President’s Message

Mitch Perdue

First, a special thank you to Orrin Sage, Royce Larson and Edie Jacobsen for hosting a great meeting at Hearst Castle. Cal-Pac was the first group to hold a meeting at the new conference center.

Last week I had the pleasure of attending the Bay Area Grasslands Management Conference. The conference was hosted by the California Grazing Lands Coalition, California Association of Resource Conservation Districts and the Natural Resources Conservation Service and was attended by producers, landowners, resource agencies, academia, and other interested parties.

Although the conference title was simply Grasslands Management, two exciting observations quickly became evident: the vast number of young professionals and students, and the lively discussion of grazing objectives and operator realities. But, the most exciting revelation was that Cal-Pac members were the one common thread throughout all of the attendees, from organizers to presenters to participants.

This observation caused me to think about a conversation with Bill Frost, Edie Jacobsen and Dawn Lawson some 15 years earlier. At the time the Society seemed to be struggling with an identity crisis. Were we pure academia, an agency extension or a grazing advocacy group? Whichever, none of them seemed very current with the times that were a buzz with multispecies conservation planning and grazing restrictions from threatened and endangered species. About this time Bill, was mumbling something about the “Progressive Wing” of the Society. Although I really don’t know what he meant, I do know that it sounded interesting enough to keep me participating in the Society to this day. During this time we have evolved into a dynamic and diverse Society that has a professional registration for its members, expanded boundaries to include the southern Pacific, we’ve hosted an international meeting in Hawaii, and we actively seek out partnerships with other societies and conservancies.

The recent Grassland Conference was a wonderful reminder of how the vision and hard work of our members over the past years have made Cal-Pac a truly “progressive” society. Our identity of being a leading academic voice with active managers and producers is firmly intact. After considerable effort from the past leadership, the Strategic Plan is in place and ready for implementation. With exciting meetings coming up in Sonoma, Arcata and Catalina Island, we have plenty of incentive for participation. Please carve out some time from your busy schedules to help kickoff the next 15 years of range management in California and next time you see a recent graduate or young professional at a meeting feel free to mumbling something about the “Progressive Wing!”
Congratulations to the new 2006 Officers. Royce Larson (San Luis Obispo, CA) is your new President Elect and Joe May (Kamuela, HI) and Donna Reed (Bishop, CA) are your new Directors. A special thank you to all the candidates this year! We look forward to your continued participation in the Society.

What’s Goin’ On?

Your officers, directors and committee chairs have been hard at work for our membership. Below are some of the activities taking place.

Strategic Plan Implementation - Officers Perdue and Kelley will present new language for the Cal-Pac Section Handbook and Guidelines for Officers and Committees, at the Fall meeting to designate President Elect as Chair of Strategic Plan Implementation Committee. The Board will encourage committee chairs to meet with their committees prior to the fall meeting.

GLCI - President-Elect Dave Kelly is currently acting as Section liaison.

Range Manager of the Year Nominations - Chairwoman Holly George encouraged membership to submit nominations, as soon as possible.

Election for Board Directors and President - Ballots were tabulated and certified and the results announced in the above article. Special thanks were given to those “throwing your hat in the ring!”

Information and Education Co-Chairwoman Sheila Berry presented a proposal to sponsor a symposium at the Society for Conservation Biology Meeting in June, 2006. Stay tuned for more information.
The Cal-Pac Section-SRM Fall Meeting registration is now available. Please complete the Registration Form and send along with your payment as soon as possible. There are limited accommodations. The meeting schedule is presented below.

**November 2 (pm)**
3:00 - 6:00  Board of Director's meeting (Section Committees meet)
6:30 - 7:30  Dinner for entire group
7:30 - 9:30  Board of Directors meeting continued (Committees report)

**November 3 (am)**
7:00  Breakfast

**GENERAL SESSION**
8:00  Opening Remarks & Master of Ceremonies
Jon Gustafson, NRCS, State Rangeland Management Specialist
8:15 - 9:00  History of livestock grazing in Marin County
Dewey Livingston, Marin County Historian
9:00 - 9:30  Livestock Agriculture and its Current Importance in Marin County
Steve Kinsey, 4th District Supervisor
9:30 - 10:00  The Role of MALT in Rangeland Management
Bob Berner, Executive Director
Tony Nelson, Rangeland Steward
10:00 - 10:15  Break
10:15 - 10:45  Point Reyes National Seashore—Balancing (Public vs. Private)
Don Neubacher, Superintendent PRNS
10:45 - 11:15  Point Reyes Seashore Ranchers Association (PRSRA): Working Together
Kevin Lunny, PRSRA Steering Committee
11:00 - 11:45  National Grazing Lands Coalition Update and CRM National Certification Update
Leonard Jolly GLCI
11:45 - 1:00  Lunch & SRM Business Meeting
CALIFORNIA-PACIFIC SECTION, SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT

November 3 (pm)
1:00 – 2:30  Walking Tour
Endemic and Native Plants of West Marin Rangelands
Lisa Bush, Rangeland Consultant
Applied Conservation in the Working Landscape
Marcia Barinaga, Ranch Owner
Jessica Sternfels, Petaluma, NRCS
2:30 – 3:00  Break
3:00 – 3:45  Permit Coordination: Process and Progress
Nancy Scolari, District Manager, Marin County RCD
Permitting through Public Agencies
Leslie Ferguson, Bay Area Reg. Water Qual. Control Board
3:45 – 5:00  Future of Rangelands with Public Agency Constraints
Panel: Charlette Epifanio, NRCS
Sally Gale, Marin RCD
David Lewis, UCCE
Becky Tuden, Regional WQCB
5:30 – 6:30  Networking Social & Silent Auction
6:30 – 9:30  Banquet and Live Auction

November 4
7:00  Breakfast and lodging check-out
TOUR – POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE
9:30  Start at Visitors Center
Charlette & Kristan, Tour Leaders
10:00-11:00  Tule Elk Range Site
11:00-12:00  Dave Evans
12:00-1:00  Lunny Ranch
1:00 – 2:00  Lunch (Visitor Center)
2:00-3:00  Stewarts
3:00  Tour Ends
REGISTRATION FORM

Society for Range Management -- California-Pacific Section Annual Meeting,
Marconi Conference Center, CSPS, Marshall, CA
November 2 – 4, 2005

Name(s): __________________________________________________________________
Affiliation: __________________________________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________________
Phone: _____________________  Email: ______________________________________

Number          Subtotal
_____ Meeting Registration @ $25.00       ________
_____ Late Registration (after Oct. 28th) @ $50.00     ________
_____ Student Registration @ $12.50 (anytime)     ________
_____ MEETING PACKAGE admission, lodging & meals inclusive @ $280.00 ________
_____ DAY #1 (WED) admission and dinner only @ $40.00    ________
_____ DAY #2 (THUR) admission and lunch only @ $30.00    ________
_____ DAY #2 (THUR) admission, lunch & dinner only @ $55.00    ________
_____ DAY #2 (THUR) admission & dinner only (auction) @ $40.00    ________
_____ DAY #3 (FRI) Field Tour only with lunch @ $15.00    ________

Grand Total = ________

Note: No On-line registration available for this meeting. Lodging & meal plan is inclusive.
Make check payable to CALPAC Section SRM and mail with completed registration form to:
K.O. Fulgham, Treasurer
CALPAC Section SRM
P.O. Box 383          DEADLINE IS 5 PM ON OCTOBER 21, 2005!!!!!
Arcata, CA. 95518-0383

MEALS: The Marconi Conference Center, located just out of Marshall, CA is a property of
the CA State Parks System. Their 24-hour “booking clock” starts with Check-In at 3 PM on
the opening day, followed by dinner, lodging, breakfast, and lunch the next day. Then the 24-
hour “booking clock” begins again. Therefore, the MEETING PACKAGE will be a 48-hour
period from 3 PM on Wednesday through the field tour lunch on Friday. Departure on the
Tour at 9:30 AM on Friday will necessitate prior Check-Out from your lodging. Daily
admission will not include any lodging as noted above in the registration form.

LODGING: The Marconi Conference Center offers lodging, meals and meeting facilities as
an inclusive package. It encompasses 62 wooded acres overlooking Tomales Bay. The
CALPAC Section – SRM has pre-purchased lodging and meals for 60 guests for two days and
roommate assignments will be made at the time of registration. Please see the next page
to select your accommodations and name your roommates. Please send the lodging form along
with your registration and check. All reservations and lodging/meal assignments are on a first-
come, first-served basis. Daily admission (no meals) is $12.00. See: http://www.MarconiConference.org

ROOMING SITUATION: The CALPAC Section – SRM has pre-purchased a minimum of 60 person-spots with the following accommodations under the American Plan which includes dinner, bedding, breakfast, and lunch for the MEETING PACKAGE (see above about the “booking clock” for The Marconi Conference Center). The reserved rooming arrangements will allow up to 65 persons if there are enough individuals willing to be 3 to a room in Category #1 below. The absolute maximum person-spots on the American Plan are 81 people.

1. There are 7 rooms with 3 twin beds for either 2 or 3 persons
2. There are 15 rooms with 2 twin beds for only 2 persons
3. There are 6 rooms with 1 queen bed for 2 persons
4. There is 1 room with 1 queen bed & 1 twin bed for 2 or 3 persons
5. There is 1 deluxe room with a queen bed and kitchenette for the President’s Suite and reserved for President Perdue and entourage.

Please indicate below your rooming selection, roommates, and alternative choice. Couples have priority for the queen bed categories (#3 and #4) above.

Alternative lodging is available in Petaluma and there are some nearby B&B accommodations. See the WEB for western Marin County. Remember—the CALPAC Section – SRM has already pre-paid for the minimum of 60 person-spots on the American Plan, so filling those 60 person-spots is necessary for the meeting to not lose money.

Contact Ken by e-mail if you have any questions (fulghamk@humboldt.edu)

PLEASE BRING ANNUAL AUCTION ITEMS!!!!!
MARCONI CONFERENCE CENTER

Marshall, California

Once the site of Guglielmo Marconi’s trans-Pacific wireless station (1913-1920), today’s Marconi Conference Center offers contemporary accommodations, tasty meals and professional meeting facilities in a unique setting. The 62-acre California State Historic Park overlooks Tomales Bay, 48 miles northwest of San Francisco on the spectacular Marin Coast.

The Marconi Conference Center & State Historic Park has a rich human history that dates back thousands of years. From the pre-historic villages of the Coastal Miwok to the farming communities of today, the Tomales Bay ecosystem has supported the livelihoods of thousands of people. However, Tomales Bay has maintained its pristine waters and rural charms. A complete Marconi History can be found at http://www.marconiconference.org/history.htm.

The 2005 Fall Meeting of the Cal-Pac Section - Society of Range Management will take the history of Tomales Bay and move it forward, exploring the management opportunities and constraints in these working landscapes. This will be an excellent opportunity for professional rangeland managers to share experiences on managing private and public lands in ever changing environments.

The Cal-Pac Section-SRM has pre-purchased 60 person-spots at the Marconi Conference Center as explained on the Registration Form. The room situation at the Marconi Conference Center will be based on shared opportunities. There are double and triple guest rooms available. If you have certain individuals that you wish to room with, please indicate it on the reservation form. If no specific requests are made, you will be assigned to a room with others. If you have questions, contact Ken Fulgham (fulghamk@humboldt.edu)

DIRECTIONS: The Marconi Conference Center is located just south of Marshall, CA which is located on Highway 1 between Point Reyes Station and Tomales. You will turn towards the east from Highway 1 at the sign. Directions are at http://www.MarconiConference.org or by other Internet sources on travel directions.
Sponsor Needlegrass Notes

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E-mail cindy_gcrcd@sbcglobal.net for more information.

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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.

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Society for Range Management

Cal-Pac Society for Range Management

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We’re on the web:

http://www.casrm.org/