

Society for Range Management's

# RANGELAND REVIEW

A LOOK BACK  
AND  
A LOOK FORWARD



Featuring the 2020 Annual  
Report, presented at the 2021  
Annual Meeting



PC: Sarah Johnson



# THE SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT

## MISSION:

**Providing leadership for the Stewardship of Rangelands based on sound ecological principles.**

## VISION:

**A well-trained and highly motivated group of professionals and rangeland users working with productive, sustainable rangeland ecosystems.**

### *SRM DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STATEMENT*

*The Society for Range Management (SRM) is a diverse body of members, employees, and representatives that are dedicated to leading the stewardship of rangelands based on sound ecological principles.*

*These principles have led us to understand that Humankind originated in rangelands, thus resulting in the present day global diversity of peoples, languages, cultures, and natural resource management and socio-economic systems.*

*SRM welcomes, encourages, affirms, and values the participation and inclusion of all individuals with an interest in rangelands regardless of race, color, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation, national origin, culture, educational status, disabilities, emerging ideas and perspectives, or socio-economic status. We vigorously strive to eliminate implicit bias and reject discrimination and stereotyping within the society by proactively fostering tolerance, mutual respect, and multicultural awareness and competency by actively promoting inclusion in membership, education & training, competition, leadership, committees, staff, and all other areas of SRM activity.*

**VISIT US AT:**  
[www.rangelands.org](http://www.rangelands.org)





# WE ARE RANGELANDS

PC, Sarah Johnson

## ABOUT THIS REPORT.

From Capitol Hill to the Countryside, the SRM has been at the forefront of rangeland management for nearly 75 years. We are dedicated to delivering unparalleled support for rangeland science, management, and leadership, serving as the voice for the stewardship of Rangelands across the world. Driven by our membership, we are the leading organization committed to sustainable, science-based management of rangelands.

This report was created to showcase how we deliver on our commitment. It highlights the efforts of our leadership, committee members, sections, general membership, and staff in driving boots-on-the-ground initiatives forward and making an impact. As you read through the pages, our hope is that it paints a picture of the value of membership with SRM, and that it will inspire you to get further involved with the society.

## WHY MEMBERSHIP IS IMPORTANT?

SRM is a society for the land-- and for the people who love the land. We encompass all perspectives of the rangeland community and those who are passionate about the health and stewardship of rangelands. We are built on the involvement, dedication, and leadership of our members. SRM is strongest when we have the diversity of thought, activity, and action that comes with a broad and committed membership. When colleagues like you are with us, we build our strength, not only as a society, but also as a voice in the rangeland community.

WE ARE RANGELANDS.





# PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Dr. Charles Hart*  
2020 SRM PRESIDENT



It has been an honor, a privilege, and both rewarding and challenging to serve as the 2020 SRM President. The year started off with a bang at our Denver annual meeting. The planning committee did an excellent job in planning and executing a successful meeting, and we started the year on a high note. As everyone knows, the bottom fell out after that with the first case of Covid-19 in the US. Certainly, a challenge to each of us personally and a challenge to SRM. My first thought turns to you and your families and praying that you have all been able to weather the storm, stay healthy and survive. It's been a challenge for our careers as well with restrictions on travel and face-to-face meetings and changed the climate of how we do business. Whether you work for a University, Government, Industry or work independently, restrictions have been the norm for 2020.

It's been no different for SRM as an organization, but thanks to the foresight by our EVP and Staff, we have had to only make minor changes in how we do business. Our staff has been working virtually and are located across the US for the last several years now and have not missed a beat. Kudos to past leadership and our current EVP, Jess Peterson, for implementing this strategy. For your Officers and Board of Directors it did bring some challenges and changes. We spent the first couple months after the annual meeting trying to figure out what this pandemic means, how long it will last and when to make decisions related to SRM future happenings. It became very clear early on that travel and face-to-face meetings were going to be a challenge.

I remember Barry Irving, as co-chair of the 2021 Boise Annual Meeting, being the first to come to the board and officers and recommend that we need to make a change in venue. Quite frankly at that time I thought this thing would be short lived and we'd be back to normal by summer. However, due to contracts and uncertainty, SRM was one of the first organizations to convert our annual meeting to a virtual format in 2021. Not an easy decision but looking back today, it was the right decision. We have every intention and are planning on resuming our normal annual meeting cadence beginning with Albuquerque in 2022 and back to Boise in 2023. However, I do think there are some positives to having this virtual meeting as it allows many that prefer not to travel or can't afford to travel to attend the meeting. My hope is that we do a better job in the future to have meetings that are a hybrid of virtual and on-site to accommodate more members.

Our next big decision was our normal Summer board meeting and DC Fly-in. With the basic "evacuation" of Washington DC, that decision was essentially made for us. Add the fact that most of our employers were not allowing air travel during mid-2020, it became clear we were going to have to conduct our summer board meeting virtual as well. Fortunately, we were able to organize a virtual Inter-Agency range meeting, which has become a highlight of our DC Fly-in over the last few years. It was quite successful, attended by representatives from most of the land management agencies including USFS, USDA ARS, NRCS, BLM, BIA, USGS, USFWS, NPS and Dept. of State.

Another milestone of 2020 was the retirement of long-time SRM family member Vicky Trujillo. It's hard for me to remember SRM without Vicky. She has been the consistent face at our Denver office and at the annual meetings, particularly when it came to the Awards Ceremony. She gave her all at our annual meetings to make sure all the I's were dotted, and T's were crossed. While Vicky loved what she did and loved her SRM family, she made the decision to retire and spend more time with her immediate family including her mom, daughter, and grandchildren. Vicky has been missed and we owe her a great debt of gratitude.

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*Dr. Charles Hart*  
2020 SRM PRESIDENT



Immediately after her announcement, EVP Peterson went to work to formulate a new staffing plan. Much of the work done for years by Vicky was divided up among current and new faces. What's important to note is that some of our staff is covered in our annual contract with Western Skies Strategies but some are also contract employees directly with SRM. With the reorganization of staff and their responsibilities and the addition of people, our goal is for each staff member to have more time to take care of the duties they are assigned. Additionally, we have pledged to give more staff support to committees and task forces in the future. We also took this opportunity to update the "unofficial" job descriptions of officers and directors. We now have these updated and available on our website so that members can understand what all is expected when considering running for office.

With the SRM Staff being located around the US and converted nearly 100% to virtual, the officers and EVP Peterson agreed it was in the best interest of SRM to vacate our Denver office, which was a monthly rental cost for us. While we have done that for now, it doesn't mean we can't open an office in the future if leadership decides it would be beneficial. For now, we believe it best not to maintain a physical office. All the files and archives from the Denver office are safely protected in storage. My hope is that much of the historical documents can be converted to digital and preserved indefinitely.

The pandemic could not completely stifle progress and accomplishments within SRM. An issue raised by a group of our membership was a focus on Diversity and Inclusion. A task force was formed, and the final report presented at the Denver Annual Meeting Board of Directors meeting. The task force report recommended we establish a standing committee on Diversity and Inclusion and gave some suggestions and recommendations on how the committee could benefit SRM. The board voted to accept that recommendation and tasked me to establish a SRM Diversity and Inclusion Committee. That has been done, the committee populated, placed under the Administrative Division and they have hit the ground running. The first draft of the committee handbook outlining the function and structure of the committee has been presented to the Board and Officers and is under review. Plans are also being made by the committee for a workshop at the 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting. Many thanks to those that have volunteered to help get this committee up and running.

Task Forces are another way of getting things accomplished within SRM and this year has been no different. Task forces formed and active this year include the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralist (IYRP) task force looking at providing organization and guidance to the IYRP designation and SRM Journals Open Access task force looking at the overall impact of open access to our journals and SRM. One final task force being formed is an Ecosystem Services task force to look at our support and involvement in this important topic.

Finally, you may have noticed a big push prior to the 2021 Annual Meeting to drive involvement in SRM Committees. A series of Range Flash articles were written and sent out to the membership to promote membership on committees. Committees are the lifeblood of SRM but cannot function without member involvement. I leave you with a push for your active involvement in SRM through volunteering to be active on the committee of your choice. There are many types of committees that help guide our society, provide guidance for policy and financial decisions, guide communications and membership outreach, promote professional education and collaboration and provide a forum for the exchange of science related to managing rangelands and pastures across the globe. If you are not active in at least one committee, please consider it today.



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Dr. Poncho Ortega*  
2021 SRM PRESIDENT



Saludos from South Texas!

It is almost impossible to believe that for many of us the last time we traveled was to our SRM Annual Meeting in Denver, CO. As indicated by President Charlie Hart, the planning committee did an excellent job in planning and executing an outstanding meeting. We did not imagine the rest of 2020 would be a challenge not only professionally but also personally and that one of the priorities for everybody would be to stay healthy and survive. I know many of us lost family and friends I pray for the ones that are not with us any longer and for the health of everybody else. My gratitude to President Charlie Hart for his dedication to SRM in these difficult times, even with the pandemic, he was able to lead SRM to continue to advance to accomplish our mission.

I remember very vividly the experience as a Second Vice President to appoint members to committees, it was not easy, however, during 2020 President Hart and the Board of Directors made a very important effort to inform our membership about the importance of getting involved with committees and making this process simple. I encourage you to make the decision to include yourself on the committees you are interested. Do not wait for an invitation.

As the planning committee for the 2021 SRM virtual meeting finalized all of the arrangements, the initial feeling of disappointment for not being able to meet face to face faded out, and was replaced with the hope for the 2022 meeting in Albuquerque, NM. Planning a virtual meeting required a lot of learning and adjustment for the planning committee... a big thanks to them, it was a great experience. Just like when we work with grazing management, flexibility and adaptation are key factors to be successful.

I am honored to be the SRM President, the second Mexican-national in the history of SRM. Dr. Martin Gonzalez was the first one in the 70's and I am not even close to his stature but thank you for the opportunity. I look forward to continue with the efforts of getting more members involved in SRM activities. As reflected in our 2021 budget, we are placing a great effort to motivate young professionals and students to make SRM their professional home. Starting with our virtual meeting 2021 all the student competitions will have cash awards, I thank the Board of Directors for supporting this initiative. I will continue the efforts to strengthen collaborations with other professional societies and I commend the wildlife habitat committee for their involvement with the Wildlife Society. As a rancher, I look forward to find ways to get more ranchers involved in SRM and I welcome any ideas. In the end, I think 2020 provided the opportunity to reflect on the many great things we have and that we may take it for granted. I look forward for a 2021 full of work and accomplishments for our rangelands, and I pray to God for guidance and direction.



# WE ARE RANGELANDS



## ADMINISTRATIVE REMINDERS

### KEEP US IN THE LOOP!

**Are you involved in Section Leadership?** Please send Leadership rosters and **Section Meeting Dates** to the SRM Headquarters so we can update the website.

**Are you serving on a committee?** Please let us know leadership positions and rosters.

**Is your contact information up to date?** Let us know if you're not receiving SRM Communications-- you may need to update your contact information! Reach out to SRM HQ!

**Interested in a Donation?** Consider contributions to the SRM Endowment Fund, which serves as a vital element in continuing to achieve the established goal and ideals of the Society. Have you heard of *AmazonSmile*? *AmazonSmile* is a website operated by *Amazon* with the same products, prices, and shopping features as *Amazon.com*. The difference is that when you shop on *AmazonSmile*, they will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice--- please select Society for Range Management!





# 2021 ELECTED LEADERS BEGIN TERM

At the 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting, came the conclusion of leadership terms of President Charlie Hart and 2 Directors Dr. Maria Fernandez-Gimenez and Dr. Barry Perryman . With this transition, leaders that were nominated and elected by SRM members began their terms. This includes 2nd Vice President Dr. Barry Perryman and Directors Delane Atcitty and Dr. John Taylor.

## NOMINATIONS FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The SRM Nominating Committee annually receives nominations for the office of 2nd Vice President and Board of Directors from qualified voting members of SRM or from any SRM Section. After reviewing the submitted nomination packets and interviewing nominees at the annual meeting, the Nominating Committee selects 2 candidates for 2nd Vice President, and 4 candidates for Board of Directors and presents the list of candidates for the SRM election ballot to the Executive Vice President prior to the end of each annual meeting for approval. Reach out and put forward a nomination!

## DR. BARRY PERRYMAN

*2nd Vice President (Reno, Nevada)*

Dr. Perryman, a past SRM Director, has an extensive career in rangeland management. We see his name consistently on the issue of Wild Horses and Burros.



Notably, he currently serves on the appointed National Wild Horse & Burro Advisory Board, Steering Committee for Free Roaming Equid & Ecosystem Sustainability Network, is a contributor to National Geographic on written and video projects about wild horse & burro issues; and represented SRM on FOX News as a contributor for Wild Horse & Burro issues...just to name a few. He also conducted the first ever rangeland ecology & management short course at Samarkand State University, Uzbekistan and testified before both the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate on the science of grazing management. On top of all of that, he's an active and integrated member of SRM, serving on multiple committees.

## DELANE ATCITTY

*Director (Taos, New Mexico)*

Mr. Atcitty, currently serves as the Executive Director of Indian Nations Conservation Alliance, as well as owning his own resource management LLC.



With an extensive background in rangeland management with the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Nature Conservancy, as well as experience as a Ranch Manager, he brings a wealth of knowledge and background. We know him well in SRM as a founding member of the SRM Native American Rangeland Advisory Committee (NARAC). As he noted in his nomination statement, we're looking forward to the "mixture of traditional knowledge, business background, experience working with diverse groups, and natural resource management to help strength the SRM to reach its vision and mission." that Mr. Atcitty can bring.

## DR. JOHN TAYLOR

*Director (Brisbane, Australia)*

Dr. Taylor, comes to us from Australia! He's no stranger to working in the 'not-for-profit' sector as he's served on multiple boards and committees including



the Australian Rangeland Society. Now semi-retired, Dr. Taylor, has a broad career background with positions at the University of Queensland and Rangelands Australia, and multiple ranks within the Commonwealth Scientific Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO). He's been actively involved in SRM on the Range Science & Education Council and Int'l Affairs Committee.

What's our favorite part about Dr. Taylor?! Despite the fact that he has to travel all the way from Australia to attend SRM meetings...he's found a way. Dr. Taylor has been a well-known and very welcomed face at our Annual Meetings.

# 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**DR. PONCHO ORTEGA**

PRESIDENT  
Texas



**DR. KAREN LAUNCHBAUGH**

1ST VICE PRESIDENT  
Idaho



**DR. BARRY PERRYMAN**

2nd VICE PRESIDENT  
Nevada



**DR. PATRICIA JOHNSON**

DIRECTOR  
South Dakota



**DR. DAVID TOLEDO**

DIRECTOR  
North Dakota



**DR. SUSAN EDINGER-MARSHALL**

DIRECTOR  
California



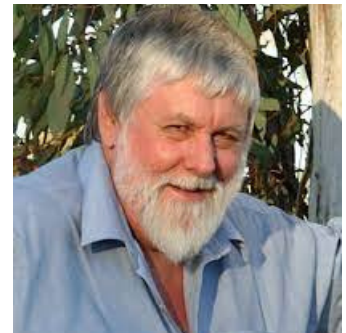
**DR. JOHN WALKER**

DIRECTOR  
Texas



**DELANE ATCITTY**

DIRECTOR  
New Mexico



**DR. JOHN TAYLOR**

DIRECTOR  
Brisbane, Australia

**REACH OUT TO SRM HQ TO APPLY FOR, OR NOMINATE  
SOMEONE, FOR A LEADERSHIP POSITION.**

*"The Society is well served by its volunteer leaders. When you get a minute, please relay your appreciation. When you get another minute- put your name in the hat for SRM international or Section leadership roles."*

~SRM EVP, Jess Peterson



# EVP ADDRESS

*Jess Peterson*

SRM EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT



It's certainly a disappointment to be addressing you via this note and not in person. If you know me, you know it's the personal relationships, notably those within the Society that motivate myself and our staff team to take on each day with enthusiasm and service to the membership.

That being noted, let's put any form of negativity or frustration behind us and focus on the positives. That's how SRM members approach life anyway. It doesn't matter if we see storm clouds or smoke clouds on the horizon. We approach the oncoming with optimism and preparedness. If it's storm clouds bringing rain, we'll take the moisture and soak it up for good growth and grazing. If it's smoke cloud bringing fire, we'll take that too, given our previous prescribed burns and grazing management practices have ensured that the fire will remain controlled and not a raging wildfire.

That's how we have been operating the Society. Taking advantage of the good times, and preparing for the challenges ahead. Thanks to focused fiscal management in the last decade, the Society is holding strong through this range fire. As long as it passes in the short term we'll make it just fine. If this 'fire' rages on we'll dip into the reserve account that is strong and healthy thanks to YOU the member that has both contributed your dues and your time to ensure this Society is strong regardless of what's on the horizon.

Speaking of what makes it strong. Each and every Section that has hosted an annual meeting. You are the partner that drives the activities, membership and cash flow. Thanks to you SRM is providing membership and staffing services at an all-time high. New membership outreach programs, expanded and enhanced certification and training programs along with maintaining a strong impact factor within the Society journals are all part of our focus areas.

If you are reading this as a new member or a long-standing SRM member you are part of the success of the Society. Each dollar continues to advance the Society's mission and vision. And if you are involved in a committee, you have the fellowship and social element of taking part in the various specialized arenas within the Society. If you are thinking something is missing within your membership, and you are not involved in a committee -- you are right. Change that today and get involved in a committee. Shoot me an email [evp@rangelands.org](mailto:evp@rangelands.org) or call me direct at 202.870.3867 and let's talk about getting you involved in a committee!

I promised I wouldn't reference any more negative comments, so this next one is a challenge. Vicky Trujillo RETIRED last year!!! What?? How am I supposed to stay positive here?? Vicky was and will always be the rock of the Society. Fortunately, we had been building a staff team around her that was learning and picking up on her incredible knowledge, workload, and passion for the Society. You can never fully prepare or replace a Vicky. You just circle the team and chart your path forward. Vicky has been kind enough to continually be available for consultations and clarifications as needed. She is living the good life with her family in Ouray. She earned this and we all committed to ensuring that it would be a smooth transition. It hasn't been easy, but we are slowly moving forward. Bottom line this Society and ALL of us are better because of Vicky's incredible service and friendship. Rumor is that next time we meet in person Vicky might make an appearance. No promise, but her SRM staff colleagues and members won't relent until she agrees to at least one more meeting showing!

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SRM

# ...CONTINUED

*Jess Peterson*

SRM EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT



Speaking of challenges in 2020. Hat tip to SRM 2020 President Charles Hart. Some might say they would have avoided that year like the plague had they known we were going to have to deal with...well...a plague. Charlie is the type of a leader and individual that I think had he known he was signing up for this year he would have signed up anyway. This Texan and long-time SRM member doesn't take the easy path of least resistance. If there is a challenge he is there and ready to help. He worked with the SRM board and leadership to steady the ship and make our way through the various challenges. He had to make the call to go virtual with the annual meeting. He helped with the Vicky transition. The list of unexpected events goes on. But sticking with the positives, we'll just say we made it through and we roared into 2021 with a focus and vision to make the most of every opportunity.

We appreciate Charlie's service on the leadership team. No easy task committing the time and energy. Charlie went above and beyond, and we are most grateful. Director Maria Fernandez-Gimenez's term concluded at this meeting. Director Fernandez-Gimenez served with a focused and thoughtful presence both in her board and committee liaison role. She made a lasting impact for her positive work on diversity and inclusion. Director Barry Perryman applied his strong understanding of rangeland management as it links to federal policy and programs. From feral horse and burro, modernizing the Endangered Species Act to ecosystem services, Barry just dove right in. So much in fact he wanted to keep it going and is the Society's 2021 2nd Vice President. The Society is well served by its volunteer leaders. When you get a minute, please relay your appreciation. When you get another minute- put your name in the hat for SRM international or Section leadership roles. Good leaders are needed and appreciated!

On a SRM headquarters update, the retirement of Vicky saw the closing of the Denver office. The office received very little foot traffic, and was there primarily for a workplace for Vicky. Currently SRM mail is being sent to Kelly Polzin SRM's new Director of Office Services based in Wichita, KS. Kelly Polzin assists with central filing, committee support, awards and elections. Allison Grove SRM's new Director of Programs based in Townsend, MT is assisting with certification programs, publications and accreditation. Mary Jo Foley-Birrenkott continues in her Director of Membership Services role. These three along with Senior Director of Operations Kelly Fogarty have all assumed various portions of Vicky's responsibilities. Of course it would take more than a few people to cover Vicky's tasks!

SRM files are safely being stored in a Billings, MT mini storage. Currently we are operating in a highly efficient and service focused staff that operates in a virtual fashion. Times and priorities change, and I can't emphasize enough, we can apply adaptive management any step along the way. The bottom line. Your Society is blazing a pathway forward with a vision and focus that reflects the hard work and commitment you put into your professional role each and every day. We have a lot of work, programs, initiatives and membership engagement underway. Time to get after it, and see what our next ten years will produce!

Thanks as always for this incredible privilege of being your Executive Vice President.

Jess Peterson

SRM



# SRM WELCOMED NEW TEAM MEMBERS.

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With the transition in staffing of our dear friend and colleague Vicky Trujillo, we welcomed new faces to the SRM Staff Team. Vicky graciously continued to work with through the transition and with these new faces, also came expanded roles for many of the existing team members that you have gotten to know over the years. Please welcome Allison Grove and Kelly Polzin to the SRM Family!

Located from the West to the East Coast, staff was able to easily pivot into the virtual COVID-19 world. We'll continue this model moving forward, which our staff has become very accustomed to over the years. As many of our staff members are located outside of Colorado, the SRM Board of Directors made the decision to close the Colorado office location. The option to open a "physical space" office is always open to future Boards to decide. A very big thank you to those that helped with the move... many of whom made Colorado a wonderful home for SRM over the years.

Though change can be bittersweet, we've spent many years building SRM's capacity for this staff team and are looking forward to the opportunity to work together to continue to expand and serve your Society. Please join us in welcoming our new team members. We ALL look forward to serving you!

## ALLISON GROVE

Allison hails from Montana and has worked with us previously through our journals. She will be the lead staff member on SRM Certification, Accreditation and will coordinate tasks such as job listings and Rangeland News.



We've spent many years building SRM's capacity for this staff team and are looking forward to the opportunity to work together to continue to expand and serve your Society.

~SRM EVP, Jess Peterson

## KELLY POLZIN

Kelly is a native of Colorado and currently resides in Kansas. Having an extensive background in administrative procedures, she will be overseeing SRM's office management, as well as coordinating SRM Elections and portions of the Awards. Kelly also manages the mail and administrative office address in Wichita, KS.



# OUR STAFF TEAM



**JESS PETERSON**

evp@rangelands.org

## EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Jess Peterson has served as the Executive Vice President of the Society for Range Management since 2009. A native of Montana, Jess spent nearly 15 years in Washington, DC working on agriculture and natural resource policy. Jess enjoys learning and applying range management practices on a daily basis on his family's cattle ranch.



**KELLY FOGARTY**

operations@rangelands.org

## SENIOR DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Kelly assists the EVP with staffing oversight and management, is the lead SRM staffer directing SRM's training activities, workshops, and partnership agreements. In addition, she manages and executes the Annual Meeting responsibilities of the SRM Headquarters.



**MARY JO FOLEY-BIRRENKOTT**

srnoutreach@rangelands.org

## DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP & OUTREACH

Mary Jo oversees the day-to-day SRM membership functions and engages all facets of the SRM membership. She manages partnerships and collaborative initiatives, coordinates training agreements, provides outreach at section and affiliate organization meetings, and coordinates SRM communications.



**LIA BIONDO**

policy@rangelands.org

## DIRECTOR OF POLICY & FEDERAL AFFAIRS

Lia represents SRM at meetings with federal agencies, Congress, industry associations and sister societies in Washington DC. She plans, facilitates, and carries out all of SRM's fly-in activities, provides regular news updates via the SRM Capital Updates.



**KELLY POLZIN**

administrator@rangelands.org

## DIRECTOR OF OFFICE SERVICES

Kelly oversees SRM's overall office management, including the central filing system, mailings and master lists. In addition, Kelly coordinates the SRM Elections and portions of the SRM Annual awards.

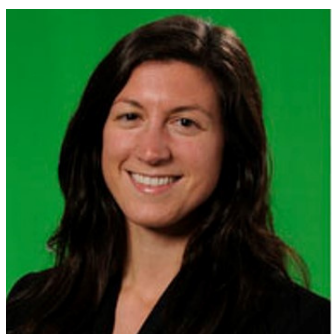


**ALLISON GROVE**

programserangelands.org

## DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS

Allison manages the Certified Range Management Consultant (CRMC) and Certified Professional in Rangeland Management (CPRM) Programs from initial application through renewal periods. In addition, she administers Program Accreditation, job listings, and assist with the development of Rangeland News editions.



**KRISTEN ALBERS**

accounting@rangelands.org

## DIRECTOR OF OFFICE FINANCE

Kristen serves as the SRM Chief Financial Officer. She assists with budget development and implements the approved annual budget. She also carries out the daily bookkeeping duties.



**CHRIS LAPINE**

membership@rangelands.org

## DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

Chris assists SRM members with questions regarding renewal, current membership status and log-in troubleshooting along with and annual meeting registration.



# GET INVOLVED

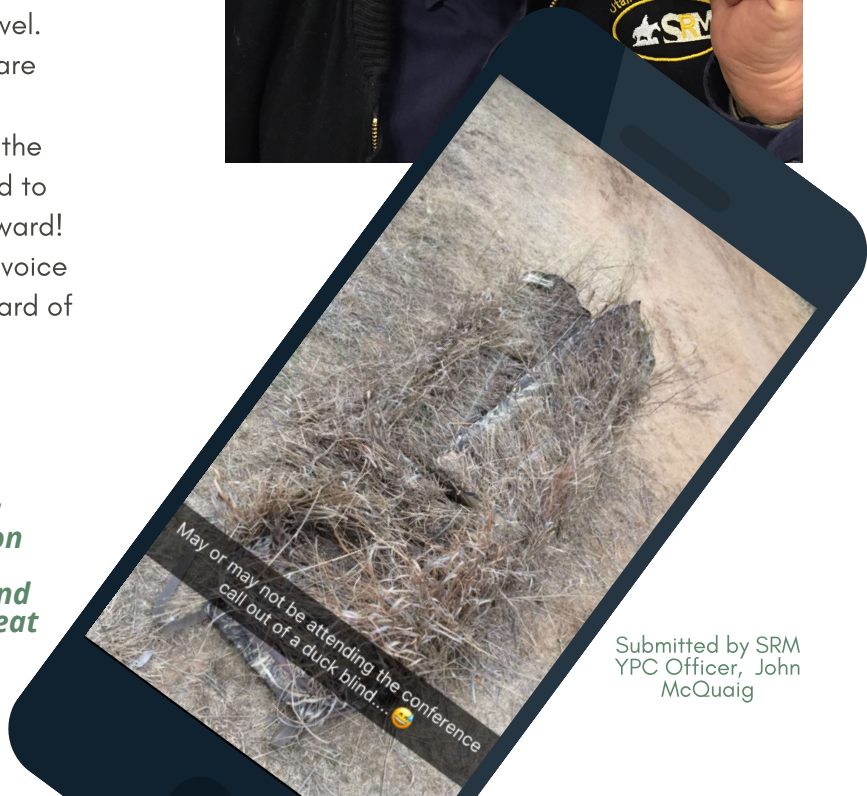
SRM is built on the involvement, dedication and leadership of its members. Together, we have contributed to the growth and development of rangeland management through discovering ways to share science through practical application. **SRM and Rangelands need you more than ever--** - when colleagues like you are with us, we build our strength; not only as a society, but also as a voice in the rangeland community. Interested in how to get involved?

**Join a Committee!** SRM Committees work diligently to contribute to the growth and direction of SRM. They advise the Board on specific topics, as well as collaborate on events, publications, workshops, etc. They are open to all members and welcome involvement on all levels. Not sure how to join? Reach out! Committee leadership info is listed on our website, or feel free to reach out to us at the SRM Office for further connection.

**Get involved in your Section!** SRM Sections are the lifeblood of our Society and provide a regional focus that builds our connections on a local level. Not sure who to talk to? SRM Section leaders are listed on our website!

**Nominate!** We're always looking to recognize the outstanding accomplishment of individuals tied to rangelands. Nominate someone for an SRM Award! Know someone that could contribute a strong voice in SRM Leadership? Nominate them for the Board of Directors!

*Are you an Early Career Professional or working on your undergrad? Young Professional's Conclave and Student Conclave are a great place to start!*



Submitted by SRM YPC Officer, John McQuaig

# SRM COMMITTEES

**GET INVOLVED! JOIN AN SRM COMMITTEE!**  
*For more information on SRM Committees, visit [www.rangelands.org](http://www.rangelands.org)*

## DIVISION

## COMMITTEE

### Administrative

Awards Committee  
Election Committee  
Endowment Fund Development Committee  
Diversity & Inclusion Committee  
Finance Committee  
Nominations Committee  
Program Accreditation Committee

### Policy

Grazing Lands Coalition Committee  
Policy and Public Affairs Committee

### Advisory

Advisory Council

### Professional Education

Certified Professional in Range Management Committee  
Certified Range Management Consultants Committee  
Student Activities Committee  
Student Conclave  
Young Professionals Conclave  
Program Accreditation Committee

### Communications

Coordinated Resource Management Committee  
International Affairs Committee  
Membership Committee  
Native American Range Advisory Committee  
Outreach, Communications, Website Committee

### Science & Ecology

Livestock Foraging Behavior Committee  
Rangeland Assessment & Monitoring Committee  
Rangeland Invasive Species Committee  
Remote Sensing/ GIS Committee  
Reclamation & Restoration Committee  
Targeted Grazing Committee  
Watershed Riparian Committee  
Wildlife Habitat Committee

### Member Services

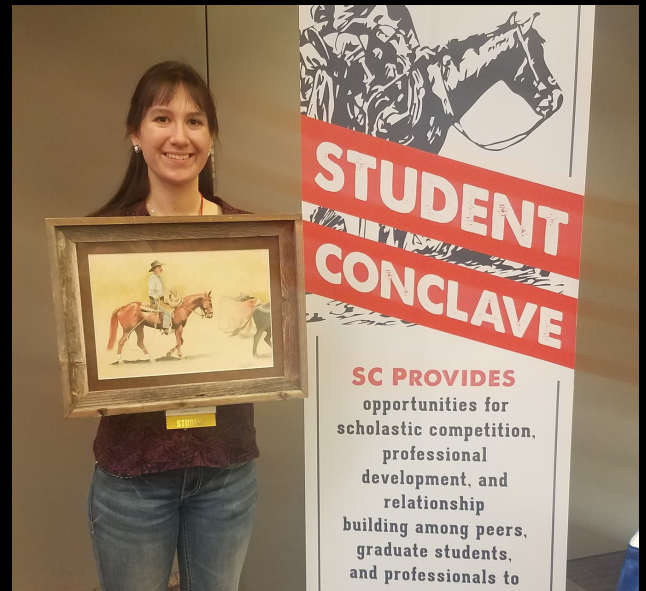
History, Archives & Library Committee  
Rangelands Steering Committee



# SHOUT OUT TO YOUNG PROFESSIONALS!

Watch out SRM, the next generation of range managers are taking the world by storm! Whether it's the High School Youth Forum, SRM Student Conclave, SRM Young Professional's Conclave or the large array of student and early career professional involvement within the Society, we're seeing new leaders emerge every year!

SRM has pledged a lot of support to these up-and-comers and we're eager to see continued involvement. Thank you to the invaluable mentorship that you have shown to these individuals as they grow into the leaders of tomorrow.



***Want to know more? Here's a start, but reach out!***

**Student Conclave:** All students that attend the Annual SRM meeting belong to the Student Conclave. Students are encouraged to attend associated socials, tours, business meetings, and a luncheon. Officers are elected annually to serve in leadership roles. The Student Conclave President attends the SRM Summer Board Meeting each year.

**Young Professional's Conclave:** YPC is a group for individuals that are in the senior year of an undergraduate program, graduate program and/or in their first 5 years in the job field that will assist in retaining membership of the student and apprentice members in SRM. It provides opportunities to help build relationships between students, graduate students, young professionals and long-time members. It is the initial liaison for undergraduate students, graduate students and young professionals seeking an active role and participation in SRM. The Young Professional's Conclave President attends the Washington DC Fly-in each year.

Interested in becoming a YPC officer? We'd love to have you as part of our team! Reach out to us at: [ypc.srm@gmail.com](mailto:ypc.srm@gmail.com)



# ANNUAL MEETINGS

WRITTEN BY:  
SRM SENIOR DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS  
KELLY FOGARTY

Following a very successful SRM Annual Meeting in Denver, CO in 2019, we all were looking forward to another great meeting in Boise, Idaho. Boy, did the world have different plans. As we watched what unfolded across the globe, and at home, your SRM staff, Officers, BOD, and 2020 Planning Committee remained in communication on how to approach, and what decisions would have to be made regarding the planned 2020 Annual Meeting. In June, it was decided and voted on by the SRM BOD that in the best interest of the Society and its membership, the 2020 SRM Annual Meeting would go virtual. By July we had confirmed that we would be able to transfer our existing contracts with the Boise Convention Center and Hotels to 2023. By September, all addendums to the hotel and Center contracts were signed.

In the meantime, a new planning committee was formed to take on the task of literally a “New Frontier” and what would become the 2021 SRM Virtual Annual Meeting. We were excited to see the level of excitement and engagement from the membership, and non-members, in signing up for an entirely new SRM meeting experience.

The virtual planning committee worked tirelessly to sort through and identify what platforms and tools would best serve our members, while also providing what we all expect within an SRM meeting—engaging talks, technical symposia, networking & more! It is safe to say that the small,



but mighty, virtual planning committee had literally taken on a herculean task and created a successful experience that we will build off of for years to come. We also polled members, looking for feedback following this year’s virtual meeting—seeing what worked, what didn’t work, and what could be integrated into meetings in years to come—your feedback was crucial, we appreciated your honest feedback!

In the end, the meeting saw an outstanding turnout of with over 1,600 rangeland managers and scientists that embraced this year’s virtual format. It was kicked off by a welcome by SRM President Dr. Charles Hart, the Annual Meeting Planning Committee and by Acting Deputy Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation Kevin Norton, who issued a special welcome to attendees of the conference.

Headlined by three Plenary presentations, which included top of the line speakers from around the world, the Plenary sessions included the hot topics of:

- Inside and Outside the Ranch Gate: How Do We Conserve Ranches and Support Stewardship?
- Adapt (Or Succumb) To Climate Change on Rangelands
- Wicked Problems in Wildland Fire

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# ANNUAL MEETINGS

## ...continued

The virtual platform allowed direct contact and messaging among meeting attendees, Q&A with presenters, and opportunities to meet colleagues working on similar topics. Presentations and conversations examined topics including rangeland restoration, monitoring, and education, wildlife management, livestock management and new technologies for rangeland conservation. As in past SRM Annual Meetings, there were hundreds of oral and poster presentations, symposia and workshops. Keeping with tradition, there were several socials throughout the event and a vendor exhibit hall and job fair were also facilitated. With the virtual platform, presentations were recorded, and meeting registrants will be able to access this year's information for years to come. Select items were also live streamed during the Annual Meeting. You can find these, and watch for free, on the SRM Facebook Page and SRM YouTube Channel.

It goes without saying, the success of this year's Annual Meeting reflected the dedication of SRM membership, innovative thinking of meeting planners and adaptive nature of the rangeland community.

As we look ahead to the future and all of us once again gathering in a ballroom for a Plenary session, or meeting in the halls during breaks, we certainly have exciting things planned. As was mentioned above, we certainly weren't going to miss out on heading to Boise, Idaho and we are excited to be heading there for the 2023 for the Annual Meeting—so mark your calendars now: Feb. 12-16, 2023. For future year planning, we have several Sections interested in hosting in 2024 or 2025 and we will be working to secure bids and compare locations in the months ahead—so stay tuned for news on future years' locations.

But before we set our sights back on Boise or look beyond that, we will be heading to Albuquerque, New Mexico for the 2022 SRM Annual Meeting, which also happens to be the 75th Anniversary of the SRM Annual Meeting! The 2022 planning committee is already pivoting and planning in a whole new setting and just completed a virtual walk-through of the conference facilities in Albuquerque this past month. Albuquerque is ready for SRM and I know that SRM is ready for Albuquerque! For those that went to the previous meeting in Albuquerque a few years back, they know all that is waiting for us in New Mexico. The facilities are top-notch, the region can't be beat, and we all know that we will be ready for some quality SRM interaction come 2022. Mark your calendars for ABQ, February 6-10, 2022!

## UPCOMING ANNUAL MEETINGS:

**SEE YOU NEXT YEAR:**  
*Albuquerque, New Mexico*  
**2022 ANNUAL MEETING**



**75TH ANNUAL MEETING!**  
**FEBRUARY 6-10**

**FUTURE MEETINGS:**  
*Boise, ID*  
**2023 ANNUAL MEETING;**  
**FEBRUARY 12-16**

# STAYING ENGAGED.

## OFFICIAL LETTERS & COMMUNICATIONS

- SRM and nearly 125 organizations send letter in support of the America Grows Act to provide continued sustained funding for agricultural research and improvement. (4/27/2021)
- SRM joins 122 others in letter to Congressional leaders in support of \$50 million for the Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI). (4/27/2021)
- SRM joins the North American Invasive Species Management Association and 35 other organizations to request adequate funding for invasive species management. (3/27/2021)
- SRM and 47 others ask Congressional leaders to fully fund the Agriculture Advanced Research and Development Authority (AgARDA) to support groundbreaking food, agriculture, and climate research. (3/24/2021)
- SRM joins 138 organizations requesting increased investment in research, education, extension, and economics programs. (3/24/2021)
- SRM Sends Letter of Support for the request from the Government of the Mongolia for an International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP) (9/15/2020)
- SRM Joins 50+ Organizations in Letter to House & Senate Appropriators Urging Funding for U.S. Geological Survey's 3D Elevation Program (4/24/2020)



## DID YOU KNOW?

### INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF RANGELANDS & PASTORALISTS

SRM is coordinating stakeholder support of an "International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP)", an effort proposed by the Government of Mongolia with the support from many organizations and institutions in the United States and around the world.

The IYRP will promote a wide variety of activities focused on rangelands and grasslands, including awareness raising on key issues, assistance in targeting research assessments of critical knowledge gaps, and facilitation of partnerships that combine resources to promote sustainable resource use and improved livelihoods.







# RANGE ON THE HILL

WRITTEN BY: SRM DIRECTOR OF POLICY & FEDERAL AFFAIRS, LIA BIONDO

Despite the impacts of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, the Society for Range Management maintained a visible presence on Capitol Hill wherever conversations regarding the stewardship of rangelands were taking place. Even when it wasn't so easy to connect with decisionmakers, SRM provided the [virtual] platform with which to have those discussions.

In October 2020, SRM brought together its leadership team, staff, and federal agency representatives for its annual Interagency Range Meeting.

The Interagency Range Meeting was started by the Society nearly 6 years ago. In normal circumstances, the meeting is held during SRM's Washington, DC "Fly-In", but this year, attendees participated virtually. The purpose is to host range leads across the different agencies and departments to facilitate conversation and discussion on how SRM can best serve as a conduit for rangeland management and expertise within Administration decisions and policy making.

Agenda items included the 2021 SRM Annual Meeting, current and ongoing agency range projects, an update on the efforts to designate an International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists, and future opportunities to coordinate activities with our federal partners.

Representatives from the following agencies were in attendance: U.S. Department of Agriculture: USFS, NRCS, ARS; U.S. Department of the Interior: BLM, BIA, USGS, USFWS, NPS; and the U.S. Department of State: Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs.

In 2020, the Society also participated in several public comment periods directly impacting the field of rangeland management. In March, SRM supported efforts by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to improve the efficiency of grazing management on rangelands under its jurisdiction. In October, SRM sent a letter of support for Senator John Barrasso's Endangered Species Act Amendments of 2020.

Throughout the year, we supported the nominations of SRM members to federal advisory committees, including the National Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Task Force on Agricultural Air Quality Research. We also joined several coalition letters urging the continuation of funding for important programs like the United States Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services Program.

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## INTERESTED IN MAKING AN IMPACT IN RANGE RELATED POLICY?

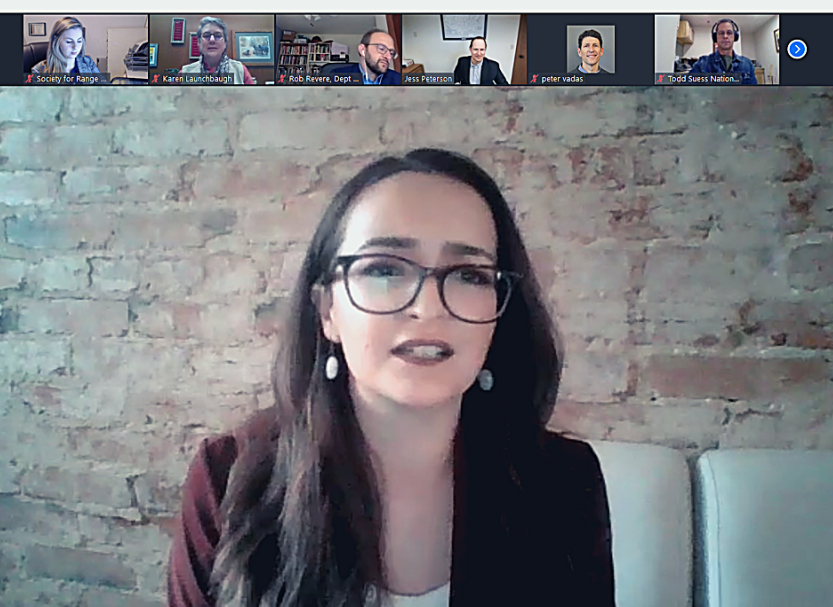
Join the Policy & Public Affairs Committee! Reach out to Lia at [policy@rangelands.org](mailto:policy@rangelands.org)

# RANGE ON THE HILL

*continued...*



As we look ahead to 2021, the Society's Policy and Public Affairs Committee (PPaC) is ramping up to review our current policy statements, position statements, and resolutions, and recommend any needed updates, changes, or revisions. With a new Administration in the White House and new leadership in the House and Senate, SRM continues to be well-positioned to carry on our work as it relates to the upcoming 2023 Farm Bill, the management of wild horse and burro populations, increased support for agency participation in professional societies, the effort to designate an International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists, and so much more.



*“Through the Society, rangelands have a voice on Capitol Hill. Our policy committee members ensure Congressional members and staff have access to the latest science and data regarding land use and management, which better informs decisions made in Washington, D.C.”*

*~ SRM Director of Policy & Federal Affairs, Lia Biondo*



# MAKING AN IMPACT.

## WHAT WE'RE WATCHING...

### **America the Beautiful Initiative**

The Biden administration has released a report outlining its vision to conserve and restore land, water and wildlife with recommendations for locally led, voluntary efforts to conserve 30% of U.S. lands and waters by 2030.

The 24-page report outlining the administration's "America the Beautiful Initiative" (previously identified as "30x30") recognizes the contributions of farmers, ranchers, forest owners, private landowners and fishers and commits to supporting those efforts. It calls for development of an interagency working group, utilizing the U.S. Geological Survey at the Department of the Interior (DOI), the Natural Resources Conservation Service at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration at the Department of Commerce (DOC).

SRM has met with top government officials at USDA and DOI to discuss the Initiative and represent the interests of rangeland managers.

Spearheaded by the Western Landowners Alliance (WLA), SRM worked in partnership to provide recommendations to best advance ideas linked to the effort. The key points included:

- Investing in Working Landscapes and Rural Communities
- Building an Equitable and Inclusive Conservation Vision
- Increasing management flexibility with retained accountability.
- Investing in landscape-scale management rather than by federal agency jurisdiction or ownership types.

Multiple landowners, including SRM's own Shelly Kelly, gave firsthand accounts of conservation efforts on their own ranches. They spoke to what programs and models have worked and those that could use improvement to be more effective. SRM spoke directly to the need to utilize certified conservation planners to contract with NRCS to provide conservation planning recommendations. The 2018 Farm Bill required NRCS to review all 169 of its national conservation practices to seek opportunities to increase flexibility and incorporate new technologies; working with certified conservation planners builds off of those shared vision and goals.

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## ANNUAL MEETING ROUND-UP:

SRM's Policy and Public Affairs Committee (PPaC) met twice over the course of the 2021 SRM Virtual Annual Meeting.

On Friday, February 5, we welcomed House Agriculture Committee Ranking Member Glen "G.T." Thompson of Pennsylvania and senior staff member Josh Maxwell to our committee meeting for a discussion on the upcoming farm bill, current legislative efforts to address climate change, and reaffirming the importance of federal employees continuing their education through participation in professional societies.

On Friday, February 12, PPaC visited with senior professional staff member Sean Babington in the office of Senate Agriculture Committee Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow of Michigan. PPaC Chairman Dennis Thompson stressed the Society's desire to serve as a resource during the drafting of the next farm bill for technical expertise and intrinsic knowledge of rangeland management principles. We also discussed the effort to designate an International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists.

PPaC is also charged with regularly reviewing SRM policy statements, position statements, and resolutions, which the group did during its second meeting during the virtual annual meeting.

**DO YOU HAVE IDEAS FOR PROGRAMMATIC REFORM IN THE NEXT FARM BILL? OR AN ENTIRELY NEW IDEA YOU'D LIKE TO SEE INCORPORATED? CONTACT LIA AT [POLICY@RANGELANDS.ORG](mailto:POLICY@RANGELANDS.ORG) AND LET'S DISCUSS IT!**

## *continued...*

Following these initial conversations, included in the released outline of the "America the Beautiful" initiative, is a call for development of a 10-year conservation strategy that focuses on:

- Pursuing a collaborative and inclusive approach to conservation - building on cooperative conservation models
- Conserving America's lands and waters for the benefit of all people - urban and rural focus
- Supporting locally-led and locally designed conservation efforts collaborative conservation of fish and wildlife habitats and corridors.
- Honoring Tribal sovereignty and supporting the priorities of Tribal nations
- Pursuing conservation and restoration that creates jobs and supports healthy communities
- Honoring private property rights and supporting voluntary stewardship of private landowners
- Using science as a guide
- Building on existing tools and strategies with an emphasis on flexibility and adaptive approaches

The plan recognizes ranchers' voluntary conservation efforts, backing for landscape resilience against threats like wildfires, and support for wildlife habitat and wildlife corridors. It does not call for the designation of new monuments or wilderness and focuses on conservation over preservation.

SRM looks forward to continuing our dialogue with the Biden Administration during the implementation of the America the Beautiful Initiative.



# Cap Updates

SRM members receive exclusive communications, "Capital Updates", that provide up-to date information about range-related policy on Capitol Hill.



# WHAT WE'RE WATCHING



## Growing Climate Solutions Act

The bipartisan Growing Climate Solutions Act has been reintroduced by U.S. Senator Mike Braun (R-IN), Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI), Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC), and Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI). The purpose of the bill is to break down barriers for farmers and foresters interested in participating in carbon markets so they can be rewarded for climate-smart practices. Supported by 60 leading agricultural and environmental organizations, including SRM, the bill has broad, bipartisan support.

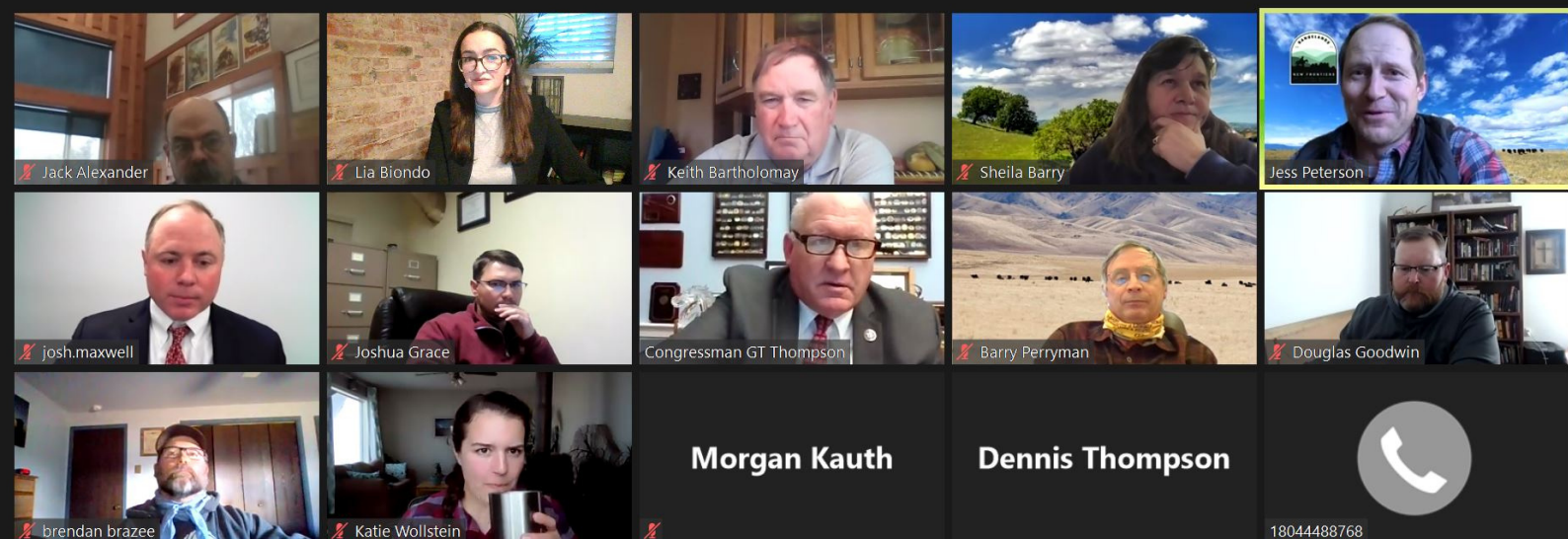
The Act builds a USDA certification program to assist in resolving technical entry barriers that prevent farmer and forest landowner participation in carbon credit markets. As stated in the US. Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry press release regarding the bill, "these issues - including access to reliable information about markets and access to qualified technical assistance providers and credit protocol verifiers - have limited both landowner participation and the adoption of practices that help reduce the costs of developing carbon credits".

The certification program will ensure providers have agriculture and forestry expertise and will enable the USDA to deliver transparency, legitimacy, and informal endorsement of third-party verifiers. The certification lowers barriers to entry in the credit markets and improves information for farmers looking to implement practices that capture carbon, reduce emissions, improve soil health, and make operations more sustainable.

## RANGELAND MANAGEMENT DIRECTIVES REVISIONS

The U.S. Forest Service recently wrapped up a request for public input on proposed updates to the rangeland management directives. The rangeland management directives serve as the primary basis for the internal management and control of the rangeland management program. They are the primary source of administrative direction to Forest Service employees relative to the rangeland management program. But the current directives have been in place for approximately 30 years and in need of an update.

SRM provided several recommendations for improvement within the proposed updates, including clarifying definitions, the addition of resources and tools to improve the coordinated management of rangelands, the recognition that tools used to classify, inventory, monitor, and assess rangelands should be consistent amongst federal, state, and private lands management, and more.





JOIN TODAY:  
[WWW.RANGELANDS.ORG](http://WWW.RANGELANDS.ORG)



# SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT

*Providing leadership for the Stewardship of Rangelands  
based on sound ecological principles.*



Networking &  
career  
opportunities

Voice in  
Rangeland-related  
policy



Collaborative  
partnerships &  
efforts

Outlet to current  
science &  
technology,  
including 2 journals



Local to  
international  
meetings, forums,  
workshops & field  
tours

SRM IS THE LEADING PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY COMMITTED TO  
SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH SCIENCE-BASED RANGELAND  
STEWARDSHIP.







# CERTIFICATION UPDATE

WRITTEN BY:  
SRM DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS  
ALLISON GROVE

Few imagined that the 2020 Annual Meeting, Technical Training, and Trade Show in Denver, CO would be the last in-person meeting of the SRM membership for many months to come. Or that a few months later, long-time SRM Office Services Manager and advocate of the CPRM program would retire. These challenges turned into opportunities for the SRM certification programs as they adapted and continued to move forward.

The BOD remains committed to SRM certification programs by dedicating resources to hire new staff to administer them and continuing to prioritize the search for an updated, online CEU management and tracking system. The contract with Club Express was ended and an easier-to-use, more dynamic system was looked for. The search was narrowed down to an online tool offered by the Advanced Continuing Education Association ([myceapp.com](http://myceapp.com)). A collaboration strategy with this organization will be presented to the BOD at the April meeting.

CPRM typically rely on live events to garner CEU to maintain their certification. These were few and far between in 2020, however, virtual events abounded. While the camaraderie associated with in-person

meetings was missed, online webinars allowed CPRM to gather CEUs at a cheaper cost and over a wider geographic area.

The new virtual events were a welcome supplement to the archived webinars and podcasts already available online (i.e., Art of Range, NRCS Portal). Online opportunities are expected to continue in the future, even after the return of in-person workshops.

Interest in the CPRM program remained steady and the number of new CPRM was the same as in previous years. The CPRM program saw some APRM transition into its program and received new applications as well. Recent committee meetings of both CRPM and CRMC discussed new ways to attract and recruit new members from more demographics. A third certification program, Targeted Glazier, is ready to accept applications and creates a new opportunity for SRM.

The 2018 Farm Bill was the first time the USDA saw SRM referenced in a farm bill. Language requiring the NRCS to use CPRM to help administer its programs was not included in the final version; however, the NRCS has asked SRM to help draft language to implement the provisions of the 2018 Farm Bill and promote the use of certified professionals. This is an exciting opportunity for SRM certification programs and is a model that SRM can use with other agencies.



# DOING OUR PART.

PC: Sarah Johnson



## WHAT IS SRM CERTIFICATION?

The primary goal of this program is to provide the means to improve the standards of professional expertise used in managing public and private rangelands. SRM's Certification programs will not only provide career opportunities, but also assist land management agencies with implementing boots on-the-ground conservation work at a time when it is most needed. As a member of SRM-- this is critically important to our profession--- reach out the the CPRM/CRMC committees and find out more!

**INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CPRM, CRMC OR APRM?!**  
**REACH OUT!**

For more information or to obtain application materials, contact SRM Director of Programs, Allison Grove, at [programs@rangelands.org](mailto:programs@rangelands.org) or visit the certification webpages: <https://rangelands.org/committees/cprm-committee/> or <https://rangelands.org/committees/education-certification-programs/>

There are a lot of exciting developments on the horizon for SRM Certification. This is critically important to our profession--- the time to get certified is now. Reach out to learn more.







# PARTNERSHIPS IN ACTION

We value our partnerships within the Society for Range Management and fostering collaboration and communication through all channels of rangeland management. In our outreach, we coordinate regularly with partners, looking for opportunities to amplify efforts and discuss current initiatives, needs, and possible collaborations. SRM continues its work with the federal agencies and partners in facilitating and leading on training and outreach efforts on rangelands. SRM builds out boots-on-the-ground initiatives, which we have grown from our partnerships with agencies and other like-minded organizations.

The SRM's **Native American Range Training Initiative** is a partnership with the NRCS and Forest Service. The objectives of this initiative includes the implementation of rangeland training courses and field workshops tailored for tribal and regional needs; the development of management tool-kits for outreach in both Native American and Hispano land-based communities; the launch of an inter-tribal informational website on rangeland management; and the evaluation for an accredited online soil and rangeland ecology course for tribal students. The partnership grew to include support from the Intertribal Agriculture Council, the Native Fish & Wildlife Society, the Intertribal Timber Council, the US Department of Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the USDA Climate Hubs.

Recently completed in an online training course with the NRCS with the topics, **"Grazing Land Economics"** and **"Vegetation Monitoring and Data Interpretation"**. The NRCS challenged us with building an online, interactive training. They asked that this be built on an online platform, but that it be more interactive than a typical webinar. We emphasized that the trainee be prompted to go out in the field throughout the course to gain hands-on experience and put strong efforts into a dynamic presentation. We've built this training so it can be delivered both online but has elements that could be altered to in-person easily. This collaboration with NRCS helped us build a model for online trainings, so that it is now a built in function of SRM.

These are just recent examples of our partnership endeavors. We've hosted workshops on Ecological Site Descriptions, published sponsored journals on Sage Grouse and Bison Management in Yellowstone National Park, and worked with our Young Professionals to host job fairs and networking events...and the list goes on from there.

*"SRM is delivering on multiple fronts-- and we'll look to continue to build on these collaborations with agencies and other partners moving forward."*

*Senior Director of Operations,  
Kelly Fogarty*





# PROMOTING COLLABORATION

PC: Erica Dunn

## SRM Partners Convene to Discuss Rangeland Initiatives.

In continued dedication to building partnership, the 3rd Annual SRM Partners Meeting was held at the close of the '21 Annual Meeting. This invited meeting is held to assemble key partners on current initiatives of the SRM and to increase synergy in the rangeland community. An opening video highlighted SRM's commitment to fostering these relationships, amplifying efforts of partners, and building on collaboration and communication across rangelands. Featured in the video were Parent society and Section functions, certification programs, and work with agencies including online trainings, workshops and outreach tools. The key message throughout the meeting was the critical role of partnerships in facilitating stewardship of rangelands. Partners were also invited to speak, including the following:

**Bill Whitacre**, Senior Policy Advisor, **Western Governors' Association**, discussed several of their initiatives including WGA's Invasive Species Initiative's Data Mobilization Campaign, Toolkit for Invasive Annual Grass Management in the West" and The Working Lands, Working Communities Initiative.

**Tammy VerCauteren**, **Bird Conservancy of the Rockies**, and **Tate Lantz**, **NRCS**, presented on the Central Grasslands Roadmap. Bringing together diverse sectors, including Indigenous communities and Nations, province and state-level agencies, industry, private landowners/managers/producers, academia, non-governmental organizations, foundations, and federal governments of Canada, the U.S. and Mexico; the Roadmap "identifies common principles and collaborative priorities for the many people and organizations living, working on and influencing the Central Grasslands".

**Aviva Glaser**, Director of Agriculture Policy at the National Wildlife Federation, spoke on the North American Grasslands Conservation Act, a proposal for a new voluntary, incentive-based grassland bill. The outline of the Act proposal:

- Creates a North American Grasslands Conservation Plan
- Creates a federal interagency working group on grasslands
- Encourages trilateral grassland cooperation between the U.S., Canada, and Mexico
- Creates a new grant program to provide funding to private landowners, states, tribes, local governments, and non-governmental organizations to do the following types of projects. Grassland easements
- Grassland management, including control of invasive species, prescribed fire, grazing
- Grassland restoration
- Education and outreach around grazing land management and conservation, including field days, rancher mentorship programs, education around grazing management, grassland restoration, ranchland transition planning, and participation in carbon and ecosystem markets.



"Partnerships such as these have the ability to create greater collaboration and synergy through all facets of the Rangeland community, and thus a greater impact. "

~Director of Membership & Outreach, Mary Jo Foley-Birrenkott



# ROOTED IN RANGELANDS

PC: Erica Dunn

## MORE TO COME...

### GOOD GRAZING MAKES CENTS

SRM is currently developing a membership program to increase producer involvement and outreach efforts within SRM and with partners. Designed to provide a forum for conversation and collaboration between rangeland practitioners and ranchers, the "Good Grazing Makes Cent\$" program will deliver science-based rangeland management information into practical application that pairs management techniques with economic realism.

The program will include:

1. A joint membership with participating livestock organizations and SRM.
2. Monthly "Good Grazing Makes Cents: Stewardship Series" e-newsletter with relevant management tips and information. (Including video clips with SRM members and ranchers on the range).
3. Hosted by the Young Professional's Conclave, a forum via a "Members Only" Facebook group in parallel with the newsletter for interactive, live, discussion, directly connecting rangeland practitioners with ranchers.

**Look for further information and the official debut of this program in Membership Year 2022!**



**WANT TO KNOW MORE? MAKE SURE YOU'RE  
SUBSCRIBED TO OUR SRM COMMUNICATIONS!**

Reach out to us at the SRM Office! [info@rangelands.org](mailto:info@rangelands.org) or (303) 986-3309  
Details are also listed on the SRM website, [www.rangelands.org](http://www.rangelands.org)

# ROOTED IN RANGELANDS

## CALLING ALL PRODUCERS!

*SRM is committed to highlighting the value of the land stewardship that ranchers provide to rangelands. President Ortega has developed a task force to increase rancher involvement in SRM. Know a producer that should be involved and/or be recognized for their efforts? See below.*

## EXCELLENCE IN RANGE MANAGEMENT AWARD

Do you have a land manager in your Section that exemplifies the science and art of range management? These landowners who are actively managing our rangelands are the heart of the Society. Now is your chance to recognize them for their conservation efforts by inviting them to submit an Excellence in Rangeland Management Poster.

The objective of the Excellence in Rangeland Management Award is to demonstrate to the public and other rangeland managers, outstanding examples of rangeland management which result in long-term health and sustainability of the range resource while providing efficient production of livestock, wood products, water, wildlife, aesthetic values, recreation, and other non-commodity values.

## REDD FUND

The Redd Fund, a joint venture of the Charles Redd Foundation and SRM, offers a cost-share opportunity in an effort to 1) recruit ranchers to SRM by helping them attend SRM annual meetings, and 2) to increase the visibility of SRM to other organizations. Submit nominations today!

## WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Contact us at the SRM office  
or reach out to Mary Jo at  
[srmoutreach@rangelands.org](mailto:srmoutreach@rangelands.org)





# BUILDING OUR LEGACY

PC: Richard Bonine Jr.

VOLUME 72, ISSUE 6, NOVEMBER 2019  
**Rangeland  
Ecology & Management**

## PUBLICATIONS Rangeland Ecology & Management

The *Rangeland Ecology and Management* journal's mission is to inform academics, ecosystem managers and policy makers of science-based information to promote sound rangeland stewardship. Overall, REM is achieving its mission well. After nearly 5 years of implementing "A user-friendly and scientifically rigorous" system, the publication and readership has risen to a sustainable level and appears to be on an upward trend. The one area that the journal excels in is helping authors publish the best possible manuscript and helping them provide the best scientific contribution possible given their design/data. REM's unique approach to peer-review places the Associate Editors (AEs) in a facilitation role between authors and reviewers, and substantial effort is aimed at helping increase the value of each manuscript to our readers. It is clear this user-friendly approach has resulted in increased numbers of submissions and is helping to secure a strong position for REM into the future. REM continues to improve its Impact factor (IF), and this past year the 2-year average IF increased to 2.07 and the 5-year average increased to 2.34. Passing the IF of 2.0 was an important transition to cross because it increases our potential pool of authors who will be interested in publishing in our journal.



Synthesis Paper: Targeted Livestock Grazing: Prescription for Healthy Rangelands  
Desert: System: Grazing: Effect of Supplemental Feeding on Herd Resource Utilization and Vegetation Use  
Building Carbon: Preserving Health on Stocking and Grazing: Implications for Grazing Conservation  
Using: Natural: Current: Modelling: Grazing: Effects on Species: Dominance and Plant Community Structure  
Management: Strategies: Off-Range: Grazing: Herds in: Alberta: Compared with: Other: Localities  
Dispersal: Seed: Vectors of: Native: Grasslands: Based on: Multispectral: Images: Acquired by: Small: Unmanned: Aerial: Vehicles  
Evaluating: Domestic: Sheep: Survival with: Different: Breeds of: Livestock: Grazing: Dogs  
Effects of: Livestock: Grazing: Management on: Grassland: Birds in a: Northern: Mixed: Grass: Plains: Landscape  
Habitat and: Structure of: Grass: Grazing: Heterogeneous: Vegetation: Effect of: Landscape: Orientation and: Contour: Sectors  
Low-Cost: Livestock: Global: Positioning: System: Collar: from: Commercial: Off-the-Shelf: Patch  
Livestock: Perceptions of: Legal: Liability for: Using: Prescribed: Fire in the: Southern: Plains, United States  
To: Survive or Not to: Survive? Factors: Affecting: Acquisition of: Prescribed: Burning: Insurance: Coverage  
Long-Term: Grazing: Trends in: Chihuahuan: Desert: Forage: Production in: Relation to: Precipitation and: Surface: Temperature  
Grazing: Degradation on the: Oregon-Texas: Plateau: Reevaluation of: Cattle: Grazing: Factors  
Plant: Species: Composition and: Forage: Production 14 Yr After: Simulated: Application and: Grazing: Exclusion  
Indirect: Approach to: Build: State and: Transition: Models for: Grazing: Grasslands  
Herd: Health in the: Montanaplan: Grazing: Restoration: Needs in the: Intermountain West, United States

## ABOUT THE JOURNAL

Rangeland Ecology & Management is a publication of the Society for Range Management (SRM) and is published six times a year in January, March, May, July, September, and November. Since its premiere in 1948, the journal has provided a forum for the presentation and discussion of facts, ideas, and philosophies pertaining to the study, management, ecology, and use of rangelands and their resources. Rangeland Ecology & Management (REM) is peer-reviewed and provides international exchange of scholarly research and information among persons interested in rangelands. REM is available by subscription. SRM members receive a special discount rate!

During 2020, we continued to identify top-rated papers published in REM and to write a special article published in "Rangelands" for each issue, called Editors Choice. We work hard to make sure the Editor's Choice articles makes a practical case for why the REM articles are critically important to inform academics, ecosystem managers and policy makers of science-based information to promote sound rangeland stewardship. We also use this article to promote the kinds of wonderful articles readers can find in REM. In addition, we send a very appreciative letter to the authors ensuring they understand how important they are to making REM a success.

Over the past year, we have finalized the move from the more difficult and complicated EVISE editorial system the Editorial Management (EM) recently purchase by Elsevier. These transitions have required substantial AE training, but this training has been going very well since the last software (EM) was put in place.

*Continued on next page...*

## PUBLICATIONS *continued...*

EM is a pretty intuitive system. We have also provided training on implementing our “A user-friendly and scientifically rigorous” system seems to be working well and we continue to reinforce the facilitative role of the AE’s as we process manuscripts. We have had a 5 or 6 AEs retire/replaced and we have written their supervisors emphasizing how critical they have been to the success of REM.

We have been working to clarify the peer review process for AEs and Authors. We are working to improve the understanding of the process and clarify situations where the Editor-in-Chief may resume editorial duties from an AE where processing time has expired or a conflicting decision has been made. Dr. Karl and I, along with others, wrote and published a short essay to help authors, AEs, and reviewers understand the complicated nature and importance of managing “Conflict of Interest” or even its appearance.

We continue to work with Danielle Descoteaux from Elsevier to assess year end data and make adjustments to improve our review time and flow process. It has become clear to us that AE’s are becoming slower to make decisions and move manuscripts along after the reviews are complete. This is having a detectable effect on extending the time required to get reviewed manuscripts back to authors and points to a problem if not addressed. We have taken steps to solve this issue by sending letters to each AE at the time we detect stalled, but completely reviewed manuscripts. In addition, we have begun writing a quarterly newsletter to AE’s to continue to encourage them and discuss methods for improving the peer-review process. One important step was moving from issue-based publication to article-based publication, so article is citable and consider published as soon as they are on-line. This also speeds up the process to publication.

REM’s effort to enhance its international presence is continuing and the numbers of articles we publish from countries other than USA is increasing steadily. We are working on creating an Editorial Board with a strong international component to work alongside of our group of high-quality AE’s to provide advice, especially about working with international authors and readers. With Allison Grove’s assistance, we have recently identified a group of potential international Editorial Board members and are beginning to contact them. In addition, we have been working to increase the number of special issues. We published a Special Issue on “Weed Suppressive Bacteria” in 2020 and have gotten commitment from Dr. Michael Taylor to guest edit a Special Issue on Rangeland Economics.

In summary, REM is doing well and improving in many important metrics. We continue to work to improve the editorial process and quality of REM. We are happy to report that REM is healthy and effectively achieving its mission.

WRITTEN BY:

ROGER SHELEY, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, RANGELAND ECOLOGY & MANAGEMENT



## INTERESTED IN A SUBSCRIPTION TO OUR JOURNALS?

Members receive free online access, and print versions can be ordered.



**SRM Publications**

# RANGELANDS

Rangelands is a full-color publication of the Society for Range Management and is published six times per year in February, April, June, August, October, and December. Each peer-reviewed issue of Rangelands features articles on the state of rangeland science (quantitative and qualitative), art, management, technology, policy, economics, education (formal and informal), society and culture; along with book reviews, highlights from the relevant scientific literature, and society news. Additionally, readers may find youth, rancher, and international forums. The journal provides readers relevant information founded in the current rangeland science and management knowledge base in a user friendly, non-technical format. Rangelands is intended for a wide-range of individuals including educators, students, rangeland owners and managers, researchers, and policy leaders. Rangelands is available by subscription. SRM members receive a special discount rate!



## Rangelands Wants to Publish YOUR Content!

Rangelands is accepting submissions for short article types with a very low Article Processing Charge (APC) for those interested in publishing Open Access. The APC for regular full length articles in Rangelands is \$1350 for members (\$1500 for nonmembers) but for these short papers, the APC is just \$400 for members (\$500 for nonmembers). See the types of articles (and their descriptions) we are looking for below.

- Research Notes
- Technical Notes
- Comments and Responses
- Research and Partnership Highlights

# RESPECT ON THE RANGE

## SRM HONOR AWARDS

The Society for Range Management awards are designed to recognize members and nonmembers who have made outstanding contributions to the science and art of rangeland resource management. Nominations are due by June 1st each year (subject to change).



### FREDERIC G. RENNER AWARD

The FREDERIC G. RENNER AWARD is the most prestigious award bestowed by the Society for Range Management. The primary criterion for selection of a recipient for this award is sustained outstanding accomplishment(s) in, or continuing contribution(s) to, any aspect of range science and range management by an active and contributing member of the Society. One award can be given annually.



### W. R. CHAPLINE LAND STEWARDSHIP AWARD

W. R. CHAPLINE LAND STEWARDSHIP AWARD gives special recognition to members of the Society for exceptional accomplishments and contributions in the application of the art and science of range management to specific rangeland entities such as wildlife and domestic livestock use on such lands. One award can be given annually.



### W. R. CHAPLINE RESEARCH AWARD

W. R. CHAPLINE RESEARCH AWARD gives special recognition to members of the Society for exceptional and sustained research accomplishments in range science and associated disciplines. One award can be given annually.

## QUESTIONS?

If you have questions about how to nominate, please visit our website (the Awards Committee page), or reach out to the SRM office [info@rangelands.org](mailto:info@rangelands.org) / Phone: 303-986-3309

# HONOR A COLLEAGUE, NOMINATE TODAY!



# RESPECT ON THE RANGE

## SRM HONOR AWARDS

The Society for Range Management awards are designed to recognize members and nonmembers who have made outstanding contributions to the science and art of rangeland resource management. Nominations are due by June 1st each year (subject to change).



### SUSTAINED LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

SUSTAINED LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD is presented by the Society to members for long-term contributions to the art and science of range management and to the Society for Range Management. More than one award can be given annually.



### OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD is presented by the Society for outstanding achievement for eminently note-worthy contributions to the range profession to members and other qualified individuals and groups working with rangelands. This award is given in Stewardship and Academic streams. Several awards can be given annually.



### OUTSTANDING YOUNG RANGE PROFESSIONAL AWARD

OUTSTANDING YOUNG RANGE PROFESSIONAL AWARD is presented by the Society to an individual member who has demonstrated extraordinary potential and promise as a range management professional. This award is presented as an encouragement for outstanding performance by young men and women entering the profession of range management. The nominee shall not have reached his or her 40th birthday by January 1st of the year the award is to be conferred. More than 1 award can be given annually.



### FELLOW AWARD

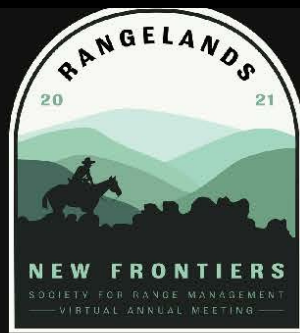
The title of FELLOW is conferred upon members of the Society in recognition of exceptional service to the Society and its programs in advancing the science and art of range-related resource management. This high honor is granted in the belief that special recognition should be given for exceptional and dedicated service to the Society.



### YPC EARLY CAREER AWARD

The YPC OUTSTANDING EARLY CAREER AWARD is presented by the Society to an individual member who has shown outstanding dedication to the Society within the first five (5) years of their career. This award is meant as an encouragement for young professionals that make the difficult transition from SRM student member, to fully-engaged professional members of the society.

# 2021 HONOR AWARDEES



## **FREDERIC G. RENNER AWARD**

Dr. Patrick L. Shaver

## **W.R. CHAPLINE LAND STEWARDSHIP AWARD**

Frank S. Price

## **W.R. CHAPLINE RESEARCH AWARD**

Dr. Tony Svejcar

## **SUSTAINED LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Dr. Leonard W. Jolley

## **OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Charlie D. Clements (Research/Academia)

Dr. Marc R. Horney (Research/Academia)

Dr. Barbara S. Hutchinson (Research/ Academia)

David F. Lile (Land Stewardship)

## **OUTSTANDING YOUNG RANGE PROFESSIONAL AWARD**

Dr. Elise Gornish

Dr. Devan A. McGranahan

Dr. Morgan Treadwell

## **YPC OUTSTANDING EARLY CAREER AWARD**

Veronica A. Urbanczyk

**RANGELANDS**  
**NEW FRONTIERS**



# OUR LATEST NUMBERS

PC: Sarah Johnson

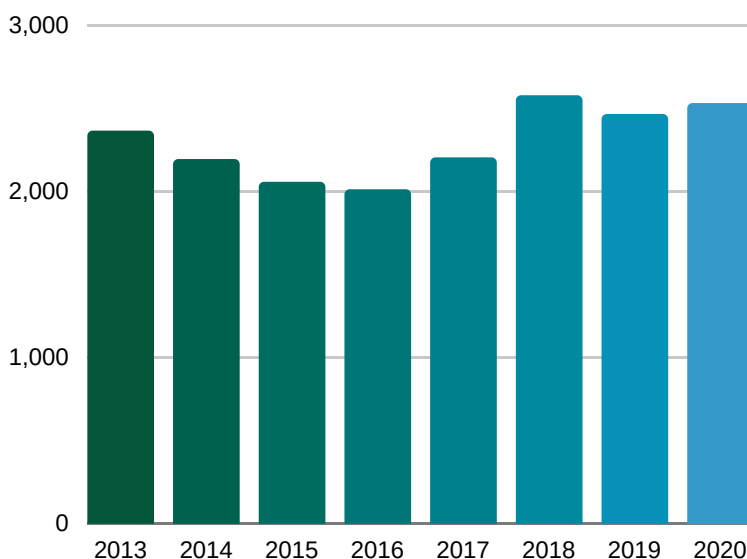
## MEMBERSHIP

SRM continues to develop and expand on effective ways to emphasize recruitment of new members, retention of current members and reinstatement of lapsed at both the international, national, and local level. We've put emphasis on updating the presentation and timing of renewal communications, concentrated efforts of SRM promotion, built on opportunities for outreach and provided stronger support to our sections, committees and individuals who are leading the charge on recruitment and retention of SRM members.

# 2,527

2020 SRM  
MEMBERS

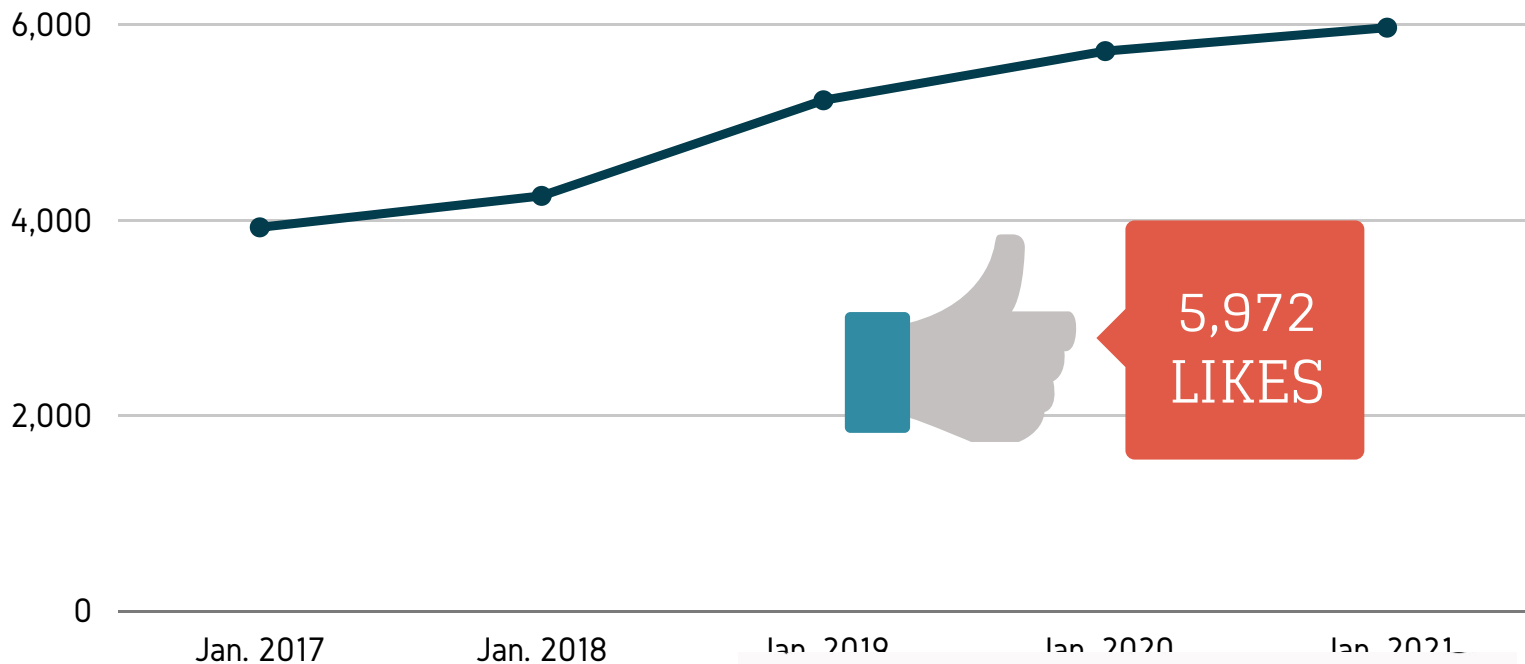
**Remember, your membership will always expire Dec. 31st!**



For the second time in 8 years, SRM membership broke the 2,500 mark in 2020. We saw a 2.7% increase in membership from 2019. It's been a team effort to stabilize our membership numbers and we appreciate the numerous efforts to get us here. The Membership Team, Individual members and SRM Sections have dialed into grassroots initiatives, determining goals/ objectives and cueing into ways the Parent Society can lend support. We continue to see backing of the "We Are Rangelands" campaign and other strong pushes in membership though out the countryside. This was in no way done solely at the Parent Society level--- we owe a big thank you to our sections for pushing membership from the regional level. Let's keep it up moving forward!

**Interested in providing input to building SRM's membership? Join the Membership Team! See more information on the SRM Website (Membership Committee page) or reach out to SRM HQ!**

## FACEBOOK ENGAGEMENT STATISTICS



## SRM HASHTAGS

- #RespectOnTheRange
- #RootedInRangelands
- #WeAreRangelands



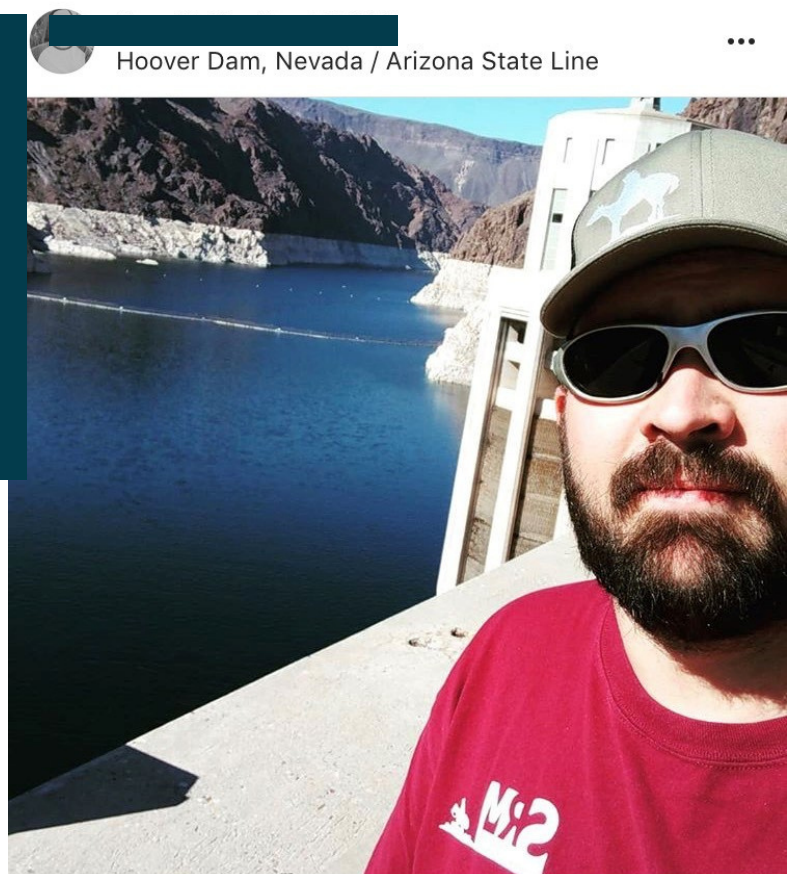
@SOCIETYFORRANGEMANAGEMENT



@SOCIETYFORRANGEMANAGEMENT



@RANGELANDS



Liked by [redacted] 1, societyforrangemanagement and 20 others

[redacted] 14 Representing SRM at Hoover Dam, great end to the conference week!



# FINANCIALS

## FISCAL YEAR ENDING JULY 31, 2020

	Actual (Aug 19-Dec 19)			Budget (FY End 2020)		
	Income	Expense	Net	Income	Expense	Net
Membership	112,487	3,208	109,279	179,037	50,000	129,037
Publications	22,332	45,824	(23,492)	137,790	64,127	73,663
Certification	2,280		2,280	5,163	0	5,163
Accreditation	7,502	966	6,536	10,766	5,600	5,166
Workshops	2,054		2,054	45,000		45,000
Annual Meeting	-	-	-	464,377	464,377	-
AM Advanced Payments			-		20,000	(20,000)
Committee Requests	-	1,469	(1,469)		37,450	(37,450)
Admin & General Expense	5,076	158,855	(153,779)		353,460	(353,460)
<b>Total Net <i>Operating</i> Income and Expense (not inclusive of transfers)</b>	<b>151,732</b>	<b>210,322</b>	<b>(58,590)</b>	<b>842,133</b>	<b>995,014</b>	<b>(152,881)</b>
Carryover from AM	100,000		100,000	110,000		110,000
Contributions	1,102		1,102	1,000		1,000
Life Membership	13,500		13,500	13,500		13,500
Endowment	30,347		30,347	30,347		30,347
<b>Total Transfers</b>	<b>144,949</b>		<b>144,949</b>	<b>154,847</b>		<b>154,847</b>
<b>Net Income (inclusive of transfers and prior yr annual meeting profit)</b>	<b>296,680</b>	<b>210,322</b>	<b>86,358</b>	<b>996,980</b>	<b>995,014</b>	<b>1,966</b>

Transfer to Rebuild Building Reserve Fund

Net Income After Transfer to Reserves

1,966

# FINANCIALS

## FISCAL YEAR ENDING JULY 31, 2021

	Actual (Aug 20-Dec 20)			Budget (FY End 2021)		
	Income	Expense	Net	Income	Expense	Net
Membership	48,013	6,389	41,624	144,278	58,448	85,830
Publications	2,999	58,730	(55,732)	132,795	33,736	99,059
Certification	2,120	-	2,120	5,923	0	5,923
Accreditation	3,900	-	3,900	9,534		9,534
Grants, Trainings & Agreements	23,717	-	23,717	40,000		40,000
Annual Meeting	-	-	-	110,000	110,000	-
Committee Requests	-	419	(419)		17,000	(17,000)
Young Scientists & Professionals					25,000	(25,000)
Website Re-Design					10,000	(10,000)
Admin & General Expense	480	137,867	*****		308,881	*****
Total Net <i>Operating</i> Income and Expense (not inclusive of transfers)	81,229	203,406	(122,177)	442,530	563,065	*****
Carryover from AM	120,000		120,000	80,000		80,000
Contributions	1,400		1,400	1,000		1,000
Life Membership	13,500		13,500	13,500		13,500
Endowment	35,486		35,486	33,374		33,374
Total Transfers	170,386		170,386	127,874		127,874
Net Income (inclusive of transfers and prior yr annual meeting profit)	251,615	203,406	48,209	570,404	563,065	7,339

Transfer to Rebuild Building Reserve Fund

Net Income After Transfer to Reserves 7,339



# SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT



The Trail Boss

[www.rangelands.org](http://www.rangelands.org)

