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The 2016 Range and Natural Resources Camp, sponsored by the California-Pacific Section of the Society for Range Management (SRM) and the University of California Cooperative Extension, will be held at the Elkus Youth Ranch near Half Moon Bay, California. The camp will begin with registration on Sunday, June 19th at 1 pm and end on Friday, June 24th by 11 am.

PURPOSE

Range Camp is designed to offer an appreciation of the extent, importance and value of California’s rangelands and natural resources. Range Camp fosters an appreciation for several fields of applied science and management through interaction with university faculty and experienced professionals in classroom and field activities.

PROGRAM

Topics and sessions include plant identification, livestock production, wild-life management, forestry, fire ecology, geology, soils, water resources, rangeland ecosystems, and technologies used in natural resource science and management. Sessions by specialists are given every morning and afternoon, and include both indoor lectures and outdoor activities. Students are tested at the end of the week on their understanding of the materials presented. The top two campers will be awarded an all-expense-paid trip to represent California and the Pacific Islands at SRM’s High School Youth Forum (HSYF) held in conjunction with its national science meeting in St. George, UT Jan 29 - Feb 2, 2017. The 3rd highest camper will be invited to attend as well, but will need to find other means of paying for the trip. (Delegates must still be in high school through Feb 2017.)

ELIGIBILITY

Young men and women, ages 15-18 by June 19, 2016, interested in natural resources management and science are eligible. Selection is made without regard to race, creed, origin, or gender.

CAMP LOCATION / FACILITIES

Elkus Youth Ranch is operated by the University of California Cooperative Extension (http://ucanr.edu/sites/elkus_ranch/)

COST

The camp fee is \$450.00. This includes meals, lodging, recreation, and transportation costs while at camp. Transportation to camp from the camper’s home on Sunday and returning from camp on Friday is not included in the camp fee. Arrangements can be made with the camp staff to shuttle campers between the camp and the San Francisco Airport or the Emeryville Train Station. Emergency medical insurance is provided through event membership in 4-H.

Many students attending camp do so with the sponsorship of a local conservation organization or other group which underwrites all or part of the camp fee. Past sponsors have included Resource Conservation Districts, livestock and farm producer organizations, banks, chambers of commerce, agribusinesses, service clubs, and others having funds for educational purposes. There are no restrictions on the number of applicants that may be supported by a sponsor. Students who would like help finding sponsors should contact:

Marc Horney, Range Camp Director **(805) 756-7543**

mhorney@calpoly.edu

Cece Dahlstrom, Range Camp Assistant Director **(619) 532-2269**

carol.dahlstrom@navy.mil

Julie Finzel, Range Camp Assistant Director **(661) 868-6219**

julie@range-ecology.com

SELECTION

Farm advisors, 4-H staff and leaders, Resource Conservation District boards and vocational agricultural instructors are asked to take the initiative in selecting delegates to send to camp. Sponsoring organizations and individuals are encouraged to develop their own method of selection. The following criteria may be helpful:

1. Demonstration of leadership ability and good citizenship.
2. Willingness to participate and learn while at camp.
3. Commitment to report on their camp experience upon returning home.
4. Achievements in activities related to rangeland / natural resource management and/or environmental science.
5. Involvement in 4-H clubs, FFA chapters, demonstrated interest in natural resource-related disciplines.
6. Academic proficiency in agriculture, environmental science and/or biology.

CAMP DATES

June 19-24, 2016

APPLICATION DEADLINE April 29, 2016

Applications accepted until camp reaches registration capacity

APPLICATION SELECTION

Space is limited to 25-30 students each year.

Applicants are selected based upon the following criteria:

- 1) Carried over from previous year’s waiting list
- 2) Senior students given priority (last year of eligibility)
- 3) Regional representativeness (including HI students)
- 4) Preference given to those who have not attended previously
- 5) Gender equity

DAILY ACTIVITIES

Example below is from previous years. Current year’s schedule may differ.

Sunday	Arrival and Registration GPS and Orientation
Monday	Introduction to Rangelands Tour of Elkus Youth Ranch & Plant Collection
Tuesday	Products and Uses of Rangelands: Livestock, Wildlife, Recreation, Soils, Water, Fisheries Forestry And Vegetation
Wednesday	Management and Improvement Techniques: Water, Fencing, Seeding and Fertilization, and Grazing Management Systems Ranch Tour and Beach Barbeque
Thursday	Public and Private Land Management Comprehensive & Plant Identification Field Projects: Range Production and Improvement, Erosion Control, Wildlife and Riparian Management “Town Hall” Meeting—group presentations
Friday	Graduation, Evaluation & Awards Camp Clean-up

APPLICATIONS

The camp is limited to 30 campers. Applicants will be notified of their selection by May 25th. Those students not selected for this year’s camp are encouraged to apply for future camps.

Applications for the Range and Natural Resources Camp should be available through your local Cooperative Extension Office, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 4-H or FFA club or Resource Conservation District (RCD). If not, applications can be downloaded from <http://casrm.rangelands.org/HTML/rangecamps.html>.

Have more questions about camp? Contact::
Marc Horney, Ph.D. **Email:** mhorney@calpoly.edu
Range Camp Director **Phone:** (805) 756-7543
Cal Poly State Univ. **Fax:** (805) 756-5069
Animal Science Dept.
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407-0255

AWARDS

First Place
*Expenses for trip to International Society for Range Management Meeting paid, to participate in High School Youth Forum (HSYF):
St. George, UT – Jan 29-Feb 2, 2017

Second Place
*Expenses for trip to International Society for Range Management Meeting paid, to participate in High School Youth Forum (HSYF):
St. George, UT – Jan 29-Feb 2, 2017

Third Place
*Invitation to International Society for Range Management Meeting, to participate in High School Youth Forum (HSYF):
St. George, UT – Jan 29-Feb 2, 2017

(Third place delegate must cover own travel and registration expenses; often this can be done with sponsorship and support from local agriculture and conservation organizations)

All Campers Receive:

- Certificate of Completion
- T-Shirt
- Water bottle

***Please note, must be a high school student for the school year 2016-2017 to be eligible to attend the HSYF.**

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

Resource Conservation Districts:

Alameda	Sacramento
Antelope	Solano
Butte Valley/Lava Beds	San Joaquin
Cachuma	San Mateo (Host RCD)
Coarsegold	Shasta Valley
Coastal San Luis	Sierra
Colusa County	Siskiyou
Contra Costa	Sloughhouse
Fall River	Southern Sonoma
Florin	Stanislaus
Glenn	Sutter
Inland Empire West	Tehama
Inyo-Mono	Tulare
Kern Valley	Trinity West
Mission	Upper Salinas/Las Tablas
Napa County	Westside
Nevada	Yolo
Placer	Yuba

Additional Supporting Organizations:

Center for Land-Based Learning	Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District
East Bay Parks	University of California Cooperative Extension Service
Driscoll Ranches	California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
Mindego Ranch	

32nd ANNUAL

RANGE AND NATURAL RESOURCES CAMP



June 19-24, 2016

Elkus Youth Ranch

Half Moon Bay, California

Photos, Brochures and Applications are available

<http://www.rangelands.org/casrm/HTML/rangecamps.html>

Sponsored by:

- California-Pacific Section of the Society for Range Management
- University of California Cooperative Extension
- California Association of Resource Conservation Districts
- U.S. Navy – Natural Resources Program
- U.S. Department of Agriculture,
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- East Bay Municipal Utility District

Hosting Resource Conservation District: San Mateo County RCD

