

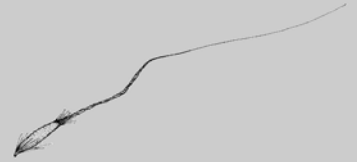


Needlegrass Notes

Volume 61:2

Fall 2015

Society for Range Management
California-Pacific Section



Vote for Cal-Pac Officers: <http://ucanr.edu/2015election>

Candidate bios on pages 6 to 8. Voting ends October 15.

Your 2015 Section Officers & Board

President: Ceci Dale-Cesmat
ceci.dalecesmat@ca.usda.gov
(530) 792-5658

President-Elect: Morgan Doran
mpdoran@ucanr.edu
(707) 784-1326

Past-President: David Lile
dfile@ucanr.edu
(530) 251-8133

Secretary: Theresa Becchetti
tabecchetti@ucanr.edu
(209) 525-6800

Treasurer: Edie Jacobsen
vitus7@att.net

Newsletter Editor: Philip Brownsey
pabrownsey@gmail.com

Historian/Archivist: Mel George
mrgorge@ucdavis.edu
(530) 752-1720

Board of Directors

2015: Julie Finzel
jafinzel@ucanr.edu
(661) 868-6219

2015: Breanna Owens
bowens@pointblue.org
(530) 514-3107

2016: Josh Davy
jsdavy@ucanr.edu
(530) 527-3101

2016: Rob Pearce
robert.pearce@ca.usda.gov
(760) 872-6111

2017: Fadzayi Mashiri
fmashiri@ucanr.edu
(209) 966-2417

2017: Mindy Nicoletti
mindy.nicoletti@ca.usda.gov
(530) 527-3013

What is inside:

- Upcoming events
- Notable publications
- Fall Annual Meeting information
- Election information

In memoriam: Wayne Jensen

University of California Cooperative Extension Livestock and Natural Resource Advisor Emeritus for Santa Barbara County Wayne Jensen passed away on July 18. Wayne served on the Cal-Pac Board of Directors and was awarded Range Manager of the Year by the section in 2005. He was 71 years old. You can read more about his career here:

<http://ucanr.edu/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm?postnum=18862>

President's Message

CeCi Dale-Cesmat

As the summer begins to come to a close, we are all hopeful that the predicted El Nino will bring a break to our long drought and rangelands around the state will get a recharge of much needed water.

Now that summer is closing into fall I'm also looking forward to a great fall Cal-Pac meeting in beautiful northeastern California. David Lile has some great speakers and tours planned, our annual banquet, silent auction and the opportunity to share stories of the range with other professionals. I'm looking forward to passing the presidential baton to Morgan Doran. Additionally there will be two newly elected board members and the president elect. When looking back at the year that has passed by so quickly I think of some of the highlights of being the section president during that time.

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Your 2015 Committee Chairs & Members

2015 Annual Meeting:

Sheila Barry
sbarry@ucanr.edu
(408) 978-9230

Alan Bower
alan.bower@ca.usda.gov
(530) 527-2667

Audit:

Larry Forero
lforero@ucanr.edu
(530) 224-4900

Awards:

Theresa Becchetti
tabecchetti@ucanr.edu
(209) 525-6800

Information & Education Co-Chairs:

Lance Criley
lcriley@fs.fed.us
(619) 445-6235

Liz Kellogg
ac@tierradata.com
(760) 749-2247

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One of the things that sticks out in my mind as something the Section does that is very beneficial to the longevity of the profession is Range Camp. Each year a handful of dedicated Cal-Pac members spend many hours working on putting on an educational, fun-filled and perhaps life-changing week for a group of high school students. Range camp is held at the Elkus ranch in Half Moon Bay in a beautiful setting. Most students that attend are there because they were able to get a scholarship to pay their way. Some are from urban, under-privileged homes and this may be their first experience in the outdoors. Others come from the rural areas of the state and are familiar with agriculture and the outdoors.



This year there was a mix of both, where “country mouse and city mouse” were able to exchange cultural and socio-economic differences and learn from each other. A few participants were from inner-city environments. It was refreshing to see their perspective of rangelands and it was touching to see how emotional these kids got when describing how much being at range camp meant to them. Many said that they had never been around animals, even dogs, let alone sheep or cattle. Some had never been to the beach, worked out in the sun in a ranch setting, or experienced the outdoors like most range professionals do on a daily basis. Each year I have gone I see kids that tell you how much the experience has changed their lives. Some of these kids have gone on to become range professionals. I know a week in the field at camp may not seem like much, but for them it is huge and can be something they will always remember. Hosting range camp is really an important part of what Cal-Pac does. Many thanks to Marc Horney, Cece Dahlstrom, Julie Finzel, Edie Jacobsen, Theresa Becchetti, and all the others who make this event happen each year. What we do at range camp does make a difference and it’s important to continue with this into the future as rangelands shrink and children’s lives become more urban. I urge members of our section to get involved with range camp and help out as much as you can.

In closing, I want to thank all of you for your continued membership and support of our Section. I hope that we can recruit more members in

(Continued on page 3)

2016 and I am hopeful that federal agencies expand their support in membership of professional societies. I'm excited about the upcoming year working with Morgan as past-President and my future as a retiree with 30 years of USDA service. I will continue to work on rangelands because this is what I know and love. Enjoy your waning summer. I look forward to seeing you in Susanville in November.

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.

Central Coast Rangeland Coalition Fall Meeting

October 15, 2015

Hollister, California

California Invasive Plant Council Symposium

October 29 to 31, 2015

San Diego, California

cal-ipc.org

California-Pacific Section Society for Range Management Fall Meeting

November 12 to 13, 2015

Susanville, California

casrm.rangelands.org

Oregon White Oak and California Black Oak Ecology and Management Symposium

November 12 to 13, 2015

Eureka, California

<http://ucanr.edu/oaksymposium2015>

99th Annual California Cattlemen's Association Convention

November 19 to 21, 2015

Sparks, Nevada

calcattlemen.org

California Rangeland Conservation Coalition Annual Summit

January 21 to 22, 2016

TBD, California

carangeland.org

Your 2015 Committee Chairs & Members

Meetings Chair (Past-President):

Alan Bower

alan.bower@ca.usda.gov

(530) 527-2667

Membership Chair:

Devii Rao

rdeviirao@gmail.com

Nominations & Elections Chair:

Bill Frost

wefrost@ucanr.edu

(530) 621-5509

Professional Affairs/ CRM Panel Chair:

Susan Marshall

sem11@humboldt.edu

(707) 826-4064

CRM Panel Executive Secretary:

Jim Bartolome

jwbart@nature.berkeley.edu

(510) 642-7945

Student Affairs Co-Chairs:

Julie Finzel

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(661) 868-6219

Marc Horney

mhorney@calpoly.edu

(805) 756-7543

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69th Society for Range Management Annual Meeting

January 29 to February 6, 2016

Corpus Christi, Texas

2016 California Ram Sale

April 9, 2016

Porterville, California

woolgrowers.org

California Society for Ecological Restoration Conference

May 11 to 13, 2016

Kings Beach, California

sercal.org

California-Pacific Section Society for Range Management Range Camp

June 19 to 24, 2016

Elkus Ranch, Half Moon Bay, California

casrm.rangelands.org

70th Society for Range Management Annual Meeting

Winter 2017

St. George, Utah

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>.

Notable Publications Philip Brownsey

I will apologize now if I missed or misrepresented the important points in these papers, or overlooked an interesting and important recent paper. I will leave it to the Cal-Pac members to read these to correct my errors. If you know of an article that Cal-Pac members may find interesting and would like me to highlight it, send me a note.

James, J. J., E. S. Gornish, J. M. DiTomaso, J. Davy, M. P. Doran, T. Becchetti, D. Lile, P. Brownsey, and E. A. Laca. 2015. Managing Medusahead (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*) on Rangeland: A Meta-Analysis of Control Effects and Assessment of Stakeholder Needs. *Rangeland Ecology & Management* 68(2): 215 – 223.

James et al (2015) perform a meta-analysis of medusahead treatment tools to describe the state of knowledge regarding the effectiveness of individual tools and combinations, looking at both studies performed in California and in Intermountain rangelands.

Pasari, J. R., D. L. Hernandez, and E. S. Zavaleta. 2014. Interactive Effects of Nitrogen Deposition and Grazing on Plant Species Composition in a Serpentine Grassland. *Rangeland Ecology & Management* 67(6): 693 – 700.

Pasari et al (2014) takes a closer look at the mechanisms behind the interactive effects of grazing and nitrogen deposition on plant species composition in serpentine grasslands.

Roche, L. M., B. B. Cutts, J. D. Derner, M. N. Lubell, and K. W. Tate. 2015. On-Ranch Grazing Strategies: Context for the Rotation Grazing Dilemma. *Rangeland Ecology & Management* 68(3): 248 – 256.

Roche et al (2015) cut through some of the discussion about the effectiveness of varying grazing systems and asks ranchers in California and Wyoming what they are actually doing, finding that the vast majority of respondents practice some kind of extensive grazing system at a scale much greater than that utilized in the majority of studies on grazing systems.

Spotswood, E. N., J. W. Bartolome, and B. Allen-Diaz. 2015. Hotspots of Community Change: Temporal Dynamics Are Spatially Variable in Understory Plant Composition of a California Oak Woodland. *PLoS ONE* 10(7): e0133501. (web link: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0133501>)

Spotswood et al (2015) present the results of a watershed management study at the UC Sierra Foothill Research and Extension Center that followed manipulations for 11(!) years, published in *PLoS One*. Findings here again confirm the complexity of California's rangeland systems as they depend on complex interactions of abiotic conditions and disturbance.

Cal-Pac Officer Elections:

To **vote**, if you are a member that receives a paper ballot, enclosed is an addressed ballot that you can mail to Theresa Becchetti, otherwise go online to: <http://ucanr.edu/2015election>, or scan the QR code below with your smartphone. **Voting ends October 15.**



Candidates for Section President-Elect

This office spends 1 year as President-Elect, followed by 1 year as Section President, and 1 year as Past-President, each with unique responsibilities. To learn more, you may refer to the Cal-Pac section handbook, available on our website: http://casrm.rangelands.org/Assets/CalPac_Handbook.pdf

Sheila Barry

I am a Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor in the Bay Area. I have a BS in Agricultural Science and International Relations from UC Davis and a Masters in Animal Science from Texas A & M. My work is focused on conducting research and education on annual grasslands and oak woodland management and working with cattle ranchers and public agencies to promote working landscapes that conserve biological diversity and protect water quality. My role as a natural resources manager is to engage public and private land owners and managers to better understand the importance of grazing as a management tool.

I have been active in Cal-Pac, serving for many years as the section's secretary and most recently co-chairing the very successful 2015 SRM annual meeting. I am a licensed Certified Rangeland Manager and the 2014 Range Manager of the Year.

As Section President-elect, I will be able to use the tools I have developed over the years of working successfully with diverse interest groups to continue to promote working landscapes on our rangelands.

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Candidates for Section Board of Directors

Directors serve 3 year terms.

Mike Higgins

Dear Cal-Pac Section Members,

I've been in California 2 years working as a Rangeland Management Specialist for the USDA-NRCS. I attended Oregon State University and obtained a bachelors of science in Rangeland Ecology & Management with a minor in Soil Science. I started with NRCS as a volunteer and began my career working with ranchers on the NRCS Sage Grouse Initiative in south-central Idaho. This is my second application with the board of directors. Since that time I've obtained certification as an Associated Rangeland Manager and continue with an eventual Certified Rangeland Manager through the Cal-Pac Section. My career has included developing an NRCS Annual Grassland inventory spreadsheet with UC Cooperative Extension. I've also collaborated with our President Ceci Dale-Cesmat on written guidelines for the California NRCS practice, Prescribed Grazing. It has been a privilege to work and serve the ranching communities of Kings, Tulare and Kern counties. With this opportunity I would like to see our section build more partnerships with private land ranchers and agricultural colleges; particularly with research and section recruiting, this also includes more cattlemen and women.

Heidi Ramsey

I was born and raised in California but my family ranched in Starr Valley, Nevada for the better part of a century in the shadow of the Ruby Mountains and probably where I got my love of rangeland. I spent two decades working in the private sector as a sales consultant but in 2006 made the leap to get a degree in something for which I had passion. In December 2010, I received my B.S. in Rangeland Resource Science with a minor in Soil Science from Humboldt State University in California. I worked as a Range intern in Española and Grants, New Mexico before accepting a permanent position in 2011 with NRCS in Lassen County, California as a Rangeland Management Specialist. Today, I have the honor of working with many great ranchers in my community where I attempt to help them with their natural resource concerns on their rangeland. I have been an SRM member since 2009 and appreciate being considered for the SRM Cal-Pac Section Board of Directors. I feel it is not only important for me professionally to stay involved in SRM but it is important as a range manager to give back and help keep our society strong. I see our organization playing an increasingly important role in helping to maintain and promote the many ecosystem services that rangelands provide to all living things into the future.

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Leslie Roche

I strongly support the major tenets of Cal-Pac SRM's vision and mission of providing science and leadership on rangeland management and policy issues. Beginning in 2002, I became an active member of the rangeland science and management community—first as a student and then as a range technician with the U.S. Forest Service. I completed my Ph.D. in Ecology at UC Davis in 2011. Following my Ph.D., I was a Postdoctoral Scholar at UC Davis and a USDA-NIFA Postdoctoral Fellow. During this time, I led multidisciplinary research projects addressing central questions in the often contentious public lands grazing management and policy debate. Since then, I have continued to work with a diversity of partners to integrate management expertise and applied research to address key issues—including sustaining working rangelands. As the new, statewide UC Cooperative Extension Rangeland Management Specialist, I will continue to work at the interface of agricultural, ecological, economic, and social aspects of ranching and livestock production on California's rangelands. I am honored to be a candidate for the Cal Pac SRM Board of Directors, and I am very excited for the opportunity to contribute leadership to the profession.

Matthew Shapero

It is an honor to be nominated as a candidate for the Board of Directors of the Cal-Pac section of SRM. Currently, I am working to complete a master's degree in Range Management at the University of California, Berkeley. There, I have had the opportunity to work on a variety of issues ranging from agricultural surface water distribution around California, to a quantitative evaluation of the ecosystem services provided by rangelands in Sonoma County, to a qualitative interview study of the opportunities and constraints experienced by ranchers and land managers when managing invasive weeds with grazing. These academic pursuits have been a welcome compliment to the five years I spent operating a livestock business in the foothills of Nevada County, California. I ran a small flock of sheep and provided lamb regionally and at local farmers' markets. From 2012 to 2014, I sat on the Nevada County Agricultural Advisory Commission and on the board for Nevada County Grown.

I joined SRM and the Cal-Pac Section last fall before the meeting in Auburn. As a professional organization, whose ranks are filled with practitioners and academics alike, I am intrigued by the perspective that the Cal-Pac Section adds to regional rangeland issues. I believe strongly in the education and outreach work that the section does and, if elected, would be eager to contribute towards those ends. Additionally, I am interested in the ways that Cal-Pac can contribute to the pressing rangeland policy issues we face in the next years, whether it be water quality or carbon sequestration or conversion of lands or another.

**Cal-Pac Fall Meeting Agenda
November 12-13, 2015
Susanville, CA**

Thursday Nov 12 -

9:00 Meet and organize carpooling at the High Country Inn north parking area 3015 Riverside Dr., Susanville. We will be on some improved gravel surface BLM roads so at least moderate clearance vehicles are advised.

9:30 Field Tour Departs

10:15 Shinn Mountain, BLM – Challenges in Management and Restoration post-Rush Fire (315,500 acres, 2012)

11:30 BLM Horse Corrals – Overview and discussion of BLM Wild Horse and Burro program

12:00 Mark Shaffer, fuels manager for Honey Lake Power, a 30MW Geothermal and Woody Biomass Electricity Plant. Combining forest and range health with energy production

Return to Susanville Elk's Lodge for Lunch and Technical Program

1:00 – Lunch and In-Person Registration

2:00 - Technical Session - Susanville Elk's Lodge (*see directions below*)

2:15 - Landscape Scale Rangeland Conservation – Buffalo Skedaddle Sage Grouse Group – Tiffany Russell, NRCS/Point Blue Conservation Science

***2:45 - Occurrence and Impacts of Wild Horses on Springs and Seeps*
Laura K. Snell, UC Cooperative Extension, Modoc County**

***3:15 - Drought and Rangeland Forage Production Database – How Can Cal Pac participate?* Leslie Roche, CE Specialist in Rangeland Management, UCD**

***4:00 – Strategies for Effective Rangeland Restoration in the Great Basin –*
Elizabeth A. Leger, University of Nevada Reno**

4:45 Adjourn Technical Session

5:45 Section Social / General Business Meeting

6:30 Banquet, Auction, and Awards

Friday November 13 -

**Cal-Pac Board Meeting – 8:30 to 12:30 NRCS Conference Room
170 Russel Ave Suite C, Susanville**

**CRM Panel Meeting – 8:30 to 12:00 Lassen Fair Office Conference Room
195 Russell Ave, Susanville**

**The NRCS building and Fair Office are across the street from each other*



Directions to the Elks Lodge in Susanville:

From Reno take Highway 395 to Susanville. Follow Main Street through town and up the hill. The Elks Lodge is the large white house at the top of Main Street (picture at left). For parking, turn right on North Pine Street at the top of Main Street.

From the west, follow Highway 36 to Susanville. You will descend a steep grade as you come into town. The Elks Lodge is the big white 3-story house on your left as you enter town at the top of Main Street. There is not a left-hand turn, so you have to go down a couple of blocks, turn around, and back-track. For parking, turn right on North Pine Street at the top of Main Street.



Meeting Hotel

We have a block of rooms reserved at very good rate at the **High Country Inn** in Susanville. Please mention Society for Range management when making your reservation.
530-257-3450

**3015 Riverside Drive
Susanville, CA 96130
Toll Free: 866-454-4566
Phone: 530-257-3450
<http://high-country-inn.com/>**

**Society for Range Management
California-Pacific Section
Susanville, CA
November 12 - 13, 2015**

Name(s): _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

Phone/ Email: _____

*I plan to attend the Tour leaving at 9:30 on Nov 12: Yes _____ No _____

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

<i>Number</i>	By Nov 3	After Nov 3
_____ MEMBER (full registration): includes lunch and dinner on Nov 12	\$75/person _____	\$100/person _____
_____ MEMBER (tour/technical session only): Includes LUNCH ONLY on Nov 12	\$30/person _____	\$40/person _____
_____ NON-MEMBER (full registration): includes lunch and dinner on Nov 12	\$95/person _____	\$125/person _____
_____ NON-MEMBER (tour/technical session only): Includes LUNCH ONLY on Nov 12	\$35/person _____	\$45/person _____
_____ STUDENT (full registration): includes lunch and dinner on Nov 12	\$55/person _____	\$80/person _____
_____ STUDENT (tour/technical session only): Includes LUNCH ONLY on Nov 12	\$20/person _____	\$30/person _____
_____ Spouse/Guest (includes Nov 12 dinner only):	\$45/person _____	\$65/person _____

Grand Total = \$ _____ \$ _____

On-line Registration is available through Allen Press at <http://srm.allenpress.com/SRM/> 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.

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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 mpdoran@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>
