

Colorado Section of the Society for Range Management
Youth Activities Report – June 19, 2019
Summer Training Session and Ranch Workshop
Greg Stultz Ranch, Wray, CO

High School Youth Forum

Colorado high school students **Ingrid Hofmeister**, **Josh Waller**, and **Nathan Shannon** were selected by our SRM Section to participate in the High School Youth Forum (HSYF), an SRM sponsored youth activity held jointly during the 72nd Annual SRM annual meeting held in Minneapolis on February 10 -14, 2019.

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 to represent the CO Section SRM based on their outstanding achievements last year in Colorado FFA range judging and plant identification.

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 to read all three papers presented by our Colorado Section HSYF delegates.



(L to R) Ingrid Hofmeister, Nathan Shannon, and Josh Waller. 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 4th place honors for his paper presentation titled *Water: The Lifeblood of the Range*.

Newspaper articles were sent to the *Fence Post News*, *High Plains Journal*, *Ag Journal*, and the *Barn Radio Network* (*Brian Almer*). See attached newspaper article published in the *Ag Journal*.

Camp Rocky 2019

Camp Rocky, Colorado's outdoor natural resources management camp for high school students, will be held on July 7-13. The range management discipline will be taught by CSSRM members Dan Nosal, Ben Berlinger, Kimberly Diller, and Josh Tashiro. The CSSRM recognizes the top performing students in the range management group with SRM belt buckles.

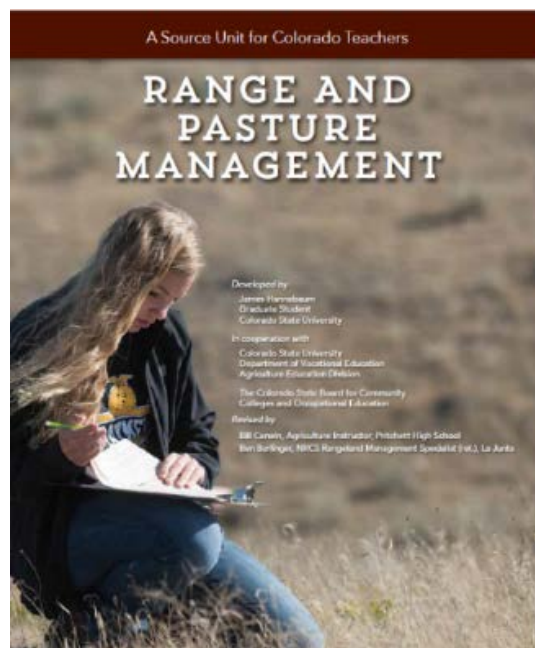
Range Judging & Plant ID Career Development Exercises for FFA

Several CSSRM Youth Activities Committee members will be assisting with the FFA range judging and plant id events that are being scheduled for this fall. No firm dates yet depending on the hosting FFA Chapters. SE CO and NE CO Regional events will be held in Branson, CO and New Raymer, CO respectively. The state event will be hosted by the Seibert, Burlington, Flagler, and Stratton FFA Chapters, and the venue will be at the Community Center in Seibert. Watch the CSSRM website as the dates are finalized and posted. The CSSRM will be presenting SRM awards to the high scoring individuals at each of these events.

Range Management Curriculum Book (New!)

Finally, our Section was involved with the completion of the new 3rd edition of the book *Range and Pasture Management: A Source Unit for Colorado Teachers* (122 pages). This is an excellent reference book for teachers as a curriculum guide for teaching range management and FFA range judging and range plant identification. CSSRM Youth Activities Chair Ben Berlinger co-authored along with Ag teachers and CSSRM member Emmett Jordan, rancher and graphic designer from Briggsdale. Many thanks to Emmett for his expertise in designing education publications and the numerous hours of time he graciously donated to the book!

The book can be purchased online at <https://www.lulu.com/> or the pdf can be down loaded on Google Drive at https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1l17HACPwc6A7bp6cC7FDPm_xj3xhfu6H



LEADERS OF TOMORROW

Area students receive Range Management honors

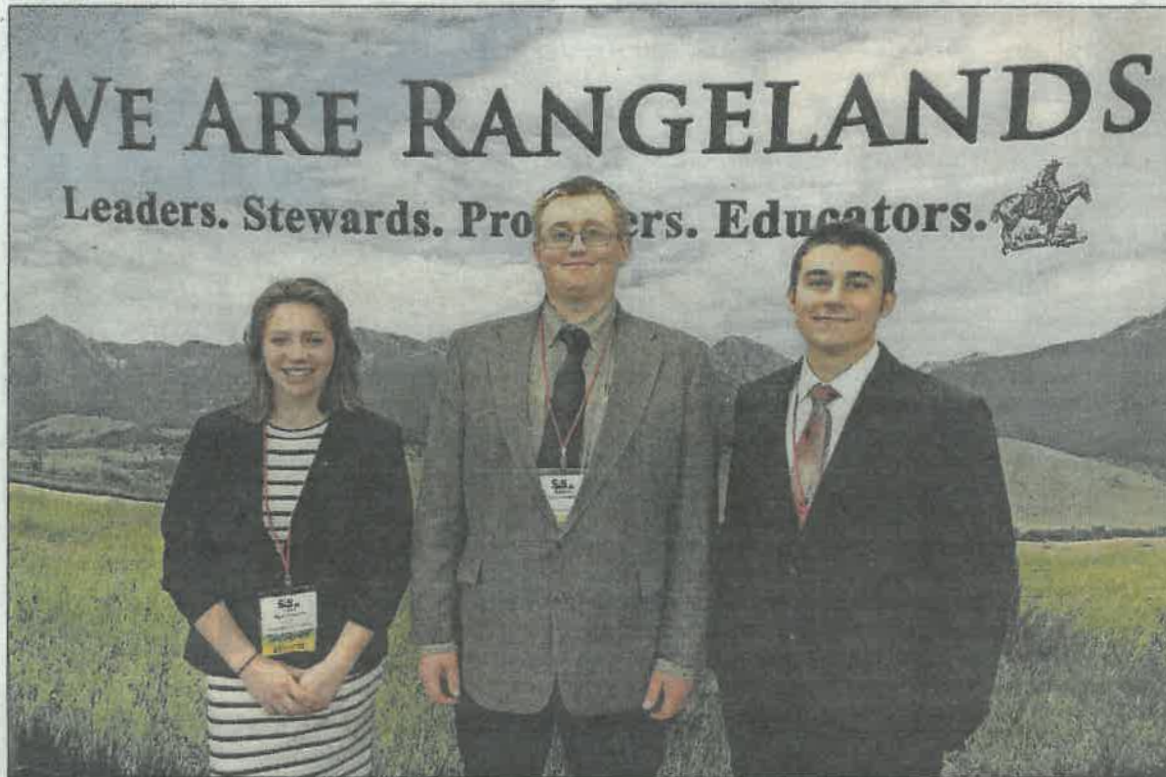
Colorado high school youth present range management papers

Ben Berlinger
Society of Range Management

Colorado high school students Ingrid Hofmeister, Josh Waller and Nathan Shannon were selected by the Colorado Section of the Society for Range Management to participate in the High School Youth Forum, an SRM-sponsored youth activity held jointly during the 72nd Annual SRM annual meeting. This year's meeting was held in Minneapolis in February, with the theme "Gateway to the Prairie." Ingrid and Josh completed their junior year attending Branson and Hoehne High Schools, respectively. 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

See HONORS, A11
(OVER)



Ingrid Hofmeister, Nathan Shannon and Josh Waller (left to right), Colorado Section of the Society for Range Management delegates to the High School Youth Forum held in Minneapolis in February. Ingrid attend Branson High School, Josh goes to Hoehne High School, and Nathan is a student at Kim High School.

[COURTESY PHOTO]

Poster contest winners

The Bent Conservation District hosted an annual poster contest open to sixth grade students in Bent County, including students attending Las Animas Public Schools, McClave Public Schools, and any home-schooled students. The contest is an integral piece in the Bent Conservation District Outreach and Education Program designed to keep community youth informed and participating in agriculture issues. This year's poster winners, pictured with elementary art teacher Sean Holcomb (second from right) are (left to right) Analyze Wilson, Janaya Baca, and Kayla Owens.



HONORS

From Page A10

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, the students 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 SRM professionals. As one of the more important activities, each delegate to the forum participated 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 was invited to return to next year's meeting to help with the forum and present their paper to the general membership of the society.

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." In her paper, she 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 "Improving Water Utilization on Arid Rangeland." He discussed ways to better use the limited water that ranchers receive on their rangeland. His paper focused on the main benefit of improving soil health through implementing proper grazing management. Josh 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 for 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 cssrm.org to read all three papers. 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.

HEMP

From Page A9

These stakeholders will take part in guided discussions and will provide a perspective on a number of critical issues. Their input will help create a comprehensive roadmap to provide

clarity and consensus on how to advance Colorado's hemp industry.

"In keeping with CDA's core mission to continuously strengthen and advance Colorado agriculture and foster responsible stewardship, a key objective of the CHAMP initiative is to define a structured supply chain and establish a strong market for the state's farming communities," said Kate

Greenberg, Colorado Commissioner of Agriculture.

"Working closely with our colleagues at other Colorado agencies as well as farmers and experts across the state will help ensure the success of this unprecedented project." The collaborative effort includes CDA, the Governor's Office, Department of Public Health and Environment, Department of Revenue,

Department of Regulatory Agencies, Office of Economic Development and International Trade, Department of Public Safety, Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs, Department of Higher Education, local governments and industry experts.

To learn more about the CHAMP initiative and apply to be a stakeholder, visit the program website.

