Putting Prescribed/Targeted Grazing to Work on Rangelands and Forests at the Landscape-Level in the Western U.S. and Beyond

Section 1: Background

- **Dr. Marc Horney**
  Associate Professor
  Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
  mhorney@calpoly.edu

- **Cole Bush**
  Owner-Operator
  Shepherdess Land & Livestock
  Grazing School of the West
  bcb@shepherdesslandl.co

Range Management Advisory Committee

STATUTORY COMMITTEE

2021 California Code Public Resources Code - PRC DIVISION 1 - ADMINISTRATION CHAPTER 2.5 - Department of Forestry and Fire Protection ARTICLE 2 - State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection Section 741. CA Pub Res Code § 741 (2021)

bof.fire.ca.gov/board-committees/range-management-advisory-committee/

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Range Management Advisory Committee

MISSION & GOALS

The Range Management Advisory Committee was statutorily created by Section 741 of the Public Resources Code of the State of California to advise the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, the Resources Agency, the California Environmental Protection Agency, and the California Department of Food and Agriculture on rangeland resource issues.

POLICIES & REPORTS

2020 RMAC Strategic Plan

2022 RMAC Annual Report and Workplan

Prescribed Herbivory for Fuel Reduction

MEETINGS & WEBINARS

The meetings will be held in Sacramento, but are subject to change.

To register for a webinar, please see the Board of Forestry & Fire Protection Homepage or the appropriate meeting agenda.

RMAC News

THE NEXT RMAC MEETING IS SCHEDULED for Tuesday, March 19th at 12:30 PM in person at the California Natural Resources Agency Headquarters at 715 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 on the second floor in Conference Room 221-A. Members of the public may attend in person at this or other noticed locations (see agenda), or virtually via GoToWebinar. Please **REGISTER HERE**.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The RMAC is seeking two (2) members to fill seats for organizations representing rangeland owners. Current members in these seats represent the California Cattlemen's Association, California Wool Growers Association, Farm Bureau (pending vacancy), Wildlands, and U.C. Cooperative Extension. Interested parties should send a Letter of Interest and current Resume or CV to Kristina.Wolf@bof.ca.gov. See the Call for Applications for more information.

https://bof.fire.ca.gov/board-committees/range-management-advisory-committee/

Press Release

CalVTP HomePage

StoryMap

View this email in your browser

CalVTP Resource Library Available!
Information and Tools to Support CalVTP Implementation

The CalVTP is a cornerstone in California's strategy to increase the pace and scale of vegetation treatment to address the wildfire crisis. The CalVTP Program EIR is a powerful tool to expedite CEQA compliance for wildfire resilience projects and facilitate efficient permitting, including for the California Coastal Act and California Endangered Species Act. Since CalVTP implementation began in 2020, the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection has collected feedback about how to support efficient CalVTP use. To this end, the Board has prepared the CalVTP Resource Library, which features example PSAs and PSA/Addenda, mitigation monitoring and reporting program implementation tools, updated frequently asked questions, and treatable landscape calculator.

Please view the storymap for more information on the CalVTP Resource Library. The CalVTP Resource Library can be accessed on the Board's CalVTP homepage.

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ANNOUNCEMENT! The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection announces the release of new tools for efficient California Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP) implementation and Project Specific Analysis (PSA) preparation. Explore the CalVTP STORYMAP ⧉ to find out more about the valuable suite of tools and information in this new Resource Library. Find a summary of this information, including links to the updated CalVTP webpage, example PSAs and PSA/Addenda, new FAQs, and implementation tools, here: Information on the CalVTP Resource Library. ⧉

CalVTP Homepage

The California Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP), developed by the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, is a critical component of the state's multi-faceted strategy to address California's wildfire crisis. The CalVTP includes the use of prescribed burning, mechanical treatments, manual treatments, herbicide application, and prescribed herbivory as tools to reduce hazardous vegetation around communities in the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI), to construct fuel breaks (shaded or non-shaded), and to promote ecological restoration. The CalVTP Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) provides a powerful California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance tool to expedite the implementation of wildfire resilience projects.

Project proponents can use the CalVTP to comply with CEQA for vegetation treatments consistent with the CalVTP Program EIR.
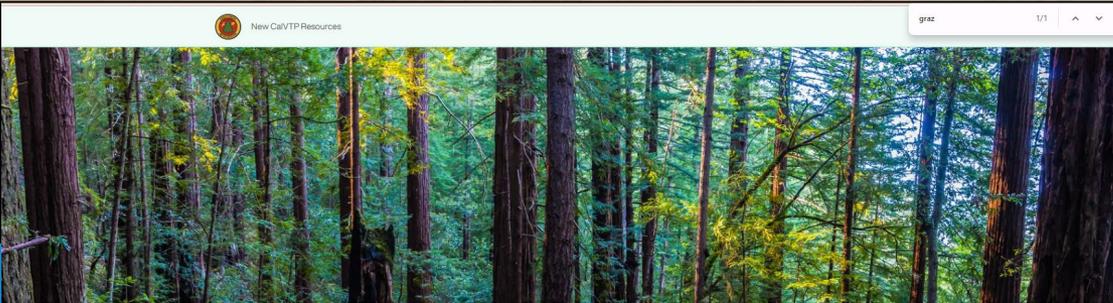
Who is a project proponent?
- Any local or state agency providing funding or having land ownership and/or management or other regulatory responsibility in the treatable landscape.
- This includes the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), Counties, Cities, Water Agencies, Special Districts, Open Space Districts, State Parks, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), Universities, Conservancies, and many other state and local public agencies.

AT-A-GLANCE: Navigating the CalVTP

See the At-a-Glance panes below to review the functions and information available in the four corresponding CalVTP topics.

🔥 Read the CalVTP Program EIR and Supporting CEQA Documents	🔥 Access the CalVTP Resource Library	🔥 View CalVTP Projects	🔥 Submit Your CalVTP Project

• Vol I: Response to Comments on Draft Program EIR
• Vol II: Final Program EIR
• Vol III: Appendices to the Program EIR
• Supporting CEQA Documentation
	• Example PSAs and PSA/Addenda **NEW**
	• MMRP Implementation Tools **NEW**
	• PSA Templates
	• FAQs and Other Resources **NEW**
	• Webinars Trainings
	• Additional Regulatory Streamlining Options
	• CDFW Contacts for CalVTP Projects ⧉
		• Proposed Projects Online Viewer
		• Approved and Completed Projects Online Viewer
		• Approved PSAs and Other Environmental Documentation
		• Download CalVTP Projects Spatial Data **NEW**
			• Treatable Landscape Viewer and Calculator Tool **NEW**
			• Review Data Entry Guide
			• Proposed Projects
			  ○ Online Submission **NEW** or
			  ○ Manual Submission of SPR AD-7 Form and Spatial Files
			• Approved and Completed Projects
			  ○ Manual Submission of Environmental Documentation and Spatial Files

Read the CalVTP Program EIR and Supporting CEQA Documents

New CalVTP Resources   graz   1/1

New CalVTP Resources

Information and Tools to Support Implementation

Overview of New Resources   Example PSAs & PSA/Addenda   Maximizing Usefulness   MMRP Implementation Tools

Overview of New Resources

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- **Dr. Marc Horney**

  Associate Professor

  Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

  mhorney@calpoly.edu

- **Cole Bush**

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  Shepherdess Land & Livestock

  Grazing School of the West

  bcb@shepherdesslandl.co

Section 2: Foundations

- **Dr. Stephanie Larson**
  UC Cooperative Extension
  Livestock & Range Management Advisor
  Sonoma & Marin Counties, California
  slarson@ucanr.edu

- **Dr. Kristina Wolf**
  Environmental Scientist
  Board of Forestry & Fire Protection
  Kristina.wolf@bof.ca.gov

Fuels Management

- **History**

- **Purpose**

- **Treatment types & activities**

- **Integrated treatments**

History of Prescribed Grazing

Production-focused Grazing

Overstocking, overgrazing, and a history of degradation in late 1800's and well into the 1900's. Historically extractive in nature

Conservation Grazing

1990's - Shift in focus to working landscapes and multiple ecosystem services, benefits, and uses
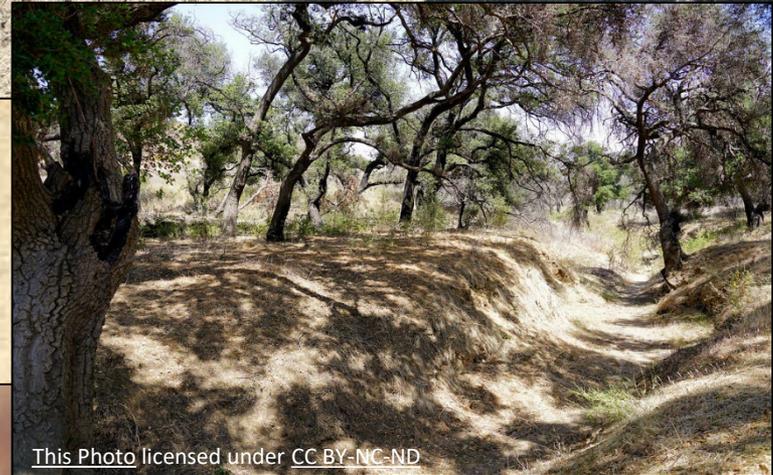
Prescribed Grazing

2000's - Focus on fuels reduction and wildfire risk management with continued increase understanding of ecological, economic, and social trade-offs

Purpose and Outcomes

- "Prescribed Grazing" for multiple outcomes
  - Increased efficiency
  - Improved production
  - Improved forage quality
  - Conservation goals
  - Ecosystem Services
  - Fuels Management: *Wildfire Risk Reduction and Mitigation*

- Dependent on:
  - context-specific planning
  - monitoring
  - adaptive management

- Considerations
  - Existing infrastructure
  - Sensitive resources (timing, location)
  - Climate & weather
  - Inter- and intra-annual variability
  - Concurrent land uses
  - Vegetation Type
  - Ecosystem
  - Adjacent land and uses

Prescribed Grazing for Fuels Management

- **Oak Woodland** to control ladder fuels and invasive plants

- **Recently Burned Areas** to control invasive plants

- **Grassland** to manage fine fuels and control invasive plants

- **Riparian Areas** to manage understory and decadent vegetation

- **Wildland-Urban Interface** to manage fuels in high-risk zones

Fuels Management

- **History**

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- **Treatment types & activities**

- **Integrated treatments**

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Why Graze?

- **Ongoing, repeat treatments**

- **Varying outcomes**

- **Social constraints**

- **Infrastructure and equipment needs**

- **Managing people and animals**

- **Potential escapes or damage to resources**

- **On-site constraints**

Other Treatment Constraints

Prescribed fire

- ✓ *Air quality restrictions*
- ✓ *Public safety, adjacent structures*

Mechanical and some **manual treatments**

- ✓ *Noise pollution*

Herbicide application

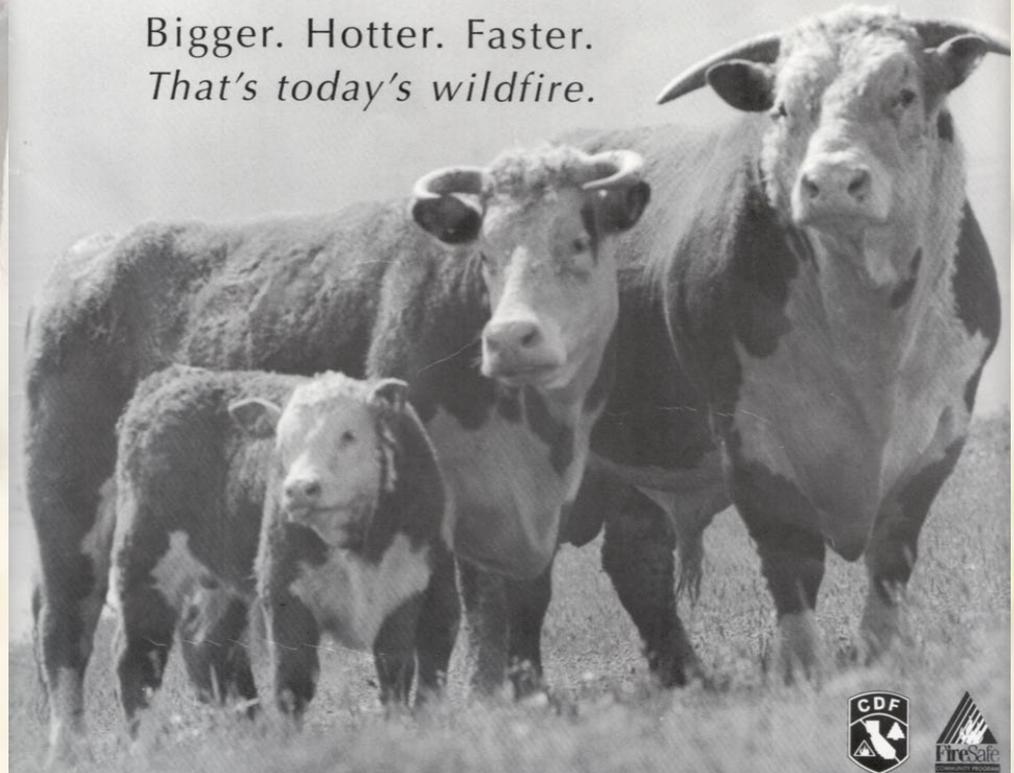- ✓ *On-site restrictions (waterbodies)*

Other Treatment Restrictions

- ✓ *Proximity to protected resources (e.g., riparian areas, sensitive floral and faunal resources*
- ✓ *Topographic limitations (e.g., steep and rocky terrain)*

Can livestock stop wildfire?

- Slow the rate of spread

- Reduce flame length and ember cast

- Increase accessibility

- Improve access and safety for public and emergency personnel

- Stop some fires

THIS FAMILY COULD SAVE YOUR FAMILY

Bigger. Hotter. Faster.
That's today's wildfire.

Courtesy of Lynn Huntsinger

DEMONSTRATED SUCCESS

UNGRAZED

GRAZED

SAVED

Credit:
Marshall
Turbeville
Fire Chief,
Northern Sonoma
County Fire

Integrated Fuels Treatments

- **Graze > Fire** to reduce risk of spotting and uncontrolled spread, improve personnel access

- **Fire > Graze** for long-term maintenance of fuel breaks and ladder fuels

- **Mechanical and/or Manual treatments > Graze** for long-term maintenance of fuel breaks and ladder fuels

- **Graze > Herbicide and/or Mechanical treatments** for spot treatment of invasive plants and resprouts

- **Multi-species Grazing**
  - **Horses**
  - **Cattle**
  - **Sheep**
  - **Goats**

Section 2: *Contact Information*

- **Dr. Stephanie Larson**
    University of California Cooperative Extension
    Livestock & Range Management Advisor
    Sonoma & Marin Counties
    slarson@ucanr.edu

- **Dr. Kristina Wolf**
    Environmental Scientist
    Board of Forestry & Fire Protection
    Kristina.wolf@bof.ca.gov

Section 3: In Practice

- **Dr. Marc Horney**

  Associate Professor

  Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

  mhorney@calpoly.edu

- **Dr. Stephanie Larson**

  UC Cooperative Extension

  Livestock & Range Management Advisor

  Sonoma & Marin Counties, California

  slarson@ucanr.edu

- **Matt Gabica**

  Prescribed Grazier

  We Rent Goats

  Idaho

  matt@werentgoats.com

- **Cole Bush**

  Prescribed Grazier

  Shepherdess Land & Livestock

  Grazing School of the West
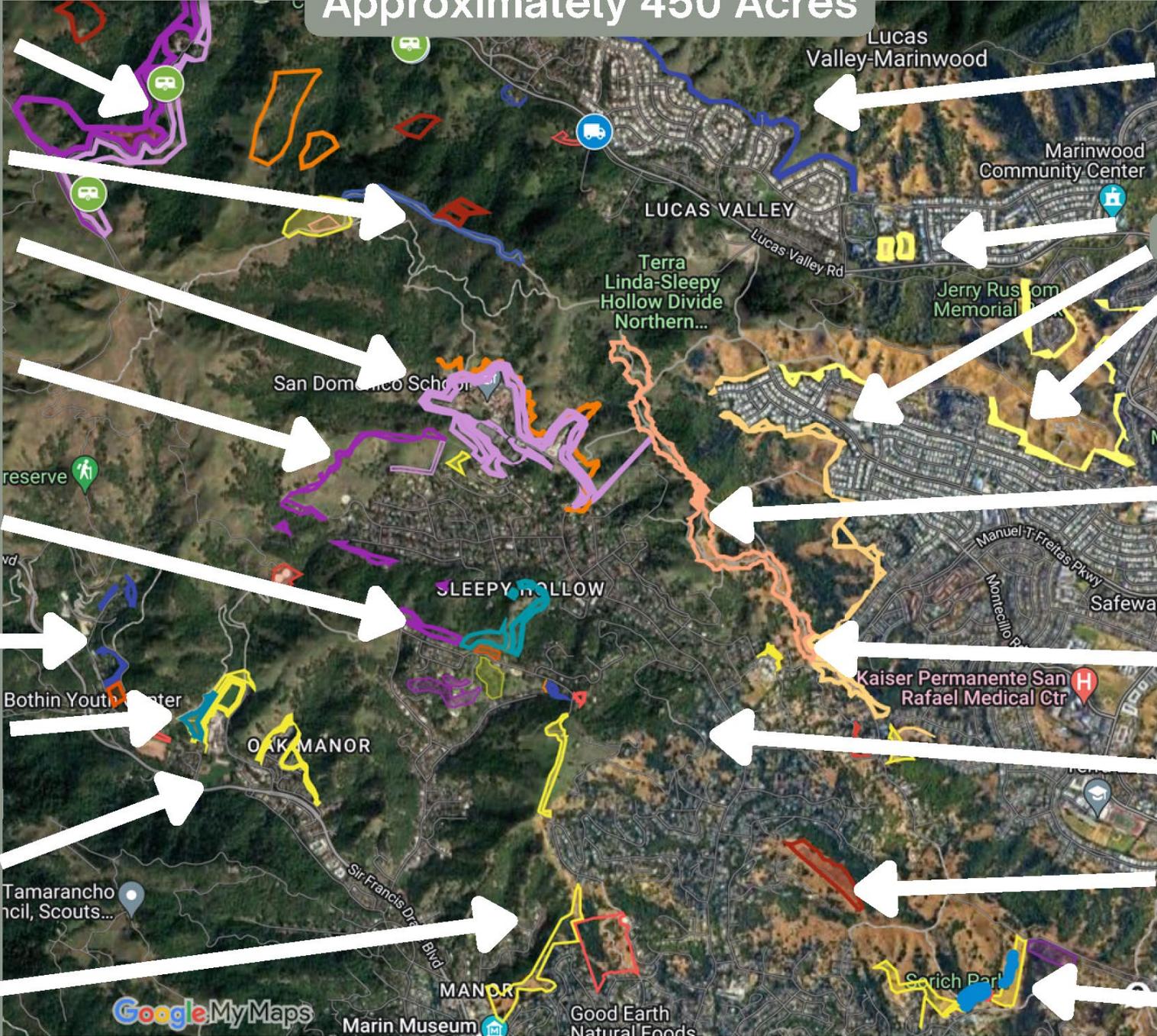
  bcb@shepherdesslandl.co

- **Bianca Artadi Shapero**

  Prescribed Grazier

  Star Creek Land Stewards

  Talbot Sheep Company

  starcreekland@gmail.com

Targeted Grazing Operation
Boer Goat & Dorper Sheep

STAR CREEK
LAND STEWARDS

TALBOTT SHEEP
CO. est. 1920

Commercial Sheep Operation
Wool & Lamb Production

Approximately 450 Acres

Private Ranch

Fire Road Clearing

School

Private Ranch

Private Home Owner

HOA

School

Regional Park District

City

HOA

Regional Park Defensible Space

Fire Road Clearing

Firefighter access and safety

School

Fire Protection District

Private Home Owner

City

Section 3: *Contact Information*

- **Dr. Marc Horney**
  Associate Professor
  Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
  mhorney@calpoly.edu

- **Dr. Stephanie Larson**
  UC Cooperative Extension
  Livestock & Range
  Management Advisor
  Sonoma & Marin Counties,
  California
  slarson@ucanr.edu

- **Matt Gabica**
  Prescribed Grazier, Idaho
  We Rent Goats
  matt@werentgoats.com

- **Cole Bush**
  Prescribed Grazier, California
  Shepherdess Land & Livestock
  Grazing School of the West
  bcb@shepherdesslandl.co

- **Bianca Artadi Shapero**
  Prescribed Grazier, California
  Star Creek Land Stewards
  Talbot Sheep Company
  starcreekland@gmail.com

Section 4: Beyond California

- **Matt Gabica**
    Prescribed Grazier
    We Rent Goats
    Idaho
    matt@werentgoats.com

- **Kelly Anderson**
    Livestock & Grazing Specialist
    Minnesota Department of Agriculture
    kelly.anderson@state.mn.us

- **Lee Sexton**
    Prescribed Grazier
    Sexton Grazing and Consulting
    Saskatchewan, Canada
    sextongrazingandconsulting@xplornet.ca

Section 4: *Contact Information*

- **Dr. Marc Horney**

  Associate Professor

  Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
  mhorney@calpoly.edu

- **Kelly Anderson**

  Livestock & Grazing Specialist
  Minnesota Department of Agriculture
  kelly.anderson@state.mn.us

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  Saskatchewan, Canada

  sextongrazingandconsulting@xplornet.ca

Direct Inquiries to:
Chair: mhorney@calpoly.edu
Board staff: kristina.wolf@bof.ca.gov
916-215-4947