

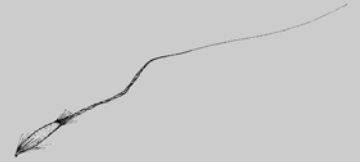


Needlegrass Notes

Volume 60:2

Fall 2014

Society for Range Management
California-Pacific Section



President's Message David Lile

Greetings All,

Fall has arrived, thankfully, and with it hope for a wetter 2014-15 season. There is no question that, for me personally, fall is the best of the four seasons but with one obvious drawback: it leads into winter!



Considering the record drought, we've probably had a bit better grazing season in the intermountain area than we might have predicted in the spring. Moderate long-term stocking rates do help level out these bad years, and thank goodness for emergency funding for stock water hauling. In my part of the state, many cows were off the range only about 3 or 4 weeks earlier than normal. So yeah, it could have been worse. Taking their place on the rangelands over the next month or so will be the orange and camo of hunters in pursuit of antelope, deer, upland birds, and—if truth be told—pursuing the peace of mind that comes from time spent and physical exertion in wide open spaces that we call rangeland: one of those hard to quantify ecosystem services.

By now much of the planning and preparation for Sacramento 2015 is well down the track, and many kudo's to co-chairs Sheila Barry and Alan Bower, our coordinator Tacy Currey, and all the committee chairs and members. There is still much to be done and no doubt there will be last minute things that pop-up, contingencies for things that don't go exactly as planned, and need for more helping hands to pull this off. So please do stay abreast of things and ready to help out. I think another big coordination meeting is in the works for November.

I also want to give a shout to Marc Horney and the whole crew that helped put on the summer range camp 2014. This was my first year at the camp (well hey, it's a long way from Susanville to Half-Moon Bay) but I can't describe how impressed I was with the camp and how it is organized and great interactions we professionals get to have with the students. No doubt it is a lot of work especially for those that are there for the entire week. Let me just encourage anyone, like me that has not been to camp to look for the chance to help out. I promise you will be impressed, and the help will be very much

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appreciated.

Lastly let me sincerely thank the Cal-Pac Board. Even in this year where there has been so much focus and anticipation on the 2015 annual meeting, we have had more than our share of section business to attend to, and your professionalism, and willingness to provide input on short notice is very much appreciated.

Editor's Note Philip Brownsey

In an effort to keep Needlegrass Notes a relevant source of information for Cal-Pac members, I would like to more proactively solicit news and information from the membership regarding rangeland management activities around the state. One addition I would like to include is a list of upcoming events in our region that would be of interest to Cal-Pac members to alert them of events that are going on and offer reminders of when activities are happening.

Let me know if you have an event or workshop that you would like me to add to the calendar. Also if you would like me to consider publishing a short description of your event or workshop you can send that to me as well. In addition to our recaps of Cal-Pac meetings, I would like to publish reports on significant events that some of you may be attending in order to raise the awareness of happenings in the state among our membership. For instance, I am going to solicit articles recapping the Oak Symposium and the California Cattlemen's Convention next month from a couple people.

If you have other things you would like to share (new projects, research or publications we should be aware of, requests for grant proposals, information on new regulations affecting rangeland management, etc) let me know and we can work to find a place for it. The target length for content are something like: short-blurb (~75 words), ½ page (~150 words), full page (~350 words), including some space for a picture, a few more words without a picture.

My goal is to prepare an issue of Needlegrass Notes following the schedule guidelines in our section handbook with at least 2 issues per year. Additional issues may be prepared as time, content, and news warrant.

Recent Publications of Interest Philip Brownsey

Cameron, Marty, and Holland published an article in PLoS ONE on conversion of rangelands in California to other land uses from 1984 to 2008 and look at the extent of conservation efforts on these lands.

Cameron, D. R., et al. (2014). "Whither the rangeland? Protection and conversion in California's rangeland ecosystems." PLoS ONE 9(8): e103468. Available at: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0103468>.

Kyser, DiTomaso, Davies, Davy, and Smith published the Medusahead Management Guide for the Western States, which reviews the current state of science on medusahead treatment tools in both California annual rangelands and the intermountain west.

Kyser, G. B., et al. (2014). Medusahead management guide for the western states, Weed Research and Information Center, University of California: 68. Available at: http://wric.ucdavis.edu/publications/MedusaheadManagementGuide_pub_2014.pdf.

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.

California Native Grasslands Association Workshop
Planned Grazing: Build Soil, Grassland Health & Profit
October 21, 2014
Willits, California
cnga.org

California-Pacific Section Society for Range Management Annual Meeting
November 5 to 6, 2014
Auburn, California
casrm.rangelands.org

7th California Oak Symposium
November 4 to 6, 2014
Visalia, California
ucanr.edu/sites/oaksymposium

Your 2013 Committee Chairs & Members

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California Association of Resource Conservation Districts

November 12 to 15, 2014

Ventura, California

carcd.org

98th Annual California Cattlemen's Association Convention

November 20 to 22, 2014

Sparks, Nevada

calcattlemen.org

California Native Plant Society Conservation Conference

January 15 to 17, 2015

San Jose, California

cnps.org

Western Section of The Wildlife Society 2015 Annual Meeting

January 26 to 30, 2015

Santa Rosa, California

tws-west.org

150th Annual Convention of the American Sheep Industry

January 28 to 31, 2014

Sparks, Nevada

sheepusa.org

68th Society for Range Management Annual Meeting (Registration is Open!)

January 30 to February 7, 2015

Sacramento, California

rangelands.org/Sacramento2015/index.html

10th Annual California Rangeland Conservation Coalition Summit

February 3, 2015 (concurrent with the SRM Annual Meeting)

Sacramento, California

carangeland.org

California-Pacific Section Society for Range Management Spring Field Tour

April or May, 2015 (to be announced November 2014)

Central Coast, California (exact location to be determined)

casrm.rangelands.org

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California Society for Ecological Restoration Conference

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

Cal-Pac Range Camp

June, 2015 (exact dates to be announced)
Elkus Ranch, Half Moon Bay, California
casrm.rangelands.org

155th California Wool Growers Convention

August, 2015 (exact dates and location to be announced)
woolgrowers.org

California Invasive Plant Council Symposium

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



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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
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Society for Range Management

We're on the web:

<http://casrm.rangelands.org>
