

Society for Range Management Pacific Northwest Section

Properly functioning ecosystems provide for long-term sustainability of watersheds, plants, animals and people Volume 61, Number 2 August 2010

President's Message Les Boothe, Lakeview, OR



This summer is going fast. It's time for the August newsletter, yet it seems we just returned from Kelowna! The BC Chapter hosted a great meeting – excellent facilities, interesting tours and spectacular BC scenery. I thank **Vic Wright, Wendy Gardner, Rob Dinwoodie** and all the people who made the Kelowna meeting a success.

"Spokane 2012" for the National SRM meeting is on track: Will Keller, Kevin Guinn and JD Wulforst are doing an excellent job to lead this effort. Committees are getting staffed, but there are two immediate needs. Bob Gillaspy in Sessions Operations needs 2 people. Sarah Troutman-Zahn needs several to help with Host Activities. To inquire OR to volunteer, contact Bob at 503-414-3233 or Sarah at 509-925-8585 x108. There will also be a call for volunteers in Spokane; Jamie McCormack (PNW) or Juley Hankins Smith (ID) will be calling!!

A new activity that could reap benefits for the PNW Section and the range profession for years to come is in the works. **Brenda Smith, Chad Boyd** and **Kirk Davies** from E.O. Ag. Research Center; **Dustin Smith** and **Anna Marie Chamberlain,** OSU Extension; and **Jay Kerby**, The Nature Conservancy, (all from Burns, OR) are planning a summer range camp for high school students. Thanks to you all for moving this forward. This is very exciting, and the PNW Board of Directors has decided to support this camp any way we can. I am confident that PNW members will help. If you can donate time, money and especially help recruit students, it will be greatly appreciated.

It is no secret that the SRM membership is aging. Recruiting new members, especially young members, is critical for our organization. Therefore any program that reaches out to high school and college students needs our full support. The demographics of the country present an opportunity for us to expand our organization, as the generation under age 25 is larger than the baby boom generation. However, it falls to us, the current members, to promote our profession and attract our share of these young people. I am continually surprised at the number of rural students who don't know about range management, so I can only guess how few urban and suburban students know about range. This new range camp is one way to change that dynamic. I encourage each of you to promote our profession in schools and county fairs. The old saying, "If not us, who, and if not now, when" applies here.

You received an SRM Rangeflash in July about the BLM wild horse program. BLM took comments until August 3. Keep an eye on the site and be ready to add comments when appropriate. Log on at www.blm.gov and click on the wild horse and burros section. As range scientists and managers, we are in a unique position to offer comments on the wild horse program. We can assist the BLM in developing a sound long-term strategy.

Our PNW Fall meeting is with the Cal-Pac Section at the Lava Beds National Monument near Tule Lake, California. This monument is southeast of Klamath Falls, OR, and close to the California-Oregon border. We have kept the registration cost as low as possible and most meals are provided in the cost of registration. The area is a unique lava flow with ice caves and an extensive fire history, as well as Captain Jack's Stronghold, the site of an important battle in the Modoc Indian War. Within the area, there is a complex of six wildlife refuges which incorporate grazing, farming, burning, and irrigation in conjunction with providing habitat for a wide variety of wildlife species. There are motels within 15 miles of the monument, but most people will want to camp. I hope everyone can make it.

My tenure as PNW president will end this fall. It was a real honor and privilege to work with so many great people. **Tip Hudson** and **Lavona Liggins** will do a great job next year and we are blessed to have quality people on the Board of Directors. I thank past-president **Dana Peterson** for his help and a special thank you to treasurer **Craig Obermiller** who does a great job keeping on top of the finances. I encourage any member to run for office; it is a great experience. **One last comment: be sure to vote. These elections tend to be very close, so every vote really does count.**

Thanks for all the support and I hope to see everyone in the fall.



My Summer Vacation (or My First B.C. SRM Adventure)

By J. Johansen

I am working towards a degree in Rangeland Ecology & Management. For work, I guide mountain bike tours, work part time in a bike shop, and make custom western boots. I have two more terms at Central Oregon Community College to get an Associate of Science Degree.

This summer I went with five of my new friends to Canada for the SRM 2010 PNW summer tour. I picked up Michael in Redmond and drove to John and Lynne's in Prineville. Les was already there and Craig showed up not long after. All six of us piled in John's truck and I was pleasantly surprised with the leg -room in the back seat. Not too many miles down the road it was announced that we had a book on tape, carefully selected for our drive. Michael had brought one also, and we quickly decided to hear the one about the *San Francisco Chinatown Western Mystery*. I guess there may have been too much talking on previous trips! We drove till around 8:30 and had an incredible dinner and stay-over south of Wenatchee, in a beautiful side valley of the Columbia River, with very generous hosts Tom and Kathy.

We left well rested and well fed. I was driving and had my iPod broadcasting as a radio station. Lynne thought us lucky to find such a nice radio station, especially since I had remembered it from when I had driven through before! I like to give Lynne a hard time because she thinks I'm ten years younger than I really am. However, she does know all the good places to stop. The day before we had, at her recommendation, stopped at the St. Johns Bakery, where we saw a nun, in her habit, with braces on her teeth, operating a weed-whacker, really. On our way north, discussing all the possible ways we could get stopped and sent back at the border, John decided the prudent thing was to take over the driving, and keep the chitchat to a minimum with the border patrol. Luckily he got us through and Lynne divulged another secret stop, Tickleberry's. Most everyone got ice cream or fudge. Several more hours of driving to another highlight, seeing a couple of big horn sheep a few kilometers before we arrived at the Lake Okanagan Resort. The resort was very nice, swimming pool, banquet hall, the hole nine yards! On our deck overlooking the lake and golf course, if you held really still as to not scare them off, you could count between ten or twenty rock-chucks mowing the greens. When I said to Michael that I couldn't look at all the rock-chucks on the golf course and not think of Caddy Shack, he replied that he couldn't look at any golf course and not think of Caddy Shack!

After getting situated, registered, name tagged, free snacks, and a no host drink, I settled in for an evening of the Section Board meeting. This was interesting, not in an exiting, captivating kind of way, but interesting none-the-less. SRM is new to me, and the meeting was a great way to learn about how the organization works. Les brought up the October 6th Lava Beds National Monument SRM meeting that sounded worth mentioning. I also met Aleta Rudeen, the SRM Outreach and Leadership Development Director and enjoyed talking with her about SRM and it's benefits to new/student members.

On Thursday we gathered for seminars and key area range issues were introduced: Range Use, Off Road Vehicle land use, and Water Quality. Heather Larrat, a water quality consultant, gave a great presentation on water quality and source water issues in the Okanagan. All of the municipalities in the area get their drinking water from surface reservoirs and have a multitude of problems with contaminants. In a survey of contaminants, RNA was analyzed and a list of sources and percentages was created. Humans, Cattle, Geese, Deer, Beaver, Moose, Seagulls, and many more were on the list. Heather was surprised to find seagulls on the list, and asked the land managers present to let her know if they ever see one that far inland. Rob Birtles gave a presentation on Drinking Water Source Protection. He works for the Interior Health Authority and because of more recent Canadian legislation can actually enforce laws to protect drinking water at its source. Later, at McCullough Reservoir, we learned of campers driving and mud-bogging in a drawdown area. Campers got out a video camera, the drivers hammed it up, and the Interior Health Authority gave multi-hundred dollar tickets to all the drivers caught on tape.

One of the great things about coming on this tour was getting to hear about range issues from the perspective of people other than range managers. Ken Umbarger, President of the Okanagan Trail Riders Association (OTRA) gave an impassioned presentation on the evolution of Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) use in the Bear Creek area. Traditional OHV use in this area has been a free-for-all, with hill climbing, riding in creeks, and a "spaghetti" network of trails. Ken, and OTRA have worked hard to find ways to create a positive use pattern amongst riders, and to build appropriately designed trails that minimize or eliminate erosion. It was great to see someone working so hard to improve the impacts that a large group of people have on the land, and the open communication between user groups and managers.

A short hop up the road and we were at Bald Range, a historic grazing area. To be honest, this site had seen better days, but it was great for our purpose, learning a new Grassland





"Summer Vacation" continued on page 6...

Spokane 2012 Needs You!

You will want to get involved to make the 65th SRM Annual Meeting the very best that it can be. It is co-sponsored by the PNW and Idaho Sections. All committees will need more working hands. These are the PNW Committee chairs: Finance, Rex Harder; Program, Mike Borman; Sessions operations, Bob Gillaspy; Student activities, Andrea Mann; Host activities, Sarah Troutman-Zahn; Local arrangements, Richard Fleenor & Brian Haddow; Publicity, Lynne Breese; Volunteer "gatherer", Jamie McCormack.

There IS a place for everyone to lend a hand. You will be glad you did, for all the exciting reasons that all the nominees for

Welcome New Members!

Lisa Zabek, Kamloops, BC Brooke Gray, Prineville, OR Nicole Goodden, Tempe, AZ

PNW Section Officers

President	Les Boothe	541-947-6141	
1st Vice Pres.	Tip Hudson	509-962-7507	
2nd Vice Pres.	Lavona Liggons	250-554-5211	
Past President	Dana Peterson	509-665-2119	
Secretary	Marti Butow	530-233-4666	
Treasurer	Craig Obermiller	541-923-2777	
Director	Mike Dedels	250-371-6500	
Director	Michael Fisher	541-383-7755	
Director	Craig Carr	541-737-1608	
Director	Richard Fleenor	509-323-2965	
Director	Dustin Johnson	541-573-8386	
Director	Sarah Troutman-Zahn	509-573-8386	
Membership	Tessa Teems	541-417-1784	
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	541-325-6858	
Parent Society Director Sandra Wyman 541-447-0206			

vice-president and director spell out in their "speeches". Contact these committee chairs directly, or contact one of the Three Amigos, Will Keller, Kevin Guinn, J.D. Wulfhorst. Call today to say, "Count me in".

An Opportunity to Learn

The 2010 Ecologically-based Invasive Plant Management (EBIPM) Field School is September 14-17, in Boise, Idaho.

EBIPM is a framework which provides guidelines to land managers for making the best management decisions for a given landscape based on ecological principles. It focuses on getting to the roots of the problem, rather than merely covering up symptoms of invasive annual grasses and other invasive species. By addressing the causes of invasive plant infestations, EBIPM offers solutions to achieve healthy sustainable rangeland. Much time will be in the field. To learn more and to register, go to http://www.ebipm.org

PNW's Strength

is in its Chapters!

Contact yours today!

British Columbia Wendy Gardner, Kamloops, 250-371-5570

Washington Tip Hudson, Ellensburg, 509-962-7507

Oregon State University Michael Borman, Corvallis, 541-737-1614

Eastern Oregon University Mike McInnis, La Grande, 541-962-3812

Central Oregon Robert Marheine, 541-460-2878

Southern Oregon

Les Boothe, Lakeview, 541-947-6141

PNW Section Elections 2010

Vice President Nominees – Vote for one (1)

Nominees are: Richard Fleenor and Bob Gillaspy

Richard Fleenor, Spokane, WA

I grew up in Vancouver, WA, served in the U. S. Marine Corps and graduated from Oregon State University. With my Rangeland Resources degree, I started in 1991 as a Range Technician for Oregon BLM. My next move was to Washington as a Range Conservationist & Vegetation Ecologist for the Colville Confederated Tribes. Currently with Natural Resources Conservation Service, I have worked as a Range Management Specialist and am now a Plant Materials Specialist in Spokane. I am married to a wonderful person, Susan, and have two great children, Daneal (25) and Ryan (19).

I belong to SRM for pragmatic reasons. Presentations & field trips at the national, section and chapter meetings are great sources of information. These are second only to the wealth of information I get from the many experienced SRM members who participate at these events. Officially, I served as Okanogan Chapter president in '97 and '98 and Washington Chapter president in 2006. I am a director on the PNW Section Board and working on "Spokane 2012". Unofficially, I've joined with many members in putting together SRM chapter & section meetings and field trips.

SRM is an outstanding organization, and should continue to do what it does best – facilitate understanding and management of rangeland ecosystems. We (SRM) should continue to challenge ourselves to find other arenas where our knowledge of, and experience with rangeland ecosystems could contribute to improving or solving unaddressed or unresolved environmental problems, both locally and abroad. Partnering with groups that have similar natural resource values and concerns is a good way to network, build relationships, and communicate the values of SRM.

In my off-time, I ride bikes (pedal & motor), work around the house, and when I get the chance, go sailing with my family.

Don't miss the PNW/CalPac fall annual meeting Oct 6-8 in Tulelake!

Bob Gillaspy, Portland, OR

I am pleased to be a candidate as I have not been to many meetings recently. I consider myself an applied plant community ecologist, with a BA in Botany and MS in Range Management. I enjoy learning about the various factors that influence rangelands, -- a never-ending quest. In many ways, understanding rangelands requires a renaissance-type of learning from physics (water really DOES run downhill), to biology (plants like sunlight, animals like plants, both need water), to chemistry (salts increase osmotic potentials), to geology (pumice source sands are different from granitic sands), to people (what they want, what is perceived). Following 6 months consulting with the USFS, I have been with NRCS since 1987, as a range conservationist, and now as the State Rangeland Management Specialist in Oregon.

I joined SRM in 1982 while a graduate student at WSU. It seemed like a good thing to do in order to learn more about my new interest. It is a never-ending source for learning and education about the profession and the ecology of rangelands. I served as a Section direction in the early '90s and have been on planning committees for several parent society annual meetings ('92, '06, 2012).

The future of rangelands will continue to reside in the melding of the needs and desires of rangeland users, with the understanding of the ecology of these lands through the artistic application of management to solve current problems and issues. Our Section must provide information to all rangeland users regarding the benefits, safe uses, and ecology of rangelands. We need to expand outreach to the "non-traditional" audiences. We can encourage all interested people (high school students to retirees, urban to rural residents, agricultural producers to electronic wizards) to learn more about rangelands through workshops, seminars, college programs, etc.

In my spare time, I play the French horn in local bands and orchestras, ride a "basic" 12 speed road bike, visit family, walk with my wife, read, and learn more about how our landscapes have been formed and used.

Board of Director Nominees – Vote for two (2) Nominees are: Mel Asher, Rob Dinwoodie, Courtney Smith

Mel Asher, Moses Lake, WA

I've been an SRM member since 2007, when I attended a local chapter meeting to hear a presentation and was nominated to serve as chapter president. My response was "Sure...but shouldn't I become a member first?" It was immediately clear that SRM was not your run-of-the-mill society; rather, it is an organization where membership denotes responsibility. I have been challenged to actively participate and contribute direction to

the Washington chapter, and would be honored to work as a member of the PNW Section Board of Directors. For me, SRM is more than a network of rangeland management professionals who exchange the latest information and research; SRM is a group of colleagues and friends that consistently support and challenge each other. I would like to see SRM take a more active role in influencing local land management policies, while increasing educational opportunities for students, professionals, and the public.

After receiving my MS in Range & Wildlife

Management from Texas A & M – Kingsville, I came to the PNW in 2003. After 5 years as a rangeland ecologist for the Washington Dept. of Fish & Wildlife, I've recently jumped ship to private industry. I am a restoration ecologist with BFI Native Seeds in Moses Lake. When not working, I'm outside with my husband and dogs, examining plants and thinking about ecological processes, often on a mountain bike, along a hiking trail, or walking a hillside with a shotgun on my shoulder.

Rob Dinwoodie, Vernon, BC

For almost 20 years, I've been a range agrologist with the BC Ministry of Forests and Range, working in the highly populated and urbanized Okanagan Valley of BC. I've worked with the ranching industry to integrate livestock grazing with the other resource uses on Crown Land. I've been involved with SRM many years and enjoy the educational and social community it affords. The future of grazing livestock in areas like the Okanagan Valley is to ensure sound practices while working collaboratively with the other resource users. SRM provides a great framework for exchange of ideas and practices that allow professional range managers to continue to enhance their skills.

I'm married, have 3 children and 3 grand-children. I raise border collies and enjoy my quarter horses. Lastly, but important, I never miss an opportunity to play guitar and sing a song or two!

Courtney Smith, Clarkston, WA

I have been a Rangeland Management Specialist with the USDA in Clarkston for 22 years. I was raised in Utah, where I became an SRM member while in graduate school some 30+ years ago. My SRM participation has been in the Idaho Section, where I live. There I've been a director, organized scholarship fundraisers, and been the membership goad!

SRM has been important to me as the source of two sustaining values. The principal internal purpose of SRM is to encourage the professionalism of its members by keeping them up-to-date and proficient in techniques and methods, aware of related issues, and with access to a network of specialists who assist with problem solving. Secondly, SRM provides a forum to emphasize the value of rangelands not only as grazing lands and for the production of other goods, but

as watersheds, wildlife habitat, and open space. SRM is uniquely qualified to discuss this diversity of values.

Sponsorship of the 2012 Society meeting in Spokane is an opportunity to further our professional development and appreciation for the varied values of rangelands. I am honored to run for director at this time, and encourage others to join in the preparation for 2012 so that we can meet these goals.

My hobbies include gardening, woodworking and grandkids. I am concentrating on getting in shape for a backpack trip into the Idaho Sawtooth altiplano this September, which I fully expect to "kick my butt"!

Vote by September 29

Register by September 17 for the fall annual meeting in Tulelake!

Summer vacation. . . continued from page 2

Monitoring Method. Doing the field exercise was intimidating for me as I don't really know the names of range plants yet, but the method was simple and easy to learn. I felt like it was a good tool for assessing rangeland and gave the user a valuable reference for judging changes in grazing management throughout future years. (ed.note: Wendy Gardner, one of the authors of this tool, adds that the manual is being distributed by the Grasslands Conservation Council of BC. It is in pdf form at www.bcgrasslands.org Hit the resource tag, publications, Grasslands Monitoring Manual for BC: A Tool for Ranchers)

As an aside, I should mention rancher Brian Casorso. Brian is the leaseholder on the allotment adjacent to the Bald Range site and his family has been there for several generations. There was a question addressed to Brian about the poor condition at Bald Range and his answer was the most interesting thing about my whole experience on this Summer Tour. He explained that the lease holder on the Bald Range piece had only had it for a couple of years. The first year he brought cattle who were new to this range and they never went any farther from the roadside drop-off than the area we where surveying. The second year they spent a lot of time in the same place, but learned to move a bit farther. By the third year, the cattle were finding the higher elevation pastures, but they still spent a disproportionate amount of time on the hillside we examined.

At the Big Horn Water Reservoir Heather, Larratt expanded on her earlier presentation about water quality. She spoke about factors at the site that influence water quality and monitoring water quality at the reservoir. The mosquitoes were really unpleasant there though. After a quick stop at the 2009 Terrace Mountain fires, and a pleasant drive back talking about Canadian range programs at BC colleges with some new Canadian friends, we arrived for the BBO, socializing, and entertainment. The food was really good, and it was great to meet more folks who were interested in the same things I'm interested in. It's also pretty amazing that with a group like SRM, an aspiring professional can sit down to a casual dinner with someone who has spent their entire career in the field. The post dinner entertainment was some of the best I've seen, cowboy poet & author Ken Mathers was a treat with his poetry and an amazing history of grazing in the Okanogan. Rob Dinwoodie and Tim Ross also serenaded us with some great tunes.

Friday morning we were up and at'em, driving east over the bridge, thru Kelowna, and south up into the hills for a stop at McCullough Reservoir. Just so you know, Kelowna is pronounced cologne-a, right? In the Okanagan, people will say "right?" at the end of a sentence which was new for me because I've only been in the Kootenays and they mostly say "eh?" at the end of their sentences; anyway that's what I learnt in Canada. At McCullough reservoir Toby Pike from the South East Kelowna



Rob Dinwoodie describes fire ecology in the Mountains above Kelowna.

Irrigation district talked about water issues, neighbors, cows in the reservoir, and working with people to get what you need. His talk was a comprehensive history of the reservoir and his irrigation district. I particularly enjoyed the story of resolving issues of cattle in the creek right at the head gate for the districts water intake (some of which is to become potable for domestic use) and the on-going process of habituating cattle to go to an off-site watering trough and not into the reservoir for a drink. Fencing the entire perimeter of the reservoir is financially impossible, so selective fencing and new watering area was being used with some success; more techniques were in planning. Toby definitely had a difficult job protecting the source water quality, as there is a campground, a private residence and a developer trying to use water illegally from the reservoir, as well as issues with OHVs and cattle.

Our next stop was an area burned by the Okanagan Mountain Fire. It gave us a chance to look at reseeding efforts and the natural tree re-establishment. The main thing I think everyone came away with from this stop was that it was raining pretty good and that the temperature had dropped a lot being up so high in an area with no trees. This really didn't take much deducifing to figure out. "Deducifing" was my new vocabulary word for the trip. The detectives in the *SF Chinatown Western Mystery* did a lot of deducifying, not unlike their famous hero, Sherlock Holmes.

Our last stop was at the historic Myra canyon park to see the "old" trestles and learn about the history of the park. Kirk Illingworth was the only paid staff there, being the BC Parks Area Supervisor. He had more recently transferred from somewhere, and mostly I got the impression that he was confused at why he had accepted a job in a place where there were no glaciers. Ken Campbell, a member of the Myra Trestle Society gave us an in depth history of the trestles, how and why they were built, the Trestle Society's struggles to get the site designated as a historic site, and the devastating fire that destroyed the trestles nearly moments after it became a historic site. Fortunately the Society was able to reconstruct the trestles with wood; they looked just like the old ones, and we visited an amazing, beautiful park.

> For our group it was a straight drive home. Several hours of *SF Chinatown Western Mystery*, another stop at Tickleberry's for fudge and ice cream, an interesting Jamaican cultural experience in Brewster and we were back to another meal and good night's sleep at Tom and Kathy's. The next morning was more driving, and more *SF Chinatown Western Mystery*. After half a day's drive the book ended, and so did our trip, and that is what I did on my summer vacation.



Do you have a family or ranch recipe that has been around for generations? Does it have a great story or background to go with it? Or maybe you have a great range story, ranch story or an awesome range photo that you would like to share. We are looking for you. The Information and Education Committee is collecting recipes, stories and photos for the next edition of the Trail Boss Cowboy Cookbook.

Submit Recipes, Range Stories and Range Photos to:

srmcookbook@yahoo.com

Please Include Your Name, Ranch Name, SRM Section and City, State with each submission.

All recipes must be original recipes (never published). If it is a published recipe it must be changed by 10%, (such as changing an ingredient or amount, adding an ingredient, changing cooking temperature or time.)

Featured Recipe Of The Month:

From: Trail Boss's Cowboy Cookbook, 1985

Shelly (Jackson) Van Haur, Van Haur Polled Herfords

Montana Beef Pasties (Butte Pasties)

1 double recipe for pie dough	1 c. leftover gravy
1 lb. diced, cooked roast beef (3-4 c.)	1 tsp. salt
1/2 lb. diced, cooked (boiled or baked) potatoes	1/4 tsp. pepper
1 Ige. Onion, diced	1/2 tsp. dried garlic
3 diced carrots	2 tbsp. parsley flakes

Mix all ingredients in a large bowl except pie dough. Roll pie dough into 1/8 " thick, 8" round circles. Place ¾ or 1 c. of meat mixture on half of dough circle, bring other half over and seal edges. Put small slit in top of each pastie. Cook at 400° for 1 hour. Serve with gravy or catsup.

Background: The old Welch miners were known for their lunch of pasties they took down in the mines of Butte, Montana. Later these pasties took on a variety of different ingredients and styles according to the nationality of the miner's wife who made them, and later the ranch wives.





Calendar of Events

September 14-17, 2010	Ecologically-based Invasive Plant Management Field School, Boise, ID
October 6-8, 2010	PNW Section Annual Meeting & Workshop, Tulelake 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
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PNW Website address: http://pnw.rangelands.org

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