look for a more detailed agenda soon.**



# CAL-PAC SRM SPRING MEETING

**JUNE 23, 2022**

**Alturas, CA**

Full Registration: Members: \$70 Non-Members \$75

Morning only: \$40

Students \$25

Register at: <http://ucanr.edu/2022springsrm>

## Lodging

Student Lodging Available: Camping at Howard's Gulch Campground \$15/night,  
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/modoc/recarea/?recid=71276>, or 3rd Floor Hostel

Lodging at the Hotel Niles <https://nileshotel.com/> or (530) 233-3773.

Regular Lodging available: Hotel Niles, <https://nileshotel.com/> or (530) 233-3773,

or the Trailside inn <https://trailsideinnca.com/>

(CA State Rate 90\$ single, \$114 Double +tax)

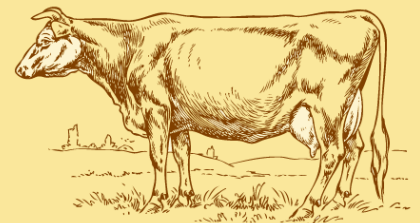
Full Registration includes morning presentations, tour, snacks, lunch and BBQ Dinner.

Morning includes snacks, lunch and morning presentations



## Additional Points of Interest

Modoc National Wildlife Refuge  
Cedar Pass Trail & Pit River Trails  
Howard's Gulch Trail  
Lava Beds National Monument  
NCO Railway Walking Tour





# **RANGE CAMP 2022**

## 38th ANNUAL RANGE AND NATURAL RESOURCES CAMP

JUNE 19-24, 2022 - HALF MOON BAY, CA

**Presented by University of California Cooperative Extension**  
**To give 10-12th grade students the opportunity to explore the science and management of our natural resources with experienced professionals and university faculty.**

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### **Sessions and Activities include:**

- Riparian Habitats
- Rangeland Ecology
- Wildlife Management
- Soils
- Forestry
- Plant Identification



- Recreation
- Private & Public Lands
- Watershed Hydrology
- GPS / GIS Technology Applications
- Tour of Working Ranch
- Team Project Planning Competition



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**Cost: \$500**

### **“Top Camper” Contest: Plant ID test, subject matter exam & staff evaluation**

Top three placing students\* given opportunity to represent California-Pacific Section, SRM at the Society for Range Management's High School Youth Forum, in Boise, ID February 2023 (all expenses paid for top two students). All participants receive t-shirts and camp completion certificates. *\*Must be a current high school student in Feb '22*

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### **More Information & Applications**

<https://ucanr.edu/sites/rangecamp/>



### **Contacts**

[range.camp@ucanr.edu](mailto:range.camp@ucanr.edu)

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Julie Finzel  
(661) 868-6219  
[jafinzel@ucanr.edu](mailto:jafinzel@ucanr.edu)

**RESOURCE**  
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

**Applications: Open Until Filled**

Apply at: <http://ucanr.edu/2022rangecampreg>





## Lost Resource—W. James (Jim) Clawson 1933-2022

W. James (Jim) Clawson passed away in Dallas, Oregon on January 7, 2022, from pancreatic cancer at the age of 89. Jim was the son of William, a presbyterian minister and Ruth Clawson. He was the nephew of Marion Clawson, first Director of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). He graduated from Livermore High School in California. Jim met Karin Beskow at University of California, Davis and they married in Santa Rosa, CA in 1957.

Jim attended Lewis and Clark College in Portland and Colorado A&M, then did a stint in the Air Force before settling in at UC Davis where he completed BS and MS degrees in Animal Science. After a few years working for Farm Bureau and the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, Jim became a 4-H advisor in Ventura County in 1962 and then the Livestock and Range Farm Advisor in San Luis Obispo County in 1964. In 1968, he became an Extension Specialist in the Department of Animal Science at UC Davis where he worked on animal nutrition and animal waste management. In 1972, Jim became the Range Specialist in the Agronomy and Range Science Department at UC Davis, where he initially worked on rangeland weed & brush control, seeding and fertilization. Shortly afterwards, public land grazing became an issue that needed attention; however, in those days, increasing agricultural production was the priority for extension and the university promotion system did not reward addressing public policy issues. But that didn't deter Jim and so, following a sabbatical at Colorado A&M where he worked with Tom Bartlett and Bill Jameson, Jim led efforts that focused the range extension program on public policy issues, which was a new and challenging initiative for the extension service. Jim addressed public policy issues with good science and was instrumental in agency adoption of residual dry matter to monitor grazing use.

Jim was the definition of a people person. Mentoring, organizing people, and community involvement were hallmarks of Jim's career. Having benefited from several mentors early in his life, Jim mentored many young advisors, specialists, and other professionals over the years. In a male dominated profession it was especially important to Jim to welcome and mentor the first women livestock and range advisors in UC. And they in turn, have become leaders and mentors themselves.

Throughout Jim's career, he encouraged and supported cooperation of people and organizations to address local and statewide problems. As a Farm Advisor, he collaborated with agencies and private landowners on rangeland improvement projects, and he involved UC faculty and Cal Poly faculty in his local education programs. He was instrumental in bringing agencies, universities, and ranchers together to focus on public land grazing, organizing one of the earliest Coordinated Resource Management Projects and making range ecosystem training of agency staff a priority for the university. Collaborating with Colorado State University, UC researchers and U.S. Forest Service researchers, Jim coordinated data gathering efforts at the San Joaquin Experimental Range as part the International Biological Program Grassland Biome Project. Also collaborating with CSU, Jim organized ecosystem training for agency staff in the form of the Annual Grassland Short Course so that agency and university staff could know each other and learn together.

Throughout his career, Jim was active in his community and his profession. He was an active member of the UC Davis Alumni Association, a long-time Rotarian and a leader and organizer of local agricultural and conservation organizations. In recent years he led the campaign for a tax measure that funded extension programs in the Dallas area he served as President of the California Section of the Society for Range Management, was named Range Manager of the Year in 1990 and received an Outstanding Achievement Award from SRM in 1993. In 2012, Jim sat for a UC Davis Emeriti Association video interview with Mel George ([https://video.ucdavis.edu/media/James++Clawson/0\\_3x231to0](https://video.ucdavis.edu/media/James++Clawson/0_3x231to0)).

Condolences can be sent to Karin Clawson,

360 W Ellendale Ave., Unit #30, Dallas, OR 97338.

Respectfully submitted by Melvin George



## Calendar of Events

If you think there is an event that would be of interest to the Cal-Pac membership, send an email to [katie@alt-me.com](mailto:katie@alt-me.com).

### May

#### California Cattlemen's Feeder Meeting

May 25-27, 2022

Sand Diego, CA

<https://calcattlemen.org/events/>

### June

#### California Pacific Section Summer Meeting and Modoc Cattlemen's Field Day

June 23, 2022

Alturas, CA

Register at: <https://ucanr.edu/2022springsrm>

#### Range Camp (High School Students)

June 19-24, 2022

Halfmoon Bay, CA

<https://ucanr.edu/rangecampreg>

#### California Cattlemen's Midyear Meeting

June 22-23, 2022

Rancho Murieta, CA

<https://calcattlemen.org/events/>

### August

#### California Wool Growers Annual Meeting and Convention

August 19-20, 2022

Minden, NV

<http://californiawoolgrowers.org/calendar/annual-meeting/>



## Sponsor Needlegrass Notes

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1/2 Page	60
1/3 Page	45
1/4 Page	30
1/8 Page	20
Column inch	10

Email Katie Brown at [katie@alt-me.com](mailto:katie@alt-me.com) for more information.

## Newsletter Articles

All contributions to Needlegrass Notes are welcome. Please submit your articles and news items to: Katie Brown at [katie@alt-me.com](mailto:katie@alt-me.com)

## Keep in Touch

Moved? Changed jobs? Or have a new email address? Don't forget to update your membership information on the National SRM website at <http://www.rangelands.org> and the California-Pacific Chapter by sending an email to Ling He at [clarkia@hotmail.com](mailto:clarkia@hotmail.com). We will correct your email address on our email list serve so that you stay up to date on the latest news and happenings in the chapter.



*California-Pacific Section SRM  
Attn: Theresa Becchetti  
University of California Cooperative Extension  
3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite A  
Modesto, CA 95358*



## Society for Range Management

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We're on the web:

<http://casrm.rangelands.org>

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