



# 2013 Annual Meeting Agenda

## Rangelands Partnership

### May 12 - 14, 2013

#### SATURDAY, May 11: Anchorage

##### **Optional Pre-Conference Tour: Special fee of \$40 per person**

- 8:00 am Pick up at [Springhill Suites University Lake](#)
- 9:00 am Photo opportunities along Turnagain Arm
- 10:00 am [Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center](#)
- 11:30 am Photo opportunities in Portage Glacier Valley
- 12:00 pm Lunch (on your own) at Portage Glacier Lodge
- 1:00 pm Tunnel to Portage Glacier View Point
- 4:00 pm Depart for Anchorage
- 5:30 pm Dinner at [Sourdough Mining Company](#) (on your own)
- 7:30 pm Arrive at Springhill Suites University Lake

Remainder of evening on your own

#### SUNDAY, May 12: Anchorage

Day free around town on your own. Suggestions:

- [Alaska Native Heritage Center](#) (Free on Mother's Day)
- [Anchorage Museum](#)
- [Anchorage City Trolley Tours](#)
- [Anchorage Market & Festival](#)
- [Anchorage Walking Trails](#)
- [The Alaska Zoo](#)

- 6:00 pm **Welcome Reception** at Springhill Suites University Lake  
(Included in registration for attendees, \$15 per guest)
- 7:00 pm Presentation – Dr. Greg Finstad [Introduction by Norm Harris, Alaska]

**MONDAY, May 13: University of Alaska Anchorage, Consortium Library, Room 307**

- 8:30 am      **WRP Chair Greetings and Overview of Rangelands West 2013 Meeting**  
[Jeanne Pfander, Arizona]
- 8:40 am      **Introductions** [Norm Harris and Jodee Kuden, Alaska]
- Special Welcome
  - Meeting Logistics
  - Attendee Quick Self-Introductions (~1 minute each)
- 9:30 am      **Reports from the 2013 SRM Annual Meeting**
- Allen Press/SRM MOA, CEAP, Rangelands West presentations and discussions [Barb Hutchinson and Jeanne Pfander, Arizona]
  - SRM Outreach, Communications and Website Committee [Barb Hutchinson, Arizona and Lovina Roselle, Idaho]
- 9:45 am      **Morning Break**
- 10:15 am     **RP Year in Review - Project Reports**
- eXtension Rangelands update and overview [Rachel Frost, Montana]
  - Range Science Information System (RSIS) [John Tanaka, Wyoming]
  - Higher Education Challenge Grant (HEC) [Lovina Roselle, Idaho]
    - Catalog of Distance Format Rangeland Courses
    - Teaching Clearinghouse
    - Careers and Education
  - Wrangle [Cody Sheehy, Autonomy Productions]
- 11:00 am     **Presenting the New Global Rangelands / Rangelands West Knowledge System**  
[Barb Hutchinson, Arizona]
- 12:00 pm     **Lunch** (Room 307)
- Presentation by Dr. Jessy Coltrane [Introduction by Norm Harris, Alaska]
- 1:30 pm      **International Partners** [Barb Hutchinson, Arizona - Facilitator]
- Australia [John Taylor]
  - Sonora, Mexico [Felix Ayala]
- 2:00 pm      **State updates** [David Kruger, Wyoming / WRP Secretary – Facilitator]  
(~ ≤ 5 minutes each)
- Virtual/Online:
- Texas – Alyson McDonald
  - Utah – Beth Burritt

Written Reports:

- California – John Harper
- Colorado – Allison Level
- Nebraska – Dana Boden
- New Mexico – Cindy Watkins
- Washington – Tip Hudson

TBD:

- South Dakota

On-site Reports:

- Alaska – Norm Harris
- Arizona – Jeanne Pfander and Doug Tolleson
- Hawaii – Mark Thorne
- Idaho – Jeremy Kenyon / Lovina Roselle
- Kansas – Livia Olsen/Walt Fick
- Montana – Rachel Frost
- Nevada – Amy Shannon / Brad Schultz
- North Dakota – Nicole Mason
- Oklahoma – Chris Zou
- Oregon – Mike Borman
- Wyoming – Rachel Mealor/Dave Kruger

3:00 pm

**Afternoon Break** (Room 307)

3:30 pm

**WRP Business Meeting** [Jeanne Pfander, RP Chair - Facilitator]

- Report from the Chair [Jeanne Pfander, Arizona]
- Review 2012 Action Plan [Rachel Mealor, Wyoming]
  - Task Force for Hot Topics Development & Maintenance
  - Task Force on Incorporating Rangeland-related Agricultural Experiment Station Repository Records into GR/RW Database
  - Task Force for Recruiting Canadian institutions into RW/GR
  - Task Force for Revised Bylaws for RWP
- Secretary-Treasurer report [David Kruger, Wyoming]
- Election of new Secretary-Treasurer [Jeanne Pfander]
- Administrative Update on WERA [John Tanaka, Wyoming]
- Other business?
- Transition to 2013/2014 Executive Team [Jeanne Pfander / Rachel Mealor]
- Announcement of Locations for 2014 & 2015 RP meetings [Rachel Mealor]

4:30 pm

**Logistics for evening and next day** [Jodee Kuden / Norm Harris]

4:45 pm

**Adjourn for the day**

5:30 pm

**Dinner** at [Snow Goose Café](#) (on your own) followed by **Transport to Palmer** ([Eagle Hotel](#))

## **TUESDAY, May 14: Mat-Su College and Matanuska Experiment Farm, Palmer**

- 8:00 am      **Welcome Back and Logistics for the Day (Mat-Su College, FSM 104)** [Norm Harris, Alaska]
- 8:15 am      **Partnership Member Site** [Ann Tanaka, Wyoming]
- Social Media, Multimedia & Ranking** [Sheila Merrigan, Arizona]
- Phase 2 for Global Rangelands / Rangelands West and State Rangelands Websites: New Developments, Feedback & Next Steps**  
                 [Matt Rahr, AZ]
- 9:45 am      **Morning Break**
- 10:00 am     **Hands-on Workshop & Webinar (Mat-Su College, FSM 104)** [Kelly Arizmendi, Matt Rahr, Sheila Merrigan, Arizona]
- Learn about the new Rangelands West data entry system and how to add your local/state records to the Rangelands West/Global Rangelands database. (BE PREPARED! Bring a list of your local state rangelands resources to add!)
- 11:00 am     **Concurrent Working Meetings**
- “Hosted by UA” State Websites meeting [Kelly Arizmendi, Arizona]
  - Using LibGuides for Your State Site [Amy Shannon, Nevada]
  - eXtension [John Tanaka, Wyoming]
  - "Get It Done" Work Time: Others continue to add records to the Rangelands West database and work on state sites, etc.
- 12:00 pm     **Lunch** (Matanuska Farm)
- Presentation by Dr. Talis Colberg [Introduction by Norm Harris]
- 1:30 pm      **Hot Topics Sections, Multimedia, and State Site Issues (Mess Hall)**  
                 [Facilitator- Barb Hutchinson]
- 2:30 pm      **Brainstorming for Our Future (Mess Hall)** [Facilitators –Jeanne Pfander / Rachel Mealor]
- (a) What other content/collections might we want to add to the database?  
                 (b) What other unique content might we want to develop for the portals?  
                 (c) Is there additional functionality that is needed to improve the usefulness of the portals?  
                 (d) What funding opportunities are available to us for gaining additional support in the future?
- 3:00 pm      **Afternoon Break**

- 3:30 pm      **Action Planning: Turning Ideas into Next Steps (Mess Hall)** [Facilitators - Rachel Mealor / David Kruger]
- 4:30 pm      **Closing Session / Wrap-up (Mess Hall)** [Rachel Mealor, 2013/2014 RP Chair]
- 5:00 pm      **Adjourn**
- 6:00 pm      **Dinner & Entertainment at the Matanuska Experiment Farm**  
(Included in registration for attendees, \$15 per guest)

**WEDNESDAY, May 15 : Optional Post-Conference Tour – Matanuska Valley**

(Special fee of \$55 per person; box lunch included)

- 8:30 am      **Pick up at Eagle Hotel**
- 9:00 am      [Reindeer Farm Tour](#)
- 10:30 am     [Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources Plant Materials Center](#)
- 12:30 pm     [Musk Ox Farm Tour](#)
- 2:00 pm      Moose Range – Dr. William Collins
- 3:30 pm      [Independence Mine State Historical Park](#)
- 5:00 p.m.     **Return to Eagle Hotel**

**Guest Speaker Bios / Links:**

- Dr. Greg Finstad – Program Manager UAF Reindeer Research, Associate Professor of Range Ecology. Greg received his B.S. in Wildlife Management in 1981 followed by a Ph.D. in Range Ecology in 2008, both from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Greg has been working and living with Native Alaskans for over 30 years. As the manager for the UAF Reindeer Research Program, he has worked with the herders of the Seward Peninsula for 25 years and is the driving force behind the collaborative nature of the program. Greg recently developed the High Latitude Range Management Certification program operated out of the UAF Northwest Campus in Nome. An avid runner, Greg has completed several marathons including the Boston Marathon this year.
- Dr. Jessy Coltrane – Area Biologist (Anchorage), Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game. Jessy grew up the daughter of an oil company pilot in Saudi Arabia. She went to boarding school in New Jersey then college in North Carolina and Florida. She worked as a biologist in Central America and South America for about seven years before she moved to Alaska. She became the city's area biologist in March of 2011 after nine summers of work with the former area biologist Rick Sinnott who retired. Jessy received a Ph.D. in Wildlife Biology in 2012 from the University of Alaska Fairbanks for her work in porcupine physiology. She is also an avid runner in her spare time.

- Dr. Talis Colberg – Director of UAA MatSu College. Chancellor Fran Ulmer appointed Talis as the tenth director of the Matanuska-Susitna College in August of 2010. Talis is a third generation Alaskan born in the Territory of Alaska in 1958. He graduated from Palmer High School in 1976, Pacific Lutheran University in 1979 and Pepperdine University School of Law in 1983. He earned a Ph.D. in Northern Political History and Culture from the University of Alaska Fairbanks in 2008. Governor Palin appointed him as the twentieth Attorney General for Alaska in 2006. He has also been twice elected to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly and twice elected as borough mayor. He has been president of both the Alaska State Fair Board and the Palmer Rotary Club. In addition he served twice as Chair of the Alaska State Humanities Forum and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Alaska SeaLife Center. He has been a history instructor at the college since 1992. He continues to teach history while serving as director.
- Shonti Elder – Fiddler, singer, and teacher in Wasilla, Alaska. Shonti was born to American parents in India who chose a common Sanskrit name for her which means “peace”. She was in the Oberlin College (Ohio) orchestra, and upon moving to Boston for graduate school, she and a friend discovered bluegrass music at a festival in Union Grove, North Carolina. She and some friends went to Alaska for a planned six week vacation in 1977, but she’s still here. Shonti became a folk music program host on KSKA Anchorage Public Radio (FM 91.1) in 1978, and has had a program ever since. Her current show is Traveling Music on Sunday afternoons. In 1994 she went back to school and switched careers to become a public school music teacher. For the last ten years, Shonti’s taught choir and orchestra in the Eagle River area. She has made two recordings of original songs with her Fairbanks friend Will Putman called Northwords and Homefires.
- Bill Collins – Research Wildlife Biologist, Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game. Bill received a B.S. in Range Management from Brigham Young University in 1974. He then completed his M.S. in 1977 and Ph.D. in 1979 from Utah State University. Both degrees were in Range Science. He worked for the University of Alaska Fairbanks as an instructor and professor from 1980 – 1987 where he developed an undergraduate course in range management. In 1988 he joined the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game. Bill mainly works on moose and caribou nutritional issues using captive animals based at the UAF Matanuska Experiment Farm. His unusual solutions to problems lead one former boss to refer to him as “MacGyver with a Ph.D.”. For fun, Collins used to compete in wilderness races.