



**NE Section Council**

**President:**

**Anthony Perlinski**

**Incoming President:**

**Mitch Stephenson**

**Past President:**

**Jeff Nichols**

**Council Members:**

**Lance Schutte**

**Jack Arterburn**

**Secretary-Treasurer:**

**Angie Peterson**

**Newsletter Editor:**

**Laura Rubeck**

**Amanda Hefner**

**Inside this issue:**

President's Corner Cont'd Young Range Prof Award	<b>2</b>
Historians Report Cont'd Awards Section	<b>3</b>
Conservation Easements Membership Committee	<b>4</b>
Notes of Gratitude Conservation Easements cont'd	<b>5</b>
Postcards from Sparks	<b>6</b>
UNL Range Shortcourse Nebraska Range Judging	<b>7</b>

# Nebraska Section Society for Range Management Newsletter



**President's Corner by Tony Perlinski**

I hope everybody has stayed warm through the winter and is excited for the growing season; I know I am. The snow is rapidly melting and soils are starting to thaw so it's only a matter of time before we can complain about heat and mosquitos.

I want to share just a few notes that came from the SRM Annual meeting in Sparks, NV. First, congratulations to Dr. Mitch Stephenson, our president elect, for being recognized with an Outstanding Young Range Professional award. He's more than deserving of the recognition and we're

lucky to have him serving on the council. I would also like to congratulate BaiLee McMillon on her fourth place finish in the High School Youth Forum Paper Presentation, the title of her presentation was "Do Poisonous Plants Threaten the Cattle Industry" and she did an excellent job representing the Nebraska Section. In addition, Terrell Farms of Hay Springs, NE was awarded the Excellence in Range Management award; the poster was put together and presented in Sparks by a CSC student who interned with the Terrell's and wanted to recognize their efforts. In addition

to the award winners, it was nice to see a high turnout of Nebraska Section at the meeting and attend the section meeting dinner at the Great Basin Brewing Company. I would like to see another good turnout next year in balmy Minneapolis.

In addition to the Nebraska sections representation at the meeting I would like to give you an update on the happenings within the Advisory Council. For those of you new to the society, or unfamiliar with the AC, it acts as an advisory body to the board of  
*(continued on page 2)*

**Historian's Report by Jeff Nichols**

**DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED IN THE NEBRASKA SECTION.....**

**Five Years Ago (2013)**

The Nebraska Section officers were: Jon Soper, President; Cutis Talbot, Past President; Bob Browleit, President Elect; Angie Petersen, Secretary/Treasurer; Kristin Dickenson (Miller), Newsletter Editor; Cindy Tusler and Karla Jenkins were Council Members.

The 66<sup>th</sup> annual International SRM meeting was held in Oklahoma City, OK, where the theme of the meeting was the future of rangelands. A significant highlight at the meeting was that long term member of the Nebraska Section, Daryl Cisney of Ogallala, was presented the Sustained Lifetime Achievement Award. A well-

deserved honor and proud moment for Daryl. Jess Milby received the Young Professionals Conclave Scholarship to assist with travel to attend the annual meeting. Cody McBride from Burwell, NE was the High School Youth Forum delegate from the NE Section.

**Ten Years Ago (2008)**

The Nebraska Section officers were: Dana Larsen, President; Jerry Volesky, Past President; Mary Reece, President Elect; Leslie Stewart-Phelps, Secretary/Treasurer; Jamie Hornickel, Newsletter Editor; Doug Whisenhunt and Michael Croxen were Council Members.

The International annual meeting of the Society for Range Management was held jointly with the

American Forage and Grassland Council in Louisville, KY.

Dr. Charles H. Butterfield and Dr. Jerry Volesky were presented the Outstanding Achievement Award. Jake Nelson of Dalton, NE represented the Nebraska Section in the High School Youth Forum. His presentation "Five Generations of Conservation" placed third out of twenty six students. The Nebraska Section membership was 109 members.

**Twenty Years Ago (1998)**

The Nebraska Section Officers were: Daryl Cisney, President; Terry Enfield, President Elect; Dave Cook, Past President; Bob Sprentall, Secretary-Treasurer;

*(continued on page 3)*

## President's Corner by Tony Perlinski...continued

directors. At the annual meetings each section sends a representative (Past, Current, or President-elect, or proxy) to voice the concerns of each section to the board and make recommendations on changes in policy, activities, and programs within the SRM mission. The AC also acts as venue for representatives of sections to share problems, challenges, and successes. At this time I am the chair of the AC and in Sparks we put forward the following recommendations to the Board of Directors:

The AC recommends the creation of a task force to look at the strengthening of the sections; recognizing that the section level is where the science to application communication occurs.

The AC recommends the board encourage the nominations committee actively recruit producers to seek a position on the board. Defining a producer as a person who manages a rangeland operation.

The AC recommends the creation of a task force that will work to create a Don Pendleton Memorial College Award at the national level. (Similar to what was implemented in the TX section).

The AC recommends the board work to increase transparency of the distribution of funds, including HSYF and endowment fund. It may be necessary to amend the by-laws or handbook dictating an increased flow of information to the membership and AC on how funds are being spent.

The AC recommends the board review the submitted revised and amended Diversity Statement, and take into consideration the submitted comments from the AC.

In addition to the recommendation to the board, the AC provided a list of comments to the Board of Directors regarding the proposed changes to the CPRM training at the section level. Some additional information on this: The Board of Directors and the people working in D.C. have worked to include language in the Farm Bill that will increase the demand for Certified Professionals of Range Management by requiring CPRM holders to be active in the review and design of conservation programs. With this the BOD is pushing for sections to begin offering more and different CPRM training opportunities. There are a lot of unknowns with the proposal and how as a section we and others will be forced to recon with this increased reliance on CPRMs and training people to fill this role. We will have to wait and see what comes out of this; there

is a Board of Directors call next week so hopefully I'll get some more information about what exactly the proposal will entail and what exactly that will mean for SRM at the section level.

Speaking of training; I want to make a sales pitch for the 2018 Nebraska Range Short Course, June 18-22 in Chadron. If you know of somebody who would benefit from a week long intensive study of Range Management point them toward the short course. Walt Schact has the website updated and registration is open. More information can be found here: <https://agronomy.unl.edu/nebraskarangeshortcourse>

I'm running up against Laura's deadline, so have a good spring and summer. Cross your fingers and hope it rains.

Cheers,

Tony Perlinski, NE-Section SRM President.



## Mitch Stephenson presented Young Range Professional Award

Dr. Mitchell Stephenson has been with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln as an assistant professor in the rangeland ecology and management at the Panhandle Research and Extension Center since 2015.



Dr. Stephenson's research has focused on areas with potential impact on managing grasslands throughout central and western

North America. His research in grazing livestock distribution, targeted grazing, social association dynamics within cattle herds, and rangeland resilience on private ranches is cutting-edge and has placed him in a leadership position in foraging ecology. He is developing an excellent record in scientific journal publications and leading workshops at professional meetings.

As an extension specialist, Dr. Stephenson is developing a highly visible extension program which already has a major impact on beef cattle production in Nebraska. He contributes to the UNL Range Short Course, the Nebraska Range Youth Camp, the High School Range Judging Competitions, the Gudmundsen Sandhills Open House, the Field Day at the Barta Brothers Ranch, and the workshops and field days at numerous other locations. He has authored 5 extension publications. With these communications, he has

been very effective in distributing research results to the ranch level and to the conservation agencies/organizations. Dr. Stephenson's contributions to the Society for Range Management are significant at both the section and international levels. He is a member of the Nebraska Section Council and is in line to be the Section President in 2018. Mitch is a member of several SRM committees and is on track to become a leader in SRM.



*Above: Bison graze after winter snow storm at the Niobrara Valley Preserve. Photo by Amanda Hefner*

## Historian's Report by Jeff Nichols...continued

Sherry Preston (Connot), Newsletter Editor; Bob Masters and Lora O'Rourke were Council Members.

The international SRM meeting was held in Guadalajara Jalisco Mexico. Several Nebraska Section members were in attendance. Maria Fisher and Jamie Eberly represented Nebraska in the High School Youth Forum. Dr. James T. O'Rourke was honored at the meeting by being awarded the SRM Fellow Award and the Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award. Terry Enfield arranged the Nebraska Section supper, where 32 people attended. The UNL plant ID team placed 4<sup>th</sup>.

### Thirty Years Ago (1988)

The Nebraska Section Officers were : Susan Oldfather (Schuckert), President; Sid Salzman, President Elect; Brent Lathrop, Past President; Daryl Cisney, Secretary/Treasurer; Scott Gall, Newsletter Editor; Cal Schulz and Al Steuter were Council members.

The 41<sup>st</sup> Annual International SRM meeting was held in Corpus Christi, Texas February 21-26<sup>th</sup>.

The Northern Plains Grass Seed Symposium was held in January of 1998. There was an intense interest in grass seed production at this time due to the high demand for grass seed to plant on CRP acres.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln hosted the eighth annual Rangeland Symposium: "The CRP in 10 years... What will it be like?" LaRene Mansfield (Monahan) was chair of the symposium committee.

### Forty Years Ago (1978)

The Nebraska Section Officers were: Leonard Thye, President; Paul SeEVERS, President Elect; Lowell Moser, Past President; James Stubbendieck, Secretary-Treasurer; Dan Bose, Newsletter Editor; Peter Jensen, Historian; Dave Hamilton and Meritt A. Plantz were Council Members.

The 31<sup>st</sup> annual meeting was held in San Antonio, TX. Connie Smith of Ainsworth and Pam Smith of Elsmere, NE were the top campers at the 1977 range youth camp and represented the Nebraska Section by presenting outstanding talks at the meetings.

The membership of the Nebraska Section was 110, many of whom were ranchers.

Ken Noonan was to serve as the President of the NE Section in 1978, but took another position with SCS in Pennsylvania. Dr. L.J. Perry, Range Scientist at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln was designated by the council to serve as Ken Noonan's replacement. On December 28, 1977, L.J. Perry was killed in an auto accident near Laramie, WY. Leonard Thye, SCS Range Conservationist at Ogallala was then designated to serve as President of the NE Section for 1978.

Dr. Jim Stubbendieck vacated his position as the District Range Management Specialist with the University of NE at the Panhandle Experiment Station to take a new position at the University of NE in Lincoln, Department of Agronomy as the grassland and range management specialist position.

Dr. Patrick Reece filled the position vacated by Stubbendieck at the Panhandle Station beginning February 1, 1978.

## Nebraska Section SRM Awards by Jeff Nichols – Awards Committee Chair

Please consider recognizing someone who is contributing significantly to the wise use and management of our rangelands by nominating them for one of the awards sponsored by the NE Section SRM. The potential awards are as follows:

### Range Management Service Award

This award recognizes professionals who are members of the Nebraska Section and are contributing significantly to the furtherance of the activities of the Section through time, dedication and commitment to the wise use of Nebraska's rangeland resources. We have many members worthy of this recognition.

### Rangeman's Award

This award recognizes operations (individuals, families or groups) who are exemplifying excellence in their stewardship of the rangeland resource through

their management skills and commitment. The nominees do not have to be members of the NE Section. Everyone should know several people who are doing exceptional work in managing their rangeland resource. Get them recognized.

### "Special Award"

The NE Section occasionally recognizes one of its members for outstanding work on a certain activity or project, or sustained dedicated service. This is a nice way to recognize our members who may have previously received the Service Award and continue to contribute at a high level, or a member who excels at a rangeland related project or activity. Look for individuals who deserve a special recognition among their peers!

### NEW - NEW -NEW!

It has been proposed, and we are in the process of outlining the requirements for

a new award that would be designed to recognize outstanding young professionals who are members of the NE Section. This award will target our younger members who are contributing at a high level to the range profession. Watch for details in future newsletters as this award takes shape.

We are blessed to live in a state where rangelands and the many benefits they provide prevail. We also are blessed to have a large cadre of individuals who do an excellent job of caring for the rangeland resource in one capacity or another. Take a few minutes and reflect on your experiences over the past year and identify at least one place or individual that needs to be recognized for their good work. Get them nominated for a NE Section SRM award today! Nominations due to me by August 15, 2018.

## Conservation Easements by Lance Schutte

For those of you who had the opportunity to attend the national SRM meetings in Reno, NV I hope your schedule allowed you to sit in on the plenary session. There were a number of great speakers that we could work with to accomplish various projects. There is one particular speaker that I would like to touch on, Mr. Larry Selzer President/CEO of The Conservation Fund.

During Mr. Selzer's time at the podium, he mentioned that approximately 60,000 acres of sage grouse habitat were conserved by conservation easements, with partial funding by The Conservation Fund. While I wasn't present to listen to the debate, I was told that there was much discussion, and some tension, on the topic of conservation easements. In my former position, I had the opportunity to be a small part of the 60,000 acre conservation effort that Mr. Selzer mentioned and I would like to share my thoughts on the topic of conservation easements.

Conservation easements should be considered a tool in the tool box of every farmer and rancher in the state, and it is up to the farmer or rancher to determine if that tool is the best option for their operation. Conservation easements can be used to protect the most basic right of any landowner, the right to perpetually restrict certain types of development on their land. Now keep in mind, farm and ranch operations are family businesses and thus the decision to move forward with a conservation easement should be made by the entire family. A conservation easement needs to be held and stewarded by an organization that is dedicated to the stewardship of that easement in perpetuity. These organizations are generally land trusts, and/or governmental organizations. Each organization will have their own goals when negotiating an easement; therefore, it is vitally important that landowner chooses an organization or a land trust whose goals are conducive to those of the landowners.

At their core, conservation easements restrict the sub-division and residential development of a property, thus protecting it for continued agricultural production and the ecological services that it provides. However, a landowner can negotiate reserved rights to allow flexibility. A landowner can negotiate the reserved right to construct additional residences to accommodate family members coming back to the operation. Additionally, landowners can reserve the right to partially divide a property between siblings, all these things need to be considered and accounted for before the easement is recorded. What conservation easements are not intended to do is to hamstring an agricultural operation. Most agricultural enterprises are allowed, and encouraged, by conservation easements with the possible exception of land conversion from range/grazing land to crop land. Management of the property, and its resources, remain with the landowner. The land trust or governmental organization that holds the

*(continued on page 5)*

## Membership Committee by Lance Schutte

The phrase "time flies" really doesn't even begin to capture how quickly the past few months have appeared to go. Seems like just yesterday we were in Chadron, NE at our state section meeting and here it is the middle of February already. Many of our NE section members were able to make it to the national meetings and conference in Reno, NV and I do believe that our section was well represented and some of our section members received well deserved awards.

During my time in Reno, I had the opportunity to sit in on the Membership Team meeting and would like to pass a few things along to our state section members. The Membership Team is working on what is referred to as a "Membership Toolkit" which is available on the SRM website. Included in this toolbox are website addresses to access

national and state section SRM social media sites. Social media has become a primary source of information. To put this into perspective, the national SRM membership is approximately 2,000 members. However, there are nearly 5,000 followers on the national SRM Facebook page. There is also a Social Media Library where sections can promote the SRM on their own social media sites by posting pictures of current members in their work environments and statements on why they are members of the SRM. In the near future, sections will have access to SRM logos to use for embroidery on shirts, hats, etc. These items can then be worn to any agricultural function across the state that you would like to promote SRM.

You are now well aware that the parent society has transitioned to an annual membership

renewal date, which has been set as December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. This has affected the NE section positively. Currently there are 81 total members of the Nebraska section. However, there are 31 members who allowed their memberships to lapse as of December 31, 2017! If you are one of these 31 folks, please take a few minutes out of your day to renew your membership so that you can take advantage of all the benefits of SRM membership and so that you will stop getting pesky membership renewal emails from the membership committee! It may not seem like it right now, but spring is just around the corner. And spring time brings about new grass growth grass and new born calves and fawns; it's a time of renewal and rejuvenation. In that spirit, let's renew and rejuvenate our commitment to the SRM and to our state section!

## Notes of Gratitude

To whom it may concern,

I wanted to thank the Nebraska SRM and whom it may concern for once again sponsoring me to go to the International SRM conference. Once again, it was a once in a lifetime opportunity that I was lucky enough to experience twice. I was able to get to know and interact with 26 delegates that represented 12 sections of the SRM. In Reno the delegates and I learned many things about the landscape and ecological sites around that area. Once again I would like to thank those who helped in my sponsorship and support in my trip to Reno.

Thank You!

Kasey Van Winkle



Kasey Van Winkle (center) with friends at the SRM Meeting in Nevada

Dear Nebraska Section SRM members,

Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to attend the International Society for Range Management meetings in Sparks, Nevada. I had so much fun, learned many new things, and met people that I will be friends with forever. I have enjoyed this experience and I am so honored that I was able to represent Nebraska at the High School Youth Forum competition where I

gave my presentation entitled "Do Poisonous Plants Threaten the Cattle Industry?" where I placed 4<sup>th</sup> and received a very nice plaque.

We flew out of Lincoln at 6:30 am and after getting settled in, gave a 2 minute talk about myself, then ice breakers followed. On Monday, we toured the Desert Research Institute and the Palomino Wild Horse and Burro Holding Facility. At the Desert Research Institute, we discussed the different weather stations, where they are throughout Nevada, types of data each weather station collects, the necessary distribution of weather



BaiLee McMillan with her awarded plaque

stations in a basin/range topography, and how they collect snow pack data. At the National Palomino Valley Wild Horse and Burro Center, we learned about the negative impact the wild horses and burros are making on the public and tribal lands in Nevada.

We toured the facility where they explained how they trim, vaccinate and mark the animals with an Alphanumeric code freeze brand. I really enjoyed this tour as some of the wild horses they capture and hold at this



BaiLee at the National Palomino Valley Wild Horse and Burro Center

facility are sent to Elm Creek, Nebraska where they can be adopted. That night, we had our professional interaction dinner and program where we had people from different professions discuss their jobs and how they got to where they are today. On Tuesday, we gave our presentations and had a dance with a live band open to the whole society. On Wednesday, our business meeting was held and we elected a new president (he is from Texas) and exchanged souvenirs from our home states. I made a postcard from a photo of the oldest building (a log cabin) in Blaine County that is located on our ranch. I also gave out a packet of Kool-Aid that was invented in/around Hastings and lastly a small book titled *Nebraska Invasive Plants Field Guide*. On Thursday, we left our hotel at 3:00 am, for our taxi ride to the airport to come home. I really appreciate you enabling me to attend this professional meeting and experience this once in a lifetime opportunity!

Thanks again,

BaiLee McMillan

Milburn, NE

## Conservation Easements by Lance Schutte...continued

easement is required to monitor the conditions of each easement annually. Other than that one interaction, you will likely have minimal interaction with them other than invitations to attend social functions.

Conservation easements require a considerable amount of time and effort on both the part of the land trust and the landowner to ensure that each party's goals are captured in the easement document. The Nebraska Land

Trust is a statewide non-profit organization which deals with primarily agricultural conservation easements. I urge anyone who is interested to contact Dave Sands at the Nebraska Land Trust.

## Postcards from Sparks

Five members of the UNL Range Management Club traveled to the 2018 international meeting of the Society for Range Management in Sparks, Nevada at the beginning of February.



UNL Range Club with Walt Schacht

At the meeting, all five members competed in the Undergraduate Range Management Exam (URME), four members competed in the Plant ID Contest, two members competed in the extemporaneous speaking contest, and one member presented at the undergraduate paper session. The Range Club placed 6<sup>th</sup> overall in the URME out of 25 teams. Aside from the various competitions, club members also had opportunities to attend symposiums and network with professionals working in the range management field. On their final day in Nevada, the club drove to Lake Tahoe, where they went hiking and sightseeing.



UNL Range Club enjoying the scenery at Lake Tahoe



UNL Range Club 2016-17 Officers

**President: Ethan Freese**

**Vice President/Treasurer: Autumn Dunn**

**Primary Programmer: Ellen Dolph**

**Collegiate Advisor: Walt Schacht**



Twelve members of the CSC Range Management Club traveled from Chadron to the 2018 International SRM Meeting. Left to right: back row-Emily Heimann, Marina McCreary, Joel Milos, Myles Mendell, Travis Millikan, William Krause. front row-Kortni Burnett, Vanessa Yeoman, Alissa Sweley, Melissa VanDerslice, Jessica Hurd, Melissa Jech.



William Krause presented in the poster presentations for Terrell Farms. Will interned with the Terrell's and wanted to recognize their efforts.



They won the excellence in rangeland management award.



Melissa Jech entered photos in the photo contest and won the plant category.



We had 4 seniors this year left to right: Kortni Burnett, Melissa Jech, Emily Heimann, and Melissa VanDerslice. Not pictured: Jessica Hurd. Jessica Hurd received 5th place in the extemporaneous speaking.



Chadron State Ag Club 2017-18 Officers

**President: Melissa VanDerslice**

**Vice President: Emily Heimann**

**Secretary/Treasurer: Kortni Burnett**

**CAB: Vanessa Yeoman, Kohitin Lund**

**Collegiate Advisor: Anthony Perlinski**

## UNL Range Shortcourse by Walt Schacht

### Nebraska Range Short Course

June 18-22, 2018

The Nebraska Range Short Course is scheduled for June 18 to 22, 2018 on the campus of Chadron State College. The short course is sponsored by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Chadron State College, and the Nebraska Section Society for Range Management. It is designed to provide individuals who have a background in range management, natural resources, or agriculture an opportunity to increase their knowledge in the field of range management.

The week-long course taught through a series of classroom and field sessions focuses on underlying principles of range management for efficient, sustainable use of rangeland for multiple purposes. The diversity of course topics include plant identification, plant growth and development, rangeland soils, range inventory and monitoring methods, prescribed burning, rangeland restoration,

ecosystem services, wildlife management, grazing management, and range livestock production.

The short course can be taken for credit through the University of Nebraska-Lincoln or Chadron State College. Sixteen Continuing Education credits are available for the SRM "Certified Professional in Rangeland Management" program.

Applications are due May 21, 2018 and enrollment is limited to 50 participants. The registration fee of \$325 includes educational materials, transportation associated with field trips during the week, and breaks. Food and lodging can be arranged with Chadron State College.

Contact Walt Schacht ([wschacht@unl.edu](mailto:wschacht@unl.edu); 402-472-0205) if you have questions. The short course website is at <http://agronomy.unl.edu/nebraska-range-short-course-2016>.



## WE WANT YOU!

### On the Nebraska SRM Section Council board!

If you are interested in joining the Nebraska SRM Section Council board, contact Committee Chairman Bob Browleit (308)240-0420 [bentbarc@gmail.com](mailto:bentbarc@gmail.com)

Do you have information you want to share with other SRM members? Send an email to [Laura.Rubeck@ARS.USDA.ORG](mailto:Laura.Rubeck@ARS.USDA.ORG) or [amanda.hefner@tnc.org](mailto:amanda.hefner@tnc.org)

## Nebraska Range Judging Calender by Kristin Dickinson

### NEBRASKA RANGE JUDGING CONTEST LOCATIONS

#### 2018 NE Range Judging Schedule

	AREA 1	AREA 2	AREA 3	AREA 4
<b>2018 Host NRD DATE</b>	Morrill North Platte NRD 9/12/2018	Blaine Upper Loup NRD 9/19/2018	Gosper Tri Basin NRD 9/18/2018	Hall Central Platte NRD 9/20/2018
<b>CONTACT for contest info</b>	Dave Wolf North Platte NRD 308-632-2749 <a href="mailto:dewolf@npnrd.org">dewolf@npnrd.org</a>	Bethany Johnston UNL 308-645-2267 <a href="mailto:bjohnston3@unl.edu">bjohnston3@unl.edu</a>	Nicole Salisbury Tri Basin NRD 308-995-6688 <a href="mailto:nsalisbury@tribasinprd.org">nsalisbury@tribasinprd.org</a>	Marcia Lee Central Platte NRD 308-385-6282 <a href="mailto:lee@cpnrd.org">lee@cpnrd.org</a>
<b>State Committee</b>	Karla Jenkins UNL 308-632-1245 <a href="mailto:kjenkins2@unl.edu">kjenkins2@unl.edu</a>	Bethany Johnston UNL 308-645-2267 <a href="mailto:bjohnston3@unl.edu">bjohnston3@unl.edu</a>	Jeff Nichols NRCS 308-534-2360 x. 3 <a href="mailto:jeffrey.nichols@ne.usda.gov">jeffrey.nichols@ne.usda.gov</a>	Jess Milby UNL 308-696-6720 <a href="mailto:jess.milby@unl.edu">jess.milby@unl.edu</a>

	AREA 5	AREA 6	STATE	OLD WEST REGIONAL
<b>2018 Host NRD DATE</b>	Antelope Upper Elkhorn NRD 9/11/2018	Seward Upper Big Blue 9/19/2018	Chase Upper Republican NRD 9/25-26/18	WYOMING
<b>CONTACT for contest info</b>	Amy Timmerman Holt County Extension 402-336-2760 <a href="mailto:atimmerman2@unl.edu">atimmerman2@unl.edu</a>	Scott Snell Upper Big Blue 402-362-6601 <a href="mailto:ssnell@upperbigblue.org">ssnell@upperbigblue.org</a>	Danielle Haarberg Upper Republican NRD 308-882-5173 <a href="mailto:dfranck@urnrd.org">dfranck@urnrd.org</a>	Marji Patz NRCS - Powell WY 307-271-3130 <a href="mailto:marji.patz@wy.usda.gov">marji.patz@wy.usda.gov</a>
<b>State Committee</b>	Tad Judge NRCS 402-340-6839 <a href="mailto:tad.judge@nebraska.gov">tad.judge@nebraska.gov</a>	Anna Ferguson NRCS 402-335-3316 x. 3 <a href="mailto:anna.ferguson@ne.usda.gov">anna.ferguson@ne.usda.gov</a>	Nadine Bishop NRCS 308-882-4346 x.3 <a href="mailto:nadine.bishop@ne.usda.gov">nadine.bishop@ne.usda.gov</a>	