

# Join Us for a Webinar

## Drought and Rangelands

June 7, 2017, 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm Eastern

Drought can affect the productivity and long-term species composition of rangelands in the western United States, as well as habitat quality for wildlife and forage for livestock. Drought is a periodic and sometimes chronic stressor in arid and semi-arid landscapes, creating challenges for public land managers to ensure that rangelands contain functional ecosystems and provide forage and other ecosystem services. Please join the *Office of Sustainability and Climate* to explore current issues related to drought in rangelands; examples of drought- and climate-related impacts; and management options for increasing resilience.



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### Agenda

**Moderator** – Eric Davis (*U.S. Forest Service, Assistant Director, Forest and Range Management*)

2:00	<b>Introduction</b> – Dixie Porter ( <i>Deputy Director, Office of Sustainability and Climate</i> ) and Allen Rowley ( <i>Director of Forest and Rangeland Management, U.S. Forest Service</i> )
2:10	<b>Effects of drought on rangelands: modeling and empirical</b> - Matt Reeves ( <i>U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station</i> )
2:30	<b>Q &amp; A</b>
2:35	<b>Effects of drought on rangelands: experimental studies</b> - Melinda Smith ( <i>Colorado State University</i> )
2:55	<b>Q &amp; A</b>
3:00	<b>Effects of drought on rangelands: management options</b> - Mike Pellant ( <i>Bureau of Land Management</i> )
3:20	<b>Q &amp; A, concluding remarks</b>
3:25	<b>Adjourn</b>

### Connection Information

Webinar information: <http://climatewebinars.net/webinars/drought-rangelands>

Audio Conference Line: 1-877-369-5243; **Access Code:** 0388934#

WO Meeting Room: Civilian Conservation Corps (PNW04)

Questions? Contact Lois Ziemann, [lziemann@fs.fed.us](mailto:lziemann@fs.fed.us)

*A recording of the webinar will be available upon its conclusion at the webinar link shown above.*



## Speaker Information



**Matt Reeves** is a Research Ecologist with the Rocky Mountain Research Station in Missoula, MT where he specializes in applying remote sensing and modeling to characterize ecological dynamics of rangelands. His research follows four basic themes including climatic extremes, vegetation and fuel dynamics, anthropogenic disturbance, and decision support tools for improving management efficacy.



**Melinda Smith** is a Professor of Biology, and Director of the Semi-arid Grassland Research Center (SGRC) at Colorado State University. Smith received her M.S. and Ph.D. from Kansas State University. Smith's research focuses on understanding the consequences of human-caused global changes, especially the impacts of climatic changes, biological invasions, eutrophication (e.g., increased N deposition), and altered disturbance regimes for grassland biodiversity and ecosystem structure and function.



**Mike Pellant** retired from the BLM in January 2017 after a 42-year career as a range conservationist, ecologist, and a coordinator for three Great Basin regional programs (Intermountain Greenstripping and Rehabilitation Project, Great Basin Native Plant Program, and the Great Basin Restoration Initiative). He has also served as a State Department technical advisor for the U.N. Convention to Combat Desertification. Currently, Mike is working on a targeted livestock grazing program to reduce fine fuels in the Great Basin, and revising and conducting training on "Interpreting Indicators of Rangeland Health" for the BLM. Contact info: [rangelandsolutions@mail.com](mailto:rangelandsolutions@mail.com).

