H.E. Mr. Bolorchuluun Khayangaa

Minister of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry of Mongolia (MoFALI)

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 I, Tyler Swan, President of the South Dakota Section of the Society for Range Management, am writing you requesting that our organization be recognized as a partner to the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP) in 2026. Our organization is committed to promoting the sustainable use of rangelands through professional development and education of its members and the public. We strive to recruit others into the fold of rangeland conservation, and the IYRP exemplifies this mission on a global level.

 Each year, the South Dakota Section conducts tours for our producers who have been awarded the Excellence in Range Management status for their region in our state. These tours are open to the public and highlight the operations that adhere to our goals of optimizing the ecological services in their area and their general stewardship of our state’s rangeland resources. Our organization also collaborates with other conservation-based groups in South Dakota, like the Grassland Coalition, to have a greater impact on all grazing lands. Another primary activity of our organization are the annual Rangeland and Soil Days judging contests. These events seek to involve the youth in our conservation efforts; by teaching them how to compare the current state of rangelands and the soil horizons to those prior to pioneer influence. With this information, the students must then determine which management options will benefit the landscape to better meet the operator’s goals. Events like these allow our organization to interact with the public and align with the outreach goals of the IYRP.

 Our organization is primarily dedicated to the conservation of rangelands in our Section’s area: South Dakota. The IYRP is an incredible opportunity for outreach opportunity for ALL sections of the Society for Range Management, and many other organizations across the globe. The SD Section of SRM is capable of in-kind support in the form of volunteer hours from our members to promote the goals of the 2026 International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists in our territory.

Respectfully submitted,

Tyler Swan

SD SRM Section President

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