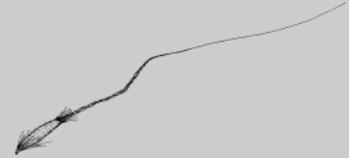


Needlegrass Notes

Volume 56:2
Summer 2010

Society for Range Management
California-Pacific Section



President's Message

Jim Sullins

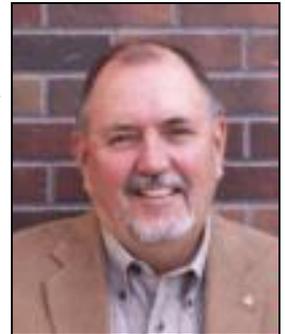
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Time has flown by and as your Section President this year, I have had several rewarding opportunities, and I thank you for those opportunities to be of service to the Section and to grow personally and professionally. As one of the older folks now, it seems ironic to talk about growing (besides adding pounds), but that is what being involved in the society does for us professionally and personally, it promotes our continuing growth no matter how long you have been at it.



The May 4, 2010 Spring meeting at Deep Springs was great, Rob and his crew did an excellent job, and the food was great, the technical session was very well done and the food was great, and the tour was very informative and the food was great, it was fun camping out and getting to know some of the new members and did I mention **the food was great?** Deep Springs College must be a one of a kind based on location, curriculum, students, and staff leadership. Built on the three principles of Labor, Education and Self-Governance, it was hard to miss that it is a special place, and I want to thank Rob for making the arrangements and all that participated in making the meeting a success. We probably had the latest board meeting on record, thanks to two bad tires that I had to get replaced in Ridgecrest as part of their "Stimulus Recovery Plan". Thank you to the board for hanging in there, and we got our business done.

Of particular interest on Tuesday night was the setting up of tents. One in particular was interesting as the UC Berkeley van pulled in with the contingent of graduate students and fearless leaders. One could not but help wonder exactly how many PhDs it took to set up one tent in the dark? Then to wake up Thursday morning after a big blow, to not only see their tent still up, but to see ice from the sprinklers in the alfalfa! Yes it was cold, considering it was still 90 degrees in the Valley, but ice, we discussed the physics of that one.



How many PhDs to set up a tent?



Ice on the alfalfa and it was still 40 degrees.

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& Members**

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Gillam

In June I attended the SRM Summer Board meeting in Denver. If you have never seen our headquarters building, you should stop by sometime, I was quite surprised as we pulled into the parking lot. The folks there, making the society go day to day are great and very dedicated, however you will quickly realize that there has been no money wasted on the building. It is functional, at least for now. The board covered a big agenda in the two day meeting, passing a balanced budget and setting several new priorities for the future. The board is clearly dedicated to the best interest and long term sustainability of the society. There is still much interest in having an annual meeting in California, with 2015 as the requested date. Some have indicated that they would be interested in helping either in Reno (maybe with Nevada help) or in Sacramento. I would certainly like to know your thoughts and preference on this opportunity to support SRM and build the treasury for Cal-Pac Section.

As far as personal growth, a highlight of my tenure would be my opportunity to be part of Range Camp. Mark Horney, Cece and their crew are to be highly commended on the excellent program that they put together for the youth at Elkus Ranch. Sure it drove home that times are a'changing, yet the young folks attending had great minds and they were absorbing more than even they knew. It was easy to see that the camp was both a challenge and lots of fun for youth and staff alike. I got to sit in on the so called "City Council" while the youth teams made some of the most creative presentations on Land Use I have ever seen, on any land use committee or planning council. And best of all, the top two youth, who will be going to the SRM meeting in Billings next February, are from Tulare County! Mike Stroud was in good form, playing his part and counseling the youth on their futures. His legacy is in good hands and I know he feels good about it continuing. And by the way they all thought the **Food was Great**, and it was, and the chef was a real expert; this seems to be a recurring theme.

I am looking forward to the joint Fall Meeting with the Pacific North West Section at the Lava Beds National Monument; I hope you will make a point of joining us. It looks to be a good meeting.

Regards,
Jim Sullins



Deep Springs student and manager discuss solar and hydro plant.



The Cal-Pac group ready for the Deep Springs tour. Can you tell that it was chilly.

Range Camp 2010

By Marc Horney, Range Camp Director

The 26th Range Camp was a terrific experience for students and staff. Twelve of California's counties were represented out of a total of 22 students. These included: Alameda (1), Contra Costa (2), Fresno (1), Glenn (2), Kern (2), Sacramento (3), San Diego (4), San Joaquin (1), Santa Clara (1), Stanislaus (1), Tulare (2), and Yolo (2). The central valley region dominated the top camper competition.

This year's top campers were:
David Jacobs, Tulare County
Awais Khalid, Tulare County
Jena Demaree, Fresno County

These students will represent Cal-Pac as delegates at the 2011 High School Youth Forum at the upcoming SRM meeting in Billings, MT. Range Camp has been attracting some really stand-out students, and this year's group was no exception to that. Something that the camp staff especially appreciated about them was how well they all worked together. That made camp smooth and fun for all of us. Those of you in the central valley, if you would like to make yourself available to assist these delegates with research and preparation for their HSYF presentations, please let me know.



2010 Top Campers. David (left), Awais, Jena (right).

Other changes this year included Larry Ford's joining the camp presenters with a new field activity on rangeland monitoring, and a new camp chef, Marty Deardorf, who runs Aurora Catering in the Bay Area. During my time on staff, we've always had terrific chefs, but Marty took camp cuisine in some new directions – like fresh grilled salmon after volleyball at Pomponio State Beach. Wow!

If your county didn't send a student this year, call or e-mail me and let's talk about what we can do next year to improve Range Camp promotion in your area. Please watch <http://www.rangelands.org/casrm/HTML/rangecamps.html> for more details.

My big thanks to Cece Dahlstrom and Julie Finzel who have continued to keep this train on the rails despite my efforts to play engineer, and also to those members and volunteers on the Range Camp steering committee. Would you like to get involved? Let us know!



Larry Ford and crew after the rangeland monitoring exercise.

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Kent Reeves warming up prior to his wildlife walk and talk (and cowboy poetry).

The Story of Our California State Grass

By John Stechman, Section Historian

Email: Tue, Aug 24, 2004; From David Amme [CNGA]; To: James Bartolome, John Stechman, Ken Fulgham [SRM].
Subject: **EXCITING NEWS**

“Purple needlegrass (*Nassella pulchra*) is the official State Grass of California. CNGA was notified this morning that SB 1226 was signed by Governor Swartzenegger Monday, August 23. Senator Machado’s office issued press releases to both TV and print media. CNGA sent email announcements to 34 television stations covering the 11 major markets in California.”

A History of Selection and Legislation

The history of selection of a California state grass can be traced in our Section newsletters and minutes to 1972 when Gene Conrad proposed that the Section adopt a “State Grass”. Bill Brooks suggested wild oats, Bob Turner, California oatgrass. John Stechman stated that we need to set out objectives and set criteria for selecting a state grass, then get legislative support. Later that year, Conrad, Chair of the Distinguished and Unique Range Plants Committee, announced the selection of *Danthonia californica*, with *Stipa pulchra* as a backup species. In 1974, D.W. Cooper, Chair of the Aims and Policy Committee, recommended that, “a State Grass be ‘pushed through’ the State Government”. Later in 1974, Dr. Conrad conducted a Section vote for either California oatgrass or California (purple) needlegrass, listing on the ballot five justifications for each (Newsletter, V.21:3).

In the Spring issue of the Section newsletter, 1978, Past President Ted Adams reported that the Section in 1974 passed a resolution recommending the adoption of purple needlegrass as the State Grass, but that no one had been able to “find an interested legislator who will introduce the resolution in either the Senate or Assembly”. The project was abandoned until 1984 when Jim Clawson of our Section renewed efforts through Assemblyman Waters and the California Native Plant Society. In October of 1988, under Section President Clawson and Editor Jeff White, our newsletter first appeared as “Needlegrass Notes”.

Finally, in 2003, through the efforts of the Cal-Pac Section of SRM, California Native Grass Association (CNGA), and California Native Plant Society (CNPS), spear-headed by Frank Maurer, Director of the Quail Ridge Wilderness Conservancy (Napa County Reserve, HDQ in Davis), support for legislation was amassed. Our Section of SRM was represented by Edie Jacobsen who, by Board resolution (10/03), corresponded with Mr. Maurer who had procured State Senator Mike Machado to introduce SB 1226 in February, 2004. (More details are given at www.netstate.com). Nineteen organizations registered support which resulted in unanimous passage of purple needlegrass as our State Grass, reported as such in California Government Code Title 1, Div. 2, Chap. 2, Sec. 420-429.8.

Purple Needlegrass – Taxonomy and Ecology

Although the genus *Stipa*, with mention of five species (as well as a close relative, *Oryzopsis* genus), is included in G. Vasey’s 1889 classic, “The Agricultural Grasses and Forages Plant of the United States”, *Stipa pulchra* is not. However, *S. pulchra* must have been described in A.S. Hitchcock’s 1935 classic, “Manual of Grasses of the United States”, and aptly occurs in his 1950 edition revised by A. Chase in 1951. This native, perennial bunchgrass was first described in 1915 by Hitchcock in the American Journal of Botany 2:301, as collected in the Healdsburg, Sonoma County, California area (according to Heller, No. 5232). Named “purple needlegrass”, it has an open, drooping panicle inflorescence of numerous spikelets, each of the purplish glumes surrounding one fertile floret (seed) having a prominent, long (2”-3”) twice-bent awn twisted below. The floret disarticulates above the glumes and has a bearded, sharp-pointed callus tip (the “needle”). Its botanical name was based upon Latin, stipes, or stalk, and pulchra, or beautiful.

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Fig. 79. Purple needlegrass (*Stipa pulchra*).

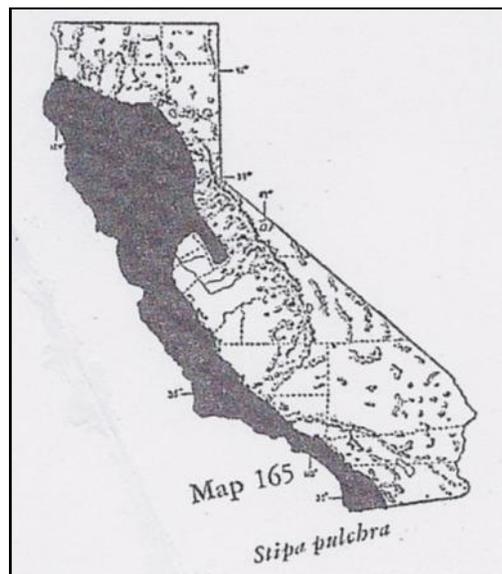
Stipa as a genus was classified by Hitchcock and by Chase in the *Agrostideae* tribe, members characterized simply as “spikelets 1-flowered, usually perfect, in open, contracted, or spikelike panicles...”. (The genus *Nassella* was incidentally described only by one introduced species, *N. chilensis*, following *Oryzopsis* spp.) *Nassella pulchra* was apparently segregated from the *Stipa* genus (and thus created) by M. Barkworth in 1990, and set as a botanical name in 1993 by “The Jepson Manual – Higher Plants of California”, along with four other very similar *Stipa* spp. (e.g. *S. cernua*). Most other *Stipas* are now (therein) represented as the taxon *Achnatherum* spp., the genus for “Needlegrass”. The fracture and abrogation of grass tribes initiated abstrusity among California teachers and practitioners of agrostology and rangeland management.

Stipa pulchra was described by B. Crampton in 1974 as “one of the major species of the California grassland”, although in 1948, J. Bentley and M. Talbot had estimated that the perennial grasses as a group occupy “probably less than five percent of the herbaceous cover” over most of California’s Annual-Type grassland ranges. Numerous authorities cite purple needlegrass as a principal component of the original “pristine” grasslands of California which, by most accounts, was a bunchgrass prairie of from 20 to 30 million acres. Historians A. Beetle in 1947, and L. Burcham in 1957, reported that pristine co-dominants of Central Valley prairie and Coastal valleys were purple needlegrass, nodding needlegrass (*S. cernua*), blue wildrye (*Elymus glaucus*), beardless wildrye (*E. triticoides*), pine bluegrass (*Poa scabrella*), California canarygrass (*Phalaris californica*), Junegrass (*Koeleria cristata*), California oatgrass (*Danthonia californica*), and California melic (*Melica imperfecta*).

Purple needlegrass, (Illustration, A. Sampson, A. Chase and D. Hedrick. California Grasslands and Range Forage Grasses, 1951) is widely

adapted in the State (Illustration, A. Beetle, Distribution of the Native Grasses of California, 1947). A. Sampson and A. Chase reported in 1927 that it occurs most abundantly in the Coast Range on warm slopes, open, well-drained flats and sparsely wooded foothills and valleys to 5,500 feet elevation. A large amount of basal foliage is produced which is palatable to all classes of livestock in the late winter and spring. Purple needlegrass begins growth with favorable temperatures and first rains in the Fall and matures in the Spring, entering warm season dormancy (aestivation). It is a prolific producer of viable seed. “Even on grazed lands”, wrote Sampson and Chase, “it propagates readily”, invading and stabilizing disturbed soils.

It appears evident that in the absence of persistent cultivation and heavy grazing, purple needlegrass will maintain its position within a grassland community. As stated in the 2004 Enactment of our State Grass, Section 1.(h), “...it is important to recognize *Nassella pulchra* as a symbol of the heritage, splendor, and natural diversity found in the early days of California”.



What Are The Important Differences Between California's CRM Program and The International SRM's CPRM and CRMC Programs?

By Larry Ford, Chair, Certification Panel

CALIFORNIA CERTIFICATION/LICENSE—Certified Rangeland Manager (CRM)

The Certified Rangeland Manager (CRM) program in California is designed to provide evidence of professional competency, to protect the public interest, and to ensure proper management of California's rangeland resources.

The CRM license is required by law and public resources code for professional range management activities on non-federal, state and private "forested landscapes" in California, unless the work is performed personally by the owner of the land. A "forested landscape" is defined as "tree dominated landscapes and their associated vegetation types on which are growing a significant stand of tree species or which are naturally capable of growing a significant stand of native trees in perpetuity." Such a definition doesn't explain what constitutes a "landscape," and seems to exclude some types of non-forested rangelands. Nevertheless, the CRM license is clearly required for work on hardwood rangelands, while not necessarily for work on permanently treeless shrublands or grasslands that are separated from any "forested" landscapes. Furthermore, in the conduct of rangeland management on affected rangelands or resources, a CRM must be directly in charge of the professional work, and all professional products must be prepared by that CRM or by others under his or her supervision. Only a licensed individual may use the title of "Certified Rangeland Manager". These legal requirements were clarified in a recent analysis by the state Attorney General's office.

The California-Pacific Section of the Society for Range Management (CalPac) is authorized by the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection and by statute to administer the CRM Program. CalPac's Certification Panel certifies applicants based on their educational and experience qualifications, including experience with California rangelands, and passing of the CRM examination, which is developed and graded by the Panel. The examination focuses on principles and skills as applied to California rangeland types. The Panel recommends the certified individuals to the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, which then may license the CRM after successfully passing the exam. CRMs are strongly encouraged to maintain their proficiency through continuing education, but there is no formal requirement to do so. As of June 2010, there are 78 valid CRMs licensed to practice in California. There have been 92 CRMs licensed since the beginning of the program in 1994, but 14 have withdrawn, not renewed, or otherwise relinquished their licenses.

For additional information about the CRM program, including application forms and instructions, go to <http://www.rangelands.org/casrm/HTML/certified.html>.

SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATIONS

The Society for Range Management (SRM) certifies individual professionals as a Certified Professional in Rangeland Management and/or a Certified Range Management Consultant as a means of improving the standards of professional expertise used to plan and implement management of public and private rangelands broadly around the U.S and the world. These programs are voluntary, and not legally mandated by the state under a government agency as is the California CRM Program. Individuals may use the certifications by SRM as credentials to demonstrate their expertise for consulting or employment.

Certified Professional in Rangeland Management (CPRM)

The SRM Procedures for Certification as a Professional Rangeland Manager states the CPRM designation signifies the individual has met the basic qualifications to do professional work in this field, has pledged to follow the SRM Code of Ethics, maintains proficiency through a specified level of continuing education, and has not been found to engage in unprofessional conduct. Granting of the CPRM status by SRM is based on the applicant's educational and professional experience qualifications and passing of the CPRM exam, or by other means specified in the Procedures for Certification. As of August 2010, there were 390 active CPRMs in good standing (pers. comm, Vicky Trujillo, SRM).

For additional information about the CPRM program, including application form and procedure description, go to http://www.rangelands.org/cprm_public/.

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Certified Range Management Consultant (CRMC)

The SRM Procedures for Certification of Range Management Consultants states the CRMC designation signifies the practitioner is adequately trained and ethical in the science of range management, practices a standard of consultation that is in the best interests of the public and our environment, and serves as an independent, paid consultant or with a private or nonprofit contractor. The CRMC's area of specialization is, within the broad definition of range management, that of "grazing and its impact on plants and soils." The intent of this focus is to avoid certifying ecologists, botanists, agronomists, reclamation experts, land administrators, land appraisers, and individuals with other specialties closely allied to range management. Like the CPRM, the CRMC addresses rangeland management broadly around the U.S and the world. The program is voluntary, and not legally mandated as is the California CRM Program. Granting of the CRMC status by SRM is based on the applicant's prior certification as a CPRM, a combination of formal education and length and diversity of professional experience qualifications, and record of publications and consulting reports that demonstrate writing ability. CRMCs are listed in a registry of consultants maintained by the SRM for consultation by the public. As of August 2010, there are approximately 35-50 valid CRMCs (pers. comm, Vicky Trujillo, SRM).

This program is undergoing some changes. For additional information about the CRMC program, including application form and procedure description, go to http://www.rangelands.org/education_cert_professionals.shtml.

SUMMARY

Question	CRM	CPRM	CRMC
Which entity administers the program?	CalPac-SRM, Certification Panel & California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, Foresters Licensing Office	Society for Range Management, CPRM Committee	Society for Range Management, CRMC Committee
What's required to be certified?	Education, experience, references, exam, adherence to SRM Code of Ethics, fees (continuing education encouraged)	Education, experience, exam, references, adherence to SRM Code of Ethics, continuing education (recorded by SRM), fees	Education, experience, references, writing skills, adherence to SRM Code of Ethics, working as contractor, concurrent CPRM, fees
What specializations does it cover?	Rangeland management in California	Rangeland management in the U.S. and world	Consulting on grazing and its impact on plants and soils in the U.S. and world
What geographic areas and vegetation types does it cover?	Non-federal, state, or private "forested landscapes" in California	Rangelands in the U.S. and world	Rangelands in the U.S. and world
For what is this certification required?	Use of the title "CRM;" license to practice professional rangeland management, except for owners of the affected property	Not required, but useful for certification as NRCS TSP and other employment	Not required, but useful for consulting
How many people are currently certified?	78 (Jun 2010)	390 (Aug 2010)	Est. 35-50 (Aug 2010, under analysis)

Student Reflections on The SRM Meeting in Denver

Submitted by Ken Fulgham, Humboldt State University

Another year gone by and not unlike cycles of growing grass, the Society for Range Management planned on meeting for the 63rd time, meetings spanning now two different millennia wherein changes would be seen through the eyes of the founders and felt in the handshakes across generations of folks sharing their love for the land. The first meeting in 1947 was a burgeoning time for interest in natural resources after the devastating decade that preceded it. Back in those early days it became quite clear that although our country was blessed with untold natural abundance, unless management strategies were put into place, there were no guarantees we could keep it and in fact we had the Dust Bowl's choking residue on our pride to point to the poison possibilities.

Living behind the redwood curtain has its benefits but easy access is not one of them. This, of course, is at times ideal but when it becomes necessary to be someplace that touts overrated high-rises and Starbucks at every corner, one must roll up their sleeves and roll out the fossil fuel bill. Our mission was simple, Denver by February 6th. To refresh or inform those who are unaware of this author's tremendous preference for terra firma to remain in contact with said feet, it cannot and should not be understated. So to put it plainly, I do not fly. I don't fly when the sky is blue, when the weather is beautiful or when free tickets are bountiful: Never, nada, zero, zilch, negatory good buddy. Okay, I am sure the picture is clear, crystal. So, short of walking, train or car is the choice. Well, opting for the magic carpet is intriguing but lucky Aladdin has the market on magic lamps captured.

We boarded the train gleefully singing some stupid songs that would remain glued there until the soft lilt of the train would wash them gently away. Ratty houses, laundry, dogs, mud, garbage, weeds, bigger houses, fences, weeds, huge houses, horses, fences, weeds, rocks, grass, trees, trees and snowy trees. The Sacramento Railroad Museum docent was dolling out useless factoids faster than Dustin and Ross could down their beers. Intermittent to the fast factoids were loud lunch announcements that seemed important indeed. I was not hungry, but the call to this food Shangri La was mysterious and alluring. Something about going to that place made just for eating-people who otherwise would be thrown from the train for mere diner car peering that made me want to go there, because I, me, could pay triple that of a decent meal that could be shamed by 7-11 rotisserie grub, nonetheless they couldn't stop me. No one could!

I would say the day was fairly uneventful but at some we decided to take our supper in the dining car. The meal choices were some sort of rehydrated chicken goulash, cheese ravioli, and drum roll please, bison meatballs or some related shape. Dustalo's eyes lit up from across the aisle where he sat with 3 strangers since there were only four to a table and Dustin drew the short straw. The meals were okay but Ashley, Rebecca and I had Haagen Daz for desert and that fixed any ill-will towards dinner. Dustin harassed the waitress with some sort of under-the-table-foot-massage comment and I doubt she had laughed so hard for a while. She made us promise we would come back soon and we were off to our semi-comfy seats.

I would say we had decent seats. No screaming babies or white-trash loudmouths to make you question your transportation choice. In the wee morning hours I walked in pin-ball fashion down the row then stairs to use the lieu. Upon my return trip up the stairs and back to my seat I heard a noise that can only be described as Linda Blair on steroids coming from one of the water-closets. I double checked that my garlic strand was still around my neck and found my seat. Moments later a dark ominous shadow crept closer and closer. White-faced and crazy-eyed, our dear friend Rebecca sat back down. I asked her if she was okay and she replied, "No". I dug through my suitcase and found my motion sickness pills and gave the patient her orders.

The rest of the train ride through Utah and Colorado were absolutely spectacular. We saw several bald eagles, a fox, elk, deer and on my return trip I saw a beaver. There is something so special about seeing an animal in the wild. It somehow gives me a greater appreciation and respect for just how magnificent and tough they are to make homes, find food, raise babies, evade predators and do all of this without the help of man or perhaps despite it. Besides the animals, we saw beautiful vistas and landforms, canyons, trees, rangeland, partially frozen rivers, snow and more snow.

We arrived safe and sound in Denver around 7:00 wherein we were treated to a very nice dinner by our coach, Dr. Fulgham. We wanted to make sure and brag to Louis that Dr. Fulgham had treated us to dinner because the year before he vied for a free meal the whole trip. We went to bed very tired since sleep on the train was little at best.

The next few days were a whirlwind of plants and talks. I was sick with a cold the whole time so I was not a bundle of energy but it was all just great. I really got a lot out of the symposiums this year since the previous year I was not very organized in what I wanted to go and hear. I made some good connections and met some potential graduate professors. Although I am not

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sure whether I want to work for a couple of years or go straight to grad school. My main focus is to finish up my degree and keep putting one foot in front of the other. I believe I will join plant team again next year if we have a plant team to join. Range and Soils is on the chopping block again so we'll see what happens. Our new motto for plant team is, "In Grazing We Trust"!

Heidi Ruhling
Humboldt State University

Humboldt State University's Plant Team trip to the Joint Annual Meeting of the Society for Range Management and the Weed Science Society of America began with a train ride out of Sacramento eastward bound. During this trip we observed the various plant communities between Sacramento and Denver, Colorado. This experience alone has made the readings for HSU's Plant Communities class (RRS 360) more relevant.

While at the meeting I was able to listen to HSU's own Professor, Susan Edinger Marshall, present some of the research she has been conducting. In addition to listening to others present their research in a lecture format, a poster presentation was available each day at the meeting which further inspired ideas for graduate work. I was able to meet several people presenting their posters and with whom I hope to have the opportunity to work with in the future.

All the various plant teams assembled in a common study room to prepare for the plant team competition. Here we were able to examine the competing teams' plant samples. Observing other samples we were not familiar with helped us better prepare for the test while at the same time facilitated interaction between HSU's plant team members and students from the other universities.

The Career Fair presented conference attendees with many career and graduate opportunities. I met folks here who I intend to keep in touch with as well in the future. Overall the experience provided us with great educational experiences and opportunities to network with others in the same field of study; I even met people on the train who were also conference attendees.

Dustin Detweiler
Humboldt State University

This year's Annual Meeting for the Society for Range Management was extremely beneficial to me. This was my second time attending the Annual Meeting. It is an opportunity to meet professors, professionals, students, and ranchers and learn new projects and ideas in the rangeland community. Most of all, I look forward to the hiring on the spot career fair. In the two years I have attended, I have accepted two summer jobs doing exactly what I love. This summer I am going to work in Wyoming for the NRCS.

One aspect I really like about attending the meeting is meeting new people or recognizing people that I met last year. One exciting moment for me was actually on our long train ride back to California. I was reading some journal articles and I recognized some of the speakers' faces or recognized their names on the itinerary. Just knowing a little more about the people writing the articles we have to read for class makes them much more interesting. This year there were two graduate students from Humboldt presenting their thesis. I loved going to their presentations with our plant team and supporting them.

Meeting other students from all over the world was also a highlight to the trip. When we weren't listening to lectures, we could study plants with other teams. We would swap plant specimens and give each other tips to identifying the plants, well, to an extent, it was still a contest. Through studying plants and the social gatherings, I have met some good friends that I still maintain contact with.

This trip was also very beneficial because it was during the time that the Rangeland department was possibly going to become eliminated. To see how many other people in this community are so enthusiastic about our natural resources I think gave all of us students gave us a breath of fresh air and reinforced our thoughts of how important it is to fight to maintain the Rangeland program.

Going to these meetings is also an opportunity to see amazing places that I would most likely not be able to see and meet peo-

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ple that I would not normally be able to meet. Next year's meeting is in Billings, Montana, which I am really looking forward to.

Ashley Hodge
Humboldt State University

I had the extraordinary opportunity of attending the SRM Annual Meeting this year as a member of the HSU Plant ID Team. This was my first year on the Plant ID Team, which I found to be very challenging, and worth while. I was really looking forward to going to my first SRM meeting for months in advance as we planned the details of the trip. There were so many unique opportunities offered at the meeting, not to mention the trip itself.

Traveling to the SRM meeting proved to be quite an adventure. The whole team decided to travel by train to Colorado. This proved to be cheaper than airline travel, which saved money, and the train station is just blocks away from the hotel, with a free shuttle service in between, saving a considerable drive from the airport. The train trip was long, 30 hours each way. But the view going through the Sierra Nevada and Rocky Mountains were amazing. We met several professors from UC Davis and Utah State University who were attending the meeting, as well as the owner of a native seed company.

The meeting took place in the enormous Sheraton Hotel, where we stayed, in downtown Denver. The Sheraton is located on the Capitol Mall, just blocks away from the Capitol, and directly across the Street from the World Trade Center. Needless to say there was a lot going on. I was told at one point that 2,000 people were attending this conference. The hotel was over booked, and some attendees had to book rooms at other hotels.

The best part to me about this trip was getting a chance to meet other students and professionals in the discipline of Range Management. The types of ecosystems that fall under the broad banner of range are so diverse, and there are people doing range management in all kinds of different places all over the country.

There was a career fair one day at the meeting, with representatives from various agencies, and University Graduate programs. I just recently heard back from South Dakota State University, they wanted to know if I would be interested in one of their Graduate programs. This was one of many unique opportunities to meet people from organizations all over the country, and talk to them about opportunities for education and employment.

When the conference was winding down, and it came time to leave, part of me wanted to stay there. I met a lot of wonderful people there, who I will miss. Fortunately, I can count on seeing many of the same people again at next year's meeting in Billings, Montana. I plan on staying with the Plant Team, and going to next year's meeting in Spring 2011, my last semester at HSU before I graduate. I hope to continue attending the SRM meetings for years to come, as an SRM member, and Range Management Professional, wherever my career leads me. This has been a wonderful opportunity for me as personally, as a student, and as a future professional.

Ross Olson
Humboldt State University

During the second week of February the HSU plant team and myself went to Denver Colorado to compete in the Plant identification contest. To save on some money we all rode the train from Sacramento to Denver. The train ride was 30 hours long. Riding the train sounded fun at first but after experience it I don't think I ever want to be stuck on a train for able to listen to a couple of people that were giving talks. After competing I was able to listen to more talks that were given and get out of the hotel and see Denver a little. The one thing about attending the SRM meeting and competing in the plant identification contest was I got to talk with people that were in my own field and make connections that I am sure will come in handy in the future. Attending the Society Rangeland Management Annual Meeting in Denver was a great chance to meet others that are in the some field as myself and learn what others are doing.

Rebecca Klein
Humboldt State University



California-Pacific Ballots Are Due September 24th!

This year we are voting for the Section's next president and for two positions on the Section's Board of Directors. Current Board members Larry Forero and Stephanie Larson are rotating off the Board while Susan Marshall, the current President-Elect, will assume the presidential honors at the fall meeting in Modoc County.

While Larry Forero rotates off the Board, he has thrown his hat in the ring as our only candidate for President. Larry is a Livestock & Natural Resources Advisor for the University of California Cooperative Extension office in Shasta County. We have two candidates for the two Board of Directors positions, they include: Lance Criley, a Rangeland Management Specialist with the U.S. Forest Service in Alpine, CA and Danny Marquis, a Resource Conservationist and District Conservationist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Placerville, CA.

Please read each candidate's statement and send your ballot to Sheila Barry by Friday, September 24, 2010. If you are receiving this newsletter electronically, just print both ballot pages, preferably double-sided if you can, and send in your completed ballot. We will send occasional reminders between now and mid-September.

Candidate for President

Larry Forero, Candidate for President

Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor

University of California Cooperative Extension, Shasta and Trinity Counties

BS-Animal Science, CSU Chico-1985

MS-Range Science, CSU Ft. Collins, 1987

Ph.D.-Wildland Resource Science, UCB, 2002

I am a member of the Society for Range Management since 1985. I hold license #39 as a Certified Rangeland Manager by the California Board of Forestry and am also a Certified Rangeland Professional. I am currently on the Cal-Pac Board of Directors. During this term, I served on the Audit Committee and worked with Cal-Pac Treasurer on the migration of the financial records to an electronic bookkeeping system. I have served on the nomination committee as well and have been a long time participant in Range Camp. I've worked for 22 years as a Livestock and Natural resource advisor with UCCE. My recent research and educational programs have focused on rangeland water quality, fish distribution in foothill streams and economics of forage based livestock systems.

I would like to expand SRM's role as an organization where academic, private and agency rangeland managers can exchange scientific and practical information to keep current with ever broadening range management issues.

Candidate for Director

Lance Criley

Rangeland Management Specialist

U.S. Forest Service, Alpine, CA

I am honored to throw in my name as a candidate for the Board of Directors of the Cal-Pac Section. I have been involved with the Society since 2002, attending both sectional and national meetings. I became much more involved when I helped to organize the technical session and field tour for the Fall 2008 meeting in San Diego. My

(Continued from page 11)

education includes a B.A from University of Colorado, Boulder in Environmental Biology and Anthropology and a M.S. in Environmental Science, Policy and Management from UC Berkeley where I discovered and began to focus on rangeland science and management.

I currently work for the Cleveland National Forest in San Diego County (since 2005) as the range program manager, range con, and range tech all rolled into one. During this time I have worked to clear the backlog of allotment NEPA and am now working to expand the grazing program on the forest. I have also had a hand in managing the noxious weed program for the Forest. The Cleveland NF represents a challenging environment to manage rangelands, with a unique ecology and all the pressures of being on the wildland urban interface. My time here has provided me with lots of valuable learning experiences and, I think, a unique perspective.

When I'm not working, you can find me travelling in hot and humid developing countries, skiing, or lamely attempting to be artistic with my camera or a guitar.

As a Director, I would want to work to strengthen and expand the relationship the Section has with public lands management agencies and also use my experience and energy to help further all the Society's objectives.

Candidate for Director

Danny Marquis

Resource Conservationist, District Conservationist

Natural Resources Conservation Service, Placerville, CA

Born in Newport News, Virginia.

Raised in Dairy Valley area of Los Angeles County in the 50 & 60's

Graduated from high school in 1964.

Served in the US Army during the Vietnam War.

Graduated from CA State University at Chico with a BS in Agriculture in 1978.

Began working for the Soil Conservation Service (SCS), in 1978 at Red Bluff, CA.

Transferred to King City, CA in 1979 to manage the SCS Office and provide technical assistance to local dry land farmers and ranchers. During that assignment and through working with a variety of range producers throughout the Central Coast I became a Range Conservationist and subsequently a member of SRM.

I worked early on with Dr. Royce Larson and other UCCE specialists in developing the Range Water Quality and Farm Water Quality Workshops held on the Central Coast and throughout California.

Served on the TAC for the Central Coast Rangeland Coalition.

Became overly absorbed with Farm Bill program administration and am now trying to refocus on range and forest resources.

I am currently the NRCS, District Conservationist in Placerville, CA. serving El Dorado County.

California-Pacific Section of the Society for Range Management
2010 Fall Ballot

President (Mark no more than one)

Larry Forero

Board of Directors (Mark no more than two)

Lance Criley

Danny Marquis

To send this ballot, print this page and the next page double-sided and mail using the address provided on the next page **OR** print this page and mail in an envelope to:

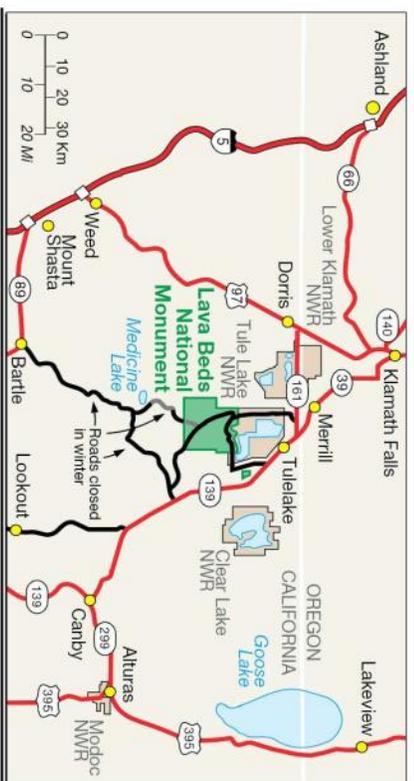
Sheila Barry
15320 Willow Drive
Los Gatos, CA 95032



Sheila Barry
15320 Willow Drive
Los Gatos, CA 95032



Fold



Registration fees include the following: Wed. dinner and entertainment; Thurs. breakfast; field tour and lunch, and dinner and entertainment; Fri. breakfast. Early registrations must be **postmarked by September 17, 2010**. All amounts are in US dollars; Canadian residents please send money order in US dollars.

Early Registration (due 9/17/10)	\$85	X	=	Total
Early Student Registration (due 9/17/10)	\$45	X	=	
Late Registration (after 9/17/10)	\$110	X	=	
Late Student Registration (after 9/17/10)	\$70	X	=	
Thursday Tour Only (includes lunch)	\$30	X	=	
All Day Thursday (tour, lunch, and dinner)	\$50	X	=	
Total Enclosed \$				

To ensure an accurate head count, please indicate the meals you will attend.
Please indicate if you have any dietary restrictions or needs.

	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Breakfast			
Lunch			
Dinner			

Registration

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Section:	PNW	CalPac
(Please check one)		

Make check payable to:

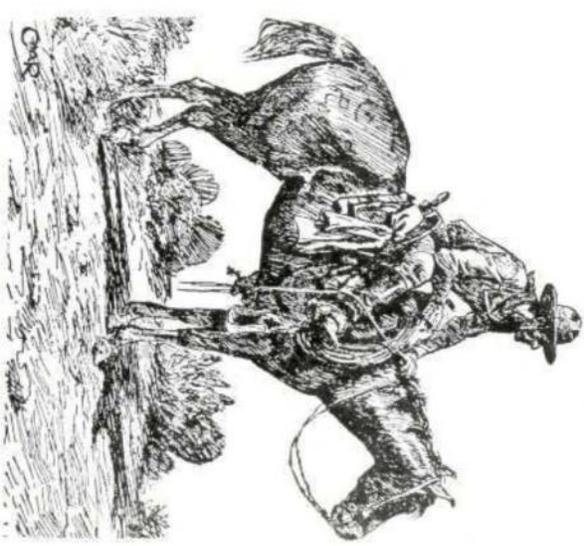
SRM Southern Oregon Chapter

Mail payment and this form to:

Nancey Pennington
c/o LSWCD
17612 Hwy. 395
Lakeview, Oregon 97630

The Society for Range Management
PNW & CalPac Sections Present:
The 2010 Annual Fall Meeting

Productive Lands; Healthy Environment



The Trail Boss

Lavabeds National Monument
Tulelake, California
October 6 -8, 2010

Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, October 6 – Lava Beds National Monument

- 2:00 – 4:30 Advisory Council/Board of Directors Meetings
- 5:00 Silent Auction Set-up
- 6:00 Dinner
- 7:00 Dr. Rick Miller presents “The History of Fire East of the Cascades”
- 7:30 Overview of Thursday’s Field Tour

Thursday, October 7 – Lava Beds National Monument

- 6:45 – 8:00 Breakfast
- 8:00 Field Tour Begins
 - Bear Paw Butte – Fire Ecology
 - Valentine Cave/Caldwell Butte – 1850 Stand Replacing Fire
 - Donut Break
 - Wildlife Viewing Area – Sage Grouse and Wildlife
 - Captain Jack’s Stronghold – Modoc War, Self-guided tour
- 5:00 Back at Camp
- 6:00 Dinner
- 7:00 Silent Auction Concludes/Live Auction
- 7:30 Evening Entertainment

Friday, October 8 – Lava Beds National Monument

- 6:45 – 8:00 Breakfast
- 8:00 – 10:00 Chapter Meetings
- 10:00 – Noon Optional Tour of Lava Caves
- Noon Meeting Adjourned – Drive Safely!

Featured Speakers

- Dr. Rick Miller, OSU Professor
- Ron Cole, USFWS Refuge Manager
- Chad Bell, USFWS Biology Technician
- Dr. Calvin Farris, NPS Fire Ecologist
- Matt Drechsel, NRCS District Conservationist

At the meeting, pick up your copy of
Wildland Worker’s Handbook III

for only \$20 *(that’s a \$35 value)*

Don’t pass up this great offer!!!

For more information on the Lava Beds National Monument,
visit their website at:

<http://www.nps.gov/labe/siteindex.htm>

Lodging

If you don’t want to camp in the park, the following lodging facilities are available in the local area. Other facilities are available farther away in Klamath Falls, OR (56 miles north) or Alturas, CA (63 miles southeast):

Motels/Bed and Breakfasts

- **Ellis Motel**

Phone: 530-667-5242
North of Tulelake on Hwy 139 in California, roughly 12 miles from the park.

- **Fe’s Bed & Breakfast**

Phone: 877-478-0184
660 Main St., Tulelake CA

- **Hawk’s Nest**

Phone: 530-664-3187

In the small community of Tionesta southeast of the monument; cabins available for rent.

- **Wild Goose Motel**

Phone: 541-798-5826
Located in Merrill, OR 14 miles north of park entrance.

- **Winema Lodge**

Phone: 530/667-5158
5212 Hill Rd, 8 miles north of the monument entrance. 15 regular rooms, plus 5 "lodge rooms" with a common bathroom.

RV Parks/Campsites

- **Eagles Nest RV**

Phone: 530-664-2081

Among the tall pines of the small community of Tionesta, a few miles down the road from the park’s south entrance.

- **Shady Lanes Trailer Park**

Phone: 530-667-2617

In Tulelake, CA, 12 miles from the park.

- **Stateline RV Park**

Phone: 530-667-4849

12 miles north of the park just south of Merrill, OR.

Weather

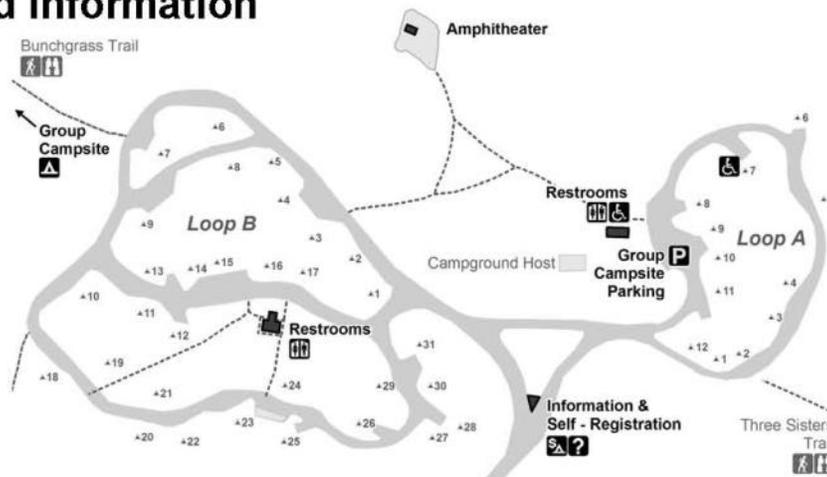
Park elevations range from 4,000 to 5,700 feet. Cold weather is possible any time of year, and snow has been recorded in all months. Winter daytime highs average 40°F; lows average 20°F. Morning fog is frequent from autumn through spring. Summer daytime highs average 75° to 80°F; lows average 50°F. Occasional thunderstorms occur in summer.

What to Bring

If you plan on exploring the lava caves, be sure to bring hardhats, gloves, and headlamps. **Please bring sale items for the silent auction.**



Campground Information



Facilities

The historic Indian Well campground was constructed in the 1930's by the Civilian Conservation Corps. It is located 1/2 mi (0.8 km) from the Visitor Center and Cave Loop. *The campground has 43 sites available on a first-come, first-served basis.* There are sites suitable for tents, pickup campers, small trailers, and motor homes up to 30 feet. Each site has a picnic table, fire ring and a cooking grill. Restrooms with water and flush toilets are available year-round. Showers, hookups, dump stations, and amenities such as gas, propane, and firewood sales are *not* available in the Monument.

Fees and Programs

The camping fee is \$10.00 per night for each site occupied; unoccupied sites may not be held for others. Holders of an Access or Senior pass receive a 50 percent discount on their individual site. Monument entrance fees are also due separately at the Visitor Center or the entrance station at Gillems Camp.

Ranger-guided activities include evening slide programs at the campground amphitheater during the summer season. Weekly program schedules are posted at the restrooms, at the Visitor Center, and on bulletin boards.

Campground Rules

Please be considerate of other campers, especially if you are camping with a large group. Children must be supervised at all times.

Limits

Campsite capacity is limited to 10 people and two vehicles or three motorcycles per site (where space is available). Vehicles must be parked on pavement. The maximum stay in the campground is 14 consecutive days in a 30-day period.

Fires

Fires are permitted in designated fire rings and grates only. To preserve the integrity of the landscape, collection of wood is prohibited except in designated areas; check at the Visitor Center or campground bulletin board. Campfires must not be left unattended. Fires may

be prohibited during periods of high fire danger.

Pets

Pets are permitted in the campground, but must be kept on a leash no longer than 6 ft (1.8 m). Pets are not permitted in caves, on trails, or in buildings.

Hours

Check-out time is 12:00 PM. Quiet hours are from 10:00 PM to 7:00 AM; loud generators are prohibited.

Hunting Camps

Hunting camps are prohibited.

Group and Backcountry Camping

One group site is available. Fees are \$3 per person, with a minimum of \$45 and a maximum of \$60 per night. The group site accommodates up to 40 campers. Reservations may be made up to three months in advance by calling (530) 667-8113. Fee waivers are not available for the group site. The group site is gated, and one vehicle at a time is permitted in for loading and unloading. All vehicles must be parked in the "A" loop overflow parking area near the comfort station, or at the

Visitor Center.

Free backcountry camping is also permitted at Lava Beds, and provides an experience of wilderness solitude. Restrictions are in place for camping near developed areas and caves. Fires are prohibited, and no surface water is available. Check at the Visitor Center for more information.

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1/3 Page	\$45
1/4 Page	\$30
1/8 Page	\$20
Column inch	\$10

E-mail mpdoran@ucdavis.edu for more information or to submit an advertisement

Newsletter Articles

All contributions to *Needlegrass Notes* are welcome. Please submit your articles to:

mpdoran@ucdavis.edu.

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.

*California-Pacific Section SRM
501 Texas Street
Fairfield, CA 94533*



Society for Range Management

We're on the web:

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