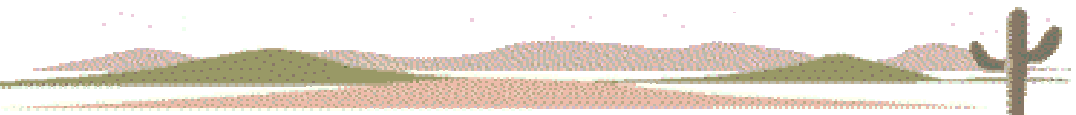


# Society for Range Management



## ARIZONA SECTION

### President

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928-853-1391  
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### ASU Student President

Antonio Lopez  
.....@asu.edu

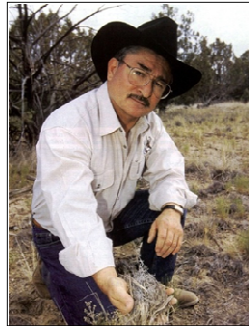
### ASU Representative

Michael Sorensen  
[Michael.P.Sorensen@asu.edu](mailto:Michael.P.Sorensen@asu.edu)

July, 2010

**President's Message**

[Http://azrangelands.org](http://azrangelands.org)



### **Saddlin up... with Al**

*SRM's VISION: a well-trained and highly motivated group of professionals and rangeland users working with productive, sustainable rangeland ecosystems.*

*Our MISSION: to promote the professional development and continuing education of members and the public and the stewardship of rangeland resources.*

First, I want to welcome several new members to the Arizona Section. At a time when membership in professional societies is dwindling, it is comforting to know that Arizona folks retain a strong commitment to the profession of range management. I look forward to spending some time with as many folks as possible at our gatherings around the State.

In the March newsletter, I outlined the BOD goals for 2010. Here is an update on our progress:

#### **Improving membership service**

We have surveyed our membership and have made several corrections to the mail database so that all members can receive timely notices. A few details remain to be clarified, but these will be completed by the summer meeting.

I am working on ways to redesign our (<http://azrangelands.org>) in order to optimize information retrieval. The site needs to be a key source of updated and vital information and provide easy accessibility. Quality membership service is very high on my list!

#### **Improve communications with members, students and our publics**

We are conducting a rancher survey to examine how we can best serve this sector of our membership. Richard Collins, Dean Fish, Dan Bell and I will analyze the results and develop an action plan to improve our service (e.g. meetings) and increase membership. Ranchers were part of the founding and historically a majority in the Arizona Section.

***Why would ranchers not be a part of a professional organization that provides scientific evidence in support of grazing?*** What we know of grazing management is in large part due to the pioneering and continuing efforts of rangeland professionals and ranchers.

#### **Deliver high quality summer and winter meetings**

The Summer Meeting, being developed by Don Luhrsen, promises to deliver an excellent opportunity to witness collaboration at work, with diverse presentations and discussions about what works, what may not, why's and why not's.

#### **Enact new business guidelines for section officers and committee chairpersons**

The revised guidelines are near completion and will be presented to the general membership at the Summer Meeting for approval.

#### **Fund-raise money for the S. C. Martin Scholarship Trust**

Thanks to the gracious donations from Wink Crigler, X Diamond Ranch, we are ready to kick-off a raffle to raise money for the Scholarship. If every member (210 total) buys and sells one ticket, we can raise \$8500. Our goal is at least 500 tickets. Odds of winning – 1 in <750.

### Increase our membership

Since January 2010, we have 21 new members! Membership has ranged from 300-350 from 1960-1990, declined to 166 in 2002 and we stand at 212. I renew *the challenge to BOD and members to sign up a new member*.

AZ-SRM has a standing offer for members to nominate a person for membership. The section will sponsor an annual membership for a candidate that would benefit from SRM. Submit your nominations to me. [[almedina777@hotmail.com](mailto:almedina777@hotmail.com), 928-853-1391].

### Have A Great Time Working With AZ-SRM!

It is always rewarding when we contribute to worthy causes. AZ-SRM is no different. We look forward to the Summer Meeting to hoot and holler a bit more!

### SRM National News

SRM, like many other professional societies is facing difficult financial decisions that will affect member services. A balanced budget is mandatory. Meanwhile, SRM offices in Denver sustained storm damage and will require renovation. Stay tuned for outcomes from the July BOD meeting.

The "Native Range" committee is working diligently to host a special session at the 2011 Annual Meeting that focuses on Tribal rangelands and management. This is an area poorly represented in the past, despite the vast Tribal lands in the West.

In closing, I look forward to shaking hands and chatting at the Summer Meeting. Come on up to the cool pine country and chill out. Bring a fishing rod, a friend or two, and a hearty appetite. *As always, feel free to contact me to discuss questions or issues you may have.*

Your Section President

*Alvin L. Medina*

### Rancher Survey

Herbert Metzger, rancher, and Ervin Schmultz, range management professor, founded the Arizona chapter of SRM in 1971. In the early years, ranchers made up about half of its membership. Today, that number is about one fifth, the other four-fifths are agency and academic staff and private consultants. The 2010 goals of SRM included organizing meetings relevant to ranchers (and other constituents), increase its membership and visibility, and improve communications. To further these goals the BOD is conducting a written survey of ranchers at the AzCGA summer convention, asking questions about what topics they would like SRM to address in their meetings, issues ranchers would like SRM to take positions on, whether ranchers knew about SRM and its activities, had they been past members of SRM and why they dropped out. We also are using this opportunity to inform ranchers about current SRM activities including the summer camp on Mingus Mountain for youth. Responses from individual ranchers will be kept confidential. A BOD appointed-committee including Al Medina, Richard Collins, Dean Fish, and Dan Bell will analyze the results and present them in summary form to the AzCGA and at the SRM winter meeting.

*Richard Collins*, Director South

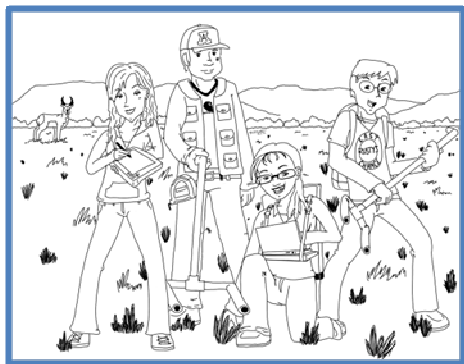
### Are you Somebody?

"When I was little I used to say '*when I grow up I'm going to be somebody*'. I see now I should have been more specific." Lily Tomlin, comedienne and actress.

Lily's quote shows how important effective communication is, no matter the circumstances. If you find yourself struggling to communicate with your spouse, spousal equivalent, kids, boss, employees, coworkers, etc., you know what I'm talking about. No one is a perfect communicator (and will never be), but we can all continue to learn skills to get better at it. This ties in perfectly with the theme of this year's summer meeting. Why not see what works for other people and then use some of those techniques to fit your needs?

I don't know about you, but I often find myself wondering if I'm getting my point across or really hearing what people are saying. So I'm looking forward to this summer session and hope to pick up some good tips! Hope to see all of you there, too!

*Clare Hydock*, Director North



“It’s Range Rocks time!” was the enthusiastic reply from fourteen Northpoint Expeditionary Learning Academy (NELA) students when University of Arizona research specialist John Kava asked them what time it was as he boarded their bus for a ride across the Coconino National Forest. The plan, to drive through two types of Rangelands found in Arizona. The students were participating in the V-V Ranch Rangeland student education program, “Range Rocks”, under the direction of Rangeland Specialist Dr. Doug Tolleson, and in cooperation with NELA teacher Sidney Shepherd.

In the previous three days the students had visited a local meat processing plant, learned the basics of rangelands, rotational grazing, were introduced to near infrared use in agriculture, collected data for a preliminary study on carbon sequestration in rangelands using near infrared spectroscopy and performed a complete survey of a riparian area. Discussions ranged from how rotational grazing affects plants and soil to the state of riparian areas and restoration possibilities to the challenges of ranching on federal lands managed for multi use. In their leisure time they enjoyed a trail ride, milked a cow, made ice cream and enjoyed an authentic chuckwagon meal!

On the bus they were trying to pull together the concepts that had been taught in the previous three days, as the driver and teacher, Ms. Shepherd, passed over bumps and cattle guards. The discussion led by Mr. Kava covered the importance of cattle and plants (biotic factors) in the carbon and nitrogen cycles. Cow pies (abiotic factors) they learn are part of the cycles and improve the soil and plants with the assistance of precipitation and sunlight. Stopping shortly after the bus rumbled over a cattle guard marking the southern edge of the Walker Basin Allotment, Mr. Kava points out the window. “We are now in a woodland savannah rangeland type”, he announced. “Does it match what you had in your mind”?

Changing minds is what Range Rocks is all about. Most people today are unaware of the open range ranching that goes on in Arizona and across much of the western United States. Range Rocks offers students an opportunity to work alongside range professionals to learn about their backyard. As part of their class requirements they produced final projects. The current issue of *The Rimrock Report*, the VBarV quarterly range newsletter, was authored by one group. Two other groups produced videos, one on the topic of forage quality vs. quantity and another is a

raven’s view of rangeland management, Northpoint’s mascot is the Raven. To view go to <http://cals.arizona.edu/aes/vbarv/rangerocks.html>.

These students were perfect candidates for “Range Rocks”, they knew nothing of rangelands or their management prior to this experience. After the students returned to school and passed on what they learned, the Director of the school, Geneva Saint-Amour commented, “I am extremely impressed with the research, management and outreach going on at the Ranch and it has inspired me to keep this program and location in mind for future partnership opportunities.” Ms Saint-Amour has already included the Ranch as an overnight stop in a 2-day intensive for her entire staff as they prepare for new school year. We hope to see another group of student next spring.

To learn more about Northpoint <http://www.northpointacademy.org/>

*John Kava*



### APPLIED RIPARIAN ECOLOGY – FIELD STYLE

High schools students from a YCC group from Yavapai and Coconino Counties were treated to a special field short course in applied riparian ecology – “pushing the edge of riparian science” out on the Verde River Ranch. Al Medina, Riparian Ecologist for the Rocky Mountain Research Station in Flagstaff hosted the 45 students, plus Prescott NF staff. Great interest was expressed by the students about the ecology and condition of the Verde River on the ranch. The special topic of the day was “the role of woody vegetation in the Verde River”. In return for their educational experience, the students used their student-power to repay Al by cut woody vegetation from research study plots and removing saltcedar brush from the river bottom. The woody materials were stacked and intertwined to create nesting and loafing habitat for quail and small mammals.

This photo illustrates the typical stand of sedges and rushes that dominate the streambanks on Verde River Ranch. The site is intensively grazed by cattle for a short time in the winter, and rested for the remaining seasons. Production approximates nearly 1400lbs/dry weight/acre. Research and management on the ranch has focused on sustaining native wetland habitats, which are rare on the upper Verde River, through innovative management of the woody vegetation.



If I could only communicate this effectively all the time...!

The AZ SRM will be calling for Posters

for

upcoming Summer and Winter meetings

#### Moving On

The Arizona Section expresses heartfelt thanks to Section treasurer - Kendall Brown. Kendall is transferring from the Nogales District to Glenwood RD in New Mexico, where home is a lot closer. As treasurer for the past 1.5 years, he has brought good insight to the Board and volunteered valuable time to better AZ-SRM. Best wishes in your new job! With this vacancy, I appointed Kent Ellett as treasurer. Kent is well qualified to handle the tasks at hand and will fill his own shoes accordingly. THANK YOU - Kendall and Kent.



## The ASU section

Summer break for our students has been a learning experience for most, with new summer jobs coming to many of us, including myself. The Universities have often served as platforms for collaboration between agencies, academia, and the public; with adaptive management as a central theme in all of our natural resource programs. So it is no surprise that the students in our range and restoration program at ASU's Polytechnic campus are geared up for this summer's Arizona Section meeting, not only to get out of the heat, but to take in the valuable lessons being offered up to us. I know I speak for the group when I say that we are excited to see you all up there, and hope to continue to improve our involvement, in order to fulfill our role within the society.

*Antonio Lopez*



### ARIZONA SECTION - SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT- 2010 SUMMER MEETING PROGRAM

Springerville Area, Arizona

August 4-6, 2010

**THEME: "Collaboration and Adaptive Management -  
Applications on the Apache Sitgreaves NF"**

CONTACT: Don Luhrsen (928)-462-3201 or email: [dluhrsen@fs.fed.us](mailto:dluhrsen@fs.fed.us)

Ranchers and managers employ various methods to attain a consensual agreement of how to best manage public rangelands. In recent times, collaboration between various management agencies and ranchers has been a productive method to attain common management goals. Often management goals require adapting to changes in environmental and livestock production needs. This flexibility permits ranchers and managers to achieve desired condition goals for short and long-term conservation of rangeland resources.

This year the Arizona Section of the Society for Range Management provides an excellent example of how collaboration and adaptive management principles are applied on the X Diamond Ranch, Springerville, Arizona. The field sessions focus on how range scientists, agency managers, consultants, and ranchers have identified and resolved some key management issues to optimize ranching needs, while providing for sensitive species and changing Forest needs. Some of these issues include: to or not to fence riparian areas, setting hunting permit allocations, wolves and sheep, accommodating transportation improvements, and considerations for neighboring allotments. Discussions will also focus on proactive rancher efforts that yield lasting results.



**Wednesday, Aug. 4**

Travel to Winn Campground and set up camp as GS1.

AZ-SRM Committee Work Groups 10am-3pm

***Board meeting 4-6 PM***

6-7 PM -- Dinner (catered – see menu below)

8:00 PM – Melanie Lawrence – Searching for Social-ecological Resilience: Adaptive Management

A power-point presentation

8:20 PM – “a mini-concert by a notorious Texas singer/songwriter

**Thursday, Aug 5**

0630-0730: Breakfast

745 AM: Overview of the day’s program – *Al Medina, Don Luhrsen, Jeff Rivera*

**Travel and Safely Tailgate**

800 - 0830: TRAVEL TO Riparian Area

0845: Welcome – (*Al Medina, AZ-SRM President*)

0900: Introduction - (*Don Luhrsen, Jeff Rivera*)

0905: *Jeff Rivera* — Obstacles to collaboration and how to overcome them

*Judith Dyess* — Integrating Information for Landscape Level Adaptive Management

*Walt Meyer* — Monitoring Data from the Railroad Pasture

*George Ruyle, PhD* — Stubble Height Data

*Mark Willis* — Communicating with permittees about Adaptive Management

*Dave Smith* — Role in Collaboration, pulling it all together, FWS perceptions of adaptive management

1100: Questions and Discussion

1120: *Al Medina, PhD* – What are the white rocks in the stream about?

1 1150: Questions and Discussion

**1200-100 PM: LUNCH**

1300: *Carey Dobson* – Wolf/Sheep interactions and FWS

1330: Questions and Discussion

1345: *Donald Decker* – Coordinated Resource Management Planning/Collaboration

1630: AUDIENCE: QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

**5:00: End of program**

5-6 PM History of X Diamond and area by Wink Crigler, X Diamond Ranch, Springerville, AZ)

6-7 PM: **Chuck Wagon Dinner**

7:30 PM “*Boardshack Knoll Band*”

**Friday, Aug 6**

0630-0730: Breakfast

0745: Overview of the day’s program – *Don Luhrsen, Jeff Rivera*

0800-0830: *Michael Godwin*, Game & Fish, hunting permit allocation coordination

0900: *Doug Tolleson, PhD* – “Developing a framework for adaptive management strategies”

0930: Questions and Discussion

**GROUP DISCUSSION ... WRAP UP****1200: END OF PROGRAM**

1200: Return to Camp

note this special program is possible- stay tuned.

Special session for Ranchers – Important Riparian Plants of the Area

Time: Friday 1:15- 3:15                      Location: Voight Cabin

Hosts: George Ruyle, Al Medina, Dave Smith, Wink Crigler,

Here's a list of places to stay during the Aug meeting:

For Hotel rooms;

www.k5reeds.com                      **Reeds Motor Lodge**                      928-333-4323 located in Springerville

For Fully equipped luxury cabins:

www.XDiamondRanch.com      **X Diamond Ranch**                      928-333-2286  
 www.MLYRanch.com              **MLY Ranch**                              928-333-2395  
 www.TheRanchAtSouthFork.com      **The Ranch At South Fork**              928-333-2000  
 www.GreerLodgeAZ.com              **Greer Lodge**                              928-735-7216  
 www.TinStarInn.com              **Tin Star Trading Post Inn**              928-735-7540 The Tin Star also has a few hotel rooms in Greer also.

They all have said that they are willing to give a discount rate to SRM members, people just need to state that they are with the SRM.

They are all will to give the rate thru the weekend if anyone want to stay and enjoy the cool weekend after the meeting!

## DIRECTIONS

From Springerville/Eager

Go west on AZ- 260 to the junction of AZ-373. Turn South to the junction of Forest Road 87. This is a gravel road. Follow FR-87 to the Junction of AZ-273. Turn South and proceed to the FR-554 which is the entry to Winn Campground.

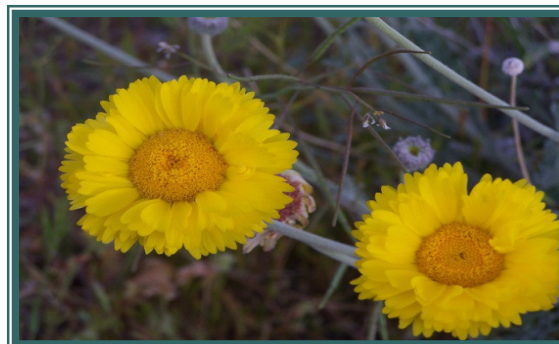
There is construction on the AZ-273 north of FR-87 with 1 hr+ delays.

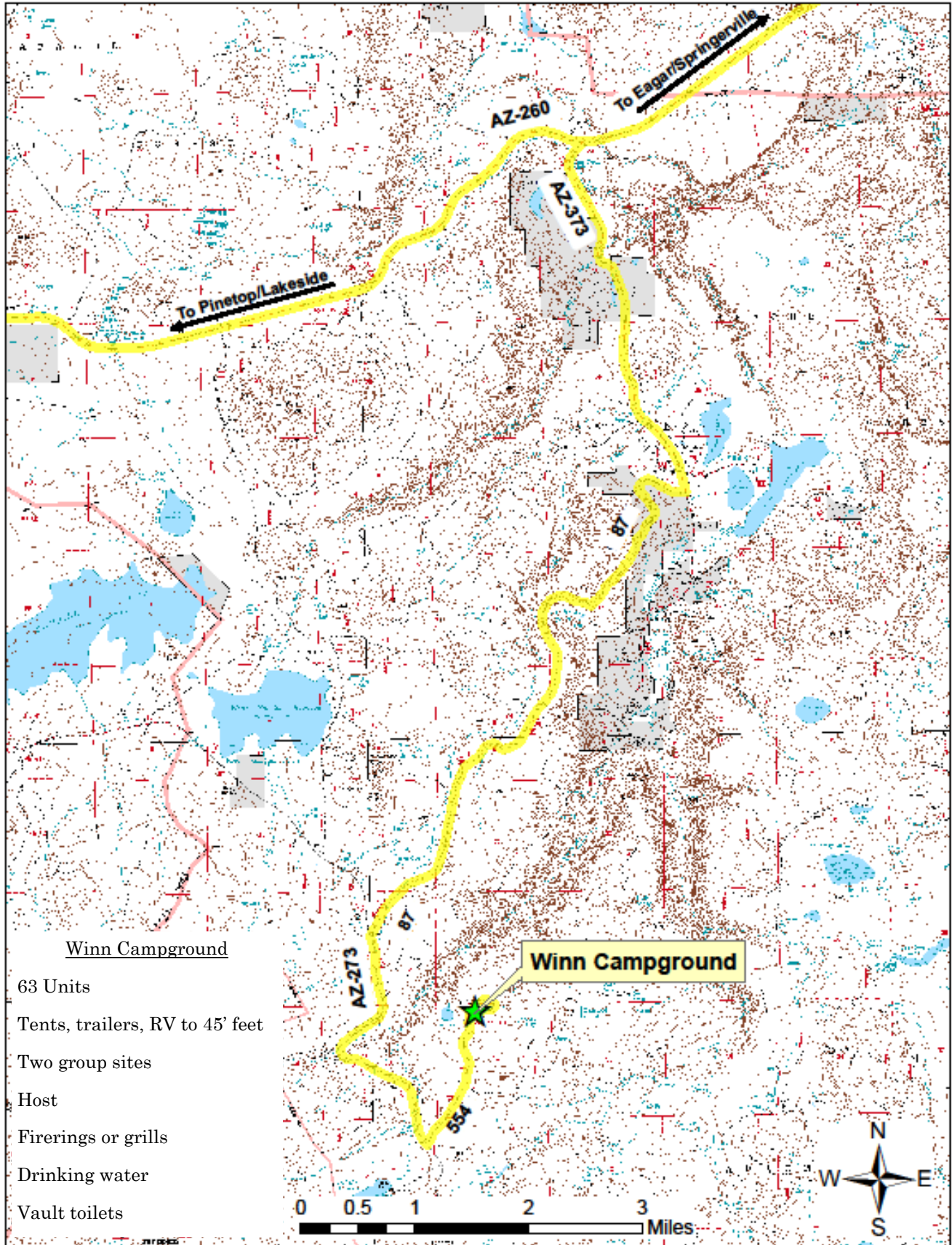
There are a few places to park self-contained RVs within the group area. For reservations for other RV sites, reservations can be made through [www.reserveamerica.com](http://www.reserveamerica.com)

Room for tents in the group area. No electricity.



The Editor thanks all who contributed to this effort to keep our members and other publics informed about the Arizona Section of the SRM. Summer has arrived as has some precipitation.





Winn Campground

63 Units

Tents, trailers, RV to 45' feet

Two group sites

Host

Firerings or grills

Drinking water

Vault toilets

Winn Campground

Contact: [www.reserveamerica.com](http://www.reserveamerica.com)



**ARIZONA SECTION  
SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT  
2010 SUMMER MEETING REGISTRATION**

The Registration Form can be accessed at the Arizona Section Web Site – [azrangelands.org](http://azrangelands.org).  
\*\*\*\*\*

**REGISTRATION FORM (Due July 30, 2010)**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE/CHILDREN/GUESTNAMES: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**DO YOU BELONG TO AN SRM SECTION?**

Circle one: Yes No Which Section? \_\_\_\_\_

\$60/member \_\_\_\_\_

\$75/non-member: \_\_\_\_\_

\$55/student/youth/spouse \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED** \_\_\_\_\_

Registrations must be received by July 30, 2010 to guarantee meals

Registration includes: 2 Breakfasts & 2 Lunches (8/5-6) and 2 Cowboy Dinners (8/4-5)

**Questions about the meeting/meals –  
Contact Don Luhrsen at [dluhrsen@fs.fed.us](mailto:dluhrsen@fs.fed.us) or 928-467-3201.**

\*\*\*\*\*

MAIL THE REGISTRATION and INCLUDE A CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:

Kent Ellett  
303 Old Tucson Rd.  
Nogales, AZ 85621  
Phone: 520-761-6002  
Email: [kellett@fs.fed.us](mailto:kellett@fs.fed.us)

**MAKE PAYMENT PAYABLE TO: ARIZONA SRM (SRM TIN IS 23-7161064)**

~MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION~

Membership in the Society for Range Management is open to anyone engaged in or interested in any aspect of the study, management, or use of rangelands. Membership rights and privileges include: voting, committee service, nomination and election to offices, subscription to Rangelands journal and the SRM News. Arizona Section newsletter (for AZ Section members), discounted prices for publications, meeting registration fees, page charges and certification fees. For more information on membership in SRM or to request a Membership application, please contact Shai Schendel at the following e-mail: [Shai.Schendel@az.usda.gov](mailto:Shai.Schendel@az.usda.gov).

**\*\* MEMBERSHIP SPONSORSHIP \*\***

The Board of Directors opted to sponsor a one-year regular membership to the Society for Range Management. Section members are encouraged to submit nominations of an individual who is not a SRM member, would benefit from participation and likely to retain membership. Deadline for submissions is November 30. A final selection will be made by the Board of Directors and announced at the winter meeting. Submit nominations to Al Medina ([almedina777@hotmail.com](mailto:almedina777@hotmail.com)) along with a brief description of merit.

"On behalf of the Arizona Section, We welcome new members - **Ron Fish, Therese Hicks, Chris Lowman, Gary Snider, and Dr. George (Doc) Yard**. These folks are of the class you can count on when you need them! We're in good company."

Arizona Section-Society For Range Management

2324 E. McDowell

Phoenix, AZ 85006



We are ready for a sellout! Tickets are on sale for the fundraiser event to raise money for the S. Clark Martin Range Management Scholarship Trust Fund. AZ-SRM members will be armed with tickets and seeking your gracious support. First prize is a half-side of grass-fed beef, fully processed, and second prize is a weekend stay at the X Diamond Ranch Resort in Springerville. Tickets are \$25 each or 5 for \$100. Chances of winning are less than or equal to 1:750. We limited the total ticket count to increase your chance of winning. The prizes are a donation from Wink Crigler, X Diamond Ranch.

<b>Scholarship Raffle</b> <i>Society for Range Management - Arizona Section</i>				
Drawing @ Winter Meeting of the AZ Section, January 2011 Winner need not be present to win.				
Tickets \$25 each or 5 for \$100 - Odds: 1:750 Contact: Al Medina (928) 853-1391 SRM is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) Tax ID#23-7161064				
Ticket Number: <u>001</u>		<b>1st Prize:</b> 1/2 Grass-Fed Beef (150-175 lbs processed)		Ticket Number: <u>001</u>
Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State and Zip: _____ Phone: _____		<b>2nd Prize:</b> Weekend Stay for 2 @ X Diamond Ranch (Springerville, AZ)		