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Colleagues and Clients:

I think you will be interested in the following events and suggestions related to rangeland conservation and grazing management:

1. California-Pacific Section, Society for Range Management, Fall Meeting, November 12, 2016, Susanville, CA

This meeting and field tour will focus on rangeland management issues in Northeastern California and the Great Basin, including fire, wild horses and burros, sage grouse, drought, and restoration. It will be held on Thursday, November 12, 2015 9:00am – 9:00pm at the Susanville Elk's Lodge, 400 Main St, Susanville, CA.

Pre-register through Allen Press online at <http://srm.allenpress.com/SRM/> (click on “Section Meetings” and choose Cal Pac). Or contact Edie Jacobsen by email at vitus7@att.net or call 619-322-4404.

2. California Rangeland Conservation Coalition, 11th Annual Summit, January 21-22, 2016, Stockton, CA

Save the date... The 2016 meeting will focus on “Wildfire and Rangeland Management – Mediating Impacts to Conservation and Ranching.” Registration is not yet available.

3. Bay Area Open Space Council, January Gathering, January 28, 2016, Berkeley, CA

Save the date... This meeting will focus on “Grazing and Conservation, Part II: Cooperating with Ranchers.” Registration is not yet available.

4. The Other Weather Extreme—Prepared for an El Nino Winter?

With expectations of intense rainfall events, ground saturation, trees falling, flooding, and erosion, how can ranch and conservation lands managers prepare? Here are some things to consider as you plan for the coming season—

- Pollutants, debris, and streamside fencing may be carried with flood waters.
- Expect erosion at vulnerable points and a lot of runoff.

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² Certified Rangeland Manager (License #M70, California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, Certified by the Calif.-Pacific Section, Society for Range Management); Certified Senior Ecologist, Ecological Society of America; Certified Professional in Rangeland Management (#CP99-07) and Certified Range Management Consultant (#C05-02), Society for Range Management; Technical Service Provider, U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service (TSP-03-1600 for grazing/forages services).

- Areas burned by wildfire are at higher risk for erosion.
- Roads and bridges might be washed out, preventing access.
- How are your livestock vulnerable (to flooding or just excessive standing water) and where on your land could they be moved and protected?
- How is your grazing infrastructure, including water supplies, vulnerable?
- What are your legal responsibilities and options if you or someone upstream has diverted runoff?
- How are special habitats vulnerable and how can you protect them?
- Snakes and predators might be concentrated where you don't expect them.

And here are some steps to consider in your preparation—

- Determine your priorities for action and identify places of special vulnerability.
- Register and ID your livestock.
- Plan monitoring (with photos) from safe vantage points and key places of vulnerability, both during and after storms.
- Prepare digital maps and databases of vulnerable places and monitoring stations with notes and instructions, for mobile access (using apps e.g. PDFMaps, Google Earth, and ESRI Collector).
- Prepare communications plans--contact lists, response protocols, and safety considerations, for responding to problems.

Technical assistance is available from your local Resource Conservation District, NRCS, municipal planning department, and local law enforcement. Consultants such as Pete Van Hoorn and I can help, too. Call to schedule a visit and planning review.

Thank you, Larry