



President's Message

Shannon Williams

The Winter Conference for SRM focused on Fire this year. The conference was held in Twin Falls, December 6 & 7. It was successful with everyone's help. We had over 70 people in attendance. They represented 26 different agencies, livestock operations and field offices. Students attended from University of Idaho and College of Southern Idaho.

We had some awesome speakers including many of our own members! Each one presented a different facet of Fire and expanded our knowledge and challenged us to re-think some of our ideas. Our speakers included Jerry Chatterton, retired researcher of plant physiology for USDA Agricultural Research Service; Bert Bracket, Rancher; Neil Rimbey, University of Idaho Range Economist; Dr. Eva Strand and her students and Dr. Karen Launchbaugh from University of Idaho Rangeland Ecology and Management program; Gretchen Hyde with Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission; Dr. Corey Moffet with USDA Dubois Sheep Experiment Station; Jon Bates from Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center; and Joe Hinson with Office of Species Conservation. Wally Butler updated everyone on what was happening at the National SRM level. Meribeth Lomkin and Cindy Salo gave us 10 reasons to sign up for the electronic newsletter. The number one reason was to save Roger's and Juley's livers. There is still time to sign-up.

I would like to thank IRRC for sponsoring the afternoon break this year. Gretchen and the commission are great to support our programs and activities. Meribeth deserves a big thank you for reminding me of things that needed to be done or doing them for me. She did a wonderful job with the banquet, silent auction and the business meeting. Thank you to Glenn Shewmaker for running the audio visual

equipment when I called him the day before the conference. Cindy and I had lots of new trails to explore being the rookies in planning the conference. The students were great at the registration table.

The business meeting was well attended and there was some good discussion on various issues. As a section we are sending a resolution to the Idaho Legislature supporting IRRC on the development of a license plate. If this plate is adopted, the funds raised would go directly to IRRC to support the wonderful programs and activities that they do. We are also working on a resolution to take to the national meetings concerning the big horn sheep / domestic sheep issue stating that decisions need to be based on sound science. Cindy also presented some graphs and patterns of membership. For the section to continue to be strong, we need to recruit new members and maintain our membership base. I challenge each of you receiving this newsletter to recruit one new member this year. If you are not getting the electronic version of this letter, you need to recruit two more as Roger and Juley may just say no to the newsletter sometime and we'll need someone to replace them.

I look forward to traveling with Meribeth to Kentucky and representing Idaho. Meribeth has promised to show me the ropes and get me to the right meetings. I can just see it now, 2 small-town girls changing planes in Denver – watch out Denver and Kentucky!

I encourage all the members, if there are range issues that you feel the section should discuss and address, please let me know.

Shannon

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President's Award

Meribeth Lomkin

Katie Moore received the President's award at the Idaho Section Banquet on December 6, 2008 in recognition of her past and on-going service as Idaho Section High School Youth Forum Committee Chair. Katie has cheerfully and professionally tackled a job that sometimes resembles herding cats through a pond towards a kennel full of rowdy dogs. She spearheads the process of informing High School Students of the HSYF program, soliciting letters of interest from potential delegates, and selecting delegates. Katie coordinates funding for the delegates' trip and ensures that delegates understand the goals and requirements of the program. She provides ideas and guidance for students in selecting their paper/presentation topics, ensures that the required paperwork is completed and mailed to the National HSYF coordinator, and helps with the delegates' travel arrangements. Congratulations Katie!

U of I Range Club Report

Molly Galbraith

University of Idaho Range Club will kick off the spring semester with a couple of members attending the Society for Range Management's annual meeting in Louisville, Kentucky. The club ended fall semester with a trip to Twin Falls for the Idaho Section SRM meeting. We were proud to help out at such an event and appreciate the generous support from the Idaho Section members and board. Here is a quick look at what is in store for spring semester: continuation of FFA plant mount fundraiser, club barbeques, adopt-a-highway road clean-up, new student fair, fall leadership elections, and much, much more!!

Challis Boll Selected as 2008 HSYF Delegate

Katie Moore

Challis Boll, a Senior at Cambridge High School, has been selected as the Idaho Section's 2008 High School Youth Forum (HSYF) delegate. She will attend the International SRM meeting in Louisville Kentucky with her FFA advisor, Sue Poland. During the meeting, Challis and the other delegates will interact with professionals, go on a tour, participate in a workshop, and give a presentation on a range related subject. The HSYF presentations will be all day on Tuesday, January 29. The schedule of speakers will be released in the Daily Trail Boss at the convention. So, if you are attending the meetings in Louisville stop in and support Challis and the other HSYF delegates.

Brian Miller Scholarship Endowment 2007 Report

Meribeth Lomkin

The Brian Miller - Idaho SRM Scholarship Endowment has a balance of \$37,227.95 as of June 30, 2007. Gifts received to the Endowment in fiscal year 2007 (July 1, 2006 thru June 30, 2007) totaled \$501.00.

The Beverage Wagon on the summer tour in August 2007 netted \$45.51.

The Silent Auction held at the Section meeting in December 2007 netted \$595.00 to be added to the fund (this includes auction income plus additional donations). We had some great auction items donated and lots of generous buyers to purchase them! Thanks to everyone who participated.

This academic year, Bruce Brockett is the recipient of the Brian Miller Scholarship.

• 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
Justin Westrum.

The answer to the last “Name that Idaho Drainage” was Dump Creek in Lemhi County. Corey Moffet had the 1st correct answer and is the latest spud fudge winner!



• Idaho SRM Election Results

The ballots have been counted, the winners have been named, and all that could remain is to say: CONGRATULATIONS and THANK YOU.

Congratulations to the following newly elected SRM Officers and Board members:

President Elect: **Dan Bergstrom**

Secretary: **Rebecca Beavers**

Southern Director: **Kevin Eldredge**

Lyman Richwine Director: **Corey Moffet**

Thanks to those still serving their terms of office:

President: **Shannon Williams**

Past President: **Meribeth Lomkin**

Treasurer: **Cindy Salo**

Director – Student Chapter: **Molly Galbraith**

Northern Director: **J.D. Wulfhorst**

Western Director: **Maura Laverty**

Newsletter Editors: **Roger Blew** and **Juley Hankins**

Membership Committee Chair: **Juley Hankins**

Thanks again to our out-going officers/board members for their years of service to the section:

Brad Williams, Kevin Wright, Don Edgerton, and Paul Butler

THANK YOU to everyone who was willing to put their name on the ballot and to everyone who voted!

Idaho Section Annual Business Meeting Minutes

Rebecca Beavers

December 7, 2007

Twin Falls, Idaho

Members & Officers in Attendance: 20

Meeting was called to order by Meribeth Lomkin, past-president elect.

Treasurer's Report - Cindy Salo

The chapter's checking plus savings account balances totaled \$17,633.44 on December 6, 2007, before expenses for the annual meeting and expenses for SRM 2008 Louisville were paid. (see Treasurer's Report page 6)

Newsletter Committee Report – Roger Blew

Up coming deadlines for article submissions are January 15, April 15, July 15 and September 15, 2008.

Membership Committee Report – J.D. Wulfhorst and Karen Launchbaugh

J.D. is working on a letter writing campaign to increase membership and is organizing the list to send the letters too. Margaret Hinson suggested contacting Idaho Cattle Association and Idaho Wool Growers Association to recruit for SRM within their membership bodies.

Student Chapter Report – Molly Galbraith, President of UI Range Club

This year they have 6-10 members. They are working on recruiting freshman into the club. She reported on the activities they have been involved with.

Currently, they are working on plant mounts for high schools as their fundraiser. They have new high quality digital photos that they are using for the mounts which will last longer.

Brian Miller Scholarship Report – Meribeth Lomkin

The fund has a balance of \$37,227.95 as of June 30, 2007. One scholarship of \$500.00 was awarded this year.

High School Youth Forum – Katie Moore

So far, HSYF has been able to send one student to the Vancouver meeting and 2 students to the Reno meeting. This year 1 student plus their advisor will attend Louisville in January. The expense for the students and advisor is split between the Section, UI Range Department and IRRRC. In the future, the student might have to present their presentation at the Section meeting prior to leaving for the national meeting.

The idea of holding a Range Camp came up. This has been done in other states and is being looked at for Idaho.

University of Idaho Range Department Update – Karen Launchbaugh

Karen reported that the department merger with Forest Resources did not take place. So, the Rangeland Ecology and Management department came up with a new mission statement, 5 year recruiting plan and evaluation and clarification of learning objectives within the Rangeland Ecology and Management degree.

There are other new developments such as the addition of new faculty members such as Dr. Eva Strand. Dr. Jim Kingery has announced his retirement and they will be hiring for a Restoration Ecology position. There will be an opportunity for a replacement for the retiring Dr. Ken Sanders in Rangeland Extension coming this year as well. Also, a new B.S. Degree in Fire Ecology and Management is available.

RANGE AND PASTURE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Sponsored by: USDA-ARS Forage & Range Lab, Logan, UT & University of Idaho Department of Rangeland Ecology & Management

February 4, 2008

Red Lion Inn, Twin Falls, ID

9:45 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

They will be presenting the latest developments in plant material, both introduced and native, for seeding rangelands in the Intermountain Region. The workshop is free and the ARS will be providing lunch, **however, please note that an RSVP is necessary by January 28 in order to save a place at the table.**

For additional information and/or to RSVP contact:

Mary Fenwick
(208) 736-3605
mfenwick@uidaho.edu
Univ. of Idaho
District III Extension Office

Idaho Section Newsletter Goes Electronic

Sign up for Electronic delivery of this newsletter to receive it earlier, in color and with additional content. If you did not already receive an Electronic version of this newsletter (earlier and in living color) in your Inbox, then SRM-ID does not have your current email address. Sign up for Electronic delivery by emailing Cindy Salo (csalo11@hotmail.com).

Idaho Section Summer Tour 2007

Cindy Salo

Beautiful scenery, informative presentations, and enjoyable company made a successful SRM Idaho Section Summer Tour August 7th and 8th, 2007. Nestled against the foothills of the Centennial Mountains at the northeastern tip of the Snake River Plain, the U.S. Sheep Experiment Station has been carrying out research on small ruminant production and rangeland management since the 1920's.



For a complete report on the on the 2007 Summer Tour please visit our website at www.stoller-eser.com/idahosrm/

Idaho Section Treasurer's Report, Winter 2008

Cindy Salo

Your treasurer is just fine, thank you for asking.

The *treasury* is OK, too, although I'm a bit concerned about it. I like to think of the treasury as a population of Buckaroo Birds that we, the Idaho Chapter of SRM, are to manage sustainably.

We know that our population of Buckaroo Birds grows with births ('Income' on the graph) and shrinks with deaths ('Expenses'). In addition, Buckaroo Birds from other areas immigrate to our area ('Mtgs & Tours'), and some of our Birds leave to join other populations ('National SRM Meeting').

We're pretty clear on the concept of extinction - falling below our Minimum Viable Population. I've consulted with our Local Experts and learned that the MVP for Buckaroo Birds is about **8000** birds. Our population at the end of 2007 was **15,522** birds, so we're above our MVP right now.

But if we look at our BBird population over time, we see that we're losing Birds faster than we're gaining them. In 2007 we had a net loss of **1,859** BBirds! Where did they go?

The graph shows us that births ('Income') and deaths ('Expenses') are fairly well balanced. The greatest variability is in immigration ('Mtgs. & Tours') and emigration ('National SRM Meeting'). As our 2008 meeting was in Dec., 2007 this year, we had two meetings and one tour this year, and gained **174** BBirds from these activities. But we sent **2,206** BBirds to the 2007 national SRM meeting.

Your treasurer is a bit concerned about 2008: We're already sent **1,984** BBirds to the 2008 national SRM meeting (not show on this graph), and, as our annual meeting was in 2007, we have only a summer tour to entice BBirds from other areas to join our population in 2008.

Your treasurer thinks that if we're to manage our population of Buckaroo Birds sustainably, and stay above our MVP of **8000** Birds, we'll need to keep our greatest sources of variability, immigration ('Mtgs. & Tours') and emigration ('National SRM Meeting') in balance.

SRM Idaho Chapter Income & expenses

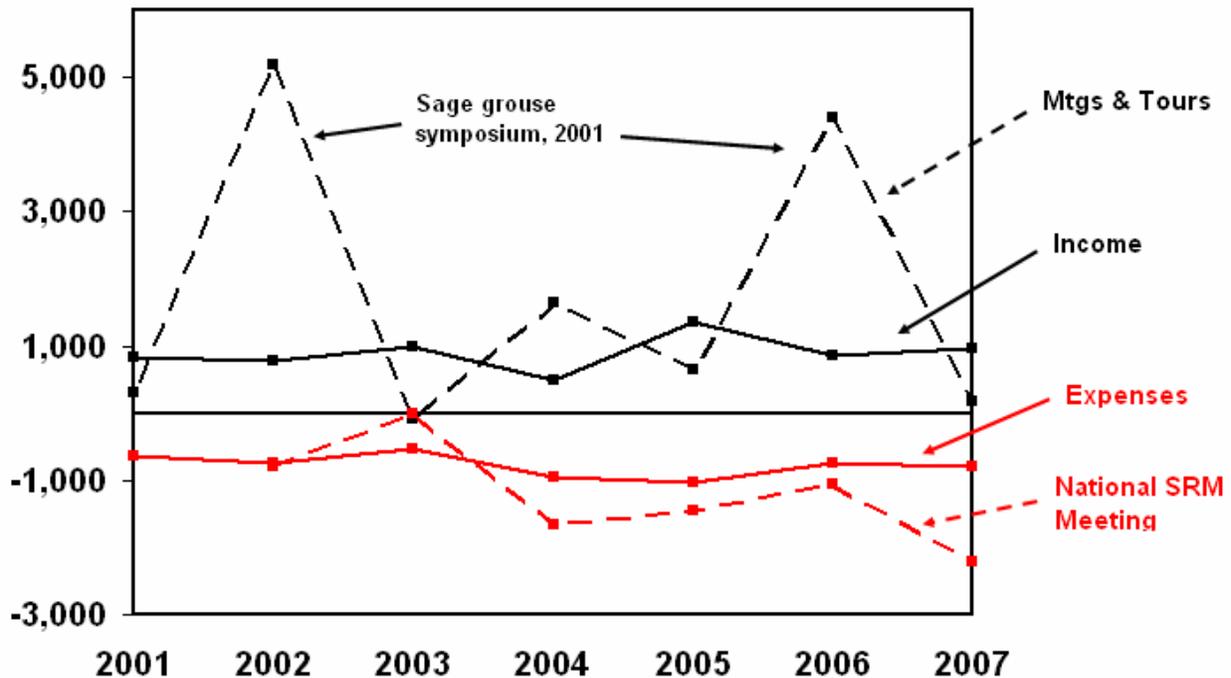


Photo Gallery from Idaho Section Annual Meeting

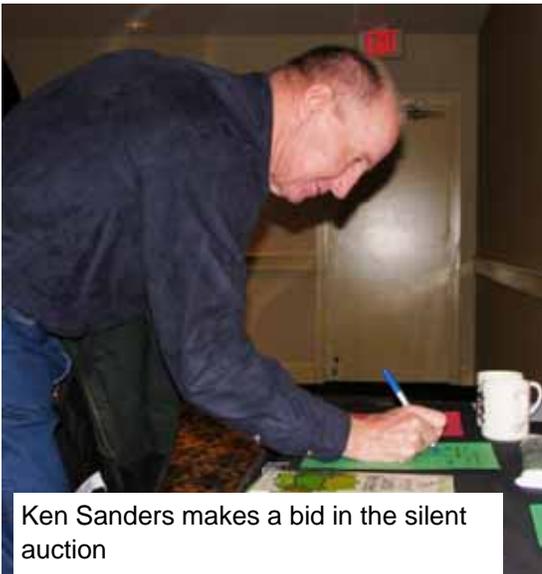
Cindy Salo



Out-going President Meribeth Lomkin passes the gavel to Shannon Williams.



Above right – Dave Frazen describes some of the features of the **“Porta-Potty Award”** including a miniature copy of Rangelands magazine. Dave assures her that, just like the real thing, the door will NOT close.



Ken Sanders makes a bid in the silent auction

Below – Meribeth explains the importance for government employees to leave a “paper trail,” especially while transporting a porta-potty.



Brendan Brazee finds the Idaho Section much funnier than the Wyoming group.



JD Wulfhorst surprised everyone (especially Cindy) by arriving from Costa Rica



Meribeth Lomkin and Katie Moore share a laugh.

Next Newsletter Deadline is
April 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**

Officers

President, Shannon Williams 756-2815 ext.283
Pres. Elect, Dan Bergstrom 697-4548
Past President, Meribeth Lomkin 324-2561
Secretary, Rebecca Beavers 334-3488
Treasurer, Cindy Salo 850-3313

Chapter Officers

Northern Director, J.D. Wulfhorst 885-7645
Southern Director, Kevin Eldredge 764-3112
Western Director, Maura Laverty 253-0114
Lyman Richwine Director, Corey Moffet 374-5306
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**