

New Initiatives and Ideas with Contacts (please see section website (<http://www.ag.unr.edu/esa/members.htm>) for e-mail addresses)

New international rangeland ecology journal

An SRM task force has already been established. Options include joining with SRM and/or other US and international organizations.

Lead contact: Lizzie King

Workshop(s) to identify land manager research needs and on-site workshops with managers (both general and problem-specific)

Contacts: Bob Budd, Bob Nowak, Tony Joern

Top 10 lists (for website and/or symposia)

- Top 10 things we've learned about rangelands (new knowledge that could/can be applied)
- Top 10 surprises
- Top 10 myths that many land managers hold about rangeland ecology (and those that ecologists hold about managers?)

Contacts: Dave Breshears, Sam Fuhlendorf

K-12 (and University) Curriculum Development

There are a number of initiatives underway. Please see the Society website (http://www.esa.org/education/education_section/) or contact Lori Hiding for information on ESA-led activities. Also see the EcoEdNet site (<http://www.ecoed.net/index.php>), and contribute to the course list on the Section website (<http://www.ag.unr.edu/esa/Education.htm>). The Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park in Las Cruces, NM (www.cdnps.org) has developed a number of teaching modules and curriculum units that are designed to simultaneously teach kids critical thinking skills and the scientific method while exposing them to desert ecology. Plenty of volunteer opportunities with these and many others. Are there other things that we could be doing, perhaps in collaboration with the ESA Education section?

Contacts: Mari-Vaughn Johnson, Jeff Herrick, Lori Hiding

More Ideas (from 2003 Savannah Workshop)

- (1) Increasing opportunities for international participation in US professional societies (contact: _____ Moffat).
- (2) Joint symposia with other societies.
- (3) Encourage ESA members to collect/report management-relevant data. Includes encouraging journals to publish these data, even if not essential to more

theoretical interpretations.

... And questions participants raised (from 2003 Savannah Workshop) – possible themes for future symposia, workshops and papers

How do we deal with sociological/cultural barriers to communication and science adoption?

What are the economic incentives and barriers to land use and management change?

Are demonstration studies effective?

How do we address the issue of economic and ecological risk when communicating new science/ideas to managers?

Is the “extension” system broken? What/who is the delivery mechanism for the 21st century?*

How can we work more effectively with existing extension (university, federal, state and private)?*

How can we get other ecologists involved?

How can we break down barriers between “range”- related disciplines?

What is the history of international collaboration?

What are the benefits of international collaboration?

Who will/can/needs to adopt new technologies and apply new knowledge to management (early adopters)?

What are rangelands?

Are there success stories we can highlight (e.g. SBI 2002 Symposium in Tucson)?

Is a goal of the section to change how humans interact with grassland, shrubland and savanna ecosystems (either directly or by enhancing the flow of information that can be used by others to do so)?

What does America (and the world) want for rangelands?

Which is more important for us to focus on: manager-driven research or interpretation for managers of new data (which may or may not have been generated in response to manager objectives)?

How can SRM help ESA and vice-versa?

*Sam Fuhlendorf and Linda Wallace are following up on these ideas.