



Grazing our way to a healthy landscape.



Targeted Grazing Newsletter—February 2012

Hello Fellow Committee Members! If we did not see you in Spokane, you missed a great meeting! Many exciting things are happening in SRM and within the Targeted Grazing Committee and I hope this newsletter will be a good way to celebrate our success and inform members of upcoming events and opportunities to contribute. I want to extend a warm welcome to our new members and encourage you to become involved in our committee. We are one of the youngest, yet most active committees within the Parent Society. We are also one of the largest committees with 76 members!

We had a lot to be proud of in 2011 and we have an ambitious plan of action for the remainder of 2012. Look in the next issue of *Rangelands* for "Targeted Grazing: Applying the Research to the Land". This article summarizes the highly successful 2010 symposium of the same name.

We started off 2012 with another successful workshop in Spokane, "How to Employ Targeted Grazing on Public Lands" and plan to continue with the publication of an Issue Paper and Synthesis Paper. In an effort to promote multi-species use of rangelands, the Committee also helped sponsor the delicious lamb on the menu for the Taste of the Northwest. See the "Minutes" and features below for more information and ways to get involved.

If you have information to share with the committee, please pass it along to me for inclusion in the next newsletter. As always, I would welcome the chance to visit anytime, so don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Rachel

◆ [Targeted Grazing Committee Website](#)

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2012 Committee Meeting Minutes — Spokane, WA

We had 22 members present at the committee meeting in Spokane, WA.

- The first item on the agenda was the Issue Paper. John Walker has prepared a draft of the manuscript for the committee and is currently compiling edits into a final draft of the paper. John will act as editor of the paper and take it through the publication process. The cost of publication has already been approved by the Board of Directors and was re-introduced as an expense for the 2012-2013 Budget.
- Contrary to the opinion of the Editor of *Rangeland Ecology and Management* that the Targeted Grazing Handbook is sufficient, members of the Committee still feel that there should be a synthesis paper on the science behind targeted grazing published in a scientific journal. The synthesis paper was started in 2011 but lost momentum. Mark Horney of Cal Poly volunteered to assume editor responsibilities for the synthesis paper and push it through publication. Members volunteered to author or collaborate on specific sections of the paper. If you are interested in learning more about the synthesis paper and what will be covered contact Mark at mhorney@calpoly.edu for more information. [Potential journal outlets for the synthesis were discussed and Ecological Applications and Conservation Biology were the first choices.](#)
- [Derek Bailey invited the Committee to cooperate with him and other researchers on a symposium for the 2013 SRM meeting in Oklahoma highlighting the importance of animal behavior and grazing distribution to targeted grazing. The Committee will support the symposium and suggest speakers.](#)
- [John Walker brought it to our attention](#) that the NRCS publication "Conservation Benefits of Rangeland Practices" defined prescribed grazing and targeted grazing as identical terms. The Committee agreed with John that a formal response should be drafted by the SRM BOD to demand that NRCS

amend the document to remove the unification of terms and describe the managerial differences between targeted and prescribed grazing. More information and a link to the letter sent to the BOD is available on the Committee website. Board action and further developments will be distributed in future newsletters.

- Karen Launchbaugh volunteered to develop a memorandum of understanding between the SRM and American Sheep Industry Assoc. (ASI) Targeted Grazing Committees to enhance cooperation and avoid duplication of effort.

Targeted Grazing Workshop—“How to Employ Targeted Grazing on Public Lands”

I hope you had a chance to attend the Workshop sponsored by the TG Committee at Spokane! It was an incredible session and we had to bring in more chairs to accommodate the more than 100 attendees. Thanks to all the speakers, Dave Bradford—Range Specialist for the Paonia Ranger District on the Gunnison National Forest; Carl Crabtree—County Weed Coordinator in Idaho County, ID; Ray Holes— Prescriptive Livestock Services, Grangeville, ID. A special thanks to the additional panel members; Jim Wickel-Regional Range Specialist for the US Forest Service (Region 1) from Missoula, MT; Bob Bolton—Senior Rangeland Management Specialist for the Bureau of Land Management based in Washington, DC; and Tanya Thrift—Assistant Field Manager for Renewable Resources for the BLM in the Butte Field Office. The panel was a great success and once again we had to bring it to a close after the allotted time had expired. Undoubtedly there is plenty of interest in targeted grazing as well as plenty of frustration at the actual and perceived roadblocks that seem to stand in the way of targeted grazing on public lands. It is our hope that seeing the success of some of these managers in applying targeted grazing on their units will inspire others to explore using targeted grazing as a land management tool. Summaries of the presentations and the panel discussion will be posted on the Committee website soon. If you attended the session and have comments or suggestions for using the material presented, please let me know: frost@montana.edu.



Dave Bradford addresses a “packed house” at the 2012 Workshop, “*How to Employ Targeted Grazing on Public Land*”

If you have material you would like to share with the committee, please email: frost@montana.edu or call 406-994-4003.

