**How does moisture availability affect reclamation and restoration on rangelands?**

**SRM 2018 Annual Meeting**

**Monday, January 29 at 1 pm in Sparks, Nevada**

From desert shrublands to mesic tall-grass prairies and aspen parklands, rangelands are highly variable in terms of water availability, and this has major consequences for ecosystem structure, function and resilience as well as restoration and reclamation efforts. For example, while restoration in deserts is often focused on creating and maintaining plant cover of any kind, efforts in mesic prairies often aim toward enhancing plant diversity and combating invasive or encroaching plant species. This symposium explores the role of moisture availability as a driver of similarities and differences in restoration and reclamation among rangeland types, with respect to goals, strategies, challenges, and criteria for success.

**Session Length:** Half-day

**List of presenters (each talk 20 min):**

1:00 PM    Darin Sherritt (Tannas Conservation Services, Ltd.): “How moisture gradients affect reclamation of native grasslands in Alberta”.

1:20 PM    Matthew Rinella (USDA-ARS, Miles City, MT): “Shrub restoration in the northern Great Plains”.

1:40 PM    Julea Shaw, Elise Gornish and Leslie Roche (University of California, Davis Cooperative Extension):  “Integrated management practices for native grassland restoration in Mediterranean California”.

2:00 PM    Todd E. Erickson (The University of Western Australia / Kings Park Botanic Garden), John M. Dwyer, Jeremy J. James, Olga A. Kildisheva, Miriam Muñoz-Rojas, Shane R. Turner, David J. Merritt: “Unpacking seed regeneration for restoration in Australian drylands: complex interactions between species, moisture availability, and soil type”.

2:20 PM    Abdullahi H. Ali (Hirola Conservation Programme, Kenya), Lauren Porensky, Kari Veblen: “Rangeland Restoration for Hirola, The World’s Most Endangered Antelope, Kenya.”

2:40 PM    Seth Munson (USGS): “Long-term Plant Responses to Climate are Moderated by Biophysical Attributes Across the Southwestern U.S.: Implications for Restoration.”

3:00 PM    Break

3:20 PM    Brandon T. Bestelmeyer, Laura M. Burkett (USDA-ARS Las Cruces, NM), and Leticia Lister (BLM Las Cruces District Office, Las Cruces, NM): “Understanding spatial variability in perennial grass restoration following shrub removal in the Chihuahuan Desert: The Restore New Mexico Collaborative Monitoring Program.”

3:40 PM    Lauren Porensky (USDA-ARS, Fort Collins), Elizabeth Leger, Barry Perryman and Matthew Madsen: “Moisture, plant-plant interactions and herbivory as drivers of rangeland restoration success in the western US.”

4:00 PM    Elizabeth Leger (University of Nevada, Reno), Jay Davison, W. Wally Miller, Lauren M. Porensky, Shauna Uselman, Erin M. Goergen, Erin K. Espeland, and Erin C. Moore: “Active old-field restoration in the most arid lands of the Great Basin”.

4:20 PM    Group Discussion

4:50 PM    Session Adjourns