

RANGELAND NEWS



TO FOSTER ADVANCEMENT IN THE SCIENCE AND ART OF RANGELAND MANAGEMENT

NEVADA SECTION – SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT

Fall 2012

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- (see map on last page for zones)

PRESIDENT'S PONDERERS

The importance of Communication from President Chris Jasmine:

This fall finds me scrambling. With winter barely around the corner most of the projects (personal and work related) that I intended to have done by now are still dragging on. I don't mean to sound negative, but it is one of those years that I just can't seem to get projects wrapped up. I know many of you in the livestock industry are probably in the same boat. The extremely dry weather caused many of you to scramble all year trying to stay ahead of the curve with water and feed. This means that other jobs simply don't get done. We all truly put too much on our plates these days.

In fact, I often marvel at how technology makes us take on too much. Technology makes so many tasks simpler. By simplifying so many things we take on much more than we ever should. We become so efficient at little tasks and jobs that we soon have taken on three times more than we can ever get done. I truly believe that the influx of technology and the super busy schedule it causes makes us forget the importance of personal communication.

Communication is key no matter what business we are in. Think of the importance of communication if you are a stock broker on the floor of the exchange, or a shift supervisor at a mine or a stay at home parent trying to get your three year old to eat the peas. Communication is paramount no matter what we do. Yet I believe in today's super efficient workplace with GIS, emails, teleconferences, smart phones and virtual meetings we forget how to truly communicate with one another. We are losing the skills to have human to human connections through the spoken word.

I will be the first to tell you that my communication skills are not the greatest. Truth be known they are quite poor. However with my day job, night job, SRM workload, NGO commitments, two kids at home, and a successful career-driven wife, communication should be my most important task each day. Unfortunately, I often let my communication with those around me suffer while trying to complete the daily tasks that my schedule requires me to do. I rush from project to project trying to make progress on them all while never quite wrapping any of them up. I make rushed phone calls, type super short emails and then it's on to the next task. Occasionally we need to stop and realize the importance of communicating with our coworkers and families. We need to understand that by using technology to rush through these communications we are in fact becoming less efficient at communicating.

In our careers as natural resource managers, we often are too quick to jump into the details of a meeting with a permittee, cooperator, or fellow regulator. We are short and to the point so we can move on to the next task. We forget that the most effective communication sometimes begins with a personal dialogue. The development of a sincere relationship will have long lasting effects on the ability to communicate and get things done. The same is true of our relationships away from the office. Dialogues that only consist of facts and details will generally not do anything more than sound like commands and requirements. Slowing down and communicating about non-details will often help make the details much easier to understand and process. Small talk and a true desire to have a dialogue with someone will make the difficult detail oriented communications that much simpler.

An example from my personal life really tells this story. When I text my wife on the way home from work and tell her we need to wash the car, move the wood pile, clean the floor, cook dinner, load the kids, go visit grandma, and have all of this done by the kids' bedtime at 7:30; I have not communicated with her. I have given our family a list of tasks. I essentially become a walking spreadsheet. Instead, some friendly dialogue about our days activities and what the kids did, and how that made us feel, and what tomorrows plans are, and by the way how should we attack tonight's list of chores does a much better job of communicating the tasks at hand. If you don't believe me ask my wife!

Natural resource management is no different. Building a personal connection and some amount of trust with those people who we work with will go a long ways towards efficient communication with each other. Simply being a walking task list does not work. It may be faster and to the point but I guarantee it is not sustainable or efficient in the long run. I challenge all of us to take the extra 15 minutes today to try communicating with our colleagues or family on a personal level. We might be surprised at how much more efficiently we get things done.

A WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Doug W. Frazer, Sadler Ranch, Eureka, doug@sadlerranch.org
Missy Merrill, Davis Creek, CA, mlmerrill@ucdavis.edu

IN REMEMBRANCE

Mary McArthur Artz
July 27, 1926 – October 22, 2012

A dear friend to many in the Nevada Section, and beloved wife of early Section member Jack Artz, Mary passed away comfortably with much of her loving family at her side. For those who knew her, Mary will be remembered for her energy, laughter, friendliness, and care and kindness for others. Mary will also be remembered for her involvement and support of Jack during his distinguished and contributing career in rangeland management, including the organization and the operation of the Nevada Youth Range Camp during its early formative years and during Jack's tenure as the President of the Society for Range Management in 1992. Her cheerful smile and demeanor will be missed but remembered by all.

Mary is survived by her husband Jack and children Melinda, Neal, and Alan, seven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. No public services are planned. Donations may be made to the Washoe County Senior Meals on Wheels program or a favorite charity. You may send a card to Jack at 1459 Cosenza Drive, Sparks, NV 89434. (Submitted by Don Henderson and Jim Linebaugh)

Virginia Fallini McCuin

Dear Section Members,

It is not often that the Nevada Section SRM makes note of the loss of members and supporters of our organization. However, there are times that recognizing the loss of our extended "family" is important. It is therefore with great sorrow that we wish to spread the news of the passing of Virginia Fallini McCuin.

Virginia McCuin was raised on a ranch in Railroad Valley, NV. She was gifted with her hands and started creating leather wears early in her life, then moved into silver and gold smithing. Most of her work displayed wildlife or ranching. She looked beyond practicing to teaching her crafts by writing the book "The Art of Engraving". She was a renowned craftswoman in her field winning many prestigious awards including the Governor's Arts Award in 2004 and the Will Rogers Cowboy Award for Engraver of the Year from the Academy of Western Artists (AWA) in 2005.

Virginia collaborated with The University of Nevada-Society for Range Management-Range Club by making donations of her works to help fund the club, sending student members to compete at the International SRM Meetings. Virginia also greatly contributed to SRM by raising Gary McCuin who has held many influential positions within our Section over the years.

The Nevada Section Society for Range Management wishes to send the McCuin family our condolences and support during this time of grief. (Submitted by Chris Jasmine)

ELECTIONS

From Past President Heather Mobley

President-Elect Candidates:

Maria Ryan: I am a native Nevadan and have been on the range all my life - not just in Nevada but in Colorado, Wyoming and Texas. I have a B.S. in Animal Science from Texas A&M University and an M.S. in Rangeland Ecology from Colorado State University. I have had the good fortune of being able to use my background and both degrees in several jobs throughout my career. I also spent several years in Cooperative Extension because I believe education is a key to our society's success. I am currently the range ecologist for the Great Basin Ranch in eastern Nevada. Working on controversial projects and being under the microscope at different times in my career I believe has made me do my job better and be more attentive to diverse points of view. Things have changed so quickly in the past 20 years with new technologies, a global economy and more pressures to our natural world than ever. I am looking forward to being involved to help solve some of our biggest issues and protect our range and ways of life. It's a privilege to be nominated for President-Elect of the Nevada Section. I love SRM and the Nevada Section has been at the forefront of many initiatives and actions in recent years. I love your can-do attitude! I want to be part of new and big things in your future.

Mark Freese: I grew up in the small town of Jordan Valley, Oregon where I spent time hunting, fishing, and helping friends with their ranching chores, among other outdoor activities. Spending much of my time outdoors generated my interest into pursuing a career in natural resource management. As such, I attended and received my Bachelor of Science (BS) degree from Oregon State University in Natural Resources with an option in policy that emphasized management and a minor in Fisheries and Wildlife. Directly following my BS, I pursued a Master's of Science (MS) degree in Rangeland Ecology and Management from Oregon State University. Through my MS degree, I gained research experience completing a thesis linking greater sage-grouse habitat use and suitability across spatiotemporal scales in central Oregon. Following graduation in the spring of 2009, I moved to Ely, Nevada and worked for the Bureau of Land Management as a Rangeland Management Specialist. In this job experience, I applied the skills learned through my formal education and gained practical experience working with private land owners. This job was very satisfying; however, I wanted to be closer to my wife who was located Reno. After 13 months of commuting between Reno and Ely, I acquired a job in Reno with the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW). I currently work as a habitat biologist reviewing land use plans and projects within NDOW's western region. In addition to working for NDOW, I participate on the steering and executive committee for the Modoc-Washoe Experimental Stewardship Program and am a council member of the Sierra Front-Northwestern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council.

I have been a Society for Range Management Member since 2006. I have attended 3 annual meetings and am currently chair-elect of the Wildlife Habitat Committee (i.e. parent society committee). I have been an active Nevada Section member and currently am Section IV Zone Councilman.

Zone II Candidates:

My name is **Bret Allen**, and I was born in Carson City, Nevada in 1979. In 1998, I graduated from Carson high School. I went directly into the work force post high school, and became a proficient carpenter. After realizing that life had lot more to offer than wearing nail bags until I was seventy, I decided to go back to school. I completed all my prerequisites at Western Nevada College (WNC) Phi Theta Kappa while working nights and starting a family. In 2009, I began earning a bachelor's degree in Forest and Rangeland Management from the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). Originally, I started my major with the intent to become a park ranger for Nevada State Parks; however, I fell in

love with the science/natural resource aspect of it rather than the law enforcement side. With my new-found passion, I worked for the United States Forest Service as a Recreation Technician, Range Technician, and Biological Science Technician (Plants) for three seasons while completing my degree. I am currently employed for the Bureau of Land Management as a Rangeland Management Specialist for the Winnemucca District. Living in service is a huge part of my life. Every time I have the opportunity to be helpful to others, the more complete my life feels and the happier I am. While attending WNC, I assisted students with learning disabilities in math and English. I also served as Treasurer for the UNR student chapter for the Society for Rangeland Management 2010-2011. I feel like my experience has prepared me for Zone Councilman for the Nevada Section.

Boyd Hatch (currently in position): A little about me: I grew up in Cedar City, Utah on a ranch and farm. We raised alfalfa, sheep and cattle. I really enjoyed working at the ranch on Cedar Mountain and in our hay fields in the valley, and honestly wish I could still be doing that today. From age 12, I worked at the local livestock market sorting livestock and taking care of the animals and the grounds until I left for college. I always had an interest in a career in Rangeland Management. I started my education at Southern Utah University, and completed my degree in Rangeland Management from Utah State University out of Logan, Utah in 2002. During college, I was active in the SRM and competed in Plant ID, Speech Contest, and the URME (Undergraduate Range Management Examination). I continued working with the Utah section of the SRM with student affairs, coordinating local competitions between the College and University SRM groups at our annual meetings. In 1999 I was hired by the Forest Service to conduct studies monitoring vegetation on the Dixie and Fishlake National Forests, and in 2001 received a permanent position as a Rangeland Management Specialist on the Fishlake National Forest on the Fillmore Ranger District. During that time I was proud to receive the award from the Utah Section of the SRM for "Outstanding Young Range Professional". I moved to northern Nevada with my wife and children in 2007, and work as a Supervisory Rangeland Management Specialist/Natural Resource Officer on the Humboldt –Toiyabe National Forest, Santa Rosa Ranger District. I work with local ranchers in managing their grazing allotments. I am responsible for many other range related resources such as noxious weed eradication and control, wildlife habitat improvement projects, watershed protection projects, etc...I enjoy working with, and plan to be actively engaged in supporting, the Nevada Section of the SRM in furthering public education and understanding the importance of rangelands resources.

Zone V Candidate: None

Zone VI Candidate:

Jake Tibbitts (reinstatement): My name is Jake Tibbitts and I was born and raised in Blackfoot, Idaho where my family owns and operates a feedlot and ranching operation. I received both my undergraduate and graduate education at Idaho State University where I studied biology (undergraduate) and GIS and remote sensing to manage and monitor rangeland resources (graduate). I live in Eureka where I have the responsibilities, challenges, and privileges of being the Eureka County Natural Resource Manager. In this position I help keep the County informed and connected to a wide range of natural resource issues including anything relating to public land, range management, air space, wild horses, wildlife, grazing allotments, mining, and recreation. I serve on the State Land Use Planning Advisory Council, the local Forest Service Resource Advisory Council, and I am just finishing my tenure as the Zone 6 Councilman for the Section. I have a deep personal and professional interest and love for the science of range management and I feel that it is imperative that we manage our range resources, farms, ranches, and rural lifestyles in a manner that keeps our society and economy sound and strong in addition to sustaining the resource. I became a member of SRM in graduate school and have maintained my membership ever since.

Zone VII Candidates:

Rick Orr: Retired with 32 years federal service in BLM and NRCS. Served as Endowment Fund chair for the Nevada Section since its inception. Served as Nevada Section President. Served on the SRM International Board of Directors 2008 through 2010. Served on the SRM Leadership Development Committee from 1998 through 2007. Serving on the SRM Targeted Grazing Committee 2010 through present.

Daniel Condie, Caliente BLM Rangeland Management Specialist may appear on the ballot.

*****ELECTION PROCESS***:** You will receive a separate email ballot to which you should reply to Heather Mobley at caparocap@yahoo.com by January 1. All members may vote for all Zone positions per the Section Constitution. Officer ship will change immediately following the International meeting in Oklahoma City.

2013 WINTER MEETING

President Elect Ryan Leary reports the winter meeting will be in Elko January 10th and 11th. The 10th will be a program on “Factors in Cost Effective Restoration of Sage grouse Habitat in Northern Nevada”, and the 11th will be a business meeting.

NEVADA YOUTH RANGE CAMP

Greetings from a Range Camp Camper:

I am Christopher J. Nelson and I am writing to you about my experience at the Nevada Youth Range Camp. The campgrounds are located in Big Creek Canyon near Austin, Nevada. The campers spend an exciting week going from Sunday until Saturday starting on Father’s Day in June. For the past three years my father has taken me to camp on the Saturday before and we help with the camp set up and get in some nice father/son time fishing and checking out the area. Throughout the week there are many great activities to do. There’s fishing, hiking, swimming, field trips, archery, basket weaving and volley ball. My favorites were archery and fishing. The camp also includes class days where we go out on field trips to learn about the four main ecological attributes in the valley. They are the forest, the rivers, the plains and the geology. These classes are taught on Monday and Tuesday.



The Nevada Youth Range camp has been around for almost 70 years now. My experiences throughout the past three years that I have been attending have been amazing. My favorite parts were meeting new friends and sleeping in my tent under the stars. Oh yeah, did I mention that you pitch your own tent? I think the only down fall is probably that the campers can’t shower until Wednesday. But that is fun too because it’s the day we go into Austin. We shower and the public swimming pool and once we are all cleaned up we can check out the little town for a while. The outdoors is always a great place to be for me and this past summer my sister even came to

camp. She wasn't real sure about it at first but she ended up having a great time and will be going back with me next summer for my last year. Knowing that next year will be my last year is a bummer but it will make room for younger kids to experience the fun that I have. I hope this encourages new campers to sign up next year!

JOB OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE HIGH PAY OF SATISFACTION

Nevada Youth Range Camp Cook needed!

Spend a week in beautiful Big Creek Campground near Austin, NV cooking camp meals for roughly 35 Nevada youth, and about 15 assorted staff members with additional invited guests the last Friday. Breakfast, lunch and dinner required daily. An established menu is available, or you can be inventive if you'd like. This is a remote location with no on-site facilities except a portable kitchen which includes a flat top, burners, ovens and a freezer, a separate commissary trailer and coolers for perishables and a potable water tank. Outdoor cooking skills for barbeque, Dutch ovens and portable kitchen use required with a willingness to camp! Camp runs each year starting on Friday evening before Father's Day, and ending the following Saturday when camp is taken down after breakfast.

The cook has an incredibly important role in camp, as the kitchen is the heart of Range Camp. Although early mornings are required, there will be time during the day for fishing, hiking and other activities. Campers help with dishes and other clean-up chores. Two range-camp experienced assistant cooks also work hard but you will have primary responsibility. This is an incredible chance to volunteer to have a rewarding experience positively impacting the outdoor enjoyment and education of Nevada's youth while seasoning your Dutch ovens! Please contact Maggie Orr at 775 726-3742 or sideoatsg@yahoo.com with any questions you have.

The Progressive Rancher Project Manager

Since 2006 NvSRM has submitted outstanding articles to *The Progressive Rancher* with the purpose of transferring knowledge to managers in the field. We submit six articles a year; these may be viewed at <http://nevada.rangelands.org/Prog%20Rancher.html>. Current manager, Maggie Orr, seeks someone to take over coordination of this project which involves finding authors, ensuring articles meet the intent of the project, and submitting them to the editor by deadline. You manage the articles, you don't write them for this worthy endeavor. Questions? Please contact Maggie Orr at the above info.

Zone V Zone Council

Someone who lives in Zone V needs to fill this position. Thanks!

Nevada Section Executive Secretary

Available position for someone to make a difference to rangeland management in Nevada. Please consider.

2012 SUMMER MEETING

Ryan Leary

The summer meeting was held June 28 and 29 at the UNR Main Station farm and field sites around Bedell Flat near Reno, Nevada. The topic was "What Works: 50 Years of ARS Great Basin Seeding Field Trials". The speakers were Bob Blank, Soil Scientist ARS and Charlie Clements, Rangeland Scientist ARS.

At the Main Station Farm plots, Bob showed us the successful rehabilitation of a tall whitetop infestation, and discussed the effects of tall whitetop on soils. At Bedell Flat, Charlie showed us the results from the seeding after the 1983/2000 Wildfires and discussed the effects of fire on plants/soils. Charlie's next stop was a site on the Tuscarora water pipeline revegetation, the only green strip in Bedell Flat, he hypothesized that the cheatgrass seed was buried so deep in the restoration that it was unable to compete with the seeded species.

Bob took us to the ARS historic plots and showed us the soil legacy effects of fertilizer and sucrose treatments and discussed the Long term effects of cheatgrass invasions. After a look at the bitterbrush seeding on Granite Peak and the crested seeding on Silver Knolls, we headed back to the Main Station Farm for cheatgrass beer courtesy of Bromus Tech.

FINAL NOTES

SRM Advisory Council requests this reminder:

"The name of the Oklahoma City Annual Meeting will be officially known as the '2013 SRM Annual Meeting, Technical Training, and Tradeshow.' Headquarters has asked that we include a note about this in the Section Newsletters. Look forward to seeing all of you in Oklahoma City!"

TAKE THE TIME TO VOTE WHEN YOUR EMAIL BALLOT APPEARS!

Nevada SRM Section Zones

