

Society for Range Management



Utah Section Newsletter

Spring 2019

<http://www.utsrm.org>

SRM Utah Section Newsletter

Maxine Deeter Editor

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Chad Reid	Natural Areas



Notes from the Secretary

Dear Utah SRM Members,

At our last Board of Directors' (BOD) conference call, it was decided that our newsletter has reached the end of its usefulness. With modern techniques, especially social media, the newsletter is felt to be outdated.

This will be the last newsletter that the Utah SRM will issue. In the future, you can check the latest information regarding our chapter on our homepage at [http://www.utsrm.org/](http://www.utsrm.org) or on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/utahranglands/>

I will continue to send mass emails for important items from time to time. For awhile I will probably try to remind you to check our social media pages.

It has been fun, but a lot of work, putting together the newsletter for the past dozen years. We've gone from mass mailing through the post office to posting the newsletter on our homepage. This new step is just to keep up with the world. For some of us oldertimers, that is sometimes a challenge. The transition may be a little slow, but we'll get there. You can always contact me if you have problems or concerns.

Thanks,

Maxine Deeter, Section Secretary

slowpoke32@hotmail.com

Student Activities

Student Activities - Fall Meeting 2018

Teams



	URME	PLANT ID	COMBINED
1ST	USU	USU	USU
2ND	BYU	BYU	BYU
3RD	SUU	SUU	SUU



BYU

L to R L to R Madison Mittleman, Elysse Ostlund, Sara Jaramillo, Janae Radke, Rachel Mayfield, Alex Larson, Colton Brown, Tabitha Hughes, Steve Petersen



USU



SUU

L to R is Julian Mesick, Cory Farnsworth, Sadie Leyba, Chris Reil, Taylor Moosman, Zach Tavey and Trevor Williams



Individuals

URME



Delaney Phariss USU 2nd, Alex Larsen BYU 3rd, Will Price USU3rd, Julian Messick SUU 1st, Steve Peterson



Plant ID

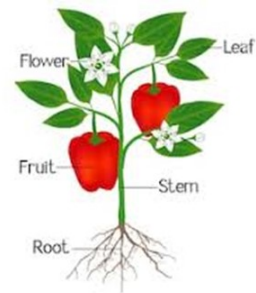


Delaney Phariss USU 1st, Brianna Young US 2nd, Alex Larsen BYU 3rd

Combined



Justin Massic SUU 3rd, Alex Larsen BYU 2nd, Delaney Phariss USU 1st





Utah Chapter SRM 2018 Scholarships

Brianna Young

Brianna was a junior attending Utah State University at the time she applied for this scholarship. She will graduate with a degree in Rangeland Ecology Management in the Spring of 2019. Brianna grew up on the Rex Ranch in the Sandhills of Western Nebraska, where she learned to love plants, wildlife and livestock on the range.

While in high school Brianna participated in FFA range judging and has continued her interests as a member of the USU Plant ID team. She has participated in both state and international SRM conferences. Brianna has been employed by the USU wildland department serving as a field technician gathering data on sage grouse.

Her career goal is to manage a beef cattle ranch with her husband who also shares her passion for healthy rangelands.



Delaney Phariss

Delaney was a junior attending Utah State University at the time she applied for this scholarship. She is a conservation and restoration ecology major with an emphasis in range science, also pursuing minors in Anthropology and sustainable systems. She will graduate in May 2019.

Delaney has been involved with the Utah State Plant ID and URME teams competing in State and National SRM meetings. She has worked for the ARS range and forage research lab in Logan, Utah learning about vegetation monitoring as well as spraying weeds on the Payette National Forest near Boise Idaho.

Delaney believes there are many career paths that she could take that would be personally fulfilling and would give her the opportunity to do meaningful work.





Student Achievements at National Meeting

From Jeff Barnes assessment, here are the results:

High School Youth Forum: Tate Goble – 5th place

University Website Display: SUU (team) – 2nd place

URME: USU (team) – 2nd place

URME: SUU (Julian Mesick) – 2nd place

URME: SUU (Will Price) – 4th place

Plant ID: BYU (Team) – 4th place

Combined URME and Plant ID (Delaney Phariss) – 2nd place

For plant ID, BYU placed 4th, not 5th (the photos were messed up because they made a mistake in grading).





Young Range Manager of the Year

Mitch Bayles

Education: BS, Southern Utah University, Rangeland Resources

Training:

Grazing Administration and Compliance

Vegetative monitoring – nested frequency, utilization, line intercept, point intercept, gap intercept, canopy intercept, soil site stability, Rangeland Health Assessments, Proper Functioning Condition (Riparian), Multiple Indicator Monitoring (Riparian)

Extensive knowledge of the Ecological Site Descriptions.

Range Improvement Project design and implementation (vegetation treatments, pipelines, fences)

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) – Interdisciplinary Team Lead and Interdisciplinary Team Member

Grazing Permit Renewal

Resource Advisor – Wildfire

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation

Special Status Plants – Lead

Experience:

August 24, 2015 to present (3 years) – Cedar City Field Office Bureau of Land Management – Rangeland Management Specialist

Professional Potential:

Mitch is responsible for the administration of 62 grazing allotments within the Cedar City Field Office. He ensures that all grazing applications, grazing bills annual operating instructions, etc. are completed in a timely manner while providing for proper file management. He completes compliance inspections on the majority of his allotments on an annual basis. He has an outstanding relationship with all of his permittees, which has led to good on the ground management of the public lands under his jurisdiction. Mitch consistently works with his permittees to ensure that grazing management systems are adhered to while allowing flexibility to maintain the viability of their grazing operations.

In addition, Mitch has worked on multiple high profile projects including implementation of vegetation treatments within greater sage grouse habitat through the Watershed Restoration Initiative. This required him to work extensively with agency partners, permittees etc. to ensure that projects objectives were obtained throughout project design and implementation.



Leadership:

As discussed, Mitch constantly meets with his permittees on the ground to discuss range issues and solve problems before they occur. He has ensured that permittees have adequately rested numerous habitat improvement project that have occurred within the Cedar City Field Office. This has allowed treatments to become established, which has resulted in improved rangeland health.

Mitch has done an outstanding job with his customer service obligations by meeting and negotiating with range users to resolve difficult situations. The effective communication skill that Mitch possesses allow him to communicate Resource Goals and Objectives to a variety of public land users to ensure the long term sustainability of the public lands is support of the BLM mission.

Range Society and Community Activity: Mitch is a participant in the Society for Range Management for five years.





Rancher of the Year

Rafter J Cattle Company

Bill and Louise Stuart (father and son)

The Rafter J Cattle Company is based in Woodruff, Utah, and operates on private and public lands in Rich County. The Stuarts have operated their private lands and public grazing allotments for multiple generations.

The Cattle Company operates across irrigated fields, wet meadows and rangelands. They have operated enough land and made improvements to their land to support bringing back Louis full time besides already supporting Bill's family. They have improved multiple fields by working with NRCS to install pivots, they have worked with the Grazing Improvement Program (GIP) and Natural Resources Conservation Service and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Partner's Program to make a great difference on their private public rangelands.

Bill has been a great example to the Rich County grazing community by showing leadership of investing time and finances back into the land that they care for. Bill has been asked to speak at field day workshops hosted by the Forest Service and Utah State Extension to talk about cooperating together as a Forest Service permittee.

Bill and Louis have installed four different large livestock watering projects with mile after mile of pipelines installed. This has resulted in grazing distributions never before seen that has improved sustainability of the range as well as water quality that has been an issue before to the Forest Service. The Stuarts have also been influential to their private lands neighbors who benefit from their ability to complete projects and improve lands with their management.

Nominated by Taylor Payne





Range Manager of the Year

Chad Reid

Education: Received degrees from Southern Utah University and the University of Nevada

Experience: Chad is a Natural Resource/Agriculture Extension Professor located in Cedar City, Range Area Agent for five counties in Southern Utah and coordinator for the Cedar Mountain Initiative as well as Adjunct faculty member at Southern Utah University. Chad started his Extension career with the University of Wyoming in 1990 and has been with Utah State University in Iron County since 1997.

Current Position: Chad currently serves as USU Extension Iron County Director, Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent and Extension Professor. He has also served as USU Area Rangeland Extension Agent working in Beaver, Iron, Washington, Kane and Garfield Counties.

Publications and Articles: Chad has a long list of publications. His research interests include Aspen ecology and survival on Cedar Mountain; Repeat historical photography of document landscape changes, Downey Brome and Rabbit brush control on rangelands, using fire scars on Ponderosa pine to document the fire history and frequency of pre- and post- Anglo settlements, and the use of biochar on cultivated land.

Activities in Professional Societies and Organizations:

Chad has been a member of the Society for Range Management (SRM) for almost 30 years. He is very active in the Utah Section. Chad is Chairman of the Cedar Livestock and Heritage Festival, Past President of the Utah Section of the SRM, Co-chairman of the Rangeland Reference Committee for the Utah Section of the SRM. He is past president of the Utah Association of County Agricultural Agents, Past President of the Utah Weed Control Association and Past President of Epsilon Sigma Phi, Iota Chapter. Chad is also active in the Iron County Cattleman's Association.

Accomplishments:

Chad has completed important research on how to effectively control Rabbit Brush with herbicides. His research has been applied by many rangeland managers to control rabbit brush around the state. He is also spearheading efforts to test a promising new herbicide treatment for Cheatgrass control. He loves living in Cedar City and is a great fisherman!!!

Leadership:

Chad has taught many classes and Southern Utah University and has shared his passion for Natural Resource Management to many of his students. He has also presented at many range, weed and agricultural conference around the state. He has helped to plan and arrange for annual livestock/rangeland meetings with producers in southern Utah. His long term monitoring of Utah Rangelands using photos is remarkable. Ranchers and farmers throughout southern Utah call Chad to get help with rangeland and farming challenges.



Chad is 55 years old and married to Linda who is an elementary school teacher. They are the parents of two children, Lance and Ciera.

Nominated by Ron Torgerson



Changing of the Guard



Incommng President, Eric Thacker, accepts the “Reins” of leadership of the Utah Section for the coming year from outgoing President Taylor Payne



Outgoing President, Taylor Payne, receives a plaque and gavel from incommng President, Eric Thacker, in appreciation for his service as President of the Utah Section for the past year.





Membership Information

Memberships

New members: To pay online, please review the membership options below. When you have decided on a selection, you can then click "Add to Cart" to add the membership to your shopping cart. Once the membership appears in your shopping cart, you can then add a subscription to *Rangelands* and *REM* before checking out.

New Members: [click here](#) and let us know how you heard about us!

Renewing members: Please [login](#) to renew your membership online. Once you are logged in, you may add the available membership to your shopping cart. Once the membership appears in your shopping cart, you can then add a subscription to *Rangelands* and *REM*. Contact information and demographics can be updated under "Member Profile."

All members, new and renewing, also have the option to pay by post; to do so, then please complete the [Membership Form](#) and send it with payment to the below address.

Society for Range Management
Business Office
P.O. Box 1897
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

Please contact us directly (membership@rangelands.org or 785-865-9456) if you qualify for the following SRM [membership rates](#)
Emeritus, Un-Sectioned, Commercial, Institutional

Membership Applications Forms:

[Online Membership Application](#)

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

[Printable New Member Student Application \(pdf\)](#) [Student Verification Form \(pdf\)](#)

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

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

