Welcome...

2015

Nevada Section Society for Range Management’s

Summer Tour

August 6th through 8th 2015

At the Roaring Springs Ranch

60 miles North of Denio, Nevada
Unlike any other SRM Gathering you’ve been to before!!
Casual western is the theme

Schedule of Fun, Activities, and Events

Thanks to the gorgeous setting, gracious and hospitable host Mr. Stacy Davies and the Roaring Springs Ranch crew, come prepared for a very educational and fun summer tour.

**Thursday, August 6th** – Plan to arrive at the Ranch Headquarters between 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm to allow time to pick out your camp spot for your tent or RV (sorry, no hookups available but water on site). There are also limited “cowboy bunkhouse” beds available. Whatever you choose, please bring your own bedroll and towels. Stacy has even opened up a couple extra houses at the HQ that aren’t being used. These are special situations so please register early and note the need for the additional accommodations. Contact Tim Rubald at timrubald@dcnr.nv.gov.

If you’re not cut out for that type of lodging, there is a nice historic hotel that’s actually an Oregon State Park just twenty minutes from the Ranch…and another Resort just a stone’s throw from there; more details on that later.

After settling into your new “home on the range,” dinner, which is included in your registration fee, will be available in the Ranch Cookhouse, time to be announced. Typical good home cooking is on the menu with plenty to eat in a great homey atmosphere or under the evening sunset.

We’ll convene after dinner to talk about rangeland management. We have invited some extra-special guests to join us for the discussion; John Ruhs, Interim State Director for Nevada BLM and some of the BLM folks that Stacy works with so successfully. It should be a great, informative meeting and set the tone for all the interesting things to learn in the next couple of days.

**Friday, August 7th** – The breakfast bell will ring early on this day of touring, looking at projects, and discussion of rangeland conditions on a tour of the Skull Creek watershed on the Roaring Springs Ranch. We’ll have a hearty breakfast at the Ranch Cookhouse and then pile into multi-seat vehicles that will be available. If you need to drive your own vehicle, please invite someone to go with you to minimize our traveling impact and it must be a high clearance (preferably 4x4) vehicle, although the roads are pretty good for “ranch roads.” We will have a good lunch packed for you, some snacks along the way, iced water and a few sodas as well. Plan on staying out all day (10+ hours) since we’ve got lots to see and many new things to learn. Our own Dr. Tamzen Stringham has done some of her work in this area for years; she and Stacy have planned this educational day. Bring sunscreen, a good hat, and a mind open to new ideas and proven successes pioneered on the Roaring Springs Ranch!

After returning back to the Headquarters, dinner will be at the Cookhouse with lots of traditional good food. We have a couple of entertaining options available this evening depending on the strength and stamina of the group. We’ll keep things fun and flexible!

**Saturday, August 8th** – Again the breakfast bell will get you out of the rack or off the ground early since there’s a lot to do again today. At 8:00 am, Nevada Section President Ryan Shane will call the business meeting (separate agenda attached) to order with many important items on the agenda, not the least of which is the Nevada Section hosting the 2018 International Society of Range Management Conference – a huge honor for Nevada but involving lots of work….please stick around and have your “volunteer hat” on for upcoming fun activities in 2018. President Ryan hopes to be done with business in time for everyone to pull out before noon and start back home. Please be sure to thank our hosts, Stacy and his crew for the solutions learned and fun hospitality shared, as we head back south to Nevada!

**Saturday afternoon bonus** – see a separate page about an added tour following the meeting!
Friday’s Skull Creek Field Tour Workshop and Highlights:

8:00 a.m. sharp: Get mounted in as few vehicles as possible at the Ranch Headquarters, and head for Skull Creek! With the hard work of Dr. Stringham, and the hospitality and knowledge of Stacy Davies with Roaring Springs Ranch, we have quite a day ahead of us!!

Seven highlighted stops are planned, with flexibility being built into the schedule if needed.

1. Billy’s Cabin: Stacy will start us off with a discussion of native vs. non-native biodiversity from post fire seeding from past events.

2. Water gap on Skull Creek: designed by Stacy – Stacy will discuss livestock management on riparian areas and the history of Skull Creek’s past livestock management; good and bad.

3. Lower Skull Creek Fire 1999: Discussions of seeding that was done and how the livestock management techniques have worked into the overall success of what you see today.

4. Skull Creek Meadow: A great riparian pasture, with hardened crossings for cattle with fish access and management. Tamzen will discuss some of the water temperature studies she and her teams of researchers have conducted over the years and how the data has been put to practical use.

5. Reservoir Ditch, which is actually a creek: Stacy will discuss and explain how the ranch manages the Skull Creek diversion into the reservoir and what some of the headaches and benefits are for the operation.

6. V-Lake View Stop: This will be our shady lunch location with sage grouse discussions and how the ranch’s management has benefited the bird as well as other upland sagebrush species. Andrew, the ranch’s wildlife biologist will provide special insight on the work the Ranch has done.

7. Home Creek and Smith Flat: An on the ground water temperature study discussion combined with a unique fish habitat improvement project will be the topic of discussion at this stop. No, you can’t bring your fishing poles!
Saturday’s *BONUS* Tour Details:
*Cheatgrass Grazing and White Sage (Winterfat) Desert Management*

Once the business meeting gets completed, and you’re not quite ready to head for home and want to learn more about some of the interesting things Stacy and his staff at the Ranch have been doing, we have one more three hour adventure for you!

We will head south of the Ranch on Oregon Highway 205 (headed for Nevada), so it’s possible with good coordination on the ground that you could head home with your rig and then hop into one of the multi-seat vehicles once we turn off the highway approximately 30 miles south of the Ranch – if you’ve got to get home, you would have a head start!

The tour will spend about three hours with probably a couple of stops along the way at some strategic locations, where Stacy will discuss the Ranch’s cheatgrass grazing program and white sage management. This short tour should tie in nicely with some of the evening discussions with agency folks and how we can do similar processes with our producers here in Nevada.

**Logistics for Saturday’s *BONUS* Tour:**

If you’re headed out right after the business meeting, and not able to make the bonus tour, then of course there’s no additional charge.

If you will be able to join us for the bonus cheatgrass grazing and Winterfat tour and discussions, there will be an added $20 charge. This will include a sack lunch, another great dinner at the Ranch, and another night of camping or lodging at the Ranch. In other words, for an additional twenty bucks, you get another day of information, night at the Ranch, and two more meals. You can’t beat that *anywhere*!!

Please note the additional bonus charge on your registration sheet if you’re able to stay after the business meeting. We hope you will!!
Registration Form  
August 6th through 8th 2015  
At the Roaring Springs Ranch  
60 miles North of Denio, Nevada

Registration Options -- PREVIOUS REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED
Due to the unique situation and generous hospitality of our host, the Roaring Springs Ranch and Crew, food (five great meals), camping and limited bunkhouse type accommodations are all one price for the entire event. If you want to stay at the Ranch, but need to be assured of “off the ground” accommodations, some are available – please contact Tim Rubald timrubald@dcnr.nv.gov as soon as possible. Should you wish to make different arrangements by staying in a local (20 minutes away) hotel or resort, those costs are separate and your responsibility to set up. An information sheet on those properties is attached. Unless you stay at one of the hotels, your own bedroll will be necessary…no linens or towels provided.

1. Email registration form to Erica Freese at: ericafreese66@gmail.com by July 24th and bring payment with you to the meeting.
2. Mail registration form with payment included to Erica Freese at: 8905 Little Creek Rd., Reno, NV 89508 by July 24th.

Payment Options
Cash or check (payable to “NV SRM”). Credit card (bring to meeting) or Paypal (email Erica to be invoiced) can be used with a $3 per person fee. State employees can also utilize direct payment as NVSRM is a vendor.

Name: _______________________________________________
Name: _______________________________________________
Name: _______________________________________________
Contact at: ___________________________________________  
(Email address or phone)
If you need a receipt, please check here ________

Workshop Registration Fees – all registrations include camping, “roughing it” lodging and five great Cookhouse meals (2 dinners, 2 breakfasts, and a lunch) – you may be asked to pitch in with cooking and cleaning chores.

Students/Interns       (#) ________x $30 = __________
SRM members       (#) ________x $85 = __________
Non-SRM members       (#) ________x $95 = __________
Additional Saturday afternoon Tour (see added info) (#) ________x $20 = __________

There are no “commercial facilities” on site. If you want a cocktail or cold one during the social periods, please bring your favorite beverage. Some ice will be available as long as it holds out, and the ranch has limited cooler space. There is a small store about 20 minutes north of the Ranch that has ice and some basics. Plan on being as self-contained as possible with the exception of wonderful meals!

CEUs: sign-up sheet at the meeting
Additional Lodging Options

Should you find that you need different lodging options other than staying at the Ranch, below are a couple of “nearby” options. Both of these facilities are about a twenty minute drive north of the Roaring Springs Ranch Headquarters where meals and other activities will be taking place. Having not stayed at either of these establishments, we encourage you to check them out for yourselves should you choose to stay with them. Here’s the contact information and a few details for these additional options:

The Frenchglen Hotel State Heritage Site

You can stay in the historic hotel itself with typical facilities one would have found back in the late 1800’s; nice room and a shared bathroom area with some of the other guests. Or, should you want a more updated, traditional motel type facility, with private bath and more modern conveniences, they also offer that option at the “Drovers’ Inn” which is just behind the historic hotel.

Frenchglen Hotel and Drovers’ Inn
Highway 205, Frenchglen, Oregon
541-493-2825
fghotel@yahoo.com
www.frenchglenhotel.com

Steens Mountain Wilderness Resort

This facility has RV hookups, tent sites, and a variety of modular or log cabin type of units. Cooking facilities are available in some of the units. They are a “Good Sam Park”. Located just three miles east of Frenchglen, Oregon, (so about 25 minutes from the Roaring Springs Ranch Headquarters) they border the south end of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge and are next to the Blitzen River.

Steens Mountain Wilderness Resort
35678 Resort Lane, Frenchglen, Oregon
541-493-2415
No email found
www.steensmountainresort.com

Page Springs BLM Campground

Only a stone’s throw and across the Blitzen River from Steens Mountain Resort, is a nice, well maintained BLM Campground. Cottonwood trees provide shade and there are ADA accessible restrooms.

Malheur National Wildlife Refuge

Not necessarily for your lodging pleasure, but if you are interested in wildlife, you may want to plan an extra day to your trip. Of all the interesting and unusual facts that can be found in the Great Basin, this Refuge is among those by being one of, if not the largest freshwater marsh in the world. It stretches from Frenchglen almost up to Burns. Realizing this really isn’t what our workshop is about, but we didn’t want anyone that has a passion for this type of thing to be in the area and not plan an extra stop in their before or after plans. Click here if you want additional information.

Visit the Steens Mountain and Steens Cooperative Area

Not an official part of the SRM Summer Tour and meeting, but definitely part of the area that we’ll be in during that time, is the Steens Mountain area. Photos and additional information is provided below. As noted, we will try to have limited maps available to adventurers who might like to explore and experience the area on their own either before or after the SRM events.
Looking south over Wildhorse Lake - August 5, 2011 ©Kathleen Bishop

Head of Kiger Gorge ©Kathleen Bishop

Additional Fun While in The Area
If you’ve got a bit of time on your hands, either before or after the SRM Summer Tour at the Roaring Springs Ranch, these are some of the views and countryside you can see. This area is actually east of the Ranch, on the Steens Mountain Road. You can reach the area by just heading north from the Ranch and traveling to Frenchglen, and follow the signs from there. We’re told it’s a good road, but high clearance is probably suggested, or very good skills at country driving. We will attempt to have maps available for those adventurous folks that would like to look over this country on their own. This is not part of the SRM Summer Tour, but Dr. Stringham wanted to be sure that anyone that would like this type of adventure didn’t miss the chance since you’ll be in the area. Google earth has many more gorgeous photos of the area for those that would like to get a better idea of what opportunities await them in the Steens Mountain area.
Pictures of Roaring Springs Ranch Headquarters

This photo is actually taken looking south-bound on Highway 205. Most of you will be arriving from the north-bound direction. When you see the F—C Roaring Springs Ranch sign, turn into the main headquarters of the Ranch. There will either be signs directing you or folks in the area to suggest parking options for RVs or tents, as well as the other lodging options. Plenty of room for trailers and large RVs so don’t worry about having to back around.

Another picture showing the front “lawn” and the main Headquarters of the Roaring Springs Ranch. This is just a little north of the photo above but another good option to turn into the Ranch.
Directions from Winnemucca, NV to Roaring Springs Ranch Airport

1. Head southwest on W Winnemucca Blvd toward Melarkey St
   46 ft
2. Turn right at the 1st cross street onto US-95 N/Melankey St/Rte 95 N
   - Continue to follow US-95 N/Rte 95 N
   31.5 mi
3. Turn left onto NV-140
   65.5 mi
4. Continue straight onto NV-292 N
   - Entering Oregon
   2.9 mi
5. Continue onto OR-205 N
   - Destination will be on the left
   57.4 mi

Roaring Springs Ranch Airport
Frenchglen, OR 97736