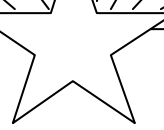




ARIZONA SECTION

Society for Range Management

March 2004 Issue



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Arizona Section
Website
azrangelands.org



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

It is an honor to serve as President for the Arizona Section of the Society for Range Management for 2004. Last year's Arizona Section President, Larry Howery, is a hard act to follow. On the other hand, Larry made it easy for this incoming President by blazing an excellent trail to follow. Larry asked each member to recruit at least one new member and he wrote to several potential members inviting them to join. The Arizona Section membership drive resulted in a 10% membership increase in 2003. Did you catch the Larry's essay on lifelong learning in the January 2004 SRM Member Resource News (formerly Trail Boss News)? Larry also lifted my spirits and helped me get the summer meeting started after my wife and I were involved in a serious accident last April. Thank you Larry for doing such a great job and being such a great friend!

Section Officers and Directors

I'd like to take a moment to welcome our newly elected Section Vice President Bruce Munda, Director North Rachel Meade, and Director South Bill Edwards. You'll be hearing more from each of them at Section Meetings and in Newsletters. In addition, Dan Bell has agreed to continue his service as Section Secretary/Treasurer. This is a busy (and sometimes thankless) job. Next time you see Dan, thank him for working so hard to document Board meetings, manage the finances, assist with correspondence, and help with membership meeting arrangements. Thanks also to remaining Board members: Larry, Dean, Keith, Emilio, Joe, and Derek-I know we'll have a great year!

2004 Winter Section Meeting

Our membership is dedicated to learning more about the sustainability of rangelands and we still manage to have a lot of fun while we learn. Along those lines, the Arizona Section Winter Meeting in San Carlos was a success and met both goals: we shared projects/programs through formal presentations and had a great time visiting during the breaks, poster session, awards banquet, auction, and golf tournament. The call for papers on the topic *Conservation: From Theory To Practice* resulted in a total of nine presentations and five posters. Fifty people attended the symposia and viewed the posters. Prior to the General Membership Meeting, eight very proficient golfers raised a total of \$160 during the Clark Martin Memorial Golf Tournament on January 12. The auction raised over \$2,000 for NRCWAY. Dan Bell handled registration and arrangements for the meeting expertly with help from Dean Fish and Emilio Carrillo.

Membership

As mentioned above, Larry Howery initiated a membership drive in 2003 that resulted in a 10% Section membership increase. Other Sections were also successful in their recruiting efforts because the Parent Society also increased its membership by about 8% (as reported by Sam Albrecht in Salt Lake City). So, I will also ask each of you to recruit at least one new member. When you are visiting with prospective members, tell them about the fun we have as well as the learning and information sharing that occurs at our meetings. If they decline, ask them to specify two reasons for not joining and two things that would make them consider joining in the future. Make sure that new members put your name as sponsor on the application form (this will give you a \$5 credit toward next year's dues). If anyone needs a brochure/application form, just e-mail Membership Chair, Mike Hannemann (mhannemann@fs.fed.us) or myself and we'll put one in the mail to you or we can send it directly to the prospective member.

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ASU Scholarship Recipient Derek Stauffer and Dr. John Brock

**Student Scholarship Recipients Recognized
at the Section Annual Meeting**

Mitch McClaran

At the Annual Meeting in San Carlos on January 12, 2004, the recipients of the Sections Outstanding Undergraduate Student Scholarship were recognized from Arizona State University and the University of Arizona. The scholarship recognizes the outstanding student in a degree program emphasizing rangeland management. Each recipient receives a check for \$300, and a one-year membership in the Society for Range Management.

The recipient from Arizona State University was **Derek Stauffer**. Mr. Stauffer is currently the President of the Student Chapter. He will graduate in May 2004 with a degree in Applied Biological Sciences with an emphasis in Wildlife Habitat Management. His career goals include research and education in natural resources with emphasis on the rangelands of the southwestern United States. He is currently employed as a Research Assistant on two projects led by Arizona State University faculty: biogeochemical processes of natural and unnatural riparian systems, and ecological restoration in riparian and dryland conditions.

The recipient from the University of Arizona was **Joe Harris**. Mr. Harris is currently the President of the Student Chapter called Tierra Seca. In that capacity, he has stimulated great interest among his fellow students to participate in the Plant Identification and Range Management Exam at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Range Management in Salt Lake City. He grew up on a ranch near Double Adobe (north of Douglas). Currently, he is in the Student Career Experience Program with the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), where he is learning all he can from Dan Robinett. Mr. Harris hopes to work for the NRCS when he finishes his degree.

On a related topic, **Amy Tendick** was the recipient of the Marcelle E. Schmutz Memorial Scholarship given in memory of Erv Schmutz's father. Erv was a longtime faculty member in Range Management at UA. Ms. Tendick is a senior earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Wildlife, Watershed, and Rangeland Resources with emphasis in Rangeland Science and Management. She was the recipient of the Arizona Section Scholarship last year. Her career goals are to gain experience in work related to natural resources management and work for a federal agency or non-governmental organization.

President Message – continued from Page 1

Upcoming Arizona Section Meetings

The general membership provided Dean Fish with lots of input for the 2004 Summer Meeting. During the Board meeting on January 14, it was decided that the Summer Meeting will focus on border issues that influence rangelands and natural resource management. This topic is very relevant to land managers across the southwest and has the potential to attract a large audience. The meeting will be held in Santa Cruz County and is tentatively scheduled for two days during the week of August 16-20, 2004. Watch for further details.

Forest Health Tour

Walt and Francie Meyer suggested that the Arizona Section SRM try to organize a forest health field trip for the Arizona Legislature. This tour would be similar to the tour that was held during the 2002 Summer Meeting in Flagstaff. We could visit adjacent sites that have received a range of treatments and discuss fire regimes, insect and disease potential, and ecological restoration of Arizona's forests. I have contacted Cheryl Chase (Representative, District 23) and Tom DeGomez (U of A Forest Health Specialist) about this tour. Both were interested, but it is still a long way from happening. I will also be attending the Governor's Forest Health workshop in Prescott on March 19 and hope to move the idea forward there. I envision it occurring this summer. If you are interested in helping with this tour, please let me know.

Web Site

We have our Section web site (azrangelands.org) to share information with members, attract new members, and archive information. It is not a fancy site with all the bells and whistles, but I hope it is useful to the membership. If you have not visited it yet, please do. I would like to hear your suggestions on how it could be improved or expanded.

So long for now, Jeff



U of A Scholarship Recipient Joe "Porkchop" Harris and Dr. Mitch McClaran

~ ~ 2004 Board Meetings ~ ~

MAY 24, 2004 - - Prescott, Arizona
Week of AUGUST 16 - - Section Summer Meeting
NOVEMBER 8, 2004 - - Tucson, Arizona

All members are welcome to attend! Contact Jeff Schalau 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

~~ ARIZONA SECTION PARTICIPATION IN SALT LAKE CITY ~~

Kim McReynolds

The Arizona Section was very well represented at the International Society for Range Management Meeting in Salt Lake City. The following are presentations by Arizona authors or research conducted in Arizona.

Spatial Patterns of Soil Properties in a Savanna Parkland Landscape: Soil Organic Carbon and Total Nitrogen. E Bai, T. W. Boutton, S. R. Archer, X. B. Wu, and Feng Liu.

The Current Drought (1999-2003) in Historical Perspective. Julio Betancourt.

Spatial Variation in Soil Texture in a Subtropical Savanna Parkland Landscape. Andrew T. Boutton, Teresa Rosol, Thomas W. Boutton, Xinyuan B. Wu, Steven R. Archer, Charles T. Hallmark, Feng Liu, Edith Bai, and Donna L. Prochaska.

Assessing Indicators of Rangeland Health with Remote Sensing. Jared L. Buono and Dave Williams.

Diet and Habitat Selection by Cattle: The Relationship Between Skin and Gut Defense Systems. Andrés F. Cibils, Larry D. Howery and George B. Ruyle.

Forest Stand and Forage Condition Following Wildland Fire in Silviculturally Treated vs. Untreated Sites in New Mexico and Arizona. Douglas S. Cram, Terrell T. Baker, Jon Boren and Carl Edminster.

*The Effects of Pile Burning and Fuel Removal on Bull Thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*) Germination and Density in Northern Arizona.* Debra L. Crisp, Carolyn Sieg and Laura DeWald.

Arizona Permittee and Agency Employee Attitudes toward Rangeland Monitoring by Permittees. Maria E. Fernandez-Gimenez, George Ruyle and Susan Jorstad McClaran.

Monitoring Rangeland Trend with Remote Sensing. John H. Gillham.

Evaluating Local Weed Management Programs in the Southwest. Mary E. Hershdorfer, Maria Fernandez-Gimenez, and Larry Howery.

Rangeland Management Before, During, and After Drought: An Extension Specialist's Perspective. Larry D. Howery.

Arizona Strip Greenline Trends-Updates and Observations. Lee E. Hughes.

Species Adaptation Trials for Rangeland Restoration in Northeastern Arizona. Benita Litson and John H. Brock.

Spatial Patterns of Soil Properties in a Savanna Parkland Landscape: Bulk Density and Soil Water Content. Feng Liu, X. B. Wu, S. R. Archer, T. W. Boutton and E. Bai.

Soil Carbon Differences Beneath Open Grassland, and Old, New and Cut Mesquite Trees in the Desert Grassland. Mitchel P. McClaran and Dean A. Martens.

Human Population and Consumption. Guy R. McPherson.

Noxious Weed Mini-Workshops for Road Maintenance Crews in Southeast Arizona. Kim McReynolds, Larry Howery, Ed Northam, Charles Barclay and K. David Fisher.

Inventory and Monitoring in Southeastern Arizona: A Cooperative Approach. Kim McReynolds, Wilma Renken, Joneen Cockman and Chuck Duncan.

Sediment Yield from Rangeland Watersheds in Southeastern Arizona. Mary H. Nichols.

Surface Stability in Icelandic Andisolic Rangelands: Influence of Vegetation. Berglind Orradottir, Steve Archer, Olafur Arnalds, and Larry Wilding.

Remote Sensing Information Products for Grassland Management. Jiaguo Qi.

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ARIZONA SECTION PARTICIPATION IN SALT LAKE CITY – continued from page 3

Ryan Fire and Drought Effects on Grazed and Un-grazed Grasslands in Southern Arizona. Daniel Robinett and Linda Kennedy.

Application of Geospatial Modeling and Remotely Sensed Data for Rangeland Studies. Susan M. Skirvin and M. Susan Moran.

The Development of a Community-based Yellow Starthistle Management Strategy in Southwest New Mexico. William D. Sommers and Larry D. Howery.

Wildlife Habitats Component for Arizona Range Sites. Tice Supplee.

Assessing Land Degradation in Iceland with GIS. Johann Thorsson, Steve Archer, Asa Aradottir, Ben Wu and Olafur Arnalds.

*Confluence in Ecophysiological Performance of *Bouteloua curtipendula* Varieties in Their Zone of Sympatry.* Maria Andrea Tomas, Steve Archer and Charles Taylor.

**USDA – Natural Resource Conservation Service
Summer Intern Program Announcement**

Application Deadline: April 18, 2004

Apply to: Human Resources
USDANRCS
3003 N. Central Ave., Suite 800
Phoenix, AZ 85012-2945
Contact: Gene Paschall
602.280.8801

Available Positions :

Soil Conservation Intern
Rangeland Management Intern
Agronomy Intern
Engineering Intern
Biology Intern
Soil Science Intern

Announcement #: AZ-04-SU-01A

Locations: Various locations throughout Arizona – Indicate location(s) of preference on application materials.

Eligibility: Students must be currently enrolled in college on at least a half-time basis and must be in good academic standing. The major program of study must be directly related to the available position(s).

Note: For copies of forms or other information please contact the NRCS, human resources department at 602.280.8817/8783.



~ 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

~~ NRCWAY ~~

The NATURAL RESOURCES WORKSHOP FOR ARIZONA YOUTH (NRCWAY) will be held this August 2nd through 6th at the St Joseph's Youth Camp at Mormon Lake. High School students will participate in a week of hands-on learning in sustainable use and conservation of natural resources from professional resource managers from the Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Arizona Department of Water Resources, Arizona Game & Fish, Arizona Indian Communities, Arizona State University, the University of Arizona, and other private organizations. Although the learning is intense there is also time for social activities and evening programs that provide opportunities to meet new friends from diverse backgrounds. If you know of a high school student that would be interested in participating or would like additional information, please contact Sandy Fabritz at 602-417-2418 or Tom Baker at 520-465-6379.



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.

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

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

Newsletter

Co-Chairs:
Sandy Fabritz
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Kim McReynolds
520-382-3594 or kimm@ag.arizona.edu
Susan Pater
520-382-3594 or spater@ag.arizona.edu

Nominations

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

NRCWAY

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

Public Affairs

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

Research Affairs

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

Scholarship

Chair: Mitch McClaran
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Student Affairs

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

~~ Arizona Section 2003 Awards ~~



2003 Range Manager of the Year

Beatrice Zueger & Chuck Lange X-One Ranch

Emilio Carrillo
Awards Committee Chair

Pictured from left: Shari Farrington, Field Rep. For Congressman Trent Franks; Chuck Lange; Beatrice Zueger; and Keith Curry, BLM.

The Arizona Section awarded its Range Manager of the Year Award to Beatrice Zueger and Chuck Lange of the X-One Ranch. The X – One is located between Seligman and Kingman near Hackberry on State Route 66 straddling Mohave and Yavapai counties. The ranch consists of mixed ownership comprised of BLM, State lands, and private lands. Beatrice and Charles are advocates of on the ground management and getting all parties involved in the planning process. A coordinated management plan between the BLM, Arizona State Land Dept., University of Arizona Mohave County Cooperative Extension, Big Sandy Natural Resource Conservation District and the Natural Resources Conservation Service has been developed. They have demonstrated sound practices to control erosion such as brush structures to stop head cutting on gullies using juniper. At the same time, they have cut juniper to control encroachment on large areas of open grasslands that occur through the ranch.

Long term vegetation monitoring transects have been established to record range health and trend on the ranch. Although Arizona has suffered from drought for many years, the X – One monitoring data shows the ranch ecological sites are stable or are in an upward trend. Other improvements include many miles of pipeline, numerous earthen water tanks (ponds) and over 150 miles of fencing. Beatrice and Charles have been conscience stewards of the land. The X – One ranch is deserving of the honorary award of the Arizona Section of the Society for Management Range Manager of the Year. Congratulations Beatrice and Chuck!!

~~ Outstanding Service Award ~~

Sandy Fabritz is this year's Outstanding Service Award recipient. For the past 6 years, Sandy has come up through the ranks in the Arizona Section by serving as a board member, then as Vice-President, President-Elect, President, and most recently, as our past-President.

Last year, Sandy served as Chair of NRCWAY and as Co-Chair of the newsletter committee, as well as serving as Chair of the nominations committee. As if her past and current service to the Arizona Section were not enough, Sandy was also elected and served as Chair-Elect in 2002 of the parent society's Advisory Council. In 2003, Sandy served as Chair of the Advisory Council.

Sandy has been one of the few members who have volunteered so much of their time and energy to serve SRM on so many different levels. Sandy has fulfilled the duties and responsibilities of each task remarkably well. She is quick to give others credit when she deserves much credit herself. Her selfless, dedicated service and leadership to SRM at both the section and national levels personifies the spirit and intended purpose of the Arizona Section Outstanding Service Award.

~~ ARIZONA SECTION BOARD UPDATES ~~

POSSIBLE NAME CHANGE PROPOSED FOR JRM

Larry Howery

The Parent Society Board of Director's is expecting a report from a Steering Committee that was assigned in 2002 to study and review the Society for Range Management periodicals. The Steering Committee will apparently address a possible name change for the Journal of Range Management. According to the Bylaws for the Society the Board must seek input from the Advisory Council before rendering a decision on this issue. The Arizona Section Board will continue to monitor this process and keep you apprised of any new developments. If you would like to learn more about this process, contact Advisory Council Chair, Larry Howery at 520-621-7277 or lhowery@ag.arizona.edu.

BLM PROPOSED GRAZING REGULATION REVISIONS

Dan Bell

In December of 2003, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) proposed to revise its regulations concerning the administration of livestock grazing on public lands. The BLM believes that these revisions are needed to "advance BLM's goal of promoting cooperation to achieve rangeland management objectives." In the Executive Summary to the EIS for the proposed revisions, the BLM stated that the regulatory revisions focus on improving working relations with permittees and lessees, protecting the health of the rangelands, and increasing administrative efficiency and effectiveness. In addition, the revisions are intended to resolve several legal issues. Several public meetings were held including one in Phoenix on January 28th and one in Salt Lake City on January 27th, which was attended by members of the Arizona Section. For more information go to www.blm.gov/grazing. The following table illustrates the proposed changes and the BLM's reasoning for the proposed change:

SUMMARY OF REGULATION CHANGE	REASON
Modify definition of preference and active use and remove definition of permitted use.	Provide assurance to operators regarding forage amounts upon which they may rely. Clarifies confusion over introduction of "permitted use" term.
Allow shared title to range improvements.	Recognizes and promotes permittee investment.
Phase-in changes in active use over 5 years if change is greater than 10%.	Provide BLM and permittees opportunities to adjust; allows opportunity to monitor increases or decreases in use.
Require monitoring and assessment as basis for land health determinations.	Emphasizes the use of data and analysis to support decisions; emphasizes vegetation community trends rather than one time observations.
Extended timeframe following S&G determinations for development of appropriate grazing management action.	Allows a realistic time period for response (24 months) and to accomplish legally required processes.
Reduce requirements for interested public involvement in day-to-day grazing management matters.	Focuses interested public involvement on planning rather than day-to-day operations. Allows managers flexibility to respond more quickly when additional process provides little benefit.
Emphasize CCC on biological assessments and clarify document purpose.	Improves consistency on CCC and clarifies difference between a decision and a supporting analysis document.
Establish new service charge amounts.	Updates service charges; current service charge is only \$10 for crossing permits, preference transfers and replacement or supplemental billings.
Remove requirement for livestock water right to be held solely in U.S. name.	Allows flexibility to work with State processes ; with site-specific situations.
Clarify prohibited acts tie to a specific permit or lease.	Clarifies nexus between prohibited act and grazing authorization.

THANK YOU ARIZONA SECTION MEMBERS!!!

The Winter Meeting Auction raised over \$2,000 for NRCWAY. Your support is greatly appreciated

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 1: Range Management Workshop – St. Johns, UofA Cooperative Extension, Mike Hauser

May 12: Governor's Drought Task Force – Sierra Vista, Sandy Fabritz, 602-417-2418

May 24: AZ Section Board of Directors Meeting - Prescott

If you have events to put into future newsletters please contact Sandy Fabritz, Kim McReynolds or Susan Pater.

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