



Wyoming Section Society for Range Management



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Winter Issue 2016

Message from the President

Greetings and Happy New Year!

As we begin a new year, I'd like to thank our past Wyoming section council members who have worked diligently to promote the Society for Range Management's mission. A huge thank you goes to **Brian Mealor** (Past President), **Rachel Mealor** (Council Representative) and **Katelynn Schade** (Council Representative). I also want to welcome our new council representatives - **Mae Smith** (President-elect), **Curtis Bryan** (Northwest Council Representative), and **Sarah Kauer** (Southeast Council Representative). As we work in this new year to meet SRM member needs, please do not hesitate to contact your council reps with suggestions and ideas. In addition, if you want to become more involved in SRM, please let us know!

The Wyoming Section meeting, co-hosted with the Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts (WACD) and the Wyoming Weed and Pest Council (W&P), was a success. The opportunity to network with others and create partnerships was valuable. We also heard an interesting and informative keynote address from **Dr. Dennis Knight** who spoke on *The Ecology of Wyoming: Twenty Years of Change*. Ranch Manager **John Rogers** led us on a tour of the X Bar Ranch near Sheep Mountain. Their unique management and management challenges provided a great learning opportunity and day in the field. The Wyoming section also hosted a well-attended symposium: *Rangeland Research: On-the-ground with Private and Public Land Managers*. The symposium showcased a line-up of knowledgeable rangeland managers, climatologists, rangeland researchers and economists. **Justin Derner** moderated the symposium and a useful question and answer session. Both the WACD and the W&P enjoyed the Pro AM Challenge and interacting with the students at the meeting. I want to thank those that helped make the annual meeting so successful. **Windy Kelley, Brian Mealor, Marji Patz, Jason Crowder, Katelynn Schade** and **Clay Wood** – thank you all for your work on everything from student activities, to awards, to fundraising.

Continued on next page



**Wyoming Section
Society for Range Management**



The 69th Annual meeting will be hosted January 31-February 4 in Corpus Christi, TX. If you make it south, please make sure to take advantage of the tours and symposiums offered. And don't forget the **Wyoming Social Tuesday, February 2, 2016!** The social is always a great time to catch up on Wyoming SRM happenings and meet up with old and new friends.

The section council is already hitting the ground running this year. Earlier this month, we had a call to discuss immediately pressing items including changes to the Section By-Laws (Article IV. Nomination and Election of Officers and Directors). This meeting was necessary to be prepared to address suggestions at the next council meeting. The next council meeting will be held in conjunction with the UW Range Club Banquet on April 9, 2016. We will meet from 12:30-4:30 pm in room Ag 137 on the UW campus.

In closing, I look forward to 2016 and am grateful for the opportunity to be involved in the Wyoming Section of the Society for Range Management.

My Best,

Jessica

The Wyoming Section, Society for Range Management is excited to welcome the 2016 Council Team



Mae Smith
President Elect



Sarah Kauer
SE Council Representative



Curtis Bryan
NW Council Representative



Wyoming Section Society for Range Management



WY SRM January 2016 Submission – Windy Kelley, Past President

WY SRM Awards

The WY Society for Range Management (SRM) had another fun-filled, informational meeting that offered great networking opportunities with other professionals and students alike. Additionally, the annual meeting afforded the opportunity to recognize Honor Awardees, a number of participants of youth activities, and professionals who stepped up and participated in the 2nd annual Pro-AM Challenge.

As you take a few minutes to read about the awards and awardees I hope you'll consider what your role is as a rangeland steward, and as a member of WY SRM. Does your role include recognizing well-deserved peers, partners, or supporting student activities? I hope so!

As we move into a new year, I hope you'll consider nominating a deserving person or group at either the Parent Society level (due spring '16 to be considered for the 2017 meeting), or at the section level (due late summer '16 to be considered for November '16). Stay-tuned to future newsletters for additional information for nominating deserving rangeland stewards.

Please take a few minutes to read the following and applaud the 2015 WY SRM award recipients, and congratulate them the next time you see them!

WY SRM Honor Awards

It's a great pleasure each year to celebrate rangeland stewards in Wyoming. WY SRM received a number of nominations for groups and individuals from throughout the state. The following were awarded and recognized at this year's meeting:

- D. Terrance Booth (2014) and J. Daniel Rodgers (2015), *Sustained Lifetime Achievement*;
- Rick Dunne, *Trail Boss Memorial*
- Uinta County Conservation District, *Award of Merit*;
- Piney Creeks Restoration Project, *Outstanding Achievement Award*;
- Jessica Crowder and Mae Smith, *Young Range Professionals*.

Congratulations to all of you, and thank you again for your hard work, and dedication to the stewardship of rangelands.

Youth Activities

Youth activities are at the center of the WY SRM annual meeting. Activities include student-professional mixer, and events such as the High School Youth Forum, and Rangeland Cup. Student events and competitions prepare the next generation of rangeland stewards through testing their knowledge, and giving them the opportunity to develop their skills.



Wyoming Section Society for Range Management



First and second place for judged events follows: *Extemporaneous Speaking* 1st Lacy Nelson, Sheridan College and 2nd BJ Bender, UW; *Rangeland Cup* team posters 1st Kelsey Welter, Eric Ramerth, Morgan Squires, and Justin White, UW; 2nd Jessica Windh, Alyssa Archuleta, and Jared Nichols, UW; *Undergraduate Range Management Exam (URME)* 1st Jessica Windh, UW and a tie for 2nd were Kelsey Welter and Eric Ramerth, both from UW; and *Plant Identification* 1st Tevyn Baldwin, UW and 2nd BJ Bender, UW.

The following teams took first place for the WY SRM second annual Pro-Am Challenge, an event partnering an undergraduate student with a professional for the *URME*, and *Plant Identification*. This year's first place teams follow: *URME* Eric Ramerth, UW and Thad Berrett (US Forest Service); and *Plant Identification* BJ Bender, UW and Julie Kraft, Sublette County Weed and Pest District.

This year's High School Youth forum had youth from Upton and Green River. This event allows high school students to prepare and present about a rangeland topic of their choice. The youth with the highest score has the opportunity to attend and deliver their presentation at the International Society for Range Management's annual meeting – an all expense paid trip. Karen Lambert of Upton High School had this year's top score with her presentation titled *Studying the Impacts of Cattle Trailing in Weston County, Wyoming*.

Archiving

Who in WY SRM should think about archiving?

- Secretary / Treasurer
 - Thank you, Marji, for doing an EXCELLENT job getting the information onto the website with our web guru Amanda Stith! [Click here](#) to view her fine work!
- Committee Chairs

What should be archived?

The Secretary/Treasurer and Committee Chairs should submit the following:

- Meeting Minutes: Business, Council, and Committee meetings
- Treasurer's Reports
- Approved Budgets
- Correspondence related to decisions and actions

Include meeting/approval/correspondence date, document title, and who was present or part of the exchange of information/decision.



Wyoming Section Society for Range Management



➤ WY SRM website: submitted by the Secretary/Treasurer to the website manager
And the second location WY SRM council documents and committee documents should be submitted and archived at is the University of Wyoming American Heritage Center. Documents should be submitted in a standard format (e.g., PDF, Word, Excel), and emailed to: whopkins@uwyo.edu

And

Tyler.cline@uwyo.edu

With the subject line: **Society for Range Management Collection (Wyoming Section), “additional collection material.”**

Please do your part to ensure the story of WY SRM is recorded. Questions? Contact the WY SRM Historian, Mike Smith, at pearl@uwyo.edu, and/or review the [Historian – Archivist Records section of the WY SRM Handbook](#).





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Wyoming SRM Sending Upton Youth to National HSYF Competition in Corpus Christi By Shari Meeks, HSYF Chair

Another successful year of High School Youth Forum in Wyoming! The competition took place on November 4, 2015 during the joint convention with Wyoming SRM, WACD, and Weed & Pest. Participation this year was down, due to how soon our meeting followed the National FFA convention. However, both participants this year were from schools which we have not seen involvement in the past. Recognizing this, it is our hope that next year's participation increases as other schools begin to see the benefits of involvement in such an event. We also hope to see our long-time contenders from Worland High School return with vigor!

That being said, both participants did an excellent job. Korra Sheldon from Green River presented on the "Effects of Invasive Russian Olive on Green River Native Species". Korra's presentation was based on literature research and actual data collection in Green River.

Karen Lambert from Upton High School presented on "Studying the Impacts of Cattle Trailing on Weston County, Wyoming". Her presentation was based off of landowner interviews and data collection within Weston County. Her commanding presence and comfort with the materials she presented made her the top candidate. Although it certainly was a difficult decision, the judges decided to award Karen Lambert first place. We are excited to be sending Karen to the National SRM HSYF competition in Corpus Christi, TX in February. Best of luck, Karen!



Shari Meeks, HSYF Chair (left) presents Karen Lambert (right) with the 1st place award. Karen will be competing in the National HSYF Competition at the International SRM meeting in February.



Wyoming Section Society for Range Management



Grazing Permit Renewal Workshop:

*A Comprehensive Guide for Permittees and
Local Government*

Offered in 2 Locations
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2016
PINEDALE LIBRARY, LOVATT RM.
155 SOUTH TYLER AVE., PINEDALE WY

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2016
MARBLETON TOWN HALL
10700 HWY 189, MARBLETON WY

Sublette County Conservation District and associated partners would like to invite you to a workshop specifically designed with the permittee in mind. This **FREE** workshop is intended to provide grazing permittees the tools and resources to better understand the grazing permit renewal process. At the end of the day, workshop participants will leave with a clear understanding of when and how to get involved to best benefit the permit renewal process.



We hope that you join us!



- * SPONSOR BOOTHS
- * LUNCH MADE & SERVED BY THE GREEN RIVER VALLEY COWBELLES!
- * RAFFLE PRIZES!

RSVP Requested: 307-367-2257



Wyoming Section Society for Range Management



Ranch Sustainability Forum



Third Annual
 Sheridan College's Ranch Sustainability Forum
 March 8-9, 2016

Purpose: To provide informational resources and tools for ranch stakeholders that will help provide healthy and sustainable ranches in 2020 and beyond.

<http://www.agwingroup.com/ranch-sustainability-forum/>

Grazing Permit Renewal Workshop:

A Comprehensive Guide for Permittees and Local Government

Do You Run Livestock on Federal Land?
 Is your grazing permit "expired" or are you currently going through the "permit renewal process"?
 Are you interested in grazing permit renewal on the Bridger-Teton National Forest or on BLM Lands?
 ...If you said "yes" to any of the above questions, then this workshop is for you!

TO BETTER SERVE YOU, WE ARE OFFERING THIS WORKSHOP IN TWO LOCATIONS:

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2016 PINEDALE LIBRARY, LOVATT RM. 155 SOUTH TYLER AVE. PINEDALE, WY	THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2016 MARBLETON TOWN HALL 10700 Hwy 189 MARBLETON, WY
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AGENDA

(same for both locations)

- 9:30-10:00 Registration & Trade Show
Sponsored by GRVCA
- 10:00-10:15 Welcome & Introductions
Sublette County Conservation District
- 10:15-11:30 What's Required for Grazing Permit Renewal?
Brenda Younkin, YZ Consultants
- 11:30-12:10 Identifying, Defining & Resolving Resource Concerns for Grazing Permits
Jim Sprinkle, University of Idaho Extension
- 12:10-12:40 Lunch
Sponsored by Green River Valley Cattlewomen
- 12:40-1:15 WY Standards & Guidelines Defined and Its Role in the Permit Renewal Process
Brenda Younkin, YZ Consultants
- 1:15-2:05 Being Engaged in the Permit Renewal Process as a Rancher
Jim Sprinkle, University of Idaho
- 2:05-2:15 Break & Trade Show
Sponsored by Wyoming Public Lands Coalition
- 2:15-3:35 Southwest Wyoming Case Studies- Roundtable Discussion
Mary Jones, BLM Permittee
Albert Sommers, BTNF & BLM Permittee
Joel Bousman, BTNF Permittee
- 3:35-4:00 Using Monitoring Data for Adaptive Management
Jim Sprinkle, University of Idaho
- 4:00-4:45 Permit Renewal Court Cases in the West: Who won, Who didn't, & Why?
Karen Budd-Falen, Attorney
- 4:45-5:00 Closing Remarks

FREE WORKSHOP

LUNCH PROVIDED BY GREEN RIVER VALLEY CATTLEWOMEN

RAFFLE PRIZES!

SPONSORS

**RSVP Requested by
January 22:
307-367-2257**