

Society for Range Management



Utah Section Newsletter

Spring 2013

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

SRM Utah Section Newsletter

Maxine Deeter Editor

Linden Greenhalgh	President
Shane A. Green	President Elect
Brian Monroe	Past President
Jacob Owens	Treasurer
Maxine Deeter	Secretary
Kevin M. Heaton	Director
Lowell Gardner	Director
Patti Barney	Director
Dana Truman	So. Chapter President
	So. Chapter Pres-Elect
Daniel Cook	No. Chapter President
Beth Burritt	No. Chapter Pres-Elect
Nate Duncan	BYU Chapter President
	USU Chapter President
	UVU Chapter President
Jason Carlile	SUU Chapter President
Mike Ralphs	Historian
Dana Truman	Information & Education
Steve Deeter	Membership
Jeff Barnes	Scholarship
Seth Ohms	Student Affairs
Bob Campbell	Range Excellence
Tom Monaco	Awards
Brian Monroe	Ut Ntl Rcrrs Field School
Sherel Goodrich	Range Reference & Natural Areas
Chad Reid	



Notes from the President

Linden Greenhalgh



Greetings from Tooele County! I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and are having a happy new year so far. Since this is my first newsletter message I thought I should introduce myself as many of you probably only know me by name. I am married to Kara Rasmussen from Twin Falls, Idaho; we have four children, two daughters and two sons. I am the USU Extension Agriculture and 4-H Agent in Tooele County. I graduated from BYU with a bachelor and master's degrees in Animal Science. We have lived in Twin Falls and Cache Valley and have now lived in Tooele for almost eight years. Since the bulk of agriculture in my county is rangeland grazing, I decided I should be a member of SRM in order to help me better perform my responsibilities; my expectations have been exceeded. Much of my work involves rangeland restoration, invasive weed control and insect infestation monitoring and control.

Normally this is supposed to be the slow time of year for me however we just had a baby so things have been a little hectic. I'm not much of a writer but there are a few things I would like to say. First of all thanks to everyone that made our annual meeting a success. UVU was great to work with. I appreciate Renee Van Buren's help in setting everything up. We were fortunate to have President Holland welcome us to campus. The presentations were excellent. The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food played a big part as well in setting up the speakers from Nevada. They also helped out with a lot of the cost to put on the program.

The second thing I would like to say is that I am excited about this coming year. Normally I would start the New Year by attending the national meeting, however with the birth of our baby I thought I should stay close to home this time.

One of the things we have been working on already is better support for the high school youth programs and contests (High School Youth Forum, Western Nationals, Range Camp and the Snow College Range Judging Contest) that our Utah Section has been a key supporter of. Mindy Pratt has been the force behind these programs for about 15 years. We are working with Mindy and others to find some motivated individuals and funding sources to ensure that these programs continue. Our first meeting was encouraging; we are confident that we can secure the needed funding. If you are interested in helping with the staffing of these programs please let us know.

As always I enjoy getting to know new people and getting to know those of you that I already know better. There are so many different projects and programs that we are all involved in. I am looking forward to our Summer Tour to see some of the things that are happening and also to see all of you.

The last thing I would like to say is that there is a lot of opportunity to serve in the Utah Section of SRM. As I have already mentioned the high school youth programs would benefit from some added help. There are other areas that will always need enthusiastic people such as section committee heads, and help with the summer tour and annual meeting. To me, being involved with other enthusiastic people is the most rewarding part of my job. I hope you all have a great year and I hope to see you soon.

Linden Greenhalgh



Scholarships



Jocelyn Raphael

Jocelyn is a junior at Brigham Young University, majoring in Wildlife and Wildlands Conservation. She will graduate in 2013. She has been involved with the BYU Wildlife and Range Club serving as club Secretary and Club Vice President. For two years she has attended both the state and national SRM meetings, participating in Plant ID, URME, Extemporaneous Speech and Rangeland Cup. At the 2011 State Meeting Jocelyn placed first in the URME test. She plans to continue on to graduate school and pursue a degree in Botany. The principles she has learned through SRM, BYU's Wildlife and Range Club, and classes she has taken have provided a great foundation of range principles as well as life skills.

Wyatt Shakespear

Wyatt is a junior attending Brigham Young University, majoring in Wildlife and Wildlands Conservation. He will graduate in April 2013. At BYU he is a member of the Wildlife and Range Club and has been actively involved with the Plant ID team and URME competitions. He has participated in State and National competitions. Wyatt has always been interested in biology and plant ecology. He grew up on a ranch in southern Utah and has cattle of his own which he grazes on public land allotments. His upbringing and education have helped him understand the aspects of rangeland systems. Wyatt wants to earn a Master's degree and work in research allowing him to contribute to future rangeland science.



Summer Tour—Mark Your Calendars Now!

The UT-SRM Field Tour is scheduled for June 13 and 14th and will begin at noon on the 13th and finish at noon on the 14th. The tour locations will be in and around San Pete County. Topics will include Pine die-off and the pine bark beetle, revegetation efforts after last summer's Wood Hollow Fire, urban-fire interface issues and more. Details will be out soon. They will be posted on the website and a follow-up email will be sent.





Fall Meeting Student Activities

URME Winners



1st Kaitlin Haslep, 2nd/3rd Hannah Ricks,
2nd/3rd (tie) Joclyn Raphael, 4th Colton Granger

Plant ID Winners



1st Megan Curtis—UVU, 2nd Hannah Ricks—BYU
3rd Clay Hardy—USU

Overall Winners



1st Hannah Ricks, 2nd Lara Kitchen, 3rd Alysa DeFranco

URME

First—Utah State
Second—Brigham Young
Third—Southern Utah

Plant ID

First—Utah State
Second—Brigham Young
Third—Utah Valley

Overall Team

First—Utah State
Second—Brigham Young
Third—Utah Valley



Student Teams



Utah Valley University
UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY



Brigham Young University
BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY



Southern Utah University
SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY



Utah State University
UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY



DON'T INTERFERE WITH SOMETHIN'
THAT AIN'T BOTHERIN' YOU NONE

OUTSTANDING YOUNG RANGE PROFESSIONAL

Lowell Gardner is the recipient of the 2012 Outstanding Young Range Professional Award. He attended the College of Eastern Utah from January 2003 to May 2005 and received an Associates of Science degree and Utah State University from January 2006 to December 2008 majoring in Rangeland Resources with a minor in Agronomy receiving a Bachelor Degree.

Lowell participated in the Student Career Experience Program (SCEP) as a Range Management Specialist trainee with the Natural Resources Conservation Service from June 2007 to December 2008, trained under the guidance of Tom Simper, Brock Benson, and Jeff Barnes. He works full time as a Range Management Specialist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service from January 2009 to present, most recently in the Provo Field Office.

In his professional career, Lowell has modified two Utah Rangeland Health inventory forms by adding formulas, making it more “user friendly”, thereby reducing time needed for calculations and summarizing. He created a line point intercept data sheet that “analyzes” line intercept data, reducing hand calculator time, created a form to populate & calculate canopy gap cover which calculates and summarizes data also. Two of the above forms were given to the State Range Conservationist for review and acceptance and could be made available to all Utah NRCS staff. Lowell presented how to use some of these forms at the Range Workshop in 2011.



He has helped develop two Plant Material Demonstration sites to see what species grow best on saline soils & what grow best in droughty soils. He has also written around 35 plans which include grazing management as part of their management items.

Lowell exemplifies leadership in all that he does. He has a passion for range management and that is portrayed in his interactions with landowners, land managers and other natural resource professionals. He has worked closely with the Aberdeen Plant Materials Center to assist with the development of field demonstration plantings, seed mixes, planting and seeding plans and has assessed projects to hopefully better advise land managers about what they should try on their lands. He has taught range principles to new range professionals, new non-range professionals, student trainees and land owners/managers. Lowell has served on the Utah SRM Board of Directors this year, the first of a three year term. He has modified required NRCS forms for planning to make them more user friendly and to provide agency professionals more readily available information with less effort. He has also created new forms to quickly analyze line-point intercept and canopy GAP data.

Range Society and Community Activities include: Attending the State Chapter meetings in 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012. While in school he participated in the USU range club and competed on the plant ID team at the national meetings in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He is currently serving as director over the fund raising committee, scholarship committee, and student activities committee and committed to this position within the Utah Section another two years.

Lowell has been a member of Utah SRM three of the last four years. Lowell taught range management principles at Irrigation Company sponsored workshops in 2009 & 2010.

Lowell taught/coached T-ball in 2012. He assisted the Huntington Cattle Association with live-stock gathering in 2009 & 2010.

Lowell is married and the father of three children. He lives in Cleveland, Utah.

Range Manager of the Year



Recipient of the Utah Section SRM Range Manager of the Year Award 2012 was Dr. Christopher A. Call. He was nominated by Douglas A. Johnson and Jamin Johanson.

Dr. Call received a B.S. degree in Plant, Soil, and Water Science at the University of Nevada in Reno. He received an M.S. in 1977 in Horticulture from Oregon State University in Corvallis, OR and a Ph.D. in Range Science in 1982 from Utah State University in Logan, Utah.

His work and professional experience includes: 1974-1975: Instructor, Plant, Soil, and Water Science Dept., Univ. of Nevada, Reno, NV; 1975-1977: Graduate Teaching Assistant, Horticulture Dept., Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR; 1977-1980: Graduate Research/Teaching Assistant, Range Science Dept., Utah State University, Logan, UT; 1980-1981: Consultant, Bio/West, Inc., Logan, UT; 1981-1987: Assistant Professor, Dept. of Range Science, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX; 1987-1991: Assistant Professor, Dept. of Range Science, Utah State University, Logan, UT; 1991-2010: Associate Professor, Dept. of Wildland Resources, Utah

State University, Logan, UT; 1998-2002: Director, Natural Resources Environmental Education Program, College of Natural Resources, Utah State University, Logan, UT; 2010-present: Professor, Department of Wildland Resources, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

Dr. Call has authored or co-authored 44 peer-reviewed journal articles, three book chapters, six popular press articles, five educational products, four extension publications, and two technical reports.

Activity in Professional Societies/Organizations include being an SRM member since 1977 and he has been actively involved in the parent society, Texas Section, and Utah Section. Within the Utah Section, Dr. Call has served in the following capacities: 1988 - Student Chapter Faculty Advisor; 1998-1999 - Committee Chair, Range Excellence Award ; 2003-2005 - Trustee; 1995, 2005 - Summer Tour Leader; and 2003-2005: Director.

Dr. Call has served as Academic Advisor to hundreds of Rangeland Resources majors at Utah State University (USU). In addition, he has served as faculty advisor for the USU Student Chapter of SRM since 1988. His guidance has helped students effectively navigate their university experience and acquire rich experiences in the rangeland profession, including attendance at SRM meetings and participation in student competitions (URME, Plant ID, and Rangeland Cup). Under his direction, the USU Range Science Team won the Rangeland Cup Competition in both 2007 and 2008.

He has developed an extremely effective series of college courses, including Principles of Rangeland Management, Wildland Plant Ecology and Identification, Vegetation and Habitat Management, and Theory and Applications of Rangeland Ecosystem Management. His dedication and devotion to teaching excellence has been acknowledged with USU's College of Natural Resources Teacher of the Year Awards (1993, 2005, and 2011), Advisor of the Year Award from USU's College of Natural Resources (2000), and Top Professor Award from USU's Mortar Board Honor Society. In addition, he received the SRM Outstanding Achievement Award (1999) and SRM Undergraduate Teaching Award (2007).

Dr. Call is recognized regionally, nationally, and internationally as an expert in vegetation management and has developed outreach/educational tools to assist land managers. He has advised numerous graduate students and attracted numerous grants to augment his research program. Dr. Call is frequently sought to lead education components of competitive research grants, including USDA and Joint Fire Sciences Programs. His involvement at the research/outreach interface provides unique learning experiences and educational tools so that users can effectively understand complex subjects and adopt new perspectives for resource management. He has developed curricula for high school students, university undergraduate and graduate students, and resource managers that incorporate dynamic learning experiences with the aid of hands-on exercises and videos.

As a leader in the rangeland profession, Dr. Call has diligently promoted positive attitudes concerning wise rangeland stewardship by providing students with real-world management experiences in his courses. His effective mentorship of graduate students has provided students with a unique, competitive edge when seeking resource management employment or when pursuing graduate education.

Dr. Call has made numerous contributions to the rangeland profession in teaching, research, and extension and is recognized as one of the top educators in our profession. He has worked diligently to refine his teaching skills by seeking opportunities to learn and apply innovative, interactive teaching techniques throughout his career. He works painstakingly in developing a robust conceptual framework for the content of each of his courses. He routinely applies a wide range of instructional tools in his courses with lectures, questioning sessions, cooperative learning exercises, and field work. He has a unique ability to engage students with his interactive teaching style and thought-provoking classroom activities, which enables them to develop their critical-thinking and problem-solving skills. He has had, and continues to have, a major impact on the rangeland profession.

Dr. Call is married and the father of two children.



Range Excellence Award

The range Excellence Award this year goes to the Color Country District, Fire and Fuels Program of the Bureau of Land Management. Accepting on behalf of the Fire and Fuels Program is Ryan Shakespear, Prescribed Fire Specialist.



The Greenville Bench project was one of the first landscape level projects within the Color Country District that looked at encroaching pinyon/juniper and declining shrub/steppe habitats. The Greenville Bench area was listed as a high priority area for treatment during the Beaver River Watershed Management Planning process because of declining rangelands and decreased water quality and quantity.

Over the past 6 years, BLM has completed over 26,000 acres of treatment within the Greenville Bench area, by utilizing prescribed fire, chaining, mechanical treatments, hand thinning, aerial seeding and grazing management.

In addition to increasing water yield and quality, this project has also improved


wildlife habitat (specifically for mule deer and sage grouse), provided better hunting and recreational opportunities and has established community fire protection.

Partners involved in this project include USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Beaver River Watershed Steering Committee, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife, Grazing Allotment Permittees, The Mule Deer Foundation, Utah Partners for Conservation and Development, and many others.

This project highlights the importance of utilizing a variety of partners, tools and funding sources to accomplish projects across all jurisdictional boundaries. To date, BLM and other southern region partners have improved over 485,000 acres of rangeland within the BLM Color Country District and Southern Region Watershed Restoration Initiative boundary. The Color Country District Fire and Fuels program continues to move forward and currently has 7 more watershed level projects, like Greenville Bench, that are being implemented in a similar manner.

Paul Briggs, BLM Color Country District Supervisory Fuels Management Specialist, recently received the prestigious Kevin Conway Conservation Award at the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources' Annual Awards Banquet.

Jim Karpowitz, Director of the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, presented the award to Paul in front of a large group of employees and partners. The award, presented in the memory of the past Director of the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Kevin Conway, recognizes an individual or group committed to Conway's vision of restoration and improvement of wildlife habitat in Utah. Karpowitz added "it is unusual for an individual not employed by the Division of Wildlife to receive this award." That comment greatly elevated the significance of the award.



Students Do Well at National Competition

The two schools from Utah performed exceptionally well at the annual meeting. We had 19 undergraduate students representing all four majors in the Department attend the Society for Range Management meeting in Oklahoma City. They competed in several contests and won or placed in all.

Undergraduate Range Management Exam (URME)

Individual

1st Place-Lara Kitchen-USU
3rd Place-Hannah Ricks-BYU

Team

1st Place-USU
3rd Place-BYU

Combined URME and Plant Identification

Individual

2nd Place-Hannah Ricks-BYU
5th Place-Lara Kitchen-USU

Plant Identification Contest

Team

4th Place-USU

Undergraduate Extemp Speaking Contest

1st Place-Kaitlin Hasler

Collegiate Trail Boss Award

USU

Rangeland Cup Team Award

2nd Place-USU
3rd Place-BYU

As a result of success in these events plus overall participation in the SRM meeting, the USU Range Club, under the leadership of Kaitlin Hasler as President, won the Collegiate Trail Boss Award.

Other students whose scores were counted toward the team score were Shane Kitchen, Colton Grange, and Kaitlin Hasler. Other students who took the test were Britney Bosshardt, Garrett Billings, Cari Forsgren, Elizabeth Goss, Jeremiah Hull, T. J. Knudson, Chris Lewis, Jordan Linnell, Raul Lira-Rodriguez, and Kim Palmer.

The Extemporaneous Speaking Contest requires a student to draw three topics, choose one, spend 2.5 hours preparing a speech, and then delivering a 5 – 7 minute speech. Kaitlin Hasler won first place in this contest. She spoke on the Wild Horse and Burro Act and its Implications for Rangeland Management. Other students that competed were Chelsea Demarco, Shane Kitchen, Jordan Linnell, and Raul Lira-Rodriguez.

The Plant Identification Contests requires students to be able to identify rangeland plants that are important in Canada, Mexico, and the U. S.). Team members whose scores were counted toward the team score were Clayton Handy, Elizabeth Goss, Shane Kitchen, and Lara Kitchen. Clayton's score was 18th overall. Elizabeth, Shane, Lara, Garrett Billings, and Chelsea DeMarco all scored in the top 25 percent of the students taking the test. Other students who competed in the plant contest were Daltrey Balmer, Britney Bosshardt, Amanda Cox, Chris Lewis, and Camille Waters.

Chris Call and Fee Busby serve as advisors and coaches for these range club and these contests with Chris focusing on the Rangeland Cup and Fee on the other contests.



In the Plant Identification Contest, Utah State University placed 4th; Brigham Young University 7th; and Utah Valley University 9th. Having three schools from the Utah Section is pretty outstanding.



Fourth place Undergraduate Range Plant Identification Team, Utah State University

In the **Undergraduate Range Management Exam (URME)** Utah State placed first and Brigham Young University placed third.



Lara Kitchen, Utah State University; First Place Individual in URME. Lara placed fifth in the combined Plant Identification and URME. Others in the picture are Charlie Richmond, U. S. Forest Service Range Management Staff, Wally Butler, SRM President, and Ralph Giffen, representing the SRM National Capital Section.



Hannah Ricks, Brigham Young University;
Third Place Individual in URME.
Hannah placed second in the combined
Plant Identification and URME competitions.
SRM President Wally Butler is presenting
Hannah her plaque.



Brigham Young University placed third in
the Rangeland Cup Competition.



Kaitlin Hasler, Utah State University, placed
first in the Extemporaneous Public Speaking Contest



First place URME Team, Utah State University





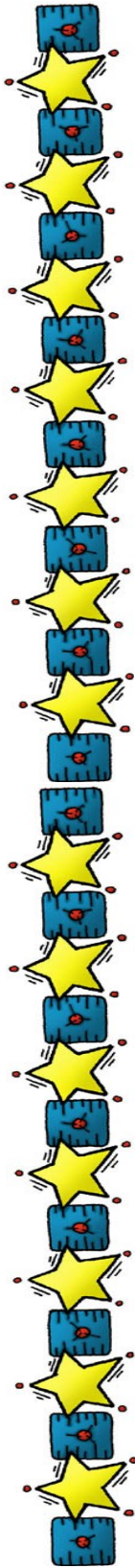
Third place URME Team, Brigham Young University




Utah State University placed second in the Rangeland Cup competition.

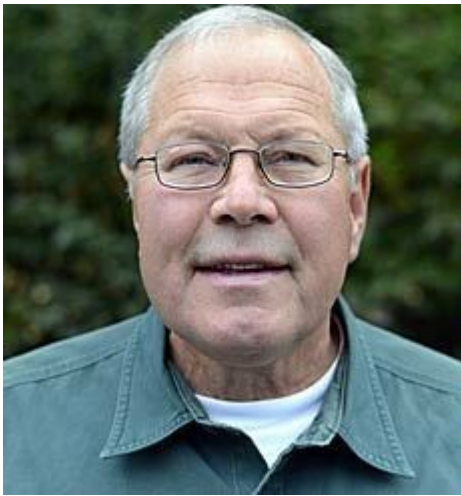


Utah State University Range Club was selected as the most involved of all the student groups at the Oklahoma City SRM meeting and recognized with the Collegiate Trail Boss Award.





Doug Johnson, plant physiologist with the USDA-Agricultural Research Service at Utah State University Awarded the W.R. Chapline Research Award.



The award was presented Feb. 6, at the annual meetings of the Society for Range Management in Oklahoma City.

The W.R. Chapline Research Award is the highest research honor given by the Society for Range Management.

“Quantity and quality of research is considered, thus the award provides well-deserved recognition of his contributions to the scientific field,” said Tom Monaco, Johnson’s colleague and ecologist with the USDA-Agricultural Research Service.

The Society for Range Management is a professional society dedicated to the conservation and sustainable management of rangelands for the benefit of current societies and for future generations. Johnson has been a member of the SRM since 1974.

“I am very honored and humbled to receive this award. This award is particularly meaningful to me because I am being honored by my peers who are working for the betterment of rangelands throughout the world,” said Johnson.

Johnson has worked in the USDA-Agricultural Research Service’s Forage and Range Research Lab on the USU campus for 37 years.

He has led and participated in 19 overseas plant collection trips to Russia, China, Pakistan, Mongolia, Nepal and Kyrgyzstan. These trips have added more than 4,000 accessions to the U.S. National Plant Germplasm System.

“These collections serve an important role in plant breeding efforts for improving crop production, drought resistance, disease resistance and insect resistance,” said Johnson.

Research with legume plants in the Intermountain West is currently the focus of Johnson’s research. When finished, these studies will add plant materials that can be used to revegetate degraded western rangelands.

“Johnson’s recognition is long overdue for a career-long dedication of research in factors affecting plant drought tolerance, plant response to climate change and the development of new cultivars of native and introduced plants,” said John Malechek, emeritus professor of rangeland science at USU.

Johnson’s work has led to the publishing of 134 refereed journal articles, two books and 35 other scientific publications.

Johnson received his master’s and doctorate in range ecology from Utah State University.

While at USU, Johnson has contributed to the institution as an adjunct faculty member in the USU Quinney College of Natural Resources, Department of Wildland Resources and Department of Plants, Soils and Climate. He has also been a major professor for multiple masters and doctorate students, as well as serving on the committees of additional graduate students.



Leadership Change



Outgoing President Brian Monroe Passes the Reins of Leadership to Incoming President Linden Greenhalgh



A big thanks for outgoing president Brian Monroe for his work and dedication



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 \(pdf\)](#)