

IDAHO Section

Society for Range Management



Fall 2010



Newsletter

Number 4-10

President's Message

J.D. Wulfhorst

Greetings Fellow Idaho SRMers -

This has been a great year for me in SRM! I'd like to thank the Section members for their encouragement to me about assuming a leadership role. I have received a great deal of support from many of you, often in ways I didn't anticipate or even know to ask for along the way. It has been a meaningful experience and allowed me to get to know some of you much better. I'm grateful for the opportunity and will continue to be involved in the Section. We hope to see you at the annual business meeting on November 10th.

As we look toward the upcoming annual meeting & symposium, I'd like to thank Roger Blew as President-Elect for leading the organizing committee. From the program announcement, the Section will benefit from another great congregation of speakers addressing alternative management strategies for sagebrush steppe. We hope you will be able to attend and participate.

Planning for the 2012 Annual Meeting in Spokane continues to forge ahead as well. Thanks to many of you, as Section members have committed to volunteer positions for the planning committee and for roles during the meeting itself. We have agreed with our co-host, the Pacific Northwest Section, to a 60% (PNW) / 40% (ID) split of the proceeds from the meeting based on the relative distribution of time and energy we're committing to the overall effort. The 2012 meeting has a great venue and will be an exciting site to host the meeting. The two Sections have a lot of momentum to plan a dynamic meeting. Please contact me if you have an interest in the meeting but are not yet involved.

I hope to see you in a few weeks!
J.D.

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Annual Meeting
November 10-12
Idaho Falls, Idaho
Register Today

Idaho Section of the Society for Range Management **Alternative Management Strategies in Big Sagebrush Steppe: Perspectives, Opportunities and Supporting Evidence**

November 10-12 at University Place in Idaho Falls

In recent years the body of knowledge about the ecology of sagebrush steppe has expanded greatly. With that it has become apparent that inconsistencies exist in our understanding of sagebrush steppe. Some of these inconsistencies appear to be related to geographic variability in the response of sagebrush steppe to disturbance in terms of inherent resistance and resilience. Because land treatment prescriptions must be based on understanding the response to disturbance, it is important that alternative management strategies that recognize this variability are available.

With the need for land management goals to increasingly focus on species conservation and the long time scale required for recovery from disturbance, it is becoming increasingly important that management strategies recognize the potential variability in response to disturbance. These strategies must recognize the capabilities of the local landscape to respond positively to treatment as well as the potential limitations to success due to those differences.

The goal of this symposium is to enhance awareness of the apparent variable responses to disturbance reported across the geographic range of the sagebrush steppe ecosystem. Specific objectives of the symposium are to:

- Review management treatments currently being applied in big sagebrush steppe ecosystems
- Review knowledge from recent research in big sagebrush steppe ecosystems
- Explore new opportunities for variable management strategies in big sagebrush steppe ecosystems.

The symposium will open with presentations on ecological concepts and management issues common across the geographic range of the sagebrush steppe including sensitive species, historical fire regimes, invasive species, and wildlife habitat. That will be followed by presentations on the range of management treatments presently used in sagebrush steppe. There will be sessions covering recent research on soil and vegetation responses to fire, invasive species and habitat for sensitive species. The final session will include presentations by land managers describing the treatments they presently employ and a discussion panel with these managers exploring the opportunities for new and alternative management strategies.

Continuing Education Units will be available.

Registration - For more information and registration for the symposium go to www.stoller-eser.com/idahosrm/ or contact Roger Blew at rblew@stoller.com or 208-525-9358.

Lodging - A block of rooms has been reserved at the Best Western Driftwood Inn in Idaho Falls. The Driftwood has given us a great price of \$59 (single) and \$65 (double), which includes a continental breakfast of waffles, biscuit and gravy, and omelet bar. For reservations, please call 1-208-523-2242 or go online to <http://www.bestwesternidaho.com/hotels/best-western-driftwood-inn/> before November 1 and mention Idaho Chapter of the Society for Range Management.

Annual Meeting Agenda

ID-SRM Business Meeting

Wednesday Nov. 10 3:00 – 5:00 pm (at Stoller Office, 120 Technology Dr.)

Program - Alternative Management Strategies (University Place)

Thursday Nov. 11 8:30 – 5:00 pm (Registration opens at 8am)

- Sagebrush Steppe Ecosystems – musings of a long-term student. **Alan Sands** (The Nature Conservancy)
- Understanding Resistance to Invasion and Resilience to Disturbance. **Jeanne Chambers** (USFS)
- Historical Sagebrush Fire Regimes, Recent Fire, and Implications for Sagebrush Management **William Baker** (Univ. of Wyoming)
- Fire ecology of sagebrush systems: to burn or not to burn for wildlife habitat. **Carl Wambolt** (Montana State Univ.)
- Idaho Section SRM Awards
- Habitat relationships for pygmy rabbits: evaluating habitat quality and potential feedbacks. **Janet Rachlow** (Univ. of Idaho)
- Title TBA **Dave Delehanty** (Idaho State Univ.)
- Ungulates in sagebrush steppe. **John Kie** (Idaho State Univ.)
- Post-fire vegetation recovery at the INL Site: The first decade. **Amy Forman** (S.M. Stoller Corp.)
- Remote sensing applications in sagebrush steppe of Idaho. **Teki Sankey** (Idaho State Univ.)
- Post-fire soil stability and relation to vegetation at landscape to microsite scales. **Joel Sankey** (ISU)
- Long-term patterns of vegetation change following fire. **Roger Blew** (S.M. Stoller Corp.)

Friday Nov. 12 8:30 – 5:00 pm (Registration opens at 8am)

- Predicting the metapopulation dynamics of non-native plant species on the INL. **Bruce Maxwell** (Montana State Univ.)
- A community phylogenetic approach detects resiliency and resistance of native plant diversity in the sagebrush steppe. **Matt Lavin** (Montana State Univ.)
- Inter-relationships of invasive and native plants and hydroclimate in sagebrush steppe: implications for management. **Matt Germino** (Idaho State Univ.)
- Perspectives on mechanisms and impacts of invasion by non-native plants from studies of working and remote sagebrush-steppe landscapes. **Nancy Huntly** (Idaho State Univ.)
- Idaho Section SRM Awards
- Managing disturbance for sagebrush ecosystems. **Bruce Roundy** (Brigham Young Univ.)
- Land treatment legacy: advantages and challenges of knowing where and how vegetation was manipulated on public lands. **David Pilliod** (USGS)
- Title TBA **Glenn Guenther** (BLM)
- Managing sagebrush rangelands on the Caribou-Targhee National Forest: Treatment methods and responses. **Rob Michelson** (Forest Service)
- Sagebrush Steppe Ecosystem Management - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Perspective. **Brian Wehausen** (USFWS)
- Treatment of Resource Concerns in Sagebrush Ecosystems. **Brendan Brazee** (NRCS)
- Panel Discussion

Idaho SRM Treasurer's Report Fall 2010

Cindy Salo, Meribeth Lomkin, Dan Ogle, Jim Cornwell, Glenn Shewmaker, Neil Rimbey and Dave Franzen

Consider yourself warned: Meribeth Lomkin and Anna Owsiak are working on the auction for the section meeting in moth. Plan to pay your way out of their persistent pleading with a prodigious pledge.

The money raised will help prepare new range management professionals. Some of the money will help send University of Idaho Student Chapter (Range Club) members to next February's International SRM meeting in Billings, MT. This is an opportunity for them to test their range management knowledge, present talks and posters, learn about new research, network with other range professionals and look for a job or graduate program.

The rest of the money raised at the auction will go to the Brian Miller Memorial Fund at the U of I. This fund provides scholarships to U of I students studying Rangeland Ecology and Management. As a relative newcomer to Idaho, I was curious about who Brian Miller was. I asked several of our members, who were glad for a chance to talk about one of their favorite people.

Brian Miller seems to have been everyone's friend. Although raised near San Francisco, he came to Idaho as a young man. He attended the U of I after serving with the Marines in Viet Nam and graduated in 1975 with a B.S. in Range Resource Management. After graduation he gained several years experience with producers by working on ranches near Fairfield and Picabo, Idaho.

Brian started his career with the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) in Buhl in 1978. In 1985, he was promoted to District Conservationist in the Gooding office. He held that position until 1992 when he began his consulting business, Rangeland Services. As a consultant he continued to help producers with ranch planning, range improvements and monitoring, and ranch appraisals. In his spare time he operated a hay, grain, grass seed, and livestock ranch.

Everyone I contacted described Brian as a well-respected and well-liked professional. He was excellent at what he did and constantly worked to improve our natural resources. In addition to interacting effectively with other agency personnel, Brian was well known for his warm rapport with farmers and ranchers. He had a talent for resolving difficult resource issues and for contributing his dry wit to tense situations. He was a strong supporter the U of I and of SRM. He served on many society committees, held most section offices, and won most section awards.

Brian Miller died in June, 1996. He was 47 and had had a long struggle with cancer. Shortly after he died one of the ranchers he had worked with asked for a moment of silence in his memory at an Idaho Wool Growers meeting. The Brian Miller Memorial Scholarship Endowment remembers a talented range professional and helps prepare future range professionals.

It's Auction Time! Idaho Section SRM Silent Auction

Meribeth Lomkin

The annual silent auction will be held in conjunction with the Idaho Section Annual Meeting in November 2010 in Idaho Falls.

A huge thank you goes out to everyone who donated auction items and participated in the silent auction and the bucket auction at last year's meeting. It was an incredible success! Let's see if we can do that again!! Please bring an item to donate and/or your checkbook. There will be some great items available to help you get a head start on your Christmas shopping!

Proceeds from last year's auction went to the Brian Miller Scholarship fund at the University of Idaho and the University of Idaho Student SRM Chapter (Range Club) "travel fund". We hope to be able to do that again this year.

You can help by donating (or getting others to donate) items for the auction and/or by bidding on items at the auction. Items auctioned in the past include: books, horse halters, guided fishing trips, artwork, food items, and ski passes. The sky is the limit for potential items that could be donated.

If you would like to donate an item to the auction, please contact Meribeth Lomkin at (208) 358-1533 or just bring your item to the Section meeting in Idaho Falls on November 11. If you can't attend the meeting, but have an item for the auction, let me know - we'll figure out transport! Thanks and See You There!! Don't forget your checkbook.

This Quarter in Idaho SRM History... *Excerpts from Newsletters in the History Treasure Trove:*

10 years ago – Special 2000 Idaho SRM Newsletter:

Meribeth Lomkin

- “Fire and Weeds will be Hot Topics” at the Idaho-Utah Range Management Meeting, held in Ogden, Utah. Program & registration materials included.
- Section election ballot and candidate biographies.
- Did you know? Points to Ponder on Parasitic Paintbrushes.

20 years ago – Fall 1990 Idaho SRM Newsletter:

- Idaho Section Celebrating 40th Anniversary, and announcement of winter meeting themed: “Range Management – Past, Present, and Future”.
- Lots of summer tours to report – Southern Chapter hosted an Earth Day Program for Twin Falls sixth graders – about 150 students! Western Chapter Tour included the Gowen Field Training Site and Reynolds Creek ARS center, and the Section summer tour at Santa in Northern Idaho included a tour and discussion on the Merry Creek CRMP.
- U.S. Sheep Experiment Station Celebrates 75 Years of Research – a report on the Field Day and Symposium held October 4-5, 1990.
- The Southern Chapter ran a food booth at the Lincoln County fair – and earned \$2500 for the UI Endowment and Southern Chapter!
- The Western Chapter reported that they hosted lunch for over 350 Bitterbrush planting volunteers above Arrowrock Reservoir, held a summer tour, and are preparing to host the winter meeting.

40 Years Ago – October 1970 Idaho Section American Society of Range Management Newsletter

- The agenda for the 19th Annual Section meeting – “Solutions to Environmental Problems?” to be held in Boise, November 16 & 17, 1970.

Calling All Cooks Now Accepting Recipes, Photos and Stories

Jessica Taylor

Do you have a family or ranch recipe that has been around for generations? Does it have a great story or background to go with it? Or maybe you have a great range story, ranch story or an awesome range photo that you would like to share. We are looking for you. The Information and Education Committee is collecting recipes, stories and photos for the next edition of the Trail Boss Cowboy Cookbook.

Featured Recipe Of The Month:

From: Trail Boss's Cowboy Cookbook, 1985, *Dave Secrist, Dinner Station Ranch, Elko County, Nevada*

Baked Steak and Lima Beans

<i>1 lb. dry Lima Beans</i>	<i>6 c. water</i>	<i>1 18-oz. can tomato juice</i>
<i>1 tbsp. packed brown sugar</i>	<i>1 ½ tsp. salt</i>	<i>¼ c. flour</i>
<i>4 slices bacon</i>	<i>2 lbs. beef round steak (cut in 1-inch strips)</i>	
<i>1 tsp. dry mustard</i>	<i>½ tsp. black pepper</i>	

Rinse beans; add 6 cups of water. Bring to a boil; simmer 5 minutes. Remove from heat; let stand, covered, 1 hour. (Or combine beans and water; soak over-night.) Do not drain. Cover, simmer 30 minutes. In Dutch oven, cook bacon till crisp. Drain, reserve drippings. Crumble bacon; set aside. Coat beef with flour. Brown beef in hot drippings, pour off excess fat. Stir in beans and onion. Combine tomato juice, brown sugar, salt, pepper and mustard. Pour over beans and beef mixture. Bake covered in 325° oven till tender, about 1 ½ to 2 hours. Stir in bacon or top with it and grated cheese before serving. Serves 8.

Background: The Dinner Station Ranch was at one time a dinner stop-over for freight and stage coaches between Elko and Tuscaroro, Nevada, when the gold mines operated in northern Elko County.

Name That Idaho Drainage

Meribeth Lomkin



Name that Idaho Drainage!

Submit your guess with the name of this Idaho waterway to:

mlomkin@idl.idaho.gov

No correct guesses were received for the summer newsletter contest photo. You can try again.

Name That Idaho Drainage!

Submit your guess with the name of this Idaho waterway to:

mlomkin@idl.idaho.gov

Expanded hint: this waterway is a State Park in Gooding County.



How Can Resource Management Break the Current Fire Cycle?

Date: February 1-2, 2010

Neil Rimbey

Mark the dates on your calendar for this symposium. It will be held in Boise at the Washington Group International Conference facility (Broadway and Park) and deals with alternative means of reducing annual grasslands and the associated fire frequency and negative impacts on sagebrush, T&E species and others. Sponsored by the Boise District BLM Resource Advisory Council, SRM, and other groups and organizations. More information to come soon!



Next Newsletter Deadline is
January 15, 2011

Send your articles and pictures
(.jpg format) to:
Shannon Williams
shannonw@uidaho.edu

**SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT
IDAHO SECTION OFFICERS**

Officers

President, J.D. Wulfhorst 230-7333
Pres. Elect, Roger Blew 525-9358
Past President, Brendan Brazee 378-5722
Secretary, *Meribeth Lomkin* 358-1533
Treasurer, Cindy Salo 850-3313

Chapter Officers

Northern Director, Lovina Roselle 885-0160
Southern Director, Kelly Crane 736-3600
Western Director, Robin Holmquist 845-2324
Lyman Richwine Director, Sarah Baker 879-2344
UI Range Club Pres., Richard Ambrosek 208-589-8920.

Newsletters on the Web
[www.stoller-eser.com](http://www.stoller-eser.com/idahosrm/)
[/idahosrm/](http://idahosrm/)

**There are lots of opportunities for you to
become involved in the section's activities.
Give J. D. Wulfhorst, Roger Blew, a
Director, or a committee chair a call and find
out how you can get involved.**

**Idaho Section
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