



BLUESTEM BULLETIN

Kansas Section, SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT, Newsletter
To Foster Advancement in The Art Of Grazing Land Management

Volume 13, No. 2

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dwayne Rice

President, Kansas Section, SRM

It takes two things to make grass grow one is moisture and the other is leaf area. One without the other isn't very productive. It takes two things to make an organization successful one is interested people and the other is active people. One without the other isn't very productive. If you are not currently involved with a Kansas SRM activity I urge you to identify an area of interest and contact me. You belong to the Kansas SRM because you are interested in rangelands and their management; get more involved so we can be productive.

The grazing management schools scheduled for August are filling fast. If one of the camps is in your area plan to stop in and visit with the participants and instructors. Bruce Wells and Duane Cheney are taking the lead and organizing these schools. If you know of anyone who might be interested in these schools let Bruce or Duane know.

By the time you get this newsletter, due to my tardiness not Walt's, the Rock Springs Range Youth Camp will have taken place. Doug Spencer has done a great job the last two years as chairman of that camp.

KAWS, Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams, and the Kansas SRM have teamed up to co-host a series of Riparian Area Seminars. We are just in the planning phase of these seminars and more information will be forth coming but if anyone is interested in being involved in these discussions or has speaker suggestions let me know as soon as possible. We are currently looking for speakers who can discuss the historical vegetation of Kansas streams and rivers.

The Fall SRM Meeting and Tour will be in conjunction with the Kansas and Oklahoma Chapters of The Wildlife Society. The meeting and tour will be in Woodward, OK on October 7 and 8. The meeting room will be at the Municipal Building.

Presentations will be Thursday and Friday mornings. Tours will be Thursday afternoon. A banquet and meeting will be Thursday evening. The Best Western will be the headquarters motel. Papers and presentations are being solicited. If you have any requests send them to me soon. Wind farms, Eastern redcedar, Tamarisk, and Old World Bluestem will all be topics of discussion. More details will be forthcoming.

Send me an email if you are interested in receiving SRM correspondence via electronic mail at dwayne.rice@ks.usda.gov.

Kansas Section Tour

June 3 and 4 was the Kansas Section of the Society for Range Management spring meeting in Auburn. This meeting was held in conjunction with the Missouri Chapter. Thursday we were given a tour of Wayne Copp's bison operation. He is implementing patch burning and grazing for his pastures. Wayne is working hard to control sericea lespedeza, musk thistle and brush encroachment. Wayne is also dealing with another form of encroachment, urban sprawl from Topeka. Many of Waynes neighbors have subdivided their farms for housing making burning and/or spraying to control unwanted species even more challenging. This is of major concern for many land/natural resource managers close to large urban areas.

Garry Harter

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**KANSAS SECTION
SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT
BOX 303 - MANHATTAN, KS
66505**

Dwayne Rice	President
Carol Blocksome	First Vice-President
Vacant	2nd Vice-President
Vacant	Director
Keith Harmony	Director
Karen Hickman	Director
Maurice Miller	Director
Joe Hecht	Secretary-Treasurer
Jeff Davidson	Past President
Pat Broyles	Historian
Walter Fick	Newsletter Editor

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Subscriptions to the Bluestem Bulletin are available to non-SRM members at \$5 per year. Send remittance payable to the Kansas Section, SRM to Walter Fick, Dept. of Agronomy - TH, Kansas State Univ., Manhattan, KS 66506.

We now have the capability to electronically send the Bluestem Bulletin. If you would like to receive the newsletter via e-mail please contact me at the above address or at (785) 532-7223 or whfick@ksu.edu.

Submission deadline for the next issue of the Bluestem Bulletin: November 1, 2004

PEOPLE ON THE PRAIRIE

A workshop entitled "People on the Prairie: Interaction Along the Rural/Urban Interface" was held on June 4, 2004 in Auburn, KS in conjunction with the joint meeting of the Kansas Section and Missouri

Chapter of the Society for Range Management.

Sam Albrecht, EVP of SRM led off the workshop with an update about SRM. Current membership is at 3828. Allen Press at Lawrence, KS will be publishing Rangeland Ecology and Management and Rangelands. Future SRM meetings are in Ft. Worth, Vancouver, and Reno.

Scott Satterthwaite gave an overview of the Watershed Management Section of KDHE. He was able to obtain 18 signatures for the Clean Water Pledge. Other speakers in the Kansas Watersheds section included Will Boyer, Dwayne Rice, Curt Walker, and Doug Norsby. Boyer discussed regional planning initiatives and the challenges of dealing with fragmentation. Rice and Walker discussed NRCS's Grassland Reserve Program. Norsby discussed urban development impacts on water quality.

The ecological impacts of fragmentation on the tallgrass prairie were discussed by Charles Lee, Don Althoff, and Ryan Higbie. Lee discussed wildlife concerns particularly the impacts of habitat fragmentation of grassland birds. Althoff shared information about the LCTA Project on Ft. Riley. He emphasized that fragmentation can occur on a very small scale. At Ft. Riley, Johnsongrass, sericea lespedeza, common honeylocust and American elm increased between 1994-2001. Higbie described changes occurring in Johnson County with the influx of more people each year. Farms are declining and being replaced by new home sites, powerlines, and highways.

After lunch the program emphasized carbon sequestration. Clenton Owensby, Scott Staggenborg, and Mark Nieman made presentations. Owensby talked about the importance of grassland soils in storing carbon. Improved management of native grasslands and CRP are important C sinks. Staggenborg discussed the role of cropland in C sequestration. Conservation buffers, cover crops, conservation tillage, and improved rotations can all play an important role. Nieman discussed CRP. There are over 34 million acres of CRP in the U.S. A large number of these contracts will expire in 2007. Current rules allow haying or grazing of one-third of CRP acreage in any given year.

Minutes - Kansas Section, Society for Range Management

President Dwayne Rice called the summer meeting of the Kansas Section to order at 7:15 p.m. on June 3, 2004 at Auburn, KS. He briefly reviewed the agenda and asked for any additions. The minutes of the September 24 meeting held in Hays were published in the Bluestem Bulletin. Walt Fick reported \$8,665.13 in the bank account.

Sam Albrecht, EVP of SRM, gave a report. SRM would like sections to standardize their dues. They are seeking funding to support special issue papers, career brochures, to help with the Washington D.C. office, and improve the website. Jeff Davidson moved and Garry Harter seconded a motion to provide SRM with \$1,000 to help publish an issue paper on rangeland fire. Albrecht announced that the Journal of Range Management will be renamed "Rangeland Ecology and Management."

The Kansas Range Youth Camp, chaired by Doug Spencer, will be held July 6-9, at the Rock Springs 4-H Camp. A Basic Range Management School will be held August 17-19 at Council Grove. The Advanced Range Management School will be held at Scott Lake, August 25-27.

Kansas Section, SRM Web Site: Fick suggested that Mike Haddock was willing to take over as webmaster for the web site. Carol Blocksome suggested writing up a job description and making the webmaster an appointed Section position. She will have the job description ready by the fall meeting.

Blocksome reported on the special meeting held on March 29. The lack of elections last fall were of concern but it was decided to carry over officers and wait until the next regularly scheduled time to elect new officers and directors. A change in the bylaws was proposed to have incoming officers/directors start their terms on January 1.

Rice reported on interest in watershed rehabilitation. Large amount of concern these days about non-native phreatophytes such as salt cedar. He has had communication with the Kansas Alliance of Wetlands and Streams (KAWS) about the issue. It has been proposed to have a joint meeting of KAWS, the Kansas Grazing Land Coalition (KGLC), and the Kansas Section, SRM to discuss the ecology of riparian areas and wetlands in Kansas. Could possibly have a series of 3-5 meetings across Kansas based on Major Land Resource Areas (MLRA) to address the issue. A grant may be needed to support development of the program for speakers and travel. KAWS would take the lead in

writing the grant and planning the meetings. Brian Obermeyer suggested a need for a biological survey of current land use in Kansas compared to land use around 1860 and aerial photos from the 1930s. Dale Kirkham emphasized the need to include management of the upper ends of watersheds. Hopefully we would have some input into speakers, etc. Jeff Davidson moved and Carol Blocksome seconded a motion that the Kansas Section, SRM be involved with KAWS and KGLC in developing riparian/stream zones meetings.

A brochure is still being worked on by Karen Hickman according to Keith Harmony. They are looking for good photos of SRM activities, research, rangeland resources, etc.

Fall Meeting: There is a good possibility that the Kansas Section could meet jointly with the Kansas and Oklahoma Chapters of the Wildlife Society this fall. They are planning a meeting emphasizing habitat loss and wind generation. President Rice will pursue this possibility.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. with a presentation of the Trail Boss Award to Walter Fick.

Respectfully submitted,
Walt Fick



Dwayne Rice presents Walter H. Fick with the 2004 Trail Boss Award.

BRIEF BIOS OF CANDIDATES NOMINATED FOR ELECTION

1st VP

Dennis Doring

Dennis Doring, graduated from Kansas State University in 1987 with a B.S. in Agronomy (Range Management). Has worked for the Natural Resources Conservation Service and been a member of the Society for Range Management since 1988. Worked extensively with livestock producers while stationed at Emporia in 1996, and again at Sedan in southeast Kansas beginning in 2000 and continuing through today. Has served as Range Youth Camp counselor, national SRM meeting volunteer in 1996 and 2002, and as a director for the Kansas Section.

Keith Harmony - Range Research Scientist, KSU Agricultural Research Center - Hays, KS

2nd VP

Charles Lee - Instructor and Extension Specialist, Wildlife Damage Control, Department of Animal Sciences & Industry, KSU - Manhattan, KS

Doug Spencer - District Conservationist, USDA-NRCS, Eureka, KS

Director (2-year term)

Elmer Finck - Professor of Wildlife Biology and Chair, Department of Biological Sciences, Fort Hays State University - Hays, KS

Sarah Neal - rancher, Cedar Point, KS

Bob Nicholson - Professor of Range Ecology, Department of Biological Sciences, Fort Hays State University - Hays, KS

Roger Tacha - Resource Conservationist, USDA-NRCS, Colby, KS

Director (1-year term)

Will Boyer

Will Boyer has been a member of the Society for Range Management since 1990. He has Bachelor's degree in Biology and Master's degree in Environmental Planning and Management. While working on his Bachelor's and for a few years afterward, Will worked for his grandfather on the family ranch in the Nebraska Sandhills. Will's other past work experience includes managing a watershed-based Natural Resources District with over 4 million acres of rangeland, and working on an interdisciplinary team to develop a grazing land water quality Extension program for Kansas. Currently Will is working as Extension Watershed Specialist in watersheds of the lower Kansas River.

Loren Graff

Loren Graff graduated from Fort Hays State University in 1990 with a B.S. in Agriculture. My career with the Natural Resources Conservation Service started in Barber County, Kansas in 1992 as a soil conservationist. A year and a half later, I moved to Osborne County, Kansas. In June 1994, I became the District Conservationist in Comanche County, Kansas and still maintain the position. I recently joined the Society for Range Management in October 2003.

Steve Kolarik

Chris Tecklenburg

My name is Chris Tecklenburg. I was born in Scott City, KS October 2, 1973. I graduated from Scott Community high school in 1992. Attended 3 years of college then joined the Army for 21/2 years. I graduated from Fort Hays State University in May 2001 with a bachelor in Biology and an emphasis in range. I was hired by the NRCS in August 2001 as a rangeland management specialist in Eureka, KS. In December of 2002 I was transferred to South Hutchinson. I currently work on the area 3 office staff, in South Hutchinson field office, as multi-county rangeland management specialist. I have been a member of SRM since August 2001.

FALL KANSAS SECTION, SRM MEETING

The Kansas Section, SRM will hold its annual meeting on October 7-8, 2004 in Woodward, OK in conjunction with the Kansas and Oklahoma Chapters of the Wildlife Society. The program will consist of papers and a field trip on the "Human Impacts on Prairie Ecosystems." The tentative agenda and registration information follows .

Pioneer Room, Woodward Administrative Building

7-8 October 2004

Thursday, 7 October

8:00-9:00 am Registration

9:00-noon Human Impacts on Prairie Ecosystems Symposium

Noon-1:00 pm Lunch

1:00-5:00 pm Field trip to windpower farm and U.S.D.A. Agricultural Research Services Facility

5:00-6:00 pm Business meetings for OKTWS, KCTWS, and KSSRM

6:30-8:00 pm Banquet (Josie Adams Cultural Center)

8:30-11:00 pm Social/Auction/Raffle (Josie Adams Cultural Center)

Friday, 8 October

**8:00-noon Continue symposium papers if needed
Contributed Papers Session on general topics related to wildlife and/or range**

Noon-1:00 pm Lunch

1:00-3:00 pm Contributed Papers Session

Please submit name of author(s), affiliation of the author(s), and title of the paper to Craig Davis either by email (craigda@okstate.edu) or fax (405-744-7824) by 10 September 2004. Please note if you wish to include your paper in the symposium or contributed papers session. Presentations should be given as PowerPoint presentations. If you require a slide projector, please note this requirement when you submit your title. Symposium paper presentations are limited to 30 minutes (includes 5-10 minutes for questions) and contributed paper presentations (includes 5 minutes for questions).

Hotel Accommodations

Lodging: Northwest Inn, 580-256-7600, located at Highway 270 and 1st Street; State rate of \$55/night for those attending the meeting. To receive the state rate, you must reserve your room on or before 27 September. When you make your reservations, mention that you are with the Wildlife Society Meeting.

Registration

Name:

Organization:

Society Membership: OKTWS ____
KCTWS ____
KSSRM ____

Address: _____

City, State, and Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Registration Cost (includes banquet, social, and refreshments at breaks). Please check appropriate boxes.

Regular Registration \$25 ____

Student Registration \$15 ____

OTWS Regular Membership Dues \$10 ____

OTWS Student Membership Dues \$5 ____

KCTWS Regular Membership Dues \$7 ____

KCTWS Student Membership Dues \$2 ____

TOTAL \$ _____

Submit registration with payment to: Eric Hellgren, Treasurer OKTWS, Department of Zoology, 430 Life Science West, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK 74078. Payment only by check or money orders made out to OKTWS. Please submit registration by 20 SEPTEMBER 2004 to guarantee a banquet ticket.

For further information contact:

Craig Davis 405-744-6859 craigda@okstate.edu or Mark Sexson 620-227-8609 marks@wp.state.ks.us

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- August 10-11 Nebraska Grazing Conference, Kearney, NE
- August 17-19 Introductory Range Management School, White Memorial Camp, Council Grove, KS
- August 19 KLA/K-State Ranch Field Day, Woodbury Farms, Quenemo, KS
- August 24 KLA/K-State Ranch Field Day, C&W Ranch, Smolan, KS
- August 25-27 Advanced Range Management School, Camp Lakeside, Scott City, KS
- September 8 KLA/K-State Ranch Field Day, Vaughn and Vaughn, Rexford, KS
- October 7-8 Kansas Section, SRM joint meeting with Kansas and Oklahoma Chapters of the Wildlife Society, Woodward, OK
- October 19-21 Fred Provenza Grazing and Animal Behavior Workshop, El Dorado, KS
- November 22 KACD Grasslands Committee, Wichita, KS
- December 14-15 Kansas Hay and Grazing Expo, Hutchinson, KS
- February 5-11, 2005 58th Annual SRM Meeting, Ft. Worth, TX