

Proposal title: Transforming Public Rangeland Management Through Collaborative Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships

Proposed speakers:

- **Laura Van Riper**, BLM: Social Scientist/ROGER facilitator & **Jon Griggs**, Maggie Ranch: Owner & Manager – Transforming Conflict and Fostering Collaborative Action: The Results Oriented Grazing for Ecological Resilience (ROGER) Collaborative
- **James Rogers**, Winecup-Gamble Ranch: Ranch Manager & **Liz Munn**, The Nature Conservancy Sagebrush Ecosystem Program Manager – Collaborative development of outcome-based management alternatives: From value-scoping to policy creation
- **Taylor Payne**, Utah Grazing Improvement Program: Regional Coordinator & **Melissa Wood**, BLM: Sage-Grouse Plan Implementation Coordinator – The Three Creeks Grazing Project: Reimagining partnerships on public-lands from legal structures to adaptive management

Organizers: Kristin B. Hulvey, Working Lands Conservation, kris@workinglandsconservation.org & Taylor Payne, Utah Grazing Improvement Program, taylor.payne@utah.gov

Moderators: Kristin B. Hulvey & Laura Van Riper

Symposium Description: In the US, public rangelands support livelihoods and provide local people with a sense of place. At the same time, these landscapes are recognized as homes to wildlife and areas that protect open space. These benefits are valued not only by the people who derive their livelihoods from the land, but also a broader society. Despite the value of rangelands to multiple groups, divisions exist about how rangelands should be managed. Some of this division stems from differences in organizational culture, occupational jargon, and the unique constraints faced by stakeholders as varied as ranchers, agency managers, and research scientists. Additional tension is derived from past management strategies, which at times compromised livelihoods or ecosystem health. Such division blocks development of effective rangeland management by preventing stakeholders from advancing common objectives and implementing innovative management derived from sharing knowledge and resources. **In this session we will explore how multi-stakeholder partnerships are creating invested stewardship networks that can overcome division and lead to novel and durable rangeland management.**

This symposium brings together members of collaborative partnerships in the Intermountain West who provide insights on the challenges and opportunities of developing multi-stakeholder partnerships. In doing so, they will share how they engaged stakeholders across organizational and cultural silos to lay the foundation of their partnership. They will also highlight management innovations stemming from the hard work of both developing trust among partners and creating a shared vision of management objectives. Symposium topics span current management foci from outcomes-based grazing to time-controlled grazing. We will start the session by introducing principles and practices that are the foundation of multi-stakeholder collaboration, followed by team-presented talks that capture the differing perspectives of partnership members. Speakers represent a diversity of viewpoints from rancher to nonprofit to state and federal agency. Their roles in the partnerships range from manager to facilitator to regulatory agent to scientist.

The symposium will conclude with an interactive discussion designed to help attendees navigate the complexities of developing partnerships with a range of constituencies. We expect the discussion to

provide the seeds for future collaborations that allow partnership groups to communicate, share information, ask the hard questions, struggle through disagreements, and learn in order to develop solutions to rangeland management problems at hand.