

## SRM PNW Section - Fall Meeting (2023)

**Date:** September 12 – 14, 2023 (Tuesday –Thursday)

**Location:** Burns, Or (130 miles & 2 ¾ hours E of Bend on Hwy 20) (70 miles S of John Day on Hwy 395)

**Agenda:** Technical presentations; Steens Mountain Field trip; Banquet; SRM Business Meeting.  
Trip details: Frenchglen, Historic Pete French Ranch (now Malheur Wildlife Refuge), Steens Mtn. (largest fault block Mtn. in Great Basin, large glacial valleys; Google the Mountain for great pictures)

### Schedule

**Tuesday:** Location: Historic Central Hotel; 171 North Broadway Street (also Highway 395)

**2:00 – 3:00 pm** Advisory committee meeting. **3:00 – 5:00 pm** SRM Board Meeting

5:00 – 6:00 pm SRM meet and greet Snack/Sandwich Social Hour

6:00 – 6:20 pm Welcome, announcements, daily schedule. Note: Silent Auction is Wed. pm.

6:30 – 7:30 pm Speaker: **Carrie Gordon**, Geology of High Desert and Steens Mountain (Geologist presentation to prepare members for the Steen field trip)

7:30 - 8:15 pm Audience questions; Trip schedule & announcements; Cleanup,

**Wednesday:**

**7:00 am** Location to meet, TBA; Orientation, Handouts.

**7:20 am** Load & depart: Tentative vehicle plan: buses or car pool

*Stop 1* - Frenchglen: Glacial lake history & geologic influences on Harney Basin:

Speaker: Katie Rhodes BLM. Next: History of P Ranch & Company town and a visit to Pete French home “site” with fire tower (turkey vulture perch (US FWS); Management of Malheur Wildlife Refuge (Speaker: Travis Miller, US FWS).

*Stop 2* - Overview of Sagebrush Zone & Upper Juniper Zone management; range livestock grazing issues, wildlife concerns & vegetative treatment history; natural resource/public use challenges. (Jamie McCormack, & other BLM staff).

*Stop 3* - Aspen/Sagebrush Zone & Range Sheep operation (Pate Lake & vicinity): High elevation climatic-vegetative zone changes, range sheep grazing program; (Speakers: Gene Hickman, Rancher Larry Wentz). **Lunch**

*Stop 4* - Kiger Gorge glacial Cirque Viewpoint: Subalpine Zone, Elevation 8900 ft, (Speaker: Katie Rhodes BLM)

*Stop 5* - East Rim Viewpoint on Watershed Divide (9650 ft ): View to east is Alvord Desert in Great Basin > 5000 ft below. Geology, Ecology, Great Basin Mangt. (Katie R., Jamie M., Gene H.)

**Return trip to Burns with Restroom stop at Frenchglen**

**6:00 pm Arrive back in Burns**

**6:30 pm** Historic Central Hotel: Setup for Silent Auction by members before meal. Banquet is followed by a local Historian presentation on the High Desert settlement and Native American history. (Speaker: Scott Thomas, Archeologist, BLM). Also, we announce the winners of those bidding on Silent Auction items, a fund raising event for students.

**Thursday:** Central Hotel meeting room

8:15 am SRM Business Meeting followed by Technical Presentations

9:30 Winter Cattle Grazing Study east of Burns at Drewsey: Bill Dragt (BLM) (ARS)

10:15 Virtual Fencing Research: (Speaker: Rory O’Connor, OSU Ag. Exp. Station)

11:00 Wild Horse Program: Burns Wild Horse Corrals, horse management on the range, issues and natural resource concerns, political future. (Speaker: BLM staff)

11:45 Dismiss. Happy Trails!