2020 Rangeland Cup Topic – SRM Denver, CO

World population projections indicate that there will be 9.8 billion people on earth by 2050 (UN, 2017). Rangeland ecosystems represent the largest and most diverse land resource, providing multiple ecosystem goods and services to both local communities and the larger public. Traditionally, rangeland science and management have focused on agricultural production (e.g., forage and livestock), which are critical provisioning services that contribute to the nation's food supply; however, society now places growing importance on the delivery of additional ecosystem services, such as water quality regulation, wildlife habitat and cultural/recreational services, and alternative energy development. Balancing multiple conservation and agricultural production goals on rangeland agroecosystems in an economically realistic manner will be a key challenge in an already variable and changing environment.

- 1. Identify the next transformational issue in rangeland management that will be a key component to obtaining/achieving agricultural production goals to meet the 2050 population projections. Consider multiple types of impacts (ecological, economic, social, etc.) and multiple ecosystems.
- 2. Discuss a(n) management practice(s) to implement to address the issue identified above.
- 3. Provide a specific recommendation to solve the issue you have outlined under prompt one, and describe how it relates to agriculture production to meet the needs of the 2050 global population.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS

DECEMBER 6, 2019

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