

## *It's Election Time!*

We have great nominees for our President Elect and 2015-2016 Board Members!

Please turn to the next few pages to read their bios and get acquainted!

Nominee for President Elect:

Julie Elliott

Nominees for Board Members:

Retta A. Bruegger

Barbara Gohlke

Clare Hydock

Emily Kachergis

Dan Nosal

**Please vote at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5BZKJTC>**



Summer tour attendees!

## Colorado Section

### Society for Range Management

#### Nominee for President for 2014

#### Julie Elliott

Multi-County Rangeland Management Specialist  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Holyoke, Colorado



I am honored to be asked to run for President of the Colorado Section. My history with SRM dates back to my college days at CSU in the middle 1980's. While not an officer with the Range Club (I limited my officer duties to The Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society), I helped with fundraisers and attended the SRM meetings in Corpus Christi and Boseman. I even competed and placed in the URME at Boseman. Not bad for a 'wildlifer'.

Since graduating from college, I have maintained my membership in SRM. However, I didn't become involved in the leadership role until 2009 when I was asked to lead the awards committee. I also served two terms on the board of directors.

Though my degree is in Wildlife Biology, my gainful employment has been mostly in range. My first range job was for two summers out of Yampa, CO, as a Range Technician for USFS. My career really began in April 1991 with (then) SCS as a Range Conservationist in Cheyenne Wells, CO. In 2002, my family and I moved to Holyoke and I took a Range Conservationist position in Wray. I am now a multi-county Rangeland Management Specialist for NRCS in Yuma, Washington, and Kit Carson Counties.

Outside experiences include a short stint with a Hot Shot crew that turned into a forestry technician/GIS desk job after a knee injury. I also worked as an Administrative Coordinator after the Limon Tornado in 1990 – a most interesting experience.

I am fortunate to have hosted more than 20 range/rancher workshops (and yes, no-till workshops too) with attendances exceeding 100 people several times. These have provided learning opportunities to producers and Range professionals that they could not have accessed otherwise.

It would be my great pleasure to organize an annual meeting that would both serve the training needs of our range professionals and help the range managers make their operation **the best** it can be. The Society as a whole struggles with how to make it worth paying the dues to SRM, and the Colorado Section is no exception. I believe I can work together with the Presidents preceding and following me to make Colorado SRM worth the investment.

# Colorado Section

## Society for Range Management

### Nominees for Board Members for 2015—2016

#### Clare Hydock

I'm honored to be nominated for a Board of Director position, especially after being with the Section for just a year now! I moved here from Arizona where I was very active with that Section serving as a Director as well as helping plan and facilitate meetings, coordinating the annual auction for student



range programs, and serving as a judge for the High School Youth Forum at the National Meeting. I'm currently on the planning committee for our CO Section Winter meeting (so I didn't let too much time pass before getting involved).

So who am I and what do I do? I'll answer the last question first. I'm currently the Range and Invasive Species Program Manager for the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests, based in Delta, CO. I started here in September

Clare with Gemstone, Pride's Spirit-Dancer, & Kilo Graham 2013, and before that I was a Rangeland Management Specialist for the Kaibab National Forest in Williams, AZ for seven years. I've also worked as a Botanist for 3 ½ years in Pennsylvania and as a Range Specialist in Arizona for 11 years prior to that. These have all been with the Forest Service.

I graduated with a degree in Range Management from the University of Wyoming, working summers for the National Park Service, BLM, and Forest Service. I've been a member of SRM since 1992 and a Certified Professional in Rangeland Management since 2000.

Who am I? A dog lover, fun seeker, hard working person with a passion for learning!

I'm running for this Board of Director position in order to share my knowledge and experience with all of you, as well as to learn from you. Together we can make our Section stronger, more effective and even a bit more fun for all our members! As I stated earlier, I was very active in the AZ Section and I'm looking forward to doing the same for our CO Section. As Director I'll do my very best to keep everyone abreast of current legislation and current science. I'll work to maintain our current members and to find and keep new ones! I'll help out in whatever capacity I can, regardless of how this election turns out. Thanks again for the nomination! [Clare](#)

Colorado Section  
Society for Range Management  
Nominees for Board Members for 2015—2016

**Retta A. Bruegger**

Outreach and Research Coordinator  
Learning from the Land Project  
Colorado State University  
Grand Junction, Colorado  
[Retta.Bruegger@gmail.com](mailto:Retta.Bruegger@gmail.com)



I am the Outreach and Research Coordinator on the Learning from the Land project out of the Warner College of Natural Resources at Colorado State University. Learning from the Land is an outreach and demonstration project that promotes the use of state-and-transition models (STMs) for adaptive management of sage-grouse habitat in northwestern Colorado.

Originally from western Colorado, I got my MS in ecology and management of rangelands from the University of Arizona in 2012. There I researched the efficacy of targeted cattle grazing using low-stress animal handling, and observations of rangeland change among Mongolian herders. As a Fulbright Student Scholar in Mongolia in 2005-2006, I became interested in pastoral livelihoods. I am glad to now be back in Colorado working in a capacity that allows me to learn from ranchers, land managers and scientists in order to help build social-ecological resilience, and address issues of common concern on western rangelands.

I believe that integrating diverse perspectives is essential for effectively learning about and managing rangelands, which are characterized by complexity and uncertainty. As a member of the Board of Directors for the Colorado Section of the SRM, I would work to increase rancher awareness of and participation in CSSRM, and in so doing foster a spirit of mutual learning across many different knowledge-holders. I would also work to increase involvement from the western slope of Colorado.

Colorado Section  
Society for Range Management  
Nominees for Board Members for 2015—2016

Emily Kachergis

Landscape Ecologist and Terrestrial AIM Implementation Lead  
National Operations Center  
Bureau of Land Management  
Lakewood, Colorado  
[ekachergis@blm.gov](mailto:ekachergis@blm.gov)



I am a landscape ecologist with the Bureau of Land Management at the National Operations Center in Denver, CO. My goal is to understand changes in rangelands and apply that understanding to promote resilient ecosystems and livelihoods. I was inspired to pursue this goal by working in the rangelands of Idaho, Montana, Utah, and California.

My graduate work at Colorado State University and my postdoctoral research with the USDA-ARS focused on building decision-making tools that describe rangeland change. With BLM, I facilitate monitoring for adaptive management by leading implementation of the BLM's national assessment, inventory, and monitoring (AIM) strategy. I enjoy every opportunity to work with land managers to apply monitoring information and improve rangeland outcomes.

I am running for the Board of the Colorado Section for the Society for Range Management in order to give back to the community that has given me so much over the past seven years. In particular, I would like to build on the success of recent annual meetings by partnering with other land management groups to provide additional opportunities for professional development and training for Colorado section members.

Colorado Section  
Society for Range Management  
Nominees for Board Members for 2015—2016

**Dan Nosal**

Multi-County Rangeland Management Specialist  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Franktown, Colorado  
[Daniel.Nosal@CO.USDA.gov](mailto:Daniel.Nosal@CO.USDA.gov)



My current position is a multi-county Rangeland Management Specialist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in the Franktown field office. My education includes a BS and an MS degree in Rangeland Management from the University of Nebraska in 1979 and 1983, respectively. During my MS research I worked as a graduate student / ranch hand at the Sandhills Ag Lab near North Platte, NE for three years. I was a member of the UNL Range Club and the Nebraska Section – SRM.

My career with NRCS began in Hoxie, KS as a Range Conservationist in 1983. I have been at my current position in Franktown, CO since 1990. During this time I have assisted numerous landowners with range inventories and grazing plans. I have also conducted and presented at various workshops and tours. I was the Colorado Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative coordinator from 2008 to 2013. I am also on the Conservation Committee for the Denver Area Council – Boy Scouts of America, member of the Lowry Range Advisory Committee, past member of the Douglas County Extension Service Advisory Committee, and rangeland management instructor for Camp Rocky youth conservation camp near Divide, CO.

SRM activities include: Colorado Board of Directors for one year in 2008, Transportation and Tour committees chair for the 2010 international meeting in Denver, member of the National SRM Wildlife Habitat committee, member of the Colorado Section Youth Activities committee, and co-organized the “Sustainable Rangelands through Low-Input Grassfed Production” oral session at the 2010 international meeting in Denver.



Colorado Section  
Society for Range Management  
Nominees for Board Members for 2015—2016

**Barbara Gohlke**

Soil Conservationist  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Colorado Springs, Colorado  
[Barbara.Gohlke@CO.USDA.gov](mailto:Barbara.Gohlke@CO.USDA.gov)



I am honored to be asked to run as a candidate for Director of the Colorado Section of the Society for Range Management. I first became a student member of the New Mexico Section in college, and transferred to the Colorado Section when I came to Colorado.

I have worked primarily as a Soil Conservationist in Colorado for NRCS, but range has always been a part of my life. As a Director, I hope to encourage communication across disciplines. The principles of rangeland management have much in common with the principles of soil health and agronomy. I believe we should explore these commonalities as we all work towards conserving our natural resources.



Summer Tour photo by Lisa VanAmburg



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***Colorado Section Society for Range Management***  
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***ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED***