

Rangeland Reclamation and Restoration Committee Handbook

I. **Vision:** A community of experts enabling improved rangeland health worldwide.

II. Mission/Purpose

The R&R Committee has three purposes:

- A. To serve the SRM community by facilitating the sharing of knowledge and information that will help scientists, practitioners and land managers better understand and implement restoration and reclamation measures to reclaim or restore degraded rangelands.
- B. To assist the SRM in providing professional leadership in the development and implementation of rangeland reclamation and restoration by government agencies, industry, private individuals, and other organizations beyond the SRM community.
- C. To assist the Board of Directors in developing and implementing SRM policy and methods documents (including Position Statements as appropriate) related to rangeland restoration and reclamation, and to ensure that such documents are objective, scientifically sound, and consistent with professional experience.

III. Responsibilities

The Rangeland Reclamation and Restoration Committee will seek to achieve its purpose by the following general means:

- A. The Committee will maintain contact with the major agencies, non-governmental organizations, and professional groups that are involved in research, development, and implementation of rangeland reclamation and restoration, and promote coordination of efforts to strive for unified and comparative results.
- B. The Committee will evaluate ongoing efforts to develop and implement rangeland reclamation and restoration procedures and offer constructive comments to improve the scientific basis for such procedures.
- C. The Committee will conduct and encourage others to conduct educational and training programs related to rangeland reclamation and restoration for the continuing education of SRM members and other groups.
- D. The Committee will assist the SRM in developing policy and position statements related to rangeland reclamation and restoration issues, and provide other required assistance to SRM's officers in this area of expertise.

IV. Authority

The Rangeland Reclamation and Restoration Committee was established in 2016 by the SRM President with approval of the Board of Directors. The committee has authority to (1) make recommendations relating to the evaluation, coordination, and implementation of rangeland restoration and monitoring, and (2) recommend official policy statements on rangeland reclamation and restoration to the President and Board of Directors.

V. Committee Structure

1. **Membership**

Membership of the R&R Committee is open to member of SRM, there are no term limitations, and those members in attendance can vote. Although only SRM members may vote on committee matters, annual meetings and other committee activities will be open to all interested parties. The official list of committee membership will be drawn from the sign-in list from the annual meeting, along with anyone who does not attend the annual meeting but notifies the R&R Committee Chair, Co-Chair or Past Chair of their desire to become or remain active. It is the responsibility of those not present at annual meetings to inform the R&R Committee of their desire to become or remain active on the committee. Only those persons on the official list of committee members will receive materials from the R&R Committee. The committee is free to conduct their affairs as agreed upon by those present at the annual meeting, including the rules of membership and the terms and appointment of Chairs and Co-Chairs. At times the committee may choose to proactively recruit members depending on need.
2. **Chair and Co-Chair**

Leadership is provided by a Chairperson and a Co-Chairperson, both selected by the R&R membership and serving one-year terms. The Co-Chair automatically advances to Chair at the end of their Co-Chair term. Vacant Co-Chair positions are usually filled by individuals volunteering to serve. If no one steps forward, the Second Vice President will appoint a Co-Chair one year prior to the beginning of their one year term. If the Co-Chair cannot become Chair at the end of their one year term, the previous Chair can elect to serve a second term or a new Chair will be determined via volunteers or appointment as described above.
3. **Past Chair**

During the year following their Chairperson term, the past Chair will serve in an advisory role to assist the current Chair and Co-Chair.
4. **Voting**

The Committee shall seek to establish positions and recommendations by discussion and consensus. However, in the event that issues cannot be resolved without an official vote, the following rules will apply: (1) A quorum will be established if the Chair or Co-Chair plus 5 members of the committee are present or have given a written proxy to those present. (2) The Chair and Co-Chair are voting members of the committee. (3) Decisions will be made based on a simple majority vote. In the event of a tie, the chair will submit an additional tie-breaking vote. (4) When the issue at hand directly involves one of the committee members in their employment or other professional activity, those members should abstain from voting on the issue.

VI. **Activities and Meetings**

A. **Responsibilities of the Chair**

1. Schedule and chair committee meetings. Solicit new business items from the membership for inclusion in meeting agendas. The date, place and agenda for the meeting shall be sent to members with ample time for making travel, conference call or online meeting arrangements.
2. Develop and implement an annual plan of work with the committee members. This should be done prior to the end of the annual meeting when the Chair takes office.
3. Disseminate information to membership and other entities (e.g. SRM Board of Directors, other professional organizations) and provide a forum for membership to express ideas and concerns relating to R&R issues between annual meetings.
4. Act as the contact between the committee, the Officers and Board of Directors of SRM, and other SRM committees. Attend the pre-Annual Meeting with the board to help improve communications between the board and the committees.
5. Maintain close liaison with the Co-Chair.
6. Take the initiative to consult with the 1st and 2nd Vice-Presidents of SRM regarding the appointment and/or reappointment of the Co-Chair or Chair.

B. **Responsibilities of the Co-Chair**

1. Act in place of the Chair when necessary
2. Assist Chair with his/her duties as listed above.
3. Prepare minutes or meeting notes on each meeting and distribute to the committee members, President, and Executive Vice-President of SRM in a timely manner.
4. Maintain close liaison with the Chair and activities of the committee.
5. Take the initiative to consult with the 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents of SRM regarding the appointment and/or reappointment of the Co-Chair or Chair.

C. **Responsibilities of the Past-Chair**

1. Advise the Chair and Co-Chair
2. Act in place of Chair and Co-Chair if necessary.

D. **Responsibilities of the Committee Members**

1. Will be an active member of the R&R Committee, representing restoration, revegetation, reclamation, rehabilitation, and related topics to SRM and representing SRM to the larger community involved with restoration and reclamation. When dealing with outside groups, as a representative not only for the R&R Committee, but for SRM as a whole, the member must adhere to all policy and position guidelines accepted by SRM.
2. Will encourage scientists and practitioners, regardless of their SRM membership status, to participate in the R&R Committee annual meeting and contribute to the expertise of the group.

3. Will encourage presentations on restoration and reclamation at the annual meeting and inclusion of restoration and reclamation topics in SRM publications ranging from newsletters to peer-reviewed journals.
4. Will provide relevant information to the Chair and Co-Chair in order to update a list of experts for SRM.
5. Will actively participate in meetings, including bringing new business to the committee in person, via email, or via teleconference.
6. Will volunteer for R&R Committee duties in the annual work plan, including hosting symposia or technical sessions at the annual meeting of SRM, and in collaborating with other SRM committees with mutual interests.

E. **Subcommittees**

Subcommittees may be appointed by the Chair or Co-Chair as necessary to accomplish committee plans of work, establish contact with other groups, or for any other relevant purpose. Subcommittees can be formed including people with special knowledge or skills who are not regular or organizational members of the R&R committee.

F. **Meetings**

The committee will meet once a year at the annual SRM meeting (either in person or via teleconference) to:

- Share ideas, information, and knowledge
- Serve as a forum to discuss current issues
- Report on the past year's activities
- Review and provide comments on resolutions and methods documents
- Provide recommendations to the Board of Directors concerning SRM policy and position statements
- Plan and develop Reclamation and Restoration Symposia and Workshops for annual meetings
- Make a work plan for the upcoming year
- Select a new Co-Chair for the upcoming year

Other meetings will be scheduled by the Chair at such time, place and frequency as needed. Electronic communication and the Committee Webpage will be used extensively to accomplish the committee's activities between meetings.

VII. **Handbook Revisions or Amendments**

This handbook is intended as a living or "evergreen" document that may be revised via a vote by the committee membership.