

Several important developments occurred in GBSER, the Great Basin Chapter of the Society for Ecological Restoration, in 2018, as described below.

GBSER @ GBC & SRM, 2017/2018

GBSER engaged in the Great Basin Consortium (GBC) this past year, including having our in-person meeting as part of the 6th annual GBC Annual Meeting in Reno NV, and we are planning on meeting again as part of the 7th annual GBC meeting that is being held concurrently with the Annual Meeting of the Society for Range Management (SRM) in Sparks NV at the Nugget Resort.

The 2018 annual meeting of GBSER is tentatively planned for Friday Feb 2 at 11 am. Anyone interested in attending or calling in to this annual meeting should contact Matt Germino at germmatt@isu.edu ASAP so that we can confirm or revise the scheduling. Some significant changes have already occurred in the GBC agenda, so we have flexibility on where and when to meet.

Coming soon:

The website for the SRM meeting is <http://annualmeeting.rangelands.org>. Sessions of interest to GBSER include

1) the annual RTEC (Rangeland Technology and Equipment Council) meeting on Sunday Jan 27th, which GBSER is co-hosting. From 1-5 PM, we will have researchers, managers, and industry speakers and panelists talk about new developments in biocontrol such as weed-suppressive bacteria and herbicide options for exotic annual grasses. *(See agenda below).

2) symposia on

- Restoring and conserving wet meadows (Monday 1 pm)
- Moisture availability in restoration and reclamation (Monday 1 pm)
- Vegetation restoration (Monday 1 pm)

- Vegetation management and weeds (Tues 8 am)
- Restoring “emerald islands” (riparian, Tues 8 am)
- Linking science and management in working lands (includes some restoration talks, Thurs all day)

3) Cooperator meetings, including GBSER

The RTEC session we are co-sponsoring with Great Basin Fire Science exchange:

New Approaches to Reduce Cheatgrass on Great Basin Rangelands, held at Nugget Resort, Ballroom 2

- 1:00** Introduction to RTEC, Workshop Sponsors and Objectives, *Mike Pellant*
- 1:10** Exotic Annual Grasses: Basic Considerations, *Dave Pyke*
- 1:30** Introduction to Weed-Suppressive Bacteria: Weed Suppressing Bacteria and Their Relationship to Herbicides and Other Exotic Annual Grass Controls, *Matt Germino*
- 1:50** Registration Process and Status of Weed Suppressing Bacteria and Herbicides on Rangelands, and BLM Trials with Weed Suppressing Bacteria, *Richard Lee*
- 2:10** Break, with refreshments
- 2:20** History and Biology of Weed Suppressing Bacteria: USFWS Perspective and Involvement. *Mike Gregg*
- 2:40** Example of a Broad-Scale Study of Weed Suppressing Bacteria from Montana Rangelands, *Kurt Reinhart*
- 3:00** Synthesis of Trials Underway for Weed Suppressing Bacteria, *Brynne Lazarus*
- 3:20** The Herbicide Toolkit for Exotic Annual Grasses, *Cory Ransom*
- 3:40** Break, with refreshments
- 3:50** Industry Panel and Cross-Cutting Discussion of all Workshop Content Representatives from Biowest, Verdesian, NuFarm, Dow AgroSciences, and Bayer
- 4:45** Short RTEC Business Meeting, All are Welcome

Student meeting travel awards:

Restoration has been an important need for our upland and waterway habitats in the Great Basin, and its importance is only increasing as fire, invasive species, and other stressors are causing loss of biodiversity and the ecosystem services. In 2017, a clear trend of loss or reduction in the knowledge and experience base for restoration in the Great Basin became evident. These include key retirements and two very unfortunate passings described below. Looking to the future, it is critical that we continue to motivate an interest in education about restoration, and more importantly the engagement of individuals to become restoration ecologists. Towards this, GBSER will continue to offer support to graduate students to attend professional meetings in restoration ecology, particular meetings that our chapter or society is involved with.

We are making available up to \$2500 total to support the flights, lodging, food, or registration for students to attend the activities at the 2018 SRM/GBC meeting, which GBSER is participating in. We expect to support up to 4 or possibly more students, preferably those presenting on innovative topics in restoration of Great Basin habitats. Interested students should email Matt Germino at germmatt@isu.edu ASAP with 1) how much their travel is expected to cost, 2) the title and abstract of their presentation, and 3) their degree program information (school, department, degree, major advisor), and a great photo for us to include with the award announcement honoring them in our next newsletter. Sorry for the late notification, students can submit an application through the end of the SRM meeting.

2017 GBSER AWARD:

Dr. Dave Pyke of the US Geological Survey, Forest and Rangeland Ecosystem Science Center (Corvallis OR) is the 2018 GBSER Distinguished Restorationist.

Dave has had a tremendous impact restoration of rangelands in the Great Basin and elsewhere, starting with his seminal work on demography and ecology of cheatgrass and on to control of exotics, post-fire restoration methods and effectiveness, understanding resistance and resilience, approaches and methods for monitoring and assessment, restoration of biological crusts, and many other topics. He has made many key advancements in our basic understanding of how sagebrush steppe and grassland ecosystems function, and the advancements invariably address key information needs for management. His findings can be found in >100 peer-reviewed articles. He has also served as

subject editor for Restoration Ecology, Oecologia, and other journals.

Dave has been generous in sharing his knowledge and opinions through consultation or teaching to land managers or Oregon State University students, for examples. His opinions and advice on rangeland ecology and restoration are held in high regard nationally and abroad. He has had high-level advisory roles such as in the implementation of DOI Secretarial Order #3336 on Rangeland Fire and Restoration.

For a researcher, Dave has spent a large amount of time and effort producing methods and guide books for land managers. Most notable is the recent three volume handbook on restoring sagebrush steppe that he was lead author on. These documents are classic examples of translating science into practice, in this case restoration. The science underpinning much of these documents stems from the Great Basin-wide SageSTEP project that helped lead. It has been underway for over 10 years and tests different methods for restoration across many sites.

Dave: congratulations, and many thanks for your tireless efforts to integrate research and management on restoration in the Great Basin!



The Great Basin Chapter
Society for Ecological Restoration
Recognizes



Dave Pyke
US Geological Survey

2018 Distinguished Restorationist

In recognition of sustained career achievement in
restoration ecology and management

CERTIFICATION:

The new SER restoration ecologist certification program came online this past year, with input from GBSE. For more information on the costs, requirements, and benefits of obtaining the certification, see the SER main website.

The first people to become certified are Cindy Fritz, Anne Halford, and Alex Webb of the BLM in Idaho, they are pictured below on a field trips in SW Idaho



PAST MEETINGS:

Notable meetings the GBSE this past year included

SER International Meeting, Brazil, in August 2017; <http://ser-insr.org/news/2017/9/7/the-global-native-seed-community-shining-at-the-global-ecological-restoration-conference-in-brazil>. GBSE members Berta Youtie, Nancy Shaw, Jim Hallet, Francis, Jeff Ott, and Jeremy Pinto attended. The next international SER meeting will be held in Cape Town, South Africa. Another key SER meeting will be a potential joint meeting of PNW-SER and GBSE in Spokane, in fall 2018, in addition to the first annual SER-North America meeting. Stay posted for more information on these.

GBSE co-sponsored a day of talks and poster presentations on ecology and restoration of the Nirds of Prey National Conservation Area in Boise, in October 2017.

A number of restoration talks were featured in the Association for Fire Ecology's International Meeting in Orlando, Florida, in November 2017.

IN MEMORIAM

GBSE is sad to relay the news about the passing of two important members of our community, both highly regarded colleagues and friends to many in our field.

Below, we have reprinted the obituaries.

From the Elko Daily Free Press: **Kent McAdoo** passed away unexpectedly on January 10, 2018. Kent was born in Winfield, Kansas on January 23, 1949, to James and Joann McAdoo. Reared in Arkansas City, Kansas, Kent and his family often took camping trips to Colorado, instilling in him a love for the west. Kent married the love of his life and hometown sweetheart, Cathy in 1972, and soon after earned his bachelor's degree in Forestry (Wildlife Management) from the University of Idaho. Kent went on to earn a master's degree in Renewable Resources from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1975. Kent always maintained a fondness for the Midwest, and went back often to enjoy time with friends and family.



Kent and Cathy moved to Elko, Nevada in 1978. During Kent's 43 year career, which included work as a UNR research associate, an ecologist for Freeport McMoran, a consultant for JBR Environmental Consultants, Inc., and for the last 19 years as an area specialist for the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, Kent was dedicated to the stewardship of natural resources in the state of Nevada and beyond. He truly took seriously God's call for us to be good stewards of this earth. His love for wildlife ran so deep that it was hard to distinguish between his work-life and his hobbies. He greatly enjoyed hunting, fishing, and hiking, and his favorite work days were those spent "out in the field." He instilled love and respect for the outdoors in both his children and his grandchildren.

Kent was active in research and extension on post-fire restoration and other aspects of management of sagebrush steppe. He participated in the Great Basin native Plant Program, and most recently led the organization of the program for the upcoming SRM meeting.

From the Corvallis Gazette Times: **Paul Steven Doescher** died Aug. 2, 2017 at Evergreen Hospice House in Albany from bile duct cancer. He was 64. The first of three children, Paul was born in Chicago, Illinois, to Phyllis and Paul Doescher.

He attended public school in Libertyville, Illinois. He enjoyed playing trumpet in his high school jazz band, canoeing the Boundary Waters and counseling at Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan. Much of his childhood was spent roaming woods, fishing polluted waters and hunting on farm fields surrounding his home, areas rapidly developing into strip malls and rows of houses. This destruction and disregard for nature set an early environmental ethic that carried throughout his life.



Paul earned his B.S. in Forestry from the University of Illinois, M.S. in Resource Conservation from the University of Montana, and Ph.D. in Rangeland Resources from Oregon State University. It was in college, through some amazing mentors, his career was directed into Ecology and Natural Resource Management.

In his 32 years at Oregon State University, he cared deeply about friends, colleagues and most importantly, students. He served as Director of the Natural Resources Program, Department Head of Forest Ecosystems and Society, and Faculty Senate President. He published or co-published numerous articles and participated in several grants. He received a number of awards for university teaching in both the Colleges of Agriculture and Forestry, and the national teaching award in Range Management. Paul married the love of his life, Sue, on Aug. 2, 1975, in Long Grove, Illinois. They have one beautiful daughter, Kara, who is 23.

Donations in lieu of flowers can be made to The Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation, 5526 West 13400 South, #510, Salt Lake City, UT 84096; First Presbyterian Church, 114 SW 8th, Corvallis, OR 97333; Evergreen Hospice House, 4600 Evergreen St. SE, Albany, OR 97321; or the **Society for Ecological Restoration, Great Basin, Doescher Fund (student activities)**, 4283 N. Marcliffe Ave., Boise, ID 83704, or see our GBSER website for online donation options.

Paul's friends and family have already generously donated several thousand dollars to GBSER – a 501c3 charitable organization, and all receipts in Paul's name will be used to support student travel to meetings. GBSER is grateful to Paul's friends and family for choosing the chapter as a recipient of memorial donations. We will begin using the funds for students in 2018 and will report on the expenditures made and recipients in the next newsletter.

OFFICERS and ELECTIONS:

Interested in serving a role in the GBSER? There are great opportunities to get involved as a member or in the positions listed below. Please let us know if you have ideas or are interested. Our current board is:

Officers

President: Matt Germino

President-elect: Vacant

Past president: Stuart Hardegee/Matt Germino

Secretary/Treasurer: Stan Young

Board

Oregon: Berta Youtie

Nevada: Beth Newingham

Utah: Therese Meyer

Idaho: Matt Fisk

California: Dave Martin

Chairs

Newsletter: Matt Germino

Restoration: Anne Halford

Student Activities: Cody Ernst-Brock

Website: Nancy Shaw

SER Western Rep: Daniel Spicer

Positions available for 2018 onward include president, president elect, treasurer, Oregon representative, Restoration representative, and SER West representative. Nominations need to be submitted to the Past President (Stuart.Hardegee@ARS.USDA.GOV) by March 1. An electronic ballot will be sent out by March 10 to be returned by Mar 15. Please volunteer or nominate someone!