

# Society for Range Management Pacific Northwest Section

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## President's Message

Nick Vora, OR

I hope this finds you all enjoying a warm spring watching the grass grow. Unfortunately, in many areas in the Pacific Northwest that growth is quite a bit less than what we'd like by this time of year. With unprecedented drought and moisture deficits in some areas this summer is bound to pose some challenges for us in rangeland management. But, we're all here for the challenge and like the quote I've heard attributed to Dr. Mike Borman, "this isn't rocket science... it's more complicated." So screw down your hats and check your cinches, this year could be an interesting ride.

I hope you all were able to participate in and enjoy the international meeting this year with the remote delivery format. I think a lot of people who otherwise would not have been able to attend were able to this year, and hopefully that will spur future attendance. Our spring/summer meeting this year will also be in a virtual format hosted by the Washington chapter. Stay tuned for details, and I hope to see you all there. As we look to the future things appear to be settling back to normal, and while our fall meeting in BC may have to be in a



remote format due to travel restrictions, hopefully we will all be able to see each other in person in 2022.

I'd also like to congratulate everyone who received very well-deserved awards this year. For the PNW section, Kevin Guinn received the Trail Boss Award, Tip Hudson received the Exemplary Service Award, and Tom Brannon received the Brunner In for the Long Haul Award. From the parent society, Pat Shaver received the Renner Award, and Tony Svejcar received the Chapline Research Award. Please congratulate them on these awards when you have a chance.

In more personal news, I've recently made a career switch from NRCS range specialist to be the emergency management director for Union County in Oregon. While my current career is in a different line of work, I hope that SRM will be one of the ways for me to stay connected to the people and science I've come to love, and I plan to be a familiar face for years to come.

#### Mark your Calendars for PNW Field Workshops/Symposiums/Meetings

2021 PNW SRM Summer Workshop, Sponsored by the Washington Chapter

Coming to a Computer Near You: Washington's Almost Live Summer Tour Social - Thursday, June 24 at 7:00 pm PST

This year's summer tour will be a combination of videos for viewing at your pleasure on Washington's very own Society for Range Management YouTube channel, wrapping up with a Zoom social on Thursday, June 24 at 7 pm. Entertainment and camaraderie will be provided, you bring the drinks and snacks (but mind the keyboard).

Stay tuned to the PNW Website for details and access information.

#### 2020 PNW SRM Section Awards

Congratulations!

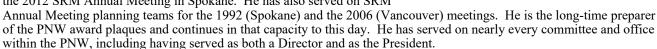
## **Trail Boss Award**Kevin Guinn

Kevin Guinn began his noteworthy career with the NRCS in 1977. He joined the Society for Range Management the same year. In the 43 years since, he has proven his mettle time and time again!

Prior to retirement, Mr. Guinn most recently served as the Washington State Range Management Specialist where he planned and implemented a variety of Coordinated Resource Management projects and spearheaded a Sage Grouse Initiative with ranchers and agency personnel that was wildly successful and funded by well over \$500,000 in grant allocations and \$1.3Million in rancher contracts! Additionally, Kevin was extremely active in providing workshops and trainings across the state to agencies, Tribal, rancher, and citizen groups to the tune of several each year over a 30+ year career!

Kevin has been well received by the NRCS, having garnered more than 25 merit awards from the NRCS during his career. A career highlight for Mr. Guinn was the reception in 2016 of the USDA Agency-wide, "Unsung Hero" Award for recognition of "the highest level of service to the public"!

At the parent society and section levels of the SRM, Kevin has been a tireless yet quiet presence. He was one of the "Three Amigos" who planned the 2012 SRM Annual Meeting in Spokane. He has also served on SRM



The international parent society, the Society for Range Management, and the Pacific Northwest Section are proud of Kevin and have shown their appreciation in a number of ways over the years. At the parent society level, Kevin was awarded the Outstanding Achievement Award in 2014. At the Section level, Kevin has been awarded the Exemplary Service Award and today he is receiving the highest award our Section has to offer.

Kevin Guinn is a wonderful family man, a wonderful asset to his community, and perhaps the only person we know personally who has hiked the entire length of the Pacific Crest Trail!

Mr. Kevin Guinn has done a remarkable job of bringing the art and science of Rangeland Management to the fore. He is fully deserving of the PACIFIC NORTHWEST SECTION'S HIGHEST HONOR THE TRAIL BOSS AWARD!

#### **Exemplary Service Award** Tipton (Tip) Hudson



To read Tip Hudson's resume is to become awed by how much this individual has accomplished! Mr. Hudson is the County Director of the WSU Kittitas County Extension Service where he holds the rank of Associate Professor.

He was educated in Range Resources at the University of Idaho where he received both BS and MS degrees. Before joining the WSU Extension Service, Tip was the Executive Vice President of the Washington Cattlemen's Association.

Tip's achievements include a dozen awards for communications and outstanding achievement; dozens of program revenue sponsorships for educational programing; over a million and a half dollars in funding from private and non-profit sources; about 300 publication titles ranging from peer reviewed journals, peer reviewed extension articles, a book chapter; abstracts, posters, videos, and international/national/state & regional/and local lay and popular journal articles.

Tip with his daughter, Vivian



Mr. Hudson has served on numerous professional society and community committees.

He has served the Pacific Northwest Section/Society for Range Management as a member of the Board of Directors and as our President.

He is currently running for a position on the Parent Society SRM Board of Directors.

All of these accomplishments are impressive...but the standout exemplary service item is a series of forty episodes in an educational series of videos describing rangelands entitled "the Art of Range" which is coupled with seven additional videos describing various other aspects of rangelands and their management. These are wonderful, well done videos which will be educational far into the future. Nice work, Tip! Thank you for this—and for all of your contributions!

The Pacific Northwest Section/Society for Range Management is pleased to award the 2020 Exemplary Service Award to Mr. Tipton Hudson!

## James Brunner: In for the Long Haul Award Tom Brannon

What a guy! We all know Tom Brannon and his lovely wife, Kathy, as strong supporters and believers in rangeland management and in the people who live and work on the land. We know Tom as someone who will pitch in and help where needed, and we know Tom and Kathy as wonderful, friendly people who always have a smile and an encouraging word. To know the Brannons is a huge pleasure and a great gift!

But did you know that Tom first joined the Society for Range Management in 1958?

Did you know that Tom served in the military as a 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant/US Army/Combat Engineer?

Did you know that Tom has been an agency range con (BLM), a ranch manager, and the Supervisor of the WSU Colockum Multiple Use Research Station?

Did you know that Tom is a past President of the PNW/SRM and a former PNW Trail Boss awardee?

Did you know that during his career Tom led horseback resource tours, graduate student research, field trips, and landowner resource extension training and education?



Tom with his wife Kathy

Did you know that Tom is a private pilot, a sailor, manages a vineyard, makes wine, and sings in two choirs?

Did you know that Tom is involved in management of the family farm located in Ohio (which has been in the family since 1875)?

Did you know that Tom is still active in monitoring rangelands and tracks the rare Astragalus sinuatus on the Colockum?

What you almost certainly did know is that Tom and Kathy are incredibly upbeat and are not looking back-- but are looking forward to a fantastic future!

The Pacific Northwest Section/ Society for Range Management is proud to present the 2020 James Brunner: In for the Long Haul Award to Tom Brannon!

## SRM 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting Rangelands: New Frontiers

#### **PNW Student Highlights!**

Submitted by: Eric Philipp-Petrick

Environmental Science Major at Heritage University

I am very grateful for the opportunity to attend the SRM 2021 Annual Meeting. The persisting global pandemic has forced some interesting adaptive strategies, and while I absolutely do miss the in-person interactions, I have benefitted enormously from the virtual nature of this conference. For starters, I would not have been able to attend an in-person gathering this year. Having the ability to re-watch symposia and workshops combined with the virtual format made taking notes and organizing contact information quick, clean, and straightforward.

The sheer volume of presenters offered an incredible breadth of scientific knowledge, and again thanks to the online format, attendees could effectively attend two symposia running at the same time. As an environmental science major, I found plenty to explore. One of my expanding areas of interest is fire ecology. Nathan Gill's presentation on invasive plant species and potential fire regime change was the first of many that I noticed included figures made with ArcGIS, a map making program that I have studied and thoroughly enjoyed at Heritage.

To say I came away from the SRM Annual Meeting with a handful of contacts hardly does the event justice. Not only did I meet and interact with virtually hundreds of scientists in my field, but I was also shown the work that they were doing and the tools they use. What was really unexpected was the fact that I now, after having studied for four years, have a working knowledge of some of those concepts. For me, the absolute biggest takeaway from the SRM 2021 Annual Meeting was being able to see how these tools are used outside of the classroom to do the kind of work that I am passionate about.

#### Submitted by: TRU Students

Four graduate students and three undergraduate students from Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops, BC attended the 2021 SRM Meeting held virtually this February. The graduate students, Zhi Chao Guo, Sarah Bayliff, Kristi Gordon, and Rachel Whitehouse, all gave oral presentations. On her experience Zhi Chao said, "It was a great experience to use more accessible language to communicate the general public about my research. Also, by attending the meeting, I have expanded research angles on my own project and explored areas outside my field." Sarah added that, "The meeting provided me with an amazing opportunity to share my research with people from all over the world. It was very interesting to hear of current research going on in ecosystems so different from where I live. It really opened my eyes to how diverse rangeland is across different regions of the world." Kristi had a similar experience stating, "Despite being delivered virtually, the SRM Annual Meeting was a worthwhile experience! I was fortunate to have the opportunity to share my thesis research; I received great feedback and had interesting discussions. The online platform was seamless, and I was thoroughly engaged in the virtual presentations."

The undergraduate students, Steve Harry, Keenan Baker, and Stacia Panko, all attended the conference for the first time. They did not know what to expect but were very impressed with the virtual event and the diversity of topics that were covered. Steve summarized his thoughts as, "It was pretty amazing to ask a question and have it addressed by professionals in the field, and on the other side private land owners. This really gave me some great insight into some of the issues between private land owners and organization and how important open communication is in addressing these." Keenan added, "I found the conference to be invaluable as an undergraduate student to see what type of work and research is being done on rangelands throughout North America. It was interesting to see real world problems and solutions to provide better understanding of classroom knowledge. I am glad we are able to go back and watch content we weren't able to attend in real time and review presentations to pick up pieces we might have missed the first time around. This conference was fantastically organized and a pleasure to view."

The students from Thompson Rivers University would like to extend a huge thank-you to the PNW section for covering their registration costs and assisting them to attend. They all learned more about the diversity of rangelands and felt the experience expanded their global view.

#### Submitted by: Xavier Martinez

I am very grateful to have the opportunity to attend SRM this year, there were so many great presentations! A highlight for me has to be the diversity in the conference, to see the different people from many different places. There are many barriers facing stem today. Also learning the problems facing invasive species and biodiversity. I didn't know the impact on how one invasive species can affect

an entire ecosystem in so many ways. SRM has shown me a different perspective on how modern-day farming should be done, they have based their foundations not only on traditional ecological knowledge but on tangible evidence based on science. Moving forward I hope to apply what I've learned from SRM to my own career and I hope to be a part of it again. Thank you!

Submitted by: Juniper Cosner (Rangeland Sciences major-OSU)

Attending the 2021 SRM annual meeting was valuable learning experience for me. I always try to attend lectures that I do not know much about. This expands my knowledge of rangeland management helping me have a better understanding and further my future career. Meeting new people is another important benefit of attending SRM annual meeting. Being able to meet accomplished professionals and ask them questions was one of my favorite parts of annual meeting because of the knowledge I can acquire from them. Overall the SRM annual meeting was a beneficial experience for me.

#### **PNW Family Meeting Highlights!**

While being virtual is not ideal PNW Section made the most of the Family Meeting during the 2021 Annual Meeting. It was great to see everyone's smiling faces, catch up with long time friends, and make new ones! We were blessed with some amazing entertainment.

Julie Conley performed two original songs. Julie says that she and Tim Ross got the idea to write the song 'Old Time Rangeman' from Hugh Barrett. They wrote the song to the tune of 'Old time Riverman' by John Hartford.

The song 'Git Along Little Data' came to her from Pete Sundt back in 1998, a Range Ecologist from Tucson, AZ.

Julie has graciously recorded her songs for all to hear! Here is the link: <a href="https://youtu.be/mRxP\_uz0W4A">https://youtu.be/mRxP\_uz0W4A</a>

#### GIT ALONG LITTLE DATA

1) As I was a-ridin' around on the rangeland, I spied a poor feller hunched over the ground.

A pencil in his hand and a pad full of paper, he mumbled this song without looking around.

#### **CHORUS**

Whoopy ti yi yo, git along little data, it's their hypothesis and none of my own.

Whoopy ti yi yo, git along little data, I reckon some laptop will be yer new home.

2) Well it's late in the summer we lay out the transects, we mark em and flag em and make sure they're square. Lay out the quadrats, a couple of million, nested of course for plants common and rare.

#### **CHORUS**

3) Oh it's whoopin' and hollerin', git along little data. Oh how I wish you would just fit this curve.

And it's square root and arcsine transformin' the data. Throw out any point that doesn't quite serve!

#### **CHORUS**

--As heard by Julie Conley from Pete Sundt at a camp out on the Gray Ranch in NM, 1998.

#### **OLD TIME RANGEMAN**

Where does an old time rangeman go, after his time is done?
His back starts to bend, and his hair is full snow, his leathered skin browned by the sun.
In the back of his mind, he's way up in the pines, in the flowered hills where the wind never blows.
He could ride with the best, was friends with the rest, though sometimes folks just didn't know.

Where does an old-time range consultant go, when they say younger fellers know what's right? He'll tell 'em all that's great, just be saddled-up at eight, And don't make any plans for the night. There's no app for experience, so if you want to learn, something 'bout the range resource, don't trust your luck, always know where's the truck, and which, direction is North.

Where does an old-time range con go, after she's passed away?

Does she spend all her hours, just naming the flowers, her memory as clear as day?

She can't help it if her mind, is way above tree line, in the passes, where the cool creeks flow.

Or down in the desert, 'cause she loves to walk, out where the sagebrush grows.

What might an old-time soil con become, after he's one with the ground.

Does he rest quietly, below horizon B, or did folks spread his ashes around?

Did they dig him a pit, where he could finally sit, and trace all the layers down?

Or did he return, as a humble earthworm,

To aerate his world around?

What does an old range dog do, when he finally can't jump up in the truck?

He'll buy the winning ticket, in the lottery, and then he'll just trust his luck.

He's been kicked and trampled, and run over twice, and seen what any normal dog can see.

Does that the Big Rock Candy Mountain, on which we're all a'countin', stretch from sea to sea?

Lyrics by Julie Conley & Tim Ross with inspiration from Hugh Barrett and John Hartford (Old Time Riverman)

#### **2021 SRM Honor Awards**

Presented at the 2021 SRM Annual Meeting Congratulations!

#### Frederic G. Renner Award Dr. Patrick L. Shaver

The Frederick G Renner award is the most prestigious award bestowed by the Society for Range Management, and the 2021 recipient is Dr. Pat Shaver.

Pat's interest in agriculture and natural resources started on the family's New Mexico ranch. As a natural part of growing up he learned to respect the land and to plan for the future. As a youngster, he was involved with 4-H and used the proceeds of his sheep projects to finance his college education. Upon graduation from high school he attended New Mexico State University where he discovered and developed his lifelong commitment to understanding and management of rangelands. Pat began his noteworthy career while still a university student, serving as a student technician for the Agricultural Research Service on the Jornada Experimental Range and being on the New Mexico State University plant ID team in 1972-1973.

Dr. Shaver began his professional career with the Soil Conservation Service now the Natural Resources Conservation Service in several New Mexico locations where he served as a Range Conservationist, District Conservationist and Area Range Conservationist. Later Dr. Shaver became a State Range Conservationist first in Texas and later in Utah. He was promoted to Regional Range Conserva-



tionist at the West Region Technical Center where he worked for several years he then transferred to the Grazing Lands Technology Institute in Texas. Stationed at Oregon State University he finished his NRCS career at the West National Technology Center in Portland, OR. Dr. Shaver retired from the agency in 2013 having served nearly 40 years.

From 2013 to present Dr. Shaver has been a professor of rangeland ecology and management at Oregon State University where he teaches many of the technical rangeland courses. During his long and exemplary career working to improve the world's rangelands, Dr. Shaver has had many highlights and positive experiences. Pat thinks of his career-long opportunity to interact with private ranchers and landowners developing their resources as a primary highlight. At the same time he has been remarkably successful in working with other agency and university professionals to learn and apply new scientific principles to management. His long-term focus has been on the development of ecological site concepts, fire ecology and management, and rangeland health - the most recent version of which, version 5, was published last year. He has had a major role in the development of the NRCS National Range and Pasture Handbook. Throughout his career Dr. Shaver has traveled the world on repeated trips to share his knowledge with rangeland managers globally: Argentina, Australia, Canada, China, Iceland, Kenya, Mexico and Mongolia.

Currently in his second career as professor at Oregon State University, he is a very successful mentor claiming rave reviews for his knowledge, communication skills and empathy. Pat has stated that both these exciting and valuable careers have provided him with the opportunity for continued self-education and lifelong learning, an approach to life which Dr. Shaver views as his key to being useful and relevant over the decades.

Dr. Shaver has been active in the Society for Range Management for 48 years. His continual participation in SRM has kept him current in developing rangeland science knowledge and allowed him to quickly integrate this new information into his programs. Within SRM Dr. Shaver has served in many sections and parent society positions, culminating as the president of the Society for Range Management in 2015.

Congratulations to Dr. Pat Shaver on being presented the 2021 Frederick G Renner award.

Watch the 2021 award presentation video from the annual meeting here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d5qcQ-hwwXo

#### 2021 SRM Honor Awards

Presented at the 2021 SRM Annual Meeting Congratulations!

#### W.R. Chapline Research Award

The WR Chapline Research award gives a special recognition to members of the society for exceptional and sustained research accomplishments in rangeland science and associated disciplines. The 2021 recipient is Dr. Tony Svejcar.

Dr. Tony Svejcar is a preeminent scientist who is nationally and internationally recognized for his many significant contributions to rangeland science and technology. His impact on management of rangelands and his endearing dedication toward helping other scientists become more productive and successful is admirable. He has contributed greatly to SRM through service to a variety of parent society committees, organizing symposia, and through his involvement with the SRM major enhancement task force. Dr. Svejcar has authored or coauthored over 200 scientific and management publications and has been recognized nationally as the outstanding senior scientist in the USDA Agricultural Research Service. He initiated the ARS CO2 Flux Network, an effort designed to identify the influence of US rangelands on global carbon cycling. This effort, which generated 27 publications, has been of great interest to not only the



scientific community but also to national and international policy makers concerned about the impacts of humans on global climate change.

Dr. Svejcar pioneered the use of the stable isotope carbon-13 for carbon cycling research, providing a simple and cost-efficient means of studying carbon cycling that is not subject to the regulatory constraints of previously used non-stable isotopic methods. Dr. Svejcar's research on western juniper has been used widely in both public and private lands management across the western United States. Federal land management agencies now routinely cite these publications when developing environmental impact statements and environmental assessments.

Dr. Svejcar's research has redefined our perceptions of the importance of different life history stages and seedling establishment and this work was the genesis of a first of its kind effort to develop seed amendment technologies. Results of this work are now being applied and further tested in most western states and have resulted in a partner research network that includes universities, NGOs, and private business interests in the US and Australia.

Dr. Svejcar has used research as a tool to define grazing tolerance and regrowth potential of riparian plant species, resulting in tangible grazing management recommendations for meeting end-of-year stubble height standards that are now being used to guide management on federal rangelands.

Perhaps the most remarkable aspect of Dr. Svejcar 's career has been his visionary commitment to placing timely research into the hands of managers and scientists that need them most. To that end, Dr. Svejcar both encouraged and rewarded scientists under his direction for extension and outreach efforts during his nearly 30 years as research leader with the Agricultural Research Service at the Eastern Oregon Ag Research Center in Burns, OR. This holistic view of the niche of range scientists has increased recognition by the larger natural resources community of the role of range science in helping to solve complex management issues on western rangelands, and helped to build the EOARC into a national and international center of excellence for applied rangeland research and extension.

Over the past 30 years, Dr. Tony Svejcar's exceptional and sustained research accomplishments have helped shape the science and management of rangeland resources. In addition, his outstanding leadership and outreach achievements have provided insight direction and motivation to those who manage, value, and depend upon rangelands for their livelihood. Dr. Svejcar's innovative science, professional leadership, and service to SRM make him a most deserving recipient of the 2021 WR Chapline Research Award.

Congratulations to Dr. Tony Svejar.

Watch the 2021 award presentation video from the annual meeting here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d5qcQ-hwwXo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d5qcQ-hwwXo</a>

### **Remembering Lost Resources**

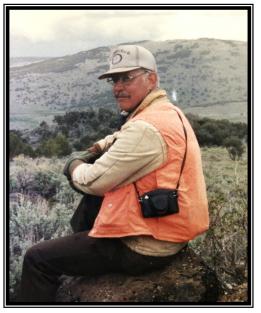
#### Joseph Wagner

August 21, 1946 to March 16, 2021

Traveling Joe has gone to have his passport stamped one last time and turn in his time sheet. He fervently loved the western rangelands and has been a devoted member of the Society for Range Management almost since infancy, since his father was a founding member of the Society working for the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Joe grew up in Arizona and Washington DC. He received his BS from University of Montana and kept on dishing it out ever after. He served in the Army as a topographic engineer in Germany from 1970 to 1972. Since then he has tried to map his way around the world attending international rangeland conferences and tours whenever possible.

His career as a range conservationist and fire ecologist for the Bureau of Land Management began in Ely, NV in 1974, took him to Arizona and to NE California and South Central Oregon. The project he probably embraced the most was restoration of the Cedar Creek watershed on the Applegate Field Office of the Susanville District. This project allowed him to use all his planning, range, fire, monitoring and interpretive skills.

Fire assignments sent him many other places and introduced him to still more people. He is remembered worldwide for sporting a handlebar mustache and twinkle in his eye. He tried hard to introduce young people and international acquaintances to the Society for Range Management. He sponsored high school youth and college students to attend Society functions and field trips. He served the Society on the International Affairs Committee and the Awards Committee. He was an officer and/or member in Nevada, California and Pacific Northwest Chapters.



#### Clay Campbell

Submitted by Bob France

On February of this year Clay Campbell passed away in Smithers, BC after a battle with Cancer. Clay was born and raised on the Box-S Ranch in Buffalo ,Alberta. He attended school in Medicine Hat and received Bachelors and Masters degrees from Montana State University in Bozeman. He began a PhD program at the University of Saskatchewan but before completion accepted the newly created position of Beef Cattle Specialist for the BC Ministry of Agriculture based in Kamloops. After leaving the Ministry Clay was involved in a wide variety of activities over the years.

Clay was a very active member of SRM during the 1980's and 90's. He attended many PNW Section events. He operated Paradigm Resources based in Merritt BC for a number of years and did a considerable amount of consulting on range issues. He often partnered with Alf Bawtree on these projects including co-editing the BC Rangeland Management Handbook in 1998.

Clay was well respected by the ranching industry and his colleagues and will be missed.

#### **Chad Bacon**

Remembering Chad Bacon, submitted by Bob France

Chad was one of the first US members of the Section that I met when I first joined the Society in 1981. I do not have a strong range background but Chad always made me feel welcome and part of the group. His friendship and outgoing personality was one of the reasons that I became very involved in the Section. I always looked forward to Section events and the chance to catch up with Chad. Chad often travelled with Bud Shrode and sitting around having a beer with them was always a highlight of any event. Many years ago when visiting with Chad we discovered that we both were both very interested in growing tomatoes. Neither Chad nor I could make the next Section event but he managed to have someone deliver a plastic government satchel full of tomato seed packages to Mike Malmberg who managed to get them across the border and deliver them to me. I tried many of them and one is still one of my favourite varieties. I will be thinking of Chad when I plant my tomatoes out this spring.

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