

# *Society for Range Management Pacific Northwest Section*

*Volume 71 Number 1  
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## President's Message

*Jeff Burnham, WA*

Happy New Year to the Pacific Northwest Section!

As I write this, it seems that winter is at last arriving in the region and hopefully recharging our snowpack. Please stay safe in your travels.

It is an honor to assume the President's duties from Wendy Gardner, who has done such commendable work for the Section. Please don't hesitate to contact me with your requests, suggestions, and reminders. Nick Vora has transitioned from 2nd Vice President to 1st Vice President, and Dr. Carlos Ochoa is our new 2nd Vice President. We are also fortunate to have Julie Conley and Dr. Lesley Morris as two new members of the Board of Directors (BOD). All of these individuals are thoughtful, committed range professionals, and I'm sure I speak for all of us in expressing appreciation for their time.



Please see the rest of this newsletter to learn more about our outstanding fall meeting in Pendleton in October. Andrea Mann, Chris Schachtschneider, Claudia Ingham, and everyone else who helped organize and present deserve a special thanks for this well-run event. During the BOD meeting in Pendleton, we spent some time discussing student participation and the Young Professionals Conclave (YPC). The BOD made several recommendations with respect to budgeting for student activities, improving communication between the section and chapters regarding student support, and ensuring that funding is available for college students as well as high school students. And Sarah Schwarz, our YPC liaison, is working with other officers to increase YPC involvement in Section activities. Among the agenda items to be addressed at the next BOD meeting will be committee involvement. Current committee chairs are listed at the end of this newsletter – I encourage you to contact any of these individuals if you can offer suggestions or involvement in their activities.

This should be a great year for the section. The Annual Meeting will be held in Denver from February 16-20. Of particular interest is the Oregon State University/Pacific Northwest Section social from 6-8pm on Tuesday the 18th. Please stop by if you're planning to attend the meeting! A big thank-you to OSU for their assistance with this event. The Washington Chapter is planning to host the summer tour in western Washington, tentatively set for the third week in June, and the British Columbia Chapter is planning the fall meeting for Cranbrook, BC. I'm looking forward to all of these events and hope to see as many of you as possible!

A final note: if any of you haven't yet read the recent article by Dr. John Buckhouse, "A Brief History & Philosophy of the PNW Section," I encourage you to do so. It's currently posted on the "News" section of the parent society's website, [rangelands.org](http://rangelands.org). The article is an affectionate look at our lands and heritage.

Jeff Burnham

Ellensburg, WA

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## Calendar of Events

**February 16-20, 2020:** SRM Annual Meeting and Tradeshow, Denver, CO

**June 2020:** PNW SRM Summer Workshop, western Washington (tentatively set for the 3rd week of June)

**Fall 2020:** PNW SRM Annual Meeting and Symposium, Cranbrook, BC

### **Join us for the OSU and PNW-SRM Social at the 2020 SRM Annual Meeting in Denver!**

Our traditional OSU and SRM-PNW section social gathering will take place on Tuesday (Feb 18) from 6-8 pm in Tower A at the Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel. This is a great opportunity to greet fellow OSU alumni, students, faculty, and friends of OSU and the SRM-Pacific Northwest Section (Alaska, British Columbia, Washington, and Oregon). Please notice this year is also an all-university mixer effort sponsored by the meeting's organizing committee that may overlap some with our OSU and PNW section event.

While you are at the conference, please take some time to interact with our students, young professionals, and producers from OR and the PNW section attending the meeting, I am sure they will greatly appreciate it and will benefit from your experience. A good number of students from La Grande and Ecampus will be attending the meeting this year. Thanks to Bryan Endress, Lesley Morris, Yvette Gibson, and David Prado for coordinating student participation at this SRM event. Engaging the next generation of rangeland professionals is paramount for the sustainable growth of our ANRS program and the rangeland management profession at large.

Also, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of those of you who serve in the various SRM committees and boards. Whether it is at the local SRM chapter, the SRM-PNW Section, or at the national level, your participation shows OSU's and ANRS leadership and commitment to the profession.

Best Regards,

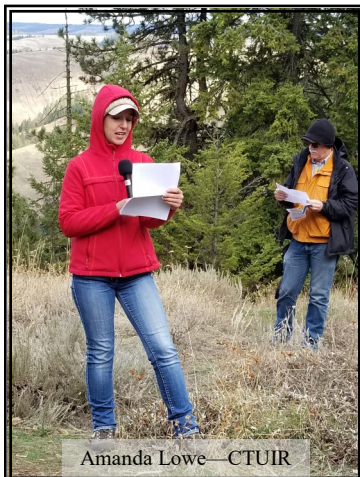
**Carlos G. Ochoa, PhD**

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## **PNW Annual Meeting and Symposium, Pendleton, Oregon**

### **Bird's Eye View of the Blue Mountains: An Exploration of Forestry, Range, First Foods and Wildlife October 16-18, 2019: Pendleton-Oregon**

**A Joint Tour of PNW Society for Range Management SRM, Oregon Small Woodland Association OS-WA, Society of American Foresters SAF, Umatilla County Cattlemans Association UCCA, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation CTUIR**



Amanda Lowe—CTUIR

#### **Program overview:**

On **Wednesday**, SRM members conducted business and committee meetings to volunteer their energy and ideas for the coming year. The **Wednesday Social** is an opportunity to connect with members and visitors from throughout our Section which includes Alaska, British Columbia, Washington and Oregon. With frequent visitors from Alberta, California, Idaho and partner organizations.

**Thursday morning** 60 participants began our exploration of a region of the Northwest rich in culture and natural resources by touring the **Pendleton Unmanned Aerial Systems Test Site** with associated demonstrations of drone use by BC students Steven Kega and J T Mufford.

**Thursday afternoon** we toured CTUIR and private landowner forestry, range, first foods and wildlife management in the Emigrant Springs area. Presentations by Andrew Addressi, Amanda Lowe, Linda Sampson, Hans Rudolph, Terry Andersen filled the afternoon with discussion which continued into the nights awards banquet.

*(Continued on page 3)*

(Annual Meeting— continued from page 2)

At the awards banquet Bill Krueger received the Jim Brunner: Long Haul award, Maura Lavery received the Exemplary Service award, and Will Keller received the Trailboss award. The silent auction raised approximately \$450 for student travel and the endowment fund.

**Friday morning** included a Young Professionals Conclave which show cases papers and posters presented by young professionals in the natural resources management field and research conducted by students from several university campuses within our region. Plus local biochar discussion and climate change presentation by Jeff Blackwood and Dave Powell.

#### Student Presentations:

-Littlefield, K., L.R. Morris, S.B. Lukas, S.J. DeBano, H. Schmalz, and S. Mitchell (2019) Habitat differences for native ground-nesting bees between seeded old-fields and native prairie.

-David Prado-Torango: Response of the invasive grass medusahead (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*) associated to arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi (AMF) inoculum application.



Todd Nash—OCA



Hans Rudolf—ODF

#### Student Posters:

-Nicole Durfee: Comparison of the water balance in a juniper-dominated watershed vs a sagebrush-dominated watershed in central OR

-Kaylee Marr, Analysis of a large number of blood parameters reveal physiological effects of forb and legume pastures on lactating dairy cows

-Rygg, M.H., B.L. Watson, L.R. Morris, S.B. Lukas, S.J. DeBano and H. Schmalz (2019) The effects of prescribed fire on forb cover in the Pacific Northwest Bunchgrass Prairie.

-Emerson, K., S.B. Lukas, S.J. DeBano, S. Mitchell, H. Schmalz and L.R. Morris (2019) Management impacts on dynamic soil properties of a Pacific Northwest Bunchgrass Prairie.

-Manderback, M.Z., L.W. Ridder, L.R. Morris, H.J. Schmalz and B.K. Kerns (2019) To-poedaphic effects on *Ventemata dubia* production in the Pacific Northwest Bunchgrass Prairie.

-Littlefield, K., R. Arellanes, C. Shippentower, G. Schumacher and L.R. Morris (2019) Toxic beauty: Viper's bugloss (*Echium vulgare*).

Photos courtesy of Andrea Mann

## 2019 PNW Section Awards

Every year our Section recognizes the achievements of fellow members and their contributions to our society. The Awards Presentation at the fall section meetings is a much anticipated annual event. There were three awards presented at this year's fall meeting.



### Trail Boss Award Will Keller

Will is a long-standing member of SRM and has served the organization in many capacities. He was president of the old Okanogan Chapter. Then he was director and president of the PNW Section. Will has helped put on several PNW summer and fall meetings in Washington. For the 2012 International SRM meeting in Spokane, Will was one of the Three Amigos leading the charge.

Will Keller has been described by his peers:

- Part botanist, part rancher, part mountain goat, part ecologist.
- He has walked the legs off many a trainee.
- Will is the grazing land whisperer
- A teacher at heart, Will is always willing to share his expertise
- Will has an open mind and open arms. He is a friend to all newcomers
- He is always willing to help where needed
- Will has the most even keel disposition

(Continued on page 4)



One of Will's most enduring professional accomplishments is the creation of more than 30 Coordinated Resource Management planning groups from 1995 to 2003. More than 20 are still active and regarded as essential to agencies and ranchers alike.

Another major impact to Okanogan County has been his work with the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) grazinglands. These lands, including the Loomis State Forest, were evaluated and grazing plans developed and implemented. He has inventoried and assessed the riparian condition of 700 miles of streams.

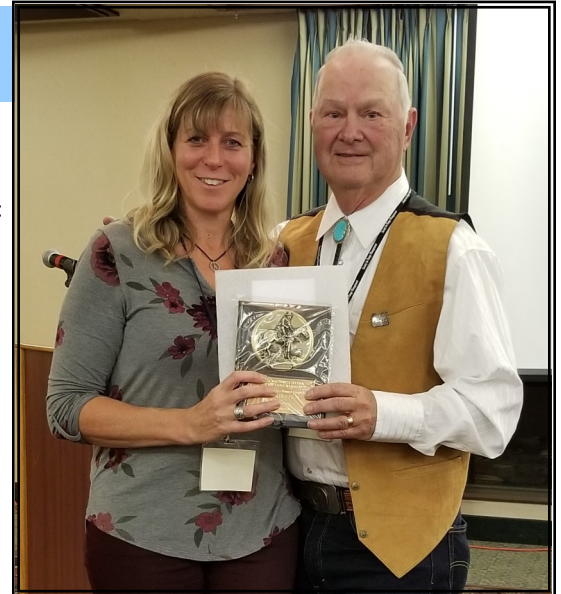
The respect ranchers, agency personnel and elected officials have for Will Keller's expertise is well earned. Help me honor this year's Trail Boss, Will Keller.

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### **James Brunner: In for the Long Haul Award** Dr. William C. Krueger

What does one say about a 54-year member of our organization who has done it all?

Possibly one could list some of his major accomplishments---perhaps his awards: The Pacific Northwest Section Trail Boss or the Parent Society Renner Award---or maybe his publication list which is a mile long and covers innovations in rangeland management which he researched and pioneered, and which have dramatically altered the face of rangeland management---perhaps one could speak of his administrative and management skills as a Department Head at both Colorado State University and Oregon State University where he was able to assemble successful teams of classroom teachers, researchers, and extension educators---or maybe one might tout his dramatic, game-changing, on-the-ground research which altered the way riparian issues are handled west-wide; or his research dealing with Acute Bovine Pulmonary Emphysema which may have single-handedly prevented financial disaster to stockmen across Oregon---or perhaps one might recognize his successful efforts to bring truth and cooperation to Oregon's agencies and its citizens....a good example of which was Bill's (with the help and support of the PNW/SRM) Oregon Watershed Improvement Coalition (OWIC) which evolved famously from pie-in-the-sky to the now world-wide acclaimed Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) and its multi-million dollar watershed and wildland enhancement and education program.



BUT IF WE HAD TO SUM UP BILL KRUEGER IN ONE SENTENCE IT WOULD BE THIS: IN HIS ENTIRE LIFE, BOTH PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL, BILL NEVER TURNED DOWN A SINGLE, GENUINE REQUEST FOR HELP!

With his wife, Peggy, steadfast by his side, we acknowledge the numerous contributions Dr. Krueger has made and continues to make...and we proudly recognize him as the James Brunner: in for the Long Haul recipient for 2019!



### **Exemplary Service Award** Maura Lavery

Quiet, unassuming, and wildly effective.

That phrase describes Maura Lavery.

Respected by her colleagues and peers alike, Maura is known as the "go to" person in her professional life working for the US Forest Service as well as in her personal life of service to several organizations-----especially the Pacific Northwest Section of the Society for Range Management.

She has served on committees, with the Board of Directors, as 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, President, and immediate Past President of the PNW. Currently she and a powerhouse committee have combined to organize this exceptional Fall Meeting for the faithful.

Without Maura Lavery in our ranks, the PNW/SRM would be poorer. We are grateful for her, for her efforts, and for the spirit which has gone toward making all of us better!

Congratulations Maura Lavery on being selected as the 2019 Exemplary Service recipient for the Pacific Northwest Section of the Society for Range Management!

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## Lost Resource—Fred Hall



Fred Hall, who was a mentor to many SRM folks (and others, too) died peacefully at home on December 5.

As a 17-year old, Fred joined the Marine Corps toward the end of WWII, and served in the USMC through Korea and Viet Nam. He stayed active in the Reserves until he retired as a Major in 1987.

His personal life reflected his dedication the Marine Corps Hymn “*in the Air, on the Land, and Sea*”. In the **AIR**, Fred was a pilot with commercial and instructor’s licenses.

On the **LAND**, Fred developed the first ecology program for the USFS, and was a prominent range ecologist in eastern Oregon. His pioneering work on forest ecosystems, grazing/browsing monitoring, photo monitoring, and forest health have stood the test of time and are used today. Fred was a scientist, creative innovator, and inventor with a passion for “getting it done”. When he needed a way to

determine slope angles back in the ‘60s, he created his own inclinometer.

As a teacher, mentor and parent, Fred was a colorful and dynamic presence in the lecture hall, camp or field. He taught plant ID, how to walk a trail in the dark, how to do a 100-point plot, dig deep holes to test soil, and a respect for the High Country. An evening around the campfire with Fred was an evening to remember.

On the **SEA**, Fred was a blue water sailor and navigator, finding his way across the open ocean with a sextant and celestial navigation. He loved to cruise the San Juan Islands and lived on his sailboat for years and later in his houseboat with his wife Ginger.

Semper Fi Marine.



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## New Grass Identification Book Now Available — *Field Guide to the Grasses of Oregon and Washington*

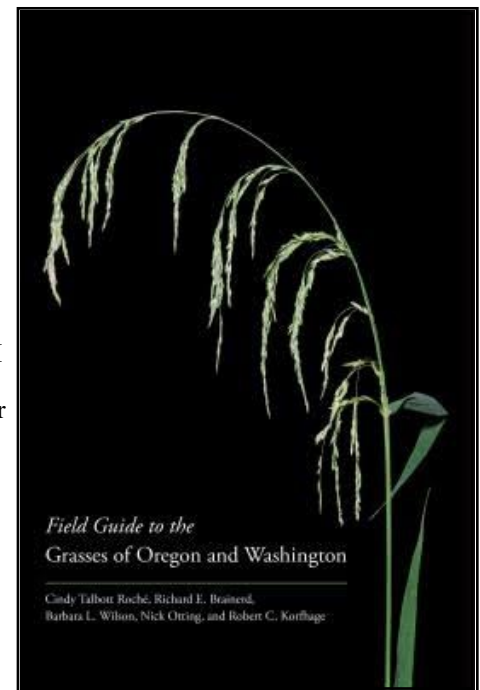
Book Review – Hugh Barrett

*Field Guide to the Grasses of Oregon and Washington*. Roche, C.T., Brainerd, R., Wilson, B. L., Otting, N., Korfhage, R. C., pp. ix, 460. Oregon State University Press. 2019.

The *Field Guide to the Grasses of Oregon and Washington* is a photographically rich and informative guide to the 376 native species, subspecies and varieties of grasses in Oregon and Washington. Included, as well, are the commonly encountered introduced and naturalized agricultural and ornamental grasses, and the weedy invaders abroad our Northwest landscapes today.

An early reviewer wrote that “... grasses are important functional components in a variety of ecosystems ... ranging from wetlands to deserts and from sea level to alpine ...”, I would add, however, that despite their importance and ubiquity, grasses are, for many, the most difficult group of plants to identify, second perhaps to sedges and rushes and/or the cryptogams.

Written in a comfortable, almost conversational style, the Introduction takes the reader on an armchair, or tailgate, or spot on the ground under the shade of a tree journey through the evolution of the grasses, their morphology and structure and their vocabulary: awns and glumes, lemmas and paleas, florets and inflorescences, rames and panicles, auricles and ligules, puberulent (I love that word!) and pubescent ... For the stout of heart and student-in-training (You have to learn this – There. Is. No. Easy. Way!) there is a tightly drafted dichotomous key. And for we “Old Dogs”, the author endearingly suggests the “Leaf Method” of grass identification. Don’t know what that is? It’s in the book!



(Book Review—Continued on page 6)

The text and excellent macrophotographs dealing with the individual species are without parallel, exposing many of the mysteries of the Poaceae family, while truly enhancing their magic. Of the many commendable features in book - in addition to the photography and text - the two I most appreciate are: 1) in the discussion of a particular species, similar species, crosses, and hybrid intergrades are described, and 2) the index serves as a synonymy for earlier classifications. (e.g. *Agropyron spicatum*. See *Pseudoroegneria spicata*)

For those of us who cut our taxonomic teeth on the pen and ink illustrations and the clipped, abbreviated and economical texts of the venerable Hitchcock's *Manual of the Grasses of the United States*, or the more recent Hitchcock & Cronquist's *Flora the Pacific Northwest*, this guide, through its excellent photography and descriptive text, would have been most appreciated when I began my journey into the taxonomy of the grasses all those years ago.

As I told some friends recently - this book belongs in every Botanist's library, on the front seat of any Range Con's pickup, on any Master Gardener's kitchen table, in any Naturalist's knapsack, and in any Cowboy's saddlebag.

Hugh Barrett – Retired Rangeland Consultant

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