

### Wyoming Section Officers

**President** Justin Derner **Elect** Rick Dunne **Past-President** - Joe Hicks **Secretary/Treasurer** Bob Sprentall **Newsletter Editors** Janelle Gonzales  
Kay Medders

**Council Representatives:** Northwest – Monte Bush Northeast – David Beard Southeast – Tom Thurow Southwest – DeMont Grandy

#### President's Message

“Adapting to Change.” As I write my last column as your Section President, I want to take this opportunity to collectively thank each Section member for his/her willingness to be a part of this wonderful organization that is adapting to change. It has been an exciting and invigorating journey from last year's Winter technical meeting in Hot Springs, South Dakota to the upcoming Winter technical meeting in Casper. For example, we have changed how the Council meets by utilizing innovative technology to host meetings without having to travel, and we have worked with committee chairs to establish action items to be accomplished. In addition, because of the tremendous hard work and leadership by the Council (Joe, Rick, DeMont, Monte, Tom, David, Aaron and Bob), you will find within this newsletter articles on changes regarding the structure of committees for our Section as well as for the financial strategy. These suggested changes will be brought before the entire membership for a vote at our meeting in Casper. Please join me in thanking Tom and Monte for their dedicated service the past two years, and Joe for his steady hand in guiding the Council. They have been a joy to work with, and the Section is much better because of their efforts. Also, let me thank Aaron for his yeoman's work as Secretary/Treasurer of the Section. He will

#### Volume 4, Fall 2005

be passing the reins to Robert (Bob) Sprentall following our annual meeting in Casper. Please be sure to cast your ballot for a new President-Elect and Council representatives to replace Tom and Monte.

Thanks to Rick Dunne and the Wyoming Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society for the fantastic agenda for the Winter Technical meeting (November 30 and December 1). Students from Nebraska and Montana have been invited to attend and participate in events/contests with students from Wyoming. I continue to be impressed with the dedication and ambitious spirit of the UW Range Club – keep up the good work Ira, Trevor, Courtney and Andrea. Congratulations are in order for the Renewable Resources Department at the University of Wyoming as they are now the #2 ranked Rangeland Ecology and Management program (behind only Texas A&M). Hats off to Rich Olson and Tom Thurow for their innovative leadership, the faculty members for their dedicated teaching and mentoring and cutting-edge curriculum, and the undergraduate and graduate students for their commitment to excellence. I would like to extend a big Wyoming welcome to Jessica Rose, a new faculty member at Northwest College in Powell. Jessica has been enthusiastically involved in student

activities while an undergraduate and graduate student at Texas Tech. She is beginning a club at Northwest College and will be bringing students to Casper this year, and hopes to have students attend the International meetings in Vancouver in February.

Lastly, let me again encourage everyone to update your profile with a current email address at the SRM home page (<http://www.rangelands.org>). Our electronic communication ability depends on having current email addresses to facilitate the distribution of information. Thanks are in order for Kay and Janelle for their outstanding efforts in converting to

an electronic newsletter and their dedication in ensuring the highest quality! As always, I encourage any and all questions about or ideas for the Section. Please contact me at [Justin.Derner@ars.usda.gov](mailto:Justin.Derner@ars.usda.gov) or 307-772-2433 x. 113. Thanks again for the opportunities this past year as we “adapted to change”. See you in Casper and join me in welcoming Rick Dunne as your new President of the Wyoming Section of the Society of Range Management.

*Justin*



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# Crazy Auction Items Needed

“Almost” anything is accepted - from Junk to Jewels. Please bring your donations to the Annual Meeting in Casper. The Crazy Auction is scheduled for November 30 at 6:00 pm. Please plan on attending.

**It is ALWAYS entertaining!!**

**Preliminary Agenda for WY SRM  
Annual Business Meeting in Casper  
4:35 pm, November 30, 2005**

1. Welcome and call to order
2. Minutes of previous membership meeting (Aaron)
3. Treasurer's report (Aaron)
4. Recognition of Aaron's service as Sec/Treas to section
5. Introduction of Robert (Bob) Sprentall as new section Sec/Treas
6. Old Business
7. Financial strategy options for section (Bob)
8. Committee reports (committee chairs)
9. Committee structure suggestions (Council)
10. Announcement of new section officers
11. Adjourn

**Please see next article on committee restructuring**

## **Committee structure suggestions**

The WY SRM Council has been discussing the structure of our section committees this year and has the following suggestions to offer to the membership:

- 1) Structure section committees using 6 divisions at National level (see table below)
  - a. Administrative Division
    - i. Awards and Nominations committee
    - ii. Finance/Budget (add Fund Raising as a subcommittee)
  - b. Science and Ecology Division
    - i. No committees
  - c. Member Services Division
    - i. Newsletter committee
    - ii. Historian/Archivist
    - iii. Membership committee
    - iv. Annual meeting committee
  - d. Professional Education Division
    - i. Student activities (add Scholarship as a subcommittee)
  - e. Communications Division
    - i. Information and Education (Range Management School would be under this)
  - f. Policy Division
    - i. None (handled by Council if needed)
- 2) The above structure in #1 would result in:
  - a. The elimination of the following committees:
    - i. Research Affairs
    - ii. Producer Affairs
    - iii. Public Affairs
  - b. The move from committee to subcommittee status for:
    - i. Fund Raising
    - ii. Scholarship

<b>National SRM Committee Structure (6 divisions of committees)</b>			<b>Possible WY Section committees within National Structure</b>	
<b><i>Administrative Division</i></b>			<b><i>Administrative Division</i></b>	
	Accreditation panel			Awards and Nominations
	Awards			Finance/Budget ( <i>add Fund Raising/Endowment as a subcommittee</i> )
	CPRM			
	Elections			
	Finance			
	Nominations			
	Range Consultants Certification Panel			
<b><i>Science and Ecology Division</i></b>			<b><i>Science and Ecology Division</i></b>	
	Rangeland Assessment and Monitoring			None
	Rangeland Invasive Species			
	Remote Sensing and GIS			
	Watershed/Riparian			
	Wildlife Habitat			
<b><i>Member Services Division</i></b>			<b><i>Member Services Division</i></b>	
	Annual meeting Co-chairs			Newsletter
	<i>History, Archives and Library</i>			Historian/Archivist
	Publications			Membership
	Rangeland Ecology and Management Steering			Annual meeting
	Rangelands Steering			
	Annual meeting Co-chairs			
<b><i>Professional Education Division</i></b>			<b><i>Professional Education Division</i></b>	
	Leadership development			Information and Education (Range School would be included here)
	Student activities			
<b><i>Communications Division</i></b>			<b><i>Communications Division</i></b>	
	Coordinated Resource Management			
	Information and Education			
	International Affairs			
	Partnerships and Affiliations			
<b><i>Policy Division</i></b>			<b><i>Policy Division</i></b>	
	GLCI Task Group			None (handled by Council)
	Government Policies and Programs			
	Public Affairs		<b>Suggest: deletion of Research, Producer and Public Affairs committees</b>	

## Wyoming Becomes Second State to Present Rangeland Management Schools

Under the leadership of Past President Joe Hicks, Wyoming has become the second state to develop and present Rangeland Management Schools to people interested in or making a living on western rangelands. The idea had been discussed by several Wyoming Section members for a few months prior to the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City and came to fruition shortly after experiencing a day of the successful and much heard about range schools presented by our neighbors to the south. Joe helped to organize a team of Section members from the University of Wyoming, UW Extension and agency personnel and the Wyoming SRM Range Management Schools were born.

The team developed a curriculum outline for a series of three rangeland management schools. Range 101 is a one day introduction to the art and science of range management and includes presentations on how plants grow, the time and timing of grazing, animal behavior, and simple, yet effective monitoring methodologies that can be used on private and federally owned rangelands. Most schools have also featured presentations from ranchers showing the methodologies included in their self-monitoring programs and the benefits they feel they have received from those programs. The first Range 101 School was presented in Sheridan in June 2004 followed by additional schools in Rawlins, Cokeville, Cody, Upton and Lander in the following year. Over 225 people from private ranches, interest groups and federal agencies attended these six schools and from comments included on the course evaluation forms indicated the schools were well received and increased the attendee's knowledge in one or more of the subject matters taught.

The first and only Range 301 School was presented in Sheridan this past June. This school presented a half day review and additional discussion of the topics covered during Range 101, a full day in the field for plant identification and a demonstration of and "hands on" practice of the monitoring methodologies introduced in Range 101 followed by a half day of low stress livestock handling techniques. Twenty-four students from both side of the Bighorn Mountains attended this session. Attending a Range 101 school is certainly encouraged prior to attending Range 301 but it is not a mandatory requirement.

Plans for the coming year are to hold approximately five Range 101 schools, some in areas of the state we have not yet held a school and to return to a couple locations that have requested a second class. The committee would also like to present two additional Range 301 sessions and introduce the first Range 501 school, all at or near sites that have previously hosted a Range 101 class. The full curriculum for Range 501 has not yet been finalized but will most likely include an extension of the topics included in the Range 101 and 301 classes plus introduce attendees to and provide a "hands on" opportunity to develop grazing plans for a ranch operation. If you are interested in hosting a school in your part of the state you may contact Joe Hicks at (307) 527-6921 or e-mail him at [jhicks01@fs.fed.us](mailto:jhicks01@fs.fed.us).

The success of the Wyoming SRM Range Schools is because of the hard work and dedication of a group of people. Those assisting with or making presentations at one or more schools include Blaine Horn, Paul Meiman, Barton Stam, Zola Ryan, Jim Waggoner, Tanya Daniels and Gene Cade from the UW Cooperative Extension Service; Grant Stumbaugh from the WY Department of Agriculture; Joe Hicks, Michele Buzalsky and David Beard from the Forest Service; Cheryl Newberry from the Bureau of Land Management; and ranchers/permittees Joel Bousman, Larry Bentley and Tom Anderson.



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## Filling the void...

### the Young Professional Conclave

- What will be the future of the Society for Range Management?
- Where are our young members going?
- What can we do to improve membership retention?

Year after year these concerns are expressed at every level of our organization. Last year, in Fort Worth, Dennis Phillippi took a new approach and gathered a group of young professionals together to ask them their opinion regarding the membership issue. This group voiced two common themes:

- Where do I fit in the Society?
- How can I become more involved?

The new Young Professional Conclave is an attempt to fill this void within the society at the national level. Following are some quotes from organizing members about the conclave.

“As a graduate student soon to jump into a career in Range Management and a new member, I really didn’t fit in with the student conclave, and yet I was not really prepared to immerse myself amongst the older and more experienced members. The Young Professional Conclave is great for those of us in transition.”  
-Tanya Thrift, Dillon, MT

“The Young Professional Conclave can provide additional responsibility, leadership skills, technical training, networking, and mentoring. It is an opportunity to have a more active role in the SRM so that young professionals can have a healthy mix between being a participant versus being a spectator in the Society.”  
-Jason Hohlt, Alice, TX

“The Young Professional Conclave opens a window of opportunity to a very dynamic and exciting world, and the sky is the limit!”  
-Wayne Dunson, Snyder, TX

The first annual Young Professional luncheon and symposium will be held in **Vancouver at the 2006 annual meeting**. Officers will be elected at the luncheon to lead this enthusiastic group of individuals in their quest at providing a smooth transition from a recent graduate, to an entry level employee, to an accomplished professional. All interested parties are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions, or to find out how to get involved, please contact Steph Sever at 406-994-3272 or [ssever@montana.edu](mailto:ssever@montana.edu).

### Young Professional Conclave-Symposium

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

8:00-11:00 a.m.

- 8:00 Welcome and Introductions
- 8:10 (Panel Discussion) Balancing Act: Career vs. Family-Jennifer Pluhar, Lance Vermeire, Chad and Amy Boyd
- 8:50 (Panel Discussion) Balancing Act: Field Work vs. Paper Work-Faith Ryan, Karen Hickman, Scott Fluer, and Jack Alexander
- 9:30 Break
- 9:45 What is SRM? An overview of the Society, its organizational structure, and the benefits of getting involved (national and local section levels)-Bob Budd

10:00 (Panel Discussion) What do we do and how to get involved?

-Board or Directors – Dennis Phillippi

-Advisory Council – Charles Hart

-Committee Chairs

- Award Committee
- Rangeland Assessment & Monitoring Committee
- Rangeland Invasive Species Committee
- Remote Sensing & GIS Committee
- Watershed/Riparian Committee

- Wildlife Habitat Committee
- Leadership Development Committee
- Rangeland Steering Committee
- Partnerships & Affiliations Committee
- Government Policies & Programs Committee
- Denver Office Staff – Ann Harris

***We gratefully acknowledge the exhibitors of the  
2006 SRM Annual Meeting:***

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Pawnee Buttes Seed

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Wind River Seed

Wyoming Livestock Review

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A detailed black and white illustration of a grass seed head, showing the long, thin awns and the base of the seed.



Wyoming Section

**SRM and SWCS Annual Meeting Program  
November 30 - December 1, 2005, Parkway Plaza, Casper WY**

**WYOMING VEGETATION:  
A 360 DEGREE VIEW**

**Wednesday, November 30**

11 a.m. Committee Meetings (if necessary)

**10 A.M- 12 noon- Seed Selection Workshop**

- 10:00 **Local Ecotypes**.....Jim Ozenberger  
Ecologist, Jackson Ranger District, USFS
- 10:30 **Local Ecotypes**.....Dr. Terry Booth  
Research Scientist, USDA Agricultural Research Service, High Plains Research Station
- 11:00 **Making Sense of Seed Transfer Zones** .....Richard Dunne  
CEO Wind River Seed
- 11:30 **Panel Discussion**

**The Forces of Vegetation Change in Wyoming**

- 1:00 p.m. **Introductions and Announcements**
- 1:15 **Climate Change Over 10,000 Years and Beyond**.....Jan Curtis  
Wy State Climatologist
- 1:45 **Wyoming's Dynamic Landscape: 10,000 Years of Climate Change, Species  
Invasion, and Vegetation Responses** .....Dr. Stephen Jackson  
Professor of Botany, Director of the Program in Ecology, University of Wyoming
- 2:15 **Vegetation Change Resulting From Man** ..... Robert D. Dorn  
Associate, Rocky Mountain Herbarium
- 2:45 **Break**
- 3:05 **The Genetic Heritage of Rangeland Grasses**.....Dr. Kevin Jensen, USDA-ARS  
Research Geneticist, USDA Agricultural Research Service, Logan, Utah
- 3:35 **Impact of Exurban Development on Plant Communities in WY**.....Dr. Paul Meiman  
Extension Range Specialist, University of Wyoming
- 4:05 **Nitrogen Saturation of High Elevation Soils, Impact on Vegetation, Micronutrients  
and Connections to Climate Change**.....Dr. Stephen E. Williams  
Professor of Soil Microbiology, University of Wyoming
- 4:35 **Annual Business Meeting**
- 6:00 **Social Hour and Crazy Auction**
- 7:00 **SWCS/SRM Annual Banquet, Dinner Presentation and Awards-**  
WY Dept. of Corrections Wild Horse Program..... Mike Buchanan & Joe Crofts

**Thursday, December 1**

6:30 Breakfast, exhibit hall

**Wildlife, Vegetation and Weeds**

- 8:00 Landscape Trends and Their Impact on Sage Grouse.....Bert Jellison  
Habitat Biologist, Wyoming Game and Fish
- 8:30 Fighting Weeds in Wyoming..... Ken Houston  
Soil Scientist, Shoshone National Forest
- 9:00 Weed Control in Revegetation..... Dr. Stephen Enloe  
Assistant Professor of Weed Sciences, University of Wyoming
- Poster Session, Student Rangeland Cup Competition.....Exhibit Hall
- 9:30 Break
- 10:00 Successful Ranchland Revegetation ..... Don Luse  
Wagonhound Ranch
- 10:30 Student Presentations, Student Rangeland Cup Competition .....Presentation Hall
- Demonstrations, Seeders, Mulchers, Contractors, Equipment .....Exhibit Hall
- Poster Session, Student Rangeland Cup Competition Judging..... Exhibit Hall
- 12:00-1:30 Lunch .....
- 12:20-1:00 “The Crossing, the Story of the Pioneers” ..... Dorene Ludwig  
American Living History Theater

**Revegetation**

- 1:30 Survey of Successful Mine Land Revegetation Techniques ..Dr. Brenda Schladweiler  
BKS Environmental
- 2:00 Why Revegetation Fails.....Richard A. Prodgers  
Bighorn Reclamation
- 2:30 Which Species Work & Which Don’t ..... John Samson  
Agronomist,WYDOT

**Reclamation Success**

- 3:00 History of Reclamation Success: Evaluation and Regulation...Dr. Robert Giurgevich  
Wyoming DEQ, Land Quality Division
- 3:20 Coal Mining Industry Prospective on Reclamation Success..... Laurel Vicklund  
Foundation Coal West, Inc.
- 3:40 Mine Land Reclamation, The Regulatory Approach ..... Dr. Carol Bilbrough,  
Wyoming DEQ, LQD
- 4:00 A Ranchers Perspective on Reclamation Success.....Chuck Rourke  
Rancher, Campbell County
- 4:20 Revegetation Success Panel
- 5:00 Adjourn

**Continuing Education Credits are available – 5 credits per day**



Wyoming Chapter

## Registration Form

November 30 – December 1  
Parkway Plaza, Casper, Wyoming

<u>SRM/SWCS Member</u>	Cost	Number	Total Cost
Before November 15 <sup>th</sup> , includes 3 meals	\$55.00		
After November 15 <sup>th</sup> , includes 3 meals	\$65.00		
Spouse Banquet	\$20.00		
I would like my registration fee to go to this organization    SRM___ SWCS___ Split___			
<u>Non Members</u>			
Before November 15 <sup>th</sup> , includes 3 meals	\$75.00		
After November 15 <sup>th</sup> , includes 3 meals	\$85.00		
<u>Just Registration – No Meals - Member or Non Member</u>			
Before November 15 <sup>th</sup>	\$50.00		
After November 15 <sup>th</sup>	\$60.00		
Total Registration Costs			

Banquet Choice (number of each)    Beef\_\_\_ Halibut \_\_\_\_\_

Name\_\_\_\_\_

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There is a block of rooms reserved under **SRM/SWCS** at the special rate of \$55. Please call the Parkway Plaza 307-235-1777 by **November 15** to receive this rate.

## Candidate Biographies

### President-Elect:

#### **Monte Bush**

Monte was raised on a farm/ranch outside of Riverton, WY. They raised Angus cattle, Suffolk sheep, Coors Malt Barley, Pinto Beans and Alfalfa. After high school he spent 4½ years in the U.S. Navy as a machinist mate onboard the U.S.S Michigan, a nuclear submarine. Upon completion of the navy he returned to Wyoming and received an Associate of Science in Range Management from Central Wyoming College in Riverton and a Bachelor of Science in Rangeland Ecology and Watershed Management from the University of Wyoming. Monte was active in the University of Wyoming Range Club and was elected the Secretary for the International Student Conclave of SRM in 2000 at the Boise, ID meetings. Monte has been a member of SRM since 1996 and has been actively involved in the state section. Monte works for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). He started working for the NRCS as a co-op student in the summer of 2000 in the Newcastle Field Office and in the Greybull Field Office in the summer of 2001. Monte then worked full time as a Rangeland Management Specialist in the Cokeville NRCS Field Office for a year and a half before being transferred. He is currently the District Conservationist in Greybull, Wyoming. Monte is married with a 5 -½ yr. old daughter and a 3 - ½ yr. old son. His hobbies include working with his horses, hunting, fishing and collecting 1960's vintage muscle cars and maybe someday restoring them . Over the past two years I have really enjoyed being on the Wyoming Section Council and I look forward to carrying on the hard work and dedication of the previous council members.

#### **Marji Patz**

**Education:** B.A. Range Management, Range Livestock Option, Chadron State College, Chadron, NE; M.S. Rangeland Ecology Watershed Management, Water Option, University of Wyoming; Laramie, WY.

**Occupation:** District Conservationist, Presently, USDA-NRCS Medicine Bow WY; Rangeland Management Specialist, 2004-2005, USDA-NRCS,

Medicine Bow, WY; Rangeland Management Specialist, 2002-2004, USDA-NRCS, Ogallala NE; Teaching Assistant/Research Assistant, 2000-2002, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY; Rangeland Student Trainee, 200-2001, USDA-NRCS, Valentine NE and Buffalo, WY; Ag Department Student Aide, 1997-2000, Chadron State College, Chadron, NE; Wrangler, 1996-1999, Eatons' Ranch, Wolf, WY. **SRM Affiliation:** Member from 1999-Present; participated on URME, Plant ID, Speech Contest, Student Conclave participant through Chadron State College, Graduate Student Member/Advisor for Range Club, University of Wyoming, WyRED Adult Participant and assistant, Past Member of the Government Policies Committee (National), Current Member Student Activities Committee (National) and Chairman of Student Display Contest (National), participant in development of Young Professionals Conclave (National)

Beyond my employment and participation in SRM, I am an active den leader for Cub Scouts, 4-H project leader, and provide riding clinics, judge progress shows and county fair classes for the horse project. I am active with the local literary club of Medicine Bow, and an active member of the local church. During the time employed in Nebraska, I was active in the State Range Judging Committee, assisted with setup, officiating and monitoring of district, state, and regional range judging contests. I assisted with the Youth Range Camp practice day and Range Judging Contest, for three years. Through my education I have prepared and delivered professional/scientific talks to the Tri-Societies (Soils-Crop-Agronomy), National Grazing Lands Conference, Society for Range Management, Wyoming Geology Conference, University of Wyoming Natural Resources Day, and other small events. I have been a participant in the National Team Tamarisk Conference as the representative for the State of Nebraska. There are several other activities and committees I have served in, hosted by the USDA-NRCS, Natural Resource Districts and Conservation Districts, and other outside affiliations. Over all, it would be an honor and pleasure to serve as an active leader in the Wyoming Section of SRM.

## Northwest Council Member:

### **Patty Slack**

Patty grew up on a ranch SE of Casper, Wyoming where she was involved in all aspects of livestock management. Her responsibilities included being the range rider for the cattle and shepherd, tending the cows and ewes during birth and monitoring the health and growth of the young animals. In an era when it was not kosher for girls to study animal science, she chose elementary education with the goal of being a rural school teacher. Graduating from University of Wyoming, she taught school in small towns and rural schools while acquiring her own livestock herd. She and her husband purchased a ranch near Kinnear, Wyoming and launched Sun Ranch Charolais. Registered Charolais cattle and Appaloosa horses soon took all of her time along with her children. Leaving teaching, she dove into the ranching business, her first love. Following the death of her husband in 1993, she continues to manage the ranch; leasing the farm ground has enabled her to follow her interest in range management. In 1990, she began her quest of obtaining a Range Management degree from the University of Wyoming. This led to a summer position as Range Technician with Shoshone National Forest followed by joining the staff at BLM's Lander Field Office. Becoming a member of the Wyoming Section, SRM, she found the information presented through SRM's publications and the Wyoming section's annual meeting to be a great help in her position of supervising livestock grazing and monitoring grazing utilization on the controversial Green Mountain Allotment. 4-H was an integral part of her early years giving her experience as 4-H leaders and assisting her FFA instructor husband and their children with 4-H projects and FFA activities. She is involved with the American-International Charolais Association, Wyoming Beef Cattle Improvement Association and Wyoming Water Development Commission's Big Horn/Wind River Basins long term planning advisory group. SRM has a great potential for involving diverse groups in a common goal of preserving our precious rangelands for generations to come.

Rangelands are a forgotten part of our western states. Little do people realize the huge load these areas carry in maintaining water and air quality, not only here but the affects it has on the nation as a whole.

### **Paul Meiman**

I grew up on a small farm in northern Colorado, the son of a college professor and mathematician. So, how the heck did this guy end up in Range, you might ask? My upbringing taught me the appreciation for two distinct, but equally valuable kinds of knowledge. One is the result of hands on experience that comes from years (or even generations) of "working the land" and the intimate tie that often develops between humans and natural systems. The other is science based, formal training and experience in rangeland ecology and management. This was/is a natural fit to the applied ecology emphasis of Range Management and led me to pursue and earn B.S (Univ. Wyoming), M.S. (Univ. Wyoming) and Ph.D. (Colorado State Univ.) degrees in Rangeland Ecology and Management. I have worked as a county extension agent for agriculture and natural resources in northwestern Colorado (3.5 yrs), as a support rangeland scientist for the USDA Agricultural Research Service in southwestern Idaho (2 summers) and as a research assistant and teaching assistant at 4 different universities. Two years ago I started in my present position with the University of Wyoming Department of Renewable Resources and Cooperative Extension Service as an Extension Range Specialist for Wyoming.

Our profession and our professional society must continually strive to appreciate and integrate the two forms of knowledge mentioned above in our quest to better understand and manage rangeland systems. In addition, we must work to re-establish our image within the scientific community and society in general by maintaining the foundation that makes us strong and confronting misconceptions of who we are and what we do.

### Southeast Council Member:

#### **Vicki Herren**

Vicki earned a B. S. in Fish and Wildlife Management from Montana State University 1991 and an M.S. in Wildlife Management from the University of Wyoming through the Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit in 1994. She then worked as a Research Associate for the Coop Unit on a mitigation plan for pronghorn from natural gas development in crucial winter range for 3 years. After a summer working as a Range Technician at the Kemmerer BLM office, she worked as a Wildlife Biologist there until 2000 when she transferred to the Rock Springs BLM office. Since 2001 she has worked as an ecologist with the fire program at the Wyoming State Office of BLM.

Vicki has been a member of the SRM for just the past few years and gave a talk about cheatgrass at the 2003 Wyoming Section annual meeting. She has been very active in The Wildlife Society since 1992 at the Wyoming Chapter and the Central Mountains and Plains Section levels, serving as Newsletter Editor, Secretary, and as WY Chapter President in 2004. Since she is still functioning as Past-President of WY TWS and cannot be in 2 places at the same time, she can't attend the WY Section SRM annual meeting. But, she is an active supporter of professional societies where members share, learn and work together on a myriad of land management issues. She currently works primarily on sagebrush ecosystem issues and is especially interested in cheatgrass in Wyoming.

#### **Matt Hoobler**

Matthew J. Hoobler is the Senior Policy Analyst for the Wyoming Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Policy Section. He has been with the department since 1999. His responsibilities include cooperating agency relations with federal land

planning, project level planning and implementation on natural resources, conservation of natural resource, and NEPA document review and commenting.

Matt is a key contact on offsite and compensatory mitigation of public land development, state cooperators agricultural issues related to forest level planning, statewide access and natural resource problem identification, oil and gas reclamation standards, and Preble's meadow jumping mouse delisting.

He currently serves on the Wyoming Natural Diversity Database Advisory Committee and the State of Wyoming Interagency Access Task Force. Matt is a member of the Society for Range Management and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

Matt received his B.S. from the University of Wyoming and his M.S. from Kansas State University. He received additional accreditation from the National Conservation Training Center, the Shipley Group, and the UW Haub School & Ruckelshaus Institute of Environment and Natural Resources.

Matt is the 2002 recipient of the Conservation Pace-Setter Award from the Wyoming Game and Fish Department and the Wyoming Department of Agriculture. He published over 60 articles on agriculture and natural resources in popular press publications, including *Beef Magazine*, *Western Beef Producer*, and *Farmer-Stockman* periodicals. Matt is the 1999 recipient of the National Critique Award for magazine editing from the Society for Professional Journalists.

He is an avid outdoorsman, hunter and angler. Matt and his wife, Beth, have a daughter, Jenna, and a dog named Stoney.

## **Wyoming SRM 2005 Ballot**

Vote for one person in each category.

### President Elect:

Monte Bush  Marji Patz

### Northwest Council Representative:

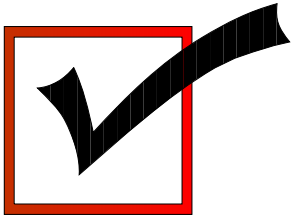
Paul Meiman  Patty Slack

### Southeast Council Representative:

Vicki Herren  Matthew Hoobler

**Ballots may be Mailed to Rick Dunne at 3075 Lane 51½, Manderson, WY 82432 or deposited at the registration desk at the annual meeting in Casper. Mailed ballots must be received before November 28, 2005.**

**The Newsletter is available electronically at  
<http://uwyo.edu/wysrm>**



***What's In This Issue  
Wyoming Section SRM Newsletter***

- ⊗ Message From President Justin Derner
- ⊗ Annual Meeting Program and Registration
- ⊗ Candidate Biographies and Election Ballot
- ⊗ And Much More.....

***Deadline for Winter Newsletter Articles: January 15, 2006***

**Wyoming Section Newsletter  
Society for Range Management**  
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