



ARIZONA SECTION

Society for Range Management

December 2004 Issue

2004 Section Officers:

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Arizona Section
Website
azrangelands.org



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

The Arizona Section Board of Directors met on November 8 in Tucson and the agenda and location for the Section's Winter Meeting have been finalized. The meeting will be held January 5th and 6th at the Cliff Castle Conference Center in Camp Verde. The Clark Martin Memorial Scholarship Golf Classic will begin at 8 AM on January 5th on the Beaver Creek Golf Resort in Lake Montezuma (just a few miles north of the Conference Center) and the General Membership Meeting will convene that evening at the Conference Center. On January 6th, Dean Fish and Barron Orr have assembled an excellent day of learning that combines technical sessions with hands-on learning. The Auction and Awards Banquet will follow that evening. Look at the detailed agenda later in this issue. I know that you will all want to attend this fun, informative meeting.

I hope that many of plan to attend the 2005 Parent Society Meeting and Trade Show in Fort Worth February 5 through 11. The meeting's theme is: *Rangeland Trails Under the Lone Star*. The Texas Section has worked hard to put together and excellent meeting. The supplement that was mailed with the last issue of Rangelands provides all the details about the meeting. I hope that you can make it and if you do, I'll see you there!

Storms have left rain and snow across many parts of Arizona during October and November. This is welcome relief following a dry summer. Sure, it would have been nice to get it while the weather was still warm, but that's the way it goes. The Drought Monitor (www.drought.unl.edu/dm/) shows that many parts of the Arizona got some temporary relief, but, as we all know, the hydrologic drought persists. I also looked at the CLIMAS (Climate Assessment for the Southwest) web site (www.ispe.arizona.edu/climas/) where experts noted that weak El Niño conditions exist in the tropical Pacific Ocean and experts believe that the strongest effects may not occur in the Southwest until late winter or early spring. This is also encouraging news. These two web-based climate monitors are great for quick yet reliable drought updates.

Many of our members are Certified Professionals in Range Management (CPRMs). The program certifies individuals who have the professional credentials required to plan and implement sound management of rangelands as a means of improving the standards of professional expertise used in managing public and private rangelands. To become certified, the applicant must complete specified coursework, pass a test, have five years of range-related job experience, pay a fee, earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs) by attending approved professional development programs, and exhibit ethical behavior as defined by SRM. The reason I bring this up is because CEU opportunities are offered in many areas of the state, but the Section has not provided a comprehensive list of these opportunities. I am willing to take this task on, but would like input from interested members of the Section. I think the Newsletter is an excellent vehicle, but it may not be timely enough to publicize all available CEU opportunities. The web site or an E-mail list may be the best vehicle for this. If you have any ideas about how to get the word out, I am all ears.

I hope you all have time to relax and enjoy your families, friends, foods, and fellowship during the holidays and I'll be looking for you at the Arizona Section and Parent Society Meetings in the New Year!

Happy Holidays, Jeff

VOTE FOR NEW OFFICERS

Please cast your vote to fill the following positions:

1. **Director North** – Serving 2005 and 2006
2. **Director South** – Serving 2005 and 2006
3. **Vice President** – Serving 2005, 2006 (President –Flect) and 2007 (Section President)

1. CANDIDATES FOR DIRECTOR NORTH:

Liz Didier (Peach Springs)

My diverse educational background demonstrates my interest in interdisciplinary natural resources management. In 2000, I received my B.S. in Forestry, with a concentration in Wildland Recreation, from the University of Tennessee (Go Vols!). I was then recruited into the range profession at Utah State University, where I earned my M.S. in Range Science in 2002. My research focused on innovation adoption among ranchers, and I traveled the state conducting personal interviews with them. I feel extremely fortunate to have had the opportunity to learn from the ranchers who apply range management principles on the ground every day, in addition to my classroom education.

After graduate school, I accepted a position with University of Arizona as the Extension Agent for the Hualapai & Havasupai Indian Reservations. Through my program, I deliver information and training to tribal members in rangeland monitoring and management, animal health, beef quality assurance and record keeping. I work closely with the Hualapai Department of Natural Resources to continue and enhance their rangeland monitoring program.

I hope to take a more active role in the Arizona Section SRM by serving as Director North. As a young range professional, this would be a great opportunity for me to gain experience and learn from my fellow members and officers. If elected, I will be honored to contribute something back to the Society from which I have gained so much!

Alvin Whitehair (Springerville)

I grew up on the Navajo Reservation in the Navajo-Hopi Land Dispute area. Growing up most of the time was spent attending to ranching chores—working cattle, sheep, and horses. My home setting consisted of a traditional Navajo home. Later on, I moved to Logan, Utah and went to school at Utah State University. I got my first degree in Psychology, with Dr. Carl Cheney as an advisor, my second degree in Rangeland Resources with John Malechek, Allan Rasmussen, and Fee Busby as my advisors. While going to school at Utah State University I got onto the SCEP program (Student Career Experience Program) with the Manti-LaSal National Forests (on the Moab and Monticello Ranger Districts in Utah). I finished up my SCEP training on the Wasatch-Cache National Forests (on the Mountain View Ranger District, in Wyoming). Upon completion of my training I was hired as a full-time professional on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests in Springerville, Arizona, where I currently work.

In Springerville, I have been nominated by the Forest Supervisor to represent the American Indians and their needs in Arizona and on the Forest. During that time I have been very active and increased diversity awareness tremendously. I have worked with the Navajo, Hopi, and Apache Tribes to participate in various programs on the Forest to aid range, jobs, and the possibility of preventing more Forest fires.

I am privileged to run for the Director North of AZ SRM and am willing and eager to learn from everyone. I have been active with the Society of Range Management since 1999 when John Malechek recruited me into the program. If nominated I will do my best to serve and represent the Arizona North and to the whole SRM community to the best of my ability.

2. CANDIDATES FOR DIRECTOR SOUTH:

John Hays, Jr. (Tucson)

It's a privilege to be nominated for the position of Director South. I've been a member of the state section for four years. Although I am from Peebles Valley, AZ where I was born and raised. I know southern Arizona and have spent several years working on my grandmother's ranch in the San Rafael Valley in Santa Cruz County. I currently work as a Senior Research Specialist in the Rangeland Department at the University of Arizona on a project aimed at improving long term rangeland monitoring on public lands here in Arizona. My position enables me to travel throughout Arizona and gives me the opportunity to work and learn from some of the best rangeland professionals in the region. I received an M.S. in Rangeland Science and Management from the University of Arizona in January 2004. During my three years at the U of A I worked on the Tohono O'odham Nation developing a rangeland management plan for nine villages spanning over 400,000 acres. I also conducted a research project examining the effects of varying livestock grazing intensities on perennial grasses in the Santa Rosa and Vekol watersheds.

Before coming back to graduate school I volunteered in the Peace Corps working with livestock owners in Ecuador (93-96). Following the Peace Corps I ran cattle on my families place in Peebles Valley until they sold it in 2000. After that, I decided I wanted to be buried with lard cans brimming with gold, which was what led me to the field of Rangeland Management. I've never looked back. I like the fact that rangeland management demands accountability at all levels. I also enjoy working directly with livestock owners and natural resource managers and tackling real-world issues. I look forward to representing southern Arizona as Director South.

Byron Lambeth (Phoenix)

I have been a member of SRM since 1991, when I joined the student chapter at the University of Arizona. I received a Bachelors of Science in Renewable Natural Resources with a major in Rangeland Management from the U of A. I was born and raised in Arizona. I attended junior high and high school in Casa Grande where I first became involved in production agriculture. I was a member of FFA and 4-H and raised livestock and farmed cotton. I always enjoyed working with farmers and ranchers growing up and this sparked my interest in rangeland management.

After graduation I worked in the landscape industry until I was hired by the Arizona State Land Department as compliance officer and range resource area manager. I left the state after 2 years and went back to landscaping until my current position came open. I now work with the BLM as Range Management Specialist in the Phoenix field office. In addition I am the office lead for the noxious and invasive weeds program and member of the Sonoran Desert Invasive Species Council.

By becoming Director South I feel that I would improve my understanding of the SRM and the Arizona section and have a better appreciation for how hard people work to keep this section thriving.

(Continued – next page)

3. CANDIDATES FOR VICE PRESIDENT

Steve Barker

I earned my Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Resources in Agriculture, with a rangeland management emphasis, from Arizona State University in 1982. Since that time I have worked for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly Soil Conservation Service). My first 3 years were spent at the Buckeye Field Office as a Soil Conservationist followed by 11 years as a field office and area office Range Conservationist in Chandler and Tucson, Arizona. I am currently the State Rangeland Management Specialist, for the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Arizona. I have been in this position since January of 1996.

I have been a member of the Arizona Section, Society for Range Management since 1980. I have served the Arizona Section as Director South, and as a member of the Research Affairs and NRCWAY Committees. I have also participated in the NRCWAY camp as an instructor for many years, an experience that I have found to be very rewarding and educational.

I believe that this Section has done many things to be proud of and appreciate the hard work and dedication that our current and past officers have contributed to our Section. The quality of our membership is exceptional and very diverse and I would consider it a privilege to serve as the Arizona Section Vice President and President.

Dennis Moroney

I was raised on the wildland-urban interface in Maricopa County when kids spent all their time riding horses over the desert range, swimming in the canals, and waging endless terror and mayhem with green grapefruit as the weapon of choice. After four and a half years of high school, I took another four and a half years to earn my A.A. degree from Phoenix College. During this time I worked as a construction laborer, farm hand, ranch cowboy, and as a self-employed horseshoer. After being kicked in the back by a deaf horse (he must not have heard me whispering), I took my two fractured vertebrae to ASU and enrolled in the Agriculture program. I stayed there three semesters completing coursework related to animal science, range management, and agriculture business. During this time I continued to shoe horses and also worked as a private process server. I finally saw the light, and transferred to the University of Arizona in time to start summer school of 1976. I earned a B.S. Degree in Agriculture with a major in Animal Science after completing summer school in 1977. During this time I continued to shoe horses, and also worked for the U of A Campbell Avenue Farm. After turning down a job offer to be a feedlot cowboy near Red Rock, I rushed back to the U of A Campus to enroll in the Agriculture Education program and in two easy semesters I earned a second B.S. Degree in Ag Ed, spring of 1978. During this time, I continued to shoe horses, and also worked for Star J Angus Ranch on Tanque Verde Wash. Following graduation I took a job teaching Vocational Agriculture at Wapato High School on the Yakima Indian Nation in Washington State. The Yakima Valley has an incredibly diverse agriculture, and the reservation has extensive stands of old growth timber, magnificent salmon and trout streams, and incredible rangeland as well as large herds of deer, elk, and antelope. Ranching and irrigated crop productions are also major components of the local economy. As a result, the agriculture curriculum was quite diverse for a high school program. I began immediately to take course work in forestry and range through Washington State University. I stayed at Wapato High school six years. During this time I continued to shoe horses and Deb and I also farmed small grain and alfalfa hay on leased ground, and started running sheep and cattle.

When Deb was admitted to medical school at the University of Washington, we moved to western Washington and I started teaching horticulture and forestry at Mount Si High School in the Snoqualmie Valley about 30 miles west of Seattle at the foot of the Cascades. This was a Weyerhaeuser company town, and it was 1984. Within a few years the northern spotted owl and associated controversy over logging old growth timber had kicked the legs out from under the established timber based economy and many loggers were out of work. My forestry program morphed into Renewable Natural Resources, and we had a waiting list for horticulture classes. I completed a Masters in Education from Central Washington University in Ellensburg in 1986, and also completed the requirements for a Principal's Certificate at the same time. I was contracted by the school district to start an alternative program to serve the needs of students who were at risk of dropping out or who had left school without a diploma. During this time I did not shoe a single damn horse! I did however indulge in skiing, sailing, kayaking and mountain climbing. When Deb completed her residency in Family Medicine we bought the Cross U Ranch located about 30 miles northwest of Prescott Arizona. Eight years of environmental controversy had prepared me well for my next challenge. The Cross U was a forest permit! With all due respect to the previous owners, the ranch was pretty run down, the cattle were wild, and the country was rough. The ranch was 50,000 acres with a permit for 460 head year round. There was a growing elk herd, world class mountain lions, perennial streams, endangered species, and a very vocal community of grazing activists. We initiated one of the first collaborative management groups in Arizona, and worked hard to keep neighboring ranchers, scientists, agency personnel, environmentalists and sportsmen focused on shared goals for the land, and our shared natural resources. We operated the Cross U Ranch for over 10 years from 1991 to 2002. During this time I resumed shoeing horses with a vengeance, and started teaching occasionally for Prescott College, and Yavapai College.

In May of 2002 we sold the Cross U and moved south to Cochise County where we bought the 47 Ranch located between Tombstone and McNeal. This ranch is closer to 25,000 acres and includes private, state, and BLM land. There are very few green pickups, no elk, only an occasional lion, and while much of the country is still pretty rough, at least you can see through most of it! We have discovered that we are near major migratory routes for sandhill cranes from the north, lesser long nose bats from the south, and unemployed travelers from all over the world. We are trying to operate the 47 Ranch in a sustainable manner, with frequent rotation, long periods of rest, and moderate stocking. We have initiated a conservation plan through the NRCS, and have an access agreement with Arizona Game and Fish which limits hunter access to some areas of the ranch for wildlife conservation. We have completed some vegetation management of mesquite shrublands to restore watershed function and increase the herbaceous component. I am still shoeing horses, and I teach one class per semester for Cochise College (Range Management, Fall 2004).

From time to time, I have served as an officer or board member for many agricultural, civic, and professional organizations, and have some experience with decision-making and leadership. I am strongly committed to scientific research informing management of natural resources. I'm very concerned about fragmentation of open landscapes through unplanned growth and subdivision in rural areas, and the resulting loss of wildlife habitat and watershed function. I would be honored to serve as your Vice President if elected and would do my best to continue the fine work of our present officers. I've been a member of SRM since 1996 I think, thanks to the urging of Jack Bohning and Dwayne Warrick.

Continued – next page

ARIZONA SECTION SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT ELECTION FOR 2005 OFFICERS

1. Director North

___ LIZ DIDIER

___ ALVIN WHITEHAIR

2. Director South

___ JOHN HAYES, JR.

___ BYRON LAMBETH

3. Vice President

___ DENNIS MORONEY

___ STEVE BARKER

PLEASE select one candidate for each category. Return the completed ballot by December 22, 2004 to:

Dan Bell
PO Box 1405
Nogales, Arizona 85628

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 14, 2004 8:30 am - 5:00 pm - ACE Water Quality Conference
- Location: TBA, Yuma County. Contact: Kitt Farrell-Poe or Will Payne at kittfp@ag.arizona.edu, phone (928) 782-3836.

Jan 5-6, 2005: Az Section Winter Meeting – Innovative Technology for Range Management – Prescott Resort – contact Dean Fish at 520 281 2994 or dfish@ag.arizona.edu

Jan 19-21, 2005: Second Aridland Invasives Workshop Irvine Ranch, California. For more information, contact Bob Unnasch (bunnasch@tnc.org; 208-343-8826 ext. 14), Mandy Tu (imtu@tnc.org; 503-802-8150), or John Randall (jarandall@ucdavis.edu; 530-754-8890).

Feb. 7-9, 2005: Workshop on Climate Variability & Ecosystem Impacts in Southwestern Forests and Woodlands - Arizona's Sedona Hilton - Look for registration information online at the following address or to register go to: <http://ag.arizona.edu/extension/fh> or call (928) 425-7179

Feb. 5-11, 2005 – 58th Society for Range Management Annual Meeting Ft. Worth, Texas. More information and registration at www.rangelands.org

Feb 14-15, 2005: Second Nat'l Water Resources Policy Dialogue Loew's Ventana Canyon Hotel, Tucson, AZ. More information on registering and to view preliminary program - <http://rs6.net/tn.jsp?t=4oqmhzaab.0.gdsif8n6.6mvasyn6.8855&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.awra.org%2Fmeetings%2FTucson2005%2Findex.html>

~ MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION ~

Membership in the Society for Range Management is open to anyone engaged in or interested in any aspect of the study, management, or use of rangelands. Membership rights and privileges include: voting, committee service, nomination and election to offices, subscription to *Rangelands* journal and the *Trail Boss News*, Arizona Section newsletter (for AZ Section members), discounted prices for publications, meeting registration fees, page charges and certification fees. For more information on membership in SRM, or to request a Membership Application, please contact Mike Hannemann, Membership Committee Chair, phone 928.526.0866, or email mhannemann@fs.fed.us OR Dan Bell, Secretary-Treasurer, phone 520.761.3117, or e-mail voslash@aol.com.

On-line membership applications are also available at www.rangelands.org

**AZ SECTION COMMITTEES
&
CONTACT INFORMATION**

The Arizona Section has many active committees that are integral to the function of our Section. These committees are open Arizona Section members. If you are interested in participating in any of these committees please contact the committee chair:

Awards

Chair: Emilio Carrillo
520.887.8520 x110 or emilio.carrillo@az.usda.gov

Activities

Chair: Dean Fish
520-281-2994 or dfish@ag.arizona.edu

Historian/Archives

Chair: Phil Ogden
520-296-78756 or pro29@cox.net

Information/Education

Chair: Mark Pater
928-348-4416 or mark_pater@blm.gov

Membership

Chair: Mike Hannemann
928-526-0866 or mhannemann@fs.fed.us

Scholarship

Chair: Mitch McClaran
520-621-1673 or mcclaran@u.arizona.edu

Nominations

Chair: Larry Howery
520-621-7277 or lhowery@ag.arizona.edu

NRCWAY

Chair: Sandy Whitney
602-417-2400 x7220 or safabritz@adwr.state.az.us

Public Affairs

Chair: John Brock
480-727-1240 or john.brock@asu.edu

Rancher Affairs

Chair: Keith Curry

Research Affairs

Chair: George Ruyle
520-621-1384 or gruyle@ag.arizona.edu

Student Affairs

Chair: Susan Pater
520-382-3594 or spater@ag.arizona.edu

Newsletter

Co-Chairs:

Sandy Whitney

602-417-2400 x7220 or safbritz@adwr.state.az.us

Kim McReynolds

520-382-3594 or kmcreynolds@ag.arizona.edu

Susan Pater

520-382-3594 or spater@ag.arizona.edu

WE'RE LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS

Don't Forget Receive a \$5.00 Rebate for Recruiting New Members

On the Application make sure your name appears in the spot that says "Name of member that recruited you." Any questions, please contact Mike Hannemann 928.526.0866, or email mhannemann@fs.fed.us.

The Environmental Resources Student Association (ERSA) at Arizona State University needs your help... buy a shirt and support the environmental leaders of the future.

ERSA t-shirts are only \$15. Contact Nick @ (480)203-1269

Innovative Technology for Range Management

ARIZONA SECTION SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT 2005 WINTER MEETING

January 5 & 6, 2005
Prescott Resort in Prescott, Arizona

The Clarke Martin Endowment Hackers Golf Tournament will start at 8 AM on January 5. A limited number of spaces are available for this special event (contact Dan Bell for details). The Arizona Section Winter Meeting will officially start at 3 PM on January 5 with the General Membership and Board of Directors Meeting. The morning of Thursday January 6 will feature Symposia on technological innovations that show great promise in enhancing current rangeland management methods. The afternoon will involve hands-on experience with some financially based restocking tools (tied to climate and vegetation factors) and digital field mapping made easy with the "Geospatial Tool-Kit". The evening will include the annual SRM-NRCWAY Auction and the Annual Awards Banquet. The meeting will conclude with a Board of Directors Meeting of the New Board on the morning of January 7.

Tentative Symposia Agenda (January 6th)

8:00 am	<i>Registration</i>			
8:30	<i>Welcome</i>			Dean Fish
8:40	Overview of Program			Barron Orr
8:45	Ecological Site Guides: Today and Tomorrow			Barbara Hutchinson & Steve Barker
9:15	Arizona NEMO and the Automated Geospatial Watershed Assessment (AGWA)			Dave Goodrich, Phil Guertin & Kristine Uhlman
10:00	Southwest Climate Outlook			Michael Crimmins
10:30	<i>Break</i>			
11:00	RangeView: Geospatial Tools for Vegetation Monitoring			Stuart Marsh & Barron Orr
11:30	RANGES: Site-specific Grassland Biomass Analysis			Phil Heilman & Robin Marsett
12:00 noon	<i>Lunch</i>			
1:30	Restocking Analysis Practicum	Trent Teegerstrom & Russell Tronstad	1:30	Digital Field Mapping Practicum
				Barron Orr & Phil Rasmussen
3:00	<i>Break</i>			
3:30	Digital Field Mapping Practicum	Barron Orr & Phil Rasmussen	3:30	Restocking Analysis Practicum
				Trent Teegerstrom & Russell Tronstad
5:00	<i>Close</i>			Dan Bell

Questions about the winter meeting? Contact Dean Fish, 520 281 2994, dfish@ag.arizona.edu.

Innovative Technology for Range Management
ARIZONA SECTION SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT 2005 WINTER MEETING

WHEN:

January 5 & 6, 2005

WHERE:

Prescott Resort in Prescott, Arizona

Important information -- please read carefully!!

REGISTRATION FORM (DUE DEC 22, 2004)

NAME and ORGANIZATION: _____

SPOUSE/CHILDREN/GUEST NAMES _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

DO YOU BELONG TO AN SRM SECTION? Circle one: Yes / No WHICH ONE? _____

\$75/ member or adult attendee by 12/22/04 _____

\$90/ member or adult attendee after 12/22/04 _____

\$45/ student or youth by 12/22/04 _____

\$60/ student or youth after 12/22/04 _____

DATE: _____ TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

**MAIL THE REGISTRATION FORM by 12/22/04
ALONG WITH A CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:**

Dan Bell
PO Box 1405
Nogales, Arizona 85628
Phone: 520 761 3117
Email: voslash@aol.com

MAKE CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS OUT TO **ARIZONA SRM** (SRM TIN IS 23-7161064)
Questions about the winter meeting? Contact Dean Fish, 520 281 2994, dfish@ag.arizona.edu.

Important Info

Prescott Resort has 30 rooms blocked at a rate of \$60/ night; just tell them you are with the AZ SRM (Government rate available with ID). **Deadline for Room Reservations is 12/27/04.**
Tel. 1 800 96PINES or 1 928 776 1666

Arizona Section
Society for Range Management
c/o BB³ Productions
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Chandler Heights, AZ 85227

