



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—Iric Burden

I hope this letter finds everyone in good health and for those that attended our fantastic summer meeting, rejuvenated and optimistic for the future of the Society of Range Management – Arizona Section!

In the last newsletter, I mentioned the drought status. After speaking with many people and visiting much of Northern Arizona, I have found that some had productive rains while others have received none to very little. The summer meeting was a perfect example of people coming together and discussing what is happening within their ranches or work areas. I heard many ideas being discussed and sounding boards being used. This truly exemplifies the intent and tone of what these meetings can provide. I would like to thank our President Elect, Andrew Brischke, along with Diablo Trust, Bar T Bar and Flying M Ranches for putting together a wonderful meeting. I would also like to thank all of those who attended, as well as, all of our presenters. Everyone made this meeting valuable with the knowledge shared.

From the perspective of the Board Members, we were all excited to share the progress made and our path for adopting the changes made (Strategic Plan, By-laws and our Marketing/Public relations strategy). Our Director South, Alisha Phipps, presented the Strategic Plan. Vice President, Erin Boyd, presented the Marketing/Public relations strategy along with Director North, Joey Dahms, and PR Committee Chair, Jessica Orozco. Director North, Josh Grace, summarized the changes to the by-laws and President Elect, Andrew Brischke, provided more details for the joint Arizona/New Mexico winter meeting to be held in Silver City, New Mexico. **Continued on Page 2...**



LAST CALL FOR 2018 AWARD NOMINATIONS!

Do you know an individual or group of individuals who display excellence in rangeland or ranch management? Help the Arizona Section give them the recognition they deserve! Nomination forms can be found in the June 2018 newsletter on the AZ Section website (azrangelands.org). Hurry and send in your last minute nominations to our Awards Committee Chair: Jason Martin at jmartin@blm.gov

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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I would like to thank everyone on the Board for their hard work in preparing the information provided. We will be sending out the information to members and partners for comments. These comments are invaluable to the section. Please provide us feedback. Our goal is to have all pieces in place and approved by the Board in time for the Joint Winter Meeting.

To take the theme further, I would like to thank Jessica Orozco for putting together the logo contest. I would especially like to thank everyone who submitted logo designs, each was wonderful! The time and effort expended on each design was thoughtful and it is especially gratifying to see the talent within the Section! All of those who attended the meeting voted for their favorite logo and a winner was selected. The logo will be our central focus on the re-branding efforts and a corner stone to describe who we are, where we come from and really defining our section. Thank you again to all of those who participated in the process!



I made the following comment in the last newsletter and standby my words...We have a fantastic Board, with lots of energy and willingness to work hard for the membership and partners. I implore all of you to provide feedback to your Board.

Thank you for your time!

Sincerely,

Irre B. Burden

President – Society for Range Management
Arizona Section

Call for 2019 Officer Nominations!

Looking to give back to the AZ Section? Know somebody who would be great in a leadership role? Send nominations for **Vice President, Director North, and Director South** to James Heitholt, our Past President and Nominations Chair.

2018 Arizona Section Board of Directors and Website

President

Iric Burden

Iric.Burden@az.usda.gov

Past President

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jheitholt@fs.fed.us

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Director South

Alisha Phipps

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Arizona Section Website

<http://www.azrangelands.org/>

Save The Date:

January 9 – 11, 2019

Society for Rangeland Management, Arizona Section

Joint Annual Winter Meeting

In Partnership with:

Society for Rangeland Management, New Mexico Section

Silver City, NM

2018 ARIZONA SECTION SRM SUMMER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

This summer's annual meeting, "Cooperation, Collaboration, and Coalitions" was just that, a productive example of working together. On behalf of the Arizona Section SRM Board and its members I would first like to thank Diablo Trust, Bar T Bar Ranch, Flying M Ranch, guest speakers, USFS, UA and ASU range clubs, Bopper and Robin Cannon, and the AZSRM summer meeting planning committees. Planning and execution of this year's meeting wouldn't have been possible without your help. Thank you all for contributing to a successful meeting.

Base camp for the meeting was set at the beautiful Moqui Campground on the Mogollon Ranger District on the Coconino NF. The meeting kicked off with a NRCWAY fundraiser BBQ where the demand for beans didn't quite meet the expectations I anticipated. We moved to the general membership meeting where we discussed our new strategic plan, updated bylaws, PR strategy, NRCWAY update, requests for input and help from our section up to our parent society, and a new AZSRM logo contest (congratulations Kelly Bedson!). Thank you to the AZSRM BOD for the hard work you've put into each project. It is inspiring to see such an active Board, and I would encourage our membership to get more involved in some of these projects. *Continued on Page 4...*



ARIZONA SECTION SUMMER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

...Continued from Page 3

It didn't take long for the meeting to require some adaptive management. On Wednesday night, instead of a presentation on the history of the Bar T Bar Ranch, Ranch owners Judy and Bob Prosser stayed behind to fix a road so we could get to our project sites the next day. After a great breakfast (and lunch) provided by UA Range Club, we adaptive managed our way through the entirety of the program. We heard presentations from three coalitions: Diablo Trust, Malpai Borderlands, and Canelo Coalition. Other talks included: remote cellular application for a joint well, leveraging funding for restoration projects, and collaborations to complete the projects we visited. Again, thank you to the speakers for sharing their expertise and experiences. On our way back, Judy Prosser provided a quick snack to prepare our taste buds for Bopper and Robin Cannon's chuck wagon dinner, which was delectable. The night was capped off by networking, sharing tall tales, and music provided by our fantastic AZSRM musicians.

ASU provided breakfast on Friday morning

-- thank you to them for making the quick trip up as many of them had classes on both Thursday and Friday. In the spirit of collaboration, AZSRM partnered with Diablo Trust to remove an exclosure that has since become a hazard. Many members put in a lot of hard work to complete this task in a couple of hours which normally would've taken a day or more. Judy, Bob, USFS, and Diablo Trust were more than pleased with the work completed and I appreciate our memberships' willingness to provide a little labor.

Thank you to our membership for making the 2018 Summer Meeting a success. I am looking forward to continuing this momentum January 9-11th, 2019 in Silver City, NM for our winter meeting.



Are you looking for a seasonal position?

UA Cooperative Extension is hiring two contract positions to assist with rangeland monitoring on the Tonto National Forest from October 2018— February 2019. Preferred skills include: plant identification and knowledge of monitoring techniques (dry weight rank, frequency, fetch, utilization). Work is primarily outdoors and involves physical exertion, including hiking, standing, crouching; it also involves extended driving of 4WD vehicles/ ATVs over rough terrain, exposure to variable environmental conditions, and occasional overnight camping in remote locations. Personnel can be paid \$17-20 per hour, depending on experience. If interested, email your resume to Ashley Hall at AshleyS3@email.arizona.edu

LOGO CONTEST RESULTS

A logo is something that is a visual representation of an organization; the first thing you think when you envision the organization or group it is meant to represent. In an effort to get more member involvement in our SRM chapter, we held a logo design contest to revamp our logo. The contest was announced on our Facebook page (if you haven't already, make sure and "like" our Facebook page: Arizona Section of Society for Range Management) and our



AZ SRM design contest winner Kelly Bedson with her winning design in both color and black and white. Congratulations Kelly!!!!

last newsletter. We wanted designs that would encompass the heritage and diversity of Arizona rangelands, while also being original and innovative.

We received 9 submissions, and most all of them were from our very own members. Participants of the 2018 summer meeting had a chance to check out the submissions and cast their vote for the best logo that would be our official logo for our chapter. The competition for the AZ SRM logo design contest was fierce! After all was said and done member Kelly Bedson was our winner. Along with bragging rights, Kelly also will be receiving a \$100 Cabela's gift card, a gift membership for her to use for herself or give as a gift to someone else, and a swag bag with her logo on it! Look for the new logo in upcoming newsletters and for logo wear at our winter meeting. Thank you to all who submitted designs, it was a very fun competition!



AZ SRM members at the 2018 summer meeting voting for their favorite logo design by lantern light.

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AT THE SUMMER MEETING

Several of our students had the opportunity to attend the Summer Meeting along with Dr. Alford. Fun was had by all, along with good food and smiling faces. Our students were pleased to prepare breakfast on Friday morning and spike the coffee to rouse everyone into a working mood. We look forward to attending the Annual SRM meeting in February and compete in the Plant ID test. Here is what one of our students had to say about her experience at the Summer Meeting:

"Overall my experience at the SRM meeting was great. Though I didn't get to spend as much time there as I would have liked, it was still fun. Emma and I drove up late after class Thursday and slept in my car, which was hilarious. Keaton, Emma and I woke up early Friday to cook breakfast, which seemed to be a hit with all the attendees. Though my time there was short, I was still able to meet and talk with other professionals in this field, spend time with my friends, and represent Arizona State University."



L to R: Sharon Maurer, Emma Lynch, and Keaton Davis

I would also like to say a big thank you to all those who helped plan the event and to U of A students for stepping up to provide two meals. I also want to thank Dr. Alford for helping us plan and prepare for the meal that we provided. All in all it was a great Summer Meeting and we look forward to next year's meeting.



**Good times
from the
Summer
Meeting!**



(Don't miss out next year!)



NRCWAY Camp Recap

The 2018 Natural Resource Conservation Workshop for Arizona Youth (NRCWAY) was a success with 33 students and many staff members enjoying the outdoors while learning about Arizona's natural resources. The theme this year was wildlife. Students learned the importance of biotic communities and associated wildlife species, animal adaptations to their environment, the five components of habitat, carrying capacity, and information about many of Arizona's native wildlife species. The students worked in groups throughout the week studying selected biotic

This year Lauren Basteen and Alex Solano were chosen to attend the 2019 National Society for Range Management meeting in Minneapolis, MN

communities in Arizona and researching wildlife species that inhabit those communities. They collected insects and made their own personal insect collections to take home. On the last day of camp the students presented information on each of their biotic communities in front of family and friends. This year Lauren Basteen and Alex Solano were chosen to attend the 2019 National Society for Range Management meeting in Minneapolis, MN. These students will represent Arizona in the High School Youth Forum and give a presentation on a natural resource topic of their choice.



WANT TO FOLLOW THE ARIZONA SECTION ON SOCIAL MEDIA?



Facebook

Like our page:

Arizona Section Society for Range Management



Instagram

Follow us at:

arizona_srm

You'll see posts featuring upcoming events and workshops, job advertisements, relevant news, plant identification, photos, and more!

FIELD FOLLIES—*Andrew Brischke*

Our Arizona Section Society for Rangeland Management meetings are a great place to network, express ideas, issues, solutions, successes, failures, and tell lies. For those not around at the 1:00 am fire circle, you're missing out on some progressive solutions. It was during one of these evening discussions that I came up with perhaps one of my best outside the box ideas, and a 15-minute bit I still use ten years later.

We were much younger in our careers and a colleague was venting his frustrations about his Wild Horse and Burro Program. He was getting grief about these non-native species from a different organization that advocates sport fishing. Stocking and sport fishing for non-native species. That my friends, is what we call irony. While he was venting, I was thinking solutions - elusive win-win-win solutions.

Ladies and gentleman, let me introduce you to my Wild Horse and Burro Fishing Program. It's a controversial program designed for sportsmen that combines the enjoyment of fishing, while removing our over-populated wild horses and burros, and saves our rangelands from degradation. Win, win....win!

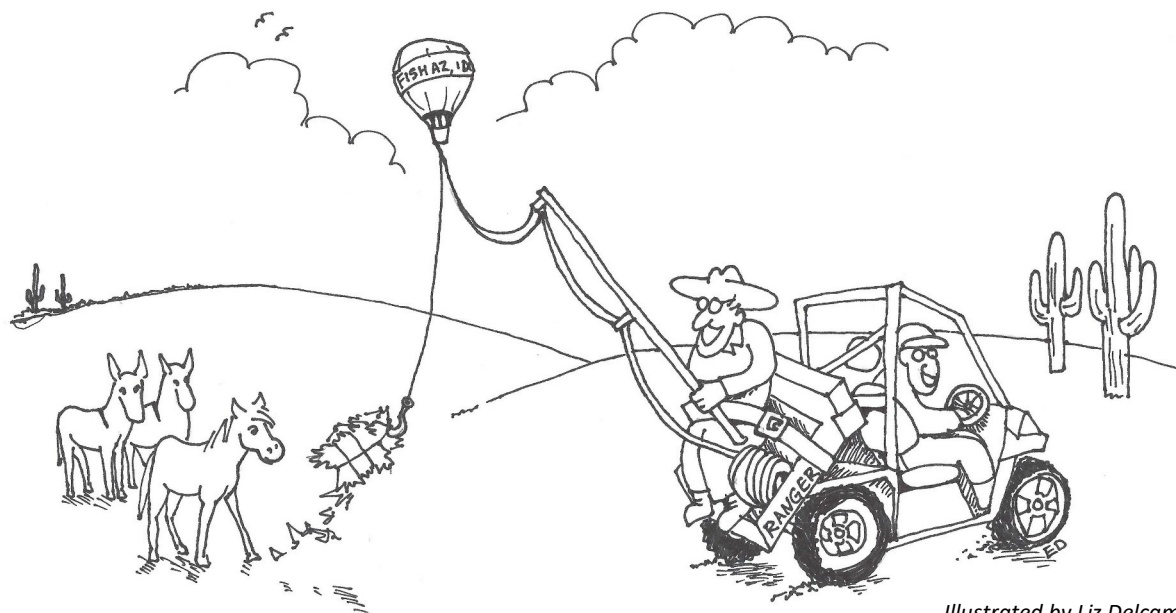
Here is how it works: strap your fishing buddy into the bed of a UTV, or better yet strap yourself in and make your buddy drive. You equip him with a rather large, heavy-duty rod, but one that maintains its flex for the fight. Fiberglass, graphite, carbon fiber, the choice is yours; I just wouldn't recommend bamboo. Buy one of those garden hose reels (a winch if you're fancy) and

attach it to your rod. Now you're going to need some heavy test, you might want to experiment with some rope or cable. Jury is still out on whether a single, double or treble hook works best - probably personal preference. On your way out, stop by your local feed store and pick up a couple bales of hay for bait.

The most common wild horse and burro fishing technique is trolling from a UTV, or for the experienced guides - longlining. At times, you may want to sit back, relax, and have the animals come to the bait. If this is you, may I suggest a hot air balloon to act as a bobber to let you know when you have a bite? Or to hoist your line out of the desert shrubbery? Snagging in the desert is a disaster to be avoided at all costs. Others may get more enjoyment from casting. You dear friends, are going to need a trebuchet.

Close your eyes and keep reading. Imagine yourself out there now....

Wild horse and burro rod in hand, buckled in the bed of a UTV, enjoying the sun with your dry line on the fertile equineries of the desert Wild West. Out in the distance you see a dust cloud. A haboob trailing the stampede of a herd of burros. A live view of the most iconic of images of the American West glaring right back at you. And they're coming. The burros are coming for your flake of alfalfa. And then one strikes. You set the hook and now you're in it.



Illustrated by Liz Delcamp

Straining through the bucking, the thrashing, the bumbling and stumbling – the turbulent fight. Hours later, with sweat pouring down your face and the stinging in your eyes, you've finally landed your prized Jack. You take a picture and then realize because of the Horse and Burro Act, it's all catch and release.

DIRECTOR NORTH REPORT—

Joshua Grace

Howdy! It's a beautiful time of year in the High Country. Much of the White Mountains received above average monsoonal precipitation, a relief to ranchers and land managers alike. It was a busy fire season, but preemptive restrictions and strategic closures and placement of staff across agencies seemed to help keep many wildfires to somewhat smaller sizes. In fact, several natural ignitions were able to be used to address resource concerns later into the summer.

The Forest has come alive with a flush of grass and forb growth. However, reminders of the past year are always close by. A look across the horizon may show distinct patches of trees that did not fare so well. It is an interesting scene when coming across a dense stand of ailing juniper. Some may be beetle-stricken while others just a lack of soil moisture, but the death of these tough trees certainly serves as evidence of just how severe the conditions were only a few months ago.

As great as the rainfall was in some areas, severe drought conditions continue in others. The spotty storm activity in much of northeastern Arizona was representative of what one would expect from summer rains. Some areas received little while other areas received moisture fairly late in the growing season. No matter which side of the spectrum, planning and preparation for the next bad year should be happening simultaneously while recovering from this one. Identifying needs in advance and initiating coordinated resource management between stakeholders is key when living with drought. For now, we'll continue to take weekly rain events as long as they will keep coming around!



DROUGHT MANAGEMENT TOOLS AND RESOURCES FOR RANCHERS WORKSHOPS

***Presented by University of Arizona
Cooperative Extension***

<https://extension.arizona.edu/drought-management-tools-resources-ranchers>

September 07, 2018 — Benson, AZ
September 11, 2018 — Santa Rosa, AZ
September 14, 2018 — San Carlos, AZ

For more information, contact

Ashley Hall

Area Assistant Agent

Natural Resources, Animal Science and Agriculture
(928) 402-4391, ashleys3@email.arizona.edu

4th ANNUAL SOUTHWEST Intertribal Agriculture Council CONFERENCE

September 25-26, 2018
Twin Arrows Navajo Casino Resort,
Flagstaff, AZ



Photos by Doug Whitbeck, near Ajo, AZ



FEBRUARY 10 - 14, 2019 | MINNEAPOLIS, MN
SRM ANNUAL MEETING

Gateway to the Prairie

Website is now LIVE! Registration is coming soon!



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES
Santa Rita
Experimental Range
Experiment Station

WELCOME AND FAREWELL



Photo Courtesy of Kristin Blum

Open House For Mark and Brett
Tuesday, September 25, 2018 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Santa Rita Experiment Range
27000 S. Florida Canyon
Green Valley, AZ 85614

Please join us as we bid farewell to Mark Heitlinger after 15 years as Range Manager, and welcome Brett Blum as the new Range Manager at Santa Rita Experimental Range.

- We will recognize Mark's exceptional contributions, and will learn more about Brett and his future goals.
- Light refreshments will be served.
- Please feel free to bring a lunch and stay afterwards to picnic at the Station.

Please RSVP to akvann@ag.arizona.edu, or call (520) 621-3246.

Sands Ranch Erosion Control Project

Borderlands Restoration

Site Tours

September 29th & November 10th 9 – 11 am



Tour an erosion control site with rock work, gully plug and pond work, and on-contour ripping

Location: On the east side of Hwy 90, 12.5 miles south of I-10 and 6 miles north of Hwy 82 at the Dry Canyon Access Road

Contact: Trevor Hare at hare.trevor@gmail.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2018

September 07	Drought Management Tools and Resources for Ranchers Workshop, Benson, AZ (contact Ashley Hall at AshleyS3@email.arizona.edu)
September 11	Drought Management Tool and Resources for Ranchers Workshop, Santa Rosa, AZ
September 14	Drought Management Tools and Resources for Ranchers Workshop, San Carlos, AZ
September 18	11th Annual Cowman's Reproduction Workshop, Alton Town Hall, Alton, UT
September 25	Open House Welcome and Farewell for Mark Heitlinger and Brett Blum at SRER, AZ
September 25-26	4th Annual Southwest Intertribal Agriculture Council Conference, Flagstaff, AZ
September 29	Sands Ranch Erosion Control Project Site Tours, Borderlands Restoration near Benson, AZ (contact Trevor Hare at Hare.Trevor@gmail.com)
October 03	Artificial Insemination Workshop, V Bar V Mahan Park, AZ (contact Ashley Hall)
October 17-18	Riparian Restoration & Tamarisk Beetle Workshop, Washington County Water Conservation District, St. George, UT (https://tinyurl.com/2018TamariskBeetle)
October 20	15th Research Insights in Semiarid Ecosystems (RISE) Symposium, Tucson, AZ
November 10	Sands Ranch Erosion Control Project Site Tours, Borderlands Restoration near Benson, AZ

2019

January 09-11	Arizona SRM and New Mexico SRM Joint Annual Winter Meeting, Silver City, NM
February 10-14	2019 SRM Annual Meeting, Technical Training, and Trade Show, Minneapolis, MN

Kelsey (Hawkes) Landreville
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