

### **Vice-chair election results:**

47 section members voted during the election for vice-chair of the Rangeland Ecology Section, and Deb Peters received the majority of votes. Congratulations Deb!

### **Section-sponsored events at joint ESA-INTECOL meeting:**

- **Business meeting/mixer** will be held at 6:30 – 8 p.m. on Wednesday, August 10, Meeting Room 517 A – Level 5 Palais des congrès de Montréal. Finger foods and a cash bar will be available. We will be meeting jointly with the Agroecology, Applied Ecology and Long-term Studies sections, prior to a short business meeting at the end of the mixer.
- **Workshop/discussion** will immediately follow the mixer. The topic will be *Delivering on the Promise of Ecological Science to Improve Land Management: Ecological Site Descriptions, An Informal Discussion*. This will be led by Linda Wallace and Sam Fuhlendorf, giving participants a chance to have longer interactions with many of the speakers in the special session that took place earlier in the day (see next item).
- **Special Session**, Wednesday, August 10, 1:30 PM - 5 PM, Meeting Rooms 210a-b-e-f, Level 2, Palais des congrès de Montréal. *Delivering on the promise of ecological science to improve land management: Ecological site descriptions*. **Organizers:** Joel Brown and Jeff Herrick. Jointly sponsored by the Rangeland Ecology Section of ESA and the Society for Range Management. Ecological sites are groupings of soil and landform units that have similar potential to support plant communities and respond similarly to disturbances. For each site, a unique Ecological Site Description (ESD) is developed that includes: (1) a description of ecological processes affecting critical aspects of soil/vegetation relationships; (2) a synthesis of research results and management knowledge to predict site responses; and (3) a discussion of ecosystem services associated with potential stable states. This special session will bring together academic and agency research scientists and technical leaders from the major federal action agencies charged with the management of private and public lands. The primary objective is to provide ESA members with an opportunity to see how ESDs are currently being used to identify critical research questions and to organize, communicate, and apply research results, including vegetation classification systems. A second objective is to identify challenges in resolving key questions of site-scale behavior and in improving cross-scale linkages to extend information to landscapes and regions.
- **Symposium 19: Spatial nonlinearities and cross scale interactions: Cascading effects in the Earth system** Thursday, August 11, 1:30 PM - 5 PM, Meeting Room 517a, Level 5, Palais des congrès de Montréal **Organizers:** Debra Peters([debpeter@nmsu.edu](mailto:debpeter@nmsu.edu)), Brandon Bestelmeyer

See you in Montreal.