



President's Message

Meribeth Lomkin

Another Great International SRM Meeting was enjoyed by many folks in Reno in February! I hope no-one from Idaho had much more serious gambling losses than my \$1.15! It is hard to quit while you're ahead if you never get ahead, so I just quit after I cleaned the change out of my pocket!

Idaho was very well represented at the meeting with many Section members organizing and or giving presentations at a variety of symposia throughout the meeting. Our Student Chapter/UI Range Club participated in many of the student activities, tests, and contests. Idaho's two High School Youth Forum delegates did a great job of representing Idaho as well. If you haven't ever attended the High School Youth Forum paper presentations, give it a try next year! You won't be disappointed. The HSYF delegates dedicate many hours to preparing their presentations and they are timely, informative, and enjoyable.

The UI Alumni/Idaho Section Get Together was well attended and gave us all a chance to catch up with old friends and make new ones. Special Thanks to Kathy Mallory at the UI Rangeland Ecology and Management Department for making the arrangements for get the together snacks and room!

In the course of the 1 ½ day Advisory Council meetings, many topics were discussed and several resolutions and recommendations were passed onto the Board of

Directors.

Much of the discussion was focused on the Annual International Meeting Location/Rotation Proposal. At the Advisory Council Meeting, a lot of strong feelings towards the proposal and alternative ideas were presented. This topic has been under study by SRM staff, the Board, and others, articles in the Rangeland News, presentations by Board Members at Section Meetings and International meetings, and other outreach efforts have been on-going for quite a while. The Board of Directors and SRM staff has developed three guiding principles for location of annual meetings:

- Best Value for Attendees
- Adequate Space accommodations for the meetings
- Keep money coming back into the Society

The discussions on the location/rotation proposal have stretched out to a point that a decision needs to be made very soon, or we will get behind in future meeting planning. Your input has been solicited many times and many ways, but if you have thoughts or ideas, it is past time to voice them, contact any National Board Member or the Wheat Ridge office staff.

Advisory Council often struggles with how it can best represent the sections and

(Continued on page 2)

Inside this issue:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| ● President's Message | 1 |
| Range Club News | 2 |
| Letters! | 3 |
| HSYF Delegates to Reno | 3 |
| Summer Tour | 4 |
| Sage Grouse Workshop in Utah | 5 |
| Name that Idaho Drainage | 6 |
| IRRC Update | 6 |
| FFA Range Contests | 7 |
| Membership Chair Committee Report | 7 |

**Summer Tour
August 7-8**

See Page 4



President's Message continued

(Continued from page 1)

members and provide timely, good advice/suggestions/information to the Board of Directors. This year, the group decided that if each section could come up with 10 issues that are important to that section/those members, all of the sections lists could be compiled, discussed, and prioritized at the advisory council meeting, and the results passed onto the Board of Directors. The potential scope of issues is unlimited. It could include specific resource issues that you think the SRM could help address, ideas for SRM activities, basically anything relative to rangelands and/or the SRM. The Advisory Council Chair has requested that Sections provide him with their lists prior to June 1, so that he can begin compiling them. If you have any thoughts for the Idaho Section's 10 issues list, PLEASE let me know!

In this newsletter, you will find information and a registration form for the joint Idaho Section SRM/Idaho SWCS Summer Tour. Don't forget to fill out your registration form and mail it in! THANK YOU to Corey Moffet, Keith Klement, and Joe May for putting the tour together.

Meribeth

Range Club Report

Ruth Luke

We would like to thank those who donated to the club to help us travel down and participate in the International SRM conference. As the International SRM in Reno came to a close, University of Idaho Range Students began to prepare for an eventful spring full of fundraisers and activities. To start off the rest of the season Idaho SRM University Chapter just recently elected the 2007-2008 Range Club officers.

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| President: | Molly Galbrith |
| Vice President: | Jeff Stackhouse and Aubrey Woodcock |
| Treasure: | Tess Pierce |
| Secretary: | Aubrey Woodcock |
| SAC Representative: | Ruth Luke |

These new officers will be organizing two weekends of tree cuttings, selling tree saplings, and beginning to collect plants for FFA as fundraisers for the next fall. Mid April the Range Club will be cleaning up the highway near Deary. For those who attended Vandal Friday, March 31st, our Range Club booth could be seen in the Kibbie Dome welcoming future students. The Range Club has recently become involved once again after a long absence in the CNR Student Affairs Council. April 16th -20th is Natural Resource week. The Range Club will be jumping on board with SAC to represent Natural Resources within the community. As the range club says farewell to our graduating students we will be celebrating their achievement with a dinner near the end of the semester.

March 23, 2007

Dear Idaho Section SRM,

Thank you for your donation of the following items for the 2007 Society for Range Management Endowment Fund Silent Auction.

Item: Taste of Idaho Basket

Value: \$50

With your continued support of the Endowment Fund, you can help ensure a strong, continuing future for the Society and the beliefs we all share and hold dear.

Sincerely,

K. Jason Campbell

Executive Vice President

Idaho Section Sends Two HSYF Delegates to Reno

This year the Idaho Section sent two delegates to the International SRM meeting in Reno, Nevada to participate in the High School Youth Forum (HSYF). Students were selected from the top five individuals in the 2006 State FFA Range Contest. Katie Elkington of Cambridge and Cameron Schoessler of Bliss were selected to represent the Idaho section. The section also sent Chester Bradshaw, the FFA advisor from Bliss, to the meeting as a chaperone and observer. During the week that the students were in Reno they toured Pyramid Lake and surrounding areas, interacted with professionals,

participated in forum workshops on riparian management and using fecal analysis for predicting diet quality, and competed in a short oral paper presentation contest. The paper presentations were to be on a range-related subject and last 6 to 8 minutes. Katie's topic was titled "Owyhee Initiative" and Cameron's was "Long Term Plant Community Change in Southern Idaho." Both students did a great job of presenting and we hope that they will share their presentations at the winter meeting.

The Idaho Section HSYF Committee would like to thank the section, U of I Department of Rangeland Ecology and Management, and the IRRC for their financial support of this program



Cameron Schoessler of Bliss and Katie Elkington of Cambridge at the International SRM meeting in Reno, Nevada.

Idaho Section Summer Tour

Idaho SRM and Idaho SWCS Summer Tour: August 7-8

The Idaho Section Society for Range Management and the Idaho Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society will meet August 7-8, 2007 for a summer tour of the U.S. Sheep Experiment Station near Dubois. Rangeland research has been conducted at the USSES since 1924. We will tour the Headquarters sagebrush steppe and the summer range in the Centennial Mountains of Idaho and Montana. The tour Tuesday, August 7th will begin at 8:00am at the USSES front gate. Lunch and dinner Tuesday is included in your registration. Lunch will be in the field and dinner will be at the Stoddard Creek group campground. Wednesday we will depart from the USSES front gate at 7:00am and the tour will end around 1:00pm and lunch will be on your own.

Lodging in Clark County is sparse, but the Stoddard Creek group campground has been reserved for tour attendees. Those not interested in camping may find rooms at the Cross Roads Motel in Dubois (208-374-5258) or one of many hotels in Idaho Falls (52 miles south). A continental breakfast will be provided at the USSES front gate 30 min prior to the tour.



Idaho Section Society for Range Management Summer Tour
August 7-8, 2006, Dubois, ID

Reservation Sheet:

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

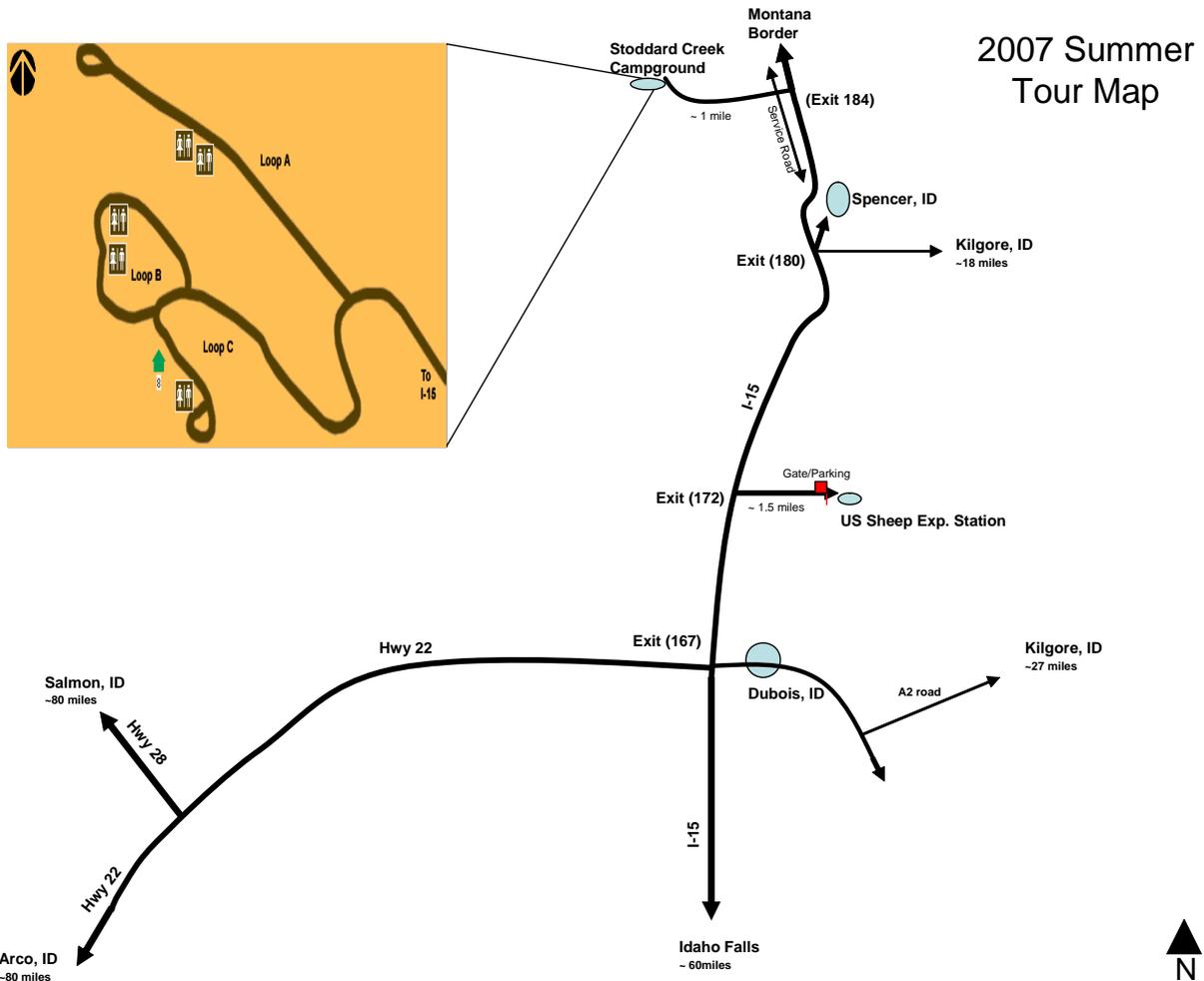
Please reserve _____ spots on the tour for me. I have enclosed a check made out to Idaho Section SRM for \$_____ (at \$40/person, or \$50 if after July 20) for my registration for this event.

We are working to get CEU credits for this tour.

Return by July 20, 2007 to:

**Idaho Section SRM
PO Box 8101
Boise, ID 83707**

Summer Tour Map



Sage Grouse Workshop

From Colorado SRM Section Winter Newsletter

A Sage Grouse Workshop will be held July 9-11, 2007 in Park City, UT with Colorado and Utah Sections SRM cooperating. There is an SRM push to increase membership and revenue and these workshops/conferences on management issues accomplish this goal.

This Workshop gives visibility to range issues outside of "cows". Registration should be out by mid-January 2007. There will be a hands-on publication based on this workshop.

• Name That Idaho Drainage

Meribeth Lomkin



**Name that Idaho Drainage:
Submit your guess with the
name of this Idaho water-
way to:
mlomkin@idl.state.id.us**

The answer to the last “Name that Idaho Drainage” was King Hill Creek. No correct answers were received.



• IRRC Update

Meribeth Lomkin

I have attended recent Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission (IRRC) meetings as the Idaho Section SRM representative. The IRRC’s mission statement is: To provide programs that result in an informed public who understands and support balanced responsible management of Idaho’s economically vital private and public rangelands. The Commission works alone and actively partners with landowners, the University of Idaho, agencies, and others to achieve their mission and goals. Several workshops, publications, and activity days are in the works for the coming months. Check out their website at <http://www.idrange.org> for more information.

At the most recent IRRC meeting held in Moscow on April 13, 2007, one of the potential future publications/educational items discussed was developing a small book or booklet/handbook that would help the average person understand rangelands and provide science as it relates to “hot” issues regarding rangelands. Potential partners discussed for this publication were the UI Rangeland Ecology and Management Department, Idaho SRM, and IRRC. The exact form and content of this publication has yet to be decided. It would probably be used by IRRC in their classroom education materials and teacher workshops, among other places.

We are looking for your ideas! What messages should be presented in this type of publication? For the general public, what issues regarding rangelands do you think additional science background would be helpful? What type of publication would be most useful? Send your input to IRRC at irrc@bigskytel.com.

• Thanks!

FFA Range Judging Contests

Meribeth Lomkin

The District FFA/4-H Range Judging contest idea is moving forward. The idea is to hold district range judging contests that will allow more students to learn about rangelands and to give students more practice at the range judging contest before the state contest. I recently visited with Allison Touchstone, the Program Manager/Idaho FFA Advisor at the State Division of Professional-Technical Education, about the possibility of offering range judging contests in conjunction with the district soil judging contests. Allison gave me some great contacts and advice to get this idea transformed to reality. It is clear from my conversation with Allison and other vo-ag instructors/FFA Advisors with whom I have discussed this idea, that if we would like to hold district range judging contests, they need to be held in conjunction with another district contest. There simply isn't time in the school year for FFA chapters to attend another separate contest.

Ken Sanders and I have a list of folks who are interested in helping with these contests, but if you don't think your name is on one of our lists, let me know, and I'll add you! There's always room for more volunteers!

I still have some additional contacts to make and details to iron out. However, I hope to send information packets with more details on how you can help get a contest going in your area to the SRM members who have volunteered to help with this effort before the next section newsletter comes out.

In the meantime, the scheduled dates for Idaho FFA/4-H Land and Soil Regional Field Days are listed below:

| Region | Event Date | Location |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| North Idaho | October 2, 2007 | Nezperce |
| Southwest Idaho | September 28, 2007 | Kuna |
| North/South Central | October 2, 2007 | Buhl |
| Upper Snake River | October 10, 2007 | Snake River |
| Southeastern Idaho | October 12, 2007 | Marsh Valley |
| State Contest | October 15, 2007 | Burley |

Membership Chair Committee Meeting in Reno

A major focus of the Membership Chair Committee meeting at the International meeting in Reno was how to help members and potential members realize a "value" in being a member of SRM. Some ideas were to expand the use of email for communication on current issues and trainings, diversify the types of things being offered through the society so that a broader audience is reached, and mentor college students so that they understand what the society has to offer after graduation.

The Membership Round-Up contest was successful and there are plans to hold another contest this fall. More details will be coming from Lesley Radtke soon.

It was mentioned in Rangeland News, but it is worth noting again that starting with the August 31, 2007 expiration date, members will no longer receive a 30-day grace period before membership expires. For example, if your dues expiration date is August 31, 2007 your membership will expire on August 31, 2007. This change will make the numbers easier to calculate for membership renewals, accounting, etc. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lesley Radtke, 303-986-3309 or email

LRadtke@rangelands.org

Next Newsletter Deadline is
July 15, 2007



Send your articles and pictures (.jpg format) to:
Juley Hankins
juley_hankins@blm.gov
or Roger Blew
rblew@stoller.com

SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT IDAHO SECTION OFFICERS

Officers

President, Meribeth Lomkin 324-2561
Pres. Elect, Shannon Williams 756-2824
Past President, Paul Butler 237-5716
Secretary, Brad Williams 756-2749
Treasurer, Cindy Salo 850-3313

Chapter Officers

Northern Director, J.D. Wulfhorst 885-7645
Southern Director, Kevin Wright 736-3073
Western Director, Maura Laverty 253-0114
Lyman Richwine Director, Don Edgerton 522-6250
UI Range Club Pres., Ruth Luke 885-6536

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 Meribeth Lomkin, Shannon Williams, a Director, or a committee chair a call and find out how you can get involved.

**Idaho Section
Society for Range Management
P. O. Box 8101
Boise, Idaho 83707**