

2026 Rangelands Partnership Annual Meeting Agenda

May 18-21, 2026

Laramie, Wyoming

Elevating Rangelands to a Higher Level



Meeting Hotel: [Hilton Garden Inn - Laramie](#)
2229 Grand Avenue, Laramie, WY 82070

Monday, May 18

5:00 pm **Welcome mixer (in-person only)**
[Hilton Garden Inn](#)

Tuesday, May 19

Times listed are Mountain Time | Pacific -1hr | Central +1hr

[University of Wyoming main campus: Coe Library Room #506](#)

8:15 am **Transportation from Hilton Garden Inn to Coe Library**
Coe Library is 9 blocks west of hotel. Transportation provided. Attendees may walk. Parking is very limited.

Breakfast courtesy Dean of UW Libraries

9:00 am **Welcome to Wyoming [David Kruger, University of Wyoming, Host]**

- Cass Kvenild, Dean of UW Libraries
- Kelly Crane, Dean of UW College of Agriculture, Life Sciences, and Natural Resources

9:20 am **Introducing the RP [Sergio Arispe, Oregon State University, RP Chair]**

- WERA [Barbara Petty, Dean & Director of Extension, University of Idaho]

9:40 am **Fire Ecology in the Rocky Mountain Range [Derek Scasta with introduction by David]**

10:30 am **Break**

11:00 am **State report – Part 1 [Sergio]**

- Alaska – Jodee Kuden
- Arizona – Flavie Audoin, Ashley Hall & Jeanne Pfander
- California – Leslie Roche & Grace Woodmansee

- Colorado – Retta Bruegger & Emily Lockard
- Hawaii – Mark Thorne
- Idaho – Jeremy Kenyon, Jason Karl & Eric Winford
- Kansas – Livia Olsen & Molly Reichenborn

12:30pm Lunch (provided at North Residence Hall)

1:30 pm State report – Part 2 [Sergio]

- Montana – Craig Carr
- Nebraska – Leslie Delserone, Mitch Stephenson & Dirac Twidwell
- Nevada – Paul Meiman
- New Mexico – Casey Spackman
- North Dakota – Nicole Juve & Miranda Meehan
- Oklahoma – Laura Goodman
- Oregon – Sergio Arispe & Dustin Johnson
- South Dakota – Krista Ehlert & Nancy Marshall

3:00 pm Break – Snacks courtesy Dean of UW Libraries

3:30 pm Lightning report – Part 3 [Sergio]

- Texas – Bonnie Gardner, David Hubbard & Doug Tolleson
- Utah – Cory Farnsworth, April Hulet & Eric Thacker
- Washington – David Luftig & Tip Hudson
- Wyoming – David Kruger, Kristie Maczko & Derek Scasta
- Natural Resources User Law and Policy Center – Sheila Merrigan

4:15 pm Celebrating the IYRP: Breakout discussions about local activities [Sergio]

- What have you done so far?
- What are you planning to do next?
- Report on highlights

5:00 pm Day 2 logistics [David] & adjourn [Sergio]

6:30 pm Dinner on your own

Wednesday, May 20

Times listed are Mountain Time | Pacific -1hr | Central +1hr

University of Wyoming Laramie Research & Extension Center (LREC)

- 8:40 am** **Transportation from Hilton Garden Inn to LREC**
LREC (470 WY-230 Laramie, WY 82072) is 7 miles west of hotel. Transportation provided. Attendees may carpool or drive. Parking is plentiful. We will drive directly from LREC to the banquet at Woods Landing Cafe.
- 9:00 am** **Welcome back and logistics [David & Derek]**
- 9:05 am** **Celebrating the IYRP: Film session and discussion [Barb Hutchinson, University of Arizona]**
- 9:30 am** **Accessibility compliance with new ADA regulations for Rangelands Gateway and beyond [Bonnie]**
- 10:30 am** **Break – Snacks courtesy Dean of UW College of Agriculture**
- 11:00 am** **Science communication [Amber Dalke, University of Arizona]**
- 11:30 am** **Wild horses and management [Jeff Beck, University of Wyoming]**
- 12:30 pm** **Lunch (provided on-site)**
- 1:30 pm** **Welcome back and RP business meeting [Sergio, Jodee, Eric]**
- Review of 2025 & WERA Update – Sergio
 - Administrative update on WERA – Barbara
 - Treasurer report – Jeremy
 - Other business
 - Election for Secretary 2026-2027 & Executive Committee transition
 - RP Annual Meeting 2027
 - Group Photo
- 3:00 pm** **Break – Snacks courtesy Dean of UW College of Agriculture**
- 3:30 pm** **AI & technology advances [Livia, Jeremy]**
- 4:30 pm** **RP plans for 2025-2026, your one thing & meeting evaluation [Jodee]**
- 5:00 pm** **Tour logistics [David] & Adjourn [Jodee]**
- 5:30 pm** **Transportation from LREC to Banquet at Woods Landing Cafe (in-person only)**
Weed Management on Wyoming Ranges [Brian Mealor, University of Wyoming]

Thursday, May 21

8:20am-4pm | [Optional Field Tour](#) | [Transportation provided](#) | [Lunch provided](#)

We recommend Field Tour attendees book their return flights for the following day.

Laramie Research & Extension Center (LREC) at the University of Wyoming (UW) McGuire Ranch and Livestock Farm

8:20 am Depart Hilton Garden Inn for LREC's McGuire Ranch

Parking is plentiful for those who wish to drive separately

LREC's McGuire Ranch is a 10,000-acre rangeland and pasture research station in the UW - Agricultural Experiment Station network of farms and ranches. McGuire Ranch is currently facilitating a large grazing and soil carbon project. Dr. Derek Scasta will conduct a tour of McGuire Ranch in the context of grazing research, cattle management, and ecosystem services.

12:15 pm Lunch at LREC Livestock Farm

1:15 pm Tour of the sheep, swine, and equine facilities at the LREC Livestock Farm Wagon rides from Pistol and Pete, LREC's Halflinger draft horse team

LREC's main farm on the western edge of Laramie has equine, cattle, sheep, pig, rodeo, and greenhouse facilities and includes hay meadows and a feed mill renovation project. Research and extension initiatives includes cooperation with more than 25 faculty colleagues annually and special events such as the High Altitude Bull Test and Ram Test.

- The sheep program at LREC includes the Wyoming Wool Initiative and is primarily a Rambouillet-based flock that has a focus on wool and carcass quality. The Ram Test here dates back to 1961 and is one of the remaining University ram performance programs in the nation.
- LREC's swine program is focused on contemporary genetics, breeding, and carcass quality and offers pigs for sale through the *307 Elite* program.
- The equine program at LREC includes a Haflinger draft horse team that does farm and ranch as well as wagon pulls for parades. LREC also maintains ranch horses and donkeys for sheep protection. Elias Hutchinson will provide an overview as well as wagon rides with the draft horses Pistol and Pete.