



## *Society for Range Management*

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February 13, 2017

President Donald J. Trump  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump:

The Society for Range Management (SRM) is a professional organization providing nearly 70 years of leadership for the sound use and stewardship of rangelands (e.g., grassland, brushland, and savanna ecosystems). Rangelands cover about half the land area of the United States, and are vital watersheds for the production of livestock, energy, clean water, clean air, and productive wildlife habitat. Rangelands are comprised of some of the most iconic, wide-open vistas in our country that have long been, and will continue to be, the lifeblood of both rural and urban communities. SRM membership brings together private and public land managers, academics, agricultural and natural resource businesses, ranchers, and representatives of various wildlife and natural resource conservation groups to ensure sustained health, proper use, and productivity of these unique lands.

We respectfully ask that your administration consider incorporating the following points into your policy for the management of the nation's natural resources:

- Healthy rangelands underpin productive economies for rural communities.
- Successful management of public and private rangelands is achieved through cooperative conservation planning and public-private partnerships on natural resource issues.
- Rangeland management relies heavily on research and education programs of universities and various federal agencies for information, technology, and planning expertise.
- Drought, wildfire and fuels, invasive species, and other threats to communities require flexible risk management approaches.
- Providing sound information and outreach to rangeland users, wildlife managers, and the public will ensure continued improvement of rangeland stewardship and wildlife habitat.
- The best management plans are produced by a workforce that is highly trained, and in specific cases, professionally certified; the Administration must encourage professional training and continuing education opportunities for federal and public employees who are tasked with managing our country's natural resources.

SRM stands ready for the opportunity to partner with you and your administration as your "go to" organization for training, continuing education, and professional certification opportunities for the nation's rangeland and wildlife habitat managers. Please do not hesitate to contact Jess Peterson, SRM Executive Vice President (202-870-3867), or myself (Larry Howery, SRM President; 520-309-5412) with any questions or requests for information or advisement.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry D. Howery, Ph.D.  
President, Society for Range Management