

Society for Range Management Pacific Northwest Section

*Volume 69 Number 2
August 2018*

President's Message

Maura Laverty, Baker City, Oregon

The weather turned out perfect for the summer meeting in La Grande, Oregon, since the week prior I was wondering if we might get wet! Tuesday the OSU/EOARC Range Field Day "From Valleys to Ridgetops" was well attended by a diverse group, and most of the presentations were precursors to what we would see and learn about Wednesday on the tour of the Starkey Experimental Forest and Range, and Thursday listening to presentations at EOU.

A special thanks to **David Bohnert** and **Kim Herber** for coordinating the OSU/EOARC Range Field Day with the PNW SRM summer meeting, and especially for logistical assistance! And I am very grateful for my wingman and Director, **Nick Vora**, who pulled together the logistics and quotes so we had busses, hotel rooms, lunches, and a dinner venue. Speaking of dinner, it was fun to hear **Lauren Thalhofer's** presentation from the Nevada SRM meeting, "Effects of Four Irrigation Treatments on Twenty Perennial Forage Species," since it echoed some of the presentation and work at the Union Station that Dr. Wang described on Tuesday. The presenters were fabulous and I appreciate their willingness to share their rangelands research. A special thanks to those who traveled from Portland! I also appreciate the leadership of Mike Wisdom and Mary Rowland from Starkey. You made my life so much easier!



Several of our members were "working" their last week before retirement, and were still committed to attending our summer meeting! Congratulations, **Barry Irving, Tim Deboodt and John Williams!**

Candidates for 2nd Vice President and 2 Directors - Thank you to those who accepted the nomination to run for either a Board Director or 2nd Vice President. Both of those positions are 3 year commitments to the Section, with the 2nd VP ultimately becoming our PNW President.

I received no responses for my Secretary inquiry, so now I challenge each of the board members and officers to nominate someone for me to appoint at the fall meeting!

I also didn't receive any interest when I made the request in the last newsletter for feedback from PNW Section members for interest in assisting the Idaho Section in 2022 in hosting the annual meeting in Boise. Since then I have spoken to the Idaho Section President, and he said his section needs to reinvigorate their membership before they would be able to host an annual meeting, even with assistance.

This leads me to some of the challenges I have faced as your PNW Section President. One of the reasons I am a member of the SRM is the opportunity for me to be with and learn from other types of rangeland managers. It is here I have developed relationships that lead to collaboration or assistance later. I encourage each and every one of you to be professional in your actions and words, be committed if you volunteer, and be engaged as a member, as well as engage others. I'm hoping for a quorum of Board members at the fall annual meeting so we can vote on some issues and make decisions.

Nominations for the **Trail Boss, Exemplary Service, In for the Long Haul** awards are due by Labor Day to John Buckhouse. Let's show some section members our appreciation for all they do!

Have you seen the roaming "We Are Rangelands" board? Please be sure to keep it moving around and submit your photo with it to Jenni Moffitt at jenni.moffitt@gmail.com! I believe we sent it to British Columbia with our VP Wendy, so whoever has it closest to the fall meeting, please bring it with you, thanks!

Please join us October 10-12 in the Dalles, OR for the annual PNW Section meeting. There will be a silent auction, although Mike Malmberg says he fired up the bakery oven for the last time, and I was fortunate enough to enjoy the last strawberry-rhubarb pie!!

It has been an honor to represent the PNW Section this year as your President.

Maura

Calendar of Events

October 10-12, 2018: PNW SRM Fall Workshop and Annual Meeting, The Dalles, OR
(Columbia River Gorge: Boundary between Washington State and Oregon)

February 10-14, 2019: SRM Annual Meeting and Tradeshow, Minneapolis, MN

Mark your Calendars for PNW Field Workshops/Symposiums/Meetings

See “attached” flier for the 2018 PNW SRM Fall Workshop!

The 2018 PNW-SRM Annual Meeting and Tour will be held in The Dalles, OR on Wednesday, October 10 through Friday, October 12. The tour will focus on the Columbia River Gorge: grazing, dams, salmon recovery, tribal fishing rights and issues, wind power, geology, conservation farming, and the rich history of the area. Join us for an up close look at several of the many things that make the Columbia River Gorge one of Washington State’s Seven Wonders. Please register using the enclosed form or [online](#) by [October 3](#) to avoid a late fee and to facilitate advanced security check at The Dalles Dam.

June 2019 PNW SRM Summer Workshop in BC – Location, dates and full details coming soon!

PNW Summer Workshop, LaGrande, OR: Tour of Starkey Experimental Forest and Range

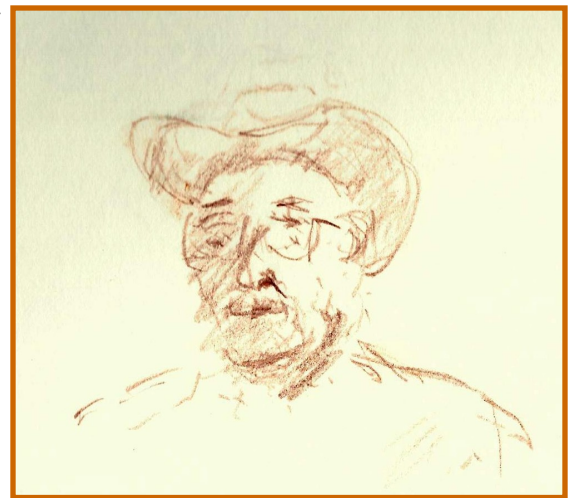
A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE STARKEY EXPERIMENTAL FOREST AND RANGE

By Marty Vavra

*Emeritus Professor Oregon State University
Emeritus Scientist PNW Research Station, Forest Service*

In 1936 Senate Document 199 focused attention on the deteriorating condition of the western range. Shortly after, the problem of overgrazing mountain ranges was added to the list of concerns to be addressed by the PNW Research Station of the Forest Service. Gerald Pickford of the PNW Station initiated action to develop information on summer cattle grazing in the ponderosa pine zone. Ranchers and Forest Service personnel agreed on the Starkey Cattle and Horse Allotment for the site of a research station. In 1940 the Starkey Experimental Forest was born. Word War 2 interrupted the initiation of research. In 1945 the name was changed to the Starkey Experimental Forest and Range.

In the early 1950s Jon Skovlin and Gerald Strickler came to Starkey and conducted important research for the next 30 years. In 1953 the first long-term study on cattle grazing methods and stocking rate was initiated. Cattle were grazed under deferred rotation and season-long grazing at three stocking levels for 11 years. The study also included a no grazing control. Previously, allotments were grazed season long as there was no scientific evidence for a rotational system. Deferred rotation at moderate stocking levels provided better protection for the forage base and soil resources. This was the first study to show the impacts of cattle grazing on the forage resource in forests and in turn how that impacted deer and elk distribution and food habits. Those results are still in use today.



Drawing of Marty Vavra
by Desi Zamudio, June 27, 2018

In 1976, intensive studies of livestock performance and seasonal forage nutritional quality were initiated in cooperation with the Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center, Oregon State University, to evaluate existing grazing systems and provide information for the development of new systems for riparian zone improvement. Research noted a nutritional disparity between north and south slopes as the season progressed. Forage quality deteriorated more rapidly on grasslands than forests, but the grasslands responded with nutritionally better regrowth than did forests. Utilizing each slope at its nutritional optimum improved livestock weight gains over cattle allowed free choice of both slopes. At the time there were also concerns that cattle movement in rotation systems would decrease weight gains. This was shown to not be the case. The 25 years of study revealed to managers and livestock producers that the use of nutritional calendars in the design of grazing systems could enhance weight gains and reduce use of riparian zones.

(Continued on page 3)

(History of Starkey — continued from page 2)

In the 1980s a dramatic intersection of management and policy, wildlife and livestock interactions, and multiple resource use occurred as part of major changes in National Forest management. State and federal agencies, livestock growers, and sportsmen were at odds over various issues pertaining to management of National Forest lands. Jack Ward Thomas, PNW Research Station and Donavin Leckenby, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife took agency input from a series of regional meetings and informal correspondence. I was contracted to develop the problem analysis “Forage allocation for big game and livestock in northeastern Oregon”. In response to the cumulative input, Thomas and Leckenby formulated major research questions to address the sustainability elk and deer herds and the perceived conflicts with timber harvest and livestock grazing. The research questions focused on the effects timber harvest on elk, deer, and cattle productivity and distribution; how these animals use landscapes and food resources; and the effect of age of breeding bulls on elk herd productivity. Controlled experiments could only be conducted in a controlled environment. The idea of a game proof fence around Starkey was put forward and the fence built. A telemetry system to track animal movement was also developed. The Starkey Project was born.

Over the course of the project over 40 cooperators participated in the research. Included were universities, state wildlife agencies, National Forest Systems, private industry, Native American tribes, federal agencies, and the Oregon Cattlemen’s Association. Numerous publications on the research have been published and are available on the website Starkey Project.com.

In this narrative I have selected a few highlights of research at Starkey. Numerous other studies on livestock grazing, wildlife and forest management have been conducted and reported.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SUMMER FIELD TOUR

Submitted by Amanda Smith,

Cattle-Deer-Elk Competition Studies/Elkhorn-Syrup Creek Overlook – Bruce Johnson

The research studies and experiments that were explained at this stop were for comparative grazing behaviors between the domestic livestock, wild elk, and wild deer. The experiment looked at the overlap of dietary needs between the three species and the possible equivalency between the species for landscape distribution.

The study summaries were published in 2004 and showed that there was a dietary overlap of grass, forb, and shrub species of about 50% between cattle and elk and elk and deer, with less than 50% overlap between cattle and deer. It was also observed that in late summer (Aug) there was a high overlap of use of the same vegetation types between elk and cattle.

At this stop there was also talk about the area of the research center that we were in. The fuel treatments of the area were explained and how the area was observed to be used by the three species during different times of year or how the different species interacted in the area. Due to the fuel treatments of prescribed burning, which reduced the tree cover and undergrowth, there was a big flush of grasses and forbs in the area with earlier phenology of the plant species. The ungulates would use the fuel treated areas first in the year and then the untreated, higher cover areas, later in the season.

The movement of the three species showed that when the cattle were in the area deer didn’t mind sharing the area with them. The elk, on the other hand, would move out of the area where the cattle were and then move back into the area when the cattle left. The deer also shifted distribution based on the proximity to elk in the area and moved out when elk came into the area.

Cattle and Elk Herbivory Research/Doug Prairie Walk through – Bryan Eldress

At this stop we learned a little about the history of the area with an insect outbreak of Spruce bud worm in the 60’s that killed a lot of the tree cover in the area. More recently there was a 7 year study done in late summer and early fall with treated stands (fuel reduction) and untreated stands being grazed by elk and/or cattle at three different stocking rates so that there were utilization levels of low (15%), medium (30%), and high (45%). The study focused on the grazing practices of both ungulates on shrub species, specifically willows and cottonwoods. Each shrub was GPS marked and throughout the study the growth, production, and mortality was measured against the stocking rates allowed in each paddock.

The study’s results showed that in the untreated stands the elk had an 80-90% browsing rate throughout the different stocking rates, but the cattle showed a 20% to 60% browsing use from the low to high stocking rate respectively. In the treated sites there was a higher rate of use of the shrub species in both elk and cattle, with the same trend of increased use with increased stocking rate. The overall effect of this grazing on the shrub species was that the elk had a significant effect on the height of the shrub of about one-half of its normal growth seen in the paddock without any ungulates during the study period. The cattle had a moderate to high effect on the shrub height depending on the stocking rate. The survival of the shrub species was not impacted by either the elk or cattle grazing. There were, however, more mortality in the treated sites due to an increase in the pocket gopher populations in that area and their destruction of the root systems of the shrubs.

Fifteen years after the study (observed on this field trip) the shrubs still hadn’t fully returned and/or recovered from the treatments and grazing in the study areas. The paddock that was built to keep out all of the ungulates was still up and we got to go tour it a little. The observations were that there were more shrubs, forbs, increases diversity of shrubs and forbs such as serviceberry, willows, fireweed, and strawberries. The ground seemed spongier than outside the paddock, and there were less to no very young tree seedlings in the area, where there were many in the treated area outside of the paddock. The shrubs were also producing quite a bit more inside the paddock than outside due to the increased browse of the shrubs outside the paddock.

(Continued on page 4)

(Tour Highlights — Continued from page 3)

Meadow Creek Restoration Research/Pasture 3 & Cattle Grazing and Salmonid Recovery/Pasture – Mary Rowland, Mike Wisdom, and Aric Johnson

At this stop we learned a little about the history of Meadow Creek and how the area was used historically for splash dams for logging and ranching. The area became the only experimental Forest & Rangeland area in the 1940s. After that time there were attempts to restore the creek area for better steelhead and other T&E species with the early 1990's seeing placement of logs in the creek as well as riparian plantings. This restoration failed due to ice dams ripping out all of their work the next year and the restoration efforts were abandoned.

In 2012 to 2014 money came in from a BPA fund for dam mitigation for Meadow Creek to be restored for improved fish habitat and overall riparian restoration. Logs, boulders, and log/boulder complexes were helicoptered in to be placed in or across the creek channel. Around 5,000 trees and shrubs were planted along the riparian area of the creek. Cages (pods) were put around half of the hardwoods planted and the others were left to see what would happen to them if they were browsed.

There are many research studies being done along the creek. ODFW has "champ" sites to see how the fish populations improve. Pollinator studies are being started for the next 5 years to see how the native bees respond to the treatments and other studies are looking at the small mammal's response to treatments as well.

The Meadow Creek has been divided into 5 small pastures for research purposes. The research revolves around the economic viability to a ranch operation to graze in the way they are asking their permittee to graze their research pastures. They are looking to see if the grazing rotation they have in place is economically viable for the permittee and if it is compatible for the restoration of the salmonid populations and creek restoration.

The grazing management in the area includes putting in upland water sites for supplemental watering areas and a full time range rider who tries to use minimal and strategic management of cattle movement to the best effects. The rider mainly moves the cattle from sitting on the riparian and pushes them back into the uplands. The grazing is also managed by a BO from NOAA that requires the research center to meet consultation requirements such as grazing triggers (40% use on shrubs) and drilling a well for upland water to try and pull cattle off the riparian areas.

Ungulate Riparian Grazing Effects-Monitoring Compliance/Pasture 2 Enclosures – Josh Averett

This stop centered on the research that happened in pasture 2 of Meadow Creek. The research centered on ungulate grazing on riparian shrubs and their survival rates after that grazing. The elk were put into the pasture first with some shrubs inside cages, or pods, and some outside pods. The survival of the shrubs were checked after two growing seasons after the shrubs were planted. The results were that there was a 20-30% decrease in shrub survival outside the pods than inside the pods. The height of the shrubs inside the pods was four times as tall as those outside pods. There is a cattle study going on right now, that just started, with most of the same pods being in place as when the elk were in the pasture. Some pods were so damaged that they were removed and some pods were removed specifically for the cattle grazing study.

Along this stretch of creek there are also MIM sites, ODFW "champ" sites for fish counts/studies, and of course the impact of cattle grazing on shrub growth and survival. The cattle research has four different treatments in the treatment area and there are two enclosures in pasture 2 where wild ungulates are fully excluded in one and a 1 hectare enclosure where cattle are excluded. The study looks at vegetation response to grazing, shrub recovery and shrub coverage of the whole stream from toe-slope to toe-slope. The grazing study revolves around low stocking rate for short duration and is based on maintaining streambank alterations. If the trigger for streambank alterations occurs the cattle are removed. In 2017 there were 5 cow/calf pairs in the enclosure for two days before that trigger was met and so in following years the study will be based off of streamline stubble height with the trigger for removal being a seven inch stubble height.

Winter Handling and Care of Wild Deer and Elk-Tame Elk Research/Winter Facility – Brian Dick & Ryan Kennedy

The last stop of the field trip was the winter facilities. The area is a transitional winter range for the elk and deer in the area, since there is no real winter range within the fences of the research center. The area is around 800 acres that is split into 5 pastures with alley-ways and one-way gates for moving the elk between the pastures and the corrals that are used to check on the elk's health/condition, refurbish collars, and collect data from older collars. This winter facility takes the winter variable out of the studies happening around the research center and sends the elk back out in the spring "like same" as when they came in. The elk are fed through the winter with some handling.

The elk handling has evolved through the years with 18,000 handling events since its start. In the last 15 years there has been less

Drawings of Mike Wisdom (top) and Darren Clark (bottom)
by Desi Zamudio, June 27, 2018



(Continued on page 5)

(Tour Highlights — Continued from page 4)

than 0.5% mortality from the handling of the elk. The elk go into corrals in small bunches and one at a time goes through the handling alley way, which is in a covered building. The handling is accomplished on an individual elk in under 5 minutes with a 6 man crew. This handling and collaring system has allowed for huge data sets for the complete life of the animals from after birth to death. Most of the elk will not even come down to the winter facility and will just winter out in the main range area. The largest number that has come down in one of the worst winters was 60 head. The average was around 30 head.

The mule deer are handled out in the range, by luring them into “V” traps, or panel traps. All of the condition checks and collar refurbishing is done there and then the deer is released.

SMALL THINGS MATTER

Submitted by Ricardo Mata-Gonzalez; Corvallis, OR

Small things matter. But often we are not able to assign them their correct value. The video of a small rabbit munching on shrubs at the Starkey Experiment Station reminded me of that. As always, the recent La Grande summer meeting of the Pacific Northwest Section of SRM was invigorating and thought provoking. The group of dedicated people that made it possible deserve all my respect and gratitude. Of course, SRM meetings are always a family reunion but they also can be a reminder of how much we still do not know and, therefore, how much we still cannot appreciate. Often in rangeland management we concentrate on cows, deer, sagebrush; large animals and large plants because it is easy to see them, manage them, manipulate them. But we often miss what the little guys do, even though their collective impact can be huge.

It also should be a challenge to understand and appreciate the little great things that we obtain through our SRM-PNW meetings: the friendship and collaboration, the common interest in sustainable rangelands, the impetus for educating new generations. I look forward to attending the upcoming SRM-PNW meetings and continue reinforcing the little things that connect us. Thanks again to all that make these great meetings possible.

2018 High Desert Youth Range Camp

Submitted by Gabi Johnson, Burns, OR

This June, 15 campers converged on the Northern Great Basin Experimental Range, near Riley, Oregon, to experience a brief moment of life in the sagebrush steppe ecosystem, and the vast array of experiences and job opportunities the high desert has to offer.

High school students from across the state of Oregon arrived at High Desert Youth Range Camp on June 13 just before lunch to set up their campsites for 4 days of hands on learning, fun and friendship. Presenters from a variety of agencies and groups gave talks and demonstrations to help educate campers about the landscape, ecosystem, management, wildlife, opportunities, and even some of the culture, of Harney County and the sagebrush steppe ecosystem. Students arrive at camp from all different backgrounds, some from ranching families, others from the city never having seen sagebrush, and everything in between, but everyone leaves with a greater appreciation for what Harney County is. Camp wraps up on Saturday morning with the annual “hike to the top of The Butte,” along with presentations of management plans they have created as teams, using knowledge they have learned during the course of camp. Upon completion of camp, students are also eligible to earn two college credits through Treasure Valley Community College.



In addition to college credits, students are able to earn a variety of awards, one of which is the Top Camper award. The Top Camper award earns the chosen student an all expenses paid adventure to the annual conference for the Society for Range Management (SRM), which also hosts a High School Youth Forum (HSYF). At the HSYF, the Top Camper represents the Pacific Northwest Section of the SRM (who sponsors the award) and presents a professional paper on a rangeland related issue they have studied. While there, delegates also have the opportunity to tour natural resource management related areas and local ranches.

Since the beginning of range camp, nearly 100 students from all over the Pacific Northwest have attended High Desert Youth Range Camp. Camp would not be possible without the following agencies, who provide facilities, instructors and other resources: Eastern Oregon Agriculture Research Center, Burns, OR USDA-Agriculture Research Service, Oregon State University, Treasure Valley Community College, The Nature Conservancy, Vale High School, Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service and Harney County Watershed Council. HDYRC also relies on local businesses, farms, ranches and families that realize the importance of what this camp teaches, they provide partial scholarships for every camper that attends.

Trail Boss Postage Stamps

Do you want to have a piece of SRM history?

Tom Brannon is currently the keeper of several 1961, 4 cent, US Postal, Range Conservation stamps. They were passed on to him by Cindy Roche'. The Charlie Russell "Trail Boss" is the image on the stamp. See picture below. After consultation with two PNW elders (Hugh Barrett and John Buckhouse), the group concurred the stamps should go to folks in the PNW Section who want this piece of SRM history.

The inventory consists of eight blocks:
3 blocks of 6 stamps in each
2 blocks of 4 stamps in each
1 block of 2 stamps
2 blocks of a single stamp each

The stamps are available on a first come, first accommodated basis; limited to one block per person. If you are interested in obtaining any of the stamps, please contact **Tom Brannon**— (509) 665-8931. Tom will tell the requester what is available and mail the stamps to them.



2017 PNW Section Elections

Vice-President Nominees

Vote for 1 candidate by October 1, 2018

John Williams; Enterprise, OR

Associate Professor emeritus

Oregon State University Extension Service, Wallowa County

I am proud to be a member of the Society for Range Management. It is a very strong organization that offers exceptional educational opportunities to its members and associated partners. I have been an SRM member since 1985 when John Buckhouse introduced me to the society as a graduate student. I was a Pacific Northwest Section board member for 4 years. The society has offered me a great opportunity to share my work as a natural resources agent both at the section meetings and the international meetings. I have been involved in hosting the summer tour a couple of times and have presented many times at the international meeting.

I enjoy being part of the SRM and look forward to being a part of the activities and work in the future. I was honored to receive the Trail Boss Award from the PNW section in 2016. I received the Outstanding Achievement Award – Stewardship from the parent association in 2007 at the Reno meeting. I would like to see the PNW Section of the SRM continue to support the young people to participate in their professional association. To accomplish this we must have a society that has value for them, helps feed them professionally and nurtures and supports them as they develop their careers and their own expertise. As one of the longer standing members I look forward to helping all the newer folks in our society be successful.

Eileen, the love of my life, and I have lived in Wallowa County for the past 25 years. I just retired from being the "County Agent" working as a Natural Resources Extension Agent in Wallowa County. I hold a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Science and a Master of Agriculture in Animal Science, Rangeland Resources and Agricultural Resource Economics from Oregon State University.

I grew up on a pure bred Hereford ranch south of Canyon City, OR. After receiving my bachelor degree I returned to the ranch where we ran commercial cattle, raised hay, and was a contract fence builder. We ranched for 15 years and welcomed a son and daughter into our home.

In 1985 I returned to Oregon State to work on my master's degree. Following graduation in 1987 I began my career with Ore-

gon State University as a 4-H/Agriculture Agent in Tillamook County. In 1993 we moved to Wallowa County where I have helped the county and its constituents deal with public policy issues such as the ESA listings of the Snake River Chinook Salmon and the wolf. Recently I have been involved in research looking at the impact of the presence of wolves on cattle.

What I do for fun. Living in Wallowa County affords me so many opportunities to be outdoors working and playing. Elk hunting has always been one of my top passions, right after anything with my family.

Nick Vora; LaGrande, OR

I joined the SRM in Bend, OR when I was still exploring careers in community college. Largely as a result of the positive interactions I had with SRM members and the things I learned through SRM, I received a B.S. in rangeland management from Oregon State University in 2013. As a student I started rangeland work with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and I currently work for the agency in La Grande, OR where I assist private landowners with rangeland, cropland, and forest management projects.

Outside of the NRCS, I work in law enforcement, search and rescue, fire, and EMS, and recreate outdoors in my “free” time.

Membership with SRM has been an important part of my professional development, from both technical and social aspects. With shrinking agency training budgets, SRM has been one of the few constant means of continuing education relevant to applied land management that I’ve had. I’ve also met some amazing people and made friends through SRM that I would’ve never met were it not for the organization.

My vision for SRM is to maintain the knowledge sharing provided by the society that has been so helpful to me and others I know. I also love how our meetings are always fun events, not just a series of dry technical presentations, and want to keep it that way. That combination makes SRM very unique among professional organizations. Through redoubled recruitment efforts for individuals at the college and early-career level, I hope to keep SRM a vibrant and relevant organization that other young professionals can benefit from in the same way that I have.

Board of Directors Nominees

Vote for 2 candidates by October 1, 2018

Dustin Johnson; Burns, OR

I’ve been with SRM since 1998, first as a student working on my Rangeland Resources Degree at Eastern Oregon University in La Grande, then as a Graduate Research Assistant and Rangeland Research Technician with the Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center in Burns, a Rangeland Management Specialist with the Burns District BLM, and now as an OSU Rangeland Extension Agent in Harney County. A lot has changed since 98, but for me SRM has always been about professional development, networking, collaboration, educational opportunities for students, exchange of information and ideas, and interdisciplinary problem solving.

There are several formidable environmental, social, and economic challenges for sustaining the many values associated with rangelands. Through its diverse and dedicated membership, SRM has been at the forefront of addressing many of these issues. In my opinion, the success of SRM is founded in the network of people who work on the rangeland landscapes they are passionate about. Of primary concern to me is the alarming rate at which our profession is losing invaluable experience and critical mass to retirement. Therefore, education and recruitment of new professionals will be of vital importance as we move forward. The future of the SRM and the PNW Section exists with these folks, and better awareness campaigns and educational opportunities focused at the high school and university levels will increase the recruitment of motivated people into SRM and the profession. An example of a PNW-supported program that has captured the interest of high school youth in rangelands over the past eight years has been the High Desert Youth Range Camp (HDYRC), an annual four-day educational camp focused on rangeland ecology and management hosted by the Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center at the Northern Great Basin Experimental Range in western Harney County. I believe now is a critical time for us to collectively seek opportunities to expand upon and build new opportunities like HDYRC to attract interest in the Society and in our profession.

My wife, three kids, and I love to hike, hunt, fish, camp, and generally enjoy the great outdoors of the Pacific Northwest.

Chris Schachtschneider; Pendleton, OR

I grew up as a “Navy brat” visiting my grandparents every summer in the heart of range country in Eastern Oregon. It is where I found my love for the outdoors and all that rangelands can provide. After graduating from Washington State University with an Animals Science degree, Business minor, I worked in the industry at a processing plant and ARS research station, until I learned about the discipline of Range Ecology. I attended my first SRM meeting in 2013 where I discussed a Master’s program with several great professors and contributors to SRM. I signed on with Dr. Karen Launchbaugh, University of Idaho, conducting research on targeted grazing for fine fuels. I started my current position as Livestock and Rangeland Extension Educator for Umatilla and Morrow Counties, OR. My programing plans focus on a three prong approach; 1) Rangeland monitoring to document changes on the landscape and develop a management plan, 2) Stockmanship to better utilize livestock as tools to achieve management goals, 3) and Perceptions: as producers gain better control of their livestock and documented improvements, we can change public conversation from using rangelands to feed our livestock, to using livestock to shape our rangelands.

SRM is a pivotal organization that brings awareness to rangeland issues as well as finds real world solutions. The collaboration SRM facilitates is what I would like to help continue and enhance. As a member of the board of directors, I would work to bring awareness of this organization to the public and livestock producers. Building our landscapes, and this organization, is going to take continuing and improved collaboration between livestock producers, state and federal agencies, special interest groups, as well as the public. As director, I would do what I can to guide this organization in a direction where the SRM PNW section can be more impactful with rangeland management in this region while improving SRM membership and public awareness about the issues of this invaluable resource.

Ricardo Mata-Gonzalez; Corvallis, OR

Ricardo was born in central Mexico. He obtained a BS in Agriculture at Universidad Autónoma Chapingo in 1989. After working as Assistant of Research, Academic Technician, and High School Teacher for four years he moved to New Mexico to study a MS in Rangeland Science at New Mexico State University. In 1995 Ricardo moved again, this time to Texas, to embark on PhD studies at Texas Tech University. His area of research was restoration of degraded Chihuahuan Desert rangelands which he continued during a two year post-doctoral period, also in West Texas. In 2001, Ricardo was hired as a Consultant by MWH Global (now part of Stantec), an international water and natural resources firm headquartered in Colorado. Developing water and land management plans as well as mined land reclamation programs in California, Nevada, and other western states was part of his responsibilities for six years.

Coming back to his initial passion for research and education, Ricardo obtained a job as Assistant Professor at the Department of Rangeland Ecology and Management (now a program with the Department of Animal and Rangeland Sciences) of Oregon State University in 2007. Here, he continued his research interest on rangeland ecology and restoration and has supervised MS and PhD students from several countries. He has taught graduate and undergraduate courses on rangeland ecology, plant eco-physiology, and rangeland plant identification among others. In 2016, Ricardo became the Rangeland Ecology and Management Program Leader and in 2018 he became Interim Head of the Department of Animal and Rangeland Sciences.

Ricardo has been a member of SRM since 1995; he has been Secretary and Treasurer of the Mexico Section and Leader of the International Affairs Committee. Upon his hiring at Oregon State University, Ricardo has been active in the Pacific Northwest Section of SRM. He has also served as advisor for the OSU Range Club and in charge of organizing the participation of OSU students at sectional and national SRM meetings.

Ricardo appreciates the great opportunities that SRM offers to all the people interested in sustainable rangelands. He also appreciates and values the diverse audiences and disciplines within the great family that SRM represents. Ricardo understands the challenges and responsibilities that board members face, but looks forward to the opportunity of serving and representing the Pacific Northwest Section in a professional manner. He would be humbled and proud to represent rangeland people with great roots in the Pacific Northwest.

Sandra Morris; Longview, WA

I'm now one of SRM's non-traditional members; I'm not currently working directly in Range. However, I've always been proud of the SRM since I first joined in 1987: the friendships, connections within the industry and science, the opportunities to learn from the past as well as the present, the trips to the field that link insights across disciplines, and the conversations that lead to the vision we share. In previous years I've been active at the chapter level and on the national membership committee.

I'm an Oregon State University graduate who was honored to first work in Oregon as a Range Technician with the BLM in Prineville and Burns Districts and with the Natural Resource Conservation Service in Wallowa and Gilliam counties. New Mexico provided the opportunity to work as a Range Specialist for the NW region. Having the opportunity to work from the NW to the SW fed my enjoyment of celebrating the dynamic patterns and links that are found in people and this world.

My recent years have included; promoting watershed work in NW Oregon, and being on schedule to complete a Portland State University River Restoration Certificate and an internship to promote clean water issues in SW Washington this autumn.

I am proud to be able to participate again in the Pacific Northwest Section of SRM, an organization that takes research and insights, and creates the bridges needed to forge relationships and professionalism.

PNW Section Officers

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| President | Maura Laverty, OR | 208-741-9240 |
| 1st Vice Pres. | Wendy Gardner, BC | 250-371-5570 |
| 2nd Vice Pres. | Jeff Burnham, WA | 509-457-9303 |
| Past President | Sandra Wyman, OR | 541-416-6886 |
| Secretary | Mary Jo Foley-Birrenkott, OR | 541-231-5605 |
| Treasurer | Jamie McCormack, OR | 541-233-3438 |
| Director | Claudia Ingham | 503-341-0743 |
| Director | Casey Matney | 907-262-5824 |
| Director | Jeff Burnham, WA | 509-457-9303 |
| Director | Nick Vora, OR | 541-350-2182 |
| Director | Kurt Moffitt, OR | 541-699-3182 |
| Director | Andrew Volo, BC | 250-572-3837 |
| HSYF | Gabi Johnson, OR | 541-589-1239 |
| Awards | John Buckhouse, OR | 541-760-8269 |
| History | Joe Wagner, OR | 541-947-6175 |
| Membership | Pete Schreder, OR | 541-947-6054 |
| Outreach | Bob Gillaspy, WA | 503-414-3233 |
| Student Activities | Andrea Mann, OR | 509-670-7743 |
| Webmaster | Bob Gillaspy Tom Platt, WA | rangebob47@gmail.com plattlt@icloud.com |
| Newsletter | Jenni Moffitt, OR | 541-699-3181 jenni.moffitt@gmail.com |

PNW's strength is in its Chapters Contact yours today!

British Columbia

David Borth, Kamloops, 250-319-4305

Washington

Jeff Burnham, Ellensburg, 509-457-9303

Oregon State University

Yvette Gibson, Corvallis

Eastern Oregon University

Lesley Morris, La Grande, 541-962-3812

Central Oregon

Tim Deboodt, 541-447-6228

Southern Oregon

Les Boothe, Lakeview, 541-947-6141



Society for Range Management PNW Section Election of Officers

Ballot - Fall 2018

You must be a paid-up member of SRM to vote. Need to renew?

Contact SRM Business Office today:

membership@rangelands.org or call 1-785-865-9456

2nd Vice-President Nominees - Vote for one (1)

- ☐ **John Williams**
- ☐ **Nick Vora**
- ☐ _____ (write in candidate)

Board of Director Nominees - Vote for two (2)

- ☐ **Saundra Morris**
- ☐ **Ricardo Mata-Gonzalez**
- ☐ **Chris Schachtenschneider**
- ☐ **Dustin Johnson**
- ☐ _____ (write in candidate)

Vote and mail your ballot by October 1, 2018 to Mike or Jamie —

Canada Ballots:

Mike Malmberg

8454 HWY 93/95

Fort Steele, BC V0B 1N0

US Ballots:

Jamie McCormack

PO Box 145

Hines, OR 97738

PNW-SRM Annual Meeting and Tour

October 10-12, 2018

The Dalles, OR



This year's tour will focus on the Columbia River Gorge. Join us for an up close look at several of the many things that make the Gorge one of Washington State's Seven Wonders.

Meeting Headquarters: Shilo Inns The Dalles¹, 3223 Bret Clodfelter Way, The Dalles, OR 97058. (541) 298-5502. SRM's rooms are blocked until September 26, \$79 plus tax double or single.

Schedule of Activities

Wednesday, October 10. **Location Columbia Gorge Discovery Center & Museum²**, 5000 Discovery Drive. (541) 296-8600.

- 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. museum exhibits open to the public (optional)³.
 - 2-5 p.m. Board of Directors meeting
 - 5:30-8:30 p.m. Social. Snacks and no-host bar
 - 7:15 p.m. The Oregon Trail, Regional and Personal Perspectives. A journey back in time to the mid-1800's during westward expansion when pioneers made a 2,000-mile trek on difficult terrain, enduring illness and encounters with Native Americans. Bob Ehrhart, Historian and Range Scientist.

Thursday, October 11. **Location Shilo Inns.**

- 7:45 a.m. Load bus for tour. Lunch and snacks provided. Carrie Gordon, Retired USFS, on-board Geology Guide to the Gorge. Past Forest Geologist on the Ochoco National Forest and Crooked River National Grassland
 - The Dalles Dam, general operations; power generation; renewable energy; fish passage and run recovery; barging; flood control; current issues. Army Corps of Engineers staff. **Photo id required.**
 - Celilo Park, site of Wy-am, historic Celilo Falls. Tribal Fishing Rights and Native American Issues along the Columbia, J.P. Patt, former chairman, Warm Springs Tribal Council and former executive director, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.
 - Williams Ranch. Soil health, cover crops, grazing, alternative crop rotations, innovative farming and conservation practices, Noah Williams, operator, and Garrett Duyck, Soil Health Coordinator Central Oregon NRCS.
 - PGE Biglow Canyon Wind Farm. Wind generated renewable energy: siting, construction, daily operations, integration in the power grid, green energy and climate change, and impact on rangeland resources and wildlife. Robert Marheine, PGE terrestrial biologist focusing on implementing mitigation requirements.
- 6-9:15 p.m. Banquet, Awards, Silent Auction. **Location Shilo Inns.**
- 8 p.m. Geology of the Columbia Gorge, Scott Burns, Portland State University Professor Emeritus and co-author of *Cataclysms on the Columbia*.

Friday, October 12. Location Shilo Inns.

- 8 a.m. Annual Meeting
- 10 a.m. Carpool for The Dalles Mt. Project at Columbia Hills Historical State Park⁴. Grazing and Prairie Restoration on State Park Land, Tip Hudson, WSU Extension Range Specialist.
- 11:45 a.m. Carpool to Maryhill Museum of Art⁵. Leased Grazing on Maryhill Estate's Annual Grasslands: grazing systems, wind turbine program, range seeding efforts, invasive weeds, wildfire, history of the Hill family and museum. Marty Hudson, Maryhill Ranch Committee Chair and Klickitat County Weed Control Coordinator and Dale Thiele, rancher lessee. Lunch provided.
- 1:15 p.m. Adjourn

For more information, or to register online, browse to pnwsrm.org/meetings

Registration includes snacks at Wednesday evening's social, Thursday's bus tour, lunch on Thursday and Friday, and Thursday's banquet dinner.

Please register by October 3 to avoid a late fee and to facilitate advanced security checks at The Dalles Dam

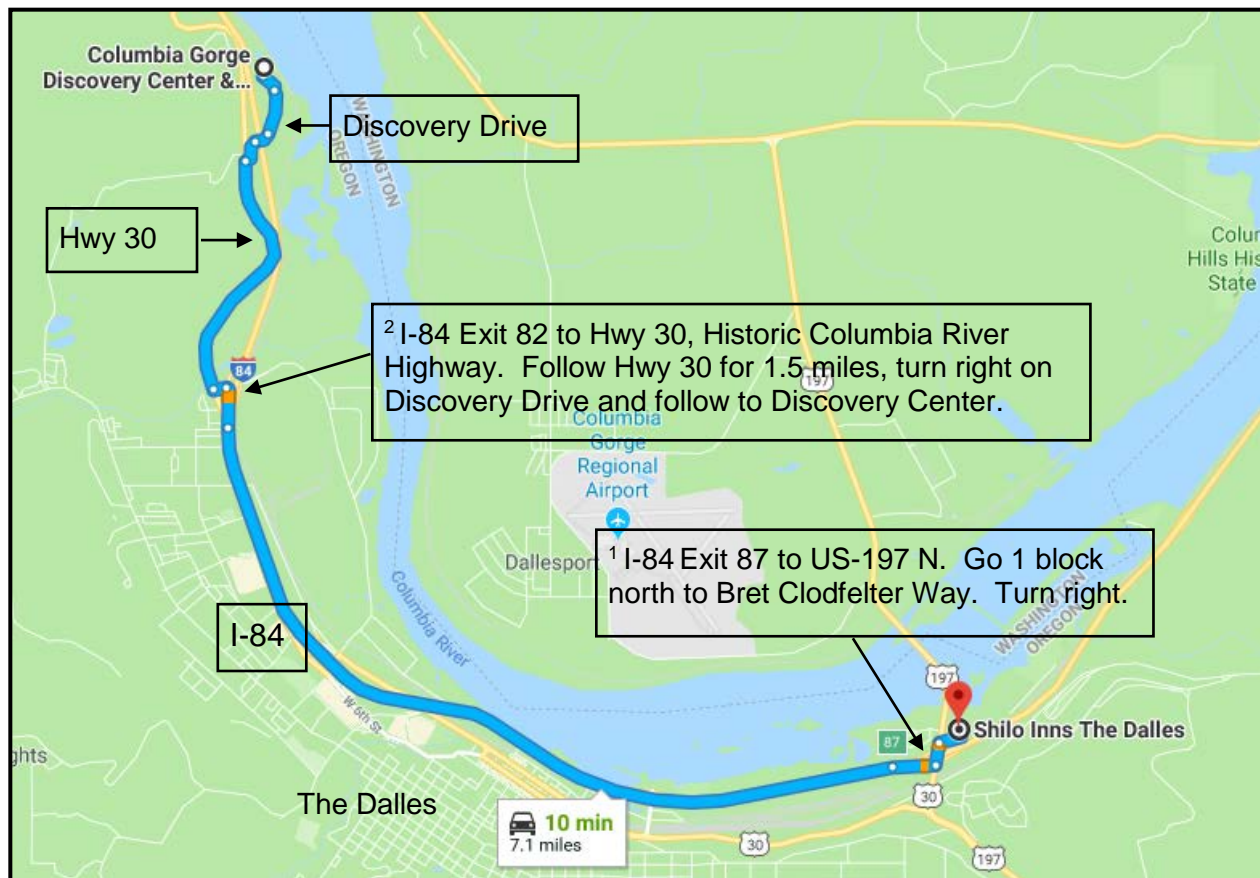
¹ Shilo Inns are at the east end of The Dalles. Traveling from west or east on I-84, take Exit 87 to US-197 N and go 1 block north to Bret Clodfelter Way. Turn right.

² Columbia Gorge Discovery Center & Museum is at the west end of The Dalles. Traveling from west or east on I-84, take Exit 82 to Historic Columbia River Highway (Hwy 30), follow Hwy 30 westward for 1.5 miles, turn right on Discovery Drive and follow to Discovery Center. 7 miles west of Shilo Inns.

³ Weekly pass, \$6.50 per person, (PNW-SRM group rate, veterans free).

⁴ Optional post-tour admission to Columbia Hills Historical State Park petroglyphs requires a Discovery Pass, (\$10/vehicle)

⁵ Optional post-tour Maryhill Museum of Art admission, PNW-SRM group rate, \$10



2018 PNW Fall Meeting Registration

Name: _____

Guest (if applicable): _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City/Province/State: _____

Postal Code/ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Registration fee includes Wednesday evening social; all Thursday meals, transportation, and entertainment; and Friday lunch and presentations. Full agenda is available on the PNW website (www.pnwsrm.org). Please enter the number of tickets you need for each event.

| Type | Before October 3 | Qty | After October 3 | Qty |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Regular | \$125 US | | \$150 US | |
| Student | \$75 US | | \$90 US | |
| Friday Only | \$15 US | | \$30 US | |
| Extra Banquet Tickets | \$37 US Each | | | |
| Total Amount Due | | | | |

Special Accommodations Needed: _____

Please make check payable to **WA Chapter Society for Range Management**, and mail to c/o Cathy Cannon, PO Box 487, Okanogan, WA 98840. Or, use the Paypal link on the PNW-SRM website at www.pnwsrm.org under the meeting link.

NOTES OF IMPORTANCE

The Dalles Dam Visit – Thursday: A list of registrants will need to be provided to Dam security personnel by October 8, therefore we highly encourage you to register as early as possible (and it will save you \$25!). Visitors will also be required to show a **Photo ID or Passport**. Cameras will be permitted, but no large bags/backpacks other than standard purses and notebooks, etc.

Accommodations: Shilo Inns The Dalles is holding a block of 40 rooms at \$79/night (20 queen single and 20 queen double) until September 26, 2018. Be sure to let them know you are with the Society for Range Management.

Shilo Inns The Dalles
3223 Bret Clodfelter Way
The Dalles, Oregon 97058
Phone: 541-298-5502/Fax: 541-298-4673