

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Now that the Boise meeting is behind us and we are all back in the swing of things, I wanted to send out a message to our members. First, I would like to thank all those who participated in the meeting in Boise. There were many very good symposia, papers and posters. Many of them done by California Section members. The Advisory Council meetings had several important resolutions that were taken forward to the Board of Directors. Those included:

1. New listings under the Threatened and Endangered Species Act
2. USFS Northern Great Plains Plan Management
3. Position Statements on Fire Management
4. Off-road Vehicle Use
5. Wild Horse and Burro Management
6. Use of Introduced Species for Revegetation
- 7.

For more information on the details of any of these, please call me at (530) 257-7271.

The Board of Directors will be looking at issues affecting range in California and possibly bring some resolutions forward at the 2001 meeting.

We had a great 2001 Hawaii booth. All those who took the time to answer questions and give out information for 2001 did a wonderful job. Bill Frost and Mike Conner, Rod Tripp and Steve Bishop, as well as many others are working very diligently to make the 2001 meeting eventful as well as educational.

Leaving Boise made me excited about being involved in a professional organization that gives us the ability to network with so many others that share the same passion for range science. The society has so much to offer. This enthusiasm is one of the reasons we are starting a membership drive. In Boise there were folks involved in range from ranchers to government employees, environmental organizations to academia. Our California Section could use a more diverse group of members. Bringing in more views of rangeland management and science can only strengthen our organization, helping to resolve range conflicts using a scientific, objective approach to sound resource management. Included in the Needlegrass Notes is an article from our Membership Chair, Stephanie Larson. She discusses the membership drive and great awards that will be given to the top recruiters. So, today when you go out to the rangelands that you may work in, think about who might be interested in sharing this great resource with you by joining Society for Range Management, and give them a membership application.

Have a great spring and I look forward to seeing many of you at the Spring Tour in McKinleyville, June 8-10th.

SPRING MEETING

California Section, Society for Range Management - Spring Meeting

The CA Section, SRM Annual Spring Meeting will be held at the McKinleyville Holiday Inn EXPRESS during 8-10 June 2000, with a tour of Ft. Baker Ranch on 10 June. We will be lodging at the Holiday Inn EXPRESS in McKinleyville. I have reserved 10 rooms for Wednesday (7th), 15 rooms for Thursday (8th), and 25 rooms for Friday (9th). The number to call is 707-840-9305 and request SRM SPRING MEETING AND TOUR when making reservations. The rate is \$69.00 per night with 10% bed tax. Included is a Continental Breakfast each day. The facility has a conference meeting room seating 30 and a boardroom seating 10-12. I have arranged for our use of the latter room for the Hawaii 2001 Planning Committee Meeting on Wednesday PM and Thursday AM followed by the Section BOD Meeting on Thursday PM. The conference will be all day Friday and the field tour on Saturday in the Bridgeville area.

Please complete the registration form and return to me, with check payable to CA Section, SRM, at POB 383, Arcata, CA 95518 as soon as. If you want, you can phone register 707-826-4127 or use e-mail at: **fulghamk@humboldt.edu**, paying at the door. I need an accurate headcount for the Friday lunch and the field tour lunch.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Companion

Address _____

City, State, Zip

Registration Fee: \$20.00/person

Friday Section Luncheon: \$10.00/person

Field Tour Luncheon: \$10.00/person

**California Section SRM
Summer Tour
Holiday Inn Express, McKinleyville**

Friday, June 9, 2000

Managing Watersheds for Water Quality

Registration 8:00- 8:30 a.m.

- Rangeland Water Quality--Mel George, Extension Range Specialist
- Sediment Monitoring and Riparian Friendly Grazing--Ken Tate, Extension Watershed Specialist
- Ranch Water Quality Shortcourses--John Harper, Farm Advisor
- Fishery Concerns on Impaired Creeks and Rivers--Terry Roelofs, Fisheries Professor
- Restoring Riparian Areas--Jim Timmons, rancher

Lunch and Business Meeting 12 noon-1:30 p.m.

Developing the Van Duzen/Yager Creek Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)--Chris Heppe, EPA
Rancher Input to the Van Duzen/Yager Creek TMDL--Dina Moore, rancher
Implementation Plans for TMDLs--Dale Evans, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
Surveying Sediment for TMDLs--Danny Hagans, Pacific Watershed Associates
Historical Prospective on Redwood Creek--Steve Horner, Barnum Timber

Saturday, June 10, 2000

Field Tour of the Van Duzen/Yager Creek Watershed
8:00 a.m.-3:00 pm.

BARSTOW MEETING AND TOUR

The Society for Range Management, California Section held its annual fall meeting and tour November 4 - 6, in Barstow, California.

The technical program highlighted the Southern California natural resource issues affecting their rangelands. Tom Gardali of Point Reyes Bird Observatory discussed brown-headed cowbirds, which are a problem as to nest parasitism of migratory songbirds throughout California.

The management of arid lands was discussed, in particular, research at Fort Irwin. New California Section Director Liz Kellogg discussed wind erosion and long-term trend in monitoring. USGS Biologist Hal Avery, University of California, Riverside, of the desert tortoise in relation to cattle grazing made a very informative presentation. It was discussed that grazing can be compatible with tortoise habitat if the grazing is done at a time not to compete with the forage utilized by the tortoise.

Tom Zink of University of San Diego discussed projects that are currently on going at Fort Irwin. The projects included restoration of vegetation has been challenging because of the high population of rabbits. He also discussed issues that would be addressed on the Fort Irwin tour, which was held the following day.

The afternoon session was dedicated to planning the 2001 meeting in Hawaii. Groups met and discussed their respective roles and responsibilities at the meeting. Volunteers are still need to help at the meetings. Interested members should contact the 2001 meeting chairs: Bill Frost and Mike Connor.

Recognizing with pins and certificates two 50-year SRM CALIFORNIA Section members, Walter "Howdy" Howard and Bill Williams highlighted the evening banquet. Dr. Williams was unable to attend but Howard was delighted to be back with the SRM members.

The silent and live auction reunited the team of Ken Fulgham and Don Neal doing the auction and Ken walked away with a lovely pair of earrings. . The auction raised \$720.50 for sponsorship of the HSU Plant ID Team travel to the SRM 2000 Annual Meetings held in Boise, ID.

The next meeting will be in McKinleyville, June 8 - 10, 2000..

The field trip scheduled in conjunction with the SRM annual meeting offered a look at land management initiatives at the Army's National Training Center, Fort Irwin, CA. The National Training Center (NTC) is located within the central Mojave Desert about 30 miles north of Barstow and is the Army's premier training classroom. It encompasses approximately 1000 square miles of predominantly creosote scrub habitat. Elevation range from 1300 to 5300 feet (400m to 1600m) and annual precipitation averages about 4 inches.

The Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM) Program is charged with supporting the sustainability of training lands while maximizing the use of these lands for military activities. Over time, military training impacts reduce vegetative cover and alter soil characteristics resulting in increased water erosion, wind erosion, and dust production. This, in turn, creates hazardous conditions for soldiers, an unrealistic training environment, and potential environmental compliance issues. Since 1996, the ITAM Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance Program has implemented over 35 revegetation and erosion control projects to address specific problem areas. The field tour will entail visits to five of these sites to view erosion control treatments, a seeding area, windbreaks along major vehicle routes, and vegetation re-establishment areas. Discussions at these sites covered a variety of topics including project design considerations, soil characteristics, site preparation, planting/seeding techniques, supplemental watering methods, associated research projects, and long-term survival.

Tour participants received a fabulous look at military impacts on desert rangelands. We drove through lots of sand roads, saw military convoys, and enjoyed our tour leaders and their presentations. The "new" ONE AUM got broken in for 1647 miles.

Stephanie Larson

HAWAII

The Odyssey Continues

Part of the 2001 planning group just completed a successful trip to Kona to make the near-final arrangements for the 2001 SRM meeting. We were able to plan and get agreements for all meeting space, special meal functions, tours (both technical and non-technical), audiovisual equipment, etc. Despite some challenges, the trip ended on a successful note. The stage is now set for a great meeting.

Now is the time to actively solicit volunteers to help on-site. The following is the "job list" as of 2/23/00. If you know of people interested in assisting in Kona, and they know what they'd like to do, please direct them to the appropriate person. A notice will also be appearing in the next newsletter.

ALSO, please let me know (wefrost@ucdavis.edu) if you have already lined up volunteers, who they are, and how many more you'll need in Kona. Hopefully that way we can manage to connect everyone up in some type of disorganized fashion, and avoid contacting people who are already committed. THANKS. Those responsible for various functions are:

Local Arrangements Chair	Ken Fulgham	fulghamk@axe.humboldt.edu
Program Co-Chairs	Rod Tripp	rtripp@ebmud.com
	Steve Bishop	sbishop/r5@fs.fed.us
Financial Officer	Mike Stroud	stroudmc@efds.w.navy.mil
Associate Financial	Eddie Jacobsen	
	jacobsenea@efds.w.navy.mil	
Student Affairs Chair	Mitch Perdue	
	perduema@efds.w.navy.mil	
Publications	Lynn Huntsinger	buckaroo@nature.berkeley.edu
Daily Trail Boss	Stephanie Larson	slarson@ucdavis.edu
Program	Liz Kellogg	liz@tierradata.com
Advertising	Dan Macon	dmacon@pacbell.net
Concurrent Sessions	K.C. Bordwell	kbordwell/r5.modoc@fs.fed.us
Audio-Visual	Karl Striby	kstriby@ca.nrcs.usda.gov
Committee Meetings	Rick Standiford	standifo@nature.berkeley.edu
Plenary Session	Jim Bartolome	jwbart@nature.berkeley.edu
Awards Prg. & Membership Forum	Ceci Dale-Cesmat	
	ceci.dalecesmat@ca.usda.gov	
Poster Session	Wayne Jensen	wjjensen@ucdavis.edu
	John Stechman	jstechma@calpoly.edu
	Bill Weitkamp	bill.weitkamp@gte.net
Commercial Exhibits	Dave Kelley	dbkelley@jps.net
Symposia/Special Sessions	Joe Wagner	jawagner@ca.blm.gov
Operations	Keith Guenther	keith@wildlandsolutions.com
Technical Tour	Neil McDougald	nmcdougald@ucdavis.edu
Companion Activities &	Dottie Stechman	dstechman@ucdavis.edu
Hospitality	Heather Jensen	
	Sally Weitkamp	
Information	Doug McCreary	ddmcreary@ucdavis.edu
Transportation/Shuttle	Dick McCleery	mccleery@cdepot.net
Publicity	Susan Marshall	sem11@axe.humboldt.edu
Professional Womens Lunch	Charlette Sanders	charlette.sanders@ca.usda.gov
Special Group Gatherings	Sheila Barry	sheilabarry@hotmail.com
Registration	Rich Riddle	riddler@pendleton.usmc.mil

Website
Meeting Co-Chairs

John Harper
Bill Frost
Mike Connor

jmharper@ucdavis.edu
wefrost@ucdavis.edu
jmconnor@ucdavis.edu

Volunteer today and avoid the rush!

BEAT THE MASSES

Included in this issue of Needlegrass Notes are room reservation forms for the three contracted hotels. The Hawaii 2001 Planning Committee wanted all CA Section members and members of the annual meeting committee to have first opportunity to reserve rooms before release of the forms to the SRM membership via SRM Denver.

The primary hotel is the Kona Surf Resort with 450 rooms contracted. The second hotel, where many activities will also occur and is the student hotel, is the ASTON Keauhou Beach Resort with 200 rooms contracted (NOTE: The first emailed version of this had the wrong address on it. The form included is corrected). They are two miles apart and a shuttle service will be provided. The third hotel is the Royal Kona Resort with 150 rooms contracted. It is six miles from the other two and there will not be any shuttle service other than the two commercial shuttles that operate along Alii Drive. However, it is within walking distance to downtown Kailua-Kona. Conference room rates are honored three days prior and three days after the conference dates.

Arrangements with the airlines and rental car companies are still pending. The Planning Committee suggests that you consider a "fly-drive" package to have transportation while on the Big Island. There is much to see and do besides that which the Planning Committee has incorporated into the Annual Meeting. We will be having the MEETING OF THE CENTURY and expect all to have a great time.

Also, log onto the CA Section Web site about the meetings at casrm.org and also the web sites for the three hotels.

The Kona Surf Resort has a government rate of \$90.00 for federal and state employees with proof of government employment. They do not want to have this on the reservation form. I was told why and it made little sense to me, but that is how it will be. There is also a clause in the KSR contract that allows rooms at this rate to be only 20% of our peak nights. You will need to request the government rate and provide proof.

I will be sending information to the Denver Office to include in the May or June issues of THE TRAIL BOSS NEWS. The three hotel room reservation forms will also be placed on the CA Section Web page soon. Therefore, to beat the SRM rush on rooms, you will need to complete your room reservation process relatively soon.

If you have questions, please contact me by e-mail or phone call--*Ken Fulgham*

Call for Titles and Abstracts
Annual Meeting, February 17 - 23, 2001
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii

ABSTRACTS AND TITLES DUE JULY 1, 2000

The theme for the 2001 Annual Meeting will be "2001: A Range Odyssey" with scientific and technical programs to enhance our understanding of the history of rangeland ecosystems and contribute to discussions of resource management in the 21st century.

For poster or contributed paper presentations, submit your abstract and associated information in one of the following forms (These are listed in order of preference):

(1) Attach a WordPerfect (.wpd) or MS Word (.doc) file, PC or MAC, to an e-mail message addressed to: skbishop@earthlink.net. Put "SRM ABSTRACT" on the subject line.

(2) Submit abstract as an email message addressed to skbishop@earthlink.net. Put "SRM ABSTRACT" on the subject line. Note: Special symbols, superscripts, and Greek letters will be more likely to come through in Word or Wordperfect files on disk or attached.

(3) Submit a WordPerfect or MS Word file on a 3.5" (IBM) diskette to:

Steve Bishop (SRM Abstract)
119 Cliff Walk Dr.
Vallejo, CA 94591

If there are any problems or questions, or if you do not receive confirmation of your email submission within two weeks, contact Steve at: (707) 562-8689.

IMPORTANT:

Submit the abstract and associated information in the same format as the example provided on the next page of these instructions. Abstracts should be no longer than 250 words. Authors are solely responsible for all editing of abstracts. Authors need to select a Subject Matter Topic Code (Item 2 on Abstract Format) to match their presentation. If in doubt about the appropriate code, select the most appropriate General Topic Code (in bold). If a traditional presentation is to be a preproject proposal, please indicate Code #120 in addition to the Subject Matter Topic Code. Abstracts should include a statement of objectives, a brief description of methods, a concise presentation of the actual results, and a summary statement or conclusions. Abstracts and titles are due July 1, 2000. Authors will be notified of acceptance or rejection by August 31.

Subject Matter Topic Codes:

10Ecology	30Grazing	50Inventory	80Livestock Production
11Autecology	31Animal	51Methods	81Production systems
12Synecology	32Animal Behavior	52Measurements	82Research Techniques
13Competition	33Plant Response	53Remote Sensing	83Supplementation
14Succession	34Animal Response	54Landscape	

15Riparian	35Livestock Nutrition	Ecology	90Rancher's Forum
16Rangeland Reference Areas	36Plant-Animal Interactions		100 Rangeland Pests
17Nutrient Cycling	37Soil Effects		101 Weeds
18Plant-Soil Relations			102 Diseases
20Ecophysiology	40Vegetation Management and	60Wildlife	103 Insects
21Photosynthesis	Ecosystem Restoration	61Habitat Relationship	110 Rangeland Social Science
22Water Relations	41Burning	62Predator-Prey Relations	111 Economics
23Carbohydrates and Nutrients	42Chemical	63 Livestock/Wildlif e Interrelations	112 History
24Rooting Behavior	43Mechanical	64Nutrition	113 Sociology
25Allelopathy	44Biological	65Recreational Leasing	114 Recreation
26Plant Defoliation	45Fertilization		115 Education
27Germination	46Irrigation	70Soils/Hydrology	120 Preproject Proposal
	47Reseeding	71Watersheds	
	48Strategies	72Erosion	

Abstract Format - 2001 SRM Annual Meeting

Kailua-Kona, Hawaii

1. Author(s) (Author's Last Name, First MI; separate multiple authors with a semicolon)
2. Subject Matter Topic Codes: First Choice, Second Choice (separated by comma)
3. Presentation Preference: Poster, Traditional
4. Institution:
5. Address: (separate address elements with commas)
6. Phone Number, Fax Number, E-mail Address: (separate by comma, enter N/A if not available)
7. SRM Membership of Contact Author: Member, Student, Nonmember
8. Who will present the paper? (Presenting author must be a paid registrant at the annual meeting.)
9. Graduate Student Competition Category (Traditional Papers Only): Masters, Ph.D., N/A
10. Title/Author information
11. Abstract
12. Special symbols (see previous instructions)

EXAMPLE ABSTRACT SUBMISSION (Remember to include the numbers):

1. Pfister, James A.
2. 36
3. Traditional
4. USDA-ARS Poisonous Plant Research Lab
5. 1150 E. 1400 N., Logan, UT 84341

6. (435) 752-2941, (435) 752-2943, jpfister@cc.usu.edu

7. Member

8. James A. Pfister

9. N/A

10. CATTLE CONSUMPTION OF PONDEROSA PINE NEEDLES IN THE BLACK HILLS. James A. Pfister, USDA-ARS Poisonous Plant Research Lab, Logan, UT 84341.

11. Consumption of ponderosa pine needles by pregnant cattle often causes abortions, and the Black Hills region has a history of serious abortion problems from pine needles. The objectives of these studies were to (1) determine the amount of pine needles eaten by grazing and pen-fed cattle, and relate consumption to weather variables; (2) determine if pine needle temperature (degrees C) influenced acceptability to penned cows. Trial 1 was conducted from December 1991 to February 1992 about 20 km west of Pringle, South Dakota, using 8 mature pregnant cows. The winter of 1991-1992 was mild, and cattle averaged < 0.5% of their bites as pine needles. Trial 2 was conducted in the same location from January to March 1993. Six pregnant cows were penned individually, and offered 1 kg/day of fresh pine needles. Six open cows grazed a pine tree infested pasture. Normal winter weather prevailed, and grazing cattle consumed 20% of bites as pine needles. Cattle selected primarily green pine needles as consumption increased, particularly from small (< 2m) trees. Pen-fed cows ate 438 g/day of needles, but consumption was not related to weather. No abortions occurred. In 2 pen trials using heated and frozen needles, cattle showed no clear preferences. Weather is a major factor influencing consumption of needles by grazing cattle, but needle temperature alone may not be important.

GENERAL

NEW MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Society for Range Management, California Section

The SRM is holding a membership drive to increase membership in the California Section. By recruiting new members, you could be eligible for the Grand Prize - one case of premium wine from around the state. The Board of Directors, California Section, is donating this wine to provide a fine selection of premium wines from each of their respective areas.

Membership applications can be obtained from the membership chairmen, Stephanie Larson, or they can be found in the December 1999 Trail Boss News and also in the February 2000, Rangelands.

GOOD LUCK. The drive starts today and will end NOV 1, 2000. The winner will be announced at the summer SRM meeting.

Contact Stephanie Larson at: slarson@ucdavis.edu, (707) 565-2621, 2604 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95403.

The SRM Awards Program

by Mike Connor, Chair California Section Awards Committee, with thanks to Historian John Stechman for researching California award winners

The Society for Range Management awards program recognizes members and nonmembers who have contributed significantly to the science and art of range management, either directly or through service to the Society. A structured awards program was begun in 1967, and members of the California Section have garnered a number of important awards over the years. We need to maintain this tradition by timely nomination of worthy colleagues through the SRM Awards Committee.

We all know current members (or nonmembers for the Outstanding Achievement Award) who are deserving of Society awards. Help the California Awards Committee to make sure these people are nominated. Contact me with names of nominees. For those that the Committee agrees to forward to the International Committee, we will help put together the written nomination in the required format. Contact me by email, GOTOBUTTON BM_1_ jmconnor@ucdavis.edu, or at 8279 Scott-Forbes Road, Browns Valley, CA 95918. I need the nominations by March 15, 2000, in order to meet International Society deadlines. A discussion of SRM Awards follows.

The Society's premier means of recognition is the **Frederic G. Renner Award**. Nominees must have demonstrated sustained outstanding accomplishment in, or contributions to, an aspect of range management or science during the past ten years. SRM members working as a close team are eligible. Three members of the Ca Section have received this prestigious award: August L. Hormay, in 1973; Harold Heady, 1980; and Rex C. Cleary, 1996.

The W. R. Chapline Awards are second in stature only to the Renner Award, and, like it, they include monetary honoraria. SRM members, as individuals or in teams, are eligible for these awards. The **Chapline Research Award** recognizes superior personal research in range science and related disciplines. The research should be characterized by originality, focused on complex or elusive problems or applied research involving development of new and important solutions or techniques. The **Chapline Land Stewardship Award** recognizes exceptional accomplishments in the application of science and art of range management on the land. This honor rewards extraordinary managers, administrators and others who either work with rangelands or with those who do. One Californian has received this honor, William Phillips.

The **Outstanding Achievement Award** is presented to members and nonmembers, as teams or individuals, for prominent accomplishments in range management and related disciplines. The award recognizes notable and sustained attainments in research, management, administration, teaching (classroom or outreach), or other facets of range management. Regionally or nationally recognized eminence is required. Californians can be proud of six winners of this award: Harold Heady, Murrel Talbot, Gus Hormay, Charles Polton, and more recently, Jim Clawson in 1993 and Mel George, 1996.

The **Fellow Award** is reserved for those who have been members of SRM for at least ten years and who have provided exceptional service to the Society and its programs over an extended period of time. Twelve members of the California Section have received this honor, the most recent being Ken Fulgham

in 1996. Other active members achieving this status are Mike Stroud and Rex Cleary.

The **Young Range Professional Award** is presented to those who have demonstrated great potential for outstanding achievement or service, but who are not yet established as leaders in the field. Award winners must be less than 35 years of age.

Please help the Awards Committee to achieve recognition for deserving individuals by providing us with nominations.

--Mike Connor