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- Council Member** - Nick Simonson
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President's Message

Submitted by Michael Croxen

May is here and the grass is starting to green up and people are preparing to move out of winter pasture. Remember that there is lots of residual forage out there that is extremely flammable. There have been seven wildfires in the sandhills since February by Arthur, Tryon, Mullen, Halsey and Thedford. There were lots of prescribed fires successfully completed around the state.

There were also a few escapes, so be careful.

There has been a change of venue for the section meeting due to conflict with high school range judging. We will do both in Sidney. The range judging contest and practice will be set up on Monday with the contest on Tuesday. Council meeting Tuesday evening, section meeting and program Wednesday and tour Thursday. Curtis will up-

date as he gets things finalized.

The NRD Adventure Camp about the Environment (ACE) will be June 5 – 8 at the 4-H Camp at Halsey for campers who were in 6th to 8th grade this year. There will be a council meeting on Monday at 6 PM during Youth Range Camp at the 4-H Camp. Youth Range Camp is June 13 – 17.

Have a great rest of spring and early summer.

Changes in Nebraska SRM Meeting!

Submitted by Curtis Talbot, VP

Change happens! As you may have heard, the Nebraska Section – Society for Range Management and the State Range Judging Contest ended up being scheduled for the same days. In an effort to keep both functions successful, the section Meeting is now

scheduled for **Sidney on October 5, 2011**, with the field tour following on **October 6**. The State Range Judging Contest is scheduled for October 3-4. If you are considering to volunteer at the contest, this is now a great

opportunity to attend both events. The theme for the meeting, “Understanding Past Management and What It Means Today”, as well as the list of speakers will be maintained. Speakers include:

...continued on next page

Changes in Nebraska SRM Meeting!

Submitted by Curtis Talbot, Vice President

Doug Helms, National Historian, NRCS

History of Conservation on the American Landscape

Daryl Lund, CEAP Team Leader, Resources Assessment Division, NRCS

Results and Lessons Learned from the Conservation Effects Assessment Program on Rangelands

Keith Klement, Director of Ag & Instructor of Natural Resources & Ranch Land Management, Sheridan College & SRM Director

The Use of Repeat Photography to Document and Interpret Landscape Change

Skye Wills, Soil Scientist, National Soil Survey Center, NRCS

Preliminary Results of the Rapid Carbon Assessment and How it Might Help Interpret Past Management

Stu McFarland, Ecological Site Inventory Specialist, NRCS

Progress and Lessons Learned from Recent Updates of Ecological Site Descriptions in MLRA 75

Hadley Hill, Student, Chadron state College

The Impacts of the Society for Range Management in the U.S. and Internationally

The tour is still being organized at this time. Possibilities include Sioux Army Depot, Ash Hollow State Historical Park, Courthouse and Jailhouse Rocks, Chimney Rock national Historical Site, Scotts Bluff National Monument, and the North Platte River.

A block of rooms is being organized. More information will follow.

Keep an eye out for official registration forms to be sent out in August! For further information, contact Curtis Talbot, curtis.talbot@lin.usda.gov, or 402-437-4176.

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Calendar of Events

Nebraska Youth Range Camp @ Halsey	June 13—17, 2011
Nebraska State Range Judging Practice @ Sidney area	October 3, 2011
Nebraska State Range Judging @ Sidney area	October 4, 2011
Nebraska Section Meeting @ Sidney	October 3—5, 2011
SRM Annual Meeting @ Spokane, WA	January 29—February 3, 2012

Want to share information with other NE Section members? Email Kristin Miller (kristin.miller@ne.usda.gov) with the information and she'll send out a Range Clip.

Recognition of SRM Nebraska Section Members Through Section Awards

The Nebraska Section Awards include the Rangeman's Award and the Range Management Service Award. The Rangeman's Award is recognition by the Nebraska Section SRM of ranchers who have exhibited outstanding success in management and improvement of Nebraska rangeland. The Range

Management Service Award was created in 1975 with the intent of recognizing professionals for outstanding services in the development and use of Nebraska rangeland resources. Doug Whisenhunt requests these nominations be sent to him by August 1, 2011.

He has example nominations available to members upon request for both awards.

A little bit of Nebraska Section Award History is that the initial awards program began in 1963 and the first recipient was Dr. J. E. Weaver.

Submitted by Doug Whisenhunt, Chair

Nebraska SRM Scholarship Committee Report

As I write this article, spring and summer are trying to decide what season it should be. The mid-nineties seems a little warm for early May but I've given up on the weather having any consistency. Nebraska weather is to meteorologists what sedges were for me in Plant I.D. I always took a guess at it but I was only right about half the time, if that. Unfortunately, Dr. Butterfield never let me blame my incorrect guesses on global warming, El Nino, or the Coriolis Effect. The cost of college is often like the weather, hard to predict. But just as predictable as "sedges have edges", the cost of college always seems to go up. That is where the Nebraska Section Society for Range Management comes in. The Section is once again offering two \$1,000 scholarships to qualified candidates. If you are interested you can access the requirements at the following link, <http://www.dkbb.org/NESRM/scholarship01.htm>. You can also request information from faculty members in your Range/Ag de-

me directly through the information on the website if something is not working. The deadline to turn in your application packets is 9/9/2011. Applications will be accepted at any time prior to the deadline so if you are really ambitious you can send it to me this summer. The winners will be recognized at the 2011 NE Section meeting. If you are selected as a winner of the scholarship, you will

be expected to attend the annual meeting which will be held on October 5-6, 2011 in Sidney, NE. I hope you all have a wonderful spring or summer or whatever it decides to be tomorrow.

Submitted by Nick Simonson, Co-Chair

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Nebraska Youth Range Camp

It's time to teach the students about range and natural resource management! I am excited to announce that we have 36 students from all across the state (and extreme eastern Colorado) registered for the 48th Annual Nebraska Youth Range Camp!

We have an exciting lineup of presenters and a great group of individuals that have willingly (I prom-

ise I didn't twist too many arms) agreed to help out all week. It involves long hours but it is refreshing to see how much information these young minds absorb. And there are the few every year that become very passionate about range management and you can tell that they will be a leader in this field some day. The Nebraska Youth Range Camp is full of history; 48 years worth in fact. I have

included one days agenda on this page to give you a snapshot of our 5 day camp. If you haven't done so, please check out our section of the Nebraska SRM website and think about encouraging some young people in your lives to attend next year!

Submitted by Shelly Taylor, Director

SRM ACTION UPDATE!

Share your concerns,
hear the latest
updates, partake in
current discussion.
Held every second
Thursday of the
Month at Noon
Central. Call 213-416
-6650, enter code
012010

7:00	Breakfast	
7:30	Crew Boss / Wrangler Meeting	
7:45	Plants of the Day	Justin Lemmer & Campers
8:30	Water Developments	Ben Beckman
9:15	Plant Line (<i>Add 10 more plants</i>)	
9:45	Geology & Groundwater of the Sandhills	Jim Goeke
10:30	Crew Competition (<i>outdoors</i>)	Casey Lancaster
11:15	Fire Ecology	Lisa McMillian
Noon	Lunch	
1:00	Ruminant Nutrition	Karla Jenkins
1:45	Plant Line - Range Sites <i>by Crew</i>	
2:45	Review for Exam	Jess Milby
3:45	Exam	
4:15	Plant ID (<i>35 Plants to date</i>)	
4:45	Plant ID Contest (<i>24 plants</i>)	
5:30	Managing Public Lands	Terry Baker
6:00	Sponsoring Ranch Presentations	
6:30	BBQ	
7:00	<i>Crew Competition - Recreational</i> (<i>outdoors</i>)	
8:30	Free Time	
10:00	In Cabins	
10:30	Lights Out	



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Do You Know What Happened in the Nebraska Section...

Submitted by Jeff Nichols, Historian

Five Years Ago (2006)

The Nebraska Section Officers were: Chuck Butterfield, President; Al Steuter, Past President; Jerry Volesky, President Elect; Leslie Stewart-Phelps, Secretary/Treasurer; John Ortmann, Newsletter Editor; Dana Larsen and Mary Reece were Council Members.

Nick Simonson and Casey Lancaster of the scholarship committee reported that the council has elected to change the Nebraska Section by-laws concerning the scholarships available to college students. This change allows students that are not residents of the state of Nebraska to be eligible for the Section scholarships, where previously only residents of the state were eligible.

Mary Schrader, chair of the membership committee, reported that there were 123 members in the Nebraska Section SRM.

Prescribed fire in Nebraska went to a new level north of Curtis on the Stan Pilcher ranch. The Loess Canyon Rangeland Alliance (local ranchers) cooperated with NRCS, VFD's and others to carry out a nearly 1,400 acre prescribed fire to control red cedar trees in the loess canyon complex in southeast Lincoln County. Dana Larsen and Doug Whisenhunt lead the NRCS training effort that cooperated on the burn where over 50 people participated.

Ten Years Ago (2001)

The Nebraska Section officers were: Lora O'Rourke, President; Bob Masters, Past President; Walt Schacht, President Elect; Bob Spentall, Secretary/Treasurer; Sherry Connot, Newsletter Editor; Teri Edeal and Scott Willet were Council members.

The U. S. Postal Service released the "Great Plains Prairie" stamp as part of their Nature of America stamp series. The art work on the stamp depicts 25 plant and animal species native to the mixed-grass prairie of the American Great Plains as painted by John D. Dawson of Hilo, Hawaii.

Jim and Lora O'Rourke of Chadron became the proud parents to twins born March 31, 2001.

Twenty Years Ago (1991)

The Nebraska Section officers were: Cort Dewing, President; Jack Maddux, Past President; Catherine Mills, President Elect; Daryl Cinsney, Secretary -Treasurer; Mary Schrader, Newsletter Editor; James O'Rourke and Sheila Valasek (Luoma) were council members.

Preparations were in full swing for the International SRM summer meeting to be held in North Platte. More than 20 Nebraska Section members were involved in organizing the meetings as chairs of the various committees.

Pat Speirs of the UNL Range Club spearheaded the effort to host the 11th annual Rangeland Symposium. The focus of the symposium was on riparian areas. A video tape of the symposium was prepared by Pat Speirs and Lisa Clark (McMillan), which was shown on the Wildlife and Resources Journal on the cable network in Lincoln.

Thirty Years Ago (1981)

The Nebraska Section Officers were: Jim Emal, President; James T. Nichols, Past President; James Stubbendieck, President Elect; Lowell Moser, Secretary/Treasurer;

Steve Waller, Newsletter Editor; Dan Bose and Irene Graves were Council Members.

Mick Helberg hosted a range workshop at Hayes Center with over 100 people in attendance. The primary speakers were Barb Bush (Cooksley), Jim Gosey, Jim Nichols and Don Hartford.

The 2nd annual Rangeland Symposium was held at the UNL East Campus with approximately 200 people in attendance. Speakers included; Ben Brown, Tyrone Harrison, Rose McCullough, and Jim Stubbendieck.

Forty Years Ago (1971)

The Nebraska Section officers were: Bob Hill, President; Harlan DeGarmo, Past President; Ray Sall, President-Elect; Ken Noonan, Secretary Treasurer; Jim Nichols and Don Cox, Newsletter Editors; and Ken Weyers and Bob Bobek were councilmen.

The official name of the society was changed from the American Society of Range Management to the Society for Range Management.

The Nebraska Section had 91 members, with six being students.

Fifty Years Ago (1961)

The Gratten Hustlers 4-H Range Judging Team from O'Neill place 1st in range judging at the International Land, Pasture and Range Judging contest held in Oklahoma City. There were teams from 26 states with over 800 contestants. The team members were; Charles and Richard Hill, Keith Krugman, and Gary Fick. Walt Fick was their coach. Gary Fick placed third as an individual.

Membership Report

Submitted by Kristin Miller, Chair

We have gained several new members in the last few months. Please welcome the new members! They are: Kyra Baldwin, Samantha Evans, John Guretzky, Hadley Hill, Jeanna Jenkins, Jordan Johnson, Maria Oporto Levia, Marty Schmer, Laura Snell, Eric Trumbull, Robert Vavala, Connor Warner, and Jessica Warner.

The NE Section has dropped significantly since October. Numerous memberships have expired over the last year. If you have contact with any of these people, please encourage them to renew their memberships. These past members are: Levi Adam, Job Albro, Erika Backes, Calvin Baker, Patti Barney, Paul Beaver, Barb Cooksley, Jane Darnell, Courtney

Doremus, Cheryl Dunn, Julie Elliot, Bruce Fisher, Deb Fraiser, Irene Graves, Tim Griffin, Keith Harmony, Jamie Hornickel, Andrew Houser, Marcy Hunter, Lori Jeffrey, Jessica Jones, Barbara Kagima, Tom Kelly, Kort Kemp, David Kennedy, Matt Kennedy, AE Koehler, Dana Larsen, Marvin Liewer, Sheila Luoma, Jack Maddux, Jess Milby, Michelle Miller, Jack Payne, Corey Petersen, Sheryl Post, Mary Reece, Joe Reedy, Mary Schrader, Paul Schroeder, Kody Schwager, Brock Shouldis, Pat Spiers, Charles Svoboda, Amy Tullis, Steve Waller, and Greg Weber.

If you are having problems with membership renewal please contact

me by phone at 308-254-4507 x. or email at kristin.miller@ne.usda.gov. The membership database for SRM is now all handled through Allen Press. There have been some growing pains, but the folks at Allen Press have been very good to work with.

Please remember that you will get one email reminder for membership renewal. In that email, it has your most current membership number. You will need this to log in to the website to renew your membership. If you don't have that number, contact me and I can get it for you. If you no longer receive the monthly newsletter (Rangeland News) or the regular updates (Range Flash), it probably means that your membership has expired.

Opportunities to Become More Active in the NE-SRM!!!

The Nebraska Section is seeking a couple of members who would like to contribute some of their time and talents. We are currently looking for a new Secretary/Treasurer and a Newsletter Editor. If you feel you have the necessary talents for either one of these positions, please con-

tact Michael Croxen at 308-533-2257 or at mecroxen@fs.fed.us.

We are blessed to have an SRM Section that operates as efficiently

and successfully as the Nebraska Section does. As you probably know, this doesn't just happen; it is a result of committed members that contribute time, talent, and money.

With both of these positions, there would be a transition/training period.

Please consider this opportunity!

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
Visit us at www.nesrm.org

The Nebraska Section–Society for Range Management has the following established goals:

- To properly take care of the basic rangeland resources of soil, plants and water;
- To develop an understanding of range ecosystems and principles applicable to the management of range resources;
- To assist all who work with range resources to keep abreast of new findings and techniques in the science and art of range management;
- To improve the effectiveness of range management, to obtain from range resources the products and values necessary for man's welfare;
- To create a public appreciation of the economic and social benefits to be obtained from the range environment, and;
- To promote professional development of its members.

MISSION: To promote the professional development and continuing education of members and the public and the stewardship of rangeland resources

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