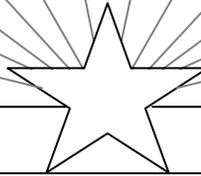




ARIZONA SECTION

Society for Range Management



<http://azrangelands.org>

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Dean Fish

Howdy!

I hope that the holiday season found you and your family in good health and spirits! As the New Year comes and goes, I am reminded that this is a good time of year to take a little time to reflect on your accomplishments and goals. It is important that we do this to evaluate our progress in meeting our life and career objectives. More importantly, we can make resolutions to break! As a friend of mine once told me, the best part of being "on the wagon" is falling off! Enough rambling...

There has been a lot of work in making the **2006 Winter Meeting** both informative and meaningful. Many thanks go to Bruce Munda, President-Elect/Activities Chair and the Climate Working Group for putting the exemplary group of speakers together. I am looking forward to the technical aspects of the program, as well as seeing all of our members. The meeting is going to be held at the Apache Gold Casino on January 25 and 26, 2006. You should have already received information on registration and the agenda. An additional highlight will be the **Section/NRCWAY fundraising auction** on Wednesday night. For any of you who have participated in this, you know it's a lot of fun! Bring an auction item or two for us to have fun with. Don't forget the **Clark Martin Hacker's Tournament** scheduled for Friday. Don't be inhibited by your lack of golf expertise, anyone can participate. Money raised from this tournament goes to help fund the Clark Martin Endowment that the family and Section have set up. You can also find information on our great web site (thanks Jeff!) <http://azrangelands.org>.

Please also look for the nominations for your Board of Directors in this newsletter. These fine people volunteer their time (and in many cases their personal funds) to advance the science and art of rangeland management. I think that Jeff Schalau has come up with an impressive slate of candidates. I am confident in all of their abilities to lead our Section into 2006 and beyond. Vote early and often!

On a final note, this will be my last submission as President to the newsletter. I would like to thank the membership for allowing me to serve on the Board of Directors as a board member and through the presidential ranks. I have learned a lot and hope to continue to serve the Section in any way possible. I also have to thank Bill Piper for making me fill out a membership form when I started my job as an extension agent in Santa Cruz County. You have a very talented current Board and the Section is in great hands with Bruce and Dennis running things with their Board members. See you in Globe!

Hasta luego,
Dean

VOTE FOR NEW OFFICERS

Please cast your vote to fill the following positions:

1. Director North – Serving 2006 and 2007
2. Director South – Serving 2006 and 2007
3. Vice President – Serving 2006, 2007 (President-Elect), and 2008 (Section President)

Ballots Due January 21st

1. CANDIDATES FOR DIRECTOR NORTH

Willie Sommers (Prescott)

First of all, I am glad about the opportunity to become the next Director North. This fall I moved to Prescott to begin a position with the Arizona State Land Department as the Range Resource Area Manager for northwest Arizona. My job entails coordinating with other state and federal agencies, conducting range monitoring, reviewing project proposals that affect State Trust rangeland and livestock operations.

In May I received a Master of Science degree in Range Management from the University of Arizona. My thesis research focused on the biological and social aspects of yellow starthistle management in the Cliff-Gila Valley of southwest New Mexico. As a graduate student, I was the President of the UA Student Chapter of the SRM and also a teaching assistant for the Rangeland Plant Communities of the West course.

I have been involved with the Arizona Section since 2000, and look forward to increasing my degree of participation. This section has some outstanding members who ensure that our meetings and activities are educational and fun. I would like to continue making sure our section remains unified and committed to learning and professional development.

Carol Boyd (Flagstaff)

Education: M.S., Range Management, Univ. of Idaho, 1987. B.S., Range Management, Univ. of Idaho, 1985; B.S., Wildland Recreation Management, University of Idaho, 1982.

Occupation: Current: Natural Resources Staff Officer, Coconino National Forest, 2004 – present. Previous: Various positions with Forest Service since 1987.

I would like to be more involved with the Arizona section of the SRM and offer my experience in management and finances to the section as a candidate for the Board of Directors. I have experience through both my career and personal activities in the areas of responsibility charged to the Board of Directors. My real strengths are in the areas of management and finance. I have served boards of homeowner's associations and churches as well as served as church treasurer for a number of years.

I have been a member of the SRM for twenty years and find it a wonderful way to keep up with developments and issues in rangeland management, both nationally and locally. I enjoy attending the meetings not only to learn new things, but to catch up with old friends and spend time with people who share similar interests. I have been active throughout my career on section (Idaho) and national committees. I am the incoming chair of the Remote Sensing/GIS committee after having served as a committee member for about 6 years. I became a Certified Professional in Rangeland Management in 2000 when the program began and have kept my certification current.

While I did not grow up in an agricultural community, I became interested in rangeland management in college. I have been involved in the field, primarily in managing public lands ever since. I feel that I can offer a balance of interest, abilities, and experiences needed by the Board of Directors.

2. CANDIDATES FOR DIRECTOR SOUTH

Kendall Brown (Nogales)

I grew up in and around Silver City, New Mexico and although my family didn't live on a ranch, I had many extended family and some friends that had ranches and I spent as much time there as possible. I've come to range management in a round about way, the same as many of you probably did. My first desire as a boy was to grow up someday and become a cowboy or maybe even a rancher. That lasted until I was able to realize the long hours and short pay that is part of that chosen profession. So I decided that I would try college and maybe end up teaching and playing cowboy on my time off. Somewhere along that route I recalled my early teen years when I volunteered with the Forest Service and decided that maybe I could work for the government and spent my time working with public land ranchers. This was about the time I discovered a thing called Range Management.

While I was figuring all this out I was attending Western New Mexico University for a bachelor's degree and then Oklahoma State University for a Master of Science in Wildlife & Range Ecology. During these years while I spent my falls, winters, and springs in the classroom, my

Kendall Brown Continued

summers were spent in the forest. I started as Wilderness patrol/Trails maintenance, then spent some time as a wildland firefighter on engines and hotshot crews on the Gila National Forest. After graduating from OSU in 1998 I spent some time back in the Gila as a range technician and wildlife biologist before moving to the Santa Fe National Forest as a wildlife biologist. It was there that I finally got a shot at a job as a Rangeland Management Specialist, where my heart had always been anyway.

I am currently the District Range Staff Officer on the Nogales Ranger District, Coronado National Forest. We've lived near Sonoita, Arizona since 2003, when I transferred to the Coronado from northern New Mexico. My wife, Ellen, and I are enjoying the country and people of Arizona. We have one son that was born here in Arizona in 2004. The area is truly a great place to live and work. I am continually amazed at the productivity of the southern Arizona rangelands, and am really enjoying the country and the cooperative working relationships that are part of ranching in south-eastern Arizona.

I am running for the position of Director South because I believe in the vision and mission of SRM and admire many of the professionals that make this society into the quality organization that it is. I hope my participation will add as much to this organization as I know it will add to my personal development.

Katie Cline (Tucson)

My name is Katie Cline and I am one of the new Range Specialist at the NRCS Tucson Field Office. I grew up, and still live on the family ranch north of Oracle. I have attended several universities such as Colorado State, New Mexico State, and graduated from the University of Arizona with a BS in Range Science. Before starting at the NRCS, I worked for the University of Arizona Extension with the task of monitoring several ranches including the Red Rock Watershed which is located east of Patagonia. I have worked with my dad Walt Meyer, on projects such as the Altar Conservation Alliance Management Plan, and monitoring the BHP Mining properties.

I was introduced to the Society for Range Management as a little girl. At a young age I learned the importance of cooperation between producers and agency personnel to reach our common goal of better management and conservation on our rangelands. As I become more involved in the range profession I have noticed a lack of producers in the SRM. If I am elected as Director South I would like to encourage more producers to get involved in the Society and its activities. Ultimately, our producers are why most of us are in this profession, and I would like to help bridge the gap!

3. CANDIDATE FOR VICE-PRESIDENT

Bill Edwards (Sierra Vista)

I am honored to be nominated to run for Vice-President. I have been a member of the Arizona Section since 1987. I grew up in the northern portion of the state between Prescott and Seligman, and while I was raised in and around the livestock industry, my first exposure to rangeland management as a science and profession occurred as a student at the Natural Resources Workshop for Arizona Youth. Subsequently, I joined SRM and enrolled in the rangeland management program at the University of Arizona. While at the university, I was active in the society, serving as Treasurer and President of the student chapter, and after graduation I served a term as Director South. I left the university with a BS degree in renewable natural resources, majoring in rangeland management and minoring in watershed management and wildlife and fisheries science. Upon graduation, I was hired by the Coronado National Forest, where I have been ever since, working on the Safford and Sierra Vista Ranger Districts. Currently, I serve as the Range and Watershed Staff Officer on the Sierra Vista Ranger District. I am also a captain in the Air Force Reserve, which has provided me the mixed blessing of working in some of the world's sandier garden spots. Multiple trips through the Middle East and central Asia have reinforced that there are places hotter than Gila Bend in June, and that Arizona is truly blessed with the combination of spectacularly productive and forgiving rangelands, and talented people dedicated to their management, health and continued productivity. I am currently finishing my second term as Director South, and look forward to continued service to the Arizona Section as your Vice-President.

~ 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 *SRM 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.

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

NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION WORKSHOP FOR ARIZONA YOUTH

JULY 10-14, 2006 at Mingus Springs Camp located in the Prescott National Forest

An exciting opportunity for youth 12-16 years of age! A chance to explore the great outdoors and experience the thrill of a unique adventure. The 43rd Annual Natural Resource Conservation Workshop for Arizona Youth is an interactive camp bringing together the latest in science and natural resource technology. Mingus Mountain, in the Prescott National Forest, will serve as our major area of focus as we study how plants, wildlife, water, and soils relate to one another in forest, rangeland and aquatic settings. Youth will learn how to use GIS, GPS, soil and water testing equipment, and various measuring tools. Using the data collected, teams of youth will present their findings, highlighting any areas of concern and possible ways to correct any problems identified. Various group activities such as fishing, hiking, swimming, volleyball & horseshoes will be available during their free time.

Youth will:

- Learn lifelong skills and create lifetime friendships.
- Gain hands-on experience with hi-tech equipment, field testing, data collection and project design.
- Work with natural resource professionals from throughout the state.
- Inventory and collect data on a study area and develop management recommendations.
- Participate in small-group experiences focusing on environmental studies in the outdoors.

For further information download the NRCWAY Information Flyer from our Section website at <http://azrangelands.org> or contact Kim McReynolds or Susan Pater at 520-384-3594 or Jeff Schalau at 928-445-6590.

NRCWAY SUPPORT & RECRUITMENT HELP REQUESTED

Financial Support

We are excited and plans are well underway for the 2006 Natural Resources Conservation Workshop for Arizona Youth. We are asking for your support of this outstanding conservation education program – our Arizona Section Society for Range Management youth program. In order to keep the workshop affordable for all youth, your financial support would be greatly appreciated. Your contribution should be made payable to AZ. SECTION, SRM - NRCWAY and mailed to: Susan Pater, c/o Cooperative Extension, 450 S. Haskell, Willcox AZ 85643.

Participant Recruitment

You can help assure the success of the Workshop by recruiting and encouraging youth, 12-16 years of age, with an interest in natural resources to attend. Workshop flyers may be downloaded from <http://azrangelands.org>. The application deadline is May 25, 2006. We challenge each Section member to recruit one young person to apply.

Workshop Support

Support is also needed during the workshop. Please contact Kim McReynolds, kimm@cals.arizona.edu, (520)384-3594 if you would be willing to assist during the week with the various activities and sessions planned. SRM members are welcome to stop by and see the workshop in action.

~ EVENTS CALENDAR ~

Arizona Section, Annual Meeting, - January 25-26, Apache Gold Casino, Globe.
<http://azrangelands.org>

SRM 59th Annual Meeting – February 12-17, Vancouver, British Columbia

2006 Water Resources Research Center's Annual Conference – **Providing Water to Arizona's Growing Population: How Will We Meet the Obligation?** June 20-21, 2006 at the Phoenix Hyatt Regency

Natural Resource Conservation Workshop for Arizona Youth - July 10-14, Mingus Springs Camp located in the Prescott National Forest

SRM 60th Annual Meeting – February 11-16, 2007, Reno Nevada

ARIZONA SECTION SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT
ELECTION FOR 2006 OFFICERS

1. DIRECTOR NORTH

_____ Carol Boyd

_____ Willie Sommers

2. DIRECTOR SOUTH

_____ Kendall Brown

_____ Katie Cline

3. VICE PRESIDENT

_____ Bill Edwards

PLEASE select one candidate for each office. Return the completed ballot to arrive no later than Saturday, **January 21, 2006** to:

Dan Bell, Secretary/Treasurer
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