

Nebraska Section Society for Range Management

Constitution

By-Laws

Administrative Handbook

CONSTITUTION

Article 1. NAME. The name of the organization shall be the Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management.

Article 2. OBJECTIVES. The objectives shall be consistent with those of the Society for Range Management with special emphasis on promoting the application, interest and knowledge concerning the management of grazing lands and their inherent resources in the State of Nebraska.

Article 3. MEMBERSHIP. Those persons shall be eligible for membership who are members in good standing with the Society for Range Management.

Article 4. BY-LAWS. The Section will operate according to Corporate By-Laws which will specify and define the procedures by which the Section will conduct business.

Article 5. OFFICERS.

Section 1. The officers of the Section shall consist of a President, President-Elect, Past-President, Secretary-Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, two (2) elected Councilpersons, and the Chairs of all Section committees and Presidents of Student Chapters.

Section 2. The governing body shall be known as the Section Council, consisting of the Section President, President-Elect, Past-President, Secretary-Treasurer, Newsletter Editor and two (2) elected Councilpersons.

Section 3. Tenure of office shall be for one calendar year, or the remainder thereof, for all officers except Councilpersons, who shall have a tenure of office of two (2) years or the remainder thereof, to begin and end during the Annual Business Meeting of the Section. Elected officers shall not succeed themselves.

Section 4. Unexpired vacancies shall be filled by unanimous action of the Section Council.

Article 6. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Section 1. The President-Elect shall be elected by a vote of the membership at the Annual Business Meeting. One Councilperson each year shall be elected by a letter ballot supplied to all members by the Secretary-Treasurer as described in the Section By-Laws. Councilpersons shall serve a two (2) year term. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be appointed by the Section President to serve a concurrent term with the President. The Newsletter Editor and Committee Chairs shall be appointed by the Section President or in the case of Student Chapters, elected by those Chapters. Terms of Committee Chairs may be unspecified.

Section 2. The President shall appoint a Nominations Committee as specified in the Section By-Laws for the purpose of electing a councilperson each year.

Article 7. MEETINGS. Section Council meetings shall be at the dates, times and locations determined by the Council. There shall be at least one general business meeting each year, which will be held during the Annual Meeting of the Nebraska Section, with the membership being notified of this meeting by publication of notice in the Section Newsletter.

Article 8. AMENDMENTS. Amendments to the Constitution may be submitted at the annual Business Meeting of the Section. Amendments shall be referred to the entire membership by letter ballot and shall be adopted by the majority vote of returned ballots.

CORPORATE BY-LAWS

By-Laws of the Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management

ARTICLE I. Nature and Purposes of the Corporation

Section 1 - Corporation. The Corporation shall consist of those members of the Society for Range Management (SRM) who are members of the Nebraska Section.

Section 2 - Objectives. The Objectives for which the Corporation is established are:

- to properly take care of the basic rangeland resources of soil, plants and water;
- to develop an understanding of range ecosystems and of the 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;
- to promote professional development of its members.

Section 3 - Operations. The Corporation will conduct meetings and surveys, disseminate information, acknowledge achievements and accomplishments, carry on educational and promotional work, and otherwise determine the needs and demands for the objectives named above.

Section 4 - Dues and Fees. The Corporation will charge and receive membership dues and such other fees/or assessments as may be necessary, all of which shall be used to carry out the purpose of the Corporation.

Section 5 - Non-Profit Status. The Corporation is not organized for a pecuniary profit. No part of the net earnings shall inure to the benefit of any private individual or member, except reimbursement may be made for any expenses incurred for the Corporation by any officer, director, agent, or any other person pursuant to and upon authorization of the Nebraska Section Council, hereafter referred to as the "Council".

Section 6 - Political Status. The Corporation shall not participate or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Section 7 - Other Objectives. The Corporation will carry out all other purposes as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation, together with the rights granted the Corporation by Law.

Section 8 – Other Operations. The Corporation will do each and everything necessary, suitable and proper for the carrying out of the purposes herein set forth or later established by amendment hereto.

ARTICLE II. Membership

Section 1 – Eligibility. Persons shall be eligible for Section membership who are members of SRM in good standing and who are interested in or engaged in: practicing range or pasture management; administering grazing lands; teaching, conducting research or engaged in extension activities in extension activities in range or pasture management or related subjects.

Section 2 – Period of Membership. Application for membership may be made at any time and is on an anniversary date basis as dictated by date of beginning membership and/or dues payment. The application for membership should be accompanied by payment of one year's dues.

Section 3 – Dues. Annual Section dues shall be regulated by the Council. Section dues, along with SRM dues, shall be payable in advance to the Executive Secretary of SRM. Section dues may be changed by two-thirds vote of the Council at any regularly called meeting.

Section 4 – Active Membership. Persons shall be considered as elected to active membership in the Section upon payment of Section and SRM dues.

Section 5 – Delinquency. Members whose SRM dues are in arrears will be declared delinquent and shall be immediately dropped from Section membership on the same date they are dropped from SRM membership.

Section 6 – Death. The death of a member shall automatically transfer his/her membership to his/her heirs or assigns.

ARTICLE III. Council and Officers

Section 1 – Initial Council. The Council of the Nebraska Section at the time of the formation of the Corporation shall become its first Council and the Officers of the Section shall be its first Corporate Officers.

Section 2 – Number of Council members. The business of the Corporation shall be managed, conducted and controlled by a Council of seven (7) Councilpersons comprised of: five (5) elected by vote of the membership and two (2) appointed by the President. The Council shall include the President, President-Elect, immediate Past-President, two (2) Councilpersons all of whom are elected by the membership; a Secretary-Treasurer (appointed); and a Newsletter Editor (appointed).

Section 3 – Term of Councilpersons. The tenure of the President, President-Elect, and the Immediate Past-President shall be for one (1) calendar year. The tenure of the remaining Councilpersons shall be two (2) years except when appointed to fill an unexpired term, and their terms shall be staggered so that the term of not more than one (1) will expire each year. Appointed Councilpersons (Secretary-Treasurer and Newsletter Editor) terms will be extended at the discretion of the incoming President.

Section 4 – Eligibility for Election. Only active members shall be eligible for election or appointment as Councilpersons.

Section 5 – Eligibility for Re-election. No officer or Councilperson shall be eligible for re-election to the same office until at least one (1) year has elapsed after the end of his/her respective term.

Section 6 – Vacancy. Vacancies in an unexpired term on the Council shall be filled from the Section membership by a majority vote of the Council, and such appointed Councilperson shall serve the unexpired term.

Section 7 – Committees. The Council, at its discretion, shall appoint Committees from time to time as the need arises. Committees shall be accountable to the Council under general supervision of the President.

Section 8 – Depository. The Secretary-Treasurer shall select the depository of checking and savings accounts, subject to approval by the Council.

Section 9 – Audit. An annual audit shall be prepared, and special audit shall be made upon order of the Council.

Section 10 – Reports. The Council shall make and file for the Corporation such state and federal reports and returns as are now or may hereafter be required by law and shall file for exemption from federal and state income tax. An annual report of the Corporation’s activities and finances shall be made available to the public.

ARTICLE IV. Election of Officers

Section 1 – Change of Officers. The outgoing President of the Corporation shall automatically become the Past President. The outgoing President-Elect shall automatically become the new President. Ballots for the new Councilperson to be elected shall be sent to all members by the Secretary-Treasurer. Change of Officers shall occur at the Annual Meeting of the Corporation at the conclusion of old business.

Section 2 – Nominations. The President of the Corporation shall appoint a nominations committee of no less than three (3) members, including the Secretary-Treasurer, no later than July 1 of each year. The nominations committee shall prepare a list of candidates which shall consist of at least two (2) candidates for the office of Councilperson by July 15. The nominations committee will also include any member of the Section presented as a candidate for Councilperson by means of a petition signed by at least ten (10) members and received by the nominations committee by July 15. The nominations committee will select one candidate for the office of President-Elect. The senior Councilperson will normally be advanced as the Candidate for President-Elect. The President-Elect will be elected by the membership present at the annual meeting of the Section. A call for nominations from the floor for the office of President-Elect will be made at the annual meeting of the Section.

Section 3 – Elections. The Secretary-Treasurer of the Corporation shall send all members of the Section a typed or printed ballot containing a list of all candidates nominated by the committee and by petition to be included in the August newsletter of the Section. Essential instructions shall accompany the ballot. The ballots shall be addressed to the Secretary-Treasurer with instructions that the ballots be mailed before September 15. On or about October 1, the ballots shall be counted by the Nominations Committee. The candidate receiving the largest number of votes for an office shall be declared elected to that office and shall assume the duties of the office at the Corporation Annual Meeting following the election. In the event of a tie vote for any elective office, a name will be drawn to break the tie. All members shall be notified of election results in the November newsletter of the Section.

ARTICLE V. Duties of Officers

Section 1 – President. The President shall have general supervision of the Corporation and shall (1) preside over all meetings of the Council; (2) call special meetings at his discretion or when required by a majority of the Council or by petition of the general membership; (3) perform all acts and duties usually performed by the executive officer or any other duties authorized or required by the Council.

Section 2 – President-Elect. In the absence or disability of the President, the President-Elect shall perform the duties of the President; provided, however, that in case of death, resignation, or

disability of the President, the Council may declare the office vacant and elect a successor from its membership.

Section 3 – Secretary-Treasurer. The Secretary-Treasurer shall: (1) keep a complete record of all Council meetings; (2) supervise all records of the Corporation; (3) receive money for dues, fees and assessments and pay all bills as presented by these Bylaws or required by the Council.

Section 4 – Assignment of Duties. Any of the above duties may be delegated by the Council to any assistant officer whom it may appoint or elect.

ARTICLE VI. Meetings

Section 1 – Number and Kind. A meeting of the Corporation shall be held annually at such place as the Council shall designate but no later than the third Friday in December of each year, or at such other time or place as may be designated by the Council, for the purpose of receiving the annual reports and transacting business. Written notice of such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary-Treasurer to each member at least fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting. The authority to transact business of the Corporation shall be by majority vote of the ballots cast.

Section 2 – Order of Business. The order of business at the annual meeting and, so far as possible, at all business meetings of the membership of Council shall be:

1. Determination of the presence of a quorum (4) or more members of the council.
2. Proof of due notice of meeting
3. Reading or disposal of unapproved minutes
4. Treasurer's report
5. Reports of officers and/or committees
6. Unfinished business
7. New business
8. Adjournment

Section 3 – Special Council Meetings. Special meetings of the Council may be called by the President, the President-Elect, or any four (4) members of the Council upon not less than ten (10) days written notice to each Council member, which notice shall state the purpose of the meeting. Any Council meeting may also be held without notice providing all members of the Council waive notice thereof in writing. A majority of the Council must be present to transact the business.

Section 4 – Special Section Meetings. Special meeting of the Section may be called by the President, President-Elect or any ten (10) members of the Section upon not less than fifteen (15) days written notice to each member, which notice shall state the purpose of the meeting. The members in attendance at a regularly called meeting shall have the authority to transact the business of the Corporation by a majority vote of the ballots cast.

Section 5 – Vote. Each member shall have one vote and only one vote at all meetings of the membership. A firm, partnership, or corporation shall be entitled to one (1) vote and only one (1) vote – the same as an individual. Any member may vote by mail on any specific question to be brought before the membership at a scheduled meeting for which due notice has been given. Any member, by written authorization, may delegate another member to cast his/her vote by proxy.

ARTICLE VII. Awards

Section 1 – Awards Committee. The Rangeman's Award, Range Management Service Award, Outstanding Young Range Professional, and Special Awards will be administered by the Awards Committee under the direction of the Council. The committee will consist of three (3) members with the Past-President as Chairperson. Insofar as possible, membership of the committee will consist of one producer, one trained range manager and one representative from range-related industry. The awards Committee will be approved by the Council. Subject to approval by the Council, the committee will develop necessary criteria and procedures to select the candidates for the various awards. Final selection of award candidates will be approved by the Council.

Section 2 – Rangeman's Award: The Rangeman's Award recipient will be selected by the Awards Committee. He/she will be honored at the annual meeting and will receive a plaque commemorating his/her award. The recipient need not be a member of SRM, may be a man, woman, or group, must not have received this award within the previous six (6) years, and cannot be a member of the Awards Committee.

Section 3 – Range Management Service Award: The Range Management Service Award may be presented to those members in the Section or state who have made outstanding contributions in service to the range industry or profession.

Section 4 – Miscellaneous Awards. Other special awards may be made from time to time as deemed appropriate by the Awards Committee and approved by the Council.

Section 5 – Outstanding Young Range Professional Award: The Outstanding Young Range Professional Award may be presented to those members who are 40 years of age or younger and are contributing significantly to the range profession in Nebraska. This award is intended to encourage further involvement and commitment to the profession as the recipient's career develops. Those receiving the NE Section award may be forwarded to the parent society for the international award of the same name.

ARTICLE VIII. Amendments

Amendments to the Bylaws may be made at any regularly called meeting, provided that the notices of the proposed amendments are mailed to members at least fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting. Such notices shall include ballots for proxy voting, whereby a member, with written authorization, may delegate another member to cast his vote by proxy. A majority of all ballots cast shall be required for amendment.

Amendments may be proposed by a two-third majority vote of the Council, or by a written petition, submitted to the Secretary of the Corporation, bearing the endorsement of at least nine (9) members.

ARTICLE IX. Time of taking Effect

These Bylaws shall be in effect upon adoption by the Council, after a favorable majority vote by all members who cast ballots and shall be binding upon each member.

CERTIFICATION

KNOW ALL PEOPLE BY THESE PRESENTS that the undersigned Council of the corporation known as the Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management, a non-profit corporation, does hereby certify the adoption of the foregoing as the Bylaws of said corporation on the 27th day of March, 1996, AD, as amended on 25th day of January, 2019, and that they do now constitute the Bylaws of said corporation under and be virtue of its charter and Articles of Incorporation, having been approved by a majority of the membership present, or by proxy, on the same date.

Lance Schutte, President

Mitchell Stephenson, Past President

Jack Arterburn, President Elect

Angie Petersen, Secretary/Treasurer

Brad Schick, Councilperson

Ben Beckman, Councilperson

Laura Rubeck, Newsletter Editor

NEBRASKA SECTION HANDBOOK

This handbook is intended to provide the necessary information for orderly and efficient transfer of responsibilities of officers of the Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management. The information presented herein represents a compilation of material from the Society of Range Management (SRM) "Handbook for Section Officers", relevant paragraphs from the Corporate By-Laws of the Nebraska Section, copies of position statements and resolutions approved in the past, and operating procedures currently in use. This handbook is not intended to supersede the By-Laws of the Nebraska Section or SRM in any way, and reference to these should be made when clarification is needed. Copies of the Nebraska Section Corporate By-Laws and Constitution are included as Appendices to this Handbook.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

Each committee should have a Chair appointed by the President and a Vice-Chair appointed by the President-Elect. Committee Chairs are officers of the Section, along with members of the Section Council and Presidents of student chapters. Committee Vice-Chairs should assume the position of Chair of their respective committees at the close of old business at the Annual Meeting of the Section. This procedure should insure consistency in committee activity from term to term.

Each Committee Chair and other Section officers should maintain an activity file to be passed on the incoming Committee Chair or Section officer at the Annual Meeting. Correspondence, minutes of committee meetings, and actions taken should be included. In addition, each file should contain a list of pertinent dates, suggested changes, and pending actions. A brief file of committee activity of historical importance should be forwarded to the Historian. Each committee should be aware of information cataloged in the Section History and provide annual updates. Other items of interest would include the committee's annual report, resolutions, major changes in procedure and accomplishments.

Each Committee Chair and Section Officer is responsible for providing a written report to the President two weeks prior to all Section business meetings. This report will become a part of the Section's permanent record and a copy should be available to all Council members at the business meeting. Each Committee Chair should also notify the President of any committee activity that would require membership action. Items will then be placed on the agenda of the business meeting.

Committee Chairs and other Section Officers are encouraged to provide articles for the Section newsletter. This will provide an easy method of communication to the membership and will allow membership input into committee activities.

SECTION COUNCIL

The President, President-Elect, Past-President, two (2) Councilpersons, Secretary-Treasurer and Newsletter Editor comprise the Nebraska Section Council, hereafter referred to as the Council. The Council should plan to meet at least three times during the year.

PRESIDENT

The Section President, after serving one year as President-Elect, takes office at the Annual Meeting after all old business has been completed. His/her duties are:

1. General supervision of the affairs of the Section.
2. Chair of the Council.

3. Appoints the Secretary-Treasurer, and Committee Chairs.
4. Calls meetings of the Section at such times and places as approved or determined by the Council.
5. Calls meetings of the Council (will need to establish a schedule of meetings during each year).
6. Presides at Section and Council meetings.
7. Serves as principal contact between the Section and SRM.
8. Attends or appoints a representative to attend Annual and Summer Meeting of SRM.
9. Works very closely with the Section Officers and Section Members to keep the membership informed of Section activities.
10. Deals with public affairs issues of concern to the Section with the approval of the Council may be necessary.
11. Insures that the Corporate By-Laws, Constitution, and this handbook are maintained in a current status and are made available to in-coming Section Officers. He/she is also responsible for maintaining a current SRM Planning Handbook.
12. Serves as member of the SRM Advisory Council.
13. Prepares the "Presidents Corner" article for each issue of the Newsletter.

The Section President should provide the leadership which moves the Section forward in all areas of activity. He/she should be able to discuss committee or section responsibilities and provide ideas or motivation to enhance the activities of the Section. He/she should keep the officers and membership informed of Section and SRM activities. He/she should delegate authority under clear guidelines understood by those to whom the authority is being delegated.

The Section President serves as a member of the State Range Judging Committee. Traditionally the Section President presents the top ten awards at the Range Youth Camp, and awards at the State Range Judging Contest.

PRESIDENT-ELECT

The President-Elect is elected by a majority vote of the membership present at the annual business meeting of the Section from nominations provided by the Nominations Committee or nominations from the floor at the annual business meeting. Election results are announced at the Annual Meeting and the President-Elect assumes office at the close of old business.

His/her duties are:

1. Acts for the President in his/her absence or at his/her request.
2. Becomes President in case the latter resigns, dies, or otherwise relinquishes the presidency.
3. Is an active member of the Council.
4. Works in close cooperation with the President in the supervision of the affairs of the Section.
5. Serves as Chair of the Annual Meeting Committee in the year following election to office.
6. Serves as a member of the SRM Advisory Council.
7. Appoints Committee Vice-Chairs where appropriate.

SECTION COUNCILPERSONS

Section Councilpersons shall be elected from the active membership of the Section. Their term shall be two years, staggered such that only one term expires each year.

The duties of the Councilperson are to participate in the conduct of Section Business. They are two of the seven members Section Council which conduct the business of the Section. The senior Councilperson serves as Chair of the Public Affairs Committee.

PAST-PRESIDENT

The duties of the Past-President are:

1. Serve as Chair of the Awards Committee.
2. Serve as a member of the Council.
3. Serve as a member of the SRM Advisory Council.

SECRETARY-TREASURER

The Section Secretary-Treasurer is appointed by the Section President for the term of that President. His/her duties are as follows:

1. Keep a complete record of all meetings.
2. Supervise all records of the section.
3. Receive all monies that are generated by Section activities, including applicable dues, fees and assessments, and pay all bills as required by Section activities and the Section Council.
4. Serve as a member of the Nominations Committee.
5. Send necessary dues and other information as may be required to SRM.
6. Perform all duties necessary to fulfill requirements related to proper maintenance of corporation status for the section.
7. Serves as ex-officio member of the Fund-Raising Committee.
8. Serves as a member of the Council.
9. Serves as a member of the Investment Committee.

The Secretary-Treasurer should work closely with the Section President and Council. Reappointment can continue on an indefinite basis by mutual consent.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

The Section Newsletter Editor is appointed by the Council. Reappointment can continue on an indefinite basis. His/her duties are as follows:

1. Serves as a member of the Council.
2. Coordinates the activities of the Newsletter Committee and prepare materials for use in the Section Newsletter.
3. Communicates with the printer to facilitate publication and insures continuation of appropriate postal status.
4. Serve as the official Section member of the SRM Information and Education Committee.

5. Coordinates and communicates with the Chair of the Section Information and Education Committee to insure exchange of pertinent information.

Duties:

1. Seek and prepare materials for publication in the Newsletter.
2. Work with the printer in preparation and mailing of the Newsletter.
3. Actively seek advertisements to defray costs of publication.
4. Maintain a current mailing list.
5. Provide publicity for Section activities in appropriate news media.
6. Solicit new memberships and notify "deleted" members of pending membership loss.
7. Issue letters of welcome to new members and encourage their participation in Section activities.

He/she should provide a membership list to be published in the August newsletter.

The Chairperson shall be responsible for submitting written reports indicating committee activities and recommendations for future activities to the Section President at the Annual Meeting.

Typically, the committee should plan on four newsletters per year (November, February, May, August).

SECTION COMMITTEES

ANNUAL MEETING COMMITTEE

Structure:

The Annual Meeting Committee is chaired by the Section President-Elect who serves as overall coordinator of activities and who appoints a Program Coordinator, a Facilities Coordinator, and others required to plan and conduct the Annual Meeting. The Facilities Coordinator should be selected from the area where the meeting is to be held so that coordination does not require extensive travel on his/her part.

Duties:

1. Suggest or solicit bids for a host city or town for the Annual Meeting and coordinate plans for overall activities in cooperation with the Council.
2. Make all necessary physical arrangements for the Annual Meeting.
3. Prepare a meeting program, in cooperation with the Council and have it completed for inclusion in the August Newsletter.
4. Prepare and arrange for printing of all necessary materials to conduct the Annual Meeting including, but not limited to, programs, registration forms, and meal tickets.
5. Assign adequate personnel to handle necessary activities during the Annual Meeting including registration and transportation.
6. Confer with the Secretary-Treasurer on the proposed costs and fees for the various aspects of the meeting including the number and extent of complementary items for presenters (meals, lodging, etc.).

Responsibilities:

It will be the responsibility of this committee to plan and conduct the Annual Meeting. It is generally advantageous to select a meeting site to minimize travel for the greatest number of members. It may be helpful to solicit input from the membership at the Annual Business Meeting as to future potential meeting dates and locations.

The meeting format should generally consist of a Section business meeting, a technical session as a forum for exchange of ideas and information which should include graduate student papers and high school youth forum papers, and a banquet to provide for presentation of awards and speakers as may be desired. A luncheon and tour(s) may also be incorporated into the format.

High school youth and college students should be encouraged to participate in the program were possible. They should be given the opportunity to relate their experiences and exchange ideas with the members of the Section. Student papers presented during the technical sessions may also serve as a competition for travel awards to SRM annual meeting to participate in the Range Youth Forum.

The suggest meeting date is the second or third Thursday and Friday of October, but input from the membership at the Annual Business Meeting may also help the Committee determine a satisfactory date for a given year. It is suggested that the meeting take place over a day and a half, adjourning at, or near, noon Friday. Care should be taken to ensure that fee levels are such to insure profitability for the meeting (see suggested financial guidelines).

AWARDS COMMITTEE

Structure:

The awards Committee will be Chaired by the Past-President, and two other members selected by him/her. Insofar as possible, membership of the committee should consist of one rancher, one professional range manager and one representative from range related industry.

Duties:

1. Solicit and review nominations for Rangeman's Award, Range Management Service Award, and Outstanding Young Range Professional Award.
2. Select recipients of awards from valid nominations received, and seek approval of the Council for selected awardees, by mail if necessary.
3. Oversee the preparation and delivery of appropriate plaques to be presented to awardees at the Annual Meeting.
4. Carry out the above procedures for any special awards which may be deemed appropriate by the Council.
5. Make recommendations for national awards to SRM as may be appropriate and with the approval by the Council.
6. Prepare the Certificate of Appreciation to be presented at the Annual Meeting to the outgoing Councilperson.
7. Solicit award nominations in the May and August newsletters.
8. Consider any "Special Award" as needed.
9. Prepare a news release for the November newsletter and news media on award recipients. Prepare a news release or biographical sketch of the Award Winners for the Chair of the Information and Education Committee to allow for prompt release of award winner information to the news media, and for publication in the November Newsletter.

Responsibilities:

It will be the responsibility of the Committee Chair to select those persons who will serve with him/her on this committee and to notify the Section President of his/her selections. He/she will be responsible for carrying out the duties of the committee as outlined.

Selection of the recipients of awards shall generally be based on the following qualifications:

Rangeman's Award – need not be a member of the SRM, may be a man, woman or group, must not have received this award within the previous six (6) years, and cannot be a member of the Awards Committee.

Range Management Service Award – member of the Section who has made outstanding contributions in service to the range industry or profession.

Outstanding Young Range Professional Award - member of the Section who has made outstanding contributions in service to the range industry or profession and is less than 40 years of age.

If, in the judgment of the committee, candidates nominated do not meet the requirements of the award, the award need not be presented.

Nominations should be solicited such that all valid candidates can be reviewed at least 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

FUND RAISING COMMITTEE

Structure:

The Fund-Raising Committee shall be composed of a Committee Chair and such other persons as may be necessary to conduct the committee affairs who are selected by the Chair with the concurrence of the Section President.

The Secretary-Treasurer serves as an ex-officio member.

Duties:

1. To coordinate fund raising for the Section.
2. Develop new or improved fund-raising activities.

Responsibilities:

To maintain on-going fund-raising activities for the Section.

HISTORY COMMITTEE

Structure:

The History Committee shall be composed of a Committee Chair (appointed by the Section President) and other individuals as may be necessary, who are selected by the Chair. The

Committee Chair should be selected from previous committee membership when possible. Reappointment can continue on an indefinite basis.

Duties:

1. The Committee Chair will actively solicit and archive in an orderly manner all information, publications, documents and other material deemed pertinent to maintaining the records of Section history.
2. He/she shall prepare and publish such documents as may be required by the Council to appropriately disseminate the historical information.
3. The Chair will prepare for each newsletter an article entitled "Do you Know What Happened in the Nebraska Section Five Years Ago, Ten Years Ago".
4. The Chair will annually update a master file for the Nebraska Section history. This file will then be used for subsequent printings of the Nebraska Section History.

Responsibilities:

The Chair will be responsible for selection of persons to work with him/her and to notify the Section President of his/her selections. He/she shall be responsible for carrying out the duties of the History Committee and prepare written reports of committee activities to be submitted to the Section President at the Annual Meeting.

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Structure:

The Information and Education Committee will be composed of a Committee Chair and others as may be necessary to conduct the committee affairs selected by the Chair with the concurrence of the Section President.

Duties:

1. The Chair of the Information and Education Committee serves as a member of the SRM Information and Education Committee.
2. To develop information and education programs for Nebraska with the approval of the Council.
3. To implement information and education programs developed by the SRM in Nebraska.

Responsibilities:

The primary responsibility of the Information and Education Committee is to promote wider recognition of the role of SRM as a body of informed, interested people concerned with range resource management.

INVESTMENTS COMMITTEE

Structure:

The investments Committee is headed by a Committee Chair appointed by the Council each year. The Chair will select at least two other members to assist him/her, including the Secretary-Treasurer of the Section who has legal access to Section monetary funds.

Duties:

1. Receive and make proper arrangements for investment of all funds designated for purposes of investment.
2. Conduct all business related to investment and disbursement of investment funds, including forwarding reports and pertinent tax documents to the Section Secretary-Treasurer.
3. Determine the total dollar amount of funds available for scholarships in a given year, and report to the Chair of the Scholarship Committee the recommended amount and number of scholarships to be awarded in that year.
4. Determine the appropriate dollar amount and number of graduate student travel grants to be awarded in a given year.

Responsibilities:

It shall be the responsibility of the Chair to select those persons to serve on this committee with him/her and to notify the Section President of his/her selections. He/she shall be responsible for conduct of all duties and activities of the committee as referenced above. He/she shall also prepare written reports specifying the current financial status of investments, including receipts, disbursements and any other business conducted by the committee. These reports are to be submitted to the Section President upon request and at the Annual Meeting of the Section.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Structure:

The committee shall be composed of a Chair appointed by the Section President, the Secretary-Treasurer, and at least one member selected by the Chair.

Duties:

1. Solicit nominations for Section President, the elected person to serve as President-Elect for the year following election.
2. Solicit at least two (2) nominations for Section councilperson each year.
3. Nominations should be finalized by July 15. Resumes of each candidate should be provided to the Newsletter Editor and the Chair of the Information and Education Committee at that time. This information and ballot should be part of the August newsletter.
4. Carry out appropriate actions such that nominees are presented to the membership and proper elections carried out for selection of the candidates to serve in office by October 1.
5. The nominations Committee shall send all members of the Section a ballot, to be returned to the Section Secretary-Treasurer on or before October 1 .

Before the Annual Business Meeting, the ballots will be counted by the Secretary-Treasurer and the count verified by the other members of the Nominations Committee.

Responsibilities:

The Committee Chairperson shall be responsible for selecting the persons to serve on this committee with him/her and to notify the Section President of the selections. He/she shall be responsible for carrying out the duties of the committee in the proper time frame and to report such activities to the Council as may be necessary.

Ballots should be included with the August newsletter. The ballot should contain at least two (2) nominations for Councilperson and one (1) nomination for President-Elect. The ballot should be printed on stamped, addressed postcards to allow for the Section members to mark and mail the ballots to the Section Secretary-Treasurer.

PRODUCER AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Structure:

The Professional Affairs Committee shall be composed of a Chair (appointed by the Section President) and other members selected by the Chair as may be necessary to conduct the committee affairs with the concurrence of the Section President.

Duty:

To serve as correspondent and liaison for Nebraska Section in Professional Affairs duties as needed.

Responsibilities:

To maintain correspondence with SRM and give timely written and oral reports to Nebraska Section members.

To develop and recommend SRM action for improving professional standards and professionalism in range management.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Structure:

The Public Affairs Committee shall be composed of a Chair who is the senior Councilperson, at least one member with linkages to the State Legislature, and such other persons as may be needed to carry out the duties of the committee.

Duties:

1. Keep Section membership up-to-date and alert to issues of statewide scope that relate to the interest and concerns of the Society, through newsletters, telephone, mail, etc.
2. Keep informed and monitor new and proposed legislation dealing with matters related to rangeland, range resources, and environment.

3. Gather facts on issues, evaluate section input, develop proposed action, and submit recommendations to the Section President.
4. Bring situations to the attention of the SRM Executive Secretary which have relevance beyond the scope of the state.

RANGE JUDGING COMMITTEE

Structure:

The Range Judging Committee shall be composed of a Chair, the Section member-at-large representative on the State Range Judging Committee, the Section member serving on the Envirothon planning committee, and such other persons as may be needed to carry out the duties of this committee.

The Chair of this committee also serves as the Chair of the State Range Judging Committee which is a separate organization. In the event that the two committee Chairs should be held by separate individuals, it is the responsibility of the Range Judging Committee Chair to maintain communications with the current Chair of the State Range Judging Committee to ensure that all items described below under duties and responsibilities are carried out.

The Section Secretary-Treasurer serves on both committees Range Judging Committee and State Range Judging Committee and manages income from the collection of range judging contest registration fees and pays bills for ribbons, cards, and awards as directed by the chair of this committee in cooperation with the State Range Judging Committee chair.

Duties:

1. Serve as Section representative for all range judging contest activities and Envirothon contests. If chair cannot attend, it is his/her responsibility to arrange for an alternative representative.
2. Provide to appropriate persons or organizations any materials necessary to fulfill Section sponsorship in range judging contests.
3. Order (by June 1) and later distribute ribbons for area and state range judging contests.
4. Oversee the assessment and collection of entry fees to defray the cost of ribbons.
5. Provide contest dates and locations to the Newsletter Editor for the May newsletter.
6. Provide a summary of range judging activities to the Newsletter Editor for the November newsletter.
7. Serve as the liaison with any regional range and pasture judging contests.

Responsibilities:

The responsibilities of this committee shall be to carry out the duties outlined above.

Range judging contests are normally planned by the State Range Judging Committee. The Section has been committed to assist in the carrying out of these contests and to provide the awards presented to the winners of these contests. Ribbons and score cards need to be ordered during late spring or early summer.

The State Range Judging Committee is a multi-agency organization which oversees the planning and conduct of area, state, and regional range judging contests held in Nebraska. Membership includes: Cooperative Extension, Natural Resources Districts, Nebraska Association of Resource Conservation Service, State Department of Education, State 4-H

Office, Nebraska Vocational Agriculture Association, University of Nebraska Range Specialist and Communications Specialist, the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission and members-at-large.

The Nebraska Section is committed to assist in conducting contests and to provide the awards presented to the winners of these contests directly or through cooperative efforts with other organizations concerned with the conservation and wise use of rangelands in Nebraska.

RANGE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Structure:

The committee shall be composed of a committee Chair, appointed by the Section President, with a minimum of three additional members selected by the appointed Chair. These three members should include one rancher, one individual involved in range research and one individual from a governmental agency involved in range management in Nebraska. The committee Chair should be selected from previous committee membership when possible.

Duties:

1. To become familiar with range management related research conducted within the State of Nebraska.
2. To assess research needs as may be indicated by any segment of range management activities.
3. To report research activities and assessed needs to the Section membership as may be required by the President.
4. To represent the Nebraska Section, SRM, where the Section has legitimate input into range research discussion.
5. Maintain liaison with the SRM Research Committee and assist their actions as may be appropriate to the Nebraska Section.

Responsibilities:

The Committee Chair shall be responsible for selecting the persons to serve on his/her committee and to notify the President of his selections. He/she shall be responsible for all committee activities and to report such activities to the Council as may be required. A written report of committee activities shall be submitted at the time of the Section Annual Meeting with recommendations for continued or future activities for the committee.

RANGE TOUR COMMITTEE

Structure:

The Range Tour Committee shall be composed of a committee Chair, appointed by the Section President, and one (as in the case of one statewide tour) or more (as in the case of several area tours) Area-chairs, and other members as may be necessary to plan and conduct one range tour or several area range tours as determined by the committee Chair.

Duties:

1. Select one area, or several areas, of the State, in coordination with the Section President, in which to conduct a range tour.
2. Arrange for tour sites and develop an agenda of tour activities.
3. Schedule calendar date for the tour(s).
4. Arrange for adequate notice to Section members and media of the tour activities. All necessary tour information should be forwarded to the newsletter Editor and the Chair of the Information and Education Committee to allow for publication in the May newsletter and area newspapers at least two weeks prior to the tour(s).

Responsibilities:

It shall be the responsibility of the Chair to select those persons to work with him/her and to notify the Section President of his/her selections. He/she is required to submit a written report describing the committee activities to be presented to the Section President at the Annual Business Meeting and to make recommendations for future activities of the committee.

It is desirable to conduct tours in geographically different areas of the State each year. In addition, the committee should plan the tour program to include appropriate food and/or refreshments and discussion of the day's events.

RANGE YOUTH CAMP COMMITTEE

Structure:

The State Range Youth Camp Committee shall be composed of a Committee Chair, who serves as Camp Director, and such other persons as may be necessary to conduct the Range Youth Camp selected by the appointed Chair with the concurrence of the Section President. Camp Directors are designated by the President two years in advance and participate in conducting the camp prior to their directorship.

Duties:

1. Assist in the planning of the Range Youth Camp.
2. Provide assistance to the Camp Director in whatever ways deemed appropriate for conducting the Range Youth Camp.
3. Provide assistance and guidance to awardees attending the Section and SRM Annual Meetings.
4. Provide the Newsletter Editor with a summary article for the August newsletter.

Responsibilities:

The Section has assumed sponsorship of the State Range Youth Camp and therefore is committed to support of the activity. Much of the effort necessary to plan and conduct the range camp has come through voluntary service of Section membership. It is an important activity for the Section and an essential aspect of range youth activities.

The format for conduct of the range camp has evolved over time and is primarily passed on by experience. The continuity necessary for assuming directorship of the camp makes experiencing the camp essential. Under normal circumstances arrangements are made to

provide this experience for the individual assuming directorship of the camp. Chair of this committee then resided with the individual assuming camp directorship.

The camp committee is responsible for financial arrangements related to camp function. The fee set for attendance should be designed to cover the cost of the camp itself, awards to the top ten participants of the camp, and funds, at the discretion of the committee to assist the top first year campers, and the top returning camper to attend the SRM Annual Meeting. Acceptance of funds by the top three participants requires that they participate in the Range Youth Forum and give a prepared presentation on some aspect of rangeland or range management. The Camp Director has the responsibility of assuring that the awardees are provided with help and encouragement to prepare for attending the Youth Forum. Contact with the SRM Committee responsible for this activity may be of some benefit in preparing the awardees for attendance.

A written report should be submitted to the Section President at the Annual Meeting indicating Youth Camp activities, any recommendations for future activities and the name of the next camp director.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Structure:

The Scholarship Committee shall be composed of a Committee Chair, appointed by the President, and at least two other persons selected by the Chair. The committee Chair should be selected from the previous committee membership when possible.

Duties:

1. Solicit and review scholarship applications in a timely fashion and select recipients of scholarships from valid applications.
2. Prepare such materials as the Council may request to inform any interested persons regarding the Section scholarship program.
3. Verify scholarship value with the Investment Committee prior to formally advertising the scholarships being awarded by the Section for that year.
4. Assume responsibility for having scholarship winner(s) at the Annual Meeting for recognition by the Section membership.
5. The Chair should present scholarship(s) to the winner(s) at the Annual Meeting.
6. The Scholarship Committee Chair must notify the Investment Committee Chair of the identity of the scholarship winner(s) at least four (4) weeks prior to the Section Annual Meeting.
7. Prepare a written report with all of the biographical information necessary to create an adequate press release on each of the winners and forward this report to the Chair of the Information and Education Committee at least ten (10) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

Responsibilities:

It shall be the responsibility of the committee Chair to select those persons to serve on his/her committee and to notify the Section President of his/her selections. He/she shall be responsible for conducting all activities designated for his/her committee. He/she shall also prepare a written report specifying committee activities and suggestions for future activities either as requested by, or to be submitted to the Section President at the Annual Meeting.

STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Structure:

The Student Affairs Committee shall be composed of a committee Chair (appointed by the President), the Chair of the Range Youth Camp, the chair of the Range Judging Committee, the Chair of the Envirothon Committee, two members involved in teaching, and the Presidents of the UNL and CSC Range Management Clubs.

Duties:

1. Coordinate student activities for the Section such as Range Youth Camp, Range Judging, Envirothon, FFA and 4-H range activities.
2. Coordinate High School Youth Forum, University Student Conclave and Graduate Student presentation at the Annual Meeting.
3. Develop new or improved student related activities.
4. Serve as a liaison with the SRM Student Affairs Committee.

Responsibilities:

The Student Affairs Committee should coordinate and provide guidance for all student related activities in the Nebraska Section.

RESOLUTIONS AND POSITION STATEMENTS

1977 POSITION STATEMENTS

At the 1977 annual meeting of the Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management the following position statements on range research and water resources were adopted.

REGARDING RANGE RESEARCH

There is a pressing need to develop an expanded and improved range research program for Nebraska, according to a position statement issued by the Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management.

Citing the current economics of food production as one reason why a better understanding of rangeland management is needed in the state, the statement places a high priority of increasing the quantity and quality of range forage, including subirrigated meadows. It calls also for an improvement of the entire range vegetation research program.

Nebraska ranks high among all states in rangeland production, the statement points out, noting that rangeland occupies one-half of the state. Since the economic benefits to be gained throughout the state are significantly high, says the Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management, it recommends that appropriate agencies and organizations within the state take strong action to accomplish the following:

1. Provide agricultural research monies and efforts for range management consistent with its importance to the economy of the state.
2. Initiate research in those areas where no research effort is being made as well as in those areas requiring long-term data collection.

3. Provide a mechanism for frequent interaction between range managers and those responsible for range research programs.
4. Encourage continued cooperation between the University of Nebraska and state and federal agencies to improve research efforts, share knowledge, and accelerate the implementation of new technology.

REGARDING WATER RESOURCES

All citizens of the state need to join in a united effort to conserve the quantity and protect the quality of Nebraska's water resources. So says the Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management in a position statement calling for coordinated action on the part of citizens, state agencies, and federal agencies.

Specifically, the Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management offers the following goals for conserving and managing wisely the water resources of the state:

1. To establish priority of use, water resources must be maintained for human and livestock consumption as well as for other domestic needs above all else; for food and fiber production closely following; and then for commercial uses, such as power generation and manufacturing, which uses should be carefully integrated with recreation and wildlife needs.
2. To achieve acceptable water quality, the quality of groundwater should be maintained within limits of human consumption and the quality of surface water should be maintained within livestock quality.
3. To provide the necessary regulatory mechanisms, the state legislature should produce updated and comprehensive laws pertaining to the use of surface water and groundwater in the state.

To achieve the above goals, the Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management recommends that all citizens of the state undertake supporting activities as the following:

1. Promote proper land and water management as the two best methods of conserving and improving water quantity and quality.
2. Encourage cooperative efforts of all agencies concerned with water resources management.
3. Promote educational efforts relating to the proper use and management of land and water resources, especially in the area of irrigation.

Sound planning for the future in the area of water resources, concludes the statement is necessary in order to avoid creating potential hazards for ourselves as well as for future generations.

1978 RESOLUTION

REGARDING PERSONNEL ACTION TAKEN BY THE SRM BOARD OF DIRECTORS RELATIVE TO THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

WHEREAS, recent action by the SRM Board of Directors climaxed a movement which has evidently been in the making for several years without the knowledge or the consultation of the Section Officers;

WHEREAS, much of the action was evidently conducted in closed sessions by the Board which is not the practice of the Society;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Nebraska Section be on record with the Board that they do not condone such procedural action by the Board and that any further action necessary to deal with an issue of such magnitude, as the one just recently exposed be handled in an open manner and not behind closed doors;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Society should develop a procedure by which the selection of a nomination committee cannot be used as a vehicle to establish a select group of individuals for Directors.

1980 RESOLUTION

REGARDING THE PROPOSED SCHOOL OF NATURAL RESOURCES, IANR-UNL

WHEREAS, the rangelands of Nebraska are utilized primarily for livestock production, the Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management believe that the present agronomic base, working cooperatively with the departments of animal science and natural resources, be maintained into the future to the benefit of the many sound and rewarding research and extension range programs.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the membership of the Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management are opposed to the inclusion of range management with the proposed School of Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln as outlined in the University of Nebraska Five Year Plan: 1980-1985 adopted by the Board of Regents on July 26, 1980 and amended on September 12, 1980.

1983 RESOLUTION

REGARDING RANGE AND FORAGE MANAGEMENT RESEARCH AT THE GUDMUNDSEN SANDHILLS LABORATORY

WHEREAS, the range resource of the State of Nebraska is approximately 50% of the agricultural land while pasture and hayland provide additional forage resources.

WHEREAS, we as other user groups in the state, recognize the importance of range and forage management research and consider it a major research emphasis for Nebraska.

WHEREAS, the Gudmundsen Sandhills Laboratory (GSL) has been donated to the University of Nebraska with the understanding to provide the opportunity and obligation for range and forage management research.

WHEREAS, the University of Nebraska has fully supported in spirit the increased emphasis in range and forage management research at GSL.

WHEREAS, range and forage management research requires on-site personnel, both professional and technical.

WHEREAS, grazing management research is to be a major emphasis at GSL and will require high initial capital input.

WHEREAS, there has been minimal increase in operating funds, professional or technical positions in support of GSL.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chair of the GSL Planning Committee and the Chair of the GSL Management Committee encourage the Director of the Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station establish a firm support base for research at GSL through the development of new funding or the reallocation of existing funds to provide:

1. Professional support staff
2. Technical support
3. Operating funds

1983 RESOLUTION

REGARDING IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT IN THE NEBRASKA SANDHILLS

WHEREAS, rangeland (native pasture) makes up approximately 50 percent of Nebraska's total agricultural land; and

WHEREAS, rangeland (native pasture) makes up 95 percent or more of the Nebraska Sandhills (MLRA-65); and

WHEREAS, 95 percent or more of the soils are loamy very fine sand to coarse sand in texture (USDA-SCS Soil Erodibility Groups Nos. 1 and 2) and 75 percent or more occur on slopes in excess of 3 percent; and

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Sandhills support over 600,000 beef cows with a monetary value in excess of \$1 billion; and

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Sandhills is known historically as ranching country and is the largest stabilized sand dune field in North America; and

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Sandhills support a large population of wildlife, including pronghorn, deer, coyote, grouse, etc.; and

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Sandhills has 80 to 100 feet of ground water in storage (Ogallala Aquifer) and the high-quality ground water is attributed to the rangeland vegetal cover; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 2,700 irrigation wells registered in the Nebraska Sandhills, which are used principally for the production of feed grains (corn); and

WHEREAS, exploitive center-pivot irrigation systems used in the production of feed grains contribute to an increase in nitrate contamination and other chemicals in the water table which may be harmful to humans and animals.

BE IT RESOLVED that the needs to protect the fragile soils of the Nebraska Sandhills from further exploitive center-pivot irrigation development be strongly presented to the Nebraska Legislature and legislation be implemented to protect the Sandhills from exploitation.

1984 RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE ADDITION OF LIVESTOCK WELLS, LIVESTOCK WATER PIPELINES AND CROSSFENCING TO THE NEBRASKA SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM LIST OF ELIGIBLE PRACTICES

WHEREAS, The Nebraska Legislature in 1983 declared “that it is in the public interest of this state to financially assist in encouraging water and related land resource conservation measures on privately owned land and that this will produce long-term benefits for the general public”, and

WHEREAS, the Range Resources of the State of Nebraska make up approximately 50% of the state’s total land area; and

WHEREAS, Federal cost-share funds for the Agricultural Conservation Program and great Plains programs continue to remain at past levels which do not recognize the large increase in costs thereby in reality reducing the level of available funds making it more difficult for the continuation of adequate rangeland treatment programs; and

WHEREAS, proper use and management of our rangelands will help reduce soil erosion, will help reduce rapid siltation of our reservoirs and rivers, will help reduce water runoff and conserve water through recharge of the ground water aquifers; and

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation Program needs to provide additional emphasis on needed conservation practices to supplement the federal range-related program.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Natural Resources Commission be urged to adopt as Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation Program practices livestock wells, livestock water pipelines, and crossfencing for the development and/or improvement of rangeland resources.

1985 RESOLUTUON

REGARDING PRESCRIBED BURNING

WHEREAS, native range and pasture comprise approximately 50% of Nebraska’s agricultural land, and

WHEREAS, fire is a natural component of the grassland ecosystem and a major influence on the evolution of grasses and grasslands, and

WHEREAS, past research and practice have shown, under proper conditions, that fire can be an effective resource management tool to improve vegetation composition, reduce density and cover of brush, improve forage quality and accessibility, improve wildlife habitat, reduce hazardous fuels, prepare sites for seeding, enhance appearance, and improve watersheds without long-lasting environmental effects, and

WHEREAS, prescribed burning is the planned use of fire as a management tool under specified and controlled conditions on a predetermined area, and

WHEREAS, prescribed burning requires: a) detailed planning to identify situations where fire may have a potential for meeting management objective, and b) carefully written prescriptions to insure the successful application and safe use of fire as an ecological management tool to improve or maintain grassland ecosystems.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management recognizes that prescribed burning can be a viable management practice, under the appropriate conditions, for Nebraska's range and pasture resource.

1987 RESOLUTION

REGARDING CONTROL OF LEAFY SPURGE

WHEREAS, public officials have demonstrated that a potential exists for a critical infestation of leafy spurge in Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, 3.1 million leafy spurge infested acres in North Dakota, Wyoming, Colorado, and South Dakota, have caused those states to declare state-wide leafy spurge emergencies; and

WHEREAS, in excess of 105,000 acres of Nebraska rangeland are already infested with leafy spurge; and

WHEREAS, the State of Nebraska is a fringe area state where leafy spurge is showing dramatic increases; and

WHEREAS, leafy spurge control costs increase drastically if infestation are allowed to spread; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to the economic well-being of the rangeland community within the State to maintain a fringe area status rather than suffer the loss of reduction to thousands of acres of rangeland;

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegation assembled recognizes the imminent threat of the noxious weed, leafy spurge; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management encourages the State of Nebraska to accelerate efforts to control leafy spurge through State and County weed control programs.

1991 RESOLUTUON

REGARDING PARTICIPATION OF FEDERAL WORKERS IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

WHEREAS, many of the government's 3 million workers are active in professional groups; and

WHEREAS, most federal agencies have their own rules or informal policies covering how professionals, as well as union leaders, spend their official time; and

WHEREAS, federal agencies desire the prestige of having employees as officers of professional groups; and

WHEREAS, federal government agencies benefit from the contracts their workers make, and the knowledge they acquire, by their involvement in professional groups;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management opposes the proposed ban against federal employees being actively involved in professional organizations on official time.

1993 RESOLUTUON

REGARDING FILLING VACANT RANGE MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST POSITION

WHEREAS, the objective of the Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management is to promote greater application, interest and knowledge concerning the management of grazing lands in the State of Nebraska, and we are very concerned about the future of Range Research, Extension and Education in the State of Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, Nebraska now contains about 23 million acres of native grasslands, over 4 million acres of haylands and introduced pastures, and 1 million acres of permanent seedings related to the CRP program, which represent about 57 percent of Nebraska's land area; and

WHEREAS, the University of Nebraska's facilities at the Gudmundsen Sandhills Laboratory have such promise to provide benefit to the related livestock and forage industries with proper leadership decisions regarding research and extension activities; and

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management has been very supportive of the University of Nebraska's educational, research and extension programs related to range and forage management;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management strongly encourages the University of Nebraska administration to fill any and all Range Management positions that may become vacant as quickly as possible with the best qualified individuals available. This resolution specifically refers to the position of Range and Forage Extension Specialist at the West Central Research and Extension Center which will reportedly become open when Dr. James T. Nichols retires on July 1, 1993.

1993 RESOLUTUON

REGARDING NEBRASKA'S OPEN BURNING LAW

WHEREAS, fire is a natural and essential factor in many ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, suppression of fire has led to decreases in productivity and invasion by undesirable species on many of Nebraska's more than 22 million acres of grassland; and

WHEREAS, grassland livestock production is an important segment of Nebraska's economy; and

WHEREAS, Nebraska's current open-burning law implicitly defines open burning as a public nuisance; and

WHEREAS, properly planned and conducted prescribed fire actually is a valuable tool to achieve various land-management objectives in an economical and environmentally sound manner; and

WHEREAS, the demand for prescribed fire can be expected to increase dramatically as land managers adopt this tool; and

WHEREAS, PLANNING AND SAFETY PROCEDURES SHOULD BE EXPLICITLY ADDRESSED IN Nebraska's open-burning law;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management supports the passage of LB408 as amended by AM0612.

1997 RESOLUTUON

REGARDING UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA
GRAZING LIVESTOCK SYSTEMS MAJOR

WHEREAS, over 70% of the feed units for ruminant production are forages; and

WHEREAS, grazing livestock are a significant component of Nebraska's economy; and

WHEREAS, the management of these forage resources and grazing lands is complex and interdisciplinary; and

WHEREAS, the current UNL Range Science major emphasizes rangeland ecology and management; and

WHEREAS, the UNL Range Science major is proposed to be offered through the School of Natural Resource Sciences with a strong emphasis on multiple use and habitat management; and

WHEREAS, the proposed UNL Grazing Livestock Systems major offers a curriculum integrating courses from different disciplines and providing a balanced education that focuses on the interrelationships among these areas which is essential for efficient ruminant production systems with a strong animal science emphasis;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management strongly endorse the proposed UNL Grazing Livestock Systems major.