

Society for Range Management Pacific Northwest Section

Properly functioning ecosystems provide for long-term sustainability of watersheds, plants, animals and people
Volume 56, Number 2 April 2005

See you at
Soap Lake
June 22 - 24, 2005

NEWSLETTER

President's Message

Kevin Guinn

The Texans put on quite a show in Ft. Worth! The final numbers were 1,856 registered, with 432 students. I'll list several things that emerged from our 58th Annual International SRM Meeting.

An ad hoc committee has been pursuing whether SRM should change its name. One very strong possibility would be changing the word "range" to rangeland. There have been several changes that would cause us to lose our SRM acronym. At the request of the Advisory Council, this will be coming to the membership soon.

Membership is everyone's responsibility. While SRM is better off than the Society of American Foresters and the Soil and Water Conservation Society, we have plenty of room to improve. Yes, we need to retain the members we have, but we especially need to recruit, mentor & involve more young members. Compare the number of members SRM has with less than 10 years experience with those who have been around 25 years or longer. The PNW Section membership committee has made personal contact with expired members. One section has an active membership drive. It's something to consider anyway.

Thanks to the efforts of **John Buckhouse**, once again the PNW Section came home with many awards. I have space to mention only a couple. The spotlight shone on **Bill Krueger** as he received the Frederick G. Renner Award. I could think of none more deserving than Bill. In the PNW he is one of our anchor points! Speaking of young members, **Matt DeBoodt** walked away with the undergraduate speaking contest. Congratulations on a job well done, Matt!

For those of us at Ft. Worth the reality hit quite hard. Next February we'll be the host at Vancouver, BC. Time is short, but with **Bob France & John Buckhouse** as trail bosses, we'll keep on task and get 'er done. There are many jobs to be done. If you haven't already done so, volunteer your services.

If 1977 was a drought, what do you call this? The snow pack in the Cascades is at an all time low, the North Cascades Highway is already open, good springs are drying up, Junegrass is headed out, and irrigation water will be short or even nonexistent. There's a whole lot of anxiety in the ranching community. My prayers are with them. The recent rain is a sight for sore eyes but we sure need a whole lot more. What kind of fire season will this bring? Will there be enough grass? Hold onto your hats. This should be an exciting ride!

Kevin

PNW Newsbeat

PNW Headliners!

BC Chapter Award for Range Management 2004

went to Len Bawtree to recognize his five-year contribution in a public planning process. The Okanagan Shuswap Land and Resources Plan encompassed stakeholders on Crown Land – ranchers, grassland conservation groups, First Nations, and the business and tourism sectors. Presenting both range and conservation issues, Len provided history of the area and the evolution of land pressures. Many participants were startled when Len produced photos taken in the 1930s of forest fire areas of his range and the subsequent seral stages that now have conifer stands. Resolving issues through consensus was a long but rewarding process. Len Bawtree was respected for his thoughtful contributions to the process.

Washington State's Fish and Wildlife Commission

has broadened its base of understanding resources with the March appointment of Chuck Perry of Moses Lake! News releases from the Office of the Governor note that “Charles Perry . . . is an expert in grazing and rangeland management . . . currently a rehabilitation and sustainability consultant . . . an avid hunter and member of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.”

PNW Chapter Action

Consolidation Proposals: Refer to your January letter to see maps of the proposed chapter “boundaries”. British Columbia is already one chapter and includes Alaska. The Washington Proposal would consolidate existing chapters into a Washington SRM Chapter. The Oregon Proposal would have 5 chapters: Eastern, Central, Southern, OSU and Portland. Want to comment? Please check in with Dana Peterson, Washington, at 509-665-2100, dana_peterson@or.blm.gov, or Les Boothe, Oregon, at 541-947-6147, les_boothe@or.blm.gov . A final decision on these proposals will be made when we meet in Soap Lake for the PNW summer field workshop.

Washington's SRM Plans: In addition to the Section Summer Field Workshop at Soap Lake . . .

Washington SRM'ers are planning additional activities to keep up with late developments – and to have fun! Specific dates are yet to be determined, but this gives you a “heads-up”. Call for information.

Klickitat County field tour: contact Patrick Beres, 509-773-5822

Barker Ranch goat trial on Russian olives, August: contact Craig Madsen, 509-994-7238

Asotin/Garfield County field tour, September: contact Courtney Smith, 509-758-8012

Central Oregon, after much reading and discussion, responded by letter to the draft Greater Sage Grouse Conservation Assessment and Strategy for Oregon. Monthly gatherings feature pot-luck, good talk, planning for public outreach (George Taylor, State Climatologist, Bend, May 2, for OSU's First Monday) and clean up of a mile of Hwy. 97. Join us!

Southern Oregon is sponsoring a Range Forum, April 20, 10:00 to 1:00, in Lakeview at BLM/Forest Service Building. Program: Kirk Davies & Dr. Jon Bates, “Are the Guidelines for sage grouse habitat realistic in eastern Oregon's Wyoming big sagebrush communities?” Dr. Dave Ganskopp, “Interspace/under-canopy foraging patterns of beef cattle in sagebrush communities: Implications to sage grouse nesting habitat”. Dr. Chad Boyd will focus on sagebrush & sage grouse. Presenters are from Eastern Oregon Agriculture Research Center in Burns. Contact Les Boothe or Joe Wagner, 541-947-6147, or les_boothe@or.blm.gov or jawagner@or.blm.gov

OSU Range Club will host a Range Department BBQ, do a coast trip, travel to Central Oregon twice for possible juniper removal on G.I. Ranch and to participate in Nan's Weekend at Dixie Meadow where we will remove juniper, build fence and sharpen our plant ID skills. Contact Brooke Bays at brooke_bays@hotmail.com

EOU Range Club is doing “outreach” by presenting their Texas SRM International adventure with the EOU student body. This will open the door for rangeland discussions. They are also focusing on Vancouver 2006.

PNW Newsbeat continued. . .

Mark October 14th & 15th, 2005, on your calendar for this fall's PNW Section Meeting!

*Bob Drinkwater, Agrologist for Ministry of Forests, 1st Vice President of PNW Section
– and hiker, skier & baritone player!*

The PNW Section is pretty busy organising the Vancouver 2006 meeting. Rather than put on a fall section meeting in BC as well, the PNW fall meeting will be held in conjunction with the International Mountain Section of SRM. This should be a lot of fun with new territory to explore, different perspective on range issues and networking and new friendships with our neighbouring Section.

The dates for the meeting will be Friday and Saturday, October 14th & 15th. Initial plans are to hold the Directors and other meetings such as Vancouver 2006 planning meeting on the Friday afternoon, followed by a mixer that evening. There

will be a program on the Saturday morning with business meetings for the 2 Sections that afternoon and a banquet Saturday night. Though exact program and location details have not been worked out, the meeting will be in South West Alberta. Given the common interests and issues of our two sections, it will be an exciting program! If you haven't been to Alberta, this is an opportunity waiting for you!

Donna Lawrence, President of the Int. Mountain Section and I will co-ordinate organisation of the meeting. We will be looking for volunteers to assist with the meeting! If you want to volunteer or want more information, you can contact either of us.
Donna.lawrence@gov.ab.ca,
Bob.Drinkwater@gems6.gov.bc.ca

The International Mountain Section web page is at: <http://www.srm-ims.org/index.html>

PNW Section Officers

President	Kevin Guinn	509-754-3023 x103	Director	Nancy Phelps	503-808-2940
1 st Vice Pres.	Bob Drinkwater	250-565-6139	Director	Jim Dobrowolski	509-335-7294
2 nd Vice Pres.	Joe Wagner	541-947-6175	Director	Andy McDonald	604-887-3426
Past President	Will Keller	509-422-2750 x3	Membership	Les Boothe	541-947-6147
Secretary	Richard Fleenor	509-754-3023	Student Affairs	Andrea Mann	509-663-6670
Treasurer	Craig Obermiller	541-923-2777	Awards	John Buckhouse	541-737-1629
Director	Darren Bruhjell	250-371-6058	News.Eds.	Lynne Breese	541-447-6762
Director	Dana Peterson	509-665-2100		jlbreese@prinetime.net	
Director	Les Boothe	541-947-6147		Teal Purrington	541-923-6924

PNW Chapter Presidents

British Columbia – Vic Wright
Central Oregon - John Swanson
Southern Oregon - Les Boothe
Mid-Columbia, WA - Dana Peterson
Okanogan, WA - Richard Fleenor
Panorama, WA - Ellen Picard

THANKS, PNW Society for Range Management!

Thanks from the Range Club in the OSU Agriculture Program at EOU!

Jonathan Boudin, Dustin Counts, Morgan Nelson and Tony Sunseri, Eastern Oregon University, La Grande, Michael McInnis, Advisor, mmcinnis@eou.edu

We really appreciate your financial support of our travel to the 58th Annual Meeting of Society for Range Management.

We traveled from La Grande to Fort Worth with our advisor, Mike McInnis. During the meeting we competed in the Undergraduate Speaking Contest and the Undergraduate Range Management Exam (URME). We represented the OSU-EOU Range Club at the Student Conclave Luncheon and Business Meeting, and participated in Tapping the Top, technical sessions and the Employment Workshop. The highlight of our Texas trek was Saturday's field tour, "Ranching on the Grand Prairie". Our Range Club will host a campus-wide presentation of Texas rangelands and ranches during spring term to acknowledge the financial support from the EOU Student Senate.

"Tapping the Top" is a great mixer that gave us a chance to meet professionals and discuss careers and graduate school one-on-one. Student Conclave, the official student body of SRM, is composed of all student members and represents some 40 schools, both in the US and abroad. Conclave meets during the Annual SRM Meetings for business and educational programs.

Tour highlight(s)? The landscape -- Grand Prairie, between Dallas and Fort Worth, is rolling hills blanketed with warm-season grasses such as little bluestem and sideoats grama. We knew these from herbarium specimens but not "up-close and personal". Post oak and ashe juniper are in the draws. The warm to hot climate and the habitat support many wildlife new to us. Javelina and cardinals are common! There is little public land on the Grand Prairie; the lack of access makes us appreciate the opportunities for recreation and hunting in the northwest! Landowners really care about managing the grasslands for cattle, and we saw many examples of range improvements. Many ranches have been in the same families for generations; owners take pride in maintaining their land and cattle. The quality of livestock was impressive and we learned about "eared" cattle. Texas hospitality was all that we had heard it would be. We appreciated meeting and learning from the people.

EOU Range Club plans to be at SRM's 59th Annual Meeting in Vancouver, BC. See you there!

Thanks from OSU Range Club, Corvallis

Brooke Bays, senior in Rangeland Resources and club president

We want all of you to know just how thankful we are for your support in helping us get to Texas. We couldn't have made it without you, so, thank you! With 10 regular members in our club last fall, we began studying for the Annual SRM meeting so that we could participate in the URME, Plant ID, Public Speaking and display contests. These contests are brutal! Somehow we survived and came out with a few awards. We took 2nd place in display, Erica Erchsh was only one point away from 3rd in public speaking, and Matt Deboodt took first!

We took in some of the local sights and visited a ranch where the Alan Savory method was working. Of course, we found time to get to Billy Bob's Honky-tonk to cut a rug, too! All in all, Texas was fantastic and a great opportunity to mingle with professionals and gain some wisdom in some new research. Thank you, again, PNW!

Vancouver 2006 Update

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

With less than a year to the meeting, we are ratcheting up our activities. Most of the obvious committees are in place and functioning. Volunteers are still needed and welcome, however! **Sandy Wyman** is the volunteer coordinator. We encourage you to contact her and let her know of your willingness to help either prior to or during the meeting (or both!). Sandy's email is sandra_wyman@or.blm.gov. It would be helpful if you would copy us as well.

Ann Tanaka is building a web site, **Mike Borman** wrote an article for the next Rangelands. **John Buckhouse** wrote a teaser for the SRM electronic membership news. We encourage you to look at these for additional information.

Several members of the '06 Executive Committee will meet in Vancouver in April. The business of the day will be to attempt to renegotiate (downward) the room rates and the room block (numbers of rooms we must sell in order to get the meeting rooms, etc., free). This is a standard business practice which was written into our contract, giving us the opportunity to revisit these numbers as the date draws near. We will fine-tune meeting room assignments, and scratch other related items off our lists!

The trade show committee, **Kendall Derby, Amy Davis & Brian Haddow**, visited every booth at Ft. Worth and invited each to participate at Vancouver. Most were very interested. We expect an excellent turnout.

The customs and trade show decorating people are proving to be excellent to work with and we anticipate a quality, trouble-free fit there.

Rick Miller, Bill Krueger, & Joe Wagner have the wheels turning for the paper, poster, symposia, and workshops.



Other committees involved with publicity, tours, social events, plenary sessions, business meetings, awards, student activities, entertainment, audio/visual equipment, transportation, art work and logos, pre-convention and daily Trail Boss publications, budget, and even the Wild Women of Range (perhaps they will set up a Pub Crawl) activities are hard at work to make this a memorable meeting! Remember, you, too can volunteer to work with these committees! Contact **Sandy Wyman** today!

The PNW Section has worked hard at this for months (ed. more like years!)---the pace will pick up from here on out. PNWers are an excellent group to work with and there is little doubt that this will be a wonderful experience for us, as well as for the SRM at large. John is at john.c.buckhouse@oregonstate.edu, Bob is at bob.france@gems4.gov.bc.ca

Don't forget to
register now for
Soap Lake
June 22 - 24, 2005

Great Things Happened in Ft. Worth!!

For starters, the PNW was very well represented at the international Society for Range Management 58th Annual Meeting in Ft. Worth, Texas, last February. Several PNW Section officers & directors participated in meetings. Vancouver '06 committee members "shadowed" their Texas counterparts. Many others took in the fine presentations. And, folks had a great time, too!

Sixty five people from British Columbia, Oregon and Washington, made a presentation (paper, poster, symposia speaker). That's **65 in addition to the university students** who manned displays and participated in contests. This is a great showing! Congratulations, Section members! You are fantastic! Hoping no one was missed (or misspelled!), those 65 presenters are as follows:

Lisa Aguilera	Kirk Davies	Adele Johnson	Michael Pope
Scott Augustine	Tim Deboodt	Douglas Johnson	David Pyke
John Baham	Julie Decker	Dustin Johnson	Karen Raven
Richard Barrett	Lyn Dehen	Kipp Johnson	Lesley Richman
Mack Barrington	Timothy DelCurto	Michael Johnson	Elias Sabry
Jon Bates	Michael Fisher	Jacob Kann	Mansour Samadpour
Michael Borman	Daniel Forman	Mounir Louhaichi	Pat Shaver
Chad Boyd	Kevin France	Jane Mangold	Roger Sheley
Klaas Broersma	Leonardo Frid	Asit Mazumder	Kelly Smith
James Brunner	David Ganskopp	Michael McInnis	Tamzen Stringham
John Buckhouse	Michael Gregg	Cindy Meays	Allen Sullivan
Michael Carpinelli	Stephen Griffith	Richard Miller	Tony Svejcar
Damion Ciotti	Brian Haddow	Rick Nordin	John Tanaka
John Crawford	Linda Hardesty	Jennifer Parke	Martin Vavra
Richard Cronn	Norm Harris	Catherine Parks	Steven Wagner
Efrain Cruz-Cruz	Karl Hopkins	Steven Peterson	Kenric Walburger

AND, A Toast to Our PNW Members of Distinction!! Five PNW Members Receive Honor Awards at Annual Meeting

Long time Head of the OSU Department of Rangeland Resources, **William Krueger**, was awarded the Society's top honor, the Fredrick G. Renner Award. Dr. Krueger's exceptional record of rangeland research, administration of the department, and service to the rangelands and individuals associated with rangelands was noted and applauded by the Society. Dr. Krueger's research with Acute Bovine Pulmonary Emphysema, with wildlife and habitat relationships, with rangeland and riparian ecology, and with land use interactions on water temperature has formed the backbone of his research accomplishments. His service to rangelands in Oregon and around the world through Oregon Watershed Improvement Coalition; to the Office of Management and Budget's Accreditation Standards; and to the profession by maintaining an active

academic department in Rangeland Resources under trying circumstances have made him a respected leader in rangeland circles across the globe. Dr. Krueger was given a standing ovation at the banquet when his award was presented.

The Outstanding Achievement Award went to **David Ganskopp**, ARS, Burns, Oregon, and **Douglas Johnson**, OSU, Corvallis, Oregon.

The Outstanding Young Professional Award went to **Wendy Gardner**, UCC (soon to be Thompson Rivers University), Kamloops, BC. and **Chad Boyd**, ARS, Burns, Oregon.

Congratulations, Bill, Dave, Doug, Wendy, and Chad! We are proud of you!

Crossing “Boundaries” to Work Together

Central Oregon Weed Initiative

Mike Lawrence, District Ranger, Paulina Ranger District, Ochoco National Forest, Prineville, OR. Mike came to Oregon in June 2003 from Bridgeport CA, where he was USFS Resource Officer managing range & watersheds. Contact Mike at 541-477-6901

There is a new effort underway in Central Oregon to increase the level of coordination across boundaries (jurisdictional and interest) in the battle against noxious weeds. This group is so new we haven't settled on a name. But we have decided each of our weed management programs would benefit by sharing information with each other, sharing the education challenge, and increasing funding levels in our area.

Not satisfied to merely talk about working together, our third meeting focused on accomplishing one of our aims. We spent a day and a half informing each other about our programs – our challenges, successes, overall programs, and lessons learned. We also heard presentations on a proposed “weed summit,” a possible centralized weed inventory database in GIS, and weed management challenges facing a local irrigation district.

Future meetings will focus on finalizing our purpose statement, name, defining the details for a future weed summit, pursuing a centralized GIS inventory database, and identifying funding sources.

Big Bend Resource Conservation and Development Council

Andrea Mann, Washington NRCS, is the RC&D Coordinator. She has been PNW Section president, director, and student activity chair. She may be on a mission to China in July! Contact Andrea at 509-754-2463 x115

The Big Bend RC&D, a private non-profit grass-roots group, is rooted in the basic idea that local community leaders (volunteers) know best what is needed to improve community well-being. The mission is “to develop human and natural resources through cooperative efforts.”

The vision is “to empower local people to take a proactive role in improving their standard of living and quality of life. To serve as a catalyst in creating the partnerships needed to successfully achieve economic and natural resources development while maintaining an environmental ethic.”

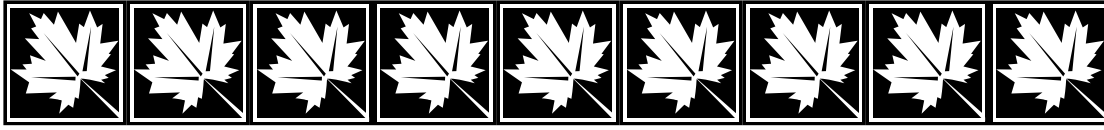
Serving Grant, Adams, Franklin and Lincoln Counties in Washington, the Big Bend RC&D has three project goals: improvements to land and water resource projects, community development projects, and environmental improvement projects.

Vegetation Management the Natural Way with Goats and Sheep

Craig Madsen, former PNW board member and owner of Healing Hooves, LLC, can be reached at shepherd@healinghooves.com

(ed. note: introductory excerpt from a paper written by Craig – more to come!)

If you are looking for a silver bullet that will solve your weed control problems with limited effort and time, you had better keep looking because using animals for weed control is not a silver bullet. It takes time, an understanding of plant/animal interactions and an interest in animals. On the other hand, if you are looking for another tool that you can add to your toolbox for managing weeds, then (working with grazing animals) may be of interest to you. I feel the best approach to control undesirable vegetation is an integrated approach. An integrated approach uses all the tools in the toolbox that are applicable to your particular situation.



Upcoming Events

June 22-24, 2005 **PNW Section Field Workshop**, Ephrata/Soap Lake, Washington
Fall 2005 **PNW Section Annual Meeting & Workshop**, British Columbia – Alberta!!
February 11-17, 2006 **SRM International Meeting**, Vancouver, BC. – **hosted by PNW Section**
Summer 2006 **PNW Section Field Workshop**, Oregon
Fall 2006 **PNW Section Annual Meeting & Workshop**, Washington

*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 Teal_Purrington@or.blm.gov

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