

# *Society for Range Management Pacific Northwest Section*

*Volume 71 Number 2  
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## President's Message

*Jeff Burnham, WA*

Greetings to all those in the Pacific Northwest and beyond who care about rangelands in this part of the world! Nearly every year is a big fire year now in at least one of our states/provinces, and 2020 (of course) has been no exception. Managing in the aftermath of these disturbances will be challenging in some respects as forage, habitats, and financial situations recover. The technical challenges posed by fire and recovery, however, are arguably less urgent than that of ensuring the lines of productive communication remain open. Perhaps one of the most important steps we can take is to keep drawing from a well of thoughtfulness and understanding in a time when so many voices seek to capitalize on fear and misfortune.

I believe that the overwhelming majority of us still want the best for our neighbors, whether they're across some border or across the mountains. To see what I mean, just take the next opportunity to attend the SRM annual/international meeting and interact with the students.

This is where SRM has a role to fulfill. We can be voices of reason, of education, voices for community, and for recovery. In a time when some communities are being tested and others are being formed, SRM members are uniquely positioned to help bridge different types of communities that all depend in some way on the rangelands we love. Although we cannot control a big fire that's worked up a head of steam, we can control whether or not we listen to someone unlike us.

Of course, restrictions on travel and gathering make this more difficult than we'd like. Which is why we're fortunate to have the webinars organized by the British Columbia chapter. I know it's another thing to squeeze in between trying to keep your kids on track with their remote schooling, seemingly longer or more irregular work hours, etc., but I encourage you to join as you're able. Everyone is also invited to the annual business meeting/awards ceremony on October 26. Finally, please read about candidates for Section offices for the coming year and remember to vote! And consider running in the future if your situation allows!

Jeff Burnham

Ellensburg, WA



### Calendar of Events

**Happening Now!:** Home on the Range Webinar Series

**October 7, 2020:** PNW Section Virtual Wine and Cheese

**October 26, 2020:** PNW SRM Fall Annual Meeting – Virtual

**February 15-18, 2021 :** 2021 SRM Annual Meeting: New Frontiers – Virtual

Committee Meetings are scheduled for the week prior, **February 8-12th**

More details on Page 2!

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

### Home on the Range: A webinar series for the Pacific Northwest Section of the Society for Range Management

*Presented by the BC Chapter!*

The BC Chapter is hosting a webinar series to showcase the research of students, young professionals, and researchers in the field of Range Management in the PNW Section. Each 30 minute webinar will feature one, 15 minute presentation, followed by time for questions and discussions. The webinars are open to anyone to attend, but registration is required so that attendees can receive the link to join in on the webinar by email. For dates and topics see the attached flyer!

Registration and abstracts are viewable at: <https://pnwsrm.org/meetings/home-on-the-range-webinar-series-fall-2020/>  
Questions? BCChapterSRM@gmail.com

### PNW Section Virtual Wine and Cheese— October 7, 2020, 6 pm Pacific Time (US and Canada)

The PNW section fall tour was cancelled this year but we don't see why this should stop us getting together socially. The BC Chapter would like to invite all PNW SRM members to a virtual wine and cheese on the evening of Wednesday Oct 7 starting at 6 pm. Get your beverages ready and mark the calendar to join us. Link here for a short video from BC Chapter President Tim Ross with his invitation to the event: <https://youtu.be/-9ABpjbegA>

If you want to participate in the entertainments and share a song, poetry, or anything else just show up or drop Tim an email at [tim@rossrange.com](mailto:tim@rossrange.com). Otherwise just log in to say hi to old and new friends and enjoy some entertainment.

You can join the call via Zoom. No registration required! On Oct 7 at 6 pm just click on the following link to join in:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88181469778?pwd=M0E5ZG1PcExQWnE3Y0EvdjVEL3Zpdz09>

If required the meeting ID is: 881 8146 9778, and the passcode: 119021

### 2020 PNW SRM Fall Annual Meeting — October 26, 2020, 1-4pm Pacific Time (US and Canada)

The PNW SRM Fall Meeting will be going virtual this year.

The Zoom meeting link is provided below, but you much **RSVP to Jeff Burnham**: [jeff.burnham@aggiemail.usu.edu](mailto:jeff.burnham@aggiemail.usu.edu) to receive the access code. We look forward to “seeing” everyone there!

Join the Zoom Meeting!

<https://oregonstate.zoom.us/j/93264447600?pwd=NktVMHBjMnBEemFkTDE3cE5CZEhaQT09>

### 2021 SRM Annual Meeting: New Frontiers

Virtual Meeting — February 15-18, 2021; Committee Meetings are scheduled for the week prior — February 8-12, 2020

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## 2020 SRM Honor Awards

Presented at the 73<sup>rd</sup> SRM Annual Meeting in Denver. Congratulations!

*Photo from the SRM website: [rangelands.org](http://rangelands.org).*

### Outstanding Achievement Award—Land Stewardship

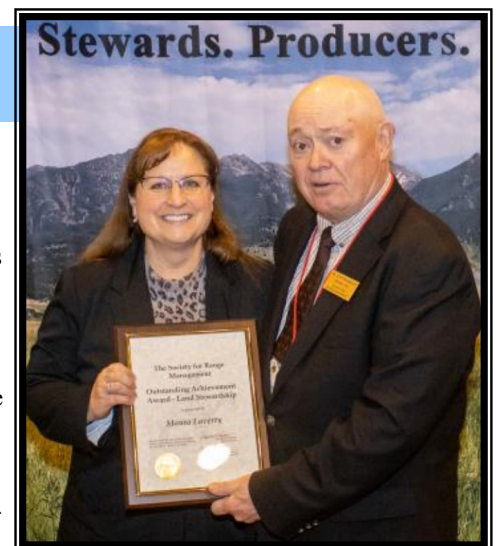
Maura Laverty

Maura Laverty is a career U.S. Forest Service professional. She began her career as a Rangeland Technician and progressed to a District Range Conservationist, to District Rangeland Management to District Supervisory Rangeland Management Specialist to Zoned Districts Supervisory Rangeland Management Specialist to Range Program Manager to Customer Services Staff Officer to Range and Invasives Programs Manager. She has served in the four western states of Washington, Colorado, Idaho, and Oregon.

In each position and at each location, Maura proved her mettle, tackling each assignment with enthusiasm, tact, and technical savvy. In every case, she trained her service personnel into an effective and valuable team, has brought widely varied people and groups together, and has diligently promoted rangelands and the people associated with rangelands to be able to work for common cause. She is a strong believer in Coordinated Resource Management Planning (CRMP) and has proved effective in bringing groups who have previously been “at odds” with each other to the table for the benefit of the land resource!

Maura is well known, well respected and much sought after locally and regionally throughout the Northwest and Intermountain regions of the US. This recognition comes from respect and appreciation for her diligence, knowledge, ability to implement practices, and her skill at bringing people together.

Maura is exactly what every aspiring rangeland conservationist ought to emulate. She has earned the professional and personal respect which she enjoys and is fully qualified and appropriate to this distinction and honor!



## Outstanding Achievement Award—Land Stewardship

OR Threat-Based Land Management Team (OR TBLMT)

Tony Svejcar - OSU-Burns Range Scientist, Vanessa Schroeder - OSU Faculty Research Assistant, Dustin Johnson - OSU Rangeland Outreach Specialist, & Chad Boyd - USDA-ARS Range Scientist and Research Leader

Over a 5-year period, the Oregon Threat-Based Land Management Team (TBLMT) worked with a diverse constituency including livestock producers and regulatory and management agency personnel to construct threat-based state and transition models (TBSTMs) to inform management on rangelands threatened by annual grasses, expanding conifer, or both. The TBLMT team worked with a private contractor to develop a system for mapping states at large-scales using satellite imagery. This process has resulted in TBSTM states being mapped across an area of more than 10 million acres. These models were initially developed as the basis of a Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances for greater sage-grouse that now involves upwards of 1.5 million acres throughout eastern Oregon and is widely considered the most successful program of its kind in the western US. This program has been mentioned as a contributing factor in the 2015 decision not to list the greater sage-grouse under provisions of the ESA. In addition to the 1.5 million acres in the CCAA, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is now using TBSTMs to help guide management on over 5 million acres of BLM-managed rangeland in Oregon. Because the models are of simplified construction, they are often used to great effect by BLM as a communication tool in development of administrative assessments of management impact (e.g., NEPA documentation). Additionally, the TBSTM models form the basis of the State of Oregon Sage-Grouse Habitat Mitigation Plan and are being used to calculate the uplift burden necessary to offset development projects in sage-grouse habitat.

- Over a 5-year period, the Oregon Threat-Based Land Management Team (TBLMT) worked with a diverse constituency including livestock producers and regulatory and management agency personnel to construct threat-based state and transition models (TBSTMs) to inform management on rangelands threatened by annual grasses, expanding conifer, or both.
- TBSTMs are simplified models that condense complex systems into manageable units that can be operationalized at large spatial scales.
- These models were initially developed as the basis of a Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances for greater sage-grouse that now involves upwards of 1.5 million acres throughout eastern Oregon and is widely considered the most successful program of its kind in the western US.
- The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is now using TBSTMs to help guide management on over 5 million acres of BLM-managed rangeland in Oregon.



## 2020 PNW Section Elections

### Board of Directors Nominees

Vote for 2 candidates by October 19, 2020

#### Amanda Miller; BC

My name is Amanda Miller, and I have been a member of the Society for Range Management since my undergraduate days. My passion is in rangeland stewardship and conservation, with an interest in providing ecological tools and strategies for long term sustainable land management. I have a master's degree in Rangeland and Wildlife Resources from the University of Alberta and have been a professional agrologist since 2016. I bring a strong desire to be involved in rangeland science and extension, along with significant experience working within a regulatory role and as a member of rangeland focused non-governmental organizations such as MULTISAR.

I worked as a rangeland specialist for the Government of Alberta from 2013-2019, and within my role developed ecological tools, performed applied research, and played a collaborative role in developing policy to address emerging rangeland issues. During this period, I was a member of the International Mountain Section of the Society for Range Management and placed second in the master's level poster competition at the 66<sup>th</sup> annual meeting in Oklahoma City in 2013.

Currently the owner and founder of Palouse Rangeland Consulting, I work largely with the BC Cattlemen's Association, and am a supporter of sustainable beef and cattle as a rangeland conservation tool.



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## Casey Matney; Alaska

Casey Matney was raised in Oregon and began his career in the natural resources field while working as a college intern for the Oregon Department of Fish Wildlife in 1997. After completing his associate degree in Fisheries Technology, he went on to complete a bachelor's degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Management at Oregon State University (OSU); studying sage grouse at Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge and working seasonal positions for the USDA Forest Service. For his master's degree, he studied stream temperature, redband trout, and willow herbivory on Steens Mountain. In 2010, he received a Ph.D. for his research studying winterfat and grazing ecology in the Catlow Valley of Oregon. Casey is now an Associate Professor and Agriculture-Horticulture Extension Agent within the Institute of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Extension at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

In Alaska, Casey's program responsibilities span the spectrum from livestock and range to soils and horticulture. He is the Alaska State Coordinator for Western SARE and president of the National Association for County Agricultural Agents in Alaska. He provides agriculture expertise and training to rural Alaska villages as well as the more metropolitan areas of the state. He is a primary investigator and collaborator on a number of research and outreach projects. Some of the projects Casey is associated with include: forage production, soil health, integrated pest management, and produce safety. Beginning at OSU, Casey has been instructing college courses in rangeland management since 2006. In addition to OSU, he has instructed courses at Northeastern Junior College (NJC) and Colorado State University (CSU). He continues to instruct distance courses for the Department of Forestry and Rangeland Stewardship at CSU. Prior to his position in Alaska, Casey was a Rangeland Extension Specialist in Colorado for five years.

Casey understand the responsibilities of this position and looks forward to the opportunity to continue interacting with other board members and representing the Society in a professional manner. He has been involved with SRM since 2002. He competed in Plant ID and URME contests as an undergraduate. As a master's student, in 2004, he was awarded first place in the annual SRM graduate student paper contest. He has coached URME and Plant ID teams for OSU and NJC, as well as assisted with teams at CSU. Now in Alaska, he is interested in improving the range programs in Alaska and giving back to SRM.

Casey currently lives on the Southern Kenai Peninsula with his wife and four children. When he can, he enjoys fishing, hunting, and camping with his family.

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## *Are you looking for a way to serve the PNW Section? Consider becoming a Section Officer!*

The PNW Section has several vacancies on our board. We are looking for volunteers to fill the following positions:

Second Vice President  
Director (partial term)  
Secretary

If you are looking for a great leadership opportunity, or would like any more information about these positions, please contact Jeff Burnham: [jeff.burnham@aggiemail.usu.edu](mailto:jeff.burnham@aggiemail.usu.edu).

### PNW Section Officers

President	Jeff Burnham, WA	509-457-9303
1st Vice Pres.	Nick Vora, OR	541-350-2182
2nd Vice Pres.	Carlos Ochoa, OR	541-737-0933
Past President	Wendy Gardner, BC	250-371-5570
Secretary	Vacant	
Treasurer	Jamie McCormack, OR	541-233-3438
Director	Claudia Ingham	503-341-0743
Director	Casey Matney, AK	907-262-5824
Director	Dustin Johnson, OR	541-589-1981
Director	Ricardo Mata Gonzalez, OR	541-350-2182
Director	Julie Conley, WA	
Director	Vacant	
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 Gillaspay, WA	360-566-7654
Student Activities	Andrea Mann, OR	509-670-7743
Webmaster	Bob Gillaspay Tom Platt, WA	<a href="mailto:rangebob47@gmail.com">rangebob47@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:plattlt@icloud.com">plattlt@icloud.com</a>
Newsletter	Jenni Moffitt, OR	541-699-3181 <a href="mailto:jenni.moffitt@gmail.com">jenni.moffitt@gmail.com</a>

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

#### British Columbia

David Borth, Kamloops, 250-319-4305

#### Washington

Catherine Cannon, Okanogan 509-449-8063

#### Oregon State University

Yvette Gibson, Corvallis

#### Eastern Oregon University

Vacant

#### Central Oregon

Tim Deboodt, 541-447-6228

#### Southern Oregon

Les Boothe, Lakeview, 541-947-6141

### CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

The PNW Section is in need of a Section Secretary. If you are interested in serving in this role please contact Jeff Burnham: [jeff.burnham@aggiemail.usu.edu](mailto:jeff.burnham@aggiemail.usu.edu)

Visit our website!

<http://pnwsrm.org>



## **Society for Range Management PNW Section Election of Officers**

**Ballot - Fall 2020**

**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)**

*No candidates were nominated. Please contact Jeff Burnham if you  
are interested in serving in this capacity:  
jeff.burnham@aggiemail.usu.edu*

\_\_\_\_\_ (write in candidate)

### **Board of Director Nominees - Vote for two (3)**

**Amanda Miller**

**Casey Matney**

\_\_\_\_\_ (write in candidate)

*A partial term as board of director is currently vacant due to a re-  
cent resignation. Please contact Jeff Burnham if you are interested  
in serving in this capacity: jeff.burnham@aggiemail.usu.edu*

**Vote and mail your ballot by October 19, 2020 to Mike or Jenni**

**Canada Ballots:**  
**Mike Malmberg**  
Box 10  
Fort Steele, BC V0B 1N0

**US Ballots:**  
**Jenni Moffitt**  
3275 NW Dogwood Ave.  
Redmond, OR 97756

*The BC Chapter Presents...*

# Home on the Range

A webinar series for the Pacific Northwest Section of  
the Society for Range Management

**Sept 22 @ 12:** Agricultural Wildfire Preparedness in Rangelands

*Jacob Powell, Agriculture Extension Faculty, Oregon State University*

**Sept 29 @ 7:** Ecologically Based Weed Management in Rangelands

*Rachel Whitehouse, MSc. Candidate, Thompson Rivers University*

**Oct 6 @ 12:** Wildfire Risk Reduction Pilot Project

*Amanda Miller, Palouse Rangeland Consulting*

**Oct 13 @ 7:** Rangeland plant responses to arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi,  
options for ecological restoration

*David Prado-Tarango, Animal & Rangeland Sciences, Oregon State University*

**Oct 20 @ 12:** Reworking the Range: Applying historical sources, data,  
and methods to rangeland management

*Dr. Tim Paulson, Assistant Professor, University of British Columbia*

**Oct 27 @ 7:** Evaluating Existing Control Methods for *Venttenata dubia*  
and their Effectiveness

*Hayley Fentiman, Thompson Rivers University*

**Nov 3 @ 12:** The bird and the herd: sage-grouse and ranch-level  
economics of prescribed grazing on rangelands in the West

*Dr. Anna T. Maher, Postdoctoral Research Scientist, University of Wyoming*

**Registration and abstracts are viewable at:**

**<https://pnwsrm.org/meetings/>**