

BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

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RANGE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Friday, September 16, 2022, 12:30 PM
Hybrid Teleconference and In-Person Meeting

ROLL CALL

RMAC Members Present

Chair, Dr. Marc Horney
Vice Chair, Rich Ross
Joel Kramer
Lance Criley
Dr. Paul Starrs
Cole Bush
Bart Cremers
Dr. Stephanie Larson
Andrée Soares

RMAC Members Absent

Billie Roney
Katie Delbar, ex officio member
Taylor Hagata

RMAC Staff

Dr. Kristina Wolf, Environmental Scientist

Department Staff

Curtis Yee, IT Manager, Technical Support

Public Attendees

John Austel
Theresa Becchetti
Alan Bower
Christopher Danch
Mike Garabedian
Ahmad Majid
Daniel McClure
Gary Montgomery
Tracy Schohr
Brian Shobe
Hannah Tikalsky

The Board's mission is to lead California in developing policies and programs that serve the public interest in environmentally, economically, and socially sustainable management of forest and rangelands, and a fire protection system that protects and serves the people of the state.

Items are numbered by their corresponding Number on the agenda and documented below in order of their introduction during the meeting. The meeting webinar may be viewed by registering your information at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/2412458679531927308>

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Call to Order, Webinar Meeting Format, and Roll Call – Dr. Kristina Wolf, Board Staff

See results of roll call, above. Dr. Wolf reviewed the webinar format and functionality.

2. Staff/Chairman’s report – Dr. Marc Horney, Chair

Dr. Horney provided an update on several projects in motion:

- Dr. Susan Marshall received a grant proposal for training related to the Certified Range Manager (CRM) program; this will fund planning and organization of a proposal for a funded educational program for CRMs. This will start at the end of this year.
- A meeting was held on Sept 12th re: the RMAC educational workshop that is being planned for this upcoming winter (Jan/Feb). No dates have been established yet.
- The Chair met with the Board of Forestry & Fire Protection (‘Board’) chair, Keith Gillies, to discuss the RMAC’s past and current activities, and the kinds of activities that the RMAC may conduct on its own, versus those that require Board approval. The Chair was supportive of RMACs efforts and activities.

3. Approval of July 2022 meeting minutes – Dr. Wolf, Board Staff

Some minor typographical errors were noted by Dr. Horney and will be corrected in the posted meeting minutes.

Member Criley motioned to approve the July 2022 meeting minutes with the above noted minor corrections; this was seconded by Member Starrs.

Roll Call Vote:

Bush	Aye
Starrs	Aye
Kramer	Aye
Cremers	Aye
Criley	Aye
Larson	Aye
Soares	Aye
Ross	Aye
Horney	Aye

The motion passes unanimously: [July Meeting Minutes](#)

4. Grazing Lands Coalition Initiative Funding Announcement and Potential Partnership – Bre Owens, Western Lands Alliance

Ms. Owens shared the Grazing Lands Coalition Initiative (GLCI) proposal goals (see https://bof.fire.ca.gov/media/bwqbwzan/4-wla-glci-goals-and-objectives_ada.pdf) and provided some background. Ms. Owens is the Stewardship Coordinator for the Western Lands Alliance (WLA), which works on behalf of landowners to address a variety of resource issues, by

connecting landowners to resources, elevating landowner needs to policy and program discussions, and sharing the stories of stewardship broadly. Partnership building is a key component of these WLA goals. The US Department of Agriculture has reauthorized funding for the Grazing Lands Initiative. The program has been around for 20 years, but funding lapsed for some time, and the program didn't take off too much in the western states, at least in part due to public lands issues, and the focus for technical assistance on private lands. The California Rangeland Conservation Coalition led the application in collaboration with WLA and others to support funding of a coordinator position to bring partners together in a Grazing Lands coalition, with attempts to avoid duplication of efforts. The grant would also support some support for Range Camp, targeted outreach within Tribal communities, and build a western network of grazing coalitions to address issues at the regional scale. The WLA requested a letter of support from the RMAC to include with the application, which is due next week. Many of the goals of this proposal would support conversations and advancements on needs shared by partners across the western U.S. and California.

Member Soares moved that the RMAC moves ahead with support for this proposal. Member Bush seconded the motion. Member Ross objected to the support, however, on the grounds of not having any materials to review prior to voting to support. The proposal was not ready to be shared at this time. Dr. Wolf indicated that the deadline for providing a letter of support would be no later than September 22nd, which is less than one week from this day. Dr. Wolf noted that this issue was brought up to Chair Gilless of the Board, who indicated his support for RMAC's support in this proposal. Dr. Horney did share his concern for not having a proposal to review as well, but voiced his opinion that the RMAC would likely support, at least in principle, the ideas and actions in the proposal that Ms. Owens shared today. Member Ross did not support the RMAC writing a letter to support this proposal, due to not having seen the proposal ahead of time. Member Ross proposed that perhaps the Chair could write a letter as an individual, and as the Chair of RMAC, supporting this proposal.

To alleviate any potential concerns, Ms. Owens provided more background on the proposal, in hopes of moving a vote on support forward today. Ms. Owens stated there are no requirements from the RMAC; the request is merely for a letter of support, such that the RMAC would state its support for the idea that via this funding, groups and partners around the state would work together to increase technical assistance across the state to support grazing efforts and address grazing issues across the state. The proposal would support prioritization of pulling resources to meet rangeland needs, including (for example) the RMAC's educational workshop efforts to elevate the issue of targeted grazing. If funded, Ms. Owens shared that this would support the CRCC Rangeland Summit for the next two years, some workshops and field days (like the RMAC educational workshop and for other partner workshops), engagement of Tribal communities and provision of technical assistance, and development of a western range partner network. Member Ross stated reservations that funding RMAC's workshops or any other activities would require that the funding be reviewed by the legislature. However, it is noted that the funding would NOT be spent by the RMAC, but would rather be spent to support field workshops for which the WLA is a partner.

Member Soares moved that the RMAC move ahead with support for this proposal, in the form of the Chair writing a letter of support on behalf of the RMAC. Member Bush seconded the motion. The motion was passed based on the RMAC's review of provisional documents and understanding of the ideas reflected in the proposal.

Roll Call Vote:

Bush Aye

Starrs	Aye
Kramer	Aye
Cremers	Aye
Criley	Aye
Larson	Aye
Soares	Aye
Ross	Nay
Horney	Abstain

The motion passes with 7 ayes, 1 nay, and 1 abstention.

Action Item: The letter of support can be found here: https://bof.fire.ca.gov/media/pvnov2da/rmac-glci-letter-of-support-2022-10-06_ada.pdf

5. Educational Workshop Series Planning Update –Chair Marc Horney and Members Cole Bush and Joel Kramer, *Educational Outreach Action Team*

The RMAC has partnered with the California Fire Science Consortium and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo to develop and implement the 2022/23 annual RMAC educational workshop. A grant from CAL FIRE, administered by Cal Poly (with coordination provided by Maurica Fitzgibbons), will support these efforts. An Action Team was formed to plan and organize the annual RMAC educational workshop. Members include:

- Dr. Marc Horney - RMAC Chair, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
- Maurica Fitzgibbons - Fuels Management Training Program Coordinator, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo
- Grey Hayes - Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo
- Stacey Sargeant Fredericks - California Fire Science Consortium
- Dr. Kristina Wolf - Board of Forestry & Fire Protection
- Cole Bush - RMAC, Shepherdess Land & Livestock, California Wool Growers Association
- Joel Kramer - RMAC, Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego

The Action Team will continue to make strides toward development of topics, engaging speakers and partners, and confirming dates and locations, and will report back to the RMAC as it makes progress.

Member Cole provided updates on the actions taken thus far around the development of the RMAC educational workshop. The current plan is to conduct three webinars (learning sessions) and three field days this winter, in Jan/Feb. A call was sent out to various stakeholders in the range field requesting their participation in a Sept. 12th kick-off call to discuss the topics and format. Member Cole highlighted the “epic” cast of attendees that participated at that meeting as potential trainers and contributors. The net was cast wide for potential participants.

The target audience for this series includes CALFIRE staff, state agencies, livestock practitioners with an interest in grazing these lands. The extended audience includes anyone curious about the presence of livestock on state lands and/or those interested in targeted grazing for wildfire risk reduction.

A website showing the general format of the workshop can be found online: <https://spranch.calpoly.edu/RMAC>. The currently developed general format is as follows:

1. Webinar 1: Grazing License Agreement
 - Grazing planning for fuel reduction, with a special emphasis on state-managed lands: constraints, requirements, and considerations
 - How agencies want graziers to utilize the permitting process
2. Webinar 2: Grazing Management Plans (GMP)
 - Successfully implementing a well-funded GMP on state land, including monitoring and assessment
 - Developing a GMP that has a good chance of being approved for funding
3. Webinar 3: Developing and Navigating a Grazing Agreement Request for Proposals (RFP)
 - Application/request for RFP process, including development by agencies and applications by practitioners
 - Connecting funding sources to the right organizations, people, places, and time
4. Field workshops, ideally three
 - organized by region (northern, central, and southern California)
 - will include on-the-ground examples of successful grazing for fuel reduction, especially where tested by wildfire.

Potential speakers and participants were asked to fill out a survey (<https://spranch.calpoly.edu/RMAC-interest>) to contribute information on their expertise, potential field site locations, and dates of availability, with a goal of obtaining the necessary information from the survey by September 18th. Maurica developed the webpage and survey with support from the Action Team, and will manage the data received. Member Cole highlighted the additional funding coming into the state for fuels project, and the importance of assisting graziers and other partners in getting these projects on the ground.

Chair Horney reminded the committee that the Governor signed a bill for \$80 million to be put towards fuel management techniques, including prescribed grazing. The RMAC has some concerns about how proposals for these kinds of projects will be assessed, and if those assessing those proposals have the expertise to adequately evaluate the likelihood of success for proposed projects. Therefore, one of the goals of this workshop is to focus on the elements of developing a complete grazing plan, developing a prescribed grazing proposal, and implementing and assessing the project. The field activities are intended to provide hands-on, locally-relevant guidance for developing fuels projects utilizing grazing livestock. The documents being produced by the State Lands' Grazing License and Land Management (SLGLLM) sub-committee would be incorporated heavily into these discussions and provide a basis for the training sessions focused on developing project proposals for grazing on state lands.

Dr. Wolf stated that 39 positive responses were received to the initial ask to join the Sept 12th planning meeting, with 30 participants in that meeting. The SLGLLM committee is likely to present their materials to the Board at the November 2nd meeting, and the RMAC anticipates these documents will be finalized by the workshop. The RMAC workshop series over the years has progressively dived deeper into the process for fire prevention and fuels reduction, with the idea to support and implement prescribed grazing at a greater scale (more land, more often) across the State. Marc's ideas may have swayed the direction of this heavily, but that was also based on comments received from the entire committee, and feedback received by outside stakeholders on educational outreach as stated in annual priorities. Moreover, this was timely to use the SLGLLM documents as a launching pad.

Member Kramer stated that this workshop is very timely for the reasons already mentioned; moreover, there is additional funding available from the Department of Conservation for grazing projects, and the Dept of Food and Agriculture is providing funds for grazing plans. All the pieces are in place, so the timing is ideal. Member Kramer also noted that land managers are also a primary target audience; as they demonstrate the success and utility of grazing projects, this can open the way for more to follow.

Action Item: *The planning team will continue its efforts and report back to the RMAC at the next meeting.*

6. Technical Paper on Integrating Prescribed Herbivory with Other Fuels Treatment – Dr. Horney, Chair

This and agenda item #7 are discussed collectively.

CAL FIRE's 2021 Fuels Reduction Guidance includes all fuel reduction activities covered by the California Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP), except for prescribed herbivory. While it may be rare that grazing is the only fuels treatment applied to a landscape, there seems to be a data gap here and in the scientific literature about using the tool of grazing alone or in combination with prescribed herbivory (this term is used interchangeably here with prescribed grazing and targeted grazing or targeted herbivory). Chair Horney referenced the prescribed herbivory white paper produced by RMAC in 2015 and suggested it could be used to develop some guidance to append to CAL FIRE's guidance, or be included in future CAL FIRE's guidance. The prescribed herbivory white paper was utilized as support for including this covered activity in the CalVTP Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). The current document under discussion would be less of a review of the science behind prescribed grazing, and more for the purpose of providing information to the public and practitioners for the use of prescribed grazing.

Member Cole suggested that the California Wool Growers Association (CWGA) Targeted Grazing committee could be tapped for development of this guide, given its expertise in prescribed/targeted grazing for fire mitigation and fuels abatement. Attendee Chris Danch seconded the idea that this kind of information would be useful for Prescribed Burn Associations and Fire Safe Councils, and they are looking at doing research in this vein, and they could likely provide critical input for developing this guidance.

Public attendee Mike Garabedian questioned how much science exists now to support or guide prescribed grazing. In the past, some other organizations and individuals were providing outreach and information about this that could be utilized, including the Southwest Forest & Range Experiment Station and the H.H. Biswell. There could be other people now who work with livestock that might be involved in prescribed burning/grazing research. Member Ross stated that California Cattlemen's has been very active with the prescribed burning folks, primarily along the coast, and this is being looked at very hard, especially in the last several years.

Chair Horney stated that his quick literature review about grazing and fire management produced very little in the way of in-depth research or information. Yes, some of this has been done, but there is likely a larger need for information about this and the integration of prescribed grazing with fuels treatments. Dr. Wolf also stated that the kinds of information provided to the public may guide the kinds of fuels treatments on the ground and speculated that perhaps increased information from CAL FIRE could be beneficial in helping increase the pace and scale of fuels treatments using prescribed herbivory, where appropriate.

Dr. Horney asked Member Bush to have a conversation with the Targeted Grazing group and gauge their level of interest for developing content about prescribed herbivory that could be included or appended to CAL FIRE's Fuels Reduction Guidance. Member Bush agreed to this. Member Starrs expressed an enthusiastic response to supporting this and found it surprising that prescribed grazing was not included in CAL FIRE's Fuels Reduction Guidance. Member Criley agreed there is a need and there are a lot of unknowns about this topic, particularly as it relates to integrating different fuels treatments, and that fire experts should also be included in this conversation. It seems important to incorporate fire professionals into the development of vegetation management objectives even when it includes grazing as a tool.

Public attendee Alan Bower stated that in his experience in forestry, agriculture, and farming, he found that when it came to conservation easements, there was a lot of information to reference, but when it came to ranching easements, there was very little information. So to the extent that we expect professionals to understand grazing as a fuels treatment, we must also conduct more outreach and education to fire professionals, as well as receiving input and collaborating with them in this process.

Member Cremers asked about how prescribed herbivory was included in the CalVTP, but not in the fuels reduction guidance. Dr. Wolf stated that the VMP does not include prescribed herbivory, while the VTP does. The prescribed herbivory white paper produced by RMAC was pivotal in getting herbivory added to the CalVTP, but there have been a lot of delays (primarily due to Covid) to getting educational workshops and outreach to the public and practitioners. At this stage, the RMAC is assisting in increased training on this practice and the CalVTP in the hopes of contributing to the increased pace and scale of fuels treatments in the state.

Action Items: *Dr. Wolf will reach out to CAL FIRE to see if we can talk to the folks responsible for producing the handbook and see if they are amendable to this guidance being produced and appended to the current guidance or added into future versions of this guidance. Member Bush will proceed with engaging with CWGA's Targeted Grazing Committee to gauge interest in developing or collaborating on the development of such a document.*

7. CAL FIRE Fuel Reduction Guidance: Prescribed Grazing Addendum – Dr. Horney, Chair

See notes on agenda item #6, above.

8. RMAC Annual Priorities – Dr. Horney, Chair

Dr. Wolf clarified that every calendar year the annual priorities would be revisited and revised. This current set would incorporate actions taken in 2022, along with any priorities for 2023. Dr. Wolf shared the comments received by the deadline (see https://bof.fire.ca.gov/media/zlnedcul/8-public-comments-on-rmac-annual-priorities-2022-23_ada.pdf) and iterated that the draft priorities shared at the last RMAC meeting (see https://bof.fire.ca.gov/media/hjpjaxu3/9-b-annual-priorities-july-2022-rev-from-chair_ada.docx) were sent out to the Deputy Secretaries of the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA), California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA), California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), and the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board), along with other folks from these agencies and their departments and individuals on the RMAC stakeholder listservs. Comments were received from the Water Boards, CNRA, and California Resource Conservation District (RCD) (see https://bof.fire.ca.gov/media/zlnedcul/8-public-comments-on-rmac-annual-priorities-2022-23_ada.pdf). The version of annual priorities with tracked changes/comments received from CNRA was also shared (see https://bof.fire.ca.gov/media/rmclpwcw/8-annual-priorities-comments-from-cnra-2022-08-04_ada.pdf).

Dr. Horney shared and summarized the most recent version of the Annual Priorities, which included his revisions based on those comments received from the public, advised agencies, and interested stakeholders, and the reasoning behind the changes, along with additions of new actions and objectives based on the RMAC's findings for needs in this and the next year (see https://bof.fire.ca.gov/media/4apaqhrb/8-annual-priorities-rev-from-chair-2022-09-16_ada.pdf). Suggested completion dates were included for each objective.

Related Note: Dr. Horney noted that he has been working on grazing plans for riparian areas in San Luis Obispo and Paso Robles. There is an important point in this: staff of the cities need a simple set of guidelines for how to graze these areas to manage invasive plants, etc, while satisfying the Water Boards. The Water Boards NEED guidelines for planning grazing and assessing impacts, and revising management based on results. ***This may be a future RMAC effort that could support developing this guidance.***

Comments from members:

- Member Cremers – in terms of the goals, they should be more general. Dr. Wolf stated that the Charter does provide a vision and more general goals for the RMAC, and this current effort is for more specific, shorter-term goals and annual objectives are generally more specific. Chair Horney clarified that the revisions from the RMAC would also be a good way to address that. Member Cremers clarified that he thinks they should be specific, but do not need to be as specific as they are here.
- Member Starrs – agrees with Member Cremers; a more spare set of priorities would be welcomed.
- Public attendee Ahmad Majid – there is an organization called the Produce Safety Network comprised of specialists across the industry, spanning the entire agriculture industry, and suggests this may be a resource for gleaning input on the priorities.
- Public attendee Mike Garabedian commented that the priorities seem to take a more regulatory approach, rather than a workforce development or range management development. He sees some broader questions in here, and it seems like these try to regulate more nitty gritty things, rather than acting in a more advisory capacity. Member Ross concurred that some of the priorities seem to take the approach of trying to fix something that isn't broken.

Action Items: Dr. Horney requested that RMAC members provide feedback on this new draft before the next meeting by sending input to Dr. Wolf, and asked Dr. Wolf recirculate this to the advised agencies and stakeholders before the next meeting. We will work to address those comments and suggested revisions, and the new draft will be sent to the committee and shared at the next meeting. The RMAC will vote on this at the next meeting assuming there is a quorum and agreement that this is ready to move forward. Thereafter, this would go to the Board for its review and approval at their subsequent meeting.

9. Water Board Grazing Issues – Dr. Horney, Chair

Chair Horney introduced the Bishop Creek Vision Plan, which is currently under draft with the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (LRWQCB). Dr. Horney's opinion on the plan is that this plan is more feasible than those in the past. The LRWQCB is producing this draft document to address water quality issues (particularly as they relate to *E.coli*) on Bishop Creek in Inyo County. The creek runs through several ranches, and they are attempting to produce a

cooperative approach to address issues along the creek. Homeless encampments and dogs may also be contributors to the issues with *E. coli* in the creek. There are no actions to be taken today per se; this is just to inform the committee and public. Perhaps we can invite some staff from LRWQCB to talk about this at a future meeting as well if there is interest. The RMAC could also invite Ken Tate to talk about this, and maybe LRWQCB could do a co-presentation on this with Dr. Tate to RMAC. ***Please read the draft, as this could inform future plans.***

Public attendee Daniel McClure noted that the plan was approved by the LRWQB this week: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahtontan/water_issues/programs/tmdl/bishopcreek.html

Action Items: Dr. Wolf will share this with the committee and stakeholders for their review, if they would like to get involved in any way with the LRWQCB.

10. Quarterly Presentations to the Board of Forestry & Fire Protection – Dr. Wolf, Board Staff and Chair Horney

Right now, the RMAC only gives a brief update on activities (5 min), unless there is something the Board needs to vote on. Chair Gillless of the Board of Forestry & Fire Protection has encouraged the RMAC to fold in a longer presentation on a quarterly or bi-annual basis. Presentations would longer at 30–60 min, including discussion with the Board.

Some of the presentations could include:

- a) SLGLLM Final presentation, Board approval – Chair Marc Horney
 - i. January Meeting? Or November 2nd Board meeting? Nov. 2nd was the original plan.
- b) CRMs and Workforce Development
 - i. December 7th, or January 18th Board meeting?
 - ii. Speaker(s)? Marc, CRM panel chair, others?
 - iii. History of CalCAN efforts, plans for future
 - iv. Susan Marshall's survey
 - v. Grant for educational workforce building
 - vi. Marc: RPFs and CRMs co-trained on fuels management planning and practices; other educational integration where appropriate
 - vii. Background: where/how many CRMs are needed, how many are there, history – how to generate a number, how to justify that? This might need a little research! How many CRMs are needed to do the work that is needed to meet the fuel treatment goals of CAL FIRE etc.? There is a decent sense of how many RPFs are needed; there isn't for CRMs. ***Perhaps the Board could give guidance or support to investigate this.***

Chair Horney appreciates the Board's interest in hearing more about RMAC's activities and supporting the RMAC. Agendas are publicly noticed a minimum of 10 days in advance; so the RMAC would need to know it was going to present maybe a couple of weeks before that, and meeting materials would need to be ready no later than 7 days before the Board meeting. If the RMAC has an idea to bring before the Board,

Action Item: Dr. Wolf will create a timeline of activities and see where these items might best fit and set up goals for when to present so the RMAC has some clear objectives to work toward.

11. Annual Report and Workplan Proposal – Dr. Wolf, Board Staff

Dr. Wolf proposed to develop an annual report and workplan to document and inform the Board of the achievements, activities, and goals of past year. The document would be posted online. This would not entail extra work necessarily from the committee, except I will want comments and revisions and consensus. The annual priorities would also live in here after voted on.

Action Item: *Dr. Wolf will put together a first draft and send to the entire committee for review; in subsequent years a standing subcommittee could be formed to develop this.*

Chair Horney and Members Soares, Starrs, and Dr. Larson agree with this approach.

12. Updates from Partner Organizations & Public Forum

- a. **Legislative Updates** – none, see below for related information from the California Wool Growers Association
- b. **Updates from Partner Organizations**
 - i. **California Farm Bureau**
 - ii. **California Cattlemen’s Association**
 - iii. **University of California Cooperative Extension**
 - iv. **California Wool Growers Association** – Member Soares reported that the CWGA continues to work on labor issues; a trailer bill was put through late in the budget cycle when there was an issue that came up about goat herders being paid about \$14K a month, which is about three times the amount that sheep herders are being paid, so that got fixed in the trailer bill. CWGA also continues to work to resolve the overtime issues related to sheep and goat herders. They also formalized the standing targeted grazing committee last month, and they can begin to interact with RMAC.
 - v. **California Resource Conservation Districts**
 1. Member Kramer – a few weeks ago with the support of Grazing School of the West, the CA RCD of Greater San Diego (SD) submitted an application for the Beginning Farmer Training Program to create a grazing apprenticeship program in SD to expand the herd and gain access to multi-year contracts to fill a need for grazing for fire prevention efforts.
 - a. Beginning Farmer Training Program information may be found online: <https://landbasedlearning.org/farm-academy-beginning-farmer>
 2. Ongoing monitoring of the impact of grazing by cattle on coastal sage scrub at Rancho Jamul will continue next month.
 3. Audubon is offering a Habitat Management Planning training for free-range grazing and bird habitat for certification which may confer a premium to the beef products beings sold; that will be in November, and Pelayo Alvarez has the information on that.
 4. A local government agency (same one that is funding the research on impacts of cattle on coastal sage scrub) has interest in funding for a grazing project in 2024-ish; they don’t know what to look for in terms of

an ideal site. If there is any input that members or stakeholders could provide, that would be helpful. In the context of grazing, what are the criteria you would be looking for in terms of an ideal study site to investigate how grazing by goats and sheep might enhance habitat and reduce the spread of invasive plants?

- i. Public attendee Alan Bower –When talking about grazing management for habitat, the question is always, “Habitat for what?” Member Kramer clarified this would be grazing to manage invasive annual grasses which compete with sage brush. Public Attendee Mike Garabedian indicated his interest in connecting with Alan Bower; **Action Item:** *Dr. Wolf will connect them via email.*
- ii. Chair Horney – there are two grazing projects in Central Coast to evaluate impact of cattle grazing on two annual endangered plant species. He would be interested in how the project proceeds.
- iii. Action Item: Please reach out to Member Kramer with information (ag@rcdsandiego.org)

vi. Farm Service Agency

vii. Other U.S. Department of Agriculture or California Department of Food & Agriculture agencies, or other local or regional range-related organizations and events:

1. Here is the agenda for **8th Annual California Oak Symposium** happening 31 Oct to 03 Nov (Mon to Thurs) in San Luis Obispo: https://ucanr.edu/sites/oaksymposium/Agenda_2/
 2. Webinar Recording Links
 - a. **Working Rangelands Wednesdays webinar** recordings are online: [Working Rangelands Wednesdays YouTube Channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQnxWe9UGmy_aHg06YZZkw/videos) (see https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQnxWe9UGmy_aHg06YZZkw/videos) and include the following topics for 2022 (and videos from 2020 can also be found here!):
 - i. Creating a Drought Plan
 - ii. Drought Strategies: Weaning Calves Early
 - iii. Drought Strategies: Culling vs. Feeding
 - iv. Drought Strategies: Managing Irrigated Pasture During Drought
 3. **UC ANR Contract Grazing Webinar with Dr. Stephanie Larson:**
 - a. [Part One: Contract Grazing Webinar](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sFxEhVo9Zwo) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sFxEhVo9Zwo>)
 - b. [Part Two: Contract Grazing Webinar](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sFxEhVo9Zwo) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sFxEhVo9Zwo>)
- c. **Members of the public** may address the Committee on any topic within its jurisdiction not otherwise on the agenda. Items will not be discussed in depth but may be agendaized for the next committee meeting.

NEXT MEETING: The suggested next meeting day is Monday, November 14th 12:30 PM

- Member Bush has a conflict, but stated that if everyone else can attend, then that might be ok, and she could maybe attend while on the move.
- Member Larson would also have a difficult time making that date.
- Discussion of timing considerations for bringing items before the Board ensued. November 21 and 28 were also discussed as possibilities, but it was determined that Nov. 14th would be better.

ACTION ITEM: The next meeting of the RMAC will occur on Monday November 14th at 12:30 PM. Dr. Wolf will send out information about the public meeting location, and members may also still attend virtually.

13. Adjourn