



RANGELAND NEWS

Society for Range
Management
Nevada Section

WINTER 2000

TO FOSTER ADVANCEMENT IN THE SCIENCE AND ART OF RANGELAND MANAGEMENT

A PRESIDENT PONDERES

NEVADA SECTION SRM

.....
DR. JAMES A. YOUNG
1999 Rangeman
of the Year
.....

BRAD SCHULTZ
President
(775) 746-3480 – w
brads@dri.edu

PETE CHRISTENSEN
President Elect
(775) 623-1578-w
(775) 623-2876-h
pete_christensen@nv.lm.gov

GERALD MILLER
Past President
(775) 289-4065-w
(775) 289-8771-h
gerald.miller@nv.usda.gov

CHUCK SAULSBERRY
Executive V-P
(775) 883-0345
chuckjo@jps.net

FLOYD RATHBUN
Secretary
(775) 423-4267
rathbunf@fallon.navy.mil

DESI ZAMUDIO
Treasurer
(775) 331-6450
dzamudio/r4_h-t@fs.fed.us

NANCY C. BALLARD
Newsletter Editor
(530) 279-2459
ballard@hdo.net



The Nevada Section of the Society for Range Management can add value to the management of rangelands via both internal and external mechanisms. The obvious and traditional mechanism is through the continuing education of our

Section's membership with biannual meetings and field tours. Following these meetings and tours, our Section's individual members return to their homes and offices. They may or may not be involved in writing management plans, management guidelines, and policy papers that affect how society uses Nevada's rangelands. While preparing these documents, the knowledge and information expoused by resource professionals (both SRM and non SRM members) is often tempered (for obvious reasons) by their employers internal politics and policies. Like it or not, this is a by-product of the political process by which we live.

The question becomes, how do we, as a professional resource management organization, add value to the final

products produced by all resource management professionals. At the Section level, Nevada SRM has seldom provided regular input into how rangelands are managed. I believe we have the ability (and responsibility) to put forward valuable, and controversial, ideas and concepts, that our individual members cannot always state.

Each year, various government organizations (local through Federal) throughout Nevada prepare management plans, plan amendments, management guidelines, NEPA documents, and policy and decision papers that influence the management of natural resources on rangelands. These planning efforts typically involve public scoping meetings, and a public review and comment period. The knowledge and experience of our membership cuts across most of the ecological systems in Nevada, most (if not all) levels of government, and various components of the private sector. The collective membership of

the Nevada Section has a wealth of knowledge to contribute throughout both the management planning and the management implementation processes. As a professional organization, NV SRM has a responsibility to add value to as many planning and management efforts as possible, and to ensure the best possible management of all land uses on rangelands in our Section. Our input can and should occur during the initial scoping process and during the public review period.

Why should the Nevada Section become more pro-active in the management of rangelands? There are several reasons. First, I believe Nevada SRM has a depth of practical experience on rangelands, and knowledge about rangeland issues, that equals or exceeds that of any individual government (i.e., field, district, county, state, etc) or non-government organization, in our Section. Incorporating our collective experience and knowledge into as many planning and management efforts as possible can only enhance the final products delivered by the land management agencies. Second, the regular participation of the Nevada Section in the planning and management efforts on our Section's rangelands, changes Nevada SRM from an organization that discusses and addresses one or two issues a year, during our biannual meetings, to an organization that actively engages management decisions throughout the year. By tackling rangeland issues year-long and Section wide, Nevada SRM becomes actively engaged in how management is implemented. In essence, Nevada SRM changes its focus from providing benefits (knowledge) to the relatively few Section members that can attend our biannual meetings to an organization that applies its cumulative knowledge directly to all management issues, throughout the year. The result, hopefully, is better management on rangelands in our Section.

The advantages from becoming a pro-active management organization occur at numerous levels, including: our individual members; our organization; the rangeland resource; and all

members of society, the ultimate end user of rangeland resources. Individual SRM members that volunteer to attend public scoping meetings, field tours, and/or to review planning and implementation documents should benefit by broadening their knowledge about issues on which they are not working, but may encounter at some future date. Each new bit of information and knowledge our members obtain helps them deal more effectively with both the current issues they encounter, and the unforeseen problems and issues of tomorrow. Individual SRM members should also benefit by establishing professional contacts and relationships with individuals and organizations they do not regularly encounter. New contacts often provide substantial and unexpected benefits. Finally, Section members who cannot participate in our winter and summer meetings (regardless of reason) can become active, regular, participants in Section's ultimate mission, the improved management of rangelands. I believe that many Section members want to become more involved in Section activities, particularly if those activities address a broad suite of resource management issues. Participating in the review of planning and management efforts, as a representative of the Nevada Section, is a positive way for each member to expand their contribution, while receiving a variety of individual benefits.

At the Section level, Nevada SRM would move from becoming a passive, and often reactive, participant in management issues, to one fully engaged in solving rangeland management issues and problems. By becoming actively engaged, the Section would develop a better understanding of the concerns and values of other organizations and individuals. All engaged entities would realize that they have few major differences and many common concerns. Also, increased participation should help identify foundations on which to build partnerships, linkages, and coalitions. The establishment of new partnerships, linkages, and coalitions should benefit SRM's rapidly evolving continuing education

program. Nevada SRM members will hear of many more workshops, meetings, and field tours that will provide useful information for our members.

The obvious advantage to the resource is that additional opinions, knowledge, and wisdom are incorporated into the planning effort. The more information that planners and managers have, the less likely it is that important concepts or critical knowledge will be overlooked. To quote Dennis Phillippi and Rex Cleary in their guidelines about Coordinated Resource Management, "We sincerely believe that none of us knows as much about something as all of us.". If our Section's rangelands are managed better, society as a whole will receive a higher quality product and hopefully at lower cost. Less energy and money would be wasted on needless, adversarial friction.

The obvious question becomes, what types of planning and management efforts do I envision the Nevada Section becoming involved in, and how would we participate? One example was when former president Desi Zamudio asked me to participate in a field tour of the Stillwater Wildlife Refuge, as part of their scoping process for developing a Comprehensive Conservation Plan. The Nevada Section provided the refuge staff with four pages of comments about livestock grazing, weeds, exotic species, and habitat management. Another example is our Section's current participation in the Nevada Wildlife Federation's Northwest Nevada Sage Grouse working group. Several members have represented SRM at meetings in both Reno and Carson City. The Section has provided input into the Working Group's informational pamphlet about sage grouse in Nevada. Finally, many agencies develop or amend planning documents that are subject to public review. Examples of two plans for which SRM could have participated are the Nevada State Plan for the Preservation and Protection of Wild Horses, and the Draft Nevada State Weed Plan. Although the former plan included participation from individual Section members, our Section could have provided additional review and comment, to incorporate

more of our cumulative knowledge. Throughout Nevada, there undoubtedly are many other working groups, planning efforts, and implementation projects on which our Section members could participate, as a representative of SRM.

Our Section's goal is twofold: 1) to enhance the management of resources on rangelands; and 2) to become known as an organization that provides technically sound, objective input. Our Section's role is to introduce as much science and professional resource knowledge into the planning and management process, as possible. Participants that represent Nevada SRM would be expected to inform other project participants when appropriate science and knowledge are not being used, and when science and knowledge are being incorrectly applied. Nevada SRM needs to advocate the sound management and use of resources rangelands, without being a direct advocate for or against any specific land use. Land uses must be considered on a case by case, site specific basis.

For the Nevada Section to become a more active participant in rangeland planning and management we all must become more communicative. Neither the President or any board member knows of all of the planning and management efforts underway in our Section. Please inform me of such efforts so I can find a Section member willing to participate, and provide comments and recommendations, on behalf of the Nevada Section. For those Section members who would like to participate, but have reservations about using their name, their comments and recommendations would be submitted from the Nevada Section, over the signature of the President, provided he agrees with them. Finally, those who wish to become more involved need to let me know, so I can direct them towards the many efforts I believe the Section should be involved in. Only then can we work collectively toward making the Nevada Section a regular, active participant in the management of rangelands in our Section.

Brad

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS

The Nevada Section is holding elections for President Elect and Zone Council Representatives from Zone 2 (Northcentral), Zone 4 (Reno), and Zone 6 (East-central) regions this November/December. (See the map on the back page.) Statements of the nominees follow. Try as he might, Gerry Miller was unable to get anyone else to agree to run.

Richard Adams for Zone 2 Council Person

B.S. in Range-Forest Management, Colorado State University, 1979

Range Conservationist with BLM in Montana from 1980 to 1992; Supervisory Range Conservationist with BLM in Winnemucca from 1992 to 1996; Rangeland Management Specialist in Winnemucca from 1996 to Present

Currently Acting Zone Representative.

Two papers presented at Annual Winter Meetings; one article published in Rangelands

Statement: I have been an SRM member since 1975. I saw the SRM as an organization that helps an individual grow as a range professional through the two publications and meetings. I, like a lot of people, am a member of SRM that has not participated as an officer or in other capacities. I see this as an opportunity to start returning something back to the organization that has faithfully been supporting me for 30 years.

Barry Perryman for Zone 4 Council Person

Assistant Professor, Rangeland Restoration Ecologist, University of Nevada Reno

Member of SRM since 1990

Program Coach for the 2003 SRM meeting in Casper Wyoming.

Has published numerous papers

Would like to build and incorporate UNR's Range Program into SRM in a much more active role than it has been in recent years.

Robert E. Wilson for Zone 6 Council Person

B.S. Agriculture Resource Economics, UNR

M.S. Plant Science, UNR

Certified Professional Agronomist, American Society of Agronomy

Montana State University, Cooperative Extension at Libby Mt as an instructor from 1975 to 1988 and as an associate professor from 1988 to 1990

Integrated Pest Management Specialist, Lincoln County, Libby MT 1991 to 1992

Research Agronomist for Dupont/Intermountain Canola Co. from 1993 to 1994

Extension Educator with U. of Nevada at Ely from 1995 to Present

Numerous publications including a series on Nevada's War on Weeds and as co-author of "Invasive Weeds of Nevada, Identification Handbook"

Kent McAdoo for President

Kent has a BS in Wildlife Management from the University of Idaho and a MS in Renewable Natural resources from the University of Nevada-Reno. All of Kent's professional career has been spent in northern and central Nevada. His experience includes 9 years as a research associate with UNR, 7 years as an ecologist with the mining industry, and 6 years as a senior ecologist/team leader with an environmental consulting firm. During this time, he also taught several natural resource courses at Great Basin College in Elko. In 1998, he began working for Nevada Cooperative Extension as a rangeland resources specialist. He is a past president of the Nevada Chapter of the Wildlife Society and currently serves as zone councilman for the Nevada Section of the SRM. He is also currently serving on SRM's national Wildlife Habitat Committee.

The ballot is inside the back page. Please complete it and mail it to Gerry Miller, 834 Avenue "H", Ely, NV 89301

It must be received by 5 PM, January 19, 2001.

NEVADA SECTION HONORS MRS. YERDA ROBERTSON

(Previously printed in The Trail Boss News, Nov.

2000)

By Brad Schultz

The late Dr. Joe Robertson was an internationally known educator and researcher who spent over 50 years of his career in Nevada. Dr. Robertson was also a founding member of the Society for Range Management, a founder of the Nevada Section, and was awarded the Society's prestigious Renner Award in 1977. His widow, the vibrant Mrs. Yerda Robertson, contributed \$50,000 to the Society for Range Management earlier this year, on behalf of Dr. Robertson. The Nevada Section subsequently expressed its thanks and appreciation to Mrs. Robertson for the five-plus decades that both she and Dr. Joe provided support to the SRM, with a luncheon on August 19.

Mrs. Robertson was accompanied by Dr. Rob Robertson, one of their four children. Nevada Section members attending were Charlie Fisher, Jim Linebaugh, John McLain, Chuck Saulisbury, Brad Schultz, and Desi Zamudio. Several of the SRM members attending had known Dr. Joe and Mrs. Robertson for between 25 and 50 years, and were quite appreciative of Mrs. Robertson's willingness to update them on the progressions of her children, many grandchildren, and numerous great grand children. Mrs. Robertson also recounted several stories about her and Dr. Joe's experiences while he worked for the Forest Service in Paradise Valley, Nevada, in the early 1940's; their move Reno and Dr. Joe's establishment of a Range Management Program at the University of Nevada in the latter 1940's and early 1950's; their families experiences in Africa in the early 1960's, when Dr. Joe brought some of his vast knowledge to that continent; and the family's subsequent travels home through the Middle East, northwest Asia, the Indian subcontinent, Australia, and several Pacific Islands.

Of course, Mrs. Robertson wanted each of the SRM members to provide her an update about their families and careers. All obliged, and perhaps the

most striking conclusion drawn from their stories and experiences, was the comment by one attendee, that he'd known some of these folks for three or four decades and learned as much about their past during this two-hour luncheon, as he had throughout their long friendships. Mrs. Robertson's subtle shift of the focus of the luncheon from an honor for herself, to having the other attendees discuss their lives, and their families experiences, is another example of the life-long values she and Dr. Joe held. Whether as a friend, educator, or researcher, Yerda and Joe Robertson focused on others, before themselves.

The luncheon was concluded by John McLain, when he presented Mrs. Robertson a plaque from the Society for Range Management, to thank both her and Dr. Joe for their life-long commitments and support to the SRM. The luncheon and plaque honoring Mrs. Robertson's donation, however, cannot express the tremendous feelings of respect and appreciation that all current and former Nevada Section members who interacted with Mrs. Robertson and her late husband have for their long-standing personal and professional contributions.

MEMBERSHIP

New members since the last newsletter: Barry Perryman, Reno; Mark Eiswerth, Reno; Raymond Lee, Tonopah; Angela L. Carito, Wellington; Joel Twitchell, Ely; David G. Thawley, Reno; William E. Chounet, Yerington; Mark T. Coca, Elko; Sandra J. Higa, Cedarville; Paula Morin, Fallon, Jeffrey White, Winnemucca; Michael Croxen, Tonopah; Elsie Dupree; Carson City; Eureka County Public Lands Advisory Committee, Eureka; and Dean Baker, Baker, has transferred his membership to Dave Baker, Baker.

We have lost member Ron Kay, Buhl, ID. Two more have dues that have expired. They are: Karl Krauter, Reno, and William Wolf, Ely.

Section membership now stands at 150. There 137 in last newsletter.

CHARTER MEMBER'S STORY

Last issue we shared part of a letter from Dr. John Morris Fenley, now of Modesto, CA, to Chuck Saulisberry. John was one of those who signed the petition forming the Nevada Section in September 1950. Chuck Saulisberry was another. John is currently a member of the Calif. Section, is 85 years old, and had quite a long and productive career with the Forest Service in Paradise Valley, with the Nev. Extension Service in Tonopah and Las Vegas, and finally with many years foreign service in Africa.

The letter's substantial, thought provoking content continues in this issue. . .

Dear Chuck:

(continued from Summer 2000) My activities in range management in Nevada started in 1948 when I transferred from Ephraim, Utah to Paradise Valley. The transfer itself began in January, when I requested leave-without-pay status. When my wife and I left Ephraim, we were followed by a Forest Service truck carrying our household belongings. We stopped at the Lamance Creek Guard Station long enough to store most of our household effects in our future residence there. We stayed in Winnemucca a day or two to meet an M.D. who put Eileen on a regimen, mostly dietary, for her pregnancy. We then continued to the Bay Region for me to attend UC Berkeley for its 1948 spring semester, to complete my Master's degree in Range Management and Forestry, which had been interrupted by my service in the US Army during World War II.

Toward the end of May 1948, after I had moved the tassel on my mortar board from one side to the other, we returned to Lamance to become bona fide residents of the Silver State. In August, Janice Marguerite came into the world. She was the first of our three children, all born in Nevada – two in Winnemucca, one in Las Vegas.

In 1950 the Nevada Section of the Range Society

was started. I believe I was the first Section Secretary/Treasurer, to automatically move to vice president in 1951. When, later that year, I transferred to extension work under the University of Nevada, I became agricultural extension agent for Clark County and still was veep of the Section. In 1952, I automatically became Section president. I remember the very successful annual meeting of that year which I had organized by mail, held in Caliente, with the County Agent, Ferren Bunker of Lincoln County, making local arrangements for our meeting place and a couple of tours.

My active range management and Section participation continued after that only for a few more years. I think it was 1953 that I represented the Nevada Section at the Society's annual meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico. In 1954, still as the Nevada Section representative, probably as past president, I attended the annual meeting in San Jose, California. That just about brought my days of active range management to an end, although I have always been a member of the Society for Range Management, even to this day.

In 1955, while an extension agent in Clark County. . . *To Be Continued*

AN OBSERVATION ON SRM'S IMAGE

Nancy Ballard

Some of you may have seen Jeff DeLong's article in the Reno Gazette Journal on November 11, 2000, "Special Report: The Burning Season – Cheatgrass Fuels Flames that Destroy". Comments on the science in the article aside, Mr. DeLong described the Society for Range Management as "a pro-ranching advocacy group".

Maybe one of our target audiences for education about SRM should be our local media. If we make a point of approaching them and providing them with information on potential stories, if we build relationships with them, their treatment of SRM at least will be based on some personal knowledge and, at most, may be more sympathetic to our actual goals and values.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GRAZING LANDS

The first National Conference on Grazing Lands will be held December 5-8 in Las Vegas, Nevada. The conference is being hosted by the National Association of Conservation District's Grazing and Public Lands Committee (NACD) and the Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI), and a number of other sponsoring organizations. The conference is intended to heighten awareness of the economic and environmental effects of proper grazing land management.

The conference is designed to provide a forum for discussions and exchanges of information, technology transfer, identification of research and program needs, marketing of products, services, and other benefits of grazing. It will endeavor to increase public awareness of the economic benefits and environmental opportunities of grazing lands and create a setting for the exploration of means to address common goals and needs. Oral and poster papers in the following categories will be presented:

- The building of partnerships between agricultural, grazing and urban communities,
- Successful "cutting edge" management technologies for grazing practices,
- Economic and public policy implications of grazing, and
- The optimizing of grazing land health for environmental and social benefits.

For registration and hotel information, log on to the GLCI Web site at <http://www.glci.org/> and click on National Conference Information.

JOURNEY TO CHANGE WORKSHOP

The Society for Range Management started on its Journey to Change May 1999 in Denver when the Board began a dialogue about SRM's current situation and its future. The process continued in August 1999 when twenty-five members of SRM met in Fort Collins for a day and a half to participate in conversations about SRM values, how the

organization has been perceived, and in what direction(s) the Society should proceed to ensure value and support to its membership. Core values of SRM came out of those conversations along with commitments to extend a process of dialogue throughout the SRM beginning at the Annual Meeting in Boise where several sessions were held for the Advisory Council, Committees and general membership.

The Boise session resulted in great interest in the process of change and dialogue. The Leadership Development Committee would like to continue that momentum and offer additional sessions at the SRM Annual Meeting in Hawaii.

The objective of these sessions is to encourage open dialogue and active listening among the membership in regard to clearly defining and promoting SRM core values. The sessions also hope to stimulate membership towards more active participation within the various committees at both the national and section levels.

Two sessions are being planned for Tuesday, February 20th – one session in the morning from 8 a.m. until noon and one session in the afternoon from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Each session will be limited to 50 people. The sessions will be held at the Aston Keauhou hotel in the Kuakini Halau & Garden.

Since each session is limited to 50 people, pre-registration is required. If you would like to attend, please send your request via e-mail to attend to Mark Pater at: pater@theriver.com or mail it to 699 West Aviation Drive, Benson, AZ 85602. If one session is preferred over another (morning vs. afternoon) please state so on your request to attend. Be aware that attendance is on a "first come – first served" basis. Once your registration request is received, Mark will reply with a confirmation form. Please bring this form with you to the workshop.

The Leadership Development Committee encourages you to be a part of this important session – please plan now to attend.

**NEVADA SECTION
SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT
WINTER MEETING
“SAGEBRUSH ECOSYSTEM CHALLENGES”
*January 19, 2001***

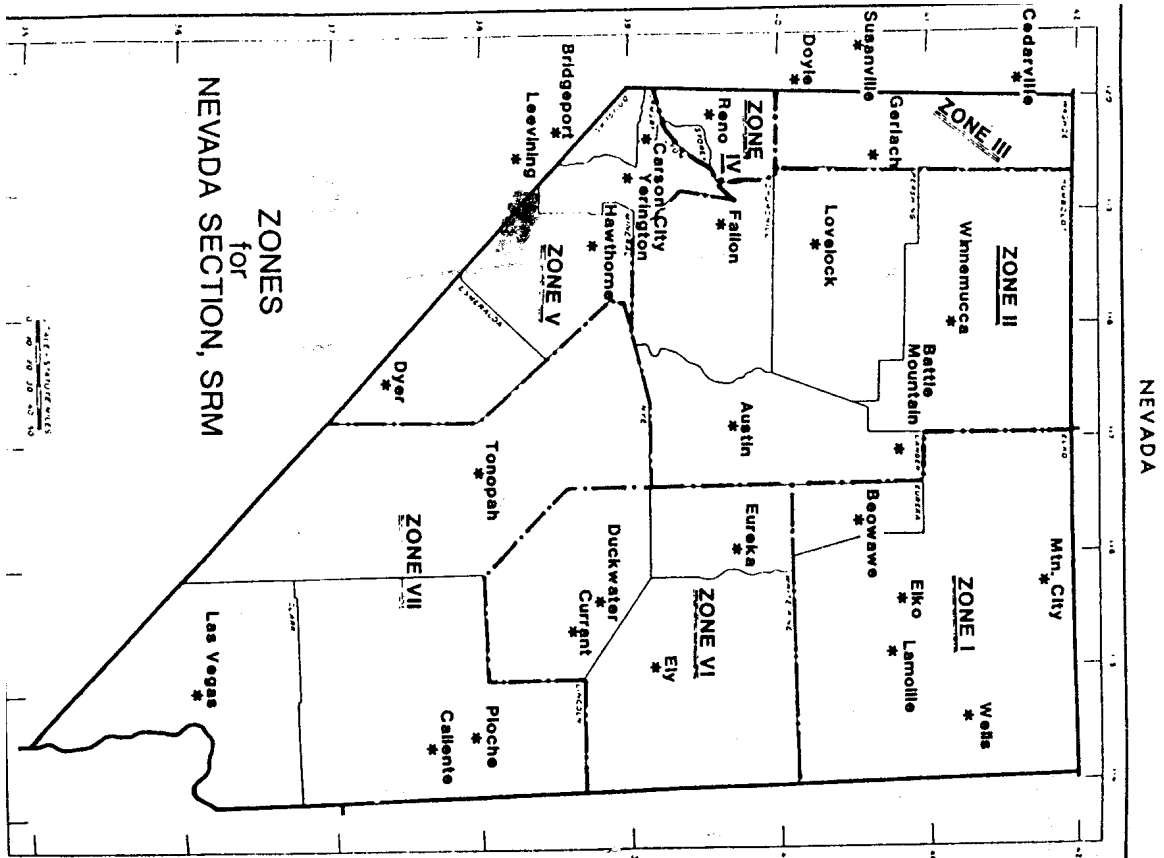
**Ely Convention Center
Ely, Nevada**

Morning Session

- 8:00 – 8:15 Coffee and Registration
- 8:15 – 8:30 Welcome – Brad Schultz, President, Nevada Section SRM
- 8:30 – 9:15 Sagebrush Ecosystem Ecology and Restoration – Dr. Steve Monson, U.S. Forest Service
- 9:15 – 10:00 New Model of Ecological Succession – Dr. Sherm Swanson, University of Nevada - Reno
- 10:00 – 10:15 Break
- 10:15 – 11:00 Episodic Establishment of Sagebrush – Dr. Barry Perryman, University of Nevada - Reno
- 11:00 – 11:45 After Cheatgrass, What? – Bob Wilson, Nevada Cooperative Extension
- 11:45 – 1:00 Lunch (on your own)

Afternoon Session

- 1:00 – 1:45 Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project – Susan Howle, BLM
- 1:45 – 2:30 Statewide Sage Grouse Conservation Plan – San Stiver
- 2:30 – 2:45 Break
- 2:45 – 3:30 Wildlife Diversity in Sagebrush Habitats – Kent McAdoo, Nevada Cooperative Extension
- 3:30 – 4:15 Elko County Sage Grouse Conservation Plan – Dr. Gary Back, Northeastern Nevada Stewardship Group
- 4:15 – 5:00 Journey to Change – Kendall Johnson, Past President, SRM
- 5:00 Adjourn



CHUCK SAULSBERRY
 NEVADA SECTION, SRM
 909 NORRIE DRIVE
 CARSON CITY, NV 89703-2015