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Have You Heard? Bird Tour Right around the Corner

It is not too late for those who have not registered for the Third Annual SDGC Bird Tour. The tour is going to be held on Dan Rasmussen's Ranch south of Belvidere. This will be a great opportunity to see birds that inhabit the West River rangelands as well as the Badlands. To get a brochure go to www.SDGrass.org and click on the Bird Tour link. Or call Judge Jessop at (605) 280-0127.



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BIRD TOUR AROUND THE CORNER

**SAN BORN COUNTY
SUMMER TOUR**

BUS TOUR

**RIPARIAN GRAZING SCHOOL IN
STURGIS -- JUNE 9-11**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For more information or other events the **SOUTH DAKOTA GRASSLAND COALITION** is involved with, please contact Kyle Schell or visit the website: <http://www.sdgrass.org>

Sanborn County Summer Tour

Sanborn County Summer Tour will be a Weed Walk this year. The Weed Walk will be held Thursday June 12, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Corrie, Shaun and Nick Snedeker, sons of Mark and Lisa Snedeker, are hosting the Walk. Directions to the first stop are: take Highway 37 North of Mitchell or South of Huron to the intersection of 228th Street. Signs will be posted at the intersection; turn east and travel ½ mile watch for more signs. We will be walking through a crop land and pasture, identifying weeds and discussing biological, mechanical, and chemical control with the assistance of the following resource people:

Darrel Deneke - SDSU
Integrated Pest
Management Specialist

Brenda Sievers - SD
Dept of Ag, Weed
Management Technician

Irene Graves - SDSU
CES Extension Educator

Dinner will be provided
by Pod's Place in
Woonsocket.

Pre-registration by June 8th. To pre-register or for more information, contact Sanborn County Extension Office at 605-796-4380.

Bus Tour

The South Dakota Grassland Coalition and the Nebraska Grazing Lands Coalition have joined forces to host a bus tour of progressive grazing operations around the Yankton, SD area on July 21-22, 2009.

The two organizations will meet at the Best Western hotel in Yankton, SD at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, July 21, then head to the Pat Steffen ranch near Fordyce, NE. Steffen is an organic producer who raises Scottish

Highlander cattle and conducts custom grazing. The afternoon will feature the organic grazing operations of Dave Fischer and Martin Kleinschmidt, both of Fordyce, NE. Fischer has recently initiated an irrigated rotational grazing system, and has worked closely with Kleinschmidt, who produces low-line Angus cattle. Tuesday evening dinner at the hotel will include entertainment from South Dakotan Micah James sharing his world-renowned collection of Tonka trucks, followed by the Rancher Panel Discussion. Panelists will give a short presentation then take questions in a round table discussion, and include: Dan Rasmussen of Belvidere, SD, who



conducts custom grazing and grass finishing as well as sells custom minerals; Angela Jackson of Vermilion, SD, a consultant who has worked with HyVee to market organic beef; Tom Neuburger of Canistota, SD, who produces, processes and markets organic meat; and Jim Carr of Atkinson, NE, who has a successful history of using rotational grazing to eliminate noxious weeds and improve grass production. Friday the tour will travel to Plainview, NE, to visit the ranch of Wayne Rasmussen, a cattle producer whose practices include converting row crops to grass under pivot, grazing corn, grass-finishing beef, and extending the traditional grazing season. The tour will conclude at 1:30 p.m. at Yankton. The cost for this tour is \$80 and \$60 for South Dakota Grassland Coalition Members. This includes your hotel room, meals, and materials. Keep an eye on the SDGC website

for the brochure for this tour. Contact Kyle Schell at (605) 688-6623 for more information.

**Riparian Grazing
Training in Sturgis:
June 9-11**

The National Riparian Service Team will travel from Prineville, Oregon to conduct a 3-day riparian grazing course from June 9 to 11, 2009. Course participants will examine the unique value of creeks, streams, and surrounding land; learn to recognize signs of healthy and unhealthy riparian areas; learn grazing management strategies to improve riparian areas, and develop techniques to track the success of management changes. Special emphasis will be placed on western South Dakota grazing management and riparian grazing techniques that are economically feasible for the private ranch.

This training is intended for ranchers and government agency employees who

regularly deal with grazing management issues.

The course will be a combination of classroom and field training. The field training will be on area ranches and classroom training at Western Dakota Vo-Tech on the campus of Sturgis Brown High School.

Cost to attend will be \$10 per person. Space will be limited, so interested parties should send your name, address, phone number and number of people attending to:

Matt Stoltenberg
3824 Jet Drive, P.O.
Box 725
Rapid City, SD 57709-
0725

Questions? Call Matt Stoltenberg at (605) 394-6432

More information on the National Riparian Service Team can be found at:

www.blm.gov/or/programs/nrst



Kyle Schell
Box 2170, ASC 105, SDSU
Brookings, SD 57007

Calendar of events:

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>	<u>Phone No.</u>
Bird Tour	June 5-6	Belvidere	Judge Jessop	605-280-0127
Riparian Training	June 8-12	Sturgis	Judge Jessop	605-280-0127
Deuel County Pasture Walk	July 14	Clear Lake	Kyle Schell	605-688-6623
McPherson Co. Range Day	July 16	DU Goebel Ranch	McPherson NRCS	605-439-3336
Bus Tour	July 21-22	Yankton	Kyle Schell	605-688-6623
Mob Grazing Pasture Walk	Aug 3	Quinn	Kyle Schell	605-688-6623
Grass Finished Beef Walk	Aug 4	Chamberlain	Kyle Schell	605-688-6623
Prescribed Burn Forum	Aug 12	Watertown	Kyle Schell	605-688-6623
Grazing School	Sep 15-16	Oacoma	Kyle Schell	605-688-6623

Please remit any comments, suggestions, or topics deemed necessary for further review to: Kyle Schell, SDSU Box 2170, Brookings SD 57007, kyle.schell@sdstate.edu, (605) 688-6623