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February 22, 1994

M E M O R A N D U M

To: SRM Watershed Riparian Committee

From: Sherman Swanson, Chair *SS*

Subject: Minutes, Handbook and Report to the Board

I've enclosed a set of minutes from the meeting in Colorado Springs. I was quite pleased with the work accomplished at the meeting and with the ambitious plans we have for the next few years.

I reported to the Board of Directors on Thursday afternoon and they accepted our plans with only minor comments. See the enclosed report to the Board and the italicized comments. I learned earlier that they had already decided to extend our Committee and had apparently accepted the handbook (also enclosed).

I've been in contact with some of you regarding our assignments. Please keep in touch. I've also scheduled our next meeting for January 15 from 9:00 to 4:00 in Phoenix. I'll see you then.

SRM Watershed Riparian Committee  
Minutes of the meeting in Colorado Springs, 2/16/1994

Members and others present: Sherman Swanson-Chair, Mark Weltz-1995 Chair, Bruce Healy, Elwood Burge, Neal Beetch, Fred Pierson, Marianne Kline, John Buckhouse, Mel George, Daryle Bennett, Dan Merkel, and Roger Dean

Following appropriate discussion, the following decisions were made by consensus:

Mark Weltz (with help from Fred and Sherm) will organize a symposium on Soil Loss Tolerance (T) for the 1996 Annual Meetings. He will prepare an outline to send to the Committee for our discussion at the 1995 Meeting.

Mel George (with help from Sherman Swanson and John Buckhouse) will request and organize a Workshop on the Art of Riparian Management in the Ecoregions of the West. Invited panelists would each write a draft paper synthesizing literature reviews with practical experience. Following the workshop and subsequent review and rewrite, these would be published by the EPA funded project led by Mel George, John Buckhouse, and Sherman Swanson.

Sherman Swanson (with help from Roger Dean) will ask the Board of Directors to write a letter to Bob Perchiseppi, nominating membership to the grazing subcommittee of the committee that reevaluates the Best Management Plans (Measures) from the Coastal Zone Management Act for inclusion into those adopted for the Reauthorized Clean Water Act. These members would also be asked to provide input regarding the pasture and rangeland part of formula for distribution of funds to states for Section 319, Nonpoint Source Implementation Projects. Note, Mel George has worked on the CZMA BMPs.

Sherman Swanson (with help from Roger Dean) will consult with the Board of Directors regarding asking Ray Housley to work the hill requesting language (in the reauthorized Clean Water Act) authorizing non-agency interest group representation on: 1. the Interagency Committee that replaces the National Nonpoint Source Task Force; and 2. the Interagency Committee for putting together the National Program Guidance. Note: The National Nonpoint Source Task Force, which was discontinued in 1989, had such representation.

Sherman Swanson (with help from Mark Weltz, Sherman Swanson, Mel George and Fred Pierson) will prepare an outline for a book on Rangeland Riparian Ecosystem Management. The book will largely consist of reprinted seminal papers uncovering the diversity of appropriate topics. Consideration will be given to incorporating a revision to the SRM Rangeland Hydrology Book. The outline or concept description will also discuss possible funding sources and projected timeline and cost to become camera ready and printed.

Mark Wultz (with help from Roger Dean and John Buckhouse) will write a 1-page proposal for EPA to fund an SRM contingent meeting with the EMAP group of EPA. This group will help the EMAP group coordinate the work of the Committee for Unity in Concepts and Terminology, National Academy of Sciences Committee that published Rangeland Health, and other (non-EPA) rangeland agencies into their approach for arid lands monitoring. This effort will be coordinated through Bud Rumberg and the Board or Directors.

The Committee will meet from 9:00 to 4:00 next year on Sunday January 15 in Phoenix.

SRM Watershed Riparian Committee  
Report to the Board of Directors for 1993 - early 1994:

Committee Chair:

- The 1993 Committee Chair was Jim Dobrowolski. However, Sherman Swanson took over when Jim went on sabbatical leave out of the country. Sherman was appointed for 1994.

Board Representative:

- The Board of Directors representative to the Watershed Riparian Committee had been Barbara Allen-Dias. However, Dennis Phillippi assumed that role at the meeting last year and both have been consulted regarding this report.

Board Action Required:

- Consideration of decisions from the WRC meeting on Wednesday (see below)

Preferred Day for Reporting:

- Thursday after 4:00.

Accomplishments in 1993 and through the 1994 Annual Meeting:

- At the 1993 SRM Annual Meeting, we hosted a Riparian Symposium.
- At the 1994 SRM Annual Meeting, we hosted a Forum on the Reauthorization of the Clean Water Act.
- We reviewed position statements and resolutions.
- We reviewed a monitoring primer.
- We provided guidance regarding funding for research.
- We provided a forum at our meetings for members addressing numerous topical issues.

Decisions at the 1994 Meeting on Wednesday February 16:

- We will request a letter from SRM to EPA (Bob Perchiseppi) nominating SRM members to the grazing subcommittee of the committee that reevaluates the Best Management Plans (Measures) from the Coastal Zone Management Act for inclusion into those adopted for the Reauthorized Clean Water Act. These members would also be asked to provide input regarding the pasture and rangeland part of the formula for distribution of funds to the states for Section 319, Nonpoint Source Implementation Projects. Note, Mel George has worked on the CZMA BMPs. *The board concurred. Roger Dean will draft a letter for Bud Rumberg.*
- We will consult with the Board of Directors regarding asking Ray Housley to work the hill requesting language (in the reauthorized Clean Water Act) authorizing nonagency interest group representation on: 1. the National Interagency Committee that replaces the Nonpoint Source Task Force; and 2. The National Interagency Committee for National Program Guidance Note: The Nonpoint Source Task Force had such representation. *The board concurred. Ray will work on this.*

- We will write a 1-page proposal for EPA to fund an SRM contingent meeting with the EMAP group of EPA. This group will help the EMAP group coordinate the work of the Committee for Unity in Concepts and Terminology, National Academy of Sciences Committee that published Rangeland Health, and other (non-EPA) rangeland agencies into their approach for arid lands monitoring. This effort will be coordinated through Bud Rumberg and the Board or Directors. *The board approved, but noted that there is no longer a National Academy of Sciences Committee. Therefore the Committee for Unity in Concepts and Terminology should represent SRM.*
- We will work with the Publications Committee regarding an idea for a book on Rangeland Riparian Ecosystem Management. *The Board agreed that the next step is to develop an outline and contact Jim Stubbendieck, Chair of the Publications Committee. He agreed that the next step is to flesh out an outline including the papers we want to include and which chapters may need to be written or rewritten.*
- We will request a Workshop on the Art of Rangeland Riparian Ecosystem Management at the 1995 Annual Meetings. *The board suggested we contact Bill Miller, Program Manager for the Phoenix Meetings.*
- We will request a Symposium on Soil Loss Tolerance at the 1996 Annual Meetings. *The Board suggested that we contact Walt Fick, Program Manager for the Kansas City Meeting.*
- The Committee will meet on Sunday January 15 from 9:00 to 4:00 next year in Phoenix.

## Watershed Riparian Committee Handbook

### Purpose:

The Watershed Riparian Committee serves SRM by focusing attention, knowledge and staff work on issues involving rangelands as watersheds and riparian areas as critical components of these hydrologic and ecologic systems.

### Function:

The Watershed Riparian Committee functions as a network of ideas, people, and institutional relationships. Collaborative work in the future is likely to produce results to extend our record of accomplishment from recent years. The Committee has put on two Riparian Symposia and a Forum on the Reauthorization of the Clean Water Act. We have reviewed numerous documents including EPA and other publications, SRM resolutions and position statements, and research, legislative, or policy proposals. We also serve as a forum for discussing selected current events and for sharing knowledge about upcoming opportunities, initiatives, models, and conceptual frameworks.

### Justification:

The Watershed Riparian Committee ought to provide critical support in the future as increasing concern about livestock grazing management's role in water quality, ecosystem management, and rangeland health require both good thought and thoughtful proactive work.

### Membership:

One third of the Committee's nine members rotate off each year. Committee members and the Chair are appointed by the incoming President of SRM. However, meetings are open to all who care to participate.