

RANGE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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RANGE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, June 17, 2021

Teleconference

RMAC Members Present

Chair Marc Horney
Vice Chair Rich Ross
Bart Cremers
Lance Criley
Billie Roney
Sheryl Landrum
Katie Delbar, ex officio member

RMAC Members Absent

John Van Duyn
Don Watson
Kristen Murphy
Andreé Soares
Taylor Hagata

RMAC Staff

Deniele Cade, Licensing Analyst
Kristina Wolf, Environmental Scientist

Department Staff

None

The Board's mission is to lead California in developing policies and programs that serve the public interest in environmentally, economically, and socially sustainable management of forest and rangelands, and a fire protection system that protects and serves the people of the state.

Items appear in the order they were presented on the agenda.

1) Staff/Chairman's Report
a) Membership Updates

Four positions will expire in January 2022; we will want to address this end 2021.

2) Approval of April 2021 Meeting Minutes

Member Ross moved to accept the meeting minutes. Member Criley seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote for Approval of April 2021 Meeting Minutes:

Horney	Aye
Hagata	Absent
Ross	Aye
Cremers	Aye
Soares	Absent
Van Duyn	Absent
Roney	Aye
Watson	Absent
Landrum	Abstain
Criley	Aye
Murphy	Absent

With only 5 ayes, 5 absences, and 1 abstention, the motion does not carry, and review and approval of the April 2021 meeting minutes will be moved to the agenda for the next meeting.

3) Tahoe National Forest (TNF) replacing Range Managers with Biologists, Response from the TNF – Chair Marc Horney

Chair Horney shared a letter received from Forest Supervisor Eli Ilano (and copied to Leigh Sevy and David Fournier) in response to the letter sent from RMAC to the TNF in regards to range specialist positions being filled with biologists, rather than Certified Rangeland Managers (CRMs). The response letter will be posted online under the RMAC June 2021 meeting materials.

4) Central Coast Rangeland Coalition April Webinar Series, Part 4 Recap – Kristina Wolf, RMAC staff

Dr. Wolf gave a brief summary of the final day (4/29/2021) of presentations in the Central Coast Rangeland Coalition (CCRC; <https://ucanr.edu/sites/CCRC/>) webinar series: Cattle Behavior, Grazing Management and Technology 4-part Webinar. Tracking cattle behavior: How does it inform management? This final part in the series featured Dr. Mitchell B. Stephenson, an Assistant professor and Range Management Specialist with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Panhandle Research and Extension Center located in Scottsbluff, NE. Dr. Stephenson's workshop covered the utilization of technology such as GPS collars and accelerometers to investigate cattle grazing behavior. Recordings for all four parts in the series can be found here: https://ucanr.edu/sites/CCRC/Meetings/2021_Spring_Workshop_Series/

5) U.C. Cooperative Extension (UCCE) State Drought Programs for Ranchers Webinar Recap – Kristina Wolf, RMAC staff

Dr. Wolf gave a summary of information provided at the UCCE webinar that occurred on 5/12/2021, and facilitated by UCCE specialist Dan Macon, on drought programs available to ranchers and farmers, including Drought Management Options for Livestock Producers, Emergency Loan Program, Livestock Disaster Forage Program, Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program, Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2, and Environmental Quality Incentives Program. See https://californiaagnet.com/2021/08/21/disaster-assistance-to-ca-farmers-producers-impacted-by-wildfires-drought/?fbclid=IwAR2W3kPGcrYuvEiICQ3JjYlx7moJyKbXy77_AWO01cmamsleNHmwvX-K0gk for more information on many of these programs.

6) UCCE and Placer Resource Conservation District Webinar Series on Prescribed Fire – Member Richard Ross

Member Ross gave a brief presentation, including photos and links to resources, on the information shared and activities conducted at a March 2021 workshop on prescribed fire. All resources and links will be posted online under the RMAC June 2021 meeting materials.

7) Discussion of Dave Daley’s (California Cattleman’s Association) Written Testimony to the House Natural Resources Committee Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands Oversight Hearing – Chair Marc Horney

A discussion regarding Mr. Daley’s testimonial was conducted. Mr. Daley’s testimony by letter will be posted online under the RMAC June 2021 meeting materials.

8) Planning Update on RMAC Webinar Summer Series, and Save the Dates – Kristina Wolf, RMAC staff & Chair Marc Horney

The upcoming RMAC virtual workshop series was scheduled for July 29, August 5, and August 12th, and will run from 10 AM to 12 PM on each of those Thursdays, followed by an optional lunchtime discussion with the presenters from 12 – 1 PM. Speakers will include contract graziers from across California (northern, central, and southern regions), and their partnering organizations. Interested persons can sign the interest list at the California Fire Science Consortium webpage (<https://www.cafiresci.org/events-webinars-source/category/rmac2021>), and all interested registrants will receive a link to register for the workshop series once available.

Next meeting: Tuesday, August 10th, 12:30 PM

Meeting Adjourned.