35th Annual
Range and Natural
Resources Camp

Camp Dates: June 16-21, 2019 Applications Due: April 26, 2019

Calling All Campers!!
Applications will be available February 2019

Thank you for your interest in the California Range and Natural Resources Camp (Range Camp).

This program is organized by members of the California-Pacific chapter of the Society for Range Management ("CalPac SRM") for 33 years now. Our goal has been to introduce students to the professional world of plant, animal, and landscape management. To do this we invite experts in scientific disciplines related to wildlife, forestry, rangeland, and plants, as well as experienced professionals who are involved in managing resources of these kinds on a daily basis. We aim to make the camp a fun experience for the campers, and interesting as well. One of our goals is to send you home with a useful understanding of the great diversity of career opportunities that are available, and the different paths through colleges and universities that can take you there.

The camp is run by a group of volunteers who take our personal time to organize each year’s event and serve as primary staff for all or parts of the camp week. We do our best to limit costs to the greatest extent we can without undermining the educational and social experience of the program.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact the Range Camp staff at range.camp@gmail.com.

What is Range Camp?

Range Camp is a week long program that consists of lectures, hands on activities, a ranch tour, BBQ at the beach, group projects, a plant identification test, and a final exam. At the end of camp the three Top Campers are invited to represent CalPac SRM at the annual Society for Range Management’s High School Youth Forum.

During camp campers should expect to do hands on projects each day associated with lectures that often includes digging a soils pit to examine and compare soils, hiking local trails to learn plant families and names, completing an inventory of a local stream to determine creek health, learning wildlife survey techniques, etc.
Where is Range Camp Held?

Range Camp is held in Half Moon Bay, California on the University of California Cooperative Extension’s Elkus Ranch Environmental Education Center. Please note that applications should NOT be submitted directly to Elkus Ranch. For additional information regarding Elkus Ranch please visit [http://ucanr.edu/sites/elkus_ranch/](http://ucanr.edu/sites/elkus_ranch/).

Eligibility

Age requirement: In order to be considered for Range Camp the applicant must still be in high school, but have completed the 9th grade by the start of camp. Students who will have graduated high school before Jan 2018 will not be eligible to attend the High School Youth Forum, in the event they win the Top Camper contest.

Camp 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 UCANR.

Sponsorship

Majority of camper receive sponsorship from local organizations, such as Resource Conservation Districts (RCD) to cover the camp fee. We encourage all campers being sponsored to give a presentation to the board of the sponsoring organization after camp is over. This helps the board members understand what Range Camp is and can help interested participants in the future get sponsorship.

Range Camp will help facilitate coordination with local organizations but it is up to the applicant to develop and secure those relationships.

Students who would like help finding sponsors should contact range.camp@gmail.com.

Applications

On average, about 25 campers from across California and Hawaii attend camp each year. Those students not selected for this year’s camp are encouraged to apply for future camps.

Applications for the 2019 Range Camp are available on the California-Pacific Section’s Website: [http://casm.rangelands.org/HTML/rangecamps.html](http://casm.rangelands.org/HTML/rangecamps.html). Please mail applications the following address:

Range Camp
Attn: Cece Dahlstrom
4586 Utah Street
San Diego, CA 92116

Applications can be emailed to range.camp@gmail.com.

But please remember to submit your Liability and Medical Release Forms.
Applicant 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

Camp Daily Life

Range camp involves lectures and activities, including a group project and presentation at the end of camp. Example below is from previous years. Current year’s schedule may differ.

Sunday
Arrival and Registration
GPS and Orienteering

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

Awards: Top Campers

All Campers Receive:
Certificate of Completion
T-Shirt
Water bottle

TOP CAMPER

First & Second Place
All expense paid invitation to be one of CalPac Section’s delegates at the Society for Range Management’s Annual High School Youth Forum.

Third Place
Invitation to be one of CalPac Section’s delegates at the HSYF.

Awards

(Third place delegate must cover their own travel and registration expenses but Range Camp can help find sponsorship opportunities if needed)

2020 High School Youth Forum
Denver CO
Feb 16-20, 2020
Delegates must be a high school student for the school year 2019-2020 to be eligible to attend the HSYF.

http://rangelands.org/students/high-school-youth-forum-papers/
Camper Sponsorships in 2017 and 2018 Provided by:

Resource Conservation Districts:
- Antelope Valley
- East Stanislaus
- Glenn
- Greater San Diego
- Inland Empire
- Mojave Desert
- Monterey
- Nevada County
- NW Kern
- Tehachapi
- Upper Salinas-Las Tablas
- Ventura
- West Stanislaus
- Yolo

Other Sponsoring Organizations:
- Center for Land-Based Learning (CLBL)
- Mojave Environmental Education Consortium (MEEC)
- Various CA Cattlemen’s Associations
- Yolo County Office of Education

Supporting Organizations
- California-Pacific Section of the Society for Range Management
- University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources
- University of California Cooperative Extension
- California Association of Resource Conservation Districts
- California Native Grassland Association
- U.S. Department of Agriculture,
  East Bay Regional Park District
- Natural Resources Conservation Service

Mailing Address:
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4586 Utah Street
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Julie Finzel
(661) 868-6219
julie@range-ecology.com

“I enjoyed bonding and meeting great new people.”
-Camper

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