



Society for Range Management Pacific Northwest Section

Properly functioning ecosystems provide for long-term sustainability of watersheds, plants, animals and people
Volume 60, Number 2 April 2009

See you in Oregon
June 24 - 27!

President's Message Dana Peterson, Wenatchee, Washington

NEWSLETTER

Red or green? How would you answer New Mexico's official state question? (Think chili). I really enjoyed the Annual SRM Meeting in Albuquerque and according to my random sample, so did the other PNW members who attended. The PNW section was well represented. Congratulations to **Tony Svejcar** and **Jon Bates** for their 2009 Outstanding Achievement Awards and to **John Tanaka** for his Distinguished Achievement Award. I also want to recognize the great job that the University chapters did on getting their students involved. By my unofficial count, 28 students represented Oregon State University, Thompson Rivers University and Eastern Oregon University. Please take a minute to read about PNW students on page 4 in the Albuquerque article.

One hot topic that the parent society Advisory Council discussed was membership renewal notices. Apparently, the headquarters office is transitioning membership information to a new database and the transition has not been smooth. This is why some people have been getting renewal notices after paying dues. We were reassured that the problem is top priority and will be fixed as soon as possible.

I had a busy schedule in Albuquerque. Thank goodness I could start some mornings with coffee, scrambled eggs, black beans and green chili!! **Les Boothe** and I met with folks from the Idaho Section including current president, Shannon Williams and their northern director, J. D. Wulfhorst. They reported that the Idaho section would like to co-host the 2012 Annual Meeting in Spokane. This is great news since Idaho has many active members within driving distance.

Joe Wagner, past president, and I met with John Harper, Rob Pearce and Marc Horney of the Cal-Pac Section. They would like to host a joint section meeting with PNW in 2010. The location would be the Lava Beds National Monument about an hour south of Klamath Falls, OR. The PNW Board of Directors discussed this proposal on our March

teleconference and were in favor of meeting with Cal-Pac section. This would be a good opportunity for discussion among the sections on topics affecting both areas.

One benefit of attending the Society's annual meeting is being able to get out into the rangeland in a part of the country you are not familiar with. It's always fun to try to remember those southwestern plants which you haven't seen for awhile, and to have people around who can identify the plants you can't remember! You might want to brush up on your plant ID skills. There is the possibility that there will be a plant ID contest at the PNW fall meeting in late September.

Hopefully, most of you got the e-mail about nominations for awards. Please respond to **John Buckhouse** if you think of a section member who is worthy of recognition by the society or the section. Refer to the SRM or PNW section websites for information. Nominations for society awards are due by April 30th.

Speaking of worthy people, if you know somebody who would be a good **candidate for PNW section officer** or would like to be one yourself, please contact **Karen Raven**, past president or myself. We are looking for candidates for 2 director positions and for the second vice president.

It's good to see that the PNW **First Responder Team** is working. I have been reading the good e-mail discussion of the role of Kentucky bluegrass in rangelands. If you need ideas, counsel, or advice in technical or controversial topics, you may contact the First Responder Team and others through the PNW website, or email the immediate past president. (See the summary of that discussion in next newsletter).

I look forward to seeing you at our PNW Summer Field Workshop at the John Day Fossil Beds.

Bring chilies!

Dana



Four-Days in Oregon — June 24 . . . and 25-27

BC travelers are invited!

Tom Brannon, south of Wenatchee, WA (25 km), writes: “Perhaps our place would be a convenient stop-over for some of the BC bunch as they travel down to, and up from the SRM summer meeting in Oregon. We can handle ten folks, no problem; sleeping bags optional. It will be fun to visit a while. Phone or fax: 509-665-8931 or e-mail tbrannon@crcwnet.com Regards, Tom B.” (*ed: Having stayed with Tom & Kathy enroute to BC, we guarantee a great visit for you!*)

June 24, Range Field Day at The Butte – west of Burns, OR!

Range Field Day was deliberately re-scheduled to co-ordinate with SRM. If you can add it to your calendar, you will get a good foundation for the SRM Field Workshop. Range Field Day will be at the **Northern Great Basin Experimental Range**, about 35 miles west of Burns. Travel on Hwy. 20, to “milepost 94.5” and turn south at the big wood sign. You can’t get lost. Camping is available, indoor or out. So they can get a head-count, please call 541-573-4085 or 541-573-8900.

Dave Ganskopp has organized Range Field Day to explore livestock grazing behavior with scientists from OSU Ag. Experiment Station, USDA-ARS and OSU Dept. of Rangeland Ecology and Management. Start time, 9:00 a.m. Presenters and topics: **Pat Clark**, Cattle and Wolves (utilizing GPS collars on both); **Marty Vavra**, Cattle/ Deer/ Elk Interactions; **Doug Johnson**, Riparian Grazing; **Dave Ganskopp**, Pre-and-Post-Burn Cattle Distribution; and **Reinaldo Cooke**, Cattle Temperament and Performance. In the field Cooke and **Dave Bohnert** discuss cattle temperament assessment; **Jon Bates** and **Ganskopp** discuss post-burn cattle distribution and vegetation recovery. Learn where the research is happening.

Heading to SRM the next day, June 25, figure 105 miles from The Butte to John Day and another 50 minutes to the Fossil Beds Visitor Center. See SRM schedule (green flyer) to plan your day.

Homework Assignment for SRM Workshop June 25-27!

See the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, Sheep Rock Unit, at www.nps.gov/joda.or Activities begin at the Thomas Condon Paleontology Center.

Check these websites to prepare for the elk-horse-cattle issues which will be discussed Saturday in the field:

- http://www.oregonlive.com/environment/index.ssf/2009/02wild_horses_elk_threaten_to_ov.html
- <http://www.opb.org/thinkoutloud/shows/cows-v-elk-v-wild-horses>

Register by May 20 for the
PNW Summer Field Workshop

Welcome new PNW members!

Join us at PNW gatherings so we can meet and greet in person!

Alexandra Barner, Roseburg, OR
Clayton Collins, Summerville, OR
Ross Dahl, Claresholm, AB
Cameron King, Corvallis, OR
Cori Nuss, Hood River, OR
Doug Pepper, Kamloops, BC
Jessica Riggan, Ironside, OR
Laila Salm, Kamloops, BC
Larne Sheehy, Union, OR
Brenda Smith, Burns, OR
Nathan Vanderzanden, Hillsboro, OR
Brandon Weinmann, Kettle Falls, WA
Paul Wilkerson, Pendleton, OR
Nathan Wilson, LaGrande, OR
Whitney Witherspoon, LaGrande, OR

Travelling to the U.S.

As of June 1, people entering the U.S., including returning U.S. citizens, will need a passport, NEXUS or Free and Secure trade (FAST) card, or an enhanced driver's license/enhanced identification card. Children younger than 16 can present a copy of their birth certificate. See www.travel.state.gov and click on passports for information.

First Response Team

If you need ideas, counsel, or advice in technical or controversial topics, a team of PNW past-presidents and others is here for you. The immediate Past-president coordinates this activity. Call or send your question to **Karen Raven** at Karen.Raven@gov.ab.ca or 780-644-8521. The process works. Try it – you'll like it!

PNW Bulletin Board

A fine tri-fold felt-covered board, ideal for many uses, is available for Chapters. Contact **Fred Hall** at Fred_C_Hall@plantecolnw.com

PNW Section Officers

President	Dana Peterson	509-665-2119
1st Vice Pres.	Les Boothe	541-947-6147
2nd Vice Pres.	Tip Hudson	509-962-7507
Past President	Karen Raven	780-644-8521
Secretary	Sarah Troutman-Zahn	509-925-8585
Treasurer	Craig Obermiller	541-923-2777
Director	Brian Haddow	250-719-1414
Director	Pete Schreder	541-947-6054
Director	Mike Dedels	250-371-6500
Director	Michael Fisher	541-383-7755
Director	Craig Carr	541-737-1608
Director	Richard Fleenor	509-323-2965
Membership	Les Boothe	541-947-6147
HSYF	Pete Schreder	541-947-6054
Awards	John Buckhouse	541-737-1629
History	Joe Wagner	541-947-6175
Newsletter	Lynne Breese	541-447-6762
	jlbreese@crestviewcable.com	
	Teal Purrington	541-410-7728
	Debbie Bunch	541-462-3383
Parent Society Director	Sandra Wyman	541-447-0206

PNW's strength is in its Chapters!

Contact yours today!

British Columbia

Wendy Gardner, Kamloops – 250-371-5570

Washington

John Kouns, 509-659-1761x 105

Oregon State University

Craig Carr, Corvallis, 541-737-1608

Eastern Oregon University

Mike McInnis, La Grande, 541-962-3812

Will Hudson, President

Central Oregon

Robert Marheine, 541-460-2878

Southern Oregon

Les Boothe, Lakeview, 541-947-6141

Adventures in Albuquerque

“About 50” PNW folks traveled to New Mexico for SRM’s 62nd Annual Meeting. Read, enjoy and be inspired by some of the highlights. Start first with Mike B’s “downer”; ponder that, and as you read on, think, “What can I do? What can we do?” Make time to get involved. Bring your ideas to the Summer Field Workshop or call a PNW SRM officer. Do it today! Get to know another PNW SRM’er today!

Mike Borman, OSU: I attended the Range Science Education Council meeting. At that meeting, it became apparent that most of the universities with range programs (most as part of a larger department) are suffering substantial budget cuts. Only those with substantial energy resources (e.g. Wyoming, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Texas) are not receiving substantial cuts. I was able to report that we are still a stand-alone Range Department and that we have not yet heard otherwise. The trend nationally does not bode well for our profession. (ed: SRM’ers, read on, then make a choice. It’s up to each of us.)

Mike Lawrence, OR: One of my strongest impressions was the obvious presence of many young professionals and soon-to-be professionals! Students infused life and energy into the meetings. WOW, what talent and passion for managing our invaluable range resources! The future of our rangelands looks bright in the hands of these up and coming young professionals!

Mike L. and Dana were impressed because PNW sent **31 collegians and 1 high-schooler to NM!**

Jessica Fennell, BC, High School Youth Forum: In my presentation ‘Pastures: Precious Providers’, I talked about preserving pastures to ensure that ranchers can maintain their profession, sustain rural communities, and provide our families with nutritious beef products. My presentation did not place, but I enjoyed HSYF and I learned from other delegates. We toured NM, learned about riparian areas, networked with range specialists and learned more about range management. I had fun meeting new people, eating Mexican food, and country dancing! I highly recommend HSYF to other high school students. (see HSYF article by Janice Staats, page 7).

Will Hudson, EOU student (and ’07 HSYF President): Twelve people attended from EOU and we all competed

in the URME and attended many sessions. It was neat to see New Mexico since most of us had never been there. Several of us saw 2000 year old Navajo Indian petroglyphs. It was a fun meeting and I enjoyed seeing old friends and meeting new ones

Mark Freese, OSU grad. student: Highlights ranged from getting a job, to presenting a scientific paper, to eating great southwest food! The ‘on-the-spot hiring’ process gives students, with little or no experience, an opportunity at securing a job as a range conservationist, whereas applying through USA Jobs restricts their ability by only asking experience-based questions. Only 4 days from application, to interview, to job offer with Nevada BLM. That said, the job and presentation came in second to the networking adventure that takes place. I’m looking forward to Denver in 2010!

Thompson Rivers University: graduate students, **Amber Greenall** (poster and presentation), **Eleanor Bassett** (poster) and **Terri France**. Undergrads **Brian France**, **TJ Walkem** and **Cynthia Fell** participated in the URME. They all did a wonderful job of mixing with the SRM membership.

Eastern Oregon University: **Nik Nilson**, **Steven Doverspike**, **Jesse Svejcar**, **Roger Olsen**, **Christine Boulester**, **Will Hudson**, **Whitney Witherspoon**, **Clayton Collins**, **Jessica Riggins**, **Jessica Parries**, **Larne Sheehy**, **Carol VanGrunsven**, **Nathan Wilson**. They participated in all the student contests, and Christine Boulester represented PNW as President of Student Conclave. From the “on-the-spot hiring”, **Roger Olsen** earned a place with Montana BLM. **Jesse Svejcar** received the Outstanding Achievement Award on behalf of his father, Tony, who was in Washington D.C.

Oregon State University: Undergrads **Alexandra Barner**, **Jessica Hopper**, **Cameron King**, **Sarah Noelle**, **Cori Nuss**, and **Nathan Vanderzanden** participated in URME, poster display and rangeland cup. Graduate students presenting research were **Jose Alberto Perez Amaro**, **Erica Ersch**, **Corinne Duncan**, **Mark Freese**, **Candy Mollnau** and **Gail Woodside**. OSU’s team placed 12th of 23 in the

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Adventures in Albuquerque, *continued*

URME and 2nd in the poster display. Cameron King place 14th out of 171 in the URME

Mike McInnis, EOU: We wish to acknowledge the generous support of OSU's E.R. Jackman Foundation and an anonymous PNW-SRM donor for helping our team get to New Mexico. And, thanks to you who purchased a map or t-shirt at the EOU booth. We can be proud of our student members. Look for them soon as range professionals at your local BLM, USFS, NRCS, Extension office or on horseback tending their own family ranch!

Craig Carr & Casey Matney, OSU: In addition to hours of studying, planning and preparation, the team persevered through snow and sleet and 35 hours in a University van to reach NM – a feat unto itself!

Wendy Gardner, TRU: During the pre-conference phase of planning, fund raising, coordinating and trying to get ahead at work (so I can get behind), I wondered why I do this to myself! But, arriving in Albuquerque, I remembered why I come – these events are incredible; the range of topics covered, the networking, the opportunities to learn and meet new people as well as catch up with old friends. Next year I will be ready to deal with the organization challenges and go again.

John Buckhouse, OR, counted “41 papers and posters from BC, WA and OR which translates into 85 authors and co-authors and some folks who presented more than once. They deserve multiple credits!”

Gregg Reigel, OR: Unfortunately I was unable to attend, but a poster was presented from my post-doc work (17+ years ago) which may have shown me as ‘being present.’ A good rumor!

Kevin Guinn, WA: 1. Seeing many PNW friends. 2. Five different New Mexican restaurants to get my ‘chili fix’! (ed: Kevin, you will be in SRM’s summer chili cook-off – see green registration form).



Jimmy Eisner, OR: Listening to range scientists discuss the difficulties of finding access and then trying to collect meaningful data in wooded riparian systems on a large river. Welcome to the life of a fisheries biologist.

Joe Wagner, OR: The International Affairs Committee raised \$438 in the Silent Auction. This will buy subscriptions to the Rangeland Ecology and Management Journal and Rangelands magazine for 3rd world Agricultural Universities. Items offered were members’ purchases in China and Mongolia while attending the ‘08 International Rangeland Congress.

John Williams, OR: The session on Technology was great. **Pat Clark** and **Doug Johnson** hosted the day-long program that highlighted the use of collars on cattle, wolves, elk and deer. The information being developed is significant. It was great to see the collars being used in Oregon, New Mexico, Montana and Utah, to name a few. And, being in Santa Fe as a tourist made a great trip! (Pat and Doug will be presenting at Range Field Day, June 24. See p. 2)

Vicki Buckhouse, OR: 1. Wild Women of Range is a joy to behold! Their positive energy and passion always recharges me for another year; 2. The ‘family reunion’ aspect of the meetings is what brings me back each year. Seeing old friends and acquaintances from near and far makes for a very enjoyable time; and 3. New Mexico is a beautiful state to see.

Les Boothe, OR: 1. The highlight, as always, is the people, the old friends from years past. For BLM employees like myself, there was an opportunity to interact (or complain) to Washington staff and State leads. 2. There were numerous excellent presentations from grazing, to weeds, to juniper invasion, to wildlife interactions. One presentation reminded us that the Native Pueblo communities in New Mexico have been affected by climate change for 2,000 years. This is not a new phenomenon; climate change is the norm. 3. I attended Advisory Council and can assure everyone that the Board and Colorado office are working on ideas to improve SRM. I requested that SRM sponsor a symposium on wild horses, both to raise money and increase public awareness of this problem. Don’t know where it will go.

Jeremy James, OR: The Annual Grass Symposium which we at ARS-Burns put together, with a special thanks to the advertising in the PNW newsletter, was very successful. Well over 100+ people attended the all-day program covering state-of-the-art knowledge on

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Albuquerque Accolades

Albuquerque accolades go... way out to the Northern Great Basin Experiment Station, Burns, OR. This “backwater operation” of the Agriculture Research Service is The Place to be these days. Four of the scientists were honored. **Jeremy James** and **Jane Mangold** were recognized as Outstanding Young Professionals. **Tony Svejcar** and **Jon Bates** received Outstanding Achievement Awards. The ARS also named Tony the Distinguished Senior Research Scientist of 2008 for his work to develop rangeland management systems that address natural resource protection and agricultural production.

Dr. Jerry Stuth was posthumously awarded SRM’s top award, the Renner Award. Many of you knew Jerry and some will remember that he received his PhD from OSU Dept of Rangeland Resources, under the tutorage of Dr. Al Winward in 1975.

Linda Hardesty, WSU, was named the 2009 Wildest Woman of Range. What is that? Years ago, the SRM parent society talked of creating a committee concerned with women’s issues in the profession. The women quashed the idea, saying they were rangeland professionals first and foremost, and that gender was not – and should not be- an issue. Recognizing a need for mentoring, they instead established the “Professional Issues Luncheon”, open to everyone, to talk about job

markets, interviews, juggling family and profession, . . . It was a success and continues today.

About 10 years ago, deciding they needed to add spice to the format, they established an informal social group (also open to both men and women) to recognize women within the profession, “while never forgetting to have fun and joy in our lives”. The Wild Women of Range came into being. Initially, the WWR met at a watering hole, shared a drink, a laugh and wisdom. They “grew” into a larger meeting room. Refreshments and camaraderie continue, and a drawing for “instant scholarships” to help defray meeting costs for women students has been added. The WWR honor one of their own as a person who has made a difference in the lives of other women as they enter into and work within rangelands.

Linda was not able to attend the Albuquerque meeting, and learned of her honor by phone from the WWR gathering. The Hardestys raise assistance dogs. Linda had a new puppy on a leash as it met several other new puppies on leashes. In the enthusiastic greetings, Linda was “caught in the cross hairs” (leashes), did a 360 flip, fell and shattered her hip. **Linda, we wish you a full and speedy recovery.**

Thanks, John Buckhouse, for the article and the update on Linda.

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the ecology and management of annual grasses. We brought in 12 presenters from throughout the West. It was hugely successful!

Sandra Wyman, OR: 1. I learned the ropes as a rookie on the Board of Directors and officially became a member on Feb. 12, during the SRM Business Luncheon. Definitely a highlight! 2. A well attended Riparian Forum included great PNW speakers **Janice Staats**, **Sarah Quistberg**, **Tamzen Stringham**, **Jack Alexander**, **Jimmy Eisner**, myself and soon-to-be member **Steve Smith**. There was much interest in the development of Riparian Ecological Site Descriptions and State and Transition Models. An overview of Grazing Management Processes and Strategies for Riparian-Wetland Areas has generated several requests for training. 3. As usual, the biggest highlight is the opportunity to catch up with old

friends and make new ones! The last evening was with **Vicki and John Buckhouse**, **Wendy Gardner**, **Wendy’s Mom** (that’s how we all know her!), and our HSYF delegate, **Jessica Fennell**, a delightful young lady. We had a great time enjoying a Brazilian Grille and sharing Albuquerque experiences.”

Cici Brooks, OR: There was great participation by scientists from the PNW. It was an opportunity to listen to folks like Fred Provenza (now that I’ve heard him, his material is even more thought-provoking) and Courtney White from the Quivera Coalition. I got much information to apply on my job as related to ecological site development. What fun to reconnect with old friends from Colorado. And finally, as a native of New Mexico, I was ecstatic to be able to eat some great New Mexican food again, especially heated green chilli!

Society for Range Management

High School Youth Forum

By Janice Staats, National Riparian Team, Prineville, OR

Members of the SRM Watersheds/Riparian Committee and Creeks and Communities Network (Sherm Swanson (NV), **Jim Eisner** (OR), Roy Jemison (NM), Michelle Buzalusky (WY), **Janice Staats** (OR)) were as entertaining as we could be as we presented a riparian workshop to the High School Youth Forum (HSYF) in Albuquerque. We were trying to be entertaining because we knew the 22 students had about 4 hours of sleep the night before the workshop. We have learned that one way to keep them engaged and awake is to present information, and then have a contest/quiz to repeat and reinforce the material. This year, we only had one hour, so we focused on these key messages:

- There are different types of streams, so depending on the situation, vegetation, landform, or large woody material is needed to dissipate stream energy associated with high waterflows. Many streams we deal with in rangeland management require riparian-wetland vegetation for physical function.
- The amount of root mass of plants living on a streambank is important for buffering the forces of water.
- A common understanding and vocabulary about riparian function helps people work together even with very different value systems.
- If you see conflict because of a riparian-wetland issue, think about what would help that group reach agreement (reflecting back to the first three bullets).

SRM's HSYF program began in 1966. High-school delegates are selected by the Sections, based on their interest, achievements and activities in range and natural resource management at the Section level. The youth and organizers have a busy week at the annual meeting with an orientation and social, field tour, professional interaction dinner, judging of paper presentations, business meeting, and a workshop. Volunteers are needed to work with HSYF delegates at the annual meeting. For more information, contact Hoyt Seidensticker at hoyt@gvtc.com.

PNW Fall 2009 Annual Meeting & Workshop

Clarkston, WA

The date and specific program are "in process." When the date is firm, it will be emailed to PNW members through the BC WA and OR chapters. The Clarkston-Lewiston area is the "Gateway to Hell's Canyon," the deepest river gorge in North America. The area is rich in Native American culture, including an interpretive center and park. You might want to schedule time for a white water riverboat ride. There are many other recreational opportunities to choose from. Keep your fall schedule open!

The PNW Website address has changed to:
<http://pnw.rangelands.org>

Calendar of Events

June 24, 2009	OSU Range Field Day, Burns, Oregon
June 25-27, 2009	PNW Section Field Workshop, John Day, Oregon
Fall 2009	PNW Section Annual Meeting & Workshop, Washington
February 2010	63rd Annual Meeting of the Society for Range Management, Denver, CO
Summer 2010	PNW Section Field Workshop, British Columbia
Fall 2010	PNW Section Annual Meeting & Workshop, Oregon/California
February 2011	64th Annual Meeting of the Society for Range Management, Billings, MT
Summer 2011	PNW Section Field Workshop, Washington
Fall 2011	PNW Section Annual Meeting & Workshop, British Columbia
February 2012	65th Annual Meeting of the Society for Range Management, Spokane, WA
Summer 2012	PNW Section Field Workshop, Oregon
Fall 2012	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? Comment on an article? Give us your new address? Brag about another member's contribution to range management? Tell us a story? Contact the Newsletter Editors! jlbreese@crestviewcable.com or Teal_Purrington@blm.gov