



ARIZONA SECTION

Society for Range Management

Fall 2003 Issue

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Trapped in the Vortex ...

Summer meeting a smashing success. Is our section good or what?! We plan a meeting on drought management and low and behold we are blessed with a real “frog strangler” of a storm during our summer meeting in August at the V-V Ranch. The timing of the storm was perfect -- nearly everyone was served a delicious steak dinner (including Dutch oven cobbler) and were able to seek refuge in the “barn” before the skies opened up with some world class lightning, thunder, and RAIN! Many thanks to Bopper, Dan, Dean, Emilio, Susan, and several other chefs, and to the board members and other volunteers for making our summer meeting such a fantastic success. Special recognition goes to Jeff Schalau for putting together the educational program and for gathering such a great bunch of speakers. Jeff, your hard work made for a very educational, informative, and fun program that was enjoyed by all who attended. On behalf of the Arizona Section, I also want to thank Sam Albrecht, Executive Director of SRM, for taking the time out of his busy schedule to attend our meeting and update us on the important happenings of the parent society. Thanks Sam -- we really appreciate all you do for us at the national level!

Winter meeting fast approaching. It is not too early to think about our winter meeting that is tentatively being planned for mid-January at the Apache Gold Casino and Hotel east of Globe. The format of the meeting will be a “Call for Papers” which will give YOU a golden opportunity to share your knowledge with the Arizona Section. The success of a “Call for Papers” meeting hinges on the willingness of our members (THAT’S YOU) to participate, so please share your knowledge with us. We would like to hear about projects you are working on, or issues you are facing regarding rangeland science and management. We’d like to hear from ranchers, researchers, range, livestock, and wildlife managers, agency folks, and especially, students. We are particularly interested in hearing about “hot button” issues (ESA, lawsuits, etc.) that you may be involved in. I strongly encourage you to make an oral presentation or to present a poster paper at our winter meeting. For more information on how to participate, see page 3 of this newsletter or contact Jeff Schalau directly (jschalau@ag.arizona.edu; 928.445.6590 ext 12). Getting your abstracts in early will help Jeff to develop another fine program like the one we enjoyed at the V-V Ranch.

Heads up on elections!! The December Newsletter will contain some very important materials. Not only will there be a registration form for the winter section meeting in January, the December newsletter will also contain a ballot that will give you the opportunity to vote for the people who will lead the Arizona Section of SRM for the next 2-4 years. Please take the time to vote and participate in this very important process. Your vote will determine the future direction of the Arizona Section. Our past president, Sandy Fabritz, is in charge of identifying those of you who would be willing to serve as board members, vice-president, president, etc. **If you contact Sandy to throw your name in the ring before she contacts you, and if you are elected, you will receive a fully-funded-leave-of-absence-honorarium from your current job so that you can adequately perform the duties and responsibilities of your newly elected position** (just kidding -- wanted to see if you were really reading this). Seriously speaking from personal experience over the past 3 years, I can tell you that serving the Arizona Section has been (and continues to be) one of the most fun and rewarding things I have ever done. If you have not yet served the Arizona Section as an elected officer or even if you have served before but would like to serve again, please contact Sandy ASAP (safabritz@ADWR.STATE.AZ.US; 602.417.2400 ext 7220).

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Membership (yes, again). OK. This is the *next to last* opportunity I will have to hassle you about recruiting new members (remember, there is still one more newsletter in 2003). We began 2003 with 166 members. As of the August 1st, the Arizona Section had 185 members (+19 since the beginning of the year). That is a small step in the right direction but all of us still have some work to do. **Please** recruit at least one new member before the end of 2003. If everyone would do this it would make for a fantastic year for the Arizona Section. It would be great to be able to report that we have over 200 members at our winter meeting, and then continue to build on that number over the next several years. See the Spring 2003 Newsletter for additional background information and incentives for recruiting new members.

Steady on,
Larry

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR WEB SITE? CHECK IT OUT!!!

Arizona Section SRM Web Site
azrangelands.org

If you have not visited the new Arizona Section web site, then I encourage you to do so. It currently has: recent section newsletters; board of director's meeting minutes; Articles of Incorporation; By-Laws; Guidelines for Section Officers and Committee Chairs; names and contact information for Officers, Directors, and Committee Chairs; information about the upcoming winter meeting; and links to the Parent Society, AgNIC, and Journal of Range Management. Awards will also be added soon. The vision is to make this web site as useful as possible to our membership. Input from our membership is welcome and appreciated. Please send your comments and suggestions to Jeff Schalaus at jschalau@ag.arizona.edu.



Have you seen this
man's golf cart?

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!!!

Arizona Section Elections Coming Soon

If you are interested in serving on the Arizona Board of Directors, or know of someone who would make a good candidate please contact Sandy Fabritz at safabritz@adwr.state.az.us or at 602.417.2418. This is a GREAT opportunity to actively participate in and lead the Arizona Section and its activities.

Ballots will be going out in the next newsletter to elect the following positions:

Director North – Serving 2004 and 2005

Director South – Serving 2004 and 2005

Vice President – Serving 2004, 2005 (President –Elect), and 2006 (Section President)

Call for Papers Arizona Section Winter Meeting 2004

Theme - Conservation: From Theory to Practice

We announce the call for papers for the Society for Range Management, Arizona Section Winter Meeting. The theme is "Conservation: From Theory to Practice" with a primary focus on innovative conservation projects/practices applied to grazing lands across Arizona. We encourage presentations from ranchers, consultants, agency personnel, university professors, graduates, undergraduates, high school students, and others.

The meeting will be held on two days (yet to be determined) during the week of January 12-16, 2003. The tentative location is the Apache Gold Conference Center near Globe, Arizona. **The abstract submission deadline is November 14, 2003.** Submissions should be sent to Jeff Schalau, E-mail: jschalau@ag.arizona.edu, P.O. Box 388, Prescott, AZ 86302. If you have any questions, call 928-899-3466.

~ 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

MESSAGE FROM DENVER

SRM still has over 1000 members who have not given us their email address. If you have not provided an email to the Denver office please do so as soon as possible. Call Lesley Radtke directly and she will put the information in the membership record. We are in a transition period, by Feb. 2004 the Member Resource News will be completely electronic. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lesley at:

Lesley Radtke
SRM Director of Membership
lradtke@rangelands.org
303-986-3309
303-986-3892 fax

2003 Arizona Section Summer Meeting Highlights



The 2003 summer meeting was held August 14 and 15 at Mahan Park on the University of Arizona V Bar V Ranch Experiment Station. The meeting was well attended (50 adults and youth) and the theme was making science-based rangeland management decisions during drought. The first day started out with a general membership/board meeting. This was followed by a welcome/presentation about the V Bar V Ranch by Resident Director Dave Schafer. Then, Brian Klimowski of the National Weather Service gave us an overview of the current drought and Sandy Fabritz discussed the activities of Governor's Drought Task Force. These presentations primed the audience for the panel presentations and discussion by three ranchers (Greg Vinson, Dave Hartman, and Dave Cook) and three agency professionals (Katherine Sanchez, L.D. Walker, and Larry Widner). Each presenter shared philosophies, experiences, and challenges of managing rangelands during drought. Here, attendees learned about several innovative approaches that ranged from leasing irrigated ryegrass pasture in the desert, stocking and monitoring, herd reduction, grass banking, and much more.

The social hour(s) followed and a delicious steak dinner (with V Bar V Beef) prepared by the crew of Brown Power Productions LLC (the esteemed Dean Fish, Dan Bell, and Emilio Carillo). As befitted a drought program, it also rained about two inches that evening. Most attendees camped out and many stories (and lies) were told as the evening progressed.



The next day began with biscuits and elk sausage gravy prepared by Bopper Cannon, V Bar V Ranch Supervisor. Field-based activities followed. First, Cooperative Extension agent Jim Sprinkle and rancher Dave Cook showed attendees how they were measuring relative (mid-season) utilization by clipping and weighing individual grass plants and constructing regression equations. The spreadsheet for doing this is available from Jim Sprinkle (sprinkle@ag.arizona.edu). Next, USFS Range Conservationist Dave Bradford taught the group about Grazing Response Index (GRI). GRI is an integrative approach used to quickly assess grazing impacts in the field. Dave and others have used this technique in Colorado for more than five years. We all learned a new technique and appreciated his devotion to range management. Dave Bradford traveled all the way from southwestern Colorado to be there. All in all, it was a fun and educational meeting with lots of opportunities to visit with old friends and make new ones. Special thanks to Larry Howery for assisting with the agenda development and all others that made this meeting possible.

**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.



Next Board Meeting

November 21 – Arizona State University East, Mesa, 10:00a.m.

All members are welcome to attend!

Contact Larry Howery or any Board Member for details.

Meeting Summaries from past BOD Meetings are available on the Arizona Section Web Site at azrangelands.org or can be obtained from Dan Bell at 520.761.3117, or e-mail voslash@aol.com

AZ SECTION COMMITTEES & CONTACT INFORMATION

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ASU / ARIZONA ALUMNI MIXER

If you are planning to attend the International Meeting in Salt Lake City this year – mark your calendars for Tuesday, January 27, 2004 from 6 – 8 pm for an ASU/Arizona Alumni Mixer to be held in the Uintah Room at the Little America Hotel,

**Arizona Section
AWARDS**
Emilio Carrillo

It's that time of year again to start submitting nominations for our section. This is an excellent opportunity to recognize all the hard work and great stewardship this is occurring through out our diverse state.

The four award categories are:

1. RANGE MANAGER OF THE YEAR: May be selected by the Awards Committee from owner-operators and ranch managers who have been nominated by the County Committees. The recipient shall be honored at the Annual Meeting and shall receive a plaque commemorating the award. The recipient need not be a member of the Society for Range Management; must be owner-operator or manger of a working ranch unit; must not have received this award within the previous six years; and cannot be a member of the State or County Awards committee or the Board of Directors.

Primary criteria used for selection of the recipient shall include progress in the planning, application, maintenance, and improvement of range condition through the use of grazing management practices for proper use and distribution of grazing, installation of range improvements, control of undesirable plants, seeding of rangeland, control of erosion, and husbandry and breeding of livestock. Participation in community and State citizenship activities and cooperation with State and Federal agencies in management of the land for grazing and other uses must be evaluated.

2. AWARDS FOR PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL GUIDANCE: A person or persons with range management or range conservation expertise and education, but not ranch owners or operators, may be selected and honored for their contribution to excellence in grazing management. Such persons may be employees of Federal or State agencies or universities, other government agencies, or individuals operating independently or as members of agricultural firms.

3. OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARDS: A person not limited to Society membership, and not limited to residence in Arizona may be nominated for an Outstanding Service Award by any member of the Arizona Section of the Society for Range Management. Such nominations will be made to the board of Directors prior to the end of the Calendar year.

4. OUTSTANDING YOUNG RANGE PROFESSIONAL AWARD: This award requires SRM membership and recognizes superior performance and leadership potential in any range-related area. Nominee must be less than 40 years old on January 1, 2004. If you are aware of a young range professional who you feel is deserving of this award please send in your nomination!! This is an excellent opportunity to give a hard-working individual some great recognition.

The awards categories focus on the high levels of progress made in various land management practices. For an individual to be nominated for an award gives that person much deserved recognition as well as positive publicity for the Society and the ranching industry overall.

Please take the time to review Article VII of the Arizona Section SRM bylaws for more specific information pertaining to the qualifications for the various awards.

The deadline for the awards nominations is November 1, 2003. Please contact me if you need additional time to prepare your nomination.

Please send your nominations to:

Emilio Carrillo, Awards Committee Chairperson
3668 Hills of Gold
Tucson, Arizona 85745
Or email to:
emilio.carrillo@az.usda.gov

~ ~ UPCOMING EVENTS ~ ~

October

- 28 – 30: First Interagency Conference on Research in the Watersheds – Benson, Arizona
<http://www.tucson.ars.ag.gov/unit/ICRW.htm>
- 30 – Nov 1: Santa Rita Experimental Range Conference in Tucson, AZ at the Holiday Inn at Palo Verde and I-10. <http://www.ag.arizona.edu/SRER/conference.html>
Contact Mitch McClaran (mcclaran@u.arizona.edu or 520.621.1673) for details.

November

- 10: Governor's Drought Task Force – 1:00pm at the Arizona Department of Water Resources Phoenix, AZ. Contact Sandy Fabritz (safabritz@adwr.state.az.us) for details.
- 20: Newsletter Submittal Deadline
- 21: AZ Section Board of Director's Meeting - 10:00am ASU East, Mesa
(Contact any Board member for information – Everyone Welcome!!!)

December

- 2: Poisonous Plants and Livestock Toxicology, Cliff Castle Casino, Camp Verde
(contact Jim Sprinkle for both of these workshops, sprinkle@ag.arizona.edu or 928-474-4160)
- 3: Poisonous Plants and Livestock Toxicology, University of Arizona Meat Lab, Tucson



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