High School Youth Forum (HSYF) Awards

The High School Youth Forum (HSYF) program began in 1966 at the Salt Lake City Annual Meeting as the Youth Range Forum. High school age delegates are selected for participation in the Forum by the Sections of the Society based on their interest, achievements and activities in range and natural resource management at the Section level. SRM Sections can send one to three youth delegates to the HSYF.

1st Place – Danika Gordon, South Dakota
Presentation title: “The Power of a Pasture Makeover”

2nd Place – Ashly Oswald, Pacific Northwest Section
Presentation title: “Interaction Between Domestic Wild Sheep and Goats”

3rd Place – Letty Vega, Nevada Section
Presentation title: “Keeping Up With Conservation”

4th Place – Christian Boyd, Pacific Northwest Section
Presentation title: “Can Grazing be Used to Increase Fire Suppression Effectiveness?”

5th Place – Cade Francis, Nebraska Section
Presentation title: “Nebraska Range Judging”

All photos include SRM President (2016) Dr. Val Jo Anderson
All photos courtesy of Dr. Doug Ramsey
Undergraduate Extemporaneous Speaking Contest Awards

The Undergraduate Extemporaneous Speaking Contest provides an opportunity for undergraduate students to demonstrate their extemporaneous speaking abilities and develop a sense of participation in the national conference.

1st Place – Katlyn Uhart
Utah State University

2nd Place- Brian Osterholzer
Colorado State University

3rd Place – Britney Allen
Utah State University
University Chapter Display Contest Awards

This contest provides a way for prospective students to research the Range Programs of the active colleges and universities around the country. It provides information on the participating schools’ annual activities and events available to everyone. Student chapters build a display based on the theme of the Current Year’s Annual meeting which is judged on appearance, ability to follow theme, and professionalism of students.

1st Place – University of Nevada- Reno

2nd Place – Southern Utah University

3rd Place – University of Wyoming

All photos include SRM President (2016) Dr. Val Jo Anderson

All photos courtesy of Dr. Doug Ramsey
Rangeland Cup Team Awards

The Rangeland Cup team problem solving competition is an activity to promote critical thinking and cooperative, collaborative work on current topics and/or topics of historical importance to rangeland ecology and management. As we progress in our careers, much of our work is performed as part of a group. This competition is intended to build skills in interpersonal communication and group-problem solving, both of which are highly desired qualities in the workplace.

1st Place – Texas A&M University – Kingsville
   Jose Mata, Tyler Wayland, Lisa West

2nd Place – Colorado State University
   Dixie Crowe, Tyrell Mares, Arielle Quintana, Thadd Strom

3rd Place – Sheridan College
   Jaycie Arndt, Jake Disney, Jordan Skovgard, Lacy Nelson

All photos include SRM President (2016) Dr. Val Jo Anderson
All photos courtesy of Dr. Doug Ramsey
Undergraduate Range Management Exam (URME) – Team Awards

Sponsored by Synergy Resource Solutions, Inc.

The purpose of the URME is to provide an opportunity for undergraduate students to demonstrate higher order learning skills and synthesis knowledge of the art and science of rangeland management. Participants must be an undergraduate student currently enrolled, or enrolled in the prior semester, as a full-time student. Scoring is done both for individuals and team scores. University team scores are the sum of the three highest scoring individuals from that team.

URME Sponsor Jack Alexander, Synergy Resource Solutions, Inc. and 2016 SRM President Val Jo Anderson pictured in all URME Team Award Photos.

1st Place – Utah State University
Britney Allen, Christine Blubaugh, Todd Irish, Megan Jamison, Delaney Phariss, Justin Taylor, Katlyn Uhart, Brad Winger, Landon Carter, Ethan Hallows

2nd Place – University of Saskatchewan
Madison Boon, Michelle Ross, Katelynn Wychopen, Danean Edgar, Chelsea Gruber, Meredith Cholin, Jade Marshall, Victoria Nameth, Bronwen Plumer, Erin Anderson

3rd Place – University of Alberta
Jennifer Barry, Brendan Bischoff, Tristen Bisset, Shelby Buckley, Syllyanne Foo, Jaimie Forest, Jessica Grenke, Adam Iverson, Ryan James, Ashley Kocsis, Chloe Reid, Jessica Roberts, Kale Scarff, Sally Thomas

4th Place – Brigham Young University
Justin Taylor, Evan Rees, Tom Bates, Rhett Anderson, Nicholas Anderson, Tyler Grazier, Alysa Defranco, Brie Hardy, Brook Tingey, Karma Phillips, Rachel Bartholomew, Rebecca Lee, Tyler Corg

5th Place – Montana State University
John Walker, Brandon Gould, Connor Hodgskiss, Weston Helle, Noah Davis, Loni Blackman

All photos include SRM President (2016) Dr. Val Jo Anderson

All photos courtesy of Dr. Doug Ramsey
Undergraduate Range Management Exam – Individual Awards

URME competitions sponsored by Synergy Resource Solutions, Inc.

The purpose of the Undergraduate Range Management Exam (URME) is to provide an opportunity for undergraduate students to demonstrate higher order learning skills and synthesis knowledge of the art and science of rangeland management. Participants must be an undergraduate student currently enrolled, or enrolled in the prior semester, as a full-time student. Scoring is done both for individuals and team scores. University team scores are the sum of the three highest scoring individuals from that team.

1st Place – Christine Blubaugh
Utah State University
(Sponsored by USDA-Forest Service & the SRM National Capitol Section)
Pictured w/ USFS representative Range Program Manager Michael Hannemann, 2016 SRM President Val Jo Anderson and URME Sponsor Jack Alexander, Synergy Resource Solutions, Inc.

2nd Place – Jade Marshall
University of Saskatchewan

2nd Place – Noah Davis
Montana State University

3rd Place – Amber Ford
University of Arizona

4th Place – Kale Scarff
University of Alberta

5th Place – Julian Mesick
Southern Utah University

Range Plant Identification Contest – Team Awards

Sponsored by Pawnee Buttes Seed, Inc. in memory of Janine Hijar

The Plant ID Contest is a time-honored tradition of SRM that began in 1951. Students’ plant identification skills are put to the test in this challenging event. The contest consists of 100 plant specimens from a list of 200 important range plants. Students have 1 minute to identify each plant, record the origin and longevity, and correctly spell the scientific name. The contest specimens are selected by Dr. Stephan Hatch of the S.M. Tracy Herbarium in College Station, TX. Awards are given to the Top 5 teams and individuals.

1st Place – University of Alberta
Jennifer Berry, Brendan Bischoff, Tristen Bisset, Shelby Buckley, Sylyanne Foo, Jaimie Forest, Jessica Grenke, Adam Iverson, Ryan James, Ashley Kocsis, Chloe Reid, Jessica Roberts, Kale Scarff, Sally Thomas

2nd Place – Universidad Autónoma Agraria Antonio Narro
Carlos Enrique de la Cruz Dionisio, Tsujmejy Gomez Navor, Sait Juanes Marquez, Carmela Sandoval Garcia, Juan Carlos Martinez Balderas, Julio Ramirez Vargas, Grecia Daniela Ortiz Hernandez, Jose Oscar Manuel Lopez Diaz

3rd Place – Texas A & M University
Amanda Lightsey, Veronica Urbanczyk, Karl Woelfel, Georgia Hansen, Alexandra "Lexie" Brooks, Marlo Lamb, Lanna Stapper, Rider Combs, John "Hunter" Thompson, Alexandra "Alex" DiMaggio, Austin Kelly

4th Place – Brigham Young University
Alysa Defranco, Brie Hardy, Justin Taylor, Evan Rees, Karma Phillips, Brook Tingey, Rachel Bartholomew, Rhett Anderson, Tom Bates, Rebecca Lee, Tyler Glazier

5th Place – Humboldt State University
Deedee Soto, Mariah Aquiar, Amanda Albright, Steven Gilster, Kaelie Pena, Axel Sanchez, Eric Garcia, Monica Rodriguez, Tess Palmer, Darren Pinnegar, Melissa Chase
Range Plant Identification Contest – Individual Awards

*Sponsored by Pawnee Buttes Seed, Inc. in memory of Janine Hijar*

1st Place – Ryan James
University of Alberta
(Sponsored by USDI-BLM & the SRM National Capitol Section)
Pictured w/ BLM representative Senior Natural Resource Specialist Kimberly Hackettz and 2016 SRM President Val Jo Anderson.

2nd Place – Veronica Urbanczyk
Texas A & M University

3rd Place – Tsuimeyj Gomez Navor
Universidad Autónoma Agraria Antonio Narro

4th Place – Jose Oscar Manuel Lopez Diaz
Universidad Autónoma Agraria Antonio Narro

5th Place – Deedee Soto
Humboldt State University

All photos include SRM President (2016) Dr. Val Jo Anderson
All photos courtesy of Dr. Doug Ramsey
Individual High Combined Awards *
Placing in both URME and Plant ID Contests

1st Place – Christine Blubaugh
Utah State University
(Sponsored by USDA-NRCS and the SRM National Capitol Section)
Pictured w/ NRCS representative Rangeland Management Specialist Chuck Stanley and 2016 SRM President Val Jo Anderson.

2nd Place – Noah Davis
Montana State University

3rd Place – Ryan James
University of Alberta

4th Place – Sylyanne Foo
University of Alberta

5th Place – Kale Scarff
University of Alberta

*All places monetary awards sponsored by anonymous sponsor

All photos include SRM President (2016) Dr. Val Jo Anderson
All photos courtesy of Dr. Doug Ramsey
Society for Range Management

2017 SRM Student Awards - FEBRUARY 1, 2017 – St. George UT

Collegiate Trail Boss Award

This travelling trophy is awarded annually to the college that generates the highest aggregate score for both accomplishment and participation in the collegiate student activities that are conducted during the SRM Annual Conference. This provides each student participant, as a team member, an opportunity to contribute to the pursuit of achieving a common goal.

Utah State University

All photos include SRM President (2016) Dr. Val Jo Anderson

All photos courtesy of Dr. Doug Ramsey
MS Oral Paper Presentation

1st Place: Cayla Bendel
North Dakota State University
Presentation Title: “Investigating Plant-Pollinator Networks to Evaluate the Influence of Grassland Management Practices on Ecosystem Stability”

2nd Place: Nicky Lansink
University of Alberta
Presentation Title: “Testing Performance of RFI-selected Cattle Under Extensive Cow/Calf Production Systems”

PhD Oral Paper Presentation

1st Place: Rory O’Connor
Kansas State University
Presentation Title: “Browsing Impacts Resprouting Shrub Physiology in A Woody Encroached Grassland”

2nd Place: Britt Smith
Texas Tech University
Presentation Title: “Impact of rangeland fire on dung beetles of the Texas Rolling Plains”
Graduate Student Poster Competition Awards
Sponsored by Dow AgroSciences

MS Poster Presentation

1st Place: Hennessy Miller
University of Arizona
Presentation Title: “Geomorphological Change Analysis of Ephemeral Rangeland Streams In The Altar Valley, Arizona: 2011-2016”

2nd Place: Chris Miller
Angelo State University
Presentation Title: “Preconditioning Procedures and Supplementation to Increase Redberry Juniper Consumption by Goats”

PhD Poster Presentation

1st Place: Casey Spackman
Utah State University
Presentation Title: “Glyphosate Application and Cattle Grazing: An Integrated Approach to Control Medusahead”

2nd Place: Cheryl McIntyre
University of Arizona
Presentation Title: “Influence of Biological Soil Crusts on Grass Germination and Establishment of Native and Non-native Grasses”

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All photos courtesy of Dr. Doug Ramsey