



# The Range Rider

Society for Range Management – Colorado Section Newsletter

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Spring/Summer 2016

## FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Hello Colorado Section Members!

Over the last 12 months or so, several people have commented to me that “Range professionals are the most passionate of all the disciplines”. Surprisingly, most of these observations have come from non-range folks.



Why are range professionals more passionate than other disciplines? Is it because ecology is woven into the very fabric of rangelands? Is it because our land type is the largest in the U.S. and the world? Is it because we know as the range goes, so goes water quality, wildlife populations, the livestock industry and so much more?

Whatever the reason, I know that the statement about rangeland passion definitely applies to me. We who are passionate about rangeland must carry our passion out of the field to our professional society – the SRM. SRM is our vehicle to inform the general public about the pivotal role rangelands play in all the hot topics – climate change, food security, water quality, wildlife populations, to name a few. It is also our way to impress the importance of rangelands to Congress and the Federal and State agencies.

SRM is also our vehicle to connect with others who share the same passion. This sharing of experiences, learning from each other, and just enjoying the comradery of fellow range folks recharges the battery, refreshes the soil, and builds bonds of friendship & support to carry us through.

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## June Open Committees:

The Section has several critical committees/positions that need help or a person to fill them. The roles are grouped by time commitment. Note: these committees/positions are not related to the 2020 meeting.

If you would like to express your passion for rangeland through CSSRM involvement, please read the descriptions below. Feel free to contact the current chair, Julie Elliott or Josh Saunders if you are interested. Contact information is below or on the officer list in this newsletter.

**Treasurer – Needs Filled by November:** Currently held by Meaghan Huffman who has moved to Kansas. Contact: ([meaghuffman@gmail.com](mailto:meaghuffman@gmail.com)) Maintains accurate records of section finances, includes writing checks, making deposits and provides event and summary financial reports to Board of Directors. Insures the books are reviewed annually and files any necessary paperwork with the IRS to maintain our 501c3 status.

**Secretary – Needs Filled:** Takes the minutes of Board of Director meetings, business meetings, and other official section meetings called by the President. Maintains a correspondence file. Currently officially combined with Treasurer position, by law election proposes to split the two positions.

**Current Affairs/Information & Education –** Chaired by Vicki Russo ([vickiesrusso@fs.fed.us](mailto:vickiesrusso@fs.fed.us)). **Would like someone to take over the Facebook page.** Maintains & updates Facebook and other social media sites identified by the Board of Directors. Works with the parent I&E committee to develop and distribute information.

**Membership –** Chaired by Vicki Russo ([vickiesrusso@fs.fed.us](mailto:vickiesrusso@fs.fed.us)). Could use help following up with lapsed members. Checks membership list regularly and contacts lapsed members to encourage renewal and learn how CSSRM can better serve members.

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## **CSSRM Representatives**

The following CSSRM representatives can be contacted for more information on Section Activities.

### **PRESIDENT:**

Julie Elliott  
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### **PRESIDENT ELECT:**

Josh Saunders  
USDA-NRCS  
Holyoke, CO

### **PAST PRESIDENT:**

### **NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Randy Reichert  
USDA-USFS  
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### **SECRETARY/TREASURER:**

### **I&E COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Meaghan Huffman  
Cargill  
Kansas City, KS  
meaghuffman@gmail.com

## **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Vickie Russo  
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## **AWARD COMMITTEE CHAIR**

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## **STUDENT ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE CHAIR**

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## **DIRECTORS**

Retta Bruegger Colorado State University	Clare Hydock USDA-USFS
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Emily Kachergis BLM	Dan Nosal USDA-NRCS
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# **COLORADO SECTION SRM FIELD WORKSHOP & TRAINING SESSION SAN LUIS VALLEY -- JUNE 16TH & 17TH**

**CO-SPONSORED BY RIO GRANDE, MOSCA-HOOPER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS  
& CSU EXTENSION**

**Get Registered!**

**THEME:** *Rangeland Stewardship in the San Luis Valley. Wet Meadow ecological sites are being effectively managed with high intensity short duration grazing strategies. Enterprise diversity & holistically managed grazing are guiding principles for long-term success and sustaining the ranching way of life.*

**WHAT: Thursday, June 16** gather at the headquarters of the Zapata Ranch for an informative & educational training workshop.

**Friday, June 17** pasture walk to observe benefits of high intensity short duration grazing implemented on Off Ranches.

**When:** June 16th 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM Zapata Ranch & lunch  
June 16th 5:30 PM to ? BBQ, Educational Speaker & Music  
June 17th 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM Off Ranches & snacks

**Where: Day 1:** meet at HQ & lodge on the Zapata Ranch NW of Alamosa (45 minute drive). **Day 2:** meet at Off Ranches HQ 3 mi NE of Del Norte

Pre-registration is **required** by June 10—online at [www.sanluisvalleyrangetraining.eventbrite.com](http://www.sanluisvalleyrangetraining.eventbrite.com)

Visit [www.cssrm.org](http://www.cssrm.org) or contact Cindy Villa at [cynthis.villa@co.usda.gov](mailto:cynthis.villa@co.usda.gov) [719.588.4155], Ben Berlinger at [ben.berlinger@co.usda.gov](mailto:ben.berlinger@co.usda.gov), or Tom McClure at [tmclure@fs.fed.us](mailto:tmclure@fs.fed.us) for more information.

**SRM CPRM CEU's will be offered for this training**

***From the President (continued)***

The two day journey through our winter training in Glenwood Springs drove this home to me, and the rest of the attendees, all the more. Jeff Goebel helped us see that we are the drivers of our destiny – as a profession and as a professional society. We taught ourselves that the impossible is possible, and we identified specific steps to take to build the passion about range and the professional society that supports us. (See article about the winter training elsewhere in this newsletter.)

In this newsletter, you will see that opportunities abound for you to participate in and demonstrate your rangeland passion and help shape the future of your Colorado Section of the SRM. Whether you attend one of the two field training sessions or feel called to serve on a committee, you are important to the range profession and your professional society. Together, we can move mountains!

See you out on the range!

Julie  
2016 CSSRM President

**Dear Colorado Section SRM Members!**

It is that time of year again when we are requesting nominations for 2016 Colorado Section SRM awards. At this time, there has been NO nominations! So please consider the below listed awards and anyone you know that may be worthy of such recognition. The Colorado awards are:

- ◆ Trail Boss Award
- ◆ Excellence in Rangeland Conservation Award
- ◆ Outstanding Young Range Professional Award
- ◆ Outstanding Publication/Contribution Award

For a complete list of details concerning each award, please contact me at ([tom.nadgwick@co.usda.gov](mailto:tom.nadgwick@co.usda.gov)), mailed to 722 Ash Avenue, Akron, CO 80720, or visit [www.cssrm.org](http://www.cssrm.org).

Sincerely, ***Thomas Nadgwick***  
***CSSRM Awards Chairman***



Kimberly Diller, working on range inventory in the San Luis Valley, 2011

***“Congratulations to  
Kimberly Diller,  
2015 Trail Boss Award  
recipient”***

Know of anyone not getting the newsletter? Have them update their email address!!

## WINTER TRAINING AND MEETING NEWS

The 2015 Winter Training and Annual Meeting was held at the historic Colorado Hotel in Colorado. To say the least, this was an unconventional gathering for CSSRM, but also provided a unique learning experience in collaborative solutions! Jeff Goebel, About Listening, lead the group of hearty and somewhat trepidatious souls, on a journey to build collaboration.

### Grounding & Greeting

We began in a circle (thus the trepidation!) for a process called Grounding and Greeting. Grounding included: introducing yourself and your relationship to education, the participant sharing what their expectations were of the meeting, and how the participant felt about being there. This process allows apprehension to be stated, introduces listening, and allows each person to occupy the room with their voice. This process accesses both the left and right side of the brain through thinking, feeling and sensing, all of which are attributes used in seeking consensus.

Next came the greeting circle, where each person acts as a 'greeter' and 'a greeted person', While feeling at first uncomfortable and apprehensive about the process, it opens the communication line within the group. Afterword, each person shared how they felt about the experience and what they learned from it.

### Worst/Best/Possibility

Jeff explained that anytime one is dealing with a problem it is important to start with the worst outcomes and to move from there toward collaborative solutions.

"Worst Outcomes: These are feared future outcomes, often based on past experience, with a presently experienced emotion and physical reaction. When people believe them, they affect their perceptions, beliefs, values and strategies. They tend to be self-fulfilling prophecies when strongly held."

"Best Outcomes: These are hoped for future outcomes, sometimes not previously experienced, but intensely imagined, with a presently experienced emotion and physical response. When people believe them, they affect their perceptions, beliefs, values and strategies. They tend to be self-fulfilling prophecies when strongly held."

"Possibility Thinking: An acknowledgement that both worst and best outcomes are present and inherent in each moment, up to, and often after the event. This balanced view allows the movement toward desired outcomes."

Worst outcomes must be explored first. "Fears are uppermost in the minds of those who are apprehensive, uncertain, or unwilling." Fearing the worst outcome of any situation is a major motivator for most conflict.

Once fears have been expressed, the hopes seem more possible, easier to express and believe. Because all events/issues have a potential worst or best outcome, it is important to fully explore both to prevent seeing only one of them.

"The best outcome is often not experienced by people in conflict because they get focused on talking about the worst possible outcome. Rarely does anyone acknowledge their worst outcome as they can move to the best outcome."

Throughout the three days, Jeff led us through the following questions:

- What is the worst possible outcome of not confronting the issue of passion for rangelands?
- What is the worst possible outcome of confronting the issue of passion for rangelands?
- Give the reason(s) it is impossible to increase membership by 100% by the next conference
- Given it is impossible, how would you increase membership by 100% by the next conference?
- What is the best possible outcome of confronting the current situation?
- What are you going to do as a result of this conference?
- How do you feel about this conference? What did you find useful that will help you be successful?

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