



## Wyoming Section Society for Range Management



*Summer Issue 2018*

### Message from the President

Hello Range Nerds!

I hope that summer is treating you well and you are getting plenty of field time! An update to the August 2017 *Rangelands* (Carter et al.) article, we have finalized our letter to the editor, this should be coming out in the *Rangelands* publication later this year. Along with the letter that we submitted, there were several other rebuttals that have been submitted from other rangeland professionals that will be included in the upcoming publication as well. Be looking out for that.

Again, I would like to remind/invite you to check out the new website at [www.wyomingrangelands.org](http://www.wyomingrangelands.org). It's your one stop shop for all things WY SRM. Content is being added all the time. If there is anything that you would to add to the website, let Bree Lind know.

We are looking to have our next Council call in late August early September. Once I have a firm date, I will send out a notice. As always, everyone is welcome and if there is anything you want included on the agenda please let me know.

Clay Wood is actively putting together this year's Section Meeting. This year the meeting will be held in Sheridan, and the tentative dates are October 9-11<sup>th</sup> mark your calendars! Along with that, your submissions for awards at the section meeting will go through Mae Smith. I know there are many deserving folks out there, so please get your submissions in!

And, as always, if there is anything that your council can do for you please don't hesitate to contact us!

Happy Clipping,

Bryan

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# SAVE THE DATE



## Wyoming SRM Annual Meeting

October 9-11th, 2018

Sheridan, Wyoming

More details will be coming soon, for the latest details please visit: [https://](https://www.wyomingrangelands.org/annual-meeting)

[www.wyomingrangelands.org/annual-meeting](https://www.wyomingrangelands.org/annual-meeting)

## RANCHING FOR PROFIT

WITH DAVE PRATT



**12 SEPT** | 9:00 - 3:30

Fire Training Center  
701 Larch Street,  
Gillette, WY 82716

Topics are applicable to all livestock classes:

- **3 Secrets for Increasing Profit**
  - Economics vs. Finance
  - Show Me The Money
- **Cell Grazing**
  - 5 cell grazing principles that improve soil health, increase carrying capacity, and reduce costs

And more

Register by August 31<sup>st</sup>, \$25/person

Lunch provided

Contact Lauren Connell (307) 696-4453

[Lauren.Connell@wy.usda.gov](mailto:Lauren.Connell@wy.usda.gov)

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-and-

**THE CAMPBELL  
COUNTY CATTLEWOMEN**

**SUBJECT: Invitation to 8/21/2018 Field Day – Collaborative Rangeland Research in the Thunder Basin of Wyoming**

**Greetings,**

**We are writing you today to formally invite you to a Field Day on August 21, 2018 in the Thunder Basin of Wyoming. This field day will include a bus tour traveling from Douglas, Wyoming north into the Thunder Basin grasslands and will feature the results from a broad spectrum of rangeland ecology and management research projects. These projects highlight collaborative research efforts among our local stakeholders, state university and extension, and federal research partners. Specific partners include:**

- Thunder Basin Grasslands Prairie Ecosystem Association and private ranchers
- University of Wyoming – College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Agricultural Experiment Station, and Extension
- USDA Agricultural Research Service – Rangeland Resources and Systems Research Unit (Cheyenne, WY and Fort Collins, CO)
- USDA Forest Service – Douglas, WY Ranger District and Rocky Mountain Research Station, Forest & Grassland Research Laboratory (Rapid City, SD)

**Initial collaborative projects began in 2014 after lengthy discussions about the pressures and stresses on the extensive grasslands remaining in this region and the users of the land – including ranchers and agencies. Consequently, the research that has emerged has quantified important information related to the following topics:**

- Fire and cheatgrass invasion
- Prairie dogs and their impact on forage quantity and quality for livestock
- Sage-grouse habitat features
- Managing for multiple-use (livestock production and wildlife conservation)
- Precipitation variability, drought, and climate change

In today's complex world, it is imperative that collaborative approaches to landscape-level challenges be successful in terms of resource conservation and livestock production. We believe this field day will demonstrate an important and successful collaboration that is also leading to new funding for additional questions related to many of these topics. If you or your representatives are able to attend please RSVP ASAP to 307-358-2417. *We will begin making bus arrangements on July 21st so please RSVP by then, however, if that date has passed please communicate with us so we can try to accommodate anyone interested in attending. Questions or additional accommodations? [jscasta@uwyo.edu](mailto:jscasta@uwyo.edu)*

**Sincerely,**



Dave Pellatz  
Thunder Basin Grasslands  
Prairie Association



Bret Hess  
University of Wyoming  
Agricultural Experiment Station



Justin Derner  
USDA ARS  
Rangeland Resources



**\*\*See the other side of this letter for additional details\*\***

# 2018 Thunder Basin Research and Outreach Field Day

Tuesday - August 21, 2018

Douglas, Wyoming

\*\*Convene at the Converse County Extension Office for parking and bus loading\*\*



## Agenda

- 8 am: Douglas, WY - Registration and Welcome @ Converse County Extension Office in Douglas, WY
  - Official Welcome—University of Wyoming President - Dr. Laurie Nichols
- 8:30 am: Load buses, Depart for Bill, WY (snacks in bus!)
  - Driving tour giving an introduction and overview of the Thunder Basin
  - *Overview of the Thunder Basin Research Initiative effort—UW/USDAARS*
- 9:00-9:15 am: Arrive in Bill, WY and restroom break
- 9:15 am: Field Tour Begins
  - 9:15-9:50: Load buses-30 minute drive to Steckley nested exclosure control (sagebrush) site
    - 9:50-10:10: Unload, *Overview of vegetation, livestock, and wildlife research—UW*
  - 10:10-10:20: Load buses, 5 minute drive to Steckley nested exclosure prairie dog site [alternative - colony on main road between NEX Control and Precip site]
    - 10:25-10:40: Unload, *Bird communities of Thunder Basin—UW*
    - 10:40-10:55: *Prairie dog ecology and management—TBGPEA*
  - 10:55-11:05: Load buses for 5 minute drive to precipitation variability site, unload
    - 11:05-11:20: Unload, *Precipitation variability—USDAARS*
  - 11:20-11:55: Load buses, drive back to Bill (snacks in bus!)
    - Discuss in bus: *Disturbances and cheatgrass—USDAARS*
    - (View wildfire burn scar on the drive; if time, stop at wolford fire exclosure)
- 11:55-12:55: Lunch in Bill, WY and concluding remarks – UW/USDA ARS/TBGPEA/USFS
- 12:55–1:25: Drive back to Douglas, WY and program concludes

RSVP ASAP to 307-358-2417

**We will begin making bus arrangements on July 21<sup>st</sup> so please RSVP by then, however, if that date has passed please communicate with us so we can try to accommodate anyone interested in attending.**

Questions or additional accommodations? [jscasta@uwyo.edu](mailto:jscasta@uwyo.edu)

