The Roll of Grazing in Today’s Fire Regime – Sustainable Vegetation Management

Natural Resources Building Auditorium
1416 9th Street, Sacramento, CA

September 16, 2019
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

7:45 AM - Registration

8:00 AM – Who is RMAC and What is the Goal Today?
Marc Horney, RMAC Chair and Matt Dias, Executive Officer, Board of Forestry and Fire Protection
  • Brief discussion of RMAC’s role and agency links.

8:15 AM – Introduction
  • Short discussion of California’s current fuel conditions in forested and rangeland ecosystems and increasing the Pace and Scale of fuels reduction. Challenge everyone to think outside the box and draw on multiple methods to reduce fuels and help manage California’s lands in a sustainable manner that considers public resources and helps protect lives and property. – Jennifer Montgomery or Marc?

8:45 AM - State of Affairs
  • 8:45 AM – 9:15 AM: What do fuel loads look like in California? – Dave Sapis, FRAP
    o What percentage of land is actively managed (focusing on areas amenable to grazing)?
    o What does maintenance of fuel reduction efforts look like?
  • 9:15 AM – 9:45 AM: Where are fires burning and with what severity? - Dr. Van Butsic or Stephanie Larson and Matt Shapero?
    o Managed vs. unmanaged lands; private vs. public lands; forested vs. rangeland

9:45 AM – 10:00 AM: BREAK

10:00 AM – Grazing on the Landscape: Past and Present
  • 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM: Impact of historic grazing across California - Larry Forero, UCCE Shasta/Lassen or Lynn Huntsinger or Stephanie Larson?
    o Historic ungulate populations (50’s/60’s) and low intensity fire regimes
    o Current conditions and problems
  • 10:30 AM – 11:00 AM: Grazing as a tool to reduce fuels: Opportunities in California – ?
    o Traditional ranching vs. targeted grazing – we need them both
11:00 AM – 11:45 AM: Grazing on non-traditional landscapes - Dr. Glenn Nader or Kevin Conway and Matthew Shapero?
   o When, Where, Why, and How?
   o Examples on Timberlands, shrublands, high sierra, etc.

11:45 AM – 12:30 PM: Ecological trade-offs - Dr. Ken Tate?
   o Carbon Sequestration
   o Soil health
   o Water Quality

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM: LUNCH

1:30 PM – Increasing Pace and Scale: Grazing on the Ground Panel
Introduction - Tracy Schohr or Dan Macon?

   1:40 PM – 2:00 PM: Ranching and multi-use landscapes – Tim Koopman, CCA
   2:00 PM – 2:15 PM: Targeted Grazing, Northern California – Andree Soares, RMAC Member
   2:15 PM – 2:30 PM: Targeted Grazing, Southern California – Irwin Company?
   2:30 PM – 3:00 PM: Panel Discussion – Facilitated by Tracy Schohr or Dan Macon?

3:00 PM – 3:15 PM: BREAK

3:15 PM – Post-Fire Grazing

   3:15 PM – 3:45 PM: Benefits of Post-Fire Grazing – Dr. Leslie Roche, UCCE
      o What is the current science and gaps?
      o Current Status Quo – is it working? And opportunities to manage for the next fire immediately

3:45 PM – What Now?

   3:45 PM – 4:30 PM: How do we facilitate grazing and manage our land?
      o Lists and outreach - Dr. Stephanie Larson
      o CRM and Targeted Grazer Programs – Matthew Shapero, CalPac SRM
      o Opportunities – Bob Gillaspy, NRCS

4:30 PM Closing Remarks: Marc Horney, RMAC Chair

   Challenge attendees to be innovative leaders and help increase the use of targeted grazing. The science is there – grazing is a valuable tool and it’s being underutilized. We need a diverse system to address California’s problems with wildfire, and California’s ranchers want to contribute more.

   Outreach materials available at the workshop

   Any final questions