

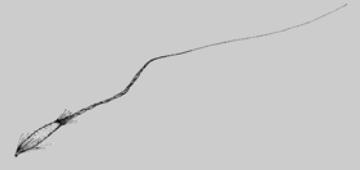


Needlegrass Notes

Volume 61:1

Spring 2015

Society for Range Management
California-Pacific Section



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- Upcoming events
- SRM 2015 Meeting Pictures
- Rustici Science Symposium Highlights
- Spring Meeting and Field Tour Information
- 2015 Range Camp Announcement

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President's Message

CeCi Dale-Cesmat

Cheers, thanks and a big WHEW! We all made it through the SRM 2015 meeting. What an amazing team effort in pulling this monstrous event off. We should all be very proud of our work. I heard so many positive comments on the success of the conference. A special thanks goes out to the meeting co-chairs, Shelia Barry and Alan Bower. They did a fabulous job! We will have a briefing at the spring meeting where, Shelia Barry, Alan Bower and Edie Jacobsen can give us the results of how we did financially and final registration numbers. Speaking of the spring meeting and tour, we have Royce Larsen, David Lile and Marc Horney planning a great meeting in San Luis Obispo County. The meeting dates are April 22 & 23rd with a field tour on the 23rd to the Avenales Ranch. Details on the meeting are included as a separate article in this newsletter. I hope you are all able to attend.

Now, let me thank you for the opportunity to serve as the section president for the second time. The first time was in 2000 and things have changed in those 15 years. The make-up of our section seemed to be older and now I see lots of young people (that could be because I'm older), but more importantly the face of rangelands in California have changed over the years. Since 2000 we have gone through the economic boom with high rates of rangelands converted to housing and then the economic downturn when housing came to a halt, but conversion of rangeland continued with or-



(Continued on page 2)

Your 2015 Committee Chairs & Members

(Continued from page 1)

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chards, (primarily nuts and olives) plus expansion of vineyards. Not only has this taken away grazing land, it has also decreased wildlife habitat, increase water use and reduced all the other ecosystem services our rangelands provide. Since 2000 our population has grown by 22% in a state that is limited by many resource, but especially water. Most of our water flows through our rangelands. All these changes have made the demands on range professional's increase too. We are asked to be skilled in many aspects of resource management on rangelands, plus range livestock production, wildlife habitat management and the socio-political and economic aspects of rangelands. This has broaden our field, but also put multiple levels of technical skills that we need to stay current with in our ever changing world.

We are now in our fourth year of severe drought in California and again our resources and professional knowledge will be taxed to try to find ways to help build drought resilient practices for rangelands and improve efficiency with limited water. As climate change continues, these challenges will be ever increasing. Because of all these challenges we face in the range management field, it is even more important to be involved with your professional societies, like Cal-Pac. I would encourage you to get out there and recruit one new member this year. Let them know that through their membership they will be able to have dialogue with researchers and have access to new science, sometimes before it's even published. They can build their technical knowledge to be better prepared to deal with difficult situations on the land.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who serve on the Board and on committees. In the next few months you will be asked to help with elections, awards, outreach field tours and other items important to our section. Your efforts are appreciated. To anyone out there who would like to help, let one of us know. We can always use another helping hand. Range camp is coming up in June and they are always in need of volunteers. We need to be able to continue hosting Range Camp so the field of range science is fostered in our young people.

Have a great spring and let's hope we get a little more rain before summer settles in.

Sincerely,

Ceci Dale-Cesmat

Cal-Pac SRM Section President

Calendar of Events

If you think there is an event that would be of interest to the Cal-Pac membership, send an email to pabrownsey@gmail.com.

2015 California Ram Sale

April 11, 2015
Tulare, California
woolgrowers.org

California-Pacific Section Society for Range Management Spring Field Tour

April 22 to 23, 2015
San Luis Obispo, California
casrm.rangelands.org

California Society for Ecological Restoration Conference

May 12 to 14, 2015
San Diego, California
sercal.org

Cal-Pac Range Camp

June 21-26, 2015
Elkus Ranch, Half Moon Bay, California
casrm.rangelands.org

155th California Wool Growers Convention

August 22-23, 2015
Reno, Nevada
woolgrowers.org

California Invasive Plant Council Symposium

October 29 to 31, 2015
San Diego, California
cal-ipc.org

99th Annual California Cattlemen's Association Convention

November 19 to 21, 2014
Sparks, Nevada
calcattlemen.org

69th Society for Range Management Annual Meeting

January 29 to February 6, 2016
Corpus Christi, Texas

70th Society for Range Management Annual Meeting

Winter 2017
Reno-Sparks, Nevada

Your 2015 Committee Chairs & Members

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Devii Rao
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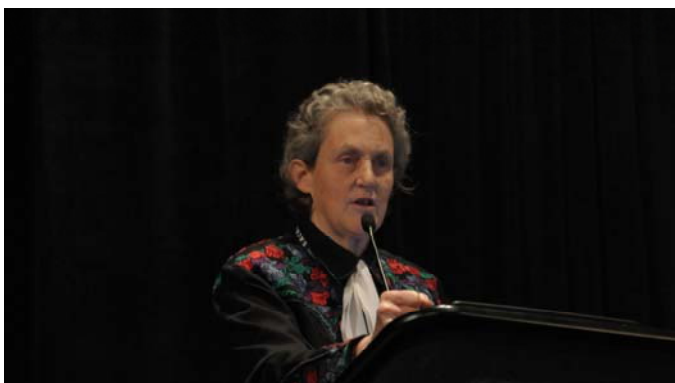
Thank You to All that Made the SRM 2015 Meeting a Success!



Tracy Schohr, UC Davis, explaining grazing management on California rangelands during one of many technical tours at SRM . Photo by C. Dale-Cesmat, NRCS.



NRCS range women enjoy the trade show. Left to Right: Heidi Carpenter-Harris, Heidi Ramsey, Mindy Nicoletti and Adrienne Martin. Photo by C. Dale-Cesmat, NRCS.



Plenary Speaker, Temple Grandin delivers an inspiring talk to a packed room. Photo by T. Schohr, UC Davis.



Castle Meats demonstrating how to break down a lamb carcass, promoting a "nose-to-tail" culinary approach. Photo by C. Dale-Cesmat, NRCS.

Rustici Science Symposium Highlights

Tracy Schohr, Ken Tate, and Leslie Roche, UC Davis

The 3rd Rustici Rangeland Science Symposium was held March 3-4 at the University of California (UC), Davis. The program focused on two topics at the intersection of science, policy and management on California's working rangelands – water quality and sustainable public lands grazing. Presentations from the event are available at http://rangelandwatersheds.ucdavis.edu/main/symposium_RSS_2015.html.

With the State Water Resources Control Board considering new statewide rangeland water quality regulations, this symposium was an opportunity to highlight the current state of knowledge on rangelands. The event provided a venue to showcase a quarter of a century of rangeland water quality planning, education and research by a diverse partnership of ranchers, conservationists, agencies, scientists and others. The symposium also featured presentations on the important role of sustainable grazing management on public lands for ecosystem services.

This is a signature event to honor the substantial commitments of Russell L. Rustici for rangeland science and management at the UC. This symposium served as a forum for over 225 scientists, managers, policy-makers, rancher, and other stakeholders interested in rangeland issues to co-learn, network, and build collaboration.



Speaker, Prof. Lynn Huntsinger, UC Berkeley, discusses with Wally Roney, Roney Land and Cattle during one of the breaks in the program. Photo by T. Schohr, UC Davis.

We want your input on future section meetings!

Given our geographically large and diverse Section, there may be options for meeting/tour locations that a Past President may not be familiar with. Therefore we would like to solicit input from you about places you would like to visit for future section meetings as well as topics you would be interested in hearing more about. If for some reason your suggestion is not able to be used for the next upcoming meeting, it will be kept for future meetings. Also if you would like to volunteer to help organize a meeting, please let us know as well through this survey. The survey can be found at: <http://ucanr.edu/calpacsuggestions>.

Society for Range Management



Cal-Pac SRM 2015 Spring Meeting and Tour San Luis Obispo, CA - April 22 -23

April 22 (Wednesday) –

1:00 - 5:00 Cal-Pac Board of Directors Meeting (auditorium)

1:00 – 5:00 CRM Panel Meeting (conference room)

Both the Board and CRM meetings to be held at the UCCE Cooperative Extension Office at 2156 Sierra Way (Suite C) in San Luis Obispo

6:00 - 9:00 - Dinner/Social – Madonna Inn

The landmark Madonna Inn is located at 100 Madonna Road in San Luis Obispo. Join us for Santa Maria style BBQ.

7:30 Dinner Program – Grazing management integrated with solar panel projects and habitat for endangered Kit fox. (Dan Meade, LynnDee Althouse, and Katie Tierney)

April 23 (Thursday)

Tour of the Sinton Family's Avenales Ranch. Steve Sinton was recognized in 2014 with Cal-Pac's Excellence in Range Management Award. The ranch is about 11 miles long and covers prime central coast grazing land and wildlife habitat. For more information about the ranch:

<http://www.newtimeslo.com/cover/1935/at-home-on-the-range/>

We will leave SLO at 8:00 AM and arrive at the ranch gate 9:15. The Tour will conclude at approximately 4:00PM. There will be an array of topics to view and discuss on tour including the following:

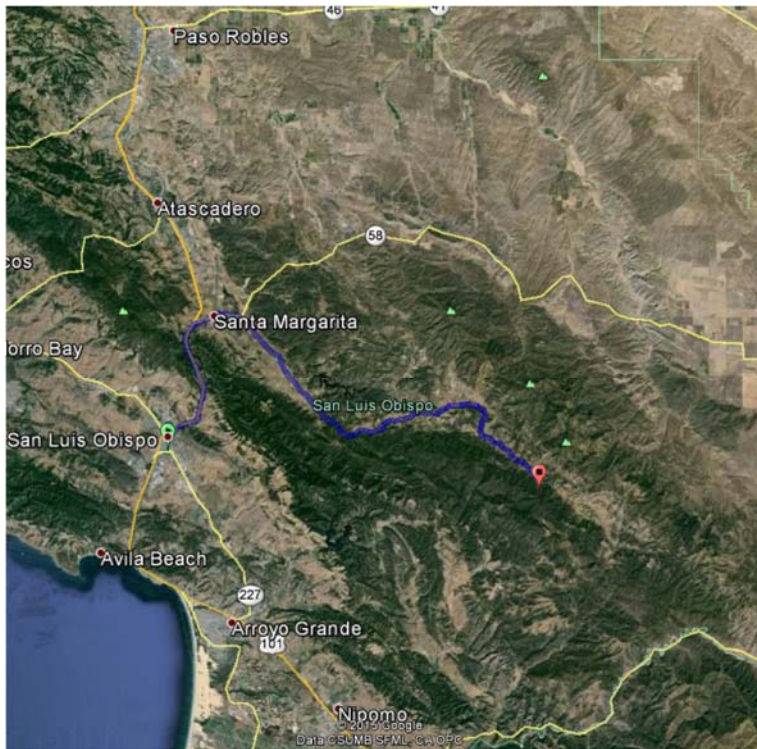
- Oak Regeneration - Bill Tietje
- Sycamore Study –Karl Striby
- Forage production studies - Royce Larsen
- Rhino gas powered post driver demo
- Ranching operations and hunting and PLM program – Steve Sinton
- Vineyard expansion / Paso Robles Groundwater Basin
- Central Coast Water Quality Waiver
- Working with Forest Service and public lands grazing –Steve Sinton
- Road and culvert erosion and effective on-ranch fixes
- Cutting oaks under power lines

Driving to Avenales Ranch

We will gather up in front of the **Quality Suites in San Luis Obispo** at **7:45 AM** and head out to the ranch at **8:00**. Please try to carpool. 2 wheel drive is fine, but some clearance is recommended (ranch roads).

For reference you can use the following directions

From San Luis Obispo take Highway 101 north. From Highway 101 take Highway 58 at the Santa Margarita Exit. Go through the town of Santa Margarita. At the east edge of town, (where Main Street bends left), turn right and cross the railroad tracks and continue on Highway 58 (also Estrada Ave). Follow the Highway a couple of miles east of town. Right after crossing a bridge, continue straight onto Pozo Road, (Highway 58 makes a left turn). Follow Pozo Road for about 20 miles and go through the small town of Pozo. About 1.5 miles east of Pozo turn right (still Pozo Road). Follow this road another 1.8 miles to a split in the road, stay to the right and the road turns into Avenales Road. Approximately 3 more miles on Avenales Road, you will come to a locked gate. We will meet at the locked gate.



Hotel Lodging

A block of rooms has been held at the **Quality Suites in San Luis Obispo**. The group rate is good through **April 3**, mention Cal-Pac Society for Range Management. The Quality Suites is located at 1631 Monterey St. Phone is 805-541-5001 or http://www.qualityinn.com/hotel-san_luis_obispo-california-CA702

**Society for Range Management
California-Pacific Section
San Luis Obispo, CA
April 22- 23, 2015**

Name(s): _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Affiliation (please check): Cal-Pac Member _____ Member of other SRM Section _____
Non-Member _____ Student _____

<i>Number</i>	Before 4/15	After 4/15
_____ MEMBER (full registration): includes dinner on 4/22 and tour lunch on 4/23	\$75/person _____	\$90/person _____
_____ MEMBER (tour only registration): includes LUNCH ONLY on 4/23	\$30/person _____	\$35/person _____
_____ NON-MEMBER (full registration): includes dinner on 4/22 and tour lunch on 4/23	\$95/person _____	\$110/person _____
_____ NON-MEMBER (tour only registration): includes LUNCH ONLY on 4/23	\$40/person _____	\$45/person _____
_____ STUDENT (full registration): includes dinner on 4/22 and tour lunch on 4/23	\$55/person _____	\$70/person _____
_____ STUDENT (tour only registration): includes LUNCH ONLY on 4/23	\$25/person _____	\$35/person _____
_____ Spouse/Guest (includes 4/22 dinner only):	\$40/person _____	\$50/person _____

Grand Total = \$_____ \$_____

On-line Registration is available through Allen Press at <http://srm.allenpress.com/SRM/> and then click on "Section Meetings" and choose Cal Pac. If you would prefer to pay by check, please make the check payable to Cal-Pac Section SRM and mail with completed registration form to:

Edie Jacobsen
4576 New York Street
San Diego, CA 92116

You can also pre-register by email at vitus7@att.net or call 619-322-4404.



2015 Range Camp

31st ANNUAL RANGE AND NATURAL RESOURCES CAMP
JUNE 21-26, 2015

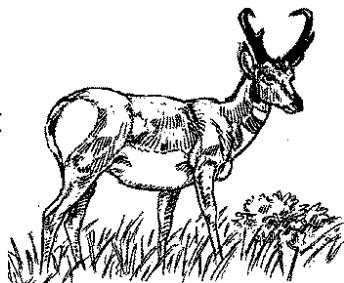
ELKUS YOUTH RANCH - HALF MOON BAY, CA

Presented by: California-Pacific Section of the Society for Range Management

Where students 15-18 years old can discover the science and management of our natural resources from experienced professionals and university faculty.

Sessions and Activities include:

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



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



Cost: \$400

Applications can be downloaded from the CALPAC website:
<http://www.rangelands.org/casrm/HTML/rangecamps.html>

“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 Corpus Christi, TX – Jan 29 – Feb 4, 2016 (all expenses paid for top two students) and belt buckles. All participants receive t-shirts and camp completion certificates.

**Must be a current high school student in Feb ‘16*

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California-Pacific Section of the Society for Range Management (SRM)
U.C. Cooperative Extension
California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (CARCD)

Host District – San Mateo County RCD
East Bay Municipal Utility District
USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service

For more information contact:

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Newsletter Articles

All contributions to *Needlegrass Notes* are welcome. Please submit your articles to:

pabrownsey@gmail.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 Morgan Doran at mpdor@ucanr.edu. We'll correct your email address on our email listserve so that you stay up to date on the latest news and happenings in the chapter.

California-Pacific Section SRM
8279 Scott Forbes Road
Browns Valley, CA 95918



Society for Range Management

We're on the web:

<http://casrm.rangelands.org>
