



Utah Section Society for Range Management Newsletter

Number 3 2000

SRM Utah Section Newsletter
George Cook and Natalie Gale, Co-Editors

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President's Message

Steve Monsen, President

Utah Section Society for Range Management

Utah section members have obviously been busy this summer dealing with fires, drought, regulations, forage conditions, habitat improvement and other matters. It is interesting to step back and access the problems that currently concern land managers. During our summer field tour we noted that changes in many plant communities continue to occur. This is not new, but it is interesting that a significant amount of big sagebrush communities have been lost. Efforts to restore sagebrush communities are also not entirely new, but it is a concern that such an extensive plant type has been so altered to require protection and rehabilitation measures. Striving to prevent weed invasion and the subsequent damages caused by wildfires is also a major management concern. These and other issues have been of primary importance to our society for many years. Proper management of plant communities continues to be a major concern even as land uses have changed. We can be thankful to those individuals that have provided us with a basic understanding of land management. This became quite apparent for those that attended the dedication of the Mont E.

Lewis Botanical Area in Scad Valley last week. Mont obviously made an important contribution to understanding the ecology of plant community types and species that existed on western mountain ranges. The efforts of Joel

Frandsen, Crockett Dumas, John Healy, Sandy Kaminski, and Joe Gallagher to designate and have such an important area set aside for study and use is certainly commendable.

I would personally like to recognize and thank those that planned and hosted the summer tour. We benefitted from the knowledge and insight provided by Sherril Goodrich. Earlier in the summer some of us were also privileged to participate in a Shrub ecology and genetics meeting. The field tour directed by Dr. Howard Stutz and Dr. Stewart Sanderson was very informative. Both Howard and Stewart have spent much of their careers investigating the distribution, ecology, and development of various species of Atriplex. Their understanding of these species and the implications of management practices are extremely import contributions. Anyone that missed these two tours would benefit by scheduling a personal visit with the different hosts.

During the past year John Mclain and his staff have been actively pursuing initiatives to present to a new administration for consideration as new policies and activities are established. This is an important and wise approach. We have invited Craig Whittekiend to prepare an article for our newsletter discussing current activities of the Society. Perhaps you would like to forward comments to Craig.

Many of you may be aware our section has been selected to host

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the annual meetings in Utah in 2004. The bid package presented to the board did emphasize the opportunity to discuss the impacts of recreational uses on range and wildlands. Since our meeting will follow soon after the Winter Olympics we felt this was a chance to discuss the effects of urban growth and concentrated uses on mountain communities, watersheds, wildlife, and associated resources.

It is necessary to fill four committee positions to begin arrangements for 2004 meetings. These positions need to be in place within the next few months. This includes: 1). General chairman, 2). Finance chairman, 3). Publicity chairman, and 4). Facilities chairman. These four individuals will have the responsibility to further organize the event with

Utah BLM Honors Resource Advisory Board Members and Partners

Jim Bowns and Gregg Simonds were two of five outstanding members of the Utah BLM Resource Advisory Board (RAC). They were recognized for their years of service to the RAC and their completion of Utah BLM's Standards and Guidelines for Rangeland Health scheduled for release next year. Also recognized were RAC members Bill Smart, Dee Holladay, and John Bellmon. Jim, John, and Bill were also recognized for the 1997 work on the State BLM fire rehabilitation program.

Jim Bowns was also presented a Lifetime Award for his 20 years of service on the BLM grazing advisory board and his present position as chairperson of the BLM RAC. His service entailed work with the Cedar City Grazing Board and Multiple Use Advisory Council. He also served on the Utah Multiple Use Advisory Council and the BLM's National Advisory Council. In addition, Jim served with numerous ad-hoc groups addressing specific resource issues on public lands.

"Many thanks to these fine people who have contributed so much of their time and talents toward helping the BLM do a better job managing public lands." said Utah State Director Sally Wisely. "They come from all walks of life and represent their interests well. We are proud of their contributions and their willingness to help

approval from the section officers. We have a number of capable individuals that could assume these or other positions. We have also included a list of most all committees and assignments required to conduct the entire event. In most situations two individuals will serve as co-chairmen of each committee. We are asking members of the Utah section to consider nominating themselves or others to serve. We expect to staff the four chairmen positions at our meeting in November. Please contact a board member or myself if you have a nomination.

The First International Knapweed Symposium of the New Millennium

Mark your calendars for the Knapweed Symposium to be held at the Coeur d'Alene Resort in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, March 15th and 16th, 2001, immediately following the Western Society of Weed Science annual meeting. The purpose of the symposium is to present new information on the biology, ecology, and management of knapweed species in the West, including spotted, diffuse, and squarrose knapweeds, Russian knapweed and yellow starthistle.

The Symposium is sponsored by the Western Society of Weed Science, in cooperation with the University of Idaho, Idaho Dept of Ag, US Forest Service, BLM, USDA Agriculture Research Service, Washington State Noxious Weed control Board, western Weed Coordinating Committee, and DowAgrosciences.

This announcement should be considered the Call for Papers for the Symposium. For more information, contact Linda Wilson at lwilson@uidaho.edu, Barb Mullin at 406/444-5400, or Rita Beard 970/295-5745. Paper title, author, and affiliation are due to Lincoln Smith 510/559-6185 no later than October 31, 2000, with abstracts or full papers due no later than December 1, 2000. To obtain the registration form and to submit your paper title, abstract, and paper visit the website: <http://www.sidney.ars.usda.gov/knapweed>.

Utah-Idaho Sections Society for Range Management Fall Meeting
 Joint Fall Meeting
 November 9-10
 Marriott Hotel 247 24th Street, Ogden, UT

PROGRAM

November 9, Thursday

12:00 noon – 1:00 pm	Registration, Marriott Lobby
1:00 – 2:30 pm	Fire, Changing Plant Communities and Restoration in the Great Basin—A Panel of Invited Experts
3:00	Break
3:30 – 5:00	Section business meetings
5:00 – 7:00	Social hour and fund-raising auction
7:00 – 9:30	Banquet and entertainment

November 10, Friday

9:00 – 10:30 am	Focusing New Scientific Approaches on the Wildfire-Weeds Conundrum—Presentations by Invited Scientists and Managers
10:30	Break
11:00 – Noon	Contributed papers*

*call John Malechek at 435/797-2470; email: malechek@cnr.usu.edu or Glenn Shewmaker at 208/736-3600; email: gshew@uidaho.edu if you wish to present a 12-min talk on a fire, weed, or restoration topic. Deadline for titles: Nov. 1

ACCOMMODATIONS

A block of 30 rooms has been set aside at the Marriott Hotel. Room rates are \$63 per night, plus taxes. Make your own reservations by calling the Marriott at 888/825-3163. To receive the rate quoted above you should mention you are with the Society for Range Management. For those flying into Salt Lake International Airport, airport-to-Ogden shuttle service is available by calling Arrow Transportation at 888/277-6976 (\$35 1-way or Express Shuttle at 877/274-8885 (\$24 1-way).

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REGISTRATION

Fill out and return this form by Nov 1; mail or fax to: Stephanie Hamblin, Utah State University, Rangeland Resources Dept., 5230 Old Main Hill, Logan, UT 84322-5320.

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____

Section: ____ Utah ____ Idaho (please specify)

Pre-registration: \$35 \$ _____

Banquet: \$22 \$ _____ (preference: ____ beef ____ pork tenderloin)

Registration after Nov. 1 \$45 \$ _____

Total remitted \$ _____ Please make checks payable to Utah Section, SRM

2000 UTAH NATURAL RESOURCES FIELD SCHOOL

The 2000 Utah Natural Resources Field School was held July 17 - 21, 2000 at the Great Basin Environmental Education Center above Ephraim, Utah. Both the students and staff this year were outstanding.

Sixteen students attended from across the state. They were taught about natural resource systems and the components that combine to make these systems, both biotic and abiotic. The students were then introduced to the idea that changes in these components contributes to the different ecosystems, or ecological sites, that we find throughout the world. We also spent a great deal of time discussing management with the students, and how we as humans can affect the system. A conflict resolution simulation game was used on Thursday to introduce students to the idea of working together to find a win-win situation for all parties involved. The students also received experience in plant identification, journaling, rangeland health monitoring, and giving presentations. The students which attended were:

Joanna Bjork, Price	Orrin Lemon, Ferron	Matthew Braby, Price	James Munns, Garland
Josie Busk, Cedar Fort	Derek Onysko, Park City	Daniel Dalton, Snowville Park City	Jeremy Onysko,
Josh Gregory, Randolph	Holly Sorenson, Wellington	Lonnie Hafen, Ivins Mt. Carmel	Robert Tait,
Klynt Heaton, Alton	Laura Thayn, Price	Kalen Lemon, Holden	Mindy Westwood, Highland

The staff this year was composed of George Cook, Chris Call, Kathy Voth, Allen Rasmussen, Scott Pratt, and Mindy Pratt. We also enjoyed visitors during the week. Jim Bowns helped us on Tuesday and Wednesday as we visited ecological sites and was a great help and addition to the camp. Fee Busby joined us Thursday and Friday. We recruited Fee to take part in our Simulation Exercise, representing the "Grassland Grazing Association" with other staff members. Also, not at camp but very much a part of the staff were Stephanie Hamblin and Roger Banner at USU. Stephanie was listed as our contact for the camp in the brochure and took care of most of the registration. Roger managed the finances, and was a key player in the planning phases of the camp.

Each of the campers participated in various activities, including: field trips, interactive instruction, plant ID and collection, tests, and hands on experience in the field. In addition to these activities, campers were evaluated on notebooks and on their ability to participate in the Conflict Resolution activity. Based on these evaluations, the top individual who will represent the Utah Section of the Society for Range Management at the Society's annual meeting in Hawaii is Josie Busk. She will present a paper and compete with other students from throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico in the Society's High School Youth Forum and will also have the opportunity to be selected as an officer for next year's meeting. Josie should be commended on her high level of achievement and dedication to this activity.

In addition to the top individual award, three honor individual awards were given due to the closeness of the points and the quality of work that was done. These were awarded to Mindy Westwood of Highland, Joanna Bjork of Price, and Josh Gregory of Randolph. These students should also be congratulated for their fine work during the week.

We express our appreciation to the Utah Association of Conservation Districts and the Redd Foundation for supplying us with two grants to help cover the costs of the school. We would also like to thank the many SCD Boards, Cattleman's Associations, FFA Chapters, and parents that sponsored students. Also, thanks to the Utah SRM, Cooperative Extension, the Rangeland Resources Department at USU, College of Natural Resources at USU, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, USDI Bureau of Land Management, and the Utah Education System for supporting and

The Case for Rangelands –A message from the Denver Office

I wrote an article a couple of years ago that the editor of a magazine titled “Our Forgotten Rangelands”. While I was surprised at the time that the theme of what I had written had led to that conclusion, thinking back I know the editor was right on. I had written an analysis of a particular program and had pointed out that in the grand scheme of things, rangelands had been overlooked. Since that time I have come to realize that this is a much larger problem than that one instance. Over time, rangelands as a kind of land with lots of values and uses, has been fading from the scene in favor of other terms. Many of us view this as a problem requiring the attention of the rangeland profession.

This year presents us with a great opportunity to begin the education process again, as we have done many times in the past, of what rangelands are and the many values they include. A new political administration will be elected in November, and its important that members of SRM be engaged in “creating learning”, in the new administration and Congress. Our Board of Directors has begun the process, which we call the “transition plan”. SRM will address the problem of a changeover in the departments and agencies important to natural resource management, as well as changes in Congress and congressional staffs. It will be important that Sections be aware of possible appointees from your area that will need to be contacted with the appropriate information. The Board of Directors, staff including Deen Boe and committees is working on specific points of emphasis for our communication effort. The National Capital Section will play a key role in putting these ideas into effect. The need for accurate information on rangeland resources has never been greater. We really need to take advantage of this opportunity.

Fellow Utah Section SRM members,

Greetings from Teasdale, Utah. How fast the summer is passing and before long, we will be meeting Ogden, Utah for our next Utah Section Society for Range Management meetings. Representing the Utah Section Awards committee and as chairman, I have the privilege of requesting your assistance in submitting nominations for the Rancher, Range Manager, and Young Range Professional of the Year recognizing outstanding individuals in rangeland science, education, industry and administration etc.

Nomination of individuals for these awards will be due October 24, 2000. Please forward your nomination(s) to Whit Bunting, BLM Arizona Strip in St. George 435/688-3200, Jeff Grandison, UDWR Southern Region in Cedar City 435/865-6100, Allen Huber, US Forest Service in Duchesne 435/738-2482, or myself.

I ask you to consider your colleagues and those you may otherwise have association with that are worth of the recognition. Prompt action will be needed with the deadline quickly approaching.

We have many outstanding individuals in our state concerned about our rangelands that would represent these awards well and are deserving of this recognition. Please share a moment of time by submitting a nomination for one of these awards.

If you need additional information concerning these awards, or have questions about previous awards already received by an individual, please contact me at 435/425-3702. Also, please distribute this request within your appropriate network(s).

Kurtis Robins - Utah Awards Committee Chairman

President-Elect Candidates

Brent Jensen grew up on the family ranch/farm in Emery, Utah, where he gained an appreciation for range lands at an early age from his father. “Dad taught me the names of the plants as we followed the old cows around. He was very astute in recognizing the value of livestock distribution, determining when to move pastures, where to place salt and how to manage the range as well as the cattle. He would have me and my younger brother take a pack load of salt out on a ridge then round up a bunch of cattle and show them where it was. After enrolling at USU and beginning to study plant communities, ecosystems etc. it all had a familiar ring gained from those early days as a kid with dad out on the range”. Brent remains involved with the family operation managed by his brother, where they run a small herd of crossbred cattle utilizing BLM, Forest Service and private lands.

Brent is a 1963 graduate of Utah State University (was it really that long ago?) in range management and has been involved with SRM since that time. He has been a member and officer of the Colorado, Idaho and Utah Sections.

Brent began his career as a Range Conservationist with BLM in Las Vegas, Nevada after graduation from USU. He spent most of his career as an area manager in Colorado and Idaho and finished up as a staff specialist overseeing the range and wildlife functions on the district staff of the Arizona Strip. He retired from BLM in 1999 after 36 years, 8 months and 1 day – but who is counting.

Brent says, “I advocate the proper use of range lands for the benefit of society. My vision for SRM in Utah is to tutor, encourage, support and develop the youth interested in range land management. Both the young professionals and the university students who are the future of

both the organization and of range land management. I feel this should be done through emphasis and continued support of the existing scholarship program, the natural resources field school and through recognition of their achievement. I feel it is important that SRM play an active role in promoting application of the basic principles of range land management to the landscape. We have knowledge and tools for proper ecosystem use and management. Our role is to be actively involved in educating agencies, managers, users and the public in the wise use and management of the range land resources”.

Jim Brown was born and raised on a ranch south of Evanston Wyo. and helped run the ranch until attending Utah State University in 1965. He graduated from Utah State University in 1960 in range management. At the University, Jim was active in the range club and on the plant team competing in Calgary Canada.

After graduation he went to work for the Nutter ranch and have been involved with the ranch since that time. Jim is now working both at the ranch and for the NRCS as an area range conservationist having area responsibility for the range and pasture in eastern Utah. He works with various government agencies coordinating various range projects and believe in multiple use. Jim believes in protecting the environment for future generations.

Jim is active in various community affairs, on the public affairs committee with the parent society and northern chapter president for the Utah section and have held various other positions in SRM through out the years.

His hobbies include the family activities with the kids and grandkids, raising domestic

elk and hunting wild ones, fishing and the great out of doors.

Please Note: Voting for Office of Director will be done at the registration table at our Fall Meeting.



The Mont E. Lewis Botanical Area was dedicated at noon on September 13th in Scad Valley on the Manti La Sal National Forest. This was the first formal Botanical Area established in the Intermountain Region in 1996. A pull out has been constructed and several plaques will be unveiled on that date.

This montane cold- water spring site near the base of Seely Mountain is extraordinary because more than 150 plant species thrive in this small area. Some of the plants found there are normally found only in arctic and alpine areas, and a few rare ones species are only found in a few locations in Utah.

This wet meadow complex has sorted themselves into twelve different wetland plant communities, and they are strongly separated by water temperature or soil moisture differences in seasonal variations.

The site is named after Mont E. Lewis (1906-1997), a Charter Member of the Society for Range Management. Mont started his Forest Service career in 1936 as a member of the range reconnaissance crew on the Manti National Forest. He served as a Ranger on the Castle Dale and Manti Districts. After several other moves, Mont headed up the Range Studies Program for the Intermountain Region. He retired in 1971 after 35 years of service only to assume a new role as Curator for the Intermountain Regional Herbarium until he was 86 years of age, all as a volunteer.

Each summer until his health forbid, Mont returned to the Wasatch Plateau and continued his botanical studies including some initiated by Dr. Arthur Sampson in 1912, making them the oldest continuous range studies known. Mont was an authority on the genus *Carex*, and he had several plants named after him including *Astragalus montii*, the Heliotrope Milk Vetch. His love of the natural world and how it functioned drew people to him. He was a great teacher and mentor and a recipient

The following is a list of committees that will need to be filled for the 2004 Society for Range Management meetings in Salt Lake City. Any one interested in serving on a committee or if you would like to nominate someone, please contact one of the section officers as soon as possible. The committees in italics will need to be filled by the 2000 Utah Section Annual meetings.

Administrative

General Chairs

*Assistant

*Secretary

Finance

Publicity

*Photography

*Daily Trail Boss

Volunteer Coordination

Pre-convention Trail Boss

Media Contacts

Mailings

Meeting booths

Registration

Salt Lake Convention Bureau

Liaison

Program

Coordination/ Co-Chairs

Facilities Liaison

Plenary, Membership mtg.

Special Sessions & Symposia

Technical Sessions

Rangelands Articles

Program/Abstracts

Student Affairs Liaison

Field Tours

Student Affairs

Coordination/Co-chairs

High School Youth Forum

Salt Lake City Liaison

Local Arrangements

Coordination/Co-chairs

Sessions Operations

Signs

Local Transportation

Catering

Rangeland Technology Equip.
Council

Advertising/Sales

/Trade Show

Coordination/Co-chairs
PNW Company Contacts
Agency Liaison
Sponsorships
Trade Show Coordinator

Host Activities

Coordination/ Co-chairs
Hospitality
Entertainment
Guest Events
Student Events

Society for Range Management Membership Application

NAME		ADDRESS	
CITY	STATE	ZIP	
BUSINESS PHONE		HOME PHONE	
MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATION		AMOUNT	

Primary Section Affiliation: Utah

Membership Solicited by: _____

“Regular” Member Dues - \$55 (Includes Home Section dues of \$5) - Includes subscription to Rangelands, Trailboss News, and Utah SRM Newsletter. Journal of Range Management is optional (additional \$15).

“Sustaining” Membership - \$20 contribution in addition to membership

“Life” Membership - \$750 (Installment Plan: \$250 each year, plus Regular dues for 3 years)

“Student” Membership - \$27 Same privileges as regular members but they are not able to hold an office.

*****Student membership applicants, please state your school and grade/level of education*****

A wide variety of memberships are available. Further inquiry should be made to the SRM in Denver, CO or check out their website at <http://www.srm.org>. If paying by mail, please send the above membership application with appropriate check or money order to: Society for Range Management, 1839 York Street, Denver, CO 80206-9900