

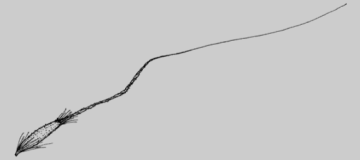


Needlegrass Notes

Volume 62:2

Fall 2016

Society for Range Management
California-Pacific Section



In this issue:

- Lost resources
- 2016 Range Camp recap
- Calendar of upcoming events
- Fall meeting agenda and registration information

Your 2016 Section Officers & Board

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President's Message Morgan Doran

Welcome to fall, my favorite season and it's almost time for our fall Cal-Pac membership meeting. We have a great meeting planned on the Big Island of Hawaii, October 26-28, and I hope you can make it. CeCi and our Hawaii members have been working hard putting together a series of presentations and ranch tours focused on topics important to rangeland management in Hawaii that are equally relevant to issues on the mainland. This fall's meet-



ing is special not only because it's in Hawaii, but also because it is dedicated to our friend, colleague and Cal-Pac member from Hawaii, Matthew Stevenson, who passed away in May of this year. Matthew was a young, energetic and spiritually diverse person who has touched all of us. Even if you didn't know Matt, his influence has permeated us in meaningful ways. We will honor Matt at the Hawaii meeting with a special remembrance.

In other Cal-Pac news, our spring meeting was an excellent experience with the Range Campers at the Elkus Ranch. I have to admit that I have not been very engaged with Range Camp except for one excursion I made several

(Continued on page 2)

Your 2016 Committee Chairs & Members

(Continued from page 1)

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years ago to present a topic. Spending time at camp this past June was invigorating and reassuring to see such a diversity of backgrounds and interests represented by the campers. I also developed a greater appreciation for all the work that a few, and I mean just a few, of our Cal-Pac members put into the planning and organization of Range Camp. There are many moving parts and special accommodations that must be orchestrated every year to make the Elkus Ranch site and camp activities create a uniquely great experience for each camper. Many thanks go to the camp's main organizers: Cece Dahlstrom, Julie Finzel, Theresa Becchetti, and Marc Horney. Much gratitude also goes to all the members who spend time with the campers teaching the topics covered over the week. Range Camp has occurred now for 32 consecutive years and it simply cannot happen without continued dedication from Cal-Pac membership. If you are at all interested in becoming involved, please contact Cece Dahlstrom at range.camp@gmail.com, or anyone else mentioned above. Help is always needed and appreciated, even if for only one day....and it is very rewarding.

Although Range Camp was a focal point of the spring meeting, we did cover other topics during our visits to TomKat Ranch and Midpeninsula Open Space Ranch. The management philosophies at each ranch were very different and inspired lively discussions of the role of science in informing rangeland management.

One important issue that continues to be front and center with Cal-Pac is the future of the CRM program, and related to that, insurance coverage for our CRM panel functions and our section in general. Mid-way through the recent lawsuit (see spring 2016 issue of Needlegrass Notes) it became very apparent that our section needs liability coverage to financially protect Cal-Pac from potential claims. Since obtaining coverage in the midst of the lawsuit was untenable, we (the Board) decided to wait until after the lawsuit to seek coverage. Now that the lawsuit is behind us, I have been seeking three types of coverage: professional liability for CRM activities, directors and officers insurance to protect Cal-Pac board members and committee chairs from being personally liable for their Cal-Pac positions and decisions, and general liability insurance to cover our membership meetings and Range Camp. Obtaining professional liability insurance is critical for our section if we are to continue the CRM panel's current functions. In fact, one insurance provider indicated that they will not offer us general liability and directors and officers insurance unless we have professional liability insurance from a different provider. The exposure Cal-Pac currently has without professional liability insurance really brings into question how the CRM panel continues to operate

(Continued on page 3)

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with the California Board of Forestry on administering the CRM program. As I see it, we must secure professional liability insurance or we change the CRM panel functions or its relationship with the Board of Forestry or both. The CRM program has functioned very well for many years and has lifted the professions of range science and rangeland management in California. The Cal-Pac board has been committed to stabilize our current situation and to work with the CRM panel in developing a plan that ensures long-term viability of the CRM program. I am hopeful that we will have positive news to share on this issue in the near future.

Until then, have a great fall and I hope to see you in Hawaii.

Sincerely,
Morgan Doran
Cal-Pac SRM Section President

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Matthew Henry Stevenson

Matthew Henry Stevenson, of Wailua, Kauai, died unexpectedly at home on May 22, 2016. He was 37 years old. He was a cherished and admired father, friend, brother and son.

Matt was born in Washington, D.C. to William (Bill) Stevenson of Greenville, South Carolina, and Mildred Teruya of Waikapu, Maui. The family moved to the Bay Area when Matt was five. As a boy he loved the birds, lizards, grasses, oaks and cattle that populated the watersheds and hills around his home. He also loved the time he spent in Maui with his grandparents, Walter and Joyce Teruya, where he loved grandma's lei garden, grandpa's plantation days stories, and the family history that connected him to Japan and Okinawa. He spent several summers in England visiting his dad, and loved the castles, the moores and the Neolithic standing stones. These early experiences in nature put him on a path to the career he loved as a range scientist, and a life he loved in Hawaii, but as a citizen of the world.

Matt graduated from Miramonte High school in 1997. He attended BYU in Provo for one year before serving an LDS mission in Tokyo Japan. He loved the Japanese language and culture, and was proud to follow in his grandparents' footsteps. Although his relationship with the Mormon church changed, he maintained a lifelong love of Japanese history, myth, literature and religion. Most importantly to Matt's life, he came to love Aikido. His practice of this martial art trained his body and guided his mind, and he excelled to the rank of 2nd Dan under sensei Wesley Shimokawa of Lihue Aiki Kai.

Matt graduated from BYU in Wildlife and Range Resources, minoring in Japanese and graduating with honors (2003). His favorite classes were his honors Art History and Shakespeare in Film. He became an insightful critic of media, loving museums and galleries, films and literature. Matt was a scientist with a poet's heart.

In 2003 he married Rebecca Anne Davis in Manti, Utah. They moved to Gunma, Japan, where they broadened their appreciation for travel and adventure, enjoying onsen, shrines, hole in the wall ramenya, quaint ryokan, museums and memorials around the country. Matt and Becca completed masters degrees at UC Berkeley, Matt's in Environmental Science, Policy and Management. In Berkeley they discovered gourmet alleyways and made lifelong friends in the dilapidated student housing and Berkeley Ward.

Matt and Becca then made the move to Hawaii in the spring of 2006, where Matt began work for the University of Hawaii agricultural extension service in Waimea (Kamuela), on the Big Island. He had amazing mentors in his career in extension, and was proud to be able to serve the ranchers and farmers of the state of Hawaii for ten years.

In 2007 Matt and Becca welcomed their first child, Roselani. In Waimea they raised chickens, lived entirely off of their garden and delighted in their precocious little blond daughter. They explored the island, impressed with the volcano, quieted by the haunted black lava fields of Kona and dripping Hilo laua'e, and healed by the dryland rainforests on Pu'uwa'awa'a. Matt loved and respected the Paniolo culture that shaped the unique Hawaiian cultural and physical environment: the Hawaiian rodeo, the slack key guitar, the windswept plains at the foot of Mauna Kea, the green pu'u of Waimea, the tangled ohia and hala overlooking the black-sand valleys.

In 2009 they moved to Kauai, where Matt became the Kauai county livestock extension agent and served the livestock community of Kauai and Maui, while continuing to collaborate on the Big Island and beyond,

into Guam, Saipan and other pacific islands. He worked with the 4-H kids and conducted research at the Kauai Agricultural Research farm, where he lived with his family. He was also working on his PhD in Range Science and Wildland Resources from Utah State University, studying tannins, pasture weeds, animal management and ungulate health, up until the time of his death.

In 2010, Maile was born in Wailua. Matt was a proud and tender daddy, deeply loved by his little girls. He took them to playgroups and cheered at their soccer games and cried proudly at their May Days. In 2015 Likolehua was born at home. He was a steady and supportive birth partner, and this last baby was welcomed in love.

Matt enjoyed the travels that took him around the world, with his work and his family. Everywhere he went he became a student of the history and culture. The Marianas, New Zealand, Canada, Korea, Japan, Indonesia, Holland, France, England, Wales, Ireland, as well as across the US. He loved the West— the desert scrubland and alpine meadows, the Maynard Dixon colorscape and the endless ozone-blue bowl of the Western sky.

Matt was passionate about his family history, and felt a strong connection to his ancestors—the plantation families, the sailor chef, the shipwrecked, the brave veterans, the difficult, the troubled and the astounding history of his family. His great-uncle Ken, died in Rome in the Japanese-American 442nd, and his charm and handsome local-boy ukulele and motorcycle innocence reached across the years and particularly touched Matt. He was a student of warriors, fascinated with their humanity and strength. He too was a warrior, battling for his life in spite of terrible pain.

Matt was a perceptive historian, a wry social commentator, a thoughtful and capable music maker and appreciator. He played NIN and Joni Mitchell and Tannahill Weavers on the guitar, and serenaded his goats in the far pastures of the farm with his small bagpipes. He blended and expressed a unique fusion of his Japanese, Scottish, and Hawaiian roots, equally at home in a kilt or an aikido gi, at a Ceilidh or an Obon, in flip-flops or cowboy boots, playing bagpipes or slack-key guitar. He was a gentle, deep-thinking, loving soul, taken from us too soon.

Matt is survived by his wife Becca, daughters Rosie Jo, Maile, and Liko, his mother Mildred, his father and stepmother Bill and Wendy, his brother Andrew, father in law Mark and sisters in law Liz and Katie, and many other devoted in-laws and extended family. He leaves behind countless friends from his home town, from college days, from his time in Japan, from his professional life, and from his aikido dojo.

Matt had a beautiful life and was profoundly loved. He fought the disease that killed him for many, many years, through terrible heartache and pain. He was a fierce defender of the disadvantaged and the underserved.

None of us will forget him— he seared brightly across our lives. We will tell his children about his wit, his hard work, his respect for history, his music. We will remember the meals shared, the hikes over hills and crags on pacific islands and Western peaks. We will carry him with us when we walk those places again.

Donations to support Matt's family may be made at www.crowdrise.com/matt-and-becca-ohana-fund or via PayPal to KawaikiniEnglish@gmail.com. Please send recollections and memories for the family to the same email address.

Range Camp Recap

Marc Horney, Range Camp Director, 2003 – 2016

We had another great Range Camp experience this year. If you will pardon me the extra detail, I'd like to give a fuller accounting than usual as this may be my last opportunity.

Twenty-five students from 14 different counties across California participated. Those counties, and the number of students they sent, were: Alameda (1), Fresno (1), Glenn (2), Mariposa (2), Monterey (2), Napa (1), Norfolk, MA (1), Placer (1), San Bernardino (2), San Diego (5), San Joaquin (1), San Mateo (1), Tulare (2), and Yolo (2). We had fourteen guest presenters this year, and they all did a terrific job keeping the campers' heads spinning through topics including botany, ecology, fire behavior, forestry, geology, grazing, livestock management, ranch economics, soils, watersheds, and wildlife. Marty Deardorf (Aurora Catering; Castro Valley, CA) once again was the students' favorite staffer, and continued to amaze all of the rest of us with his ability to get teenagers to enthusiastically clean up on high quality dishes that in other contexts they might not even touch.

We also had a rare, and really meaningful opportunity for the campers to interact with the CalPac members who came out for the spring meeting. Morgan Doran gave a nice welcome and introduction for the campers and the members gathered with us at Pomponio State Beach for Marty's grilled salmon. We opened it for discussion/questions and then... (admittedly to my surprise) the campers took it away, leading off with their own unprompted questions about degree and career opportunities, and what the members liked about their professions. That experience really connected with several of the campers. It was a great thing to watch... made me wish we had more opportunities like that.

Our three top campers this year were Leah Gill (San Diego County), Theresa Wood (Placer County), and Julien Levy (San Mateo County). Because Julien had "aged out" (was graduating), Kenneth Wharton (Glenn County), who had the next highest score, became our third delegate to the 2017 High School Youth Forum at next year's annual SRM conference in St. George, UT. It looks like our financial position this year will allow us to cover the travel expenses for the two top delegates, as we usually do, plus offer substantial assistance to the third. Their presentation topics will be "The goldspotted oak borer and its effects on rangeland oaks" (Leah), "Renewable energy on the range" (Theresa), and "Protect the sage-grouse" (Kenneth). If any of you with experience with those subjects would be interested in offering technical assistance, photographs, or other resources, please let me know.

Now for that bit about this maybe being my last camp report. Given that I have been hogging the camp director's chair for something close to 13 years now, it seems time for me to let someone else have a go at it. Admittedly this is mainly because other personal and professional responsibilities are pulling me away. What kind of transition this will be is still uncertain. As usual, all the obvious candidates are at least as overcommitted as I (and the other camp staff) am/are. The camp's equally long-serving assistant directors, Julie Finzel and Cece Dahlstrom, without whom my tenure as camp director would have neither been smooth nor very successful, are also balancing three or four loaded plates apiece in their own lives. My point? The camp could use more volunteers. Not specifically for the actual week of camp in June, although that would be welcome, but also for helping with all the processes that happen from February through May – organizing applications, lining up guest speakers to cover topics, getting all the adult volunteers fingerprinted, covering the many logistical details, etc. For only 25 students, none of those are individually huge tasks, but for years they have all been done by just a couple of people. If we could farm

those tasks out to a few more individuals, the good crew the camp has might not burn out quite so soon. And we have a need for help with local organizing in your own home counties. We had 14 counties represented this year. Usually the number is between 12 and 15, and the counties represented are pretty consistent. That's out of 58. We've also been trying to reach out to tribal organizations. We had two students representing a tribal organization last year, and that was terrific – but just a lone step in that direction. More steps will require a level of sustained effort and outreach. We'd like to expand the camp's reach more fully across the state, but the core staff just haven't had the time to invest in it. One or two people could easily do more to advance that in a single year than I've managed in the last decade.

CalPac's California Range Camp continues to be a terrific program. I wish you all could be there on the last day to see the hugs and red eyes as the students, singly and in small carloads, all begin to pull away and go home. And the follow-up messages from parents to thank the staff for giving their sons/daughters an experience that they talked happily about all the way home. Over the last few years I've had the pleasure of being caught up by a number of former Range Campers in the halls at Cal Poly, who several years later still remembered it as a turning point for them – where they first felt the tug of a professional calling.

I hope a few more of you would consider talking with me, Julie, or Cece about what needs we have for the camp. We're happy to carve out manageable pieces for anyone willing to help.

I am deeply grateful to the numerous visionary and dedicated people, well exemplified by Mike Stroud, who plowed a deep and straight furrow for the present staff to follow. And now we need a few more to keep the pattern going.



Calendar of Events

If you think there is an event that would be of interest to the Cal-Pac membership, send an email to pb3@airpost.net.

Central Coast Rangeland Coalition Fall Meeting

October 20, 2016

Byron, California

elkhornslough.org

California-Pacific Section Society for Range Management Fall Meeting

October 26 to 28, 2016

Kilauea Military Camp, Volcano, Hawaii

casrm.rangelands.org

California Invasive Plant Council Symposium

November 2 to 5, 2016

Tenaya Lodge at Yosemite, California

cal-ipc.org

Do No Harm Workshop

November 15, 2016

UC Davis, California

ucanr.edu/sites/UC_ANR_Do_No_Harm/

Knocking Out Noxious Weeds on Rangelands

Various Dates and Locations, November 9 to December 13, 2016

California

www.KnockOutWeeds.com

100th Annual California Cattlemen's Association Convention

December 1 to 4, 2016

Sparks, Nevada

calcattlemen.org

70th Society for Range Management Annual Meeting

January 29 to February 2, 2017

St. George, Utah

71st Society for Range Management Annual Meeting

January 28 to February 1, 2018

Sparks, Nevada



SAVE THE DATE

The direct annual cost to monitor and control invasive plants in California is \$82 million, and the indirect economic impacts are even larger. Despite disparate efforts, California's most noxious weeds are continuing to invade rangelands and other types of working landscapes.

Join the fight to reduce noxious weeds and get trained at the 2016 Workshop Series!

- Discuss economic losses caused by invasive species on rangelands;
- Showcase effective strategies to manage invasive species;
- Highlight cost-effective approaches that maximize success; and
- Feature reduced-risk practices while promoting biodiversity.



Registration \$15
(includes materials,
lunch and refreshments)



UC DAVIS
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



California Environmental Protection Agency
Department of
Pesticide Regulation



University of California
Agriculture and Natural Resources



www.KnockOutWeeds.com

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>.

SRM California Pacific Section - Fall Meeting and Technical Tour Hawaii's Big Island October 26-28, 2016

This meeting and technical tour is dedicated to the life of Matt Stevenson a beloved range professional that we lost in 2016



Management of Invasive Species, Endangered Species and Fuel Loads on Hawaiian Range and Pasture Lands



Join us at Kilauea Military Camp, in the village of Volcano, approximately 28 miles out of Hilo. This will be a memorable meeting starting off with a Board meeting on the 26th, Presentations and Poster Session on the 27th followed by an authentic Hawaiian dinner, then a ranch tour the following day. Mark your calendars and plan to attend!



Registration & Tour Information

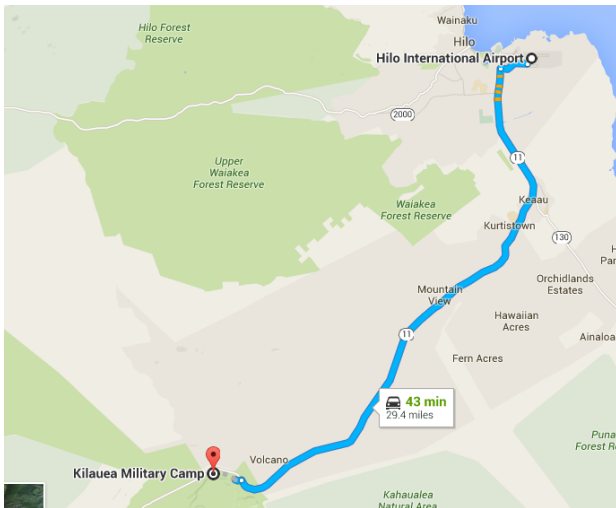
SRM Cal-Pac Fall Meeting October 26-28, 2016

Kilauea Military Camp, Volcano, Hawaii

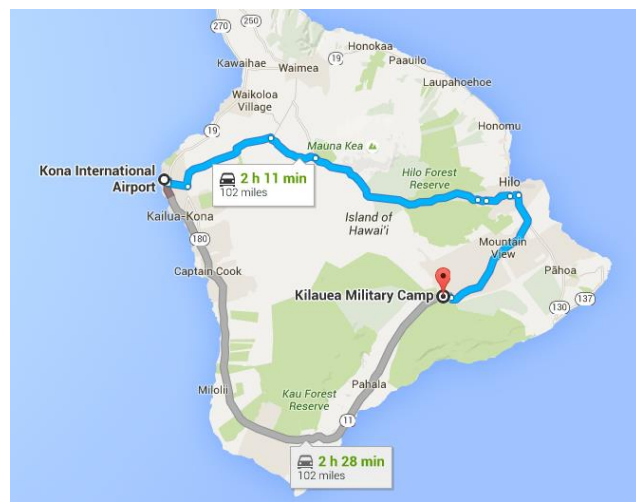
Our meeting will be held at the Kilauea Military Camp, nestled at the edge of Hawaii Volcano National Park at 4000' elevation, away from the hustle and bustle of the rest of Hawaii. Come join us for a relaxing, educational and very memorable meeting hosted by our Hawaii members Mark Thorne and Jill Ficke-Beaton. Lodging available right on site in cabins or hotel for details of the venue check out this website:

<http://kilaueamilitarycamp.com/about-kmc/>

Here is the location:



Approximately 30 miles from Hilo Airport (ITO)



Approximately 102 miles from Kona Airport (KOA)

Room Reservations are under “Society for Range Management” call Denise at 808-967-8337.

Rooms are available from single rooms up to 3 bedroom cottages. Rates are very low for Hawaii (\$155 for a one bedroom apartment-\$281/night for a 3 bedroom cottage).

Dr. Mark Thorne & Jill Ficke-Beaton are our local sponsors for this event.

For more information please contact Jill @ 808-937-0314 or jill.ficke-beaton@hi.usda.gov



Cottages available to rent



Camp Entrance

**Society for Range Management
California-Pacific Section
Kilauea Military Camp, Big Island of Hawaii**

October 26-28, 2016

Name(s): _____
Affiliation: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

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

	Before 10/5	After 10/5
_____ MEMBER & AFFILATE (full registration): includes Dinner on 10/27 and (2) Lunches on 10/27 and 10/28	\$135/person _____	\$145/person _____

_____ NON-MEMBER (full registration): includes Dinner on 10/27 and (2) Lunches on 10/27 and 10/28	\$145/person _____	\$135/person _____
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_____ STUDENT (full registration): includes Dinner on 10/27 and (2) Lunches on 10/27 and 10/28	\$100/person _____	\$110/person _____
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_____ Spouse/Guest (includes 10/27 dinner only):	\$45/person _____	\$55/person _____
<i>Grand Total = \$</i> _____		

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 ventus7@att.net or call 619-322-4404.

Meeting Agenda

October 26 – Afternoon Board of Directors Meeting (All Welcome) – 1:00 – 5:00 pm

Afternoon CRM Meeting – 1:00 – 3:00 pm

October 27 – Presentations & Poster Session – 8:00 – 4:30

Speakers from Hawaii and the Mainland Featuring: (Tentative Agenda, Details to come in upcoming announcement)

Fire & Fuels Management – Livestock as a Tool

Fire in a Changing Climate

The Socioeconomic Issues with Fire

Invasive Species -

Effects on Island Plant Communities

State & Transition Models and Threshold Plant communities

Invasive Species Effects on the Livestock Industry on the Islands and Mainland (Research Updates)

Poster Presentations

Dinner & Silent Auction

October 28 – Ranch Tours & Discuss Ranching on the Islands and Resource Issues & Marketing Concerns they face. Lunch Included - Depart KMC at 7:30 am, returning at 5:00 pm

October 28 – Dinner on you own

MENUS:

Lunch (October 27th – Presentation Day)

Menu will include: Kalua Pork, Beef & Vegetable Stir-fry, Lemon Chicken, Mac-n-Cheese, and Vegetable Stir-fry

Banquet and Silent Auction, October 27th:

Dinner will be a choice of beef/chicken/vegetarian traditional Hawaiian.

Choices will include: Prime Rib of Beef, Grilled Ono with seasoned butter or Stir-fry Vegetables with Tofu Black Beans.

Lunch (During the tour) – Mixed choices of meat and vegetarian

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1/8 Page	\$20
Column inch	\$10

E-mail mpdor@ucanr.edu for more information or to submit an advertisement

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>
