

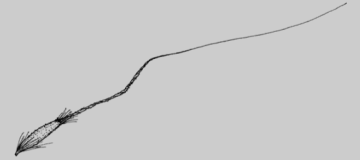


Needlegrass Notes

Volume 65:1

Spring 2019

Society for Range Management
California-Pacific Section



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- President's Message
- Certified Rangeland Manager Panel update
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President's Message Mindy Nicoletti

Hello all, I'm Mindy Nicoletti your 2019 president for Cal-PAC. Warm wishes on a new year—I know many of us could use a long vacation on the beach already. Or am I the only one?

2018 was another record-breaking year for wildfires. Living in the northern Sacramento Valley, it felt as if we never got a break from the smoke. California had several fires this year that came very close to, or destroyed, very populated areas. The Carr fire devastated Shasta and Trinity counties, burning 229,651 acres and threatened Redding. Just when we thought fire season was over the Camp and Woolsey fires ignited on November 8th. The Camp fire became one of the deadliest and most destructive fires in United States history.

The 2018 Mendocino Complex Fire became the largest fire in California State history on August 6th, and when final containment was reached on Sept 18th it totaled 459,123 acres. In recent years, cone production in Ponderosa Pine forest has been severely limited. That coupled with the timing of fires, has severely impaired natural regeneration in these mixed conifer forests in Mendocino. With such a large area of forest land impacted by the fire,

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Your 2019 Committee Chairs & Members

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(530) 224-4900

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ddefreese@ebparks.org

Information & Education Co-Chairs:

Kaelie Pena
kaelie.pena@gmail.com
(530) 310-0539

President's Message

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the importance of restoration and recovery has become paramount.

Fire scarred areas will also need special attention and care as winter rains continue. Freshly scarred areas are particularly susceptible to erosion. Introducing conservation measures before winter begins can help mitigate these potential resource concerns. There are several agencies that are available to assist you such as the NRCS, conservation districts, and Cal-Fire. If you were one of the land owners that was impacted, please reach out and we can connect you with your local office or join us for the CalPac spring tour.

The CalPac spring tour is scheduled for March 28th in beautiful Santa Maria. The tour will compare a wildfire verses a prescribed burn. We have several speakers from various organizations and backgrounds, including landowners.

If you're looking for a couple of days in Half Moon Bay enjoying gorgeous weather, great, fantastic food, and the ocean—Range Camp is in need of volunteers. Volunteers camp for free and all meals provided. Plus, a chance to interact and influence the next generation of potential range managers. I spent two nights last year and had a blast. It's an experience I'd recommend everyone try at least once (and you just might find yourself making it a regular, yearly habit). We have a Range Camp meeting scheduled for March 27th after the board meeting in Santa Maria and it's open to all. After, please join us for a dinner, featuring the famous Santa Maria barbeque.

Let's hope 2019 brings gentle and frequent spring rains and high prices at the stock yard.

Sincerely,
Mindy Nicoletti
CalPac SRM Section President

California Certified Rangeland Manager (CRM) Panel Update

Congratulations to our newest California Certified Rangeland Managers! These three CRMs passed their exam in Spring 2018. Dr. Fadzayi Mashiri (CRM #118) is a UCCE Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor in Madera County. She was born in Zimbabwe and earned her doctoral degree at the University of Arizona. Kendra Mosely (CRM #120) is Regional Ecological Site Inventory Specialist for NRCS and earned her M.S. at the University of Idaho. Todd Golder is Rangeland Management Specialist for NRCS in Eureka. Todd lectures at his alma mater, Humboldt State University (HSU) and coaches the HSU Plant I.D., which hopes to reprise its spectacular win last year in Reno. Allison Rofe passed the October 2018 CRM exam. She currently serves as Resource Conservationist for the Contra Costa Conservation after earning her B.S. at HSU and M.S. at the University of California - Berkeley.

The upcoming CRM exams will be held on April 5 *in Sacramento only*. Application materials must be addressed and received by Dr. James Bartolome before March 1 for CRM panel review. For more information, see our website at <http://casrm.rangelands.org/HTML/certified.html>. The CRM panel will meet via teleconference on March 27, 2019 during the spring section meeting.

I apologize for not forwarding you a survey sooner, published in the Board of Forestry Licensing News (Winter 2018). It queries both RPFs and CRMs about likely increased in licensing fees. The survey, which was supposed to be finalized by January 7, asks whether current CRMs would retire, withdraw, or not change their status should fees be raised to \$184, \$162, OR \$140 for a two year period. If you have strong opinions about raising the licensing fees, which have not been raised for RPFs for nearly 30 years, please send comments to Dan Stapleton before February 26, 2019:

Professional Foresters Registration RPF Renewal Survey

P.O. Box 944246

Sacramento, California 94244-2460

Phone (916) 653-8031; FAX (916) 657-5386

dan.stapleton@bof.ca.gov

Finally, as a result of the Rancho Guejito lawsuits (dismissed) and subsequent conversations at the Boards of Forestry, Professional Forester's Examining Committee (PFEC), and Cal-Pac meetings, draft regulations will

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Your 2019 Committee Chairs & Members

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Ling He

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(805) 756-7543

California Certified Rangeland Manager (CRM) Panel Update

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soon be issued for a 45 day comment period.

“The Board is proposing action to amend 14 CCR § 1600 et. seq. and adopt new section 14 CCR § 1611.5, 1650 (e), 1650 (f) and 1651 (d). The purpose of the proposed action is to provide clarity in the regulatory provisions applicable to both RPFs and Certified Specialists. Additionally, clarity has been improved with regards to the disciplinary process and professional standards and responsibilities for Registered Professional Foresters (RPF), the Certified Rangeland Manager (CRM) specialty and any future specialties that may be approved by the Board for a private society or public agency.”

Dan Stapleton assured me that the all pertinent documents will be available by the end of January for your analysis and comment at the following URL.

http://www.bof.fire.ca.gov/regulations/proposed_rule_packages/

2018 SRM Cal-Pacific Section Excellence in Range Management Award

Tom and Kathy DeForest of DeForest Livestock were presented the 2018 SRM Cal-Pacific Section Excellence in Range Management award by Tim Koopman at the CA Cattlemen's Association banquet dinner on Nov 29, 2018. Long time beef cattle ranchers who raise beef and registered Herefords from Adin, California in Modoc County. They were recognized for their extensive rangeland stewardship, rangeland advancement and improvements made in the overall efficiency of their ranch. This included their success at solving environmental challenges such as reducing weeds including Dyers woad, bull and scotch thistle. Their work in partnership with local RCD and USFWS Partners for Wildlife to obtain grants to move sections of the creek back to its historical meander, and fencing of another portion for use as a short term, riparian pasture that resulted in the return of willows and other native plants and wildlife associates as well as return of the stream to year round flow. The DeForests also worked extensively and cooperatively with other local landowners and agency personnel to assist in the delisting of the Modoc sucker from the Endangered Species list that occurred in 2016.

Congratulations to Tom and Kathy DeForest!





Cal-Pacific Section Spring Meeting & Tour in Santa Maria, CA March 27th and 28th, 2019

Please join us on the beautiful Central Coast for the SRM California–Pacific Section spring meeting and tour. Dinner on Wednesday evening will be at the landmark restaurant “*Far Western*” in Santa Maria followed by two ranch tours on Thursday.

Accommodations

A block of rooms has been held at the **Radisson Hotel, Santa Maria**. The group rate is \$109 per night, two queen beds, without breakfast. An optional breakfast buffet is available. Please mention Cal-Pac for room block reservations. The [Radisson Hotel](#) is located at 3455 Skyway Drive, Santa Maria. Phone number is (805) 928-800.

Registration

On-line Registration is available through PayPal on the SRM Cal-Pac website. <http://rangelands.org/casrm/HTML/springmeeting.html>

If you would prefer to pay by check, please make the check payable to Cal-Pac SRM and mail with completed registration form (included at the end of this newsletter) to:

Devii Rao (Cal-Pac SRM Treasurer)
31000 Airline Highway
Paicines, Calif. 95043
(831)637-5346 x 14

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Cal-Pacific Section Spring Meeting & Tour in Santa Maria, CA

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Event Schedule

March 27th (Wednesday)

1:00 - 4:00 Cal-Pac Board of Directors Meeting

1:00 – 4:00 CRM Panel Meeting

4:00 – 5:00 Range Camp Discussion (open to all)

The Board, CRM, and Range Camp Discussion meetings to be held at the Santa Barbara County Agricultural Commissioner's Office, located at 624 West Foster Rd, Santa Maria 93455

6:30 - 9:00 - Dinner/Social (optional) – Far Western Tavern

The landmark restaurant is located at 300 E. Clark Ave in Orcutt, which is a short drive south from Santa Maria. Please join us for Santa Maria style BBQ dinner. And don't miss the crowning of the "Wild Woman of Range" at dinner!

March 28th (Thursday) FIELD TOUR 8:00 AM

The first visit of the tour will be to the Rock Front Ranch, thirty miles east of Santa Maria. This ranch was impacted by wildfire during the Front Fire in August 2018, which started on the Los Padres National Forest and burned over 1,000 acres of private property. We will have in-the-field discussions of the impacts of the wildfire with landowners Alisha Taff and Barney Skelton, and how it affected their ranch goals and objectives. In addition, we will have a broad discussion of the details and approaches of wildland fire fighting with agency fire professional staff who assisted in fighting the Front Fire. Additional guest speaker will be Frank Davis, Professor, Bren School of Environmental Science and Management, UC Santa Barbara, who will discuss the ecological impacts of wildfire on the Central Coast.

The second site of the tour is the Righetti Ranch, located south of Orcutt. This ranch has been in the Righetti family since the late 1800s where historically private rancher led burns have taken place to reduce fuel loads and improve livestock forage. However, with prescribed burn logistics becoming more difficult on many fronts, it has been 15 years since a prescribed burn was executed on this ranch. In November 2018 a 400-acre prescribed burn was performed in partnership with the Santa Barbara County Range Improvement Association. We will be discussing the planning, logistics, execution and outcomes of the prescribed burn. Guest speakers include landowner Paul Righetti, as well as NRCS, and Mathew Shapero, Livestock and Range Advisor with University California Cooperative Extension, Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties.

A **box lunch will be served** at the Righetti Ranch at 1:00, where we will have Cal-PAC SRM members Marc Horney, and Theresa Becchetti, discussing Range Camp, which is held annually in Half Moon Bay. The future of this youth education program is at risk, and volunteers are greatly needed.

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Cal-Pacific Section Spring Meeting & Tour in Santa Maria, CA

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We will meet for the Field Tour in Santa Maria at 8:00 AM at the Santa Maria NRCS Office, at 920 E. Stowell Rd, Santa Maria.

We will carpool for the field tour, which will conclude back in Santa Maria at approximately 4:00PM.

Important: Please meet in the large parking lot behind the building as marked by the red outline below. Parking in front is reserved for building business's only.



Society for Range Management



CALIFORNIA-PACIFIC SECTION SPRING MEETING & TOUR – SANTA MARIA CA MARCH 27TH – 28TH, 2019

Name(s): _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Affiliation (please check applicable box):

- Cal-Pac Member
 Member of other SRM Section
 Non-Member
 Student

<i>Number</i>		Before 3/21	After 3/21
_____	MEMBER/RANCHER (full registration): includes dinner on 3/27 and tour lunch on 3/28	\$80/person _____	\$100/person _____
_____	MEMBER/RANCHER (tour only registration): includes LUNCH ONLY on 3/28	\$40/person _____	\$50/person _____
_____	NON-MEMBER (full registration): includes dinner on 3/27 and tour lunch on 3/28	\$95/person _____	\$115/person _____
_____	NON-MEMBER (tour only registration): includes LUNCH ONLY on 3/28	\$45/person _____	\$55/person _____
_____	STUDENT (full registration): includes dinner on 3/27 and tour lunch on 3/28	\$70/person _____	\$80/person _____
_____	STUDENT (tour only registration): includes LUNCH ONLY on 3/27	\$30/person _____	\$35/person _____
_____	Spouse/Guest (includes 3/27 dinner only):	\$40/person _____	\$50/person _____
Grand Total:		\$ _____	\$ _____

On-line Registration is available through PayPal on the SRM Cal-Pac website.

<http://rangelands.org/casrm/HTML/springmeeting.html>

If you would prefer to pay by check, please make the check payable to Cal-Pac SRM and mail with completed registration form to:

Devii Rao (Cal-Pac SRM Treasurer)
 31000 Airline Highway
 Paicines, Calif. 95043
 (831)637-5346 x 14

Calendar of Events

If you think there is an event that would be of interest to the Cal-Pac membership, send an email to katie@alt-me.com.

[UCCE—Shepherd Skills Workshop Pasture Lambing School](#)

March 2, 2019

Auburn, California

[Nevada Conservation Collaboration Network—Enhance collaboration skills.](#)

March 5, 2019

Reno, Nevada

[Holistic Management International—Holistic Financial Planning \(Online\)](#)

March 12—April 16, 2019

Online—*FSA approved in California*

[California-Pacific Section Society for Range Management Spring Meeting](#)

March 27-28, 2019

Santa Maria, California

[Western Section of the Wildlife Society—Drone Technology and Regulations](#)

April 9-12, 2019

Carmel Valley, CA

[California Ram Sale](#)

April 13, 2019

Porterville, California

[Central Coast Rangeland Coalition \(CCRC\) Spring Meeting](#)

April 18, 2019

Morgan Hill, California

[Bakersfield Ram Sale](#)

April 26, 2019

Bakersfield, California

[Elkhorn Slough Coastal Training Program—Data Acquisition in Geographic Information Systems](#)

April 26-27, 2019—Spatial Analysis and Modeling 1

May 10-11, 2019—Spatial Analysis and Modeling 2

Santa Cruz, CA

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Calendar of Events

[Western Section of the Wildlife Society—California Botany for Wildlifers](#)

May 1-4, 2019

Sedgwick UC Reserve, Santa Barbara, California

[UCCE—Shepherd Skills Workshop Wool Handling and Shearing](#)

May 4, 2019

Auburn, California

[California Sheep Shearing School](#)

May 6–10, 2019

Hopland, California

[California Cattlemen's Association Steak & Eggs Legislative Breakfast](#)

March 20, 2019

Sacramento, California

[California Cattlemen's/Cattlemen's Annual Midyear Meeting](#)

June 19–21, 2019

Rancho Murieta, California

[California Cattlemen's Association 2019 Feeder Council Meeting](#)

May 22–24, 2019

Coronado, California

[Cal-Pac Student Range Camp](#)

June 16-21, 2019

Half Moon Bay, California

[Western Section of the Wildlife Society—Catalina Island Guided Workshop](#)

August 5-8, 2019

Avalon, California

[Holistic Management International—Introduction to Holistic Management Whole Farm/Ranch Planning](#)

October 7–November 9, 2019

Online

[California Cattlemen's Association Annual Meeting](#)

December 4–6, 2019

Reno, Nevada

We want your input on future section meetings!

Given our geographically large and diverse Section, there may be options for meeting/tour locations that a Past President may not be familiar with. Therefore we would like to solicit input from you about places you would like to visit for future section meetings as well as topics you would be interested in hearing more about. If for some reason your suggestion is not able to be used for the next upcoming meeting, it will be kept for future meetings. Also if you would like to volunteer to help organize a meeting, please let us know as well through this survey. The survey can be found at: <http://ucanr.edu/calpacsuggestions>.

Range Camp 2019

Calling all High School Students!

Range Camp is an environmental science & management camp for high school students from across California. The camp takes place at the University of California's Elkus Youth Ranch in Half Moon Bay, CA.

Range Camp is a 6-day camp experience for high school sophomores, juniors and seniors who have an interest in the science and conservation management of natural resources in California. Students get an introduction to ecological principles, including characteristics and interrelationships of plants and animals, fire ecology, hydrology, geology and soils, and management of grassland, brushland, forest, and stream and river ecosystems. Field activities include learning to read wildlife 'sign', learning outdoor navigation with compasses, maps and GPS, forest management, visits to working ranches and conservation projects, and a beach BBQ.

"Range Camp has enlightened me. It has changed me. It has permanently made me a 'happy camper.'"
– Terilyn Chen, 2010 Range Camper.

For more information see the flier on the following page, or visit:

<https://casrm.rangelands.org/HTML/rangecamps.html>

Volunteers Needed

Range Camp is always seeking volunteers to help during the week of camp. All volunteers camp for free and meals are provided. If you are interested in volunteering to help make this event happen please contact Theresa Becchetti tabecchetti@ucanr.edu. You can volunteer for one day or the whole week. It is a great experience and definitely worth the time to invest in the lives of the students! The future of this youth education program is at risk, and volunteers are greatly needed.



RANGE CAMP 2019

35th ANNUAL RANGE AND NATURAL RESOURCES CAMP
JUNE 16-21, 2019 - HALF MOON BAY, CA

Presented by the California-Pacific Section of the Society for Range Management
To give 10-12th grade students the opportunity to explore the science and management
of our natural resources with experienced professionals and university faculty.

Sessions and Activities include:

- Riparian Habitats
- Rangeland Ecology
- Wildlife Management
- Soils
- Forestry
- Plant Identification



- Recreation
- Private & Public Lands
- Watershed Hydrology
- GPS / GIS Technology Applications
- Tour of Working Ranch
- Team Project Planning Competition



Cost: \$450

“Top Camper” Contest: Plant ID test, subject matter exam & staff evaluation

Top three placing students* given opportunity to represent California-Pacific Section, SRM at the Society for Range Management’s High School Youth Forum, in Denver, CO Feb 16-20, 2020 (all expenses paid for top two students). All participants receive t-shirts and camp completion certificates.

**Must be a current high school student in Feb '20*

More Information & Applications

[http://www.rangelands.org/
casrm/HTML/
rangecamps.html](http://www.rangelands.org/casrm/HTML/rangecamps.html)



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Julie Finzel
(661) 868-6219
julie@range-ecology.com

RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 26, 2019

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Full Page	\$100
2/3 Page	75
1/2 Page	60
1/3 Page	45
1/4 Page	30
1/8 Page	20
Column inch	10

Email Katie Brown at katie@alt-me.com for more information.

Newsletter Articles

All contributions to Needlegrass Notes are welcome. Please submit your articles and news items to: Katie Brown at katie@alt-me.com

Keep in Touch

Moved? Changed jobs? Or have a new email address? Don't forget to update your membership information on the National SRM website at <http://www.rangelands.org> and the California-Pacific Chapter by sending an email to Ling He at clarkia@hotmail.com. We will correct your email address on our email list serve so that you stay up to date on the latest news and happenings in the chapter.



*California-Pacific Section SRM
Attn: Theresa Becchetti
University of California Cooperative Extension
3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite A
Modesto, CA 95358*



Society for Range Management

We're on the web:

<http://casrm.rangelands.org>