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Featured Quote:

Fred Provenza (on matching an animal to its environment): *I see it as a dance, actually, between the organisms and the environment they inhabit—the environment is ever changing, the animals are changing as well, and the animals are participating and changing the environment.* From the *Art of Range* podcast, Episode 4.

President's Message

Andrew Brischke

G'day Rangers,



First off, let me take a second to introduce myself as the incoming Arizona Section President. For those I haven't met yet, I'm Andrew Brischke and I'm currently an Area Assistant Extension Agent based out of Kingman, AZ. I'm a 2-time graduate from the University of Arizona with both degrees in Range Management and have spent the majority of my career down in southern AZ with the past three years up in the northwest corner of the state. I moved to Arizona in 2000 to attend the UA to play rugby, move away from the snow, and get an education. In that order. I'm currently writing this at home because over a foot of snow has paralyzed Kingman and the city and county own a single plow between the two of them.



Next, I'd like to thank past-president Iric Burden for his dedication to the Section over the past year. Iric laid out an ambitious agenda for his year at the helm, and between him, the Board, and you the membership, we achieved many of the goals he planned to accomplish. We also went through a difficult time with the passing of Jessica Orozco. Iric, with the help of many others within our membership and the parent society, put together a plan and delivered a program to keep her legacy alive in remarkable time. Thank you again Iric for your commitment to the Arizona Section.

We also have some new faces on the Board. But first I would like to thank Joey Dahms (Director North) and Rachel Turner (Director South) for their service to the Section as their terms expire and they get rolled off the Board. Joining us on the Board for their two-year terms are JD Eddy (AZGFD, Director North) and Kent Curly (NRCS, Director South). I hope you also join me in welcoming your new Vice President of the Section, Emilio Carrillo (NRCS, Tucson Area Office).

Continued on Page 2...



President's Message

...Continued from Page 1

Thank you all who have served in past, serving in the present, and look to serve in the future.

Which brings me to my next point about what we have accomplished in the past and look forward to building on in the future. Our parent society declared 2018 "The Year of the Member." I think in our Section we mirrored that theme quite well with respect to finding new strategies to maintain our membership and recruit new members from our conservation community. We passed a Strategic Plan, updated our Bylaws, and planned a public relations campaign to reach more people and reinvigorate our base. This is the year we have to follow through with our plans.

Following through with these plans is going to require an increase of participation, not only from the Board but our members as well. This year, our parent society has declared this year's theme as "The Year of the Section." I would like to mirror that theme as well. One approach to improving our membership is providing greater value to our members. One avenue that I would like to drive down to increase our value and strengthen our Section is through committee work. We have many committees in our Section and many of them are terri-

bly under-represented. I get it: we're all busy; but having a committee of one is hardly a committee at all. And some committees don't have a chair person at all. Many hands make light work.

On our website, we have a document that lists all the positions and duties of the Board and Committees on which our members can participate. I would encourage all of you to review this document, Arizona Section Society for Range Management Guidelines for Section Officers and Committee Chairpersons (Revised 2010) and get more involved in our Section. The stronger our Section, the more attractive our society will be, and recruiting and maintaining our membership will improve.

<http://azrangelands.org/docs/AZSRMGUIDELINESRevAug2010.pdf>

With all that, I look forward to working with you over the next year as your President of our Arizona Section. Please let me or any other Board member know if you would like to join, or perhaps even chair one of our committees.

Sincerely,

Andrew Brischke
President, Arizona Section—Society for Range Mgmt.

2019 Arizona Section Board of Directors and Website

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Joshua Grace
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Kent Curley
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Arizona Section Website

<http://www.azrangelands.org/>



SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT
ARIZONA SECTION

2019 SUMMER MEETING

August 14-16, 2019
Show Low, AZ
Owen's Creekside Campground



**Society for
Range
Management**
Arizona Section

Managing Forest Rangelands in Arizona

Enjoy workshops, field tours and
great discussion in the
White Mountains!
azrangelands.org

Jessica Mae Orozco Memorial Honorarium



Jessica Mae Orozco was taken from us Oct. 27, 2018 at the age of 31. She was born Feb. 1, 1987 in Sacramento, CA. Jessica received a Master of Science in Botany from Claremont Graduate University, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Plant Biology from San Francisco State University

(SFSU). She also minored in American Indian Studies at SFSU and had been working her dream job as a Range Specialist with the Hualapai Natural Resources Dept.

Jessica made significant advances in introducing Native American youth to the Society and to the art and science of range management. At her young age, Jessica secured grants for fostering improvement in her local ranching community, especially for the younger generations. Jessica was a role model and an innovator, com-

mitted to using the annual meetings of our society as a venue to introduce indigenous youth to the resources available to advance their communities and careers. Her passion for plants, and especially the ethnobotany of the southwest, was a signature for her messages that resonated with young and experienced alike.

The Society for Range Management is proud to announce the Jessica Mae Orozco Memorial Honorarium. This award was established January 08, 2019. The Arizona SRM Section, Hualapai Nation and Hualapai 4H Club have provided seed money for the award. At the 2020 National SRM meeting in Denver, CO, SRM will unveil a special auction item to benefit Jessica's Memorial Honorarium. In addition, the SRM-Arizona Section will contribute to the award annually by auctioning off items at every SRM-Arizona winter meeting.

Please consider making a donation or participating in annual auctions to ensure Jessica's Memorial Honorarium is available in perpetuity. Donations can be sent to the Society for Range Management, 6901 S. Pierce St. STE 230, Littleton, CO 80128. Please specify the Jessica Mae Orozco Memorial Honorarium on all donations.

How to Apply for the Jessica Mae Orozco Memorial Honorarium

This award is given annually to a Native American/Alaskan Native senior high school student(s) to cover travel, lodging and meals for attendance at the [Society for Range Management](#) (SRM) Annual Meeting and the [High School Youth Forum](#) (HSYF). The SRM's mission is to provide leadership for the Stewardship of Rangelands based on sound ecological principles. The HSYF is an opportunity to research a range related topic, prepare a written paper, and then present the main ideas of the paper in a formal 6-8 minute speaking presentation. The winners of the presentation contest have their papers published in Rangelands, a peer reviewed full-color publication of the SRM.

Applicants must have:

- A resume
- Essay discussing your interest in natural resource management and career goals, 2 pages double-spaced, 12 pt
- One letter of recommendation from a mentor or education professional

All application materials must be submitted by midnight (MST) September 1 to the [Native American Range Advisory Committee](#). Email application materials and/or questions to info@rangelands.org with the subject line: Jessica Mae Orozco Memorial Award Application. Or mail application materials to: Society for Range Management, ATTN: NARAC, 6901 S. Pierce St. Ste 230, Littleton, CO 80128.

The committee will evaluate applicants on their demonstration of leadership, extracurricular activities, community involvement and essay quality. Selections will be made by November 1. Awardee will be notified by email and/or telephone.





Natural Resource Conservation Workshop for Arizona Youth

July 15 - July 19, 2019 James 4-H Camp

Highlights

Learn lifelong skills and create lifetime friendships.

Explore and study Arizona's forests, streams, rangelands, soils, plants, and wildlife with expert instructors who will intrigue and challenge you!

Lots of small group learning activities in the forests of the Prescott National Forest.

Gain hands-on experience with hi-tech equipment, field testing, data collection and project design.

Details

Dates: July 15-19, 2019

Where: James 4-H Camp between Prescott & Jerome

Tuition: \$150 per student (Financial assistance is available. Please indicate on application if assistance is needed.)

Open to all youth entering **grades 8-12** in the fall of 2019.

Limit: 35 participants.

Deadline for Applications: Postmarked by **May 1, 2019** and include \$75 deposit.

Applicants will be notified of selection results no later than June 1, 2019.

Upon notification of acceptance, the remaining \$75 fee is to be paid unless other aid has been requested and awarded.

An exciting opportunity for you to explore the great outdoors and experience the thrill of a unique adventure. The 55th Annual Natural Resource Conservation Workshop for Arizona Youth is an interactive camp bringing together the latest in science and natural resource technology.

Mingus Mountain, in the Prescott National Forest, is the setting for learning about water, soils, plants, and other natural resources. You will discover nature by conducting experiments and completing outdoor projects. A major focus will be on natural resource basics and management techniques. This is a hands-on workshop! Youth will have many opportunities to discuss natural resource issues. Various group activities such as fishing, hiking, swimming, volleyball & horse-shoes will be available during your free time.



Eligibility

Youth entering grades 8-12 in the fall of 2019 are eligible to apply. Youth must have an interest and desire to learn more about the environment in which we live. No applicant will be denied attendance because of financial need. Selection is made based on the merit of the application.

How To Apply

Complete the application or type the following on a single sheet of paper: Name, address, phone number, grade entering in the Fall of 2019, and email address (if available). Answer the following questions: 1) Explain why you would like to attend this camp. 2) Describe your interests and activities related to natural resources. 3) Describe any other special interests, hobbies, and involvement in community or school activities. 4) If appropriate, indicate the need for financial assistance.

Mail application with \$75 deposit made out to NRCWAY, by May 1st to:

Kim McReynolds, Workshop Director,
AZ Section Society for Range Management
450 S. Haskell, Suite A, Willcox AZ 85643

Questions: Contact Kim at 520-766-3602 or kimm@cals.arizona.edu

Location & Accommodations

James 4-H Camp is located on a secluded 88 acre wooded site at an elevation of 6,500 feet on Mingus Mountain in the Prescott National Forest. Participants will be housed in rustic cabins with a central bathhouse consisting of modern bathrooms and showers.



55th Annual Natural Resource Conservation Workshop for Arizona Youth

Application for the July 15-19, 2019 Workshop

<http://azrangelands.org/nrcway/NRCWAYflyer.pdf>

Name: _____ T-shirt size (adult): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Phone: (____) _____ Grade Entering in Fall 2019: _____

E-mail Address (if available): _____

Explain why you would like to attend this workshop:

Describe your interest and activities related to natural resources:

Describe any other special interests, hobbies and involvement in community or school activities:

If appropriate, indicate the need for financial assistance (please be specific):

Application must be **postmarked by midnight May 1, 2019 along with a \$75 deposit made payable to AZSRM-NRCWAY**. Applicants will be notified of selection results no later than June 1, 2019. Upon notification of acceptance, the remaining \$75 is due unless financial aid has been requested and awarded. Enrollment is limited to 35 participants.

Mail Application to:

Kim McReynolds, Workshop Director
Society for Range Management - Arizona Section
450 S. Haskell Ave., Suite A, Willcox, AZ 85643

Questions: Contact Kim McReynolds at (520) 766-3602 or kimm@cals.arizona.edu



2019 SRM High School Youth Forum

Lauren Basteen (Duncan) and Alex Solano (New River), represented the Arizona Section of the Society for Range Management (SRM) during the High School Youth Forum (HSYF), a youth activity held jointly during the 72nd Annual SRM annual meeting.

High School delegates to the HSYF are chosen by each of the 21 individual sections of the parent society throughout the United States and Canada, based on their high degree of interest in the range and natural resources field as well as on their exemplary dedication and effort to learn more about this particular area. While at the HSYF, students had the opportunity to go on a tour of the area (Como Conservatory and Prairie

Restoration), meet with rangeland professionals at an interactive dinner, and attend a workshop on prescribed fire.

As one of the more important activities, each delegate to the Forum competes in a paper presentation competition with the content covering a range-related topic. Lauren's presentation was "Reintroduction of the Mexican Grey Wolf and its Effects on the Blue Range," while Alex's presentation was "The Effects of Invasive Grasses on Arizona Rangelands and Livestock." These two students were selected to attend the HSYF because of their outstanding participation in the 2018 Natural Resources Conservation Workshop for Arizona Youth.

Thank you from Lauren Basteen

Thank you Arizona Section for sending me to the High School Youth Forum. I appreciate the opportunity to attend this conference, without your help and support I would not be financially able to go. At this conference I learned many ways to help and conserve the land such as prescribed burning, rotating livestock, and better water conservation methods. Not only did I learn about various range land topics, I also had the chance to improve my public speaking skills which will guide me in my future endeavors. During that week I met and enjoyed the company of other high school students from around the United States, over the period of this trip we became good friends and still talk to each other regularly. I am glad I could attend since I met people who are knowledgeable and experienced in this field of

study. These generous people will help me continue my studies for my future career. This experience was one I will never forget! I would recommend this opportunity to anyone interested in improving and maintaining range lands. Thank you.

Thank you from Alex Solano

Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to go on such a trip! Not only was it my first plane ride, but also my first time being north of Arizona! I learned so much about soil and the microscopic organisms living in them, as well as how seeds are separated from the plant. It was a pleasure meeting all of the professionals, and listening to them speak on how they started their careers without rangelands in mind. The other delegates and section members there are incredibly nice people, and I've made some great friends. I'm glad I got to experience this entire High School Youth Forum.



Lauren Basteen and Alex Solano at the international Society for Range Management meetings.



Student Scholarship Recipients

At the Annual Meeting of the Arizona Section of the Society for Range Management in Silver City, New Mexico on 10 January 2019, recipients of the Section's three scholarships were announced. Those scholarships are Outstanding Undergraduate at Arizona State University and University of Arizona, and the S. Clark Martin Memorial Scholarship. The Outstanding Undergraduate Student Scholarships recognizes the outstanding student in a degree program emphasizing rangeland management. Each recipient received a check for \$350. The S. Clark Memorial Scholarship recognizes the undergraduate student at either university with the highest rank score for a competitive contest at the national meeting of the Society for Range Management.

The recipient from Arizona State University was Keaton Lee Davis. Mr. Davis was born and raised in Mesa, Arizona. He graduated from Westwood High School in 2007 and was on the varsity base-



ball team. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 2009 and was deployed to Afghanistan in 2010 and Kuwait in 2013. After six years, he received an honorable discharge and moved back to Mesa, AZ to continue his formal education. He is married to Krista Davis and has three

boys and expecting one more child in a few months. Mr. Davis was raised in a family that enjoyed camping, hiking, fishing, and hunting and takes particular interest in studying range management because he feels it is important. Mr. Davis is the current president of the Wildlife and Restoration Student Association at ASU. He will attend the SRM Meeting in

Minneapolis, MN and will compete in the Plant Identification, URME and Extemporaneous Speech contests. He is working on his bachelor of science degree in Natural Resource Ecology, taking classes which focus on rangeland and wildlife management. He will graduate in the spring 2019.

The recipient from the University of Arizona was Josie Profy, who was the unanimous selection by the University of Arizona faculty. She was raised in Pennsylvania, and moved to Tucson four years ago to attend the University

of Arizona. Ms. Profy's biggest passion has always been horseback riding. Since she was 15 until she left for college, Ms. Profy worked as a trail guide at the stable where



her horse was boarded. Her favorite part of the job was engaging the customers in discussion about the horses and the landscape of the Pine Barrens State Park. Ms. Profy says the Ecology, Management and Restoration of Rangelands program "fit the exact mold of what I wanted to do [because it] encompasses every aspect of what I love and am passionate about: working outside, land stewardship, and livestock management. After graduation, she plans "to use the knowledge and skills I have acquired thus far to work for either the US Forest Service as a rangeland management specialist or the Bureau of Land Management in their Wild Horse and Burro Program." Ms. Profy has been the 2018-19 President of the Tierra Seca Student Club, and will enter her second Undergraduate Range Management Exam competition this year at the annual meeting of the Society for Range Management in Minneapolis, MN.



Student Scholarship Recipients *(Continued)*

Justin Johnson, former student at the University of Arizona, received the S. Clark Martin Memorial Scholarship for the highest score among the Arizona Section students competing in the contest at the annual meeting of the Society for Range Management in Sparks, NV at the end of January 2018. As a first time contestant, he scored seventh out of 200 contestants from the US, Canada, and Mexico. The UA team as a whole placed fourth among 25 schools in the contest. Mr. Johnson graduated in May 2018 with a BS in Natural Resources with an emphasis in Ecology, Management, and Restoration of Rangelands. In August 2018, he started an M.S. program in Ecohydrology and Watershed management in the School of Natural Resources and the Environment, University of Arizona. Mr. Johnson received a \$300 check from the Arizona Section of the Society for Range Management for his outstanding accomplishment.



Two additional scholarships should be recognized at this time. William Gray was selected by the University of Arizona faculty to receive the Marcelle E. Schmutz Memorial Scholarship given in memory of Erv Schmutz's father. Erv was a longtime faculty member in Range Management at University of Arizona. Mr. Gray spent most of his life in Florence, AZ. He is the first in his family to attend college, and as such, he is a senior at the University of Arizona majoring in Natural Resources and the Environment with an emphasis in Ecology, Management, and Restoration of Rangelands. He is the first in his family to attend college. He chose that degree "because of how all aspects of ecosystems were brought together in the range program", and



he "especially loved the botanical aspect, and became inspired by a botany class taught by Dr. Steve Smith and a rangeland plant communities class taught by Dr. Mitch McClaran." He is the Treasurer in Tierra Seca Club and a participant on the Plant ID and URME teams. In the future, he would like to be a botanist with the Forest Service.

Cameron Burleson was selected by the University of Arizona faculty to receive the \$2,000 Habgood Scholarship in Rangeland Management. The Habgood Family established the scholarship in 2016 to provide financial support to an undergraduate student currently enrolled in the rangeland management program at the University of Arizona. They were particularly interested in supporting a student who is dedicated to the



management of rangelands, and has the character and perseverance to continue their career in rangeland management. Ms.

Burleson was raised with two sisters in Sonoita, AZ. Her family has solid ties with ranching and agriculture, growing up around cattle, horses, and all things outdoors. Her grandfather, Wayne Pruet, owned and managed numerous ranches across Arizona, New Mexico, Oregon, and Idaho. He was an active member in the Society for Range Management, and Ms. Burleson is proud to continue his legacy. Like him, she is passionate about rangelands and maintaining their health and function. She has always been interested in our natural world and learning about better ways to conserve it, and she "could not have found a better fit in the Ecology, Management, and Restoration of Rangelands program". She hopes to pursue a career with a federal agency as a Rangeland Management Specialist, but anything that allows me to contribute to their improvement will make me happy. Ms. Burleson is an active participant in the Tierra Seca Club, and is a member of the URME and Plant ID teams.



Director North Report—*Joshua Grace*

Greetings again, Arizona Section! We are several weeks in to the new year and the Board of Directors are carrying on the momentum from a great 2018 and winter meeting. Our Section was well represented in Silver City, NM and I believe most attendees enjoyed the chance to meet our neighbors in New Mexico and learn about their work as a Section. There are so many similarities between the two states, yet so many differences. One thing is certain, the dedication of ranchers, range professionals, and University faculty and students was on full display!

We accomplished a lot as a Section during 2018. The Board of Directors worked diligently to develop a Strategic Plan, revamp our by-laws to more closely align with our parent Society, and to re-dedicate our Section to principles of diversity and inclusion through the adoption of a new diversity and inclusion statement. All this work was approved by our membership at the meeting in Silver City! The work is not done, however, and the Board and its new members are excited to keep advancing our Section and its members.

But enough of the business, lets talk range... Coming off one of the worst droughts recorded, northeastern Arizona has had a great winter so far. Most areas of the White Mountains, from Flagstaff to Sanders and Alpine to Window Rock have received precipitation this winter. Two large winter storms, with several small events in between, have provided snowpack above the long-term median in most sample areas.

Many reservoirs and dirt tanks have collected good water to begin the spring season, which is a relief compared to this time last year. Ranchers and land managers will, undoubtedly, continue to feel the impact

of the 2017-2018 drought in this area. Extra consideration should be taken when planning grazing and other activities during what will be an important growing season for many plant communities. We will dive into managing forest rangelands in northeastern Arizona at our August meeting in Show Low and I look forward to seeing all of you there!

Josh Grace
Director North



Group at Silver City meeting touring mine tailings restored to rangelands.



Arizona Section 2018 Award Recipients

Range Manager of the Year: Peach Springs Grazing Association

Mr. Philip Bravo, Jr. received the 2018 Range Manager of the Year award for the Peach Springs Grazing Association at the annual Winter Meeting. There are 8 members within the Grazing Association. As the President, Mr. Bravo has gained the cooperation of the members to work together and achieve common goals. Through his leadership, the Grazing Association is progressive at installing range improvement projects, creating new pastures for breeding heifers, and increasing grassland forage opportunities by adhering to rest-rotation grazing. Hualapai lands are situated on the southwestern edge of the Colorado Plateau, a large geologic province characterized by high gently rolling plateaus and deep canyons. The primary vegetation types include open grassland and pinyon-juniper woodland.



The Grazing Association developed their first plan in the 1970's and have since been working with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and their EQIP program to improve rangeland for wildlife and cattle. The Grazing Association has completed 7 EQIP projects with the NRCS as their cooperator. Current EQIP projects include removal of 400 acres of juniper, 1 watering facility to open up other areas for grazing, and 2 miles of fence to split a pasture and focus on rangeland health and wildlife habitat. Future planning with NRCS will include fencing to make more pastures and more brush management projects. The Association uses a stock and monitor and best pasture approach, and flexibly reduces the number of cattle with added supplements as needed. Congratulations Mr. Bravo and the Peach Springs Grazing Association!

Professional and Technical Guidance Award: Don Decker

Don is the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Coordinator with the Malpai Borderlands Group in Cochise County and adjacent Hidalgo County, New Mexico. This is the only NRCS range position that works in two states. He works with ranchers to improve natural resource management in the million acre Malpai Borderlands Planning Area in addition to being the District Conservationist for the Douglas Field Office. He works with landowners, the Malpai Group, and a state prison crew to plan and construct erosion control structures on several ranches in the area. Don assists landowners with applications for Cost-share projects funded by both Farm Bill funding and the Malpai Borderlands Group. He designs these projects and administers the contracts, which have resulted in many miles of fences, pipelines, water developments, and vegetation control projects. Don plans and executes controlled burning in cooperation with landowners and the Arizona State Forester, as well as participating in the Arizona Prescribed Fire Council. He promotes proper land stewardship and assists with range management planning in the two-state area. Don deserves recognition for years of service to Arizona and New Mexico ranchers, and the Malpai Borderlands Collaborative Conservation effort. Congratulations, Don!



Special Award of Service:

Kristen Egen (NRCS Tucson)

Presented by Alisha Phipps. Thank you, Kristen, for many years of dedication to conservation of rangelands in Arizona. Congratulations!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2019

- March 22-23 **Beginning Ranchers of Tomorrow**—Workshops (obtaining loans, soils, ecological sites, state and transition models), fundraiser, BBQ, dance, and roping—Kingman, AZ (Contact Andrew Brischke at brischke@cals.arizona.edu)
- March 23 Erosion Control Training Workshop—Las Cienegas National Conservation Area (thare@watershedmg.org)
- March 30-31 AZ Game and Fish Department Outdoor EXPO—Ben Avery Shooting Facility, Phoenix, AZ
- April 02-04 AZ/UT Range Livestock Workshop & Tour, Hurricane/Orderville, UT (Contact Andrew Brischke)
- April 13 Erosion Control Training Workshop—Las Cienegas National Conservation Area (thare@watershedmg.org)
- April 16 Rangeland Precipitation Monitoring Workshop—Willcox, AZ (Contact kimm@cals.arizona.edu)
- April 30 **Beginning Ranchers of Tomorrow**—Workshop (plant toxicity, heifer development, & soil/water quality — Globe, AZ (contact Ashley Hall at AshleyS3@email.arizona.edu)
- May 03 **Beginning Ranchers of Tomorrow**—Workshop (Soil & Water Fundamentals) - Stockton Pass (A. Brischke)
- May 13 Soils & Ecological Sites Workshop—Elgin, AZ (Contact Kim McReynolds at kimm@cals.arizona.edu)
- May 22 **Beginning Ranchers of Tomorrow**—Workshop (Plant ID & Monitoring) - Kaibab NF (Contact A. Brischke)
- July 15-19 Natural Resources Conservation Workshop for Arizona Youth, James 4H Camp (kimm@cals.arizona.edu)
- July 23-24 Annual Southwest Noxious, Invasive Plant Short Course, San Juan College, Farmington, NM (Contact Larry Howery at lhowery@ag.arizona.edu)
- July 25-27 Arizona Cattlemen’s Association Summer Convention, Ft. McDowell, AZ
- August 14-16 Arizona SRM Summer Meeting, Show Low, AZ

2020

- February 16-20 Annual SRM Conference - *A New Look: Transformation & Translation*, Denver, CO

Kelsey (Hawkes) Landreville
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