



Society for Range Management Pacific Northwest Section

Properly functioning ecosystems provide for long-term sustainability of watersheds, plants, animals and people
Volume 55, Number 3 August 2004

See you in
SE Oregon
Oct. 21 - 23, 2004

NEWSLETTER

President's Message

Will Keller

August is here with all of its might, 100 degree days and 80 degree nights. These warm days usher in our local town's rodeo, the Omak Stampede and World Famous Suicide race.

I am not sure how world-famous this horse race is. Darnel, a friend of mine who is a descendent of the Wenatchee band, has a horse in the money this year. His jockey, Montanta, is one of his co-workers on the Omak Creek Restoration crew. In our last meeting of the Omak Creek Technical Advisory Group, we hit a snag. We have been able to attract the grant money for steelhead passage and restoration work. This fall is another record return of steelhead to the upper Columbia River's tributaries. Grant funds have to be spent or are lost. Even with the engineering work done, the money in hand, and Darnel's crew to do the work we are at a stand still. The last piece we are missing is the cultural resource investigation. Historic and prehistoric relics are important and we are interested in preserving this part of our heritage. But, we have not been able to elevate this particular work as a priority for one of the departments. Darnel, with his direct resolve, simply stated it was time to go up the chain of command. A flicker of light at the end of the tunnel came on. As many of you have found, dealing with people is frequently the hardest part of managing natural resources.

I hope we have not played our trump card too early. Time will tell.

Register for "Train Wrecks and Tall Grass" by October 4. See you in Ontario in October!

All Abo-o-o-ard!

Will

PNW Section Officers

President	Will Keller	509-422-2750	Director	Darren Bruhjell	250-371-6058
1 st Vice Pres.	Kevin Guinn	509-754-3553	Director	Les Boothe	541-947-6147
2 nd Vice Pres.	Bob Drinkwater	250-565-4115	Director	Nancy Phelps	503-808-2940
Past President	Tim Ross	250-427-4319	Membership	Bob Drinkwater	250-565-4115
Secretary	Mike Malmberg	250-489-3068	Student Affairs	Andrea Mann	509-663-6670
Treasurer	Craig Obermiller	541-923-2777	Awards	John Buckhouse	541-737-1629
Director	Rex Harder	509-257-2800	News. Eds.	Lynne Breese	541-447-6762
Director	Rob Dinwoodie	250-558-1768		jlbreese@prinetime.net	
Director	Dana Peterson	509-665-2100		Teal Purrington	541-923-6924

Vancouver 2006 Update

John Buckhouse and Bob France, General Co-Chairs, Vancouver 2006

Believe it!! The Vancouver 2006, SRM Annual Meeting is only 18 months away. Preparations continue! The PNW will provide an excellent meeting for the Society.

Sub-committees are reporting to key co-chairs of “umbrella” committees.

General Chairs: John Buckhouse and Bob France

Program Committee: Rick Miller & Bill Krueger **Finance Committee:** Rex Harder & Bob Leonard

Local Arrangements: Mike Borman & Cindy Meays **Parent Society Liaison:** Ann Harris

Student Affairs: Andrea Mann, Mike McInnis & Wendy Gardner

Local Arrangements is the most complex with 30+ sub-committees ranging from local transportation to social venues tucked under Mike and Cindy’s wings. Over 60 of our members have volunteered for assignments. If you have yet to sign on, please contact John or Bob; we will find the right spot for you.

Prior to this summer’s Merritt meeting, Mike Borman, Cindy Meays, Rex Harder, and John were joined by Kendall Derby, Will Keller, Bob Gillaspay, and Hugh Barrett in Vancouver. This was a very satisfying two days; the hotel personnel remain committed to us and our meeting; our group was excited about the facilities and the possibilities! We met with Canadian Customs. One of significant worry, how to get a major trade show over and back across an international border, was alleviated somewhat. Canada Customs will provide a specific “bubble” for us to direct all our contacts and items to be shipped, thus enabling us to work with a specific contact and under clear rules and regulations. A hired customs facilitator will be on-site. Ann Harris, at the Parent Society, will work with Customs and the trade show/decorating service for a seamless operation.

With a distinct North Western flare, PNW will host an truly fine meeting with excellent facilities, good food and entertainment, and fascinating technical sessions. Vancouver 2006 will reflect the traditions of rangeland resources and the uniqueness of the PNW, with emphasis on Canada and particularly Vancouver!

Thanks to each of you for your interest, willingness to pitch in, and for your natural grace and poise. We (Bob and John) are enjoying this process and working with all of you. We believe “Vancouver 2006” will be the best yet!

PS: While passports are not specifically required for travel into Canada (an original birth certificate will work), take a tip from the Canadians: **UPDATE AND CARRY YOUR PASSPORT TO MAKE YOUR TRAVEL AS PLEASANT AND TROUBLEFREE AS POSSIBLE!**

Memo from Merritt – THANKS!!

Mike Dedels, British Columbia Chapter President

From the Executive of the B.C. Chapter, I thank all of you who attended the PNW Spring Tour in Merritt back in June. We had a very good showing with over 130 attendees. Thanks to Barry Adams, David Pyke and Jeffrey Herrick for their great presentations we all came away with a much better understanding of range assessment.

The organizing committee did a great job of covering all of the bases before the Tour. Many thanks to Darren, Don, Alf, Vic, Lavona, Phil, Darryl, Wendy, Katherine, Nancy & Dave, all those I have forgotten, and the landowners and sponsors for making our Spring Tour a success.

And a special note to BC folks: We are currently planning our BC Chapter Annual meeting for early October in Kelowna. We will be discussing issues around rehabilitation and use of areas burned in the wildfires of 2003. It should be a very topical meeting that we hope will help develop more interest in our Chapter. We will get out information in early September (summer does go fast!) and look forward to seeing a good turnout of BC members.

PNW Section Elections 2004

Vice President Nominees – Vote for one (1) and return your ballot by October 15

Nominees are **Joe Wagner** and **Mike Dedels**

Mike Dedels, Kamloops, B.C.

Thanks to the nominating committee for inviting me to put my name forward for PNW Second Vice President.

I graduated from the University of British Columbia in Plant Science in 1983. Working as Range Agrologist in Kamloops Forest District since 1990, I spend a lot of time with ranchers and feel that getting information out to the producers is one area that SRM needs to work on the most. As government involvement in extension decreases, there is a need for SRM to collaborate with the cattlemen and other interest groups to make sure that good information gets out to where it can be used. This is the main goal that I would work towards as a PNW Vice President. The 2006 SRM in Vancouver may be an opportunity to work with the cattlemen to increase our exposure.

Besides nagging people to move things along on SRM tours, in my spare time I bike and hike, and have taken up soccer. I've proudly held the honor of having the ugliest snowboard at Sun Peaks for four years running, and look forward to breaking in a new board this year. If anyone wants a tour of the glades, just give me a call.

I've enjoyed getting to know many members better over the last few years, especially through recent field tours. I look forward to working with many more of you in coming years.

Joe Wagner, Lakeview, OR

As Fire Ecologist for Lakeview BLM/Fremont-Winema Forest, I see fire ecology becoming a major factor in both rangeland and forest health issues. This is where SRM could enter the picture to publicize success stories. I would like to see SRM providing a forum for rangeland prescribed burning and fire effects studies.

My career began as Range Conservationist for BLM in NV and CA. I've served also as Fire Management Officer.

SRM has figured heavily in my "range life". Until moving to Oregon & PNW Section, I often "slipped up north" to participate in PNW meetings and meet many of you. I'm glad to be "one of you". In both Nevada & California Sections, I served on the Boards and chaired the symposium sessions for the International Hawaii meeting. I've worked on the International Affairs (IAC) and Awards committees and represented the IAC to the Australian Rangeland Society, International Rangeland and Grassland Congresses. I am a Certified Professional in Rangeland Management and currently serve on the CPRM Committee. For "Rangelands", I've written articles on a drag chain seeder and Medusahead.

I enjoy reading about western history, visiting those historical sites, AND fishing.

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Board of Director Nominees – Vote for two (2) and return your ballot by October 15

Nominees are **Andy McDonald, Desi Zamudio, Jim Dobrowolski, and Phil Youwe**

Meet the nominees for PNW Director positions on the next page. ⇔⇔⇔

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TODAY, please do two things for PNW Society for Range Management:

- 1. Vote by October 15**
- 2. Register for our fall meeting/field workshop in Ontario, OR by Oct. 4**
(Remember to make a motel reservation, too!)

Phil Youwe, Kamloops, B.C.

In 1976, as a budding Range Agrologist in the Caribou 100 Mile District, I worked with 100 ranchers grazing on forestland ranges & wetland/meadowlands and created CRMPs on the ranges. Moving on to Kamloops, I worked with other researchers in BC's longest running "Forest Grazing" research program which looked at the interaction of seeding rates, grazing intensities & forest regeneration.

Today, as Range Officer for Kamloops & Headwaters Forest Dist., I look after a program of 214 range tenures covering about 3 million hectares of grassland, forestland & sub alpine/alpine ranges.

I am a director in the BC Chapter of SRM and enjoy the tours & workshops for their education & camaraderie. SRM, as a strong non-government organization, can promote the understanding of our range ecosystems and the proper stewardship required to ensure their sustainability. Working with ranchers is paramount.

My family enjoys the outdoors; my kids live for winter and snowboarding. I seek powder snow!

Desiderio "Desi" Zamudio, Lakeview, OR

Professionally, I wear a couple of "hats". On the Fremont-Winema National Forest, I am soil scientist and coordinate burn rehabilitation. For BLM, I work as a riparian and soil advisor.

Before coming to Oregon, I co-managed the Humboldt-Toiyabe NF which published two Riparian Field Guides. In other BLM or USFS work, I have done forest & riparian ecology surveys, and conducted soil surveys. Published papers relate to ecological classification, soil forming factors as indices for ecological types & status, and wildfire effects on soils. I am interested in resource economic valuations of nutrient and catchment functions as well as wildfire treatments.

Early on, SRM and its members taught me about "trend up" for wildlife & rangeland conservation. So, in a nutshell, I support SRM because SRM helps me be a more effective conservationist! I was president of the Nevada Section SRM and of the Nevada Soil & Water Conservation Society.

Wearing a third hat, and having a head for numbers, I tutor in mathematics and nature drawing! With my family, I sail in "desert lakes"!

Jim Dobrowolski, Pullman, WA

I am Range/Watershed Extension Specialist for Cooperative Extension at WSU and director for outreach education at the WA Water Research Center. From that duo role, I lead the state rangeland stewardship team (Extension, federal, state & local land management people) to provide rangeland stewardship education to the region.

SRM is a natural. I started as a student and helped establish the first chapter in the Texas Section. SRM is *the* outlet for the majority of rangeland research & management activities. It provides the way to pull together people with the common goal of proper stewardship of our rangelands.

PNW Section, a great mix of folks who mix education with fun, is one of the most thriving and enjoyable sections I've experienced. I would work to strengthen our ability to "get the word out".

Off hours? I work on the house, and travel: BC, Alaska, San Juans, the Blues – and I love the sight of a sagebrush-steppe/channel scabland!

Andy McDonald, Grasmere, B.C.

I've ranched in the SE part of BC since 1948 and have been a member of SRM since about 1972. I enjoy western music and team roping.

I got into SRM to learn how to better manage grass – and learned there was much more to it than that. I've had fun and made good contacts. There is a wide diversity in our members' experience.

From a rancher's perspective, I believe you can tell a lot about the grass quality by the jingle in your jeans. A lot of good research is done, but results can be difficult for laymen to interpret. Extension people need to remember that the end users of their results are people who are managing the land. SRM has been a good place for that interchange to happen. It should continue.

Land use philosophies have changed. It used to be that our relationship with sportsmen was adversarial, but as we got to know one another, we have a lot in common. Now we have the same battle with environmentalists. I hope we can make that same progress with environmental groups.

If elected Director, I see my job as contributing to the diversity of experience on the BOD, and in ensuring that the practical aspects of range management are not forgotten. Have a fine day. If you don't, it's nobody's fault but your own.

“Snuck up on. . .”

Bill Anderson, Range “Statesman” and holder of Certificate #1 Certified Range Management Consultant

During my professional career of 60 years or so, I worked with innumerable individuals and groups representing a wide variety of viewpoints, objectives and agendas. In order to “know” the kind of people each group represented, I would remind myself of their individual traits, objectives, idiosyncrasies and level of “savvy”. This was not a psychological exercise on my part. Rather, it was to help me communicate with groups of sometimes widely varying individuals. Obviously, I wanted to avoid, or at least to reduce the probability of, being “snuck up on”.

Well, let me tell you! On July 25, 2004, one day before my 90th birthday, I GOT SNUCK UP ON!!! Perfectly!!

A niece and her children were visiting our daughters and their families. They planned a family birthday party for me, to be held at Chris' home in Salem, OR. Sounded good to me, and I looked forward to sitting on their nice, quiet patio overlooking the gorgeous Willamette Valley while imbibing a bit and catching up on family doings.

Soon after I arrived, who stepped out of the house -- **Ken Sumanik** from Vancouver, BC. I knew I'd had it! Then they arrived - people I see often, others I hadn't seen in years -- from Washington, DC, Santa Fe, NM, Dallas, Texas, Vancouver, BC, Carson City, NV, Boise, ID, Washington and Oregon - 44 of them! There were cards and letters, including two nice letters from retired resource officials in New Zealand.

After reading the letters and greetings, I counted 14 from family, 19 from friends and 71 from colleagues. How could one person unintentionally end up with such experiences and memories in one lifetime? Unbelievable!

This event has been a very humbling, yet exhilarating, experience for me. There is no way I can adequately express my sincere gratitude to each and every one of you. Please remember that each of you, and many others, were willing collaborators in the things we got accomplished together.

Again, many thanks and God bless.

On Why One Should Consider Running for the SRM Executive . . . or lessons learned on the Rugby Bus

Tim Ross, PNW past president, singer-song writer, and teller of great stories!

Serving on the SRM Executive (Board), is like most jobs – you’re out of it just about the time you start to understand it. It reminds me of my high school rugby team on road trips.

With little budget, we didn’t have a bus driver. The coaches (also teachers) had the appropriate licenses so they did the driving. Naturally, with a Senior Team that included quite a few eager young drivers, there was pressure on trips home to hand over the controls. There came a trip when they eventually relented – but, then again, this was the 70s.

After one or two stops for drivers to switch over, someone came up with the bright idea that there was no need to actually stop the bus. We could “change on the fly”. So there began a process where the current driver would step to the right, while still holding the bus steady, and the new driver would slip into the driver’s seat from over the back - thereby resuming steady acceleration and forward motion. Everybody drove the bus. Not for very long, but everybody drove the bus.

Yes, being a part of the Executive is something like those bus trips with the rugby team. You announce you’d like to drive the bus, you’re judged by your peers as to your fitness and suitability, then next thing you know, you’re driving. Then, like I said before, just when you feel like you’re getting the hang of it, you get tapped on the shoulder. Next driver. But that’s OK, we’re all in this together.

So, don’t be shy. If you think you’d like to drive the bus – tell someone. Please consider it an honour if someone asks you to run for the SRM Executive.

Upcoming Events

October 21 – 23, 2004 **PNW SRM** Fall Annual Meeting and Field Workshop, SE Oregon
February 2005 **SRM** International Meeting, Fort Worth, Texas
Summer 2005 **PNW SRM** Summer Field Workshop, Washington
Fall 2005 **PNW SRM** Fall Annual Meeting and Field Workshop, Oregon
February 2006 **SRM** International Meeting, Vancouver, B.C., *hosted by PNW Section*

Pacific Northwest Section, Society for Range Management
Caring for basic range resources: soil, plants and water

Want to alert members to an upcoming event? Tell us who your Chapter president is? Give us your new address? Brag about another member's contribution to range management? Tell us a story? Call, write, or E-mail the Newsletter Editors! jlbreese@prinetime.net or tpurring@or.blm.gov

PNW Section of SRM
Newsletter Editor
C/O John & Lynne Breese
3315 SE Paulina Highway
Prineville, OR 97754

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PRINEVILLE, OR 97754
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See you in
SE Oregon
October 21-23!