



# The Range Rider

Society for Range Management – Colorado Section Newsletter

Volume 69, Number 1

Spring/Summer 2019

## Message from the President

By Clare Hydock



I can't get over what a difference a year makes. Last year at this time drought conditions affected much of Colorado and many areas were in exceptional drought conditions well into November. According to the May 28, 2019 Drought Monitor no drought conditions occur in the State. What a welcome relief! Resiliency comes to mind, not just for our rangelands but for everyone and everything affected by drought: producers, the public, livestock, wildlife, plants, soils, etc. Sure, we may not all bounce back right away but as long as we're progressing towards some level of recovery we're moving in the right direction. There are challenges ahead no doubt and my hope for folks facing challenges is that they have the strength and resiliency to carry on.

The plans for the summer workshop are finalized and I hope you're able to join us in Wray on June 19-20. The board/business meeting will be June 19 from 6-8 PM, followed by the workshop and tour on June 20. Kudos to Julie Elliott and Ben Berlinger for planning this workshop! They've put together a good program for us and are carrying on the tradition of touring the "Excellence in Rangeland Conservation" winner, the Stults Family Farm. See the article in this newsletter for more information and check your email for a flier on it. Kudos to Andee Leininger for the flier!

I want to thank everyone for a successful fall workshop in Palisade. We had a diverse range of topics and excellent presenters who made for a great workshop. The Planning Committee did a great job pulling everything together and they deserve a round of applause. There were 70 people in attendance and I believe a good time was had by all! The student turnout was amazing; 28 students from 4 colleges: Colorado Mesa University, Colorado Community College, Colorado State University and Southern Utah University. Thank you, students!

This year's fall workshop is shaping up to be something special too, and I hope you'll be able to join us in Cheyenne, October 23-24. Kudos to Josh Tashiro and Thad Berrett (WY) for working on this joint workshop.

None of these workshops happen by accident. It takes a lot of effort to coordinate them and without such a great body of members who volunteer their time and energy to do this, it would never happen. Please be sure to thank the folks on these planning committees and while you're at it think about serving on one! You'll get a lot of satisfaction from doing so.

Please get agenda items for the board/business meeting to me by June 17, 2019 ([clare.hydock@usda.gov](mailto:clare.hydock@usda.gov)).

Here's to continued moisture and lush rangelands for all of us! See you in Wray.

**Clare Hydock, President**



## **CSSRM Representatives**

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

### **PRESIDENT:**

Clare Hydock  
USFS  
Delta, CO  
970-852-9791  
chydock@fs.fed.us

### **PRESIDENT ELECT:**

Josh Tashiro  
USDA-NRCS  
Canon City, CO  
719-315-3421  
Joshua.tashiro@usda.gov

### **PAST PRESIDENT:**

Dan Nosal  
USDA-NRCS  
Franktown, CO  
303-218-2632  
daniel.nosal@usda.gov

### **SECRETARY**

Baili Foster  
CSU Student  
Oak Creek, CO  
970-581-5271  
Baili.foster@gmail.com

### **TREASURER**

Lana Pearson  
USDA-NRCS  
Pueblo, CO  
719-740-0741  
Lana.pearson@usda.gov

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Andrea Leininger—NRCS

Courtney Hurst—Colorado State Land Board

Sami Dinar—USFS

Michael Butterfield—DC Open Space

Amanda James—CSU Range Club President

Alexis Emslie—CSU Range Club President



## **2019 CSSRM**

### **Committees and Chairs:**

#### **Youth Activities**

Ben Berlinger

#### **Information & Education**

Randy Reichert

#### **University Student Affairs**

Paul Meimen

#### **Membership**

Kathleen Delzell

#### **Investments**

Joe Brummer

#### **2020 Planning Committee Co-Chairs**

Julie Elliott and Chuck Butterfield

#### **Awards**

Ariana Gloria

#### **Webmaster**

Nakayla Lestina

#### **Historian**

Josh Tashiro

#### **Annual Meeting**

Josh Tashiro

#### **Nominations & Elections**

Dan Nosal

#### **Budget**

Dan Nosal

#### **Newsletter**

Bianca Bonizio and Dan Nosal

Know of anyone not getting the newsletter?  
Have them update their email address in their  
membership profile on <http://rangelands.org>.

**SRM** Society for  
Range Management



## 2019 SRM Annual Meeting

### **By Dan Nosal**

Colorado was well-represented at the 2019 SRM Annual Meeting in Minneapolis on February 10-14. CSSRM members participated in many activities during the week, including Advisory Council meeting, Diversity Forum, and daily Annual Meeting Planning Committee meetings. Colorado folks receiving awards at the meeting included Hailey Wilmer (Outstanding Young Range Professional) and Troy Ocheltree (Early Career Undergraduate Teaching Award).

In lieu of a breakfast meeting this year, it was decided to co-sponsor a Tuesday evening social with the CSU Alumni. A brief CSSRM meeting followed the social, with approximately 60 people attending. President Clare Hydock was not able to attend, so BOD member Michael Butterfield facilitated the meeting. Other CSSRM officers in attendance were: Sami Dinar - BOD member, Josh Tashiro – President-Elect, Dan Nosal – Past President, Sarah LeVane – CSU Range Club President and BOD member, and Bianca Bonizio – acting Secretary for Baili Foster. Maria Fernandez-Gimenez brought a message from the SRM BOD; Michael Butterfield presented the treasurer report; Ben Berlinger presented the Youth Activities report and introduced CO HSYF participants; Paul Meiman and Sarah LeVane reported on the CSU Range Club activities, scholarships, and CSU students in attendance (19 students participating in speaking presentations, URME, Plant ID); Gary Frasier presented a membership report; Josh Tashiro gave an update on the website and CSSRM fall annual meeting; Dan Nosal presented an Investment and Budget report; Julie Elliott and Roy Roath gave an update on the 2020 SRM Planning Committee. Special recognition was given to the retired CSSRM members that were in attendance: Gary Frasier, Ben Berlinger, Roy Roath, and Larry Rittenhouse.

The weather was cold, but the comradery and conversations during the meetings and in the evenings at the bar were warm and inviting! Looking forward to an even bigger and grander meeting next February in Denver!



Dan Nosal, Josh Saunders, Scott Woodall, Rob Alexander, Ben Berlinger, and Josh Tashiro after the Tuesday evening CSSRM – CSU Alumni Social



Past President Dan Nosal and President-Elect Josh Tashiro representing CSSRM at the Advisory Council Meeting



CSU faculty and students after the awards ceremony at the 2019 SRM Annual Meeting

## 2018 Fall Workshop Recap

By Clare Hydock

The fall workshop at the Wine Country Inn in Palisade was a success and I have many people to thank for that, starting with those of you who came! We had 70 people attend; 28 of which were students from 4 colleges: Colorado Mesa University, Colorado Community College, Colorado State University and Southern Utah University (SUU). Thank you, students! Paul Meiman (CSU) and Randall Violet (SUU) put together plant ID and URME practice sessions for the students who would be going on to compete in Minneapolis and I'm sure that helped to sharpen their skills. In the Spring/Summer 2018 newsletter I asked if members would be willing to pay for a student's registration for the fall workshop and several of our members said yes! Thanks to those folks for their generosity.

I especially want to thank the Planning Committee: Retta Bruegger, Sami Dinar, and Dan Nosal. They did a great job with all of the logistics that go into these workshops and it would not have been such a success without their help. If you liked the program we put together, please let these folks know. I'm sure they'd appreciate hearing from you.

The workshop kicked off with a tour of the Palisade Insectary. Dr. Dan Bean was gracious enough to hold two tours and both were well attended and packed with great information! If you missed the tour Dr. Bean and the Insectary staff welcome visitors at any time. So if you're in the area contact them for a tour; <https://www.colorado.gov/agconservation/biocontrol>. The workshop included a diverse range of topics and excellent presenters who kept it very interesting. Go to <http://www.cssrm.org/archive.html> to see the agenda and speaker biographies.

Thanks to Josh Tashiro for making arrangements to have the workshop filmed by Brian Allmer of Barn Media <https://brianallmerradionetwork.wordpress.com> Thank you Brian! I've also want to thank Nakayla Lestina for setting up the Eventbrite service for registration, handling all the registrations, making the name tags and staffing the registration table. When I asked for a volunteer to do that Nakayla stepped up to the plate and she did a great job! I wish I could list everyone to thank but there just isn't the space to do so. Please know that I'm thankful for all of the help provided.

## 2020 Denver Meeting Update

By Julie Elliott

### Call for Proposals

The Call for Proposals is out and hopefully many of you are thinking about innovative and fun ways you can participate in the new formats. We are looking for proposals that are interdisciplinary and embrace the meeting theme of Transformation and Translation. Co-organizers representing the spectrum of seasoned, mid-career and young professionals will be given preference. This does not imply that graduate students cannot be part of this presenter mix. In fact, that would be a bonus to the proposal. Proposals are due June 28. Go to the 2020 webpage for the full text and link to the APEX submission site.

### Posters

Graduate students, and others, that want to present planned, preliminary or other work that doesn't fit the presentation formats are invited to submit a poster to the expanded poster session. That call will be coming out later this summer. The poster sessions will not be occurring during presentation sessions, allowing the full membership to participate in the poster presentations.

The overall format is patterned from the successful 2016 International Rangeland Congress in Canada. <http://2016canada.rangelandcongress.org/program>.

### Band

We have a band!! Plan to enjoy an evening of music and dancing with Tris Munsick & the Innocents! [www.trismunsick.com](http://www.trismunsick.com) or on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TrisMunsickandtheInnocents> Kudos to Savanna Pague and Kasey Dollerschell for getting Tris for us!

Keep up on all things SRM 2020 on our webpage: [srm2020.org](http://srm2020.org) and like us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/srmdenver2020/](http://www.facebook.com/srmdenver2020/)





## News from the Awards Committee

By Ariana Gloria, Awards Chairperson

Dear Colorado Section SRM Members,

Spring has arrived and it is time we kindly request nominations for 2019 Colorado Section SRM awards. So far, I have not received any nominations. It is critical that we as a section acknowledge our outstanding members for their achievements and commitment to rangelands. So, please consider the awards below and get those nominations in for those worthy of such recognition before the **July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019** deadline. Please email all nominations to the awards committee chairperson: [ariana.gloria@colostate.edu](mailto:ariana.gloria@colostate.edu)

- **Trail Boss Award:** This award is the highest given to a section member for outstanding accomplishments to the range management profession and for exceptional service to the section. The nominee must be a member of the Colorado Section and SRM for the past five years. Past recipients are not eligible (please see [www.cssrm.org](http://www.cssrm.org) for listing of past recipients).
- **Excellence in Rangeland Conservation Award:** This award is given annually to an individual or group that has demonstrated exceptional skill and knowledge in practicing sound management of rangelands in the State of Colorado. Membership in the Society is not required. The recipient will be requested to attend the Section Annual Fall Meeting to receive the award. Public announcement of the award will not be made until presentation at the Annual Fall Meeting.
- **Outstanding Young Range Professional Award:** This award is to recognize outstanding performance in young men and women entering the profession of range management. It is given to an individual CSSRM member who has demonstrated extraordinary potential and promise as a range management professional.
- **Outstanding Publication/Contribution Award:** This award is to recognize: noteworthy scholarly, literary, and aesthetic contributions, and efforts in publicizing range management practices, philosophies, and research activities. Only one Outstanding Publication/Contribution award will be given per year – not one per category.

Award winners will be announced at the annual meeting October 23-24. Nomination criteria and submission information can be found at [www.cssrm.org](http://www.cssrm.org) by clicking on the *awards tab and scrolling to the bottom section of the page*. If you would like more information or have any questions please contact me at [ariana.gloria@colostate.edu](mailto:ariana.gloria@colostate.edu)

Sincerely,

Ariana Gloria

CSSRM Awards Chairperson



## Last Years Awards—2018 Annual Section Meeting



Excellence in Rangeland Conservation

Stults Family Farm nominated by Julie Elliott



Trail Boss

Julie Elliott nominated by Ben Berlinger



Outstanding Young Professional

Hailey Wilmer nominated by Matt Barnes



Outstanding Publication

Crystal Tipton nominated by Matt Barnes

Award accepted by Paul Meiman

**Colorado Section - Society for Range Management  
WORKSHOP & SUMMER TOUR  
June 20, 2019 — 8:30 AM  
Wray, Colorado  
LandPKS Training & Stults Ranch**

***Directions to Stults Ranch: From Wray, travel 13 miles south of highway 385 to the gate just north of the bridge over the black wolf. Turn west into the trail-road and park. The gate will have bright flagging tape***

Stults Ranch: Gregg's Great Grandad homesteaded the original property in 1886. They always strive to do the "right" thing—A thing is "right" when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community. We will visit the Black Wolf property, with a small stream, a very active beaver population, thriving riparian community and recently, a bison herd. The Colorado Section-Society for Range Management and Stults Ranch are pleased to provide this learning opportunity.

Land PKS Workshop registration begins at 7:30 AM, Wray Town Hall

Stults Ranch tour starts at 1:30 PM & concludes at 4:00 PM

For additional information contact the summer tour planning committee:

Julie Elliott

970-854-2812

[Julie.elliott@usda.gov](mailto:Julie.elliott@usda.gov)

Ben Berlinger

719-469-3895

[ben.berlinger@usda.gov](mailto:ben.berlinger@usda.gov)

Dan Nosal

303-218-2632

[daniel.nosal@usda.gov](mailto:daniel.nosal@usda.gov)

**Registration cost = \$5 for students and \$15 for all others (includes lunch)**

Please complete the form below and send with payment by **June 17<sup>th</sup>** to: Yuma County Conservation District, 247 N. Clay St. Wray, CO 80758

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Payment: \_\_\_\_\_

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## *Lodging in Wray*

Cobblestone Inn & Suites  
35952 US Highway 385, Wray, CO 80758  
Phone: (970) 332-5000  
\$114 commercial  
\$87 Gov't

Butte Motel  
330 E 3rd St, Wray, CO 80758  
Phone: (970) 332-4828  
\$57/night

Sandhillier Motel  
411 W North Railway St, Wray, CO 80758  
Phone: (970) 332-4134  
\$57/night

## *The Colorado Section Board of Directors meeting information:*

**When: June 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Time: 6-8 p.m.**

**Location: Wray USDA Service Center,  
247 North Clay Street**

### **LandPKS Training Workshop:**

**Wray Town Hall "Round House"**

**245 West 4th Street**

LandPKS (Land-Potential Knowledge System) is a free mobile app that includes the following functions: (1) guided soil profile description that is used by embedded algorithms to (2) predict the soil and ecological site and (3) link to basic ecological site information in EDIT (Ecological Data Interpretation Tool). EDIT provides (4) the ability to independently identify ecological sites using embedded keys, (5) the information formerly available through ESIS in a much more user-friendly and interactive format, and (6) tools for entering and updating ecological site information. LandPKS also includes a "LandCover" module that allows landowners and managers to (7) collect vegetation cover data compatible with the data collected by NRCS and BLM, and (8) automatically calculates indicators and backs up the data in the cloud.



## Nominations for Officers

By Dan Nosal, Past President



As you may know, one of the duties of the past president is to find members who are interested in being more involved within the Colorado Section. It all starts with just simply acting on the decision to make yourself available.

The two recurring excuses are “I don’t have time” and “I’m not a leader.” I understand everyone is busy, but the commitment is only for a couple years and doesn’t require a lot of meeting attendance. On the second excuse...everyone needs to be a leader at some point...if not, we would all be following no one. The great thing about volunteering as a board member or president-elect, is that numerous folks have done it before! Each one of them is more than happy to help in any way they can. And if you have served before, the by-laws allow you to serve again. So nominate yourself or someone you think would be a good candidate and I will follow up with them.

The Section is looking for two members to serve on the board of directors and one member to step up and volunteer for becoming the president-elect. Here is my contact info: 303-218-2632 or [daniel.nosal@usda.gov](mailto:daniel.nosal@usda.gov). Let me know by **August 31, 2019**. Great things typically happen when you make yourself available.

See you at the Summer Tour or somewhere....down the trail!



2019 Officers being sworn in by President Dan Nosal  
President Clare Hydock and President-Elect Josh Tashiro  
Board of Directors Courtney Hurst and Andee Leininger

## **Paul Meiman...Moving on!**

Colleagues and Friends-

Greetings! I hope the summer is off to a great start for you all. Spring has always been a very busy semester for me, but this year there have been some additional sources of busy-ness and excitement for the Meimans. One of those additional sources is the reason for this message. Yesterday, I formally accepted a position with the University of Nevada as a tenured associate professor in the Department of Animal, Veterinary and Range Sciences in the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources at UNR, so will be resigning from my position here at CSU. My position in Nevada will be primarily Extension with some research responsibilities. My emphasis will be on rangeland wildlife – livestock interactions in northern Nevada and I will be based in Elko. I was not actively looking for a change, but after being recruited by the folks in Nevada, I became very interested in the position, had a successful interview and ultimately received an offer. It was not an easy decision, as there are many things that I love about my position at CSU. I appreciate the retention offer that I received from CSU, but in the end, I felt a stronger pull to pursue the opportunities in NV than to remain here. I appreciate my time and experiences in FRS, WCNR and at CSU. Further, I am proud of my contributions to the department, its programs (particularly, the Rangeland Ecology program), the college and the university. On a personal note, Tonya, Landry and I all welcome the opportunity to live where the ratio of humans to the acreage of those wonderful rangelands is FAR lower!!!

I will be around through the summer, working on my projects here and finalizing plans for my graduate students to finish successfully. I will start in NV this fall. I hope to see many of you around over the summer. I wish you all the best. Many thanks to those who have supported me here at CSU!

Paul Meiman

CSSRM University Student Affairs Chair and CSU Range Club Advisor



Paul Meiman with the CSU Range Scholarship winners – 2018 Annual Meeting

## Colorado High School Youth Present Range Management Papers

By Ben Berlinger, Youth Activities Committee Chair

Colorado high school students **Ingrid Hofmeister**, **Josh Waller**, and **Nathan Shannon** were selected by the Colorado Section of the Society for Range Management (SRM) to participate in the High School Youth Forum (HSYF), an SRM sponsored youth activity held jointly during the 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual SRM annual meeting. This year's meeting was held in Minneapolis on February 10 -14, 2019 with the theme "Gateway to the Prairie."

Ingrid and Josh completed their junior year attending Branson and Hoehne High Schools respectively. Nathan Shannon is a sophomore at Kim High School. All three students were selected for the HSYF based on their outstanding achievements last year in Colorado FFA range judging and plant identification. In 1966 SRM recognized a need to involve youth with the range-related activities and education provided at this annual meeting. Since that time, the HSYF has been a highlight of the SRM annual meetings.

High School delegates to the HSYF are chosen by each of the 21 individual sections of the parent society throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico, based on their high degree of interest in the range and natural resources field as well as on their exemplary dedication and effort to learn more about this area. At the HSYF, they had the opportunity to meet people from many countries and get a firsthand view of what SRM is all about including its organization, goals and the role it plays on a world-wide basis. An important goal of the HSYF is to provide an opportunity to learn about range and natural resource management and future careers through interaction with Society professionals.

As one of the more important activities, each delegate to the Forum participates in a paper presentation competition with the content covering a range-related topic. All presentations were judged by a diverse panel, with the top five papers recognized at the SRM awards ceremony. The top paper winner is invited to return to next year's meeting to help with the Forum and present their paper to the general membership of the Society. In addition, other activities included a local ecological field tour of the meeting site and a program to enhance communication skills.

The title of Ingrid's paper was *The Desertification of Southeastern Colorado Rangeland*. Her paper discussed the factors that contribute and interact leading to soil degradation and potential desertification. She highlighted that, through proper range management and prescribed grazing involving proper stocking and rotational grazing practices, desertification can be reversed.

Josh presented his paper titled *Improving Water Utilization on Arid Rangeland*. He discussed ways to better use the limited water that rancher receive on their rangeland. His paper focused on the main benefit of improving soil health through implementing proper grazing management. He indicated that improved grazing practices will allow more water to infiltrate, be held in the soil, and used by the plants that provide the many ecosystem services to ranchers and society.

Nathan received **fourth place honors** for his presentation! His paper was titled *Water: The Lifeblood of the Range*. In his abstract Nathan stated: "The control of grazing is an important part of range management. Before ranchers can graze a pasture efficiently, a good livestock water supply needs to be developed. Many different methods can be used to supply the water. Good water management can benefit cattle as well as wildlife".

Visit [www.cssrm.org](http://www.cssrm.org) to read all three papers presented by our Colorado Section HSYF delegates.

Since the number of delegates that can attend each year is limited, selection for this activity is considered a high honor for those students selected. Because of this perspective, the planners of this year's Forum were excited about the program and activities that were scheduled to provide both an exciting and rewarding educational experience for all that attended.

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(L to R) Ingrid Hofmeister, Nathan Shannon, and Josh Waller. Colorado Section of the Society for Range Management delegates to the High School Youth Forum held in Minneapolis in February. The Colorado Section of the Society for Range Management congratulates all three delegates to the HSYF for their hard work and dedication to this rangeland educational program.



Nathan Shannon received 4<sup>th</sup> place honors for his paper presentation titled Water: The Lifeblood of the Range.



## **Membership Corner**

**By Kathleen Delzell, Membership Chair**

GREETINGS as we move into summer. At least here in southern Colorado at 7,900 ft, it feels as if summer is coming - the last rain/hail/snow storms were two weeks ago.

I had a chance to stop in Lawrence, Kansas on May 24. Both Chris Lapine and Liza Woolard took time to meet with me that afternoon. These folks are your main contacts if you need to call our SRM Business Office at Allen Press. Other employees work on SRM business, but these are your GO-TO people.



### **MEMBERSHIP - ACTIVE for 2019**

According to Allen Press' Colorado Section report, here's what CSSRM looks like for active members on June 1<sup>st</sup>. If you'd like to see the comparison to last year, I've used categories similar to those printed in the September 2018 Newsletter .

- Regular Members & Family — 126
- Life Legacy & Family — 25
- Emeritus — 11
- Young Professionals — 3
- Students — 28
- International —1
- Commercial — 1

The number of active members choosing Colorado as their primary section has dropped, the number of members choosing Colorado as their additional section has increased. The Young Professional category used to be called Apprentice. Some of the twenty-eight (28) Students listed are High School Youth Forum; others renewed as Students for 2019 may have just graduated from college. Those are the members we need to identify and to help transition to the Young Professional category.

### **MEMBERSHIP - Not renewed for 2019**

Clare Hydock, Baili Foster, and Dan Nosal are helping me contact CSSRM members from 2018 that have not renewed for this year. We had over 60 people to contact and results of our emails and phone calls are still coming in.

We are getting good responses which I will summarize and bring to the Board Meeting in Wray.

For those of you who can't get to this June event, I'll have the summary posted on our Colorado Section website.

The Section's website ( <http://www.cssrm.org/>) is your way to keep up with CSSRM in between newsletters and workshop/tours.