

## COMMITTEE REPORT 2017 Annual Meeting

St. George, Utah

Date: **January 29, 2017**

Committee Name: **Targeted Grazing**

Committee Chairs: **John Hendrickson** (Chair); **Beth Reynolds** (Chair Elect)

Committee members in Attendance: **Marc Horney, Kasey DeAtley, Lou Hagener, Chris Schachtschneider, Ariana Altier, Danielle Hedglin, Bridgette Eldridge, Emily Krahn, Alejandro Orozco, Andrea La Come, Ellaina Reece, Erin Campbell-Craven, Danielle Clenet, Bailey Hartman, Jamie McCormack, Joe Hicks, Jeff Goodwin, Andree Soares, Mauracio Nunez, Cami Dixon, Katie Brown, Misty Hays, Cooper Sherrill, Laura Goodman, Maggie Gannon, Derek Bailey, Zachariah Bauer, Claudia Ingham, David Toledo, Jeff Mosley, Jeff Printz, David Pyke, Karen Launchbaugh, John Walker**

BOD Representative: **Joe Hicks (past), Jeff Goodwin (in-coming)**

### I. Progress Report – 2016- Narrative/Bullet items

- A conference call was held in March to evaluate the idea of certifying Targeted Grazers. The call included John Hendrickson, John Walker, Karen Launchbaugh, Beth Reynolds, Ray Holes. It was determined that the idea should move forward and concepts explored include certifying grazers and how that would work or certifying courses/seminars or the instructors themselves. White paper was developed to present to the BOD at this annual meeting.
- Synthesis Paper - great value of role of Targeted Grazing with ecological recovery but need to assign to someone to complete. **Derek Bailey** can help get it published in REM. Merrita Fraker-Marbel, can facilitate Skype calls.
- Impact photos - none have been received to date. John Walker has some great photos to start collection and could be posted to Facebook/social media or website and could be used to request more for our collection. Short description of what they are showing: location, time of year, specie description, livestock, stocking density, what is target of project. Moving forward: send to gmail account and remind people to send them in.
- Grazer contact list - list started that captures several grazers in CA but need more from other states. Could have people enter info at <http://Targetedgrazing.wordpress.com> to continue building list. Karen and Beth will create an online form for contract grazers to enter information, then create a link to the resulting google doc on the website to make this information available on our website.
- Glossary - Dr. Horney shared terms and definitions used for rangelands and committee will be asked to look at terms that relate to their specialty to be edited, removed, or added with suggestions.

## II. Planned activities in 2017—Narrative/Bullet items

- David Pyke - Rangeland fire mitigation from Secretarial order lists Targeted Grazing as an approach that works for fire mitigation. Demonstration area at BLM Elko District where practitioners will be grazing cattle for specific objective of reducing fine fuels. Mostly cheat grass but focus is not about natives/invasives, done at growing season but a place that firefighters can fight a fire from. These 3 sites, standardized monitoring, randomized points in and out of grazing plots. Pat Clark wants to do multiple sites looking at: livestock, grazing timing, and how implemented to have a series of published results for sagebrush ecosystems fire load reduction. How is this consistent across ecosystems? Are there known areas this would work well and livestock managers to participate in?
- Webinar series - Committee wants to partner with other committees to host webinars on topics as they relate to TG: Riparian/Watershed, Invasive Plant Species, Wildlife. Karen L. and Christopher S. will discuss this opportunity with chairs of those committees to facilitate three webinars for 2017
- Social Media - assigned sub committee included: Marc Horney, David Toledo, Beth Reynolds, Maggie Gannon, and Nadia Mori; looked at what are existing websites and resources available already that contain info about Targeted Grazing. Who are people that are interested in or promoting TG and have a following already. Maggie Gannon shared current accounts (Facebook, instagram, and website). Beth, Maggie, and David Toledo are administrators on Facebook account. Content of what should be posted (research, individual bios, news articles) was discussed to be mindful of to not necessarily be promoting one person over another and establishing appropriate content. Moving forward: Facebook- "go live" is assigned role on the TG Facebook account and it will be a live feed so people watching can ask questions and like or comment. Committee will ask TG practitioners to use "Go-Live" feature to help stimulate activity within the next year. Facebook posts can be "shared" which will increase viewing and get people back to our site. Discussed acceptable content as "promoting the science and application of TG in a professional manner." Content can will be approved by administrators as well as which other sites to "Like" that will add content to our site. How can we tie this in with SRM social media? We could post and ask Mary Jo to please link or mention from the SRM sites. Cooperative Extension could be a great aid to disseminate info as they use social media currently. Put in SRM Flash to help promote it among SRM. Facebook account is currently a page but will be changed to a "public group" so anyone can join but we can still control content.
- Certifying targeted grazing - accrediting courses and trainers that would offer classes/seminars that public could take to understand more and grazers could list

as an advertising tool. We would outline what topics need to be covered and put our stamp of approval on the program itself. Instructor could be approached or could approach Committee and submit syllabus. Could also recognize good TG grazers and if someone did a "3-month" internship with that we could somehow recognize that experience/offer reference? Next step: present idea to BOD on Thursday to get feedback. Then bring together leading practitioners to help develop what those topics would be and what are alternatives if no school or course offered

- Plan of work for the year to be outlined based on this report and no funding is needed at this time to move forward with. Next year we should ask for money for printing the Synthesis Paper.
- Claudia Ingham is nominated as Chair-Elect and Chris Schachtschneider is to join Social-media sub committee group.