

Speaker Bios:

Scott Sims and his family are ranchers at McFadden, in southeastern Wyoming. They are practitioners of holistic management and low cost production. The family has implemented practices such as windrow grazing, high intensity short term grazing, May calving, and selecting cows with lower body weight. The ranch is located in rough country with elevations that rise between 7000 and 8000 feet. They have worked out a plan to fit the cows to the environment. Scott also serves on the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust Board of Directors.

<http://www.simscattlecompany.com/>

Dr. J. Derek Scasta joined the Department of Ecosystem Science and Management in August of 2014 after completing a Ph.D. at Oklahoma State University. His doctoral research program focused on how disturbances on rangelands (such as fire and drought) and management (such as stocking rate and timing of grazing) influence cattle distribution, parasites, plant community composition and structure, plant succession, shrub regeneration and production. Before starting his Ph.D. program he worked for seven years as an Extension Educator in Texas conducting educational programming and applied research in rangeland monitoring, chemical weed and brush control, grazing management, prescribed fire, livestock production, soil salinity, and forage production. Derek's overarching interest for all activities is to bridge the gap between agriculture and conservation on rangelands.

<http://www.uwyo.edu/esm/faculty-and-staff/scasta/>

Bridger Feuz is currently the Livestock Marketing Specialist for University of Wyoming Extension. He has been integral in developing and delivering many successful livestock programs for UW Extension including; Wyoming Master Cattleman, Wyoming Master Wool Grower, Wyoming Master Hay Grower, Investing in Range Improvements, Wyoming Junior Master Cattleman and others. Bridger has served in many leadership roles both within Wyoming, regionally and nationally. He is the past chair of the Western Extension Marketing Committee and is also the past chair of the Livestock Marketing Information Center (LMIC) Technical Advisory Committee.

Bridger has been involved in the cattle business his whole life. He grew up on a commercial cow-calf ranch in Southwest Wyoming consisting of 500 head of mother cows. He also worked on summer yearling operations in partnership with his father while attending college. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture Business and a Master of Science degree in Agricultural Economics both from the University of Wyoming.

<http://uwyoextension.org/ranchtools/>

<http://www.wyomingextension.org/news/2013/01/23/uw-extension-offers-wyoming-ranch-management-institutes-at-two-locations/>

Cat Urbigkit is an author and photographer of nonfiction books for both children and adults. Urbigkit lives on a working sheep ranch in western Wyoming with her family and her livestock guardian animals, including guardian dogs and burros. Her books have received honors from the International Reading Association, Junior Library Guild, National Science Teachers Association, Society of School Librarians International, and numerous state reading associations. In her nonfiction books for adults, Urbigkit often writes about big predators, and life on western rangelands shared by these species. Cat is the author of a Wolf Watch news blog, and is a contributing writer to Stephen Bodio's Querencia nature blog. Her photographs of ranch life and wildlife appear in numerous books and magazines. Urbigkit is the co-owner and editor of The Shepherd magazine, and enjoys traveling the world learning about pastoral cultures.

<http://paradisesheep.com/index.html>

Bo Alley is Executive Director of the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust. Bo oversees operations and works closely with the Board of Directors to create and implement organizational strategies and objectives. Bo is an experienced project manager and business developer, and has worked closely with local, state, and federal agencies, private landowners, and permitting authorities, to successfully complete numerous complex transactions in the energy, construction, and conservation industries.

<http://www.wsgalt.org/>