

Society for Range Management



Utah Section Newsletter

Fall 2013

<http://www.usu.edu/range/index.htm>

SRM Utah Section Newsletter

Maxine Deeter Editor

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Jeff Barnes	Scholarship
Seth Ohms	Student Affairs
Bob Campbell	Range Excellence
Tom Monaco	Awards
Brian Monroe	Ut Nat Rcrs Field School
Sherel Goodrich	Range Reference & Natural Areas
Chad Reid	



Notes from the President

Linden Greenhalgh

Another year has flown by; it's hard to believe it is almost time for our annual meeting. It has been an eventful year: coldest January on record, hottest July on record, drought, and wildfires, not the kind of events we hope for; we did however have a great summer tour and range camp. A big thank you goes out to Beth and Mindy and all who helped make those events a huge success. We are excited to have two Utah Section members as candidates on the national ballot, Val Anderson for Second Vice President and Tim Ford for Director. Please be sure and vote. Login to the national website and cast your ballot. It would be great to have both Val and Tim as national officers.



We are still mourning the loss of Dr. James E. Bowns, one of the great range scientists and teachers. We were fortunate to have Jim in our section and to know him personally. He was a great friend and mentor to all who knew him. The Utah Section is planning to make a donation to the James E. Bowns Scholarship Fund.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the fall meeting in Cedar City. I know Shane is putting together a great program. In closing I would like to say thanks to everyone that gets involved in the Utah Section and helps make it a success.

See you in Cedar!

Linden Greenhalgh



Utah Section Society of Range Management
 2013 Fall Meeting
 Southern Utah University
 Sharwan Smith Student Center Ballroom
 Cedar City, Utah
 October 31st and November 1st

Registration Form

Name:

Mailing Address:

Organization (optional)

Phone Number and Email:

Registration Costs:

Regular Member Preregistering:	\$55.00
Non-member or Registration at Meeting	\$65.00
One Day – member	\$30.00
One Day - nonmember	\$35.00
Student, No Banquet (must still register)	\$ 0
Banquet Only (students or partners)	\$25.00

*Indicate meal preference beef chicken vegetarian

Pre-registration can be done online with a credit card by following these instructions:

Visit <http://registrants> must navigate to <http://srm.allenmm.com>, click on “Sections” and then click on the applicable section meeting.

On line registrations will be cut off on October 28th. Any registrations after that date will be subject to a \$10.00 late fee added to the registration cost. This includes all registrations done at the meeting.

You can also pay by check. Send it along with your registration form. These need to be **received** by October 29th!

Mail registration forms to: Maxine Deeter
 P.O. Box 102
 La Sal, Utah 84530

Hotel Information: A block of 25 rooms has been reserved until October 15 at the Holiday Inn Express and Suites in Cedar City at \$70 for the dates 10/30/13 to 11/1/13. The cutoff date is 10/15/13 so anyone that calls after that will not get the group rate. The rooms are first come first served. Please call 435-865-7799 to make reservations. Ask for SRM rooms for discount. The address is 1555 South Old Highway 191.

Society for Range Management

2013 Annual Meeting,

SUU Sharwan Smith Student Center Ballroom

Cedar City, Utah

October 31 – November 1

8:00	Welcome	Shane Green, NRCS
8:15	Utah Natural Resources Camp (Range Camp) report	Bryn Dayton, Sierra Curtis
8:30	Southern Utah Forests Grazing Collaborative	Lorien Belton, USU
9:00	Grazing Response Index presentations	Terry Padilla, USFS and Shane Green, NRCS
10:00	Break	
10:30	Within and between cattle breed susceptibility in larkspur	Ben Green, ARS
10:45	Locoweeds, Relationship between the toxin swainsonine and endophytes	Daniel Cook, ARS
11:15	Grazing Improvement Program presentations	Troy Forrest and others, UDAF
12:15	Lunch	
1:00	Range Extension in Utah	Eric Thacker, USU
1:30	Row Spacing Effects on Forage Yield of Five Cool Season Grasses	Craig Rigby and Robert Newhall, USU
2:00	A Two Decade Comparison Of Sage-Grouse Lek Counts Between Two Grazing Systems	Gregg Simonds and Eric Sant, Open Range Consulting
2:30	A Comparison of Functional Ground Cover Attributes Between Two Grazing Systems	Gregg Simonds and Eric Sant, Open Range Consulting
3:00	Break	
3:30	Open	
4:00	Open	
4:30	Open	

7:00	Northern and Southern Chapter Meetings	Officers
8:00	Understory vegetation response to mechanical mastication of piñon and juniper trees	Jordan Bybee, BYU
8:30	Long-term patterns of wild and domestic ungulate effects on range-land plant communities of the Colorado Plateau	Kyle Nehring, USU
9:00	Shrub Management in Utah: An Experimental Framework to Investigate How Ecological Sites May Guide Management Decisions	Rebecca Mann, USU
9:30	The Relationship of Bulbous Bluegrass and Big Sagebrush in Utah	Jason D. Cox, DWR
10:00	Break	[Owner]
11:00	Business Meeting	Shane Green
12:00	Council Meeting	Officers

Urgent Call for Awards Nominations!

Members need to send Tom Monaco nominations for Rancher of the Year, Outstanding Young Range Professional, and Range Manager of the Year. Nomination is easy and can be accomplished with the following nomination forms available online:

<http://www.usu.edu/range/committee/awards.htm>

Tom's email is: tom.monaco@ars.usda.gov



Society for Range Management
67th Annual
International Meeting,
Technical Training
& Trade Show
Register Today!
Feb. 8-13, 2014 - Orlando, FL



Elections

Candidates for President Elect

Beth Burritt

Beth Burritt has worked at Utah State University in Rangeland Resource for over 30 years. She has a B.S. from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and an M.S. from USU both in Animal Science. She began her career as a Research Associate working with Fred Provenza on a project that focuses on how learning and experience affect diet selection in livestock also known as BEHAVE. In early 2000, she oversaw the outreach program for BEHAVE creating numerous fact sheets, websites and other outreach materials. In 2010, she began working as an Area Rangeland Agent for Box Elder, Cache and Rich Counties. She currently serves as the Northern Chapter President. Beth believes the scientific community needs to do a better job of translating research results into information that can be used by both land managers and producers to improve rangeland management practices. SRM plays an integral part in promoting the principles of rangeland management and should provide a platform for producers, public land managers and scientists to share ideas and work co-operatively to solve land management issues.

Chad Horman

Chad Horman has worked in natural resources since graduating from Brigham Young University in 1998 with a Master's degree in wildlife and range management. He worked for two years as Restoration Ecologist Intern at the Department of Energy's Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory near Idaho Falls, ID. He then spent two years working as a Research Associate for Brigham Young University doing vegetation monitoring at Dugway Proving Ground in Utah. In 2002 he started with the Forest Service in Magdalena, NM as a Rangeland Management Specialist. In 2008, Chad moved to Cedar City, UT to be the Forest Range Program Manager on the Dixie and Fishlake National Forests, where he currently works. Since moving back to Utah he has been active in the Utah Section by recently serving as the Southern Chapter President. Chad believes that rangeland resources can be sustainably used through application of sound range management practices. The SRM plays an important role in developing those practices and sharing that information with both producers and land managers.

Candidates for Director

Daniel Cook

Daniel Cook is a research scientist at the USDA ARS Poisonous Plant Research Laboratory. His research interests are to describe the chemical ecology of plant toxins focusing on four principal genera of plants and their toxins: *Delphinium* (norditerpene alkaloids), *Lupinus* (quinolizidine and piperidine alkaloids), and *Astragalus* and *Oxytropis* (swainsonine). The influences of environmental, developmental, and genetic processes on toxin concentrations, synthesis, and subsequent risk of poisoning are being investigated to mitigate livestock losses. Daniel earned a Ph.D. from Michigan State University in Plant Biology and B.S. from Utah State University in Crop Science. Daniel has been active in the Utah section and the Society of Range Management for the past seven years.

Raven Reitstetter

I developed my interest in natural environment research and management while I was attending college in Germany and England. However, during my studies I somehow slipped over to the "dark side" and ended up with a master's degree in microbiology and a Ph.D. in cell biology. Still clinging, though, to my initial interests I got involved in limnology and oceanography at Bonn University and the University of East Anglia. When I moved to Arizona for a postdoc position I soon realized that the ocean was not really close by. The Sonoran Desert biome made more than good for the lack of ample water supplies, though. Again, while playing with cells in the lab, I also got involved with the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum and Native Seeds to pursue my interests in ecology. After having moved into a research faculty position at the University of Arizona I was called on active duty with the US Army, serving as a biochemist in various duty positions. A highlight during this part of my career was my work in the field of leptospirosis which culminated in our group at Brooke Army Medical Center being recognized as a Center of Excellence for Leptospirosis Research by the Global Emerging Infections Surveillance and Response System. When it was time for me to leave active duty I took a job at Dugway Proving Ground where I work now as the chemical science branch chief. After leaving active duty I also decided on formally brushing up on my skills pertaining to ecology and enrolled in a graduate program in rangeland ecosystem science at Colorado State University. Outside of my "day time" job I pursue small rangeland projects of personal interest and also serve as a volunteer biologist at Fish Springs National Wildlife Reserve in the West Desert supporting water quality, phragmites control, least chub rehabilitation and various other projects. During the renaissance of my recent ecology-related endeavors it became more and more evident that my digression into the worlds of microbiology and cell biology was not wasted. A substantial amount of knowledge and experience is actually quite relevant to the field of ecology and rangelands in particular. I joined the Society for Rangeland Management and its Utah chapter in 2008 and have always enjoyed the Utah meetings and field trips, eagerly learning from expert practitioners and academicians. I feel it is now time to give back and get more formally involved in the Utah chapter of the society.



Utah Chapter Northern Range Tour

By Beth Burritt, Rangeland Resources Area Extension Agent

The Northern Utah Rangeland Tour headed south this year. It was held in Sanpete County near Mt. Pleasant on June 13 and 14. About 40 people attended the tour.

The tour began near Indianola at the Lasson Draw Wildlife Management Area (WMA). Mark Farmer, habitat manager for the Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR), and Jake Owens, rangeland management specialist for NRCS, discussed the effects of the Wood Hollow Fire that burned nearly 50,000 acres in June 2012. We then had the opportunity to view a reseeding effort in Fairview Canyon, which began October 2012. DWR led the cooperative re-seeding project on 25,000 acres to restore vegetation and forage for livestock and wildlife. DWR's primary goals were to restore habitat for wildlife, particularly mule deer, control erosion and reduce wildfire risk. We also visited the Big Hollow WMA to see the recovery of 20-year-old burn. Corey and Ryan Anderson and Scott Mower, private landowners and livestock producers, explained how the Wood Hollow Fire has impacted their operations.

We stopped at several research plots that demonstrated the effectiveness of various herbicides to control Russian knapweed. Matt Palmer, USU County Extension Agent for Sanpete County, discussed the project as well as future studies they're planning.

Our last stop was in Fountain Green where Neils Hansen raises Bozoisky Russian wildrye raised for seed. In spring of 2011, Neils trained his neighbor's goats to avoid eating Russian wildrye and allowed him to use trained goats to weed his grass. Neils demonstrated how he trained goats using lithium chloride. He also brought one of the neighbor's goats over to see if she would still avoid the wildrye. Two years after conditioning, she still refused to eat the grass. We were impressed.

Dinner was a turkey barbeque. What else would you eat in San Pete County? It was a fundraiser for the local 4-H club and delicious.

On Friday morning, Matt Palmer took us to JDP Ranch to show us a recent range renovation project that decreased the abundance of sagebrush and increased forage production from 100 lbs/acre to over 900 lbs/acre. In addition the ranch, installed cross-fencing to implement a rotational grazing system.

Our next stop was Camp Trifie near Mt Pleasant. Matt discussed the urban fire interface. Recently, the state of Utah paid to have vegetation removed from around houses in the area to reduce the likelihood of fire destroying homes. Matt would like to see some of these areas fenced to use grazing to remove excessive vegetation. Unfortunately, no one in the area seems interested in fencing or using grazing to reduce fire risk.

At our final stop, we heard from Colleen Keyes and Nick Butler from the US Forest Service about how bark beetles are affecting a variety of conifer species. Bark beetles are a problem all over the West. In many cases, environmental restrictions are preventing the Forest Service from effectively dealing with the problem.

I'd like to thank Jake Owens and Matt Palmer for all their help in planning and guiding the tour as well as everyone who took the time out of their busy schedules to attend the tour.





Summer Tour



Burn Area



Neils and the goat



"I still hate the taste of this stuff!"



JDP Ranch



Collen Keyes talks of bark beetle infestation

The Utah Natural Resources Field School

The Utah Natural Resources Field School (commonly known as “Range Camp”) was held July 29 – August 1 at the Gooseberry Administrative Site on the Fishlake National Forest. Twenty-nine campers from all over Utah spent four days in the field and classroom learning as much as they could about rangelands and rangeland management. In addition to the campers, Bethany Lamb from Loa (2012 Range Camp Winner) served as Youth Counselor. Jeff Barnes (NRCS, Logan); Alec Bryan (BLM, Vernal); Beth Burritt (USU Extension, Logan); Fee Busby (USU Extension, Logan); George Cook (NRCS retired, Wellington); Sarah Davis (Forest Service, Cedar City); Shane Green (NRCS, state office, SLC); Mindy Pratt (USU Extension, Richmond); Mike Ralphs (USDA Agricultural Research Service retired, Ferron); Dana Truman (BLM, Price); Randall Violet (SUU Cedar City); and Dean Winward (SUU, Cedar City) served as adult leaders and faculty. Mindy and Fee served as camp directors.



Outstanding Range Camp participants and camp directors. From the left, Mindy Pratt, camp co-director; Bryn Dayton from Francis, outstanding camper; Sierra Curtis from Midway, outstanding camper; Breann Bitner from Thatcher, outstanding camper; Maya Anderson from Elmo; outstanding camper; Georgann Cook from Wellington, outstanding camper; and George Cook, past camp director and current instructor. Bryn and Sierra will attend the 2014 High School Youth Forum at the SRM meeting in Orlando, Florida. If they cannot attend, Breann, Maya, or Georgann will attend.



Scholarship Winner

The 2013 Recipient of the L.A. Stoddart SRM Utah Section Scholarship is Nancy S Lee. The L.A. Stoddart Scholarship is a \$1500 scholarship awarded to a student majoring in range or range-related programs at a Utah University. Nancy is a junior at Brigham Young University majoring in Wildlife & Wildlands Conservation. She is active in BYU's Wildlife and Range Club having served as the chapter Treasurer in 2012-2013 and now as chapter Vice-President in 2013-2014. Nancy feels her passion for range has truly been cultivated due to her involvement in the Society for Range Management. She has participated in numerous activities at the state SRM meetings as well as the national meetings in Spokane and Oklahoma City. Meeting so many people who had similar interests in range was an eye-opening experience. Nancy participated in plant identification and URME in Spokane and added extemporaneous speech to her competitions in Oklahoma City. Her interest in the subject of rangelands is infectious and her enthusiasm has enhanced the experience for all students working around her in the lab and in classes at BYU. She is an excellent student with a high GPA at BYU. Congratulations to Nancy Lee.



James Bowns 1932 – 2013

James Emerson Bowns Jr. died peacefully in his sleep September 14, 2013 at the age of 81. Jim was born August 20, 1932 in Castle Gate, Utah to James Emerson Bowns Sr. and Dorothy Christensen Bowns. Jim grew up in Carbon County and served in the U.S. Navy from 1952 to 1956. After serving in the Navy, Jim began a career in higher education that would span the next five decades. Jim married Joann Sessions on April 30, 1966. They had one daughter, Carol and one son, Casey. Jim always considered his children to be his greatest accomplishment in life.



Despite not technically finishing high school, Jim went on to earn bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees from Utah State University. Jim began teaching at the College of Southern Utah in 1965 and finally retired from Southern Utah University in 2012. Jim dedicated his life to serving others. He taught literally thousands of college students over the years and influenced many lives. In addition to teaching at SUU, he especially enjoyed volunteering his time to work with his beloved fourth graders.

Jim worked with the Iron County Extension Office, served on the State of Utah Wildlife Board, and spent many years with the Bryce Canyon Natural History Association. He was also known for helping landowners with a variety of issues. He was an expert in the fields of botany, forestry, and ecology and earned the nickname "Mr. Range Management." During his long career he earned many awards and accolades, including Professor of the Year, Outstanding Educator, the Sustained Lifetime Achievement Award from the Society of Range Management, and was inducted into the Southwest Livestock Hall of Fame. Jim's legacy will live on as the Native Plant Center and Herbarium on the SUU campus are named in his honor.

Jim is survived by his wife Joann Sessions Bowns, daughter Carol Bowns, son Casey (Shannon) Bowns, and brother Terry (Joanne) Bowns. Contributions can be made to the James Bowns Scholarship by contacting Cameron Brooks with the SUU Development Office at (435) 865 – 8045.



Check out our Utah Section website!



Society for Range Management - UTAH SECTION

HOME NEWS UPCOMING EVENTS OFFICERS COMMITTEES LINKS ABOUT SRM

Current News
Past Newsletters

**Welcome to the Utah Section of
The Society for Range Management**

The Society for Range Management is the professional society dedicated to supporting persons who work with rangelands and have a commitment to their sustainable use. Rangelands comprise almost one-half of all the lands in the world. They are extremely important to society for the goods and services they provide. SRM is dedicated to the conservation and sustainable management of rangelands for the benefit of current societies and for future generations.

<http://www.usu.edu/range/index.htm>



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 *Rangeland News* (formerly Member Resource News), 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 Lesley Radtke, Director of Membership, 303-986-3309, or email LRadtke@rangelands.org.

Membership Applications Forms:

[Online Membership Application](#)

[Printable New Member Application \(pdf\)](#)

[Printable New Member Student Application \(pdf\)](#) - The New Member Application with the Student Verification Form

[Student Verification Form \(pdf\)](#)

[Printable International Application \(pdf\)](#)

[Printable International Application Country List \(pdf\)](#)