

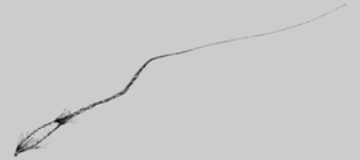


# Needlegrass Notes

Volume 63:2

Fall 2017

Society for Range Management  
California-Pacific Section



## Your 2017 Section Officers & Board

**President:** Sheila Barry  
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**2019:** Kasey DeAtley  
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**2019:** Heidi Ramsey  
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## In this issue:

- 2016 Range Manager of the Year and 50+ year members
- Candidates for President and Board of Directors
- Fall meeting agenda and registration information

## President's Message

Sheila Barry

What will the development of faux-meat mean for rangelands? I was challenged to think about this question after a UC agricultural economist said, "We won't need livestock anymore. There are at least seven start-ups in the Silicon Valley alone bringing fake-meat to the market." I saw the headlines a few months ago about the veggie burger that bleeds but honestly I thought this fake meat was just another version of a veggie burger or soy

dog. Fake-meat or alternative proteins being developed by companies like Impossible Foods, Beyond Meat, Memphis meat (in San Francisco despite the name), Modern Meadows have attracted serious funding; over \$250 million has been invested in alternative protein sources in the past two years alone. All the high tech billionaires seem to be contributing to the efforts of one company or another. Ethan Brown, who provided initial funding for Beyond Meat shares a belief with other faux-meat funders that raising livestock is an inefficient use of land and water, and producing vegetable-protein patties or lab-grown meat will improve the environment. This belief obviously overlooks complex production systems and environmental issues, like those associated with rangeland livestock production. Rangeland livestock production systems are inefficient in terms of food produced per acre, but what about the value of other ecosystem services they produce?



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**Your 2017 Committee Chairs & Members**

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**Audit:**

Larry Forero  
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**Awards:**

Denise Defreese  
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**Information & Education Co-Chairs:**

Lance Criley  
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Liz Kellogg  
[ac@tierradata.com](mailto:ac@tierradata.com)  
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As members of the Society for Range Management, our ability to understand and promote the value of rangeland ecosystem services is increasingly important to the future of our profession and the sustainability of rangeland. While companies like Modern Meadows may produce a protein product, their laboratories will do little to sustain the myriad of ecosystems that rangelands provide. The Fall meeting of the Cal-Pac Section of the Society of Range Management will include a one-day workshop on the expectations and applications of rangeland ecosystem services. The workshop will be held on **Wednesday, October 18th from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM in Volcano, California**, followed by our annual fall silent auction and dinner. The **Cal-Pac Board of Director's Meeting and CRM Panel Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 17th at 1:00 PM.**

Before you head to Volcano make sure you cast your vote for Board of Directors for the Parent Society. Our section is extremely fortunate that Dr. Ken Fulgham is running for 2nd Vice President. Ken's dedication to our professional society and passion for rangeland management is unmatched. **REMEMBER TO VOTE before 11:59 PM MT Monday, October 16th.**

See you in Volcano!  
Sheila Barry  
Cal-Pac SRM Section President

## Range Manager of the Year

### Stephanie Larson Named 2016 Cal-Pac Range Manager of the Year.

Dr. Stephanie Larson, UC Cooperative Extension County Director, was awarded the Cal-Pac Section of the Society Range Management, Ranger Manager of the Year for 2016. Stephanie received this award for her years of research and extension work conducting diverse program that focuses on animal husbandry, rangeland ecosystem services and development of niche markets for local livestock producers. She helped local rangeland



Dr. Stephanie Larson, 2016 Range Manager of the Year.

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owners develop water quality plans to comply with TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) water quality regulations. She initiated a "Notice of Intent" system for Tomales Bay watershed land owners that documents water quality and best management practices. This system was been adopted by the Regional Water Quality Control Board and later extended to Napa and Sonoma Creek Watersheds. With nearly 1 million acres of rangeland in Sonoma and Marin Counties, she works with rangeland owners and managers to develop strong stewardship principals and best management practices. Stephanie assesses ecosystem service management and is currently exploring payments for services, such as carbon sequestration, water capture and biodiversity. During her career she has conducted hundreds of local education meetings on livestock production, animal I.D., bio-security, wool marketing, livestock judging, predator control including non-lethal methods, parasite control, range weed management, riparian management, water quality, electric fencing, ranch and grazing planning, estate planning, soil health, vegetation monitoring, grass-fed and organic certification, and grazing for endangered species. Stephanie teaches Range Management at Santa Rosa Junior College; served as a Board Member, then President of the Cal-Pac Section and as a Board of Director on the parent Society, 2010-2013.

### SRM 50-Year Membership Pins

We are fortunate to have many Society for Range Management (SRM) members reach the 50 year membership status over the past few years, with a few more to be recognized in the coming years. Two members were able to attend the Cal-Pac SRM Spring Meeting in April and received their 50-year membership pin at the dinner.

### Dr. Mel George

Dr. Mel George's leadership in organizing research and extension educational programs has been exceptional. Through his leadership as the UC Davis Range Management Specialist, he employed interdisciplinary approaches to bring individuals and groups to work together to develop research and extension education initiatives, fostering collaboration between California rangeland researchers and educators. He assisted range specialists and farm advisors to target critical issues facing rangeland management. His statewide water quality project, Ranch Water Quality Short Course, was the first in the nation to address critical water quality issues on rangelands in California. The program involved state specialists, farm advisors, and private and public agencies, and through his leadership efforts, positive water quality impacts

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### Your 2017 Committee Chairs & Members

#### Membership Chair:

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[clarkia@hotmail.com](mailto:clarkia@hotmail.com)  
(925) 371-0154 x3860

#### Nominations & Elections Chair (President-Elect):

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#### Professional Affairs/ CRM Panel Chair:

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#### CRM Panel Executive Secretary:

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#### Student Affairs Co-Chairs:

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were made. Dr. George's statewide program received national recognition for its achievements, culminating in peer-reviewed publications in *Rangeland and Ecology Management*, which further disseminated program content throughout the United States. Dr. George's infamous "Cows in Space" led to the development of a multi-state research project which examined movement of cattle across landscapes in the states of California, Montana, and Oregon. These efforts documented his ability to secure national funding to address critical and emerging issues in the area of natural resources. Dr. George bridged a gap between state and federal agencies when he recognized the need to develop Ecological Site Descriptions (ESD) for the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). This association with NRCS enabled UCCE farm advisors to work in several counties collecting data, and ESDs were developed. This unique partnership, once again demonstrated Dr. George's ability to bring diverse people together to complete a statewide project. Mel George is an active member of both the local and national levels of SRM and has been a mentor of new young rangeland management professionals. Mel served on the SRM Cal-Pac Board of Directors and President twice.



**50-year pin recipients, Dr. Mel George & Glenn Harris at the Cal-Pac Spring Meeting in Suisun City.**

### **Glenn Harris**

Glenn Harris is a fifth-generation Californian whose family arrived in the Golden State in 1845. He grew up on the family ranch near Hollister, California, and early on developed an interest in the natural resources that surrounded him. He attended the same one room elementary school that his father and grandmother attended. Harris attended Humboldt State College where he was one of the first graduates in Range Management. He has a minor in Geology and completed extensive graduate work in Wildland Hydrology. He also earned a degree in Administration of Justice from Riverside City College. He joined the Society for Range Management in 1967 and is a life member. He left graduate school in 1971 to help run the ranch and develop a recreation enterprise. When drought and insects wiped out the family's cattle and walnut enterprises, the family sold the ranch, which is now the Hollister Hill State Recreational Vehicle Area. Due to a pending sale of the ranch, he went to work for the Bureau of Land Management in 1974. He started as a Ranger/Range Conservationist, then became the lead Range Conservationist. In 1989 he moved to a Natural Resources Specialist position where he was in charge of the Soils, Water, Air, Botany and weed program. He was also in charge of the Range monitoring program and led the team conducting Rangeland Health Evaluations. He also served as a Fire Resource Advisor. Much of his work was in the western Mojave Desert. He retired from the BLM in 2013 after nearly 39 years of federal service. In 2015, he received the Distinguished Service Award from the Department of Interior. He now serves as the chairman of the Kern County Weed Management and continues volunteer work for the

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BLM, the local museum, and an environmental education program in regional schools.

Other Cal-Pac members with over 50 years of support for the Society for Range Management:

- Charles Saulisberry
- Gerald Hillier
- Paul Madonna
- Richard Dresser
- Reginald Barrett
- Keith Guenther
- Neil McDougald
- James Sullins
- Mel George

## **2017 Cal-Pac Officer Nominees**

It is time to elect new officers for the Cal-Pac Board and President. Vote for one candidate for President and two candidates for Board of Directors. Look for your ballot to arrive by email within the next few days (or enclosed with this newsletter if you receive the newsletter by post).

### **President (one position)**

- **Fadzayi Mashiri**
- **Mindy Nicoletti**

### **Fadzayi Mashiri**

Fadzayi is a University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor for Mariposa and Merced Counties, and County Director for Mariposa County. She has been a member of Cal-Pac SRM section since moving to California in 2013, and member of the section Board of Directors from 2015-2017. Before joining UCCE she worked as a Senior Research Specialist at the University of Arizona studying the use of adaptive grazing management approaches to improve sustainable rangeland management. Prior to that, Fadzayi worked in Zimbabwe as a lecturer and chairperson of the Department of Livestock and Wildlife Management at the Midlands State University and as a Senior Agricultural Extension Officer for the Agriculture Extension Services.

Fadzayi Mashiri graduated from The University of Arizona with a Ph.D. in Rangeland Management in 2010. She also holds a M.Sc. in Natural Resources Management and Sustainable Agriculture from the

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Agricultural University of Norway, and a B.Sc. in Agriculture, Animal Science from University of Zimbabwe. Fadzayi was born and raised in Zimbabwe.

### **Mindy Nicoletti**

I have been involved with SRM since 2002 while majoring in Rangeland Resource Science at Humboldt State University. After graduation I started working for NRCS as a soil conservationist in Klamath Falls, Oregon. In 2008, I became the Rangeland Management Specialist for California NRCS assisting both Mendocino and Lake Counties. Now I work for Red Bluff NRCS as a Soil Conservationist.

My interest in range started from growing up on a cattle ranch. It's a cow calf operation with summer pasture in Siskiyou and winter grazing in Tehama County. Due to my personal and professional background I have dedicated my career to providing planning and technical assistance to farmers and ranchers in order to improve natural resources. Throughout my career I've worked on a variety of land uses and ecotypes, but have always enjoyed focusing on pasture and range. Recently I have served as a Board of Director for Cal-Pac. I'm excited for the opportunity to increase my participation in Cal-Pac SRM in effort to become more involved in California rangelands issues.

### **Board of Directors (two positions)**

- Sarah Dawe
- Roxanne Foss
- Jenna Ganoung
- Wendell Gilgert
- Allison Rofe
- Megan Schroeder

### **Sarah Dawe**

I am honored to be nominated for a position on the Cal-Pac Board of Directors, as I strongly support and desire to serve the Society's mission to provide stewardship and conservation of rangelands. Growing up, I spent a lot of time horseback with my grandfather on the prairie of Eastern Montana. Through this experience I developed a love for range plants, rangelands, and livestock. This interest led to numerous range camps, 4-H and FFA range competitions and projects, and a Bachelor's degree in Range Science from Montana State University in 2006. During college, in 2004, I began an internship with the Lewis & Clark National Forest in Montana as a Rangeland Management Specialist. For the next ten years I administered multiple National Forest grazing allotments, working with permittees to manage grazing on federal lands. Although I loved my job working for the Forest Service, I always wanted the experience of working in a different range type, in a different location of the US. In 2014 I accepted a position with the Natural Resources Conservation Service as a Range Specialist in coastal Eureka, California. This position has allowed me to work in a completely different climate and range type than I have experienced in my past work. I am constantly amazed by the environmental diversity of California and California rangelands. I

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love how this diversity translates into my current work serving Northern California livestock producers on private rangelands. Additionally, I am a California Certified Rangeland Manager, have been a member of the parent Society for Range Management since 2003, and currently serve on the Awards Committee. I would appreciate the opportunity to give back to my profession and California rangelands, by serving on the Board of Directors for the Cal-Pac Section.

### **Roxanne Foss**

Ms. Foss is a range ecologist and GIS analyst with 8 years of experience in public, academic and private consulting arenas. Through her work in these sectors, Ms. Foss has been able to collaborate on range management projects with various stakeholders, including: ranch operators, researchers, environmental groups, regulatory entities, non-profit land trusts, and public agencies. She has studied and applied spatially-explicit ecological science in order to support complex management actions. Her work has included monitoring stock use in subalpine meadows; creating condition assessments of Central Valley vernal pool grasslands; implementing integrated pest management in Bay Area parks; coordinating range improvement projects for improved resource management; and leading botanical, residual dry matter, and vegetation mapping surveys throughout California rangelands.

### **Jenna Ganoung**

I have been a member with SRM since 2008. My education includes a Bachelor of Science degree in Rangeland Resource Science from Humboldt State University (2008). My professional career in range management has been with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) since 2006, first as a student participating in the SCEP (Student Career Experience) program in Humboldt County working out of the Eureka Field Office, followed with a Rangeland Management Specialist position in the Weaverville and Redding Field Offices. During my career with NRCS, I have had the opportunity to gain experience working in various ecosystems across Northern California writing and assisting with grazing management plans and gathering inventory data within coastal grasslands, mountain meadows, vernal pools, annual grasslands, oak woodlands, irrigated pastures, sierra grasslands, and sage brush communities.

Presently I hold the position of NRCS Soil Conservationist/Rangeland Management Specialist servicing Shasta County. In 2016, I was one of twelve selected to participate in the NRCS California Leadership Program in which I am currently committing 18 months of my career to advance my skills in leadership, self-awareness and team collaboration, so that I can be as helpful and valuable to both the producers I work with and the colleagues I team with in all of my daily activities and relations. It is honor to be nominated for the Cal-Pac SRM Board of Directors, and look forward to the opportunity to contribute further to the profession.

### **Wendell Gilgert**

Wendell was born and raised in Northern California on a fourth generation family farm in eastern San Joaquin County. Heavily influenced by Aldo Leopold's A Sand County Almanac, he began his career with the USDA Soil Conservation Service (now Natural Resources Conservation Service) in 1977 as a Soil Sci-

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entist. Then for nearly twenty years, he worked as a Field and District Conservationist in Northern California.

He was Wildlife Biologist for the NRCS Wildlife Habitat Management Institute as well as adjunct professor at Colorado State University and as NRCS California State Biologist. For the final years of his NRCS career he served as the West Region Wildlife Biologist in Portland, Oregon.

In June 2011, he retired from a 34 year career with NRCS and transitioned to work with the PRBO Conservation Science (now Point Blue Conservation Science) to direct their Rangeland Watershed Initiative which is an effort to place, train, and manage partner biologists to help deliver USDA Farm Bill Programs on private land and cultivate Leopoldian Land Stewards through their Rangeland Watershed Initiative. The Initiative works closely with livestock producers to encourage conservation grazing management that will increase perennial plants, produce more forage, increase water infiltration and storage, sequester carbon, and improve fish and wildlife habitats.

Wendell has been an active member of the Society for Range Management since 1992. He served as a member and Chairman of the National SRM Wildlife Habitat Committee and has organized and presented in numerous SRM Annual Conference Symposiums and Concurrent Sessions. He has written and co-authored articles in numerous publications, including Rangelands, and given hundreds of presentations on management, restoration and stewardship of western working farm, ranch and forest lands to benefit a wide range of fish and wildlife including, shorebirds, waterfowl, neo-tropical migratory birds, bats, herpetofauna, native pollinators, and other invertebrates, while at the same time keeping those working lands operations productive.

### **Allison Rofe**

I am honored to be nominated as a candidate for the Cal-Pac SRM Section Board of Directors. I received a B.Sc. in Rangeland Resource Science from Humboldt State University in 2012. After receiving my undergraduate degree, I worked as the Rangeland Management Specialist for the NRCS in Mendocino County. In 2016, I began pursuing a master's degree in Range Management at the University of California, Berkeley. Additionally, I am the Range Conservationist for the Contra Costa Resource Conservation District (CCRCD). My work focuses on conservation planning and providing technical resources for land managers and ranchers. I am responsible for assisting Contra Costa producers with permitting needs associated with livestock pond restoration and livestock water projects. I have been an SRM member since 2011. My dedication to California range management and science has led me to become an Associate Range Manager.

I value the partnerships I have established with ranchers, agency personnel and fellow range managers. If elected, my experience working for a special district, federal agency and my role in academia will better enable me in providing leadership and knowledge to our rangeland communities.

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### **Megan Schroeder**

Growing up in northern California provides a fantastic opportunity to enjoy wide open spaces and appreciate all that the land has to offer. Whether it was backpacking, hunting, or raising livestock, I wanted to be out on the landscape. My interest in rangelands led me to Humboldt State University where I earned a B.S. degree in Rangeland Resource Science. During college, I was a student member of SRM, a member of HSU's Plant ID Team, and was the Range Club president. After graduation I was hired by NRCS as a Rangeland Management Specialist, in Alturas, working with farmers and livestock producers in Modoc County, California and across the state line in Washoe County, Nevada. My work focused on enhancing critical sage grouse habitat, controlling invasive plant species, and developing infrastructure to facilitate grazing management on private and public land. After nearly three years in the high desert, I relocated to the Sacramento Valley in 2015 where I currently work as a Rangeland Specialist for NRCS in Glenn County, California. I am honored to be nominated as a candidate for the Board of Directors and excited for the opportunity to increase my participation in Cal-Pac SRM and become more involved in California rangelands issues.

## **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>.



# RANGELAND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES: EXPECTATIONS, APPLICATIONS



October 18, 2017

Armory Hall, 21349 Consolation Street

Volcano, CA

A one-day workshop hosted by  
CALIFORNIA-PACIFIC SECTION,  
SOCIETY FOR RANGE  
MANAGEMENT

What do we know about  
rangeland ecosystem services?

How are they valued?

What are the policy and  
practical applications?

Meeting information and  
registration details at:

<http://rangelands.org/casrm/>

# RANGELAND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES: EXPECTATIONS & APPLICATIONS

## A One-Day Workshop

*And the Fall Meeting for the California-Pacific Section of the Society for Range Management*

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**Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 1 PM to 4:00 PM:** California-Pacific Section, SRM Board of Directors Meeting, Armory Hall, 21349 Consolation Street, Volcano, CA.

**Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM:** Rangeland Ecosystem Services Workshop, Armory Hall, 21349 Consolation Street, Volcano, CA.

**Lodging:** Accommodations in Volcano is very limited, so book promptly: St. George Historic Hotel ([website](#), 209-296-4458); Volcano Union Inn Bed & Breakfast ([website](#), 209-296-7711). Additional accommodations are available outside of Volcano at the Jackson Rancheria Casino Resort ([website](#); 9 miles), Amador Inn ([website](#); 13 miles), and Sutter Creek Days Inn ([website](#); 14 miles).

**Restaurants in Volcano:** Kneading Dough Bakery ([website](#)) serves breakfast and lunch. Volcano Union Inn & Pub ([website](#)) serves dinner Thu-Mon, lunch Sat-Sun. The Volcano Country Store serves deli and grill lunches.

### **DRAFT Workshop Agenda, Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> - Speakers and titles subject to change.**

8:00 AM	Registration
9:00 AM	Welcome and opening remarks. <i>Morgan Doran, UCCE Advisor</i>
9:10 AM	History of Volcano, CA. <i>TBD</i>
9:30 AM	Rangeland economics and ecosystem services. <i>Dr. Tina Saitone, UCCE Specialist, UC Davis</i>
10:15 AM	Break
10:40 AM	Rangeland conservation and ecosystem services. <i>Dr. Van Busic, UCCE Specialist, UC Berkeley</i>
11:15 AM	Applications of ecosystem services. <i>Stephanie Larson-Praplan, UCCE Advisor</i>
12:00 PM	Lunch, <i>catered by Volcano Union Inn &amp; Pub</i>
1:00 PM	Developing tools to model, map, and value rangeland ecosystem services. <i>Natural Capital Project, Stanford University</i>
3:00 PM	Experiences, gaps and our role with rangeland ecosystem services. <i>TBD</i>
3:45 PM	Wrap up and adjourn <i>Morgan Doran, UCCE Advisor</i>
5:00 PM	California-Pacific Section Fall Meeting Social and Dinner at the Armory Hall. <i>Social hour will include the silent auction. Please bring auction items. Dinner catered by Volcano Union Inn &amp; Pub</i>



California-Pacific Section, Society for Range Management  
Fall Meeting, Wednesday, October 18, 2017  
Armory Hall, 21349 Consolation Street, Volcano, CA

### REGISTRATION FORM

Complete this page and submit with payment or register and pay [online](#) via PayPal.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Guests: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Meeting Registration Fees:** *lunch is included with registration*

Registration Options	Early Reg. Price	Reg. after 10/6/17	Number of People	Sub-Total
<b>REGULAR REGISTRATION</b> <i>Wednesday, 10/18/17 Ecosystem Services Workshop</i>	\$ 70.00	\$ 90.00		
<b>STUDENT</b> <i>Wednesday, 10/18/17 Ecosystem Services Workshop</i>	\$ 30.00	\$ 35.00		
<b>CAL-PAC MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND DINNER</b> <i>Wednesday, 10/18/17 Includes dinner and drinks Dinner catered by the Volcano Union Inn &amp; Pub</i>	\$ 45.00	\$ 50.00		
<b>TOTAL</b>				

**Payment options:** PayPal [online](#) (preferred) or check one of the following:  
Check \_\_\_\_\_ Pay with check or credit card at the door \_\_\_\_\_  
*Note: If paying online you do not need to send in this registration form.*

If paying by check, mail the check (made payable to Cal-Pac Section SRM) and registration form to Devii Rao at address below.

If paying at the door, please mail your registration form to Devii Rao.

Devii Rao, 31000 Airline Highway, Paicines, CA 95043



## Sponsor Needlegrass Notes

Reach all of our membership by sponsoring Needlegrass Notes.

Full Page	\$100
2/3 Page	75
1/2 Page	60
1/3 Page	45
1/4 Page	30
1/8 Page	20
Column inch	10

Email Philip Brownsey at pb3@airpost.net for more information.

## Newsletter Articles

All contributions to Needlegrass Notes are welcome. Please submit your articles and news items to: Philip Brownsey at pb3@airpost.net

## 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. 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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