



Needlegrass Notes

Volume 54:2
Fall 2008

Society for Range Management
California-Pacific Section



President's Message



It has been a challenge to get this copy of Needlegrass Notes out to all of you without a newsletter editor, but it is packed with information. I'm going to be very brief in my comments to save space, but I do want to call your attention to several topics you won't want to miss. First, there are registration materials and information on our Fall meeting in San Diego. Edie, Cece and Lance have worked very hard on arrangements, and I think we'll have another excellent meeting and tour. Second, for those of you who missed the spring meeting in Chico, Marc Horney prepared a brief write up with several photos so you'll know what you missed. Third, and perhaps most important, are election materials for president and several Board of Directors. **Remember your vote counts!** Speaking of votes, our own Ken Fulgham is being nominated to run for a SRM Board of Directors position with the parent Society. I think Ken would represent Cal-Pac well in that position so let's do all we can to get him elected.

If you've recently visited our Section's web site you will have noticed a lot of changes. Liz has come up with a more stylish format and is undertaking the humongous task of converting the old pages to the new. Check it out, but be patient as the updates take time. Mike Dolan, has informed us that he is stepping down as membership chair as he will be moving to another state and a new job. Congrats Mike on the promotion and glad to hear you'll be keeping your Cal-Pac membership! Our section runs with volunteers, so please, if interested in filling Mike's duties let me or Rob Pearce know. It's hard to believe that my year as president is nearly over. I'll be turning the gavel over to Rob Pearce in San Diego, so I just want to thank everyone for all their efforts and encouragement. It has been a learning experience. See you in San Diego!

Your 2008 Section Officers & Board

- President:** John Harper
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- President-Elect:** Rob Pearce
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- Past-President:** Royce Larson
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- Secretary:** Sheila Barry
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- Co-Treasurer:** Edie Jacobsen,
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- Newsletter Editor:** TBD
- Historian/Archivist:** John Stechman
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Board of Directors

- 2008:** Dan Macon
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- 2009:** Marc Horney
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- 2009:** Morgan Doran
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- 2010:** Larry Forero
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(530) 224-4900
- 2010:** Stephanie Larson
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Don't miss out on the Fall Meeting!

November 4-6, 2008

San Diego

Registration forms are in this newsletter.

*Your 2008 Committee Chairs
& Members*

Audit:

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relarsen@ucdavis.edu
(805) 434-4106

Awards Co-Chairs:

Holly George
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Theresa Becchetti
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Members: Fred Thomas, Darrel Sweet, Rod Tripp

Information & Education Co-Chairs:

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Liz Kellogg
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(760) 749-2247

Members: Marc Horney, Mel George, Phil Hogan, Nita Vail

Meetings Chair:

David Kelley
dbkelley@jps.net
(530) 756-2173

Members: Edie Jacobsen, Ken Fulgham, Mike Dolan, Bill Frost

Membership Chair:

Mike Dolan
mdolan@ca.blm.gov
(530) 233-4666

Members: Lynn Huntsinger, Bertha Gillam

2008 Cal-Pac Spring Tour

This year's spring meeting, held on March 13th, began at the Agricultural Teaching and Research Center at California State University, Chico where Dr. Cindy Daley demonstrated the facility's irrigated pasture management and integration with their organic dairy. Marc Horney described a technique used for mapping *Arundo donax* distribution and canopy area in Stony Creek. Glenn Nader (UCCE) and Bill Burrows (private rancher and entrepreneur) delivered lively and stimulating commentaries on the use of sheep and goats for fuel break management in the northern Sacramento Valley. The afternoon was spent north of Chico along Highway 99 at the Tuscan Preserve, discussing vernal pool management and monitoring with Dave Kelley and botanist Rod MacDonal. Roughly 40 people attended this year's program, and enjoyed fine spring weather, good food, and excellent conversations.



Society for Range Management - CalPac Section

Fall Meeting 2008

AGENDA

Tuesday, Nov. 4th 2008 – Board Meeting at The San Diego Foundation – Begin 1:00 – 5:00PM

Wednesday, Nov. 5th, 2008 at Mission Trails Regional Park - Begin 9:00 am

- **Moderator, Lance Criley**

Welcome, CalPac Section, John Harper

Welcome, Forest Service

- **Tracey Walker**, Senior Ranger – Mission Trails Regional Park – overview of this large wildland park and the impacts and recovery from the Cedar Fire in 2003 (30min)
- **Dr. Mary Anne Hawke and Dr. Jon Rebman**, San Diego Natural History Museum. - Will discuss the San Diego County Plant Atlas Project and give an introduction to the botanical diversity of the region (45min)

Break 10:30 am (15 min)

- **Dr. Hugh Safford** – US Forest Service Regional Ecologist – Fire frequency and departure from “natural” fire regimes across the state. (60 Min)
- **Dr. Jon Keeley** – USGS Research Scientist (45-60 min) – Increased fire frequency and type conversion of California chaparral and coastal scrub.

Lunch @ 12:30 pm (60 min)

Meeting Resume at 1:30 pm

- 60 minute hike from visitor center to look at fire recovery in Mission Trails Regional Park.
- **Tom Coleman**, Entomologist, US Forest Service – Discussion the Gold Spotted Oak Borer, a new threat to California oaks (30 min).

Break 3:00 pm (15 minutes)

- Additonal Speaker(s) - TBD
- Larry Howery – National SRM (15min) – Update on National SRM issues.

End at 4:30 or 5:00 pm

Banquet 6:30 pm at the Bali Hai

Your 2008 Committee Chairs & Members

Nominations & Elections Chair:

Dennis Dudley

Dennis.dudley@ca.usday.gov

(559) 674-2108 x 109

Members: Mike Stroud, Jack Artz, Neil McDougald

Professional Affairs Chairs:

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Members: Orrin Sage, Dianna Brink, Tom Frolli

Public Affairs Chair:

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Members: Bill Weitkamp, Todd Swickard

Student/Affairs Chair:

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Members: Dave Dubose, Mike Stroud, Theresa Bechhetti, Adriana Sulak

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Larry Ford

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CRM Panel Executive Secretary:

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Society for Range Management – CalPac Section
Fall Meeting 2008
AGENDA, continued from page 2

Thursday, Nov. 6th, 2008

Field Tour – visiting Eastern San Diego County – a diverse and beautiful landscape with unique management challenges. November 6th, 2008.

Depart hotel 8:30 am

9:15 am – **Alpine, CA.** View demonstration project showing 100 foot fuel clearance using native vegetation.

10:00 – 11:30 - Drive east on I-8 with stops to look at areas recovering from various fire return intervals and also to look at areas of Gold Spotted Oak Borer mortality near **Descanso and Pine Valley, CA.**

11:30 am – 12:15 pm – Lunch – Desert View Picnic Ground, Mt. Laguna.

12:15 – 2:15 pm – Hike into Laguna Meadow on the **Cleveland National Forest.** Discuss challenges of managing a rare Southern California montane meadow with grazing, recreation use, and endangered species.

2:15 – 3:00 pm – Drive from Mt. Laguna to **Cuyamaca State Park** which was devastated in the 2003 Cedar Fire. The park contains extensive meadows, chaparral areas, and conifer forests that were all affected by the fire.

3:00 – 4:00 pm – Look at fire recovery at one to places in the state park.

4:00 – 5:00 pm – Travel back to Mission Valley.

Note....

Directions to various venues are available on the
Website (www.casrm.org) or at the Conference Hotel

Pages 5, 6, 7, and 8 can be found in the separate
Registration materials for the Fall Meeting.

☒ Cal-Pac Ballots are Due October 30th!

Candidate for President

Jim Sullins

University of California Cooperative Extension
County Director
Tulare County

Jim joined the staff of the Tulare County Cooperative Extension in 1993 as Director. Previously he was the Area Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor for San Bernardino, Riverside, Los Angeles, and Orange Counties (1983-1993). Jim comes from a ranching background in New Mexico and Colorado. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Range Science at New Mexico State University (1970) and a Master's Degree in Animal Science Colorado State University (1980). He came to the University of California Cooperative Extension from the Meat Animal Research Center, University of Nebraska in 1983. He lives in Visalia with his wife Ann, and they have three daughters, one son and three grandchildren.

He was a member of the New Mexico Section SRM as a student in 1966. He joined the California Section SRM in 1983, served on a national committee developing the SRM resolution on the Endangered Species Act, 1989. He served on the California Section Board of Directors 1990-1992. He organized the Spring meeting in the Mojave Desert in 1991. He has been on the Public Affairs committee since 2004, and is presently chair.

Candidates for Director

Alan Bower

University of California Cooperative Extension
Livestock & Natural Resource Advisor
Humboldt-Del Norte Counties

It is my pleasure to have been requested to run for Board of Directors for the Cal-Pac Section of the Society for Range Management. I feel I will be an asset to the Board of Directors since I have experienced many aspects of agriculture and natural resources. Prior to obtaining my master's degrees, my wife and I managed our own ranch in Placer County, I was self employed as a farrier, and worked for the Sacramento County Agriculture Department. It was while raising sheep and cattle that my interest was sparked to learn more about the ecology and management of rangelands and pastures. My education includes a Bachelor's of Science degree from California State University, Chico (1990) and a Master's of Science from University of Idaho (2001) in rangeland ecology and management.

My professional experience has consisted of working for the Bureau of Land Management and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (from 2001 to May of 2007) as a rangeland management specialist, in Bakersfield and Quincy, CA, respectively. During my time with the federal government, I focused on helping ranchers with performing sound rangeland and pasture management in order to help them be sustainable in their operations, and provided technical information on rangeland planning and conservation practices. Also, while with NRCS, I assisted with creating curriculum and provided training for new NRCS employees regarding rangeland management as it pertained to overall conservation planning. Currently, I am a livestock/natural resources advisor in Humboldt and Del Norte Counties for the University of California Cooperative Extension. I have been in this position since May of 2007, and so far have been performing rangeland and pasture research, provided livestock health and management technical assistance, and sponsored workshops relevant to the needs of the local ranching and natural resource community.

(continued next page)

Candidates for Directors, continued

I have been a member of the Society for Rangeland Management since 1999 and am excited about the prospect of being more involved with the Cal-Pac Section. I feel my background and experience will help me be a valuable board member.

David W. Martin Ph.D.

Watershed Resource Specialist
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

I have been a member of the Society for Range Management since 1998, joining while I was a graduate student in the Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology program at the University of Nevada-Reno. I am a Society for Range Management Certified Professional in Rangeland Management and an Ecological Society of America Certified Senior Ecologist.

Since 1999 I have been employed by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power as a Watershed Resource Specialist. In that capacity I have been working on the development of land management plans for approximately 310,000 acres of rangelands in the eastern Sierra Nevada. A major emphasis of these plans is sustainable agriculture, primarily livestock grazing. My interests are in continuing to examine restoration activities for severely degraded rangelands and in the development of grazing strategies that are compatible with threatened and endangered species conservation.

I consider the opportunity to serve on the Board of Directors for the Cal-Pac Society for Range Management an honor. I look forward to serving the membership of the section by continuing the excellent work begun by my predecessors.

Mark S. Thorne

State Range Extension Specialist
University of Hawaii

Aloha! I am honored to be considered as a candidate for one of the open Board of Director positions. I am currently the State Range Extension Specialist for the University of Hawaii at Manoa; a position that I enjoy tremendously. My family and I came to Hawaii in 2003 from Colorado where I served at the south-east region's Interim Range and Livestock Extension Specialist. My education includes a Bachelor's and a Master's in Rangeland Ecology and Watershed Management from the University of Wyoming and a Ph.D. from Colorado State University in Rangeland Ecophysiology awarded in 2002. I have been an active member of the Society for Range Management since 1995 and affiliated with the California-Pacific section since 2003.

The Hawaii Grazing Lands Conservation Coalition was formed in 2005, and I have represented the Section as a member of the Coalition's Advisory Board since then. I am a strong advocate in Hawaii for the Section's Range Camp and have helped coordinate sponsorships through the Section and the Hawaii Cattlemen's Association. Through these sponsorships we were able to send a student from Hawaii in 2005 and 2006. By sending camp announcements to all the high schools in Hawaii I hope to generate interest in this wonderful opportunity and to continue to be able to send students to the camp in the future. In November of 2004 I had the opportunity to help coordinate the tour events for the Section's fall meeting. That was a great experience and I look forward to many more opportunities to serve the Section as a member of the Board of Directors.



Let your voice be heard! Don't forget to vote.

**California-Pacific Section of the
Society for Range Management**

2008 Fall Ballot

Ballots due to Sheila Barry by October 30th!

Board of Directors (Mark no more than two)

- Alan Bower
- David Martin
- Mark Thorne

President (Mark no more than one)

- Jim Sullins

Place
Stamp
here

Sheila Barry
UCCE Santa Clara County
1553 Berger Drive, Bldg. 1
San Jose, CA 95112

Fold, add stamp, and mail

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This updated and expanded RDM monitoring publication serves as a valuable tool for communicating Residual Dry Matter monitoring concepts in an easy to read format. The format is designed to present concepts and ideas with informative pictures and graphics.

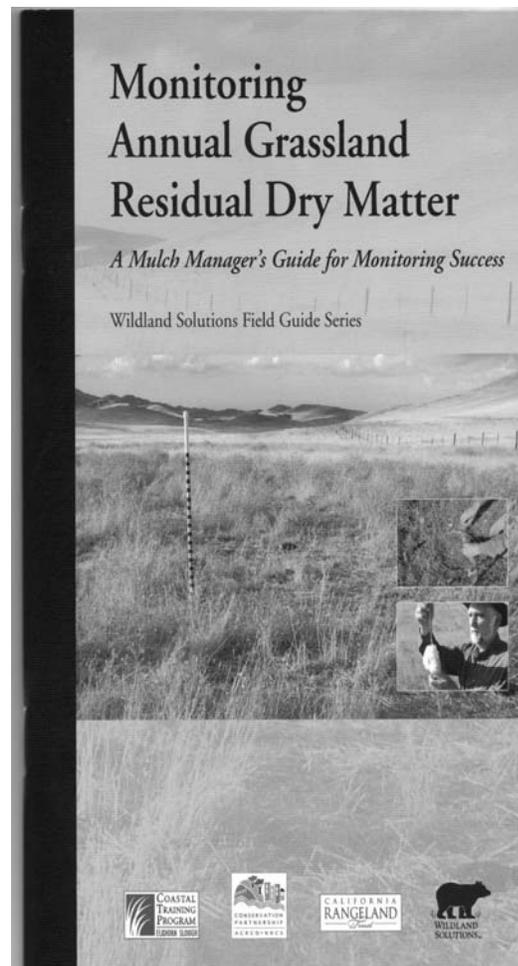
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Newsletter Articles

All contributions to *Needlegrass Notes* are welcome. Please submit your articles to:
flyingmule@wavecable.com.

Keep in Touch

Moved, changed jobs, or have a new Internet Service Provider? Don't forget to update your membership information on the SRM website at <http://www.rangelands.org>. Help us keep you up to date on the latest news and happenings in the chapter.

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

We're on the web:

Society for Range Management



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