

***The Art & Science of Stockmanship in Rangeland Management:
Asking Better Questions and Engaging More People
Tuesday February 18, 2020
1:30 - 3:30 pm***

Since 2015 there have been three Stockmanship Symposia at SRM Annual Meetings (2015, 2016, & 2018). This will be the Fourth Bud Williams Memorial Stockmanship Symposium. Stockmanship's value to range management is demonstrated with bison and wild horse management, livestock/range management in the presence of predators, range utilization, wilderness grazing with pack stock, and placing livestock. This year's symposium is not about answers, but the new questions for translating Stockmanship into practice to facilitate the transformation of range science. The questions that we have to start the discussion include: Improving diversity among Stockmanship practitioners; Do new technologies facilitate or antagonize stockmanship?; Do stockmanship skills, experience and techniques impact cattle placement?; Can reductions in livestock stress when applying stockmanship in rangeland conditions be measured?; How do people, livestock and predators interact when stockmanship is applied?; Are we meeting the needs of students, managers, scientists and ranchers in how we inform them about Stockmanship?; How do we make stockmanship affordable and accessible to more people?; and most importantly what are your questions?

Whit, Retta, and Derek will start with new questions (20 minutes), followed by Matt, Mike, and Kent wildlife, cattle, and equines (20 minutes), then Dave and Retta outreach and education (20 minutes), ending with a facilitated open discussion with the audience on the future and continued role of Stockmanship in Range Science (60 minutes). This Symposium will complement the Range Practicum, a hands-on training, at the National Western Complex on Thursday February 20, with a low-stress livestock handling experience by Whit Hibbard.

Asking Better Questions About Stockmanship for Achieving Range Management Goals

Derek W. Bailey, Ph.D. - Professor; New Mexico State University - Las Cruces, New Mexico

Matt Barnes - Rangeland Conservationist - Writer; Shining Horizons Land Management, LLC - Montezuma, Colorado

Retta Bruegger - Western Regional Specialist Range Management; Colorado State University Extension

Whit Hibbard, Ph.D. - Publisher of Stockmanship Journal (Former National Park Service Law Enforcement & Natural Resources Ranger), Rancher; Sieben Livestock Company - Helena, Montana

Kent Reeves - Range/Wildlife Scientist and Western Photographer; The Whole Picture and Rancher to Rancher Network - Mariposa, California

David M. Voth - Former Rangeland Health Coordinator; Nevada Department of Agriculture, Independent Traveler - Elko, Nevada

Mike Williams - Rancher; Co-owner Diamond W Cattle Company, Los Angeles County, California

Engaging More People to Transform Stockmanship into Practice

Facilitated Discussion with Panelists and Audience