

Arizona Section Newsletter

June 2012



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President's message:

Howdy y'all,

Well, it is that time of year again. Which could be several times of year actually; baseball season, fishing season, allergy season, fire season... some of you are finishing up branding, some are monitoring, some are gearing up to collect research data. The Arizona Section of SRM is in full summer meeting mode. I will not say too much about that because I know from several recent conversations with Mike Hemovich that he will have plenty to say about it. All I am going to say is that I can't wait, it sounds like Mike and his committee has another great meeting in store for us.

I will take this opportunity to encourage all of you to do a couple of "grass roots" chores for the section. First, if you know someone who has been a member but is not currently active, touch base with them and invite them back. Second, if you know of an organization that might be interested in sponsoring the summer meeting, let Mike or I know. And last, the Natural Resource Conservation Workshop for Arizona Youth is fast approaching (June 25 to 29, 2012, Mingus Springs Camp). Again, if you know of individuals or organizations that might be interested in sponsoring students to the camp, get in contact with Susan Pater, Kim McReynolds, Jeff Schalaus or myself. We would love to have more students attend and more participation from the range profession to help them do so.

One of the activities that the board of directors has scheduled is to spend time with state and regional leadership of the various state and federal range management agencies. I may be a little biased, but I think that participation in SRM at either the state or national level is one of the best professional training and interaction values available for the dollar. When I think back on the meetings I have been to in my 4 1/2 years in Arizona, few have been as valuable as those of the SRM. Winter 2008 in

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Arizona Section SRM Summer Meeting

Pleasant Valley
August 8-10, 2012

Rangelands Under the Rim.....Merging Science with Management

Save the date and mark your calendars for this years AZ Section SRM summer meeting. We're going to the small town of Young in Pleasant Valley (about 60 miles southeast of Payson). All of you from Phoenix and Tucson will love the 5,300' elevation, clear air and tall pines.

Wednesday afternoon we will have a general membership meeting followed by our now traditional hamburger/hot dog NRCWAY barbecue. That evening we will learn about the pre-history of the area by an archeologist who has worked in the area for over 15 years. The second presentation will cover the infamous "Pleasant

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President's Message....continued

Prescott is where I first learned of the many collaborative range projects and organizations in the state and where I started some of the friendships and working relationships that are still in place. Summer 2009 in Payson helped me understand the changing wildfire dynamic and how the research we were doing on weeping lovegrass on the area affected by the Dude Fire fit into the big picture. I have used what I learned about that fire on several occasions in classroom teaching opportunities.

Winter 2010 in Mesa gave me a new perspective on Native Range. Last year gave me a new appreciation for meeting planners... and for people who are willing to pitch in to do all the little unnoticed things that really make a meeting happen. Those are just some of my thoughts, no doubt you have even more and better ones.

On the national level, I don't know how you put a figure on the value of hearing first-hand about the successes and failures of range managers from across the US and around the world, or meeting potential new employees, or trying out a new methodology, tool, or piece of equipment before spending money on it. And that is not even accounting for the contribution that each of us makes to the profession by being active in "the society". How much benefit to "the resource" is gained by teaching an urban high school student the benefits of range monitoring? That student may never become a range professional, but I'll bet they will vote, they will have an opinion about agriculture and natural resources, maybe just a little more educated one. Or how about sharing your years of practical experience with rotational grazing in a round-table discussion? Or serving on a committee that helps improve the content and quality of our publications? I could go on but I think you get the point.

I know budgets are tight. I know many of you foot the bill for being in SRM because you think it is important and you enjoy it. I know there are a multitude of training opportunities out there. I just want you to know that one of my goals is to build not only membership numbers, but good reasons for people to want to be members of SRM. Reasons to get some value for their hard earned dollars. Reasons to give back; to be the reason somebody else thinks rangelands are important, that SRM is important. If I accomplish that in one person this year, I'll call it a win.

If you are ever out Camp Verde way, come see us.

Doug

Seeking Nominations

We are seeking nominations for Vice President, One Director North and One Director South position for 2013.

Information on these positions and their responsibilities may be found at <http://azrangelands.org/docs/index.html> "Guidelines for Section Officers and Committee Chairpersons."

We need photos for our newsletter banner! Each issue will feature a picture from a section member capturing our



wonderful Arizona rangelands. This issue's photo was submitted by Dennis Moroney taken from the Tornrose Farm on the Whitewater Draw in Cochise County, Arizona.

Submit your photo to:

AZSRMnewsletter@gmail.com

AZ Section Summer Meeting 2012....continued

Valley War of the 1880's". Sadly, Pleasant Valley is best known for this segment of Arizona history. Thursday morning we will focus on how science is influencing land management decisions in Pleasant Valley. We will spend time in the field taking a close look at a key monitoring area to learn what some of the latest scientific tools tell us about that specific spot. How does the TES and ESD models fit this site? What is the vegetative cover and soil assessment as found by five years of monitoring? What does remote sensing tell us about the surrounding area? What are ongoing soil erosion studies revealing? We will observe rainfall simulation on the site and see what the results are concerning erosion. What are appropriate erosion control measures? How do these scientific tools help us make land management decisions?

Thursday afternoon we will move to Haigler Creek and listen to AZ Game and Fish discuss some aquatic restoration projects they have planned at that location. Another AZGF speaker will describe the big game issues in the area, and lastly the AZGF new "Habimap" software will be demonstrated. Thursday evening will find us back in Young for a cookout dinner followed by musical entertainment by our own AZ Section "the Youngsters."

Friday morning we will be in the Pleasant Valley community center for talks on recreation, fire, range and wildlife of Pleasant Valley. It is always educational to see how the different areas of Arizona approach these range and forest issues. Lunch will be the perfect time to learn who has won the plant ID contest and wrap up the meeting with announcements and awards.

Registration can be mailed in via the attached hard copy form with a check, or, after June 1, you can register electronically via the SRM website: www.rangelands.org. We are keeping the cost at the same low price as last year, and don't forget all meals are covered, (thanks to our hardworking U of A and ASU student chapters who do breakfasts and lunches) except for a donation for the Wed. meal. Sign up soon and plan to have a good time in a place, as our District Ranger says, "off the beaten path."

Pleasant Valley lodging

Camping for the 2012 AZ Section SRM summer meeting will be on the District Ranger station in Young. The camping area is about 1.5 miles from the community center where we will begin our daily activities. For those desiring to rent a room or share a rental house, there are a limited number available. Rates are low, but reservations should be made well in advance as Pleasant Valley has a good number of visitors in the summer months. There are many motel rooms available in Payson which is about one hour and 15 minutes driving time from Young. Listed below are accommodations in Pleasant Valley.

1. Dead Broke Inn 928 462-4022 www.deadbrokecorral.com
2. Pleasant Valley Inn (motel and cabins) 928 462-3593 www.yelp.yahoo.com
3. Valley View cabins 928 462-3422
4. Peaceful Retreat 928 462-3143
5. Heritage Hideaway 580 623-8078
6. Q ranch Bed and Breakfast qranchlodge@earthlink.net (outside of town)



Directors Reports

*Frank Hayes
Director South*

It is fire season once again in southern Arizona. Fortunately, recent rains have helped delay the drying trend until that last few weeks but the outlook is another dry, hot, windy summer. Regardless of your profession, everyone can do their part to help reduce the risk and damage to property from wildfire. The majority of wildfires in southern Arizona today are human caused. Obviously weather is a key factor influencing the rate and severity of fire spread. We know about the obvious things like wind and temperature, but few people think about the humidity or stability of the atmosphere. Watch-out situations for dangerous fire conditions are most notable when you see a lot of dust devils (unstable atmosphere) and when you feel unusually thirsty or dry (very low humidity- in the single digits). A fire during these conditions is more likely to spread rapidly and intensely, quickly endangering any people or property in its way. Be heads up and safe in your work this summer. A reminder about the upcoming Natural Resources Conservation Workshop for Arizona Youth, or NRCWAY, once again to be held at Mingus Springs located on the Prescott National Forest the last week of June. A bevy of students have signed up this year, but remember that donations are what cover the majority of cost for each student. Your contributions will make a difference, and are of course tax deductible. Contributions can be sent to AZ Section, SRM, NRCWAY, 450 S. Haskell Ave. Willcox, AZ 85643. For more information you can contact Susan Pater spatter@ag.arizona.edu or call 520-766-3601.

Congratulations to the Gila Watershed Partnership of Arizona, and specifically Deborah Mendelsohn, Suzanne Menges, Bill Brandau, and April Miller, for organizing and hosting the San Francisco-Blue Watershed Steward course for the Clifton/Morenci area. The 11-week course extended from February to May, on Monday nights from 6-9PM and

featured numerous speakers and field trips focusing on the diversity and health of the watersheds around Clifton and Morenci. Over 20 students attended this course, one of several that have been provided by the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension, in collaboration with the Gila Watershed Partnership, Arizona NEMO, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Safford, and US Fish and Wildlife Service Phoenix office. The course was funded by a generous grant from the EPA and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.

I have been busy during the last few months assisting Greenlee County reducing hazard fuels around properties in the northern part of the county. This program is funded by a grant from the Arizona State Forestry Division. We are helping private landowners based on Arizona Firewise Communities program promoted by the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension. To date over a dozen Assessments and Mitigation plans have been completed for over 600 acres of private land. About 100 acres have been treated by thinning and removal of hazard fuels.

Noxious weed season is well underway, Russian knapweed, whitetop, and several exotic thistles are "Wanted – Dead or Alive". Several efforts are ongoing throughout southern Arizona funded through various grants to locate, identify, inventory and map noxious weed locations in Greenlee and Cochise/Graham counties. Initial objectives are for documenting levels of infestation, and then prescribing and offering assistance with effective treatment. The overall goal is to provide education and gain commitment of county residents including agricultural producers for concerted noxious weed management in this part of the state. For more information about each of these programs contact the University of Arizona Extension office in Willcox at 520-384-3594, or in Duncan at 928-359-2261.

**AZ Section SRM Summer Meeting Registration
Rangelands Under the Rim...Merging Science with Management
Young (Pleasant Valley)
Wednesday, August 8 thru Friday, August 10, 2012**

Registration Options	Number	Unit Price	Total
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Full Registration Includes: Presentations, Thursday/Friday Breakfast and Lunch, and Thursday Steak Fry	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	\$55.00	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
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Thursday Only Includes: Presentations, Thursday Breakfast and Lunch, And Thursday Steak Fry	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	\$35.00	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
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Thursday Steak Fry only	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	\$25.00	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
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Friday Only Includes: Presentations, Breakfast and Lunch	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	\$15.00	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
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Your Event Total:

Names, Affiliation and Location of Attendees: (i.e., Bob Smith, USFS, Willcox)

For Additional Information, contact Mike Hemovich at mh520@aol.com, 928-462-3743

Mail this form and check payable to AZ Section SRM to: Erin Mathews

USDA-NRCS
101 E. Beale St. #C
Kingman, AZ 86401

Dale Carnegie wrote, "It's a proven fact that the sweetest sound to a person's ear is to hear the sound of their own name."

I must agree, I do feel good when someone greets me with my name, especially if it is someone I have only met once. (I don't care that they read my name tag!)

SRM has established certain awards to recognize people within the range management profession for their contribution and achievement. (Yes, by Name.) The section Bylaws Article VII Honors and Awards, establishes a committee of three members consisting of one rancher, one range management specialist, and one representative from ranch related industry to administer these awards under the direction of the Board of Directors. So, James, Steve, John, Frank, Joe, Jill, Jamie, Allie, Amanda, Al, Chris, etc.,



WE NEED YOU!

Currently there is NOBODY filling these positions. No special skill is required other than having an appreciation for honest hardworking individuals in range management. So now is the time to serve, behind the scene, and bring to the front those that deserve a pat on the back. Interested? Contact Doug Tolleson @ dougt@cals.arizona.edu

WHO DO YOU KNOW?

With that said, start thinking of those deserving people for the following awards.

- ⇒ • **Range Manager of the Year**
- ⇒ • **Professional and Technical Guidance**
- ⇒ • **Outstanding Service**

Submit by November 1st 2012. Guidance and criteria for each of these awards may be found online at <http://azrangelands.org> click on Governing Documents, and then Guidelines for Section Officers and Committee Chairpersons. If you don't have access to computer, contact me at the address on this newsletter, and I will mail this information to you.

I also want to thank previous Award committee members who served, probably without much fan fare, and did a wonderful job!

Your Editor,

John Kava

AZSRM Web site

The AZSRM has a wealth of information on its web page. You can find Officer information, meeting minutes, past newsletters, meeting calendar, presentation archive, AZ section history and much, much more. Check it out at <http://azrangelands.org/>

Test and renew your plant ID skills at the 2012 Arizona Section Summer Meeting!!!

Presented by the Young Professionals Committee



Who: Everybody
Where: SRM Summer Meeting
When: August 8-10
Why: For Fun!!!

First Prize: Plant ID Buckle
Second Prize: Illuminated Hand Lens

A table with 10 -12 important rangeland plants will be on display at the
campsite for you to identify at your leisure.

Get Ready for SRM in Oklahoma City 2013



Oklahoma is more than crazy weather, open plains and Outlaw country. The SRM 2013 Annual Meeting will be held, Feb. 3-7, 2013, in the heart of Oklahoma City, specifically in Bricktown, a progressive, culturally diverse part of Oklahoma City. The theme for OKC is exciting and fitting: "Native America, Native Rangelands."

While in Bricktown you are not limited to the SRM functions. Catch a professional basketball game if the Oklahoma City Thunder is in town, or sit by the penalty box at an Oklahoma City Barons ice hockey game. If sports are not your thing, but beer-drinking is, try a taste of Oklahoma City, with Bricktown Beer Tasting. Bricktown is home to many local brewing companies such as the Bricktown Brewery. Stop in for a famous "Made in Oklahoma" meal prepared using ingredients made specifically in Oklahoma and wash it down with a 46-Star Oklahoman Amber Ale.

A short drive outside of Bricktown can lead you to more history of Oklahoma. Experience the Oklahoma City National Memorial, the State Capitol and the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. After a tour of the Oklahoma State Capitol building with lunch in the beautiful rotunda the tour will lead to the Oklahoma City National Memorial. It is dedicated to the victims, survivors and all those who were affected by the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. Another tour will lead you to the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum, which locals call the "The Cowboy Hall of Fame." In the museum you will find the very best of classic and contemporary Western art. In the exhibition wing you will find a turn-of-the-century town and interactive history galleries that focus on the American cowboy, rodeos, Native American culture, firearms and more! Join this tour for the dining experience at the museum restaurant, "Dining on Persimmon Hill," which is decorated around the Oklahoma prairie and western heritage.

Technical tours of Oklahoma include the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve and others. Located southwest of Oklahoma City in the heart of the Mixed-grass prairie, the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge is a unique part of Oklahoma. Managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the 60,000 acre refuge provides habitat to deer, elk, bison as well as a grazing land to Texas longhorn cattle. Learn about current research being conducted on the refuge and experience the Oklahoma "mountains."

A little ways to the northeast of Oklahoma City you will find the Nature Conservancy's Tallgrass Prairie Preserve, located near Pawhuska, Okla. The Tallgrass Prairie Preserve is the largest protected remnant of tallgrass prairie left on earth. While on the trip you will get to see unfragmented tallgrass prairie, as well as learn about the fire and grazing management and research being conducted on the preserve. If you are in the right place you might also witness the local bison herd, and check out their "jewelry."

Start planning your trip to Oklahoma in 2013 for the 66th Annual Meeting of the Society for Range Management. There will be activities galore to suit every attendee. Come ready to experience the history, heritage and culture of Oklahoma. The culture is unique unto itself. Expect a warm welcome as you arrive, friendly faces throughout your stay and a humble "so-long" as you head back home. We will be looking forward to meeting everyone and showcasing our great state to all!

Society for Range Management
 PO Box 7065
 Lawrence KS 66044-7065 USA



Telephone: (785) 865-9466
 Fax: (785) 843-6153
 Email: membership@rangelands.org
 Website: www.rangelands.org

NEW / RENEWING
 (please circle)

Name: _____

Company/Institution: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Primary Email: _____

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MEMBERSHIP (Please Choose One)
INCLUDES ONLINE ACCESS TO RANGELAND NEWS ONLY

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Member (Sectioned) \$75.00
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(Please see back of the form for Sections) |
| | Additional Section: _____
(Optional) |

SUBSCRIPTIONS (MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED)

<u>Rangelands</u> ISSN: 0190-0528	<u>Rangeland Ecology & Management</u> ISSN: 1550-7424
Online Only..... <input type="checkbox"/> \$15.00	Online Only..... <input type="checkbox"/> \$45.00
Print and Online..... <input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	Print and Online..... <input type="checkbox"/> \$75.00

CONTRIBUTIONS

- \$1 for each year of Membership \$ _____
- Building Trust Fund: \$5 \$10 \$25 \$50 Other \$ _____
- Endowment Fund: \$5 \$10 \$25 \$50 Other \$ _____
- General Contributor: \$5 \$10 \$25 \$50 Other \$ _____
- International Member Support: \$5 \$10 \$25 \$50 Other \$ _____
- Masonic Range Scholarship: \$5 \$10 \$25 \$50 Other \$ _____
- Memorials: \$5 \$10 \$25 \$50 Other \$ _____
- Website Development: \$5 \$10 \$25 \$50 Other \$ _____
- Sustaining Membership: \$50 contribution /in addition to dues

PAYMENT MAY BE MADE BY

U.S. Dollar Checks drawn upon United States Bank, Payable to:
Society for Range Management

U.S. Dollar Check # _____ Amount \$ _____

Credit Card: Visa MasterCard Discover
WE DO NOT ACCEPT AMERICAN EXPRESS

Account #: _____ Expiration Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Name on Card: _____ Signature: _____

Membership: _____

Additional Section(s): _____

Subscription: _____

Contribution(s): _____

Total: _____

MEMBERSHIPS & SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NON-TRANSFERABLE, NON-REFUNDABLE.
PLEASE INCLUDE THIS NOTICE WITH YOUR PAYMENT

New Members: How did you hear about us? Please check all that apply...

- SRM member (name): _____ Publication (please list): _____
- SRM correspondence (please circle): **Brochure** | Paper mail | Email | Other
- SRM social media (please circle): **Blog** | Twitter | Facebook | LinkedIn
- SRM website (<http://www.rangelands.org>) Other (please list): _____
- Other organization, school or university (please list): _____
- Certification opportunities (please list): _____
- Workshop, meeting or event (please name): _____

EVENT CALENDAR

- * **August 8-10** **AZ Section SRM Summer Meeting, Young (Pleasant Valley)**
- * **August 18** **Yavapai Cattle Growers meeting, Peoples Valley**
- * **August 21-23** **Annual Navajo Nation Agriculture Conference and Expo
Window Rock Fairgrounds-Nakai Hall**
- * **September 29** **Yavapai Cattle Growers 80th Annual Calf Sale and BBQ,
Peoples Valley**

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

April

Eric Baker Sierra Vista, AZ

May

Viola Hillman Lake Havasu City, AZ



Arizona Section-Society For Range Management
1195 Solar Heights Dr.
Prescott, AZ 86303

