



President's Message

Shannon Williams

Spring is coming slowly here in Lemhi County. The good news is with the cool weather we have great snowpack here and should have good grass on the range if it ever gets warm enough for the grass to grow.

Idaho was well represented in Kentucky at the joint meetings held with the American Forage and Grassland Council. The Idaho delegation worked at various airports to develop the big horn sheep resolution that we voted on at our business meeting. We were fortunate that the Nevada delegation joined forces with us and we did end up with a resolution that was passed by the advisory council. In the end the resolution ended up being much broader in scope than just dealing with big horns and disease transmission. It ended up covering disease transmission between all domestic livestock and wildlife.

I appreciate everyone who responded to the five question survey about Rangelands. I'm sorry we couldn't get responses from those of you without email, but the turn around time of the survey was short due to the Board of Directors meeting coming up quickly and they wanted the information.

Meribeth, Cindy, I and others represented SRM at the Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission (IRRC) meeting in February. We decided to team up with

them on the summer tour. I also proposed that we join forces to promote a "range public speaking/illustrated talk/demonstration contests for 4-H youth. We all agree that education is important and we love the high school forum, but high school youth are busy. The proposal is to have counties host the contest with their 4-H demonstration contests and youth participating would receive a t-shirt "advertising" range on it. One of the requirements would be that they would include three reasons why rangelands are important. I am working on the proposed guidelines and score sheets. If anyone has ideas or would like to help, please let me know. We have contacted a few counties to help pilot the contests this first year.

IRRC is taking the lead on the summer tour. It is going to be great. It will be held on Jarbidge District where the fires affected Bert Brackett's range. For those who attended the winter conference, we saw lots of pictures of that fire. The goal of the tour is to change the perception of grazing. We want people to understand that grazing is a tool to manage habitat. IRRC will be sending registration information for the tour coming out soon, so check your inbox on your email and the mail box for you "email" challenged folks.

Shannon

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Summer Range Tour
June 13 & 14

Draft Recovery Plan for Buckaroo Birds

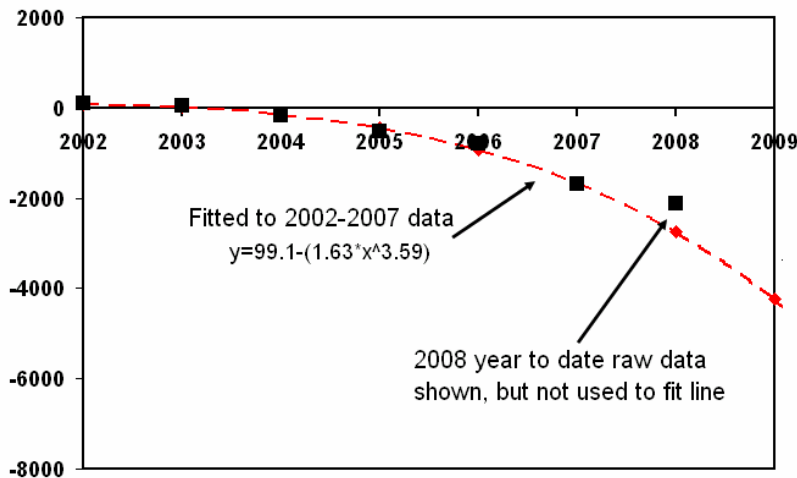
Your treasurer is just fine, thank you for asking. I've been watching the subprime mess unfold on Nightly Business Report and wondering what the heck people were *thinking*, spending more than they made. In my spare time I've been worrying about our population of Buckaroo Birds, which I'll symbolize with '\$'.

The Buckaroo Bird (\$) situation

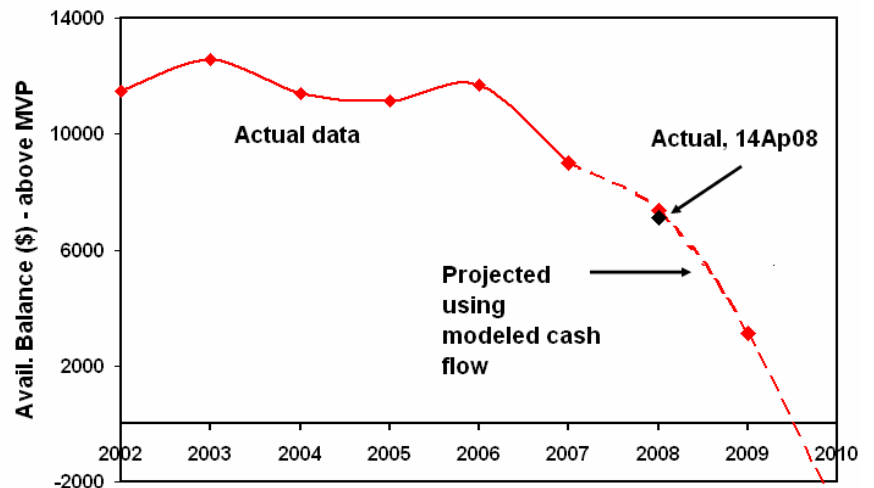
Each year we lose more Birds (\$) to emigration (gifts) than we gain from immigration (fund raising). In fact, our Bird **annual deficit is larger each year** (Fig. 1). We're not managing our Birds (\$) sustainably.

If the current trend continues, we'll drop **below our Minimum Viable Population** for Buckaroo Birds (\$) in **2009** (Fig. 2). We have lost Birds (\$) steadily since our last major immigration (fund raising) event, in 2001.

SRM Annual Cash Flow



SRM Available Balance - above MVP



(Cont. on Page 3)

• Treasurer's Report (cont.)

Possible approaches to recovery of Buckaroo Birds (\$)

1. **All electronic newsletter:** Saves postage, paper, and newsletter committee's time. An unlimited number of pages can be posted on the web, making it possible to **sell advertising in Section newsletter**. The Wyoming Section charges \$120/yr for a business card-sized ad.
2. **Live auction at section annual meeting:** In addition to the silent auction, which supports the Brian Miller Fund at the U of I, a live auction **at the dinner** could raise funds for the U of I Range Club and High School Youth Forum students to attend national meetings. Live auctions raise money through **peer pressure** (your parents probably won't be there to tell you to resist), escalating bidding on **valuable items**. For example, Your Treasurer will donate a 24 pack of Magic Blue Bic Pens. Although they look like ordinary Bic pens, these come with a No Missing Data Guarantee...*in writing*.
3. **Foster Parent Plan, Idaho:** Why does Foster Parents Plan International use stories and photos of children to raise money? Because it works! **Personal connections with students benefiting from money raised** will increase proceeds. Students could introduce themselves and their work during section meeting talks, then 'sponsor' items at the live auction, which would help send them to the national meeting. Stories and photos of students' (SRM-related only) activities at the national meetings, published in the section newsletter, would increase donor satisfaction.
4. **Industry and agency sponsors:** Sponsor **breaks at section annual meeting** or the **Idaho event** at SRM national meetings (our other major cost).
5. **Donations during registration for section events:** Space for members to donate to the High School Youth Forum, UI Range Club, or Idaho event on registration forms for section annual meetings and tours.

I'll be thinking about the alternatives while I watch Nightly Business Report. Please **send feedback and ideas** to me at csalo11@hotmail.com by Memorial Day, 2008. The person sending the **best idea** or most **thought provoking feedback** will receive a:

Hotter Spotter Ribbon and a Poem Written for the Occasion

If you've heard my poems before, or would like to submit anonymously, send an email to Roger Blew at rblew@stoller.com; Roger will remove all identifying traces and forward ideas and feedback to me.

• Letter from U of I Range Club, Jan. 2008

Dear Idaho Section SRM,

Thank you so much for your substantial contribution to the Range Club. With the money we were able to send two members to Kentucky and also save for future conferences and meetings. The national meeting was a success and we were glad to see so many familiar faces from Idaho!

Sincerely,

U of I Range Club

Two Upcoming Rangeland Tours

Cindy Salo

The Murphy Complex: One Year Later Sat., June 14th, 2008

In July, 2007, the **Murphy Complex** fire burned over 1,000 square miles of **sagebrush, grasslands, and canyons** in the Jarbidge area, southwest of Bruneau, ID. In response, Gov. Butch Otter urged Idaho Fish and Game volunteers to collect sagebrush seed, which the Bureau of Land Management applied to burned areas, along with seed of grasses and forbs.

The Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission is inviting IDF&G volunteers, local community leaders, Sage Grouse working groups, and Society for Range Management members to revisit this remote area, just a few hours from Boise, on **Saturday, June 14th**. Tucked against the Nevada border, in the shadow of the Jarbidge mountains, this hidden area is well known to river runners, back road enthusiasts, and nature lovers.

Learn about the area and its natural history. Federal agency personnel, university researchers, and Jarbidge residents will be our guides as we explore this special place. We will learn about the plants and animals, and the role of fire in this sagebrush grassland, one of our most threatened ecosystems. Speakers will describe efforts underway to better understand and to manage fire in this area, while meeting the needs of its users.

Experience Idaho history. A long history of family ranching continues in the Jarbidge, where a vanishing breed of rancher continues to live and work on the land. As we lunch in Three Creek, we will meet some of the residents and hear their stories.



Rangelands on the Curlew Grasslands - Fri., June 13th, 2008

Join ranchers from eastern Idaho as they host the Audubon Society on a tour of the **Curlew Grasslands of south central Idaho**.

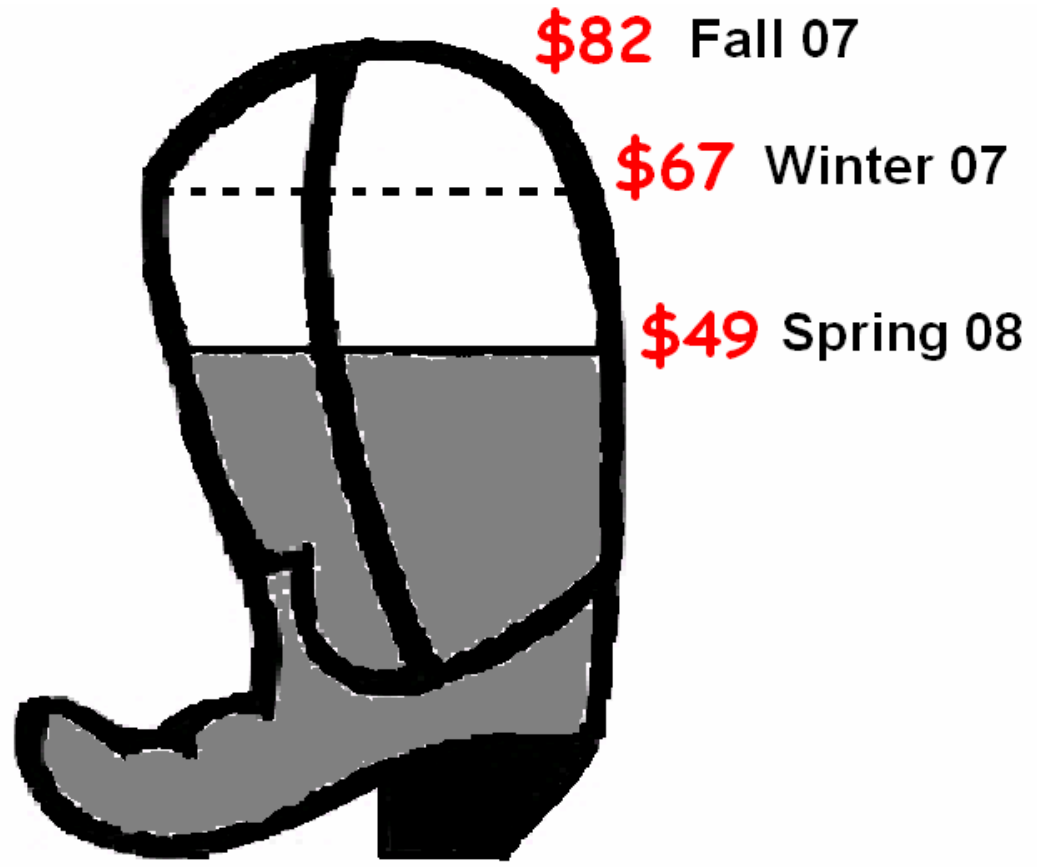
Registration information and complete schedules for both tours will be mailed to SRM members

Give the US Postal Service the Boot! Go Electronic!

If you're reading this on paper, you missed the chance to receive the electronic version of the newsletter early and in color. Save trees, save stamps, save money, and save the newsletter committee's time folding and stapling -- Sign up for electronic delivery of the SRM Idaho section newsletter by emailing Cindy Salo (csalo11@hotmail.com).

STOMP OUT STAMPS!

How much do stamps cost Idaho SRM for each newsletter?
How much have we saved already with the electronic newsletter?
Do your part to help empty the boot!



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

This photo courtesy of
Erik Kirwox.

The answer to the last “Name that Idaho Drainage” was the Bruneau River. Robin Holmquist had the 1st correct answer and was the latest spud fudge winner!

This photo courtesy of
Justin Westrum.



High School Youth Forum

Meribeth Lomkin

Challis Boll, Idaho’s 2008 High School Youth Forum Representative, after giving her presentation titled “Restoring Sagebrush Communities Following Fire” at the SRM meeting in Louisville, Kentucky, January 29, 2008. Challis is a Senior at Cambridge High School. Special thanks to the Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission and the University of Idaho Rangeland Ecology and Management Department for their help in funding Challis’ trip.



How to ride a (mechanical) bull

Photographs
removed by
copyright holder

Next Newsletter Deadline is
July 15, 2008



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**

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UI Range Club Pres., Molly Galbraith 691-8343

**Newsletters on the Web
www.stoller-eser.com/idahosrm/**

There are lots of opportunities for you to become involved in the section's activities. Give Shannon Williams, Dan Bergstrom, 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**