RANGELANDS

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DESCRIPTION

**Rangelands** publishes articles on the current state of the science and art of rangeland management. As a publication of the Society for Range Management, **Rangelands** provides readers relevant information founded in the current rangeland science and management knowledge base in an approachable format. Rangeland management occurs at the nexus of ecology, soil science, hydrology, animal science, economics, social science, policy, and culture, and each peer-reviewed issue of **Rangelands** synthesizes these diverse fields for a wide community of land owners, rangeland managers, researchers, educators, and policymakers. **Rangelands** articles are more accessible and contextualized than typical of a traditional research journal while maintaining a high level of scientific merit and quality.

If you are a member of the Society for Range Management, please read [here](https://www.elsevier.com/locate/rala) for more information about how to access the journals.

AUDIENCE

Educators, students, rangeland owners and managers, researchers, and policy leaders

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INTRODUCTION

Audience and Content
The audience for Rangelands is broader than most scientific research journals—encompassing ranchers and range management professionals, policy makers, students, academics and government researchers. Submissions for publication are generally less technical in nature than research-focused journals and germane to the broad field of range science and management. We encourage authors to use the active voice and compelling visual representations of their work to communicate the rangeland management relevance of their work, and to avoid jargon and excessive technical details about methods and results. Readers of Rangelands are interested in the "so what?" of your work. Technical details of methods can be published in (and linked to Rangelands articles) outlets such as MethodsX. We welcome submissions that describe management implications of technical research published elsewhere provided the submission constitutes a new contribution into its application. All Rangelands articles should be supported by evidence and the best knowledge of our field—they should be factual and logical, and opinions and experiences presented as such.

Types of article

Rangelands provides a forum for the presentation and discussion of facts, ideas, and philosophies pertaining to the state of rangeland science (quantitative and qualitative), art, management, technology, policy, economics, education (formal and informal), society, and culture. We welcome submissions of the following types:

Research Papers (3,000 to 8,000 words) report findings from qualitative and quantitative research in a variety of rangeland disciplines. Research Notes (3,000 words maximum) are short papers reporting research results of immediate interest. Notes are intended to foster communication on emerging research topics and concepts. Technical Notes (3,000 words maximum) are short papers reporting new techniques and technologies, including those that are conceptual and qualitative. Forums (3,000 to 6,000 words) are conceptual in nature and provide an informative summary of contemporary topics, synthesis of research from multiple disciplines or sources, or alternative views of contentious issues. These can focus on a variety of topics including management, policy, education, society, and culture. Viewpoints may outline innovative theories, discuss old ideas that deserve to be revisited in light of new information, or provide interesting commentaries on a "hot topic." Letter to the Editors (1,500 words maximum) provide an opportunity for readers to comment on any topic of interest or concern to the SRM community. Letters to the Editor receive only editorial review, and the editor reserves the right to reject any letter unsuitable for publication or to edit the text to conform to style and available space. Comments and Responses (2,000 words maximum) are short clarifications of, rebuttals to, or comments on articles published in Rangelands and a response by the original article's authors. Comments and responses are peer-reviewed for technical accuracy and merit but with the goal of publishing them as rapidly as possible. On the Ground section is not required for this article type. Research and Partnership Highlights (2,000 words maximum) describe emerging, high-impact research projects, management activities, or collaborative efforts of interest to the Rangelands audience. Highlights are reviewed for technical accuracy and are accepted at the discretion of the editor based on their relevance to Rangelands readers. Columns are invited, regularly published pieces by select authors on a variety of topics. Historical Reviews are invited submissions and provide a retrospective look at rangeland science, management, policy, education, and culture.

Contact details for submission

Questions or concerns regarding Rangelands submissions should be sent to:

Eva Levi, Ph.D.
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evamarie@email.arizona.edu

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Editor-in-Chief, Rangelands
Associate Professor & Heady Endowed Chair of Rangeland Ecology
Department of Forestry, Rangeland, and Fire Sciences
University of Idaho
Moscow, ID
208-885-0255
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Ensure that the following items are present:

- One author has been designated as the corresponding author with contact details: e-mail address, full postal address
- Declarations of interest have been disclosed (title page)
- Keywords (title page)
- Acknowledgement of funding sources (Acknowledgments section)
- For all article types other than Comments and Responses, On the Ground section (included on separate page at end of manuscript - no Abstract necessary)

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Manuscript
- Include keywords, complete author contact info, and funding sources
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- All tables (include titles, description, footnotes in separate file)
- Ensure all figure and table citations in the text match the files provided
- Check image resolution on all figures (see Guide for minimum resolutions) - color images are free
- Make sure manuscript meets guidelines on word limit and number of citations
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- All references mentioned in the References are cited in the text, and vice versa
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- Relevant declarations of interest have been made
- All journal policies detailed in this guide have been reviewed

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**PREPARATION**

**Writing style**

Manuscripts for *Rangelands* should be written accurately, clearly, and concisely. Articles can convey technical information but should be written in a non-technical style. The writing style for *Rangelands* articles is not the writing style used in scientific journals like *Rangeland Ecology & Management (REM)*. Submission of a manuscript to *Rangelands* in REM format could result in rejection or request for major revision of the manuscript, at the editor's discretion.

The language used in *Rangelands* should be clear and accessible throughout, especially when tackling the more complex aspects of a subject. Below are some guidelines for writing articles for *Rangelands*: Use the active instead of the passive voice, and shorter sentences rather than longer ones. Ask yourself if your piece will be interesting and clearly understandable to readers from other specialties. Pick commonly used words rather than complex technical terms. Write concisely, avoiding filler (e.g., “The fact that” and “In order to”). Briefly and clearly explain technical concepts and terms as soon as they arise. Break the text up into paragraphs of no more than a few hundred words, and add short, imaginative subsection headings whenever the subject changes, or simply to avoid overlong blocks of text. Give the scientific name (genus and species, in parentheses and italics) of a species the first time it is used, in addition to its common name, which should then be used throughout the text. Spell out all acronyms unfamiliar to the general reader (including those not in the USA) at first mention, putting the acronym in parentheses and using it from then on. Include specific details such as names, places, and numbers when appropriate and permissible.

**To start**

For many people, writing concisely in a non-technical format is not easy. One of the most important items to remember is "who is going to read the article?" Most readers of *Rangelands* read it at their leisure and want to be able to assimilate the information of an article in a single reading. Here are some methods to start the writing process and keep articles interesting and easy to understand: Look for unique ways to structure your article rather than the standard scientific paper approach. Start by thinking about how you would tell the story/information if you were telling it to a friend. Use "hooks" to keep people engaged in what you want them to take away. Ask yourself the following questions: What is my story about? The one thing I want my reader to know/feel/do is (fill in the blank). What message are you trying to present to your target audience? Once you've answered that question, you've got your "purpose" for the story. This is the most important information you should focus on conveying to the reader. Once you have written your article, re-read your last paragraph and consider it for your first (often it is in this paragraph where authors who are used to ending with a conclusion get to the point). Read your article out loud; if you stumble on something, go back and re-work it.

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AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK 5 May 2020 www.elsevier.com/locate/rala
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