

RANGELAND NEWS

Society for Range Management
Nevada Section

MAY 2008

TO FOSTER ADVANCEMENT IN THE SCIENCE AND ART OF RANGELAND MANAGEMENT

NEVADA SECTION OFFICERS

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PRESIDENT'S PONDERERS

Well folks it looks like another typical Nevada winter has turned into a typical Nevada spring – being completely atypical! In Owen Ulph's book The Leather Throne, he talks about the spring wind blowing the dirt from Tonopah up Big Smokey Valley all morning reaching Willow Creek about noon and returning the precious earth to Tonopah with no net loss by sundown. That is about how it has been around Smith Creek this year. However, the sage grouse have been doing their dance and the turkey vultures are back so spring must be here.

Spring is a busy season for most of us and time is one of the most precious commodities we enjoy in our lives. It is the giving of time and energy that makes a society like SRM valuable to its members. I would like to take a moment to thank each of you who so freely gives of your valuable time to make our Nevada rangelands better understood and healthier for those who may enjoy them. Along the same note I would challenge each one of us to foster a friendship with a youngster (that category would include most of us) and show them the unique opportunities available working with rangelands. We have a great group of students in the range club at UNR as well as

some at Great Basin College who show great promise. Please share with these folks your experience, knowledge and expertise – you won't regret it!

I would also like to announce officially our new section EVP; Mr. Gary McCuin has graciously accepted the charge. Chuck left some big shoes to fill and a heartfelt thank you is in order for the time and dedication to SRM he has shown over the years. Thank You Chuck and Gary for your leadership.

May the wind soon die down – I think I recognized some Tonopah dirt in the yard this evening, or was it Black Rock dirt. Hmmm. Have a great day!!

Duane

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

Jeannette E. Merrill, University of Nevada Reno merrill_dot@hotmail.com
Kenneth U. Vicencio, University of Nevada Reno nu_desertrat@yahoo.com
Caleb K. McAdoo, JBR Environmental Consulting, Inc. cmcadoo@jbrenv.com
Scott Stanfill, Reno, NV scottstandfill@renonevada.net
Terrell K. Overman, Burley, ID terrelloverman@yahoo.com
Casey Boyd, Reno, NV boydc12@gmail.com
Samuel Sanders, Reno, NV, samuel.b.sanders@aphis.usda.gov
Jessica Ross Orr, University of Nevada Reno little_orr2@yahoo.com

We welcome you to the Nevada Section and hope you will join us at the summer meeting at the Gund Ranch. We'd like to get to know you and have you get to know us!

NEVADA SECTION SUMMER MEETING JUNE 6 & 7, 2008

President Elect Ken Conley invites all to the 2008 summer meeting to be held at the University of Nevada Gund Ranch in central Nevada. The topic of the event will be targeted grazing. Learn about fall grazing to control cheatgrass utilizing cattle. This is year two of a three year study and some interesting results are being observed. We will also discuss the grazing scheme at the ranch which involves matching cattle nutritional needs to seasonal forage availability. Time permitting we will also observe efforts to restore Great Basin wildrye in some degraded sites. Friday's tour will begin at 9 AM with an introduction at the ranch HQ followed by on the ground presentations and discussion. The business meeting on Saturday will begin at 8 AM.

Lunch and dinner Friday and Saturday breakfast is included in the registration cost. Every effort will be made to have enough food but meals cannot be guaranteed with late registration! See registration form following. We welcome members from the California and Idaho Section and encourage anyone interested to attend and find out about SRM.

Facilities:

A bunkhouse is available and could house 6-10 individuals if need be. Restroom facilities are available in the bunkhouse and port-a-toilets will be on site. Camping is available on the main lawn at the ranch or in one of the many canyons near the ranch. A

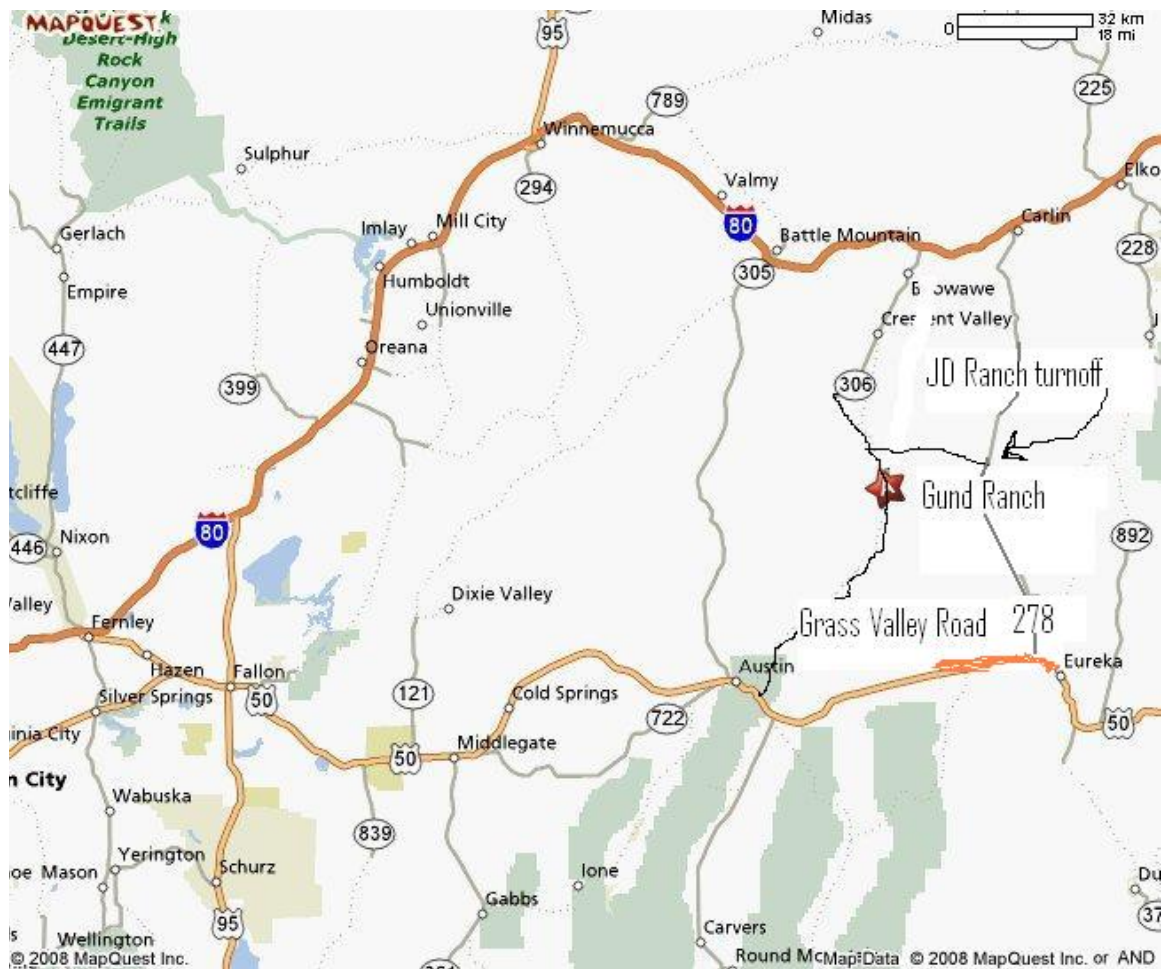
hot pond is also available for swimming. You are welcome to show up Thursday night, but you are on your own for meals that night and Friday morning. A cook stove is available in the bunkhouse.

Directions:

The Gund Ranch is located in central Nevada at Walti Hot Springs 45 miles north of Austin. From Highway 50 take Grass Valley Road 6 miles East of Austin. 39 miles, follow the signs.

From Highway 278 take JD Ranch Road at the rest stop. Go west 21 miles to Grass Valley county road, turn south 9 miles to Walti.

From I 80 take Beowawe Exit, go south through Crescent Valley to Cortez Gold Mine, cross the haul road , 25 miles south to Walti Hot Springs.



Register now while you are thinking about it!!

REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER MEETING

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Registration <u>before</u> June 2:	(#) _____	x \$45 =	_____
After June 2 (cannot guarantee meals):	(#) _____	x \$55 =	_____
Student Registration:	(#) _____	x \$30 =	_____
		Total	= _____

Mail to:
Brad Schultz, Treasurer
UNR Cooperative Extension
1085 Fairgrounds Road
Winnemucca, NV 89445-2001

If needed, contact Brad at 775 623-6304 or schultzb@unce.unr.edu

UNR STUDENTS

Brittney Askew, President

The UNR Range Club is proud to announce that we have a new hand-made Buckaroo saddle made by Duane Coombs. This saddle is a one of a kind rough-out, swell forked, working cowboy saddle. Tickets will be one for \$10.00, or a steal of a deal at six for 50.00. The proceeds will help in sending a portion of our club members to the 2009 National SRM Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico; where we will compete in the Plant ID and Undergraduate Range Management Exam (URME). In 2008, two of our club members were offered jobs during the international SRM convention; this was a great opportunity for our members. This saddle will be at various events including the summer meeting where you will be able to meet and interact with some of our members.

Tickets are available through Brittney Askew (President) or any club member. If you are interested in viewing the saddle or have any questions please contact Brittney Askew at unrrangeclub@yahoo.com or 775-848-6391.

Thank you for all the support and take care.

BOB WILSON – REST IN PEACE

(From Bob's candidate bio and eulogy given by Maria Ryan in Ely.)

Bob Wilson was a native of northern Elko County in Nevada and Owyhee County in Idaho. He descended from families that settled in this border area in the mid 1800's.

Bob grew up working on various ranches in Owyhee and Elko Counties until he enlisted in the US Navy Seabees and served in Vietnam. After the war he completed a B. S. in Agriculture Resource Economics at UNR. It was there he met and married his wife, Ida. He then went to work for the Montana State University Cooperative Extension Service as their Lincoln County Cooperative Extension Agent in Libby, Montana. While there he took a sabbatical leave to complete his Masters in Plant Science, again at UNR. Bob and Ida's two sons, Brandon and Eric, were born while they lived in Montana.

Seeing an opportunity to return near home, in 1995 he took the position of Extension Educator with UNR Cooperative Extension in Ely, Nevada. Bob worked extensively with public collaborative processes, conflict over natural resources of all types, and the ecological consequence of noxious weed invasions into functioning ecosystems

Bob was committed to so much in this country. He was in the middle of everything. He knew everyone and everyone knew they were welcome to speak their minds and Bob would listen. He may not have agreed, Bob knew his own mind, but he enjoyed discussion – political, scientific, personal, it didn't matter the subject. He was always looking for a way to get things done, and a better way to get things done, for a better result, for a better community, better environment. Bob was an optimist if ever there was one. His optimism brought better health to Eric, better research and extension ideas to Montana and Nevada, better community relations on tough issues, and better ways to get important work done.

Bob was happy, curious, just a little bit rebellious, and a lot of heart. Most of all Bob was about service. He served this county and the state of Nevada with honor and dedication. One of the best things about Bob was his stories. Bob had great stories. Stories of things he'd done or what colorful friends had done, but there were always great stories.

We wish him Godspeed and will, in his honor remember the way he lived – full out and up, committed, optimistic, and kind hearted.

Happy Trails, Bob.

If you wish to offer a remembrance to Bob, the family has set up a trust for his younger son, Eric. Any such gift should be made to the Eric Wilson Special Needs Trust and sent in care of the Bank of Commerce, 184 East 2nd North, Rexburg, ID 83440. To send a card to Ida and the family, their address is 1332 E 400 N, St. Anthony, ID 83445.

2008 SHEEP RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM
“RESPIRATORY DISEASE IN WILD AND DOMESTIC SHEEP”

March 7-8, 2008

Boise, Idaho

Two-day program now available on a six DVD set for \$38. Printed program with speaker abstracts available for \$15. Order at:

<http://www.cainecenter.uidaho.edu/sheep-orderform.pdf>

Jeremy Drew of the Section's new Wildlife Committee promises a report at the summer meeting.

THANK YOU

The Nevada Section owes Chuck Saulisberry a big THANK YOU for his many years of dedicated service to SRM. Chuck was a charter member of the Nevada Section, joining as a junior at UNR under Dr. Joe Robertson in 1949. He took over as EVP of the Section in the early 1990's and has had many jobs at many levels in SRM to, as he modestly says, "keep things going." Chuck, for your service and your inspiration to us all, and Jo for supporting Chuck,

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Thank you to Gary McCuin for stepping into Chuck's big shoes. As Duane said, we have many people to thank for all their efforts.

NEWS AND NOTES

~Climate, Fire and Invasive Species is theme for Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition (ENLC) 9th Annual Meeting, Field Tour and Volunteer Day, June 13-14 in Ely. Deadline for Pre-registration June 2. Call 775 289-7974 or find at www.envlc.org.

~ENLC has Rangeland Management Specialist position open. See information at: http://www.envlc.org/Career_Opportunities.html

~Great Basin Wildland Fire and Vegetation Management Symposium, May 16 – 17. It is being held within the broader context of the Elko Fire Fair, with the first day's emphasis (May 15) on defensible space, geared more for the general public. There is no cost/registration for the symposium. Contact Kent McAdoo at mcadook@unce.unr.edu for more info.

~Two UNCE Extension Educator positions open: White Pine and Pershing Counties . Pershing County closes May 20th and White Pine closes June 1st. <http://jobs.unr.edu>.

~Make sure to read the Rangelands report Gary McCuin forwarded on May 1 by email.

~Riparian Proper Functioning Condition workshop, Bridgeport, CA. May 21-22. Includes field trips. Contact Sherm Swanson, swanson@cabnr.unr.edu.

~Vertebrate Pest Management workshop (emphasis rodents), May 24. Great Basin College, Elko. Contact Jay Paxson, paxsonj@unce.unr.edu. 775 738-4722.

~Nevada Youth Range Camp, Big Creek Campground 12 miles south of Austin, NV. June 15-21. Contact Kent McAdoo, mcadook@unce.unr.edu, or Greg Beasley at gbeasley@forestry.nv.gov or 775 237-5608.

~Range Management School and Rangeland Monitoring for Permittees, Wells Rural Electric Building, Wells. Includes field trip to nearby locations. Contact Ron Torell, torellr@unce.unr.edu or 775 738-1721.

~Global Invasive Species Programme newsletter – info on weeds for biofuels, invasive mussels and more.

<http://www.gisp.org/publications/newsletter/GISPnewsletter9.pdf>

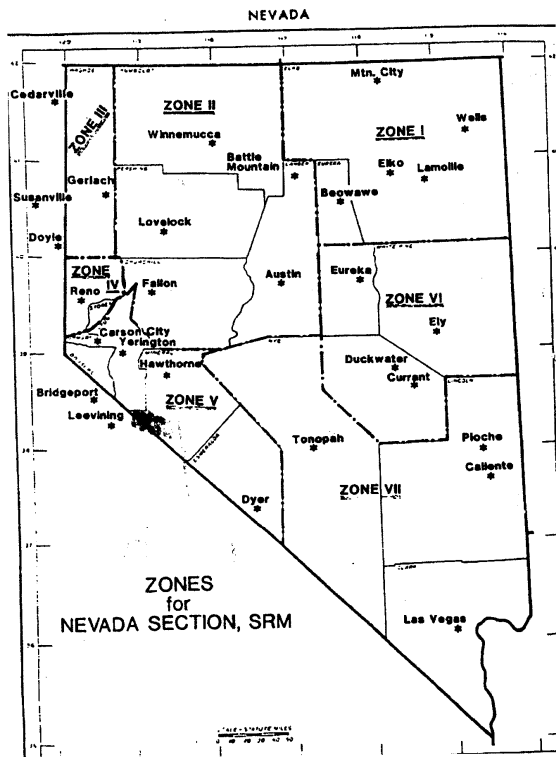
THE PROGRESSIVE RANCHER VENTURE

Thanks to Gary McCuin, Sherm Swanson, James Young, Leslie Haug, Ken Conley and Brad Schultz the Nevada Section has submitted excellent pertinent, applicable, science-based articles to The Progressive Rancher every other month since March 2007. This statement accompanies our articles, “The Society for Range Management (SRM) is *‘the professional society dedicated to supporting persons who work with rangelands and have a commitment to their sustainable use.’* SRM’s members are ranchers, land managers, scientists, educators, students, conservationists – a diverse membership guided by a professional code of ethics and unified by a strong land ethic. This series of articles is dedicated to connecting the science of range management with the art, by applied science on the ground in Nevada. Articles are the opinion of the author and may not be an official position of SRM. Further information and a link to submit suggestions or questions are available at the Nevada Section website at <http://www.ag.unr.edu/nsrm/>. SRM’s main webpage is www.rangelands.org. We welcome your comments.”

Brad Schultz will be leading a strategic planning session at the summer meeting to plan our way into the future with this outreach. We are also considering a series of articles from agency folks that can shed light on agency policy/practices for those who must follow those on the ground. Everyone has something to contribute; we just need to get more organized in our approach. Any suggestions, please contact Maggie Orr at sideoatsg@yahoo.com.

Bureaucracy: The process of cutting through red tape lengthwise.

The epoxy that lubricates the wheels of progress.



Patti Novak-Echenique
 3035 E. 6th Street
 Silver Springs, NV 89429