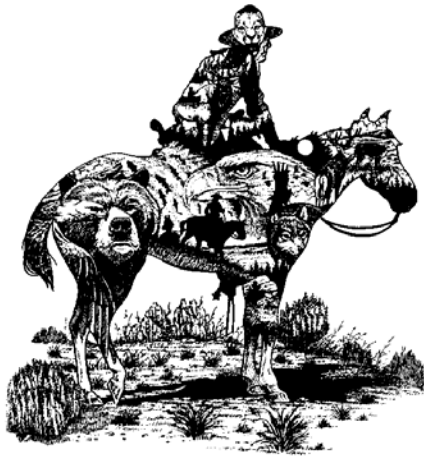


Society for Range Management Pacific Northwest Section

Properly functioning ecosystems provide for long-term sustainability of watersheds, plants, animals and people
Volume 59, Number 1 February 2008



PNW Summer Field Workshop
June 11-12 (13), Okanogan, WA
Meet you there!

President's Message

Karen Raven, Seba Beach, Alberta

NEWSLETTER

It's my first newsletter "message," and I would like to share the discussions of your PNW Board via a January 14th conference call. **Everyone** participated as we brainstormed on goals and priorities for the Board and Section in the coming year. This is in addition to the other activities we are committed to, such as the **High School Youth Forum** which **Peter Schreder** is coordinating for the Section. We looked at what kept us coming back as SRM members, and at strategies we could use to attract and keep new members. Following are the key topics of our discussion. We look forward to **your feedback!**

Expertise: Our Section has a wealth of experience and knowledge. The opportunity to discuss, argue, and share our various opinions in a safe place is one of the primary reasons we keep coming to the meetings.

Thus, we wish to deliberately add a mini-debate style presentation and discussion at each summer and fall workshop. Two to four members would present various sides of a topic chosen by members. Then discussion would be opened up to the group. We do this informally, but it would be a great opportunity to hear and learn from our members in a more intentional way. (**Alf Bawtree** and **Don Blumenhauer** have to volunteer © to show how it is done. Let's give them a good topic – see member feedback!)

Keep a strong technical & scientific component in our summer and fall meetings and ensure a liaison between the Board and Chapters regarding meetings and content. This ensures supportive continuity between the two and works toward a cohesive entity. Vice President **Dana Peterson** will liaise with the Washington and B.C. Chapters to prepare for some fantastic 2008 meetings.

Strengthen and encourage chapter activities – not just a business meeting but smaller less formal activities that can be coordinated via email or the phone. Strong Chapters with opportunities for discussion and meeting "on the range" will help keep new members and invigorate the Section as a whole. For example, an email invited range managers to meet

at a grazing lessee's allotment and discuss various approaches to resolving a particular problem on his land. Everyone, including the lessee, benefited from the exchange. This exchange of ideas makes us better professionals and allows new members to gain valuable on-the-ground training in an informal setting. This is also a way to reach out to potential members. We can all challenge ourselves to take the initiative on this.

Mentoring new members is another strategy for member retention. As a start it may be as simple as having "Mentor" on our name tags at the meetings so new members can feel free to approach – not that we aren't all approachable! Perhaps a volunteer "mentor coordinator" will step forward?

Obtaining feedback from members regarding topics for our summer and fall meetings, as well as other ideas and suggestions is very important. We want to ensure we are meeting the needs of our members for rangeland management and professional development. Please send your ideas to board members or editors **Lynne** or **Teal**, who will compile and print them in the newsletter.

For me, **PNW is a family**. We agree and sometimes agree to disagree, but above all we are passionate about the land and the opportunity to meet with others who share that passion. That is the beauty and strength of this organization, as well as our Section's depth of expertise on diverse rangeland landscapes. My goal is to work with the board and members to ensure we build on these strengths and communicate this to our new members; to provide all members, a strong reason to keep making the journey to the meetings and associated rangelands across the Pacific Northwest. In essence to be seen as *the* essential organization to be a member of, in order to be at the leading edge of management and stewardship of rangelands.

Karen

We are the change we wish to see in the world.

Mahatma Gandhi

Rangelands

SRM Advisory Council wants YOU!

At the Louisville SRM meeting, the Advisory Council (AC) discussed proposed changes to your magazine, *Rangelands*. You were represented at the AC by **Dana Peterson** and **Joe Wagner**. After listening to recommendations by a *Rangelands* Task Force, the AC requested the opportunity for YOU to express your ideas. Please peruse this background information from the Task Force, then by March 7, respond to the survey.

Advisory Council Discussion

- *Rangelands* is both a member service and a member retention tool. It is not paying its own way.
- *Rangelands* should be oriented toward practitioners as technical specialists or land managers who rely on current, scientifically-based technical information to make and implement decisions.
- Increase the number of special theme issues.
- The *Rangelands* Steering Committee would help define the subject matter for special issues and identify potential authors.
- The Editorial Board and Steering Committee would assist the editor to solicit/provide peer review.
- There is support for feature editorials (“Reading the Land” & “Essays of a Peripheral Mind”) and requests for topical review and interpretation of policy matters, including emphasis on federal policy.
- Members should receive *Rangelands*, but be limited to either hard copy or electronic copy. This would ultimately force the membership to move toward online access.
- A trial blog should be implemented in the next 2 years, with the author accepting responsibility to manage the blog.
- Reduce the number of issues from 6 to 4 per year, limit the pages to 60 per issue and remove color from inside pages. This would yield substantial cost-savings for printing and mailing and would immediately put *Rangelands* on a reasonable financial footing. Limit most articles to <3000 words, with one or two articles of >3000 words.
- So that *Rangelands* has a future, it must be financially solvent and maintain member benefits.

By March 7, please send your survey answers, by email or hard copy, to **one** of the following:

1. **Karen Raven:** Box 368, Seba Beach, AB T0E 2B0 or karenraven@hotmail.com
2. **Dana Peterson:** BLM, 915 Walla Walla Ave., Wenatchee, WA 98801 or dana_peterson@or.blm.gov
3. **Les Boothe:** 1006 Western Place, Lakeview, OR 97630 or lboothe@or.blm.gov

Mark your calendars!!

PNW Summer Field Workshop

June 11, 12 (13)

Okanogan, WA

Rangelands Survey Questions

1. Do you value the *Rangelands* publication?
2. Are you willing to have your dues raised \$10 to cover the costs?
3. How many issues a year would be acceptable? ___4___6
4. Would you like any issues electronically or on a CD?
5. Would a black & white publication be acceptable?
6. Should the authors be charged for submission?
7. Please check all that apply as you see the purposes of *Rangelands*:
 - a. ___ Member service
 - b. ___ Outreach tool from the Society
 - c. ___ New member recruitment
 - d. ___ Communication from parent society

Reply by March 7

Highlights

PNW Annual Fall Meeting Corvallis, OR

Rain did not diminish the enthusiasm & curiosity of SRMers gathered at Oregon State University to recognize members, to hear about current research, to get to the field, and to bid at the Silent Auction. Thanks to **John Buckhouse** and the OSU folks for a wonderful adventure.

Karen Raven received the President's Gavel from **Joe Wagner** and the Board had a spirited meeting on topics from cheatgrass, to historian, to High School Youth Forum.

Thanks to "retiring" officers: Bob Drinkwater, Prince George, BC, for the energy you have given to PNW as president & past-president. We will still count on your careful thought and ability to clarify discussion! **Joe Wagner**, Lakeview, OR, for leading us as PNW president, and doing so with humor and tid-bits of wisdom! **Les Boothe**, Lakeview, OR, and **Andy McDonald**, Grasmere, BC, for representing us on the PNW Board.

Welcome to incoming officers: 2nd Vice-President, **Les Boothe**, and Directors **Mike Dedels**, Kamloops, BC and **Michael Fisher**, Redmond, OR. Comparing "campaign speeches" with the goals which the Board has set for themselves (and all of us) they are living up to their promises!

Mike Borman introduced us to "cutting edge" research of the OSU range faculty, both on & off campus and **Bill Krueger** introduced the Wildfire Forum for Great Basin Management.

We headed to the field – the Sheep Barn. As rain pelted overhead, we stood in awe, exclaiming frequently, as **Dr. Fredrick Stormshak, Distinguished Professor in Animal Sciences**, introduced us to research into the biology and physiology of "gay rams". The study began with observations of sheep flocks at an Idaho ARS research center. Some rams were not interested in the ewes. Why? What are the implications? Could this have any relationship to endangered species? One in our group, referring to Washington's Pygmy rabbits, noted that left to themselves, they did not reproduce, but when Idaho rabbits were introduced, they did reproduce.

Then, still buzzing with questions, we visited a winery, **Belle Vallee Cellars**, where the gracious owners "toured" us through the many aspects of wine making leading to the tasting room!

Save June 11-12 (13)

PNW Summer Field Workshop Okanogan, WA

Registration (which will be due May 20) & specific information will be in the April newsletter.

Car pool to sites; please bring multi-passenger vehicles; 2-wheel drives OK.

June 11: Afternoon Committee Meetings; Wine and Cheese Social

Guest Speaker from the Colville Confederated Tribes talking on the opening up of fish passage on Omak Creek for steelhead and Spring Chinook. Quite an interesting success story.

June 12: Double R Ranch Winter Grazing through 35 pastures. These fields were plowed and prepared for an irrigation project back in the homestead days, but no water came. The area has been extensively reseeded and water system developed for a winter grazing system.

Sinlahekin Wildlife Area showing benefits of livestock grazing on threatened species (silver bordered butterfly) and prescribed burning as a management tool.

Loomis State Forest to review 15 years of monitoring data on open south parks using the nested frequency methodology. WSU provided an independent review of the transect data, weather data, season of use and utilization. Recent challenges to management include a large wild fire.

June 13: If you've time on Friday morning we could look at the rough fescue sites in the Okanogan Highlands. If interested, contact Will Keller at will.keller@wa.usda.gov

PNW Section Update

Members Make the News

Readers of the *Capital Press* found **Roger Sheley** and **Lauren Svejcar**, USDA-ARS, Burns, OR, and **Tom Platt**, WSU Extension, Davenport, WA. Writing about medusahead, Roger & Lauren, said, “It sneaks across borders onto our land, quietly terrorizing the West. Over the past century, this invasive grass has come to infest over 49 million acres of rangeland in 17 western states.”

Speaking about SB311 which would make it illegal to transport horses for slaughter, Tom noted that an “unintended consequence” would be that a majority of horses previously destined for slaughter would live in pain instead.

Tim Deboodt, OSU Extension, Prineville, OR, received the Outstanding Faculty Service Award.

Pam Wiederholt, OSU Extension, Prineville, and “honorary SRM member” (!) who helps print the PNW newsletter, received the Outstanding Staff Service Award.

Doc & Connie Hatfield, Country Natural Beef, Brothers, OR, received the Governor’s Gold Award which celebrates greatness in Oregonians.

Reminders

First Response Team is ready for you! If you need ideas, counsel, or advice in technical or controversial topics, a team of PNW past-presidents and others is here for you. The immediate Past-president coordinates this activity. Call or send your question to **Joe Wagner**, 541-947-6175 or Joseph_Wagner@or.blm.gov The process works. Try it – you’ll like it!

PNW Bulletin Board – a fine tri-fold felt-covered board, ideal for many uses, is available for chapters. **Fred Hall** “houses” the board. Contact Fred at Fred_C_Hall@plantecolnw.com

Cindy McArthur transferred from John Day, OR to Washington DC as the SRM Forest Service Liaison. Contact Cindy at cmcarthur@fs.fed.us or cmcarthur@rangelands.org

Awards

PNW Trail Boss Award to ---- Dr. Linda Hardesty!

Linda is a dedicated range manager who has been extremely successful internationally, nationally, regionally and locally. Her practical, useful research has made dramatic differences in the management and economic practicalities of each site and nation where she has worked. She is a wonderful undergraduate teacher of whom students say, “she cared”!

Linda has earned many awards, but her two favorites (before the TBA) were “Rangeman of the Year” from Idaho SRM and a spontaneous “Awesome Advising” award given by WSU students!

Regardless of the award, the rangelands of the world are better because of her. Thank you, Linda!

PNW Exemplary Service Award to ---- Brian Haddow!

Brian is a sparkplug. He is also the unofficial photographer for our Section! Through Brian’s leadership, the ’06 SRM Parent Society’s Annual Meeting in Vancouver, BC, had a dynamic and successful trade show. It was a challenge. In addition to the usual “stuff” (space & personalities), this one required an understanding of the two-way border crossing. It happened without a hitch.

Brian’s resume is full of education, experience, volunteerism and good works. But, we know that he is so much more – honest, decent, fun, hard working -- Brian, we are proud to know ye’.

Note: Brian missed the meeting due to circumstances beyond his control (hint: his next article will be titled, “Don’t assume you know your sewer until you’ve been down & dirty!”). He appreciates the award “when there are so many that should receive this award every year. Thanks to **Lavona Liggins** for receiving it on my behalf and thanks to the Section for deeming me worthy.”

Lost Resources

Claude Dillon, retired Range Conservationist with Washington Soil Conservation Service died last fall. **Tom Brannon** wrote, “Claude was influential in the development of many range management students (and SRM members) in the PNW. He was one of my heroes when I was in school. Claude grew up on a home-stead ranch north of Quincy, WA. He had the background to know what challenges range users faced, and he was outstanding in his ability to explain in plain, homely terms, what stewardship means in range management. Claude knew what ecosystem management meant before most of us ever heard of the concept. In both his long career with the SCS and as a consultant in retirement, Claude touched many lives and influenced many acres of range land.”

PNW Section Officers & New Members

Section Officers Making your Section Grow

President	Karen Raven	780-644-8521
1 st Vice Pres.	Dana Peterson	509-662-6951
2 nd Vice Pres.	Les Boothe	541-947-6147
Past President	Joe Wagner	541-947-6175
Secretary	Brian Haddow	250-719-1414
Treasurer	Craig Obermiller	541-923-2777
Director	Lavona Liggins	250-554-5211
Director	Tip Hudson	509-962-7507
Director	Brian Haddow	250-719-1414
Director	Pete Schreder	541-947-6054
Director	Mike Dedels	250-371-6500
Director	Michael Fisher	541-383-7755
Membership	Les Boothe	541-947-6147
HSYF	Pete Schreder	541-947-6054
Awards	John Buckhouse	541-737-1629
Newsletter	Lynne Breese	541-447-6762
	jlbreese@crestviewcable.com	
	Teal Purrington	541-410-7728
	Debbie Bunch	541-462-3383

Welcome to PNW Section SRM

Gary Benes, Canyon City, OR
Bryan Boatman, Burns Lake, BC
David Brock, LaGrande, OR
Hossien El-Nashaar, Corvallis, OR
Justin Feeman, Corvallis, OR
Stephanie Hatch, Woodburn, OR
Ben Hileman, Joseph, OR
Drew Jerde, Corvallis, OR
Sarah Lamagna, Vancouver, BC
James Lefor, LaGrande, OR
Meaghan Luchau, Seattle, WA
Anna Maher, Corvallis, OR
Beth McClaran, Corvallis, OR
Candy Mollnau, Corvallis, OR
Jessie Parries, Eagle Creek, OR
Jesse Svejcar, LaGrande, OR

Chapter News

Washington Chapter wishes to thank out-going president **Sarah Troutman-Zahn**, Ephrata. From their minutes: “. . . agreed the WA Chapter should become more active and host more local events for its members. If there is an interesting topic or tour, give a shout. Every effort should be made to invite special interest groups, county commissioners and representatives to spread the word about SRM as well as educate others.”

Who Will Fill their Shoes? **Mike McInnis** sent word from **Eastern Oregon University** that “we have a very active group of range students and our enrollment is nearly 60 undergrads in Rangeland Ecology & Management!”

Central Oregon Chapter continues highway clean-up on a stretch of Hwy. 97. **Mike Lawrence** leads a 4-H Natural Resource Club and is on watch for ideas. Several members will lead field workshops for students from Portland’s Reynolds High School for 2 days in April.

PNW’s strength is in its Chapters —
contact yours today!

British Columbia

Bob Fowler, Burns Lake, 250-692-2275

Washington

Mel Asher, Ephrata 503-754-4624

Oregon State University

Sarah Noelle

Eastern Oregon University

Mike McInnis, La Grande, 541-962-3812

Central Oregon

John Swanson, Prineville, 541-447-1735

Southern Oregon

Les Boothe, Lakeview, 541-947-6141

Looking at Louisville

“A-ha!” Moments

Several PNW members at the 61st International Meeting of SRM wished to share a special moment. Enjoy them, and get to know your fellow PNW SRMers better!

Michael McInnis: Thanks for the opportunity to brag about students from EOU Chapter who were in Louisville: Dave Brock, Kristi Horn, Will Hudson, James Lefor, Sara Reed, Jesse Svejcar, Kerry Wilson and Marie Wilson. We were represented at URME, Undergrad. Technical Session, Student Conclave and the Employment Workshop. Two seniors won permanent jobs and will go to Colorado and Nevada.

Tamzen Stringham: 1. Hearing from non-OSU folks how well my students present and what interesting research they are doing. 2. Looking out at a packed audience for the State-and-Transition symposium at both 8:30 am and 4:30 pm – Wow! (*ed. Tamzen was responsible for this symposium*) 3. Crying with Ryan Leary when she learned of her BLM job offer in Carson City, NV. 4. Being humbled by the number of “range” folks who were sad to see me leave Oregon and excited to have me in Nevada.

Dana Peterson: Realizing how passionately SRM members care about the Society. Joe Wagner & I represented the PNW section at the Advisory Council. The Council “cussed & discussed” issues important to SRM for a day and a half. It was amazing how strongly people from all over North America felt about SRM and rangelands. The AC is made up of officers from the sections and acts as a conduit for the sections to the Board of Directors and provides advice to the Board on behalf of the sections.

John Williams: 1. There are always great times seeing all the folks you haven’t seen for a time. 2. If you missed the art glass factory, you missed out. It is quite something to see those folks make glass “whatevers” while keeping the glass at a couple of thousand degrees. 3. My first ride on a city bus. OK, I am deprived, but with the help of a couple of Texans, we rode the city bus to & from Churchill Downs. Most interesting to watch the people and the process.

Michael Fisher: 1. My “a-ha” was going to the OSU Social and not having Bill Krueger present. 2. During my walk through the Trade Show, I noticed that Kentucky folks had done a great job putting things together with what appeared to have been minimal stress.

Bob Gillaspay: 1. There were too many great sessions – I couldn’t catch them all! 2. At the airport, leaving Louisville, I realized how small it actually is – you can only go to Chicago from Louisville!

Sandra Wyman: While judging the HS Youth Forum presen-

Lauded in Louisville

By John Buckhouse

PNW was represented by **19 presentations**, most of which had at least 2 co-authors. **Mike Malmberg** did an elegant & articulate job as Chair of the Awards Committee. **Vicki Buckhouse** was named the 2008 Wild Woman of Range, following last year’s Wild Woman, **Stephanie Larson**. OSU graduate student **Upekala (Pek) Wijayaratne** won the outstanding graduate poster contest. **Christine Boulester**, OSU, was elected President of Student Conclave. **Stephanie Hatch, Ryan Leary, and two EOU seniors** were “on the spot hires”. **Michael Fisher & Tim Deboodt** were nothing short of superb in their poster presentation.

Cindy McArthur, received the **Outstanding Young Range Professional Award**. Having worked in New Mexico and Oregon, Cindy is now in Washington DC as the USFS Liaison to SRM. Cindy has first-hand experience fighting wildfires, treating noxious weeds, inventorying for cultural resources and facilitating resolutions in contentious situations. Our congratulations to you, Cindy!

... “A-ha!” Moments, continued

tations, I was so captivated by the fabulous presentation of one articulate young woman that I forgot to take notes on my judging sheet. Erica David, WY, gave a presentation on her research of snow fences. She started this project when she was 11, wrote a grant, and worked with a company that makes snow fences. She incorporated her design changes and has a replicated study that she will finish in a year. My hope is that she will go into rangeland management so that we can benefit from her ambition, drive, and intellect.

Joe Wagner: On the agenda, I saw a talk on fire ecology in Krueger Nat’l Park, South Africa and decided to update my knowledge from my 2003 trip to Africa. What a SURPRISE to see that Winston Trollope & his wife were there and that Winston presented the talk. I had stayed with these folks on the SE Cape for a week. Winston may not be the “Father of Prescribed Fire” in So. Africa, but he has 35+ years of burning under his belt. It was great to visit and catch up on what each of us had been doing. *They expressed a thank-you for including them in the PNW/OSU Social – they enjoyed meeting folks.*

John Buckhouse: Louisville, with many museums, was a charming compliment to the professional agenda. Now, **I look forward to Albuquerque!**



Calendar of Events

April 7-8, 2008

Tri-State Rangeland Management Short Course, Boise, ID

From Pixels to Production. Information: Kathy Mallory at kmallory@uidaho.edu

June 11-12 (13), 2008

PNW Section Annual Meeting & Workshop, Okanogan, WA

June 29-July 5, 2008

Joint International Grassland & Rangeland Congress, Hohhot, China

You know some folks who are going!

Fall 2008

PNW Section Annual Meeting & Workshop, British Columbia

Feb. 8-13, 2009

62nd Annual Meeting of the Society for Range Management, Albuquerque, NM

Merging Trails: Culture, Science, and Innovation

Summer 2009

PNW Section Field Workshop, Oregon

Fall 2009

PNW Section Annual Meeting & Workshop, Washington

Pacific Northwest Section, Society for Range Management — Caring for basic range resources: soil, plants and water

Want to alert members to an upcoming event? Comment on an article? Give us your new address? Brag about another member's contribution to range management? Tell us a story? Contact the Newsletter Editors! jlbreese@crestviewcable.com or Teal_Purrington@or.blm.gov