

For More Information and
Application Materials
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Applications must be submitted by July 1

For more information:
<http://www.casrm.org/CaSRM07.shtml>

Code of Ethics

Society for Range Management

1. Foster an environment where all people are encouraged to participate in the Society and the management and enjoyment of rangelands
2. Use his/her knowledge, skills and training when appropriate to find ways to harmonize people's needs, demands and actions with the maintenance and enhancement of natural and managed rangeland ecosystems
3. Promote competence in the field of range management by supporting high standards of education, employment, and performance
4. Manage or perform services consistent with the highest standards of quality, integrity, and with respect for the rangeland plant and animal resources, the employer, and the public
5. Disseminate information to promote understanding of, and appreciation for, values of rangelands to those with a direct involvement in range management, and to the general public
6. Offer professional advice only on those rangeland issues in which they are informed and qualified through professional training and expertise
7. In any communication, give full and proper credit to, and avoid misinterpretation of, the work, ideas and achievements of others
8. Encourage the use of sound biological information in management decisions

Certification Panel,
California Section



v. 6

Certified Rangeland Manager

The intent of the Certified Rangeland Manager program is to provide evidence of professional competency, to protect the public interest, and to ensure proper management of California's rangeland resources as embodied in the Code of Professional Ethics of the Society for Range Management.

Certified Rangeland Managers apply scientific principles to the art and science of managing rangelands. Certification as a rangeland manager constitutes recognition by the California Section, Society for Range Management that a person meets the educational, experience and ethical standards for professional rangeland managers. To be recognized as a Certified Rangeland Manager, and conduct rangeland management activities on many non-federal lands within California, a person must be licensed as a Certified Rangeland Manager by the State of California through the California State Board of Forestry.

California Section
Society for Range Management
and
the State of California

APPENDIX III

Evolution of Certified Rangeland

Manager Program

1972 - Professional Foresters Licensing Act (PFLA). Broadly defines forestry and requires a state license to practice forestry.

1987 - Professional Foresters Examining Committee appoints task force to examine the role of Registered Professional Foresters (RPF) on hardwood rangelands. Task force finds that law requires an RPF to supervise wildland management. Implies that range managers must be licensed or practice under an RPF.

1988 - State Board of Forestry (BOF) appoints Hardwood/Range Ad Hoc Committee. Committee agrees with 1987 conclusions about existing law, but suggests clarified definitions of legal terms, application of revised regulations, and, possibly, changes in PFLA to provide opportunities for non-forestry professional practice.

1990 - State Attorney General renders opinion that “forest” and “wildland” are synonyms, therefore, rangeland management is legally considered forestry, requiring supervision of an RPF.

1991 - CSRM appoints Panel on Certification to develop certification criteria and procedures, and certify rangeland managers.

1992 - AB 1903 modifies PFLA to authorize individuals to seek BOF registration as certified specialists under a professional society’s program.

1993 - CSRM Panel on Certification finalizes program for Certified Rangeland Managers which is accepted by the BOF.

1994 - California Code of Regulations amended to allow state licensing of Certified Rangeland Managers under PFLA. Redefines scope of the PFLA as applying to “forested landscapes.”

1995 - First Certified Rangeland Managers are state licensed.

1997 - More than 60 Certified Rangeland Managers are state licensed.

Requirements for Certification and
State Licensing

Education

Completion of a course of study in a college or university leading to a bachelor’s or higher degree. A degree in range management or completion of coursework including rangeland ecology, rangeland plant physiology, rangeland animal management, rangeland policy and planning, range economics and rangeland measurements.

Experience

Five years of qualifying professional experience, with some experience in a California range type. Qualifying experience must be directly related to range and/or rangeland management and include demonstration of the application of rangeland management principles. (*The Certification Panel may substitute additional experience in place of education*)

References

Three letters of reference by professional rangeland managers (one must be from a Certified Rangeland Manager).

Ethical and Continuing Education Requirements

All applicants must pledge to conduct their activities in accordance with the Code of Ethics of the Society for Range Management. Certified Rangeland Managers must also participate in continuing education activities.

Examination

Applicants must pass a written rangeland management examination administered by the Professional Foresters Licensing Committee.

State Licensing

To be licensed as a Certified Rangeland Manager, and practice rangeland management on non-federal land in California, you must first be certified by the California Section, Society for Range Management. This meets the requirements of the State Board of Forestry and allows you to apply to be licensed as a Certified Rangeland Manager.

Why Become a Certified Rangeland Manager?

A state license is required for range management activities on “forested landscapes,” which are legally defined as “tree dominated landscapes and their associated vegetation types on which is growing a significant stand of tree species or which are naturally capable of growing a significant stand of native trees in perpetuity.” A license is clearly required for work on hardwood rangeland, but not on permanently treeless shrublands, native or cultivated grasslands, or croplands. Activities covered include making management recommendations, developing conservation plans and management plans, and other activities associated with professional rangeland management when made by professionals working in the private sector, universities, state agencies, and federal agencies when working on non-federal land. A license is not required for activities on your own land or on federal land.

The intent of the Certified Rangeland Manager program is to provide evidence of professional competency, to protect the public interest, and to ensure proper management of California’s rangeland resources as embodied in the Code of Professional Ethics of the Society for Range Management.

The Board of Forestry, Professional Foresters Examining Committee, and the California SRM Certification Panel are working together to clarify the effects of the new laws and regulations.