



Volume 3 **International Mountain Section Newsletter** September 2007
To Foster Advancement in the Science and Art of Rangeland Management

#14, 51313, Range Road 231, Sherwood Park, Alberta T8B 1K7
birving@ualberta.ca www.srm-ims.org

President's Message
Angela Burkinshaw

In This Issue:

- IMS President's Message
- Fall Meeting Registration Information
- 2007 Summer Business Meeting Minutes
- Officer Biographies
- A Moment of Remembrance for Alicia Hargrave
- Photo Assembly from the Summer Tour in the Blackfoot River Watershed, near Missoula, Montana

Greetings everyone; congratulations George on organizing a fantastic summer tour. Unfortunately, I could not make it as my summer tour involved a trip of a life time for my family to Ireland, England and Los Angeles. Preparations for the fall meeting have been made and I'm very excited to tell you we will be presenting a current and very pressing issue; ***Climate Change and Impacts on Rangelands***. This meeting promises to be very interesting and informative. New research from the University of Alberta will be presented by Dr. Edward Bork, Dr. James Cahill and Eliza Deutsch on grassland impacts related to climate change, along with a presentation by Dr. Walter Willms from the Lethbridge Research Centre, Agriculture Canada. Alberta Environment's Senior Advisor will be giving a presentation on Climate Change Adaptation in Alberta and Dave Downing will be giving a visually breathtaking presentation on how landscapes in the Northwest Territories are being impacted by climate change. We are also very fortunate to have Dr. Dave Sauchyn, professor of Geography, Research Coordinator for the Prairie Adaptation Research Collaborative and PARC/Manitoba Hydro Research Professor, from the University of Regina presenting. Dr. Sauchyn's main research interest is in the climate of the past millennium in Canada's western interior and what past climate can tell us about the climate to expect in the near future. He is involved in two National Centres of Excellence, the Sustainable Forest Management Network and the Canadian Water Network. He is a co-investigator in a five-year multi-disciplinary comparative study of institutional adaptation to climate change in northern Chile and the Canadian plains. Stay for the banquet at the end of the day and enjoy roasted striploin of AAA Alberta Beef and a presentation by Barry Adams. I hope you will take the opportunity to join us for this years fall meeting.

**JOIN US FOR THE INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN SECTION FALL MEETING
CLIMATE CHANGE AND IMPACTS ON RANGELANDS
NOVEMBER 1 AND 2, 2007 AT THE RED DEER LODGE, RED DEER, ALBERTA**

November 1 (Sylvan Lake Room)

7:00 – 9:00 pm Registration and Social

November 2 (Gull Lake Room)

8:00 – 8:30 Registration

8:30 – 10:00 IMS Business Meeting – Everyone welcome

10:00 – 10:30 Coffee Break

10:30 – 11:30 Dr. David Sauchyn Professor of Geography, Research Coordinator for the Prairie Adaptation Research Collaborative and PARC/Manitoba Hydro Research Professor, University of Regina
Climate Change Adaptation on the Prairies

11:30 – 12:00 Harry Archibald Senior Advisor, Adaptation, Alberta Environment
Climate Change Adaptation in Alberta

12:00 – 1:00 Buffet Lunch

1:00 – 1:30 Dr. J.F. Cahill, Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, U of Alberta
Ecological Controls in Grassland Communities: an overview

1:30 – 2:00 Dr. E.W. Bork, Associate Professor of [Rangeland Ecology and Management](#), U of Alberta
Ecological Controls in Grasslands: Tests of Grassland Response to a Changing Climate

2:00 – 2:30 Dr. Walter Wilms, Plant Scientist, Lethbridge Research Station, Ag. Canada
Effects of Climate Change on Mixed Grass Prairie

2:30 – 3:00 Eliza Deutsch, Graduate Student, [Wildlife and Rangeland Resources](#), U of Alberta .
Litter Effects on Soil Moisture and Forage Production in the Aspen Parkland.

3:00 – 3:30 Coffee Break

3:30 – 4:00 Dave Downing, Vegetation Ecologist, Timberline Forest Inventory Consultants
Landscapes of the North West Territories

4:00 – 4:30 *Wrap Up Panel Discussion on Climate Change Research*

6:00 **Banquet** featuring Roasted Striploin of AAA Alberta Beef and a slide presentation by Barry Adams

Registration before October 15th	\$60.00 CDN/US
Registration after October 15th	\$70.00 CDN/US
Friday program excluding Banquet	\$40.00 CDN/US
Banquet Only	\$35.00 CDN/US

Please make cheques payable to **IMS-SRM** and mail registrations to:

SRM Fall Meeting
c/o Jill Burkhardt
Public Lands
#211, 4920-51st Street
Red Deer, AB CANADA
T4N 6K8

*For more information call:
Jill @ 403-340-7118*

Please indicate the number of people attending on the appropriate line.

Full Registration Early Bird (postmarked prior to October 15 th)	_____	\$60.00
Full Registration after October 15 th	_____	\$70.00
Friday excluding Banquet	_____	\$40.00
Banquet only	_____	\$35.00

Student Rate is \$20 for the program only and \$30 for the Banquet

Name: _____
MailingAddress: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Total Registration Fees Included (\$): _____

The Red Deer Lodge will hold 30 rooms at a group rate ranging from \$104.00 - \$159.00 prior to Tuesday October 2, 2007. Call 1-800-661-1657 and ask for the Society for Range Management group rate.

Other Hotels nearby:
Black Knight 1 -800-661-8793
Ramada (403)358-7722
Capri 1-800-662-7197
Travel Lodge (403)346-2011
Holiday Inn Express 1-800-223-1993
Sandman 1-800-SANDMAN

Red Deer is located between Calgary and Edmonton on Hwy. 2. To get to the Red Deer Lodge coming from Calgary, exit on Gaetz Ave. North and follow till just past 43 st. Red Deer Lodge will be on your right hand side (4311- 49th Ave). If coming to Red Deer from the North take the 32nd St. exit and then Gaetz Ave. North (49th Ave).



Minutes from the Summer Meeting – SRM-IMS July 14, 2007
Lubrecht Forest, MT

1. Memorial reading and minute of silence in memory of Alicia Hargrave who passed away at age 26 on July 4, 2007. See fall newsletter for more details.
2. Reviewed minutes from the fall 2006 annual meeting. Barry Irving clarified that Brian Thrift was responsible for coordinating the review of the awards guidelines for the section. Moved by Lou Hagner and seconded by Tracy Brewer that the minutes be approved as amended. CARRIED
3. Barry Adams provided a financial update on the sections finances highlighting that section activities had been carried out with cost recovery and that section finances remain sound.
4. **Old Business:**
 - a. Range Youth – Mike reviewed the motion to improve youth programming. Action tabled to the Fall Meeting
 - b. The Prairie Conservation Forum (PCF) want to confirm a new representative from the SRM-IMS. Ed Nelson had asked to step down at the fall meeting. Harvey Buckley confirmed his willingness to represent the section and so we need to relay his contact information to the PCF. Action: Barry Adams to follow up.
 - c. Awards guidelines need to be updated in the section handbook to get the whole section involved in the awards nomination process. **Motion:** Awards process will be revised and a procedure put in place to involve the whole section membership. Principle award will be renamed as Trail Boss and the Excellence in Grazing Management Award will be updated. Revisions should be completed by the fall meeting. Moved: Lou Hagner, Seconded: Harvey Buckley.
 - d. Nominations for the parent society. Barry Irving is a member of the nominating committee and is seeking assistance in securing candidates. Tracy Brewer pointed out that self nomination is also possible and encouraged.
5. **New Business:**
 - a. Angela Burkinshaw will be organizing the fall meeting for November 2-3, 2007 in Red Deer
 - b. Mike Alexander is evaluating summer tour options for 2008 for the Stavely area in SW Alberta.
 - c. Nominations:
 - i. Lou Hagner nominated Tracy Brewer for 2nd VP
 - ii. Bret Olson nominated Katie Bump for Montana Director
 - iii. Barry Irving nominated Jill Burkhardt for Alberta Director.

Motion to adjourn at 9:15 am

Standing as a Candidate for the Office of 2nd Vice President, International Mountain Section

Tracy Brewer

I was raised on a family ranch in Ringling, Montana, where my education about rangeland management began. I continued my education in range management at Montana State University, where I graduated with a B.S. in Range Science in 1996. After college I worked on the family ranch and then for the U.S. Forest Service as a Rangeland Management Specialist until 1999, when I returned to MSU to work as a Range Research Associate. While working at MSU, I earned an M.S. in Animal and Range Sciences with a Range Science emphasis in 2002. I continued my education at the University of Idaho, where I earned a Ph.D. in Natural Resources with a Rangeland Ecology and Management emphasis in 2004.

Currently, I am an Assistant Research Professor of Range Science at Montana State University. My research and outreach efforts focus on enhanced sustainability of rangeland resources in rangeland livestock production systems, emphasizing grazing management solutions for wildlife and livestock to minimize conflicts and maximize positive relationships, habitat use patterns of wildlife and livestock, and using livestock grazing to manage invasive species.

I served as a member of the parent society's Nominating Committee in 2004-2005 and served as Chair of that committee in 2006. That experience helped me to understand the value and importance of the leadership in the Society at all levels, and made me understand the level of commitment involved by those that serve. If elected, I am committed to continuing the promise the International Mountain Section has made to be good land stewards and to educate others about the importance of rangelands and the sustainable management of them in the United States and Canada. Additionally, I will work for the members of the International Mountain Section to ensure that the section meets their needs, it continues to flourish, and that we, as a section, continue to advance as conscientious land stewards.

Standing as Candidates for the Office of Director, International Mountain Section

Jill I. Burkhardt, Alberta Director

I am originally from Cardwell, Montana, where my family raises registered Black Angus cattle. I attended university at Montana State in Bozeman and completed my B.Sc. in Range Science in May 2002. In my final year at MSU, I became a member of the Range Club. In 2003 I attended my first SRM International meeting in Casper, WY, and have been to subsequent meetings since. I also serve as the Alberta representative for our section to the Young Professionals Conclave. I was employed as a SCEP with the BLM in the summers of 2001 and 2002 where I worked out of the Lewistown (MT) Field Office. After graduating from MSU, I accepted a full time Range Management Specialist position with the Malta (MT) Field Office and worked there for a year. I am currently employed with Alberta Sustainable Resource Development as a Rangeland Agrologist in the Red Deer (AB) office. My husband, Kelly, and I live near Gwynne, Alberta with our two-year-old son, and have approximately 100 commercial cow/calf pairs.

Amy Ganguli, Montana Director

I was born in the range Mecca of the United States. Connecticut. After obtaining a BS in Wildlife Biology and Management at the University of Rhode Island I decided to venture west to broaden my horizons while pursuing a Wildlife M.S. degree at Texas Tech University. Within a short time of being in Texas, and being introduced to the field of rangeland ecology, I realized that I found my true calling. I joined SRM in 1998 and was immediately welcomed by fellow members in the Texas section and our parent society. After finishing my M.S. in range science I worked briefly as a research associate at the University of Idaho and headed to Oklahoma State University to pursue a Ph.D. in Rangeland Ecology. Upon completion of my Ph.D. in June of 2005, I began working as a rangeland ecologist for the Ecosystem Management Research Institute (EMRI), a non-profit organization based in Seeley Lake, MT. At EMRI I have the opportunity to work with private landowners, other NGO's, state agencies, and federal agencies on a variety of rangeland ecology and management issues.

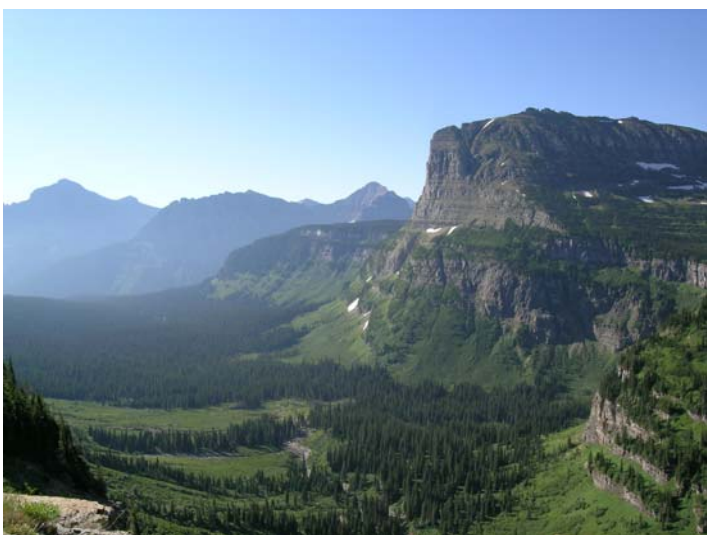
I learned quickly that SRM welcomes involvement from its members and have therefore had the opportunity to be involved and serve as Chair of several SRM committees in our parent society and Oklahoma section, including the Information and Education Committee, the Web Site Task Force, and the Nominating Committee. If elected as a Montana Director for the International Mountain Section I would welcome the opportunity to serve this section, promote the active exchange information and ideas, and encourage participation from our section members.

A Time for Remembrance:

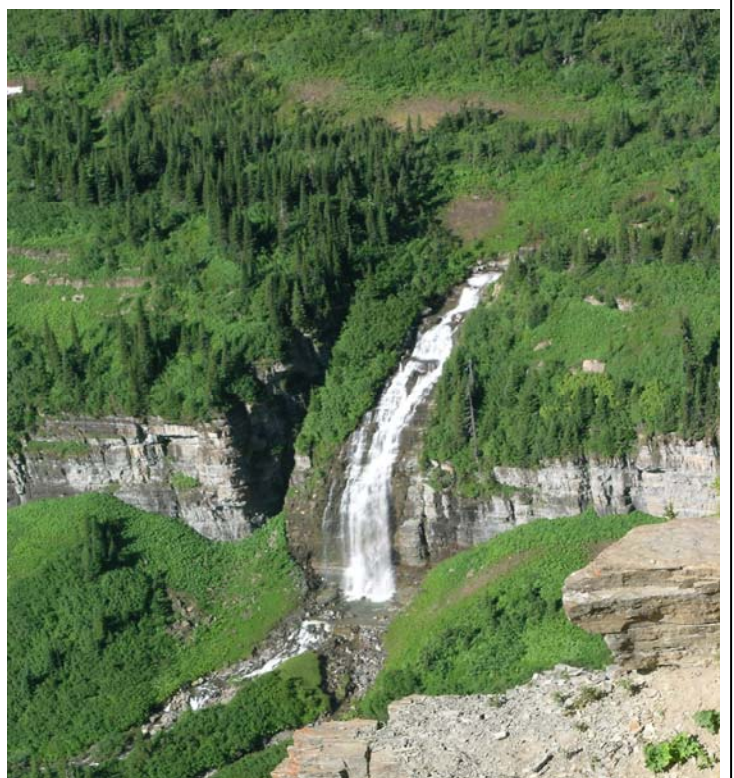
Alicia Nairn Hargrave was born September 1, 1980 in Medicine Hat. She passed away at the young age of 26 on July 4, 2007, in Calgary hospital from complications sustained in a riding accident at the Family Ranch. Alicia grew up on the Hargrave (JH) Ranch north of Walsh where she was able to continue to live a life she loved raising cattle and managing the native prairie grasslands.

Alicia began her early education in Irvine, Alberta, and graduated from Eagle Butte High School in 1998. Alicia was President for the Student Council and was involved in many sporting activities. She began her post secondary education at the Lethbridge Community College (LCC) where she played on the women's volleyball team and graduated with her Agriculture diploma. Alicia furthered her education and obtained a degree in Range Management at the University of Saskatchewan and graduated with distinction in 2002. It was during her university experience when she met her partner, BJ Haubrich. Alicia and her brother James took over managing the JH Ranch in 2005 and Alicia became very involved in minimizing the impact of gas well development on native prairie grasslands and the flora and fauna that thrived there. Alicia loved the outdoors and every aspect of the ranching life. She was contracted by the Saskatchewan Government and worked diligently to complete a series of field guides for the Saskatchewan Forage Council. While working on this contract, Alicia continued to manage the ranch with her brother and assisted BJ on his farm in Saskatchewan. Everybody who Alicia encountered was affected by her determination and giving nature. She had the astounding ability to keep in touch with the many friends she made throughout her lifetime and her ability to organize allowed her to be the perfect contact for many groups. Her traveling bug was inherited from her parents, Harry and Anthea and became one of Alicia's great passions. Africa, Mexico, Thailand, Greece and New Zealand were a few of the special places she visited in her lifetime, as well as the numerous trips made to Australia to visit family. Other activities Alicia enjoyed included photography, painting, music, and playing sports. She essentially did everything. All who knew her feel privileged and honored to have been inspired by her. Let us celebrate her life and let us allow her to give us guidance and strength. As an expression of sympathy donations may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society #102 Crestwood Square One, 1865 Dunmore Road SE, Medicine Hat, AB T1A 1Z8.

On the Trail to the 2007 Summer Tour in the Blackfoot River Watershed:



The scenery in western Montana on the way to the 2007 SRM-IMS Summer Tour was simply breath taking. These vistas were taken from the top of Logan pass on the Going to the Sun Highway.





Lou Hagener and Kelly and Jill Burkhart enjoy breakfast before the Summer Tour



The group listens to discussion on the merits of community efforts to jointly manage the Blackfoot River watershed.



A Ponderosa Pine hillside makes a great stop for lunch



Sheep are being used on an experimental basis on the Maddox Ranch for knapweed management.



1st Vice President George Hirschenberger provided breakfast for the business meeting, cooked in the traditional way no less..



Ed Mott, Lou Hagener, and Tracy Brewer contemplate discussion at the Business Meeting.