

California's *Certified Rangeland Manager (CRM)* Program

Presentation to the BOF Range Management Advisory
Committee
May 19, 2025

Lawrence Ford, PhD, CRM License #M70
Past Chair and member of the Certification Panel,
Cal-Pac Section, Society for Range Management
Partner, Rangeland Conservation Science (consultants)

California's *Certified Rangeland Manager (CRM)* Program

1. Numbers of Certified Rangeland Manager (CRMs)
2. Origin and Purpose of the CRM program
3. Issues for Future Advancement of the CRM Program
4. Key References

California's *Certified Rangeland Manager (CRM)* Program

1. Numbers of Certified Rangeland Manager (CRMs)
 - a) Total number of licenses given since the start of the program in 1994 (134—highest CRM license #)
 - b) Current number of active licensees (BOF website lists 77)
 - c) Current number of Associate Rangeland Managers (ARMs) -- 5
 - d) Average number of exams taken per year -- 3

California's *Certified Rangeland Manager (CRM)* Program

2. Origin and Purpose of the CRM program

- a) CRM “Certified Specialty” proposed by CalPac SRM in 1992; SB 1904 signed into law 1993; adopted by BOF 1994
- b) CRM license is required by CA state law and BOF regulations for “forested landscapes” (capable to support $\geq 10\%$ native tree cover—per CA DOJ); excluding federal and private rangelands
- c) Policies defines professional activities that must be conducted or directly supervised by a licensed CRM (or RPF) with CA rangeland management expertise

California's *Certified Rangeland Manager (CRM)* Program

3. Issues for Future Advancement of the CRM Program

- a) Reduce restrictive education requirements to allow professionals with related non-range backgrounds or practical experience
- b) Add program of supplementary education to qualify and pass the exam (S. Marshall, next speaker)
- c) Promote use of the 2025 RMAC/SLGLLM “Grazing Agreement” and “Management Action Plan” templates and guidance; publish them and an update to the 2006 Bush “Grazing Handbook”

California's *Certified Rangeland Manager (CRM)* Program

4. Key References

- “Certified Rangeland Managers” on CalPac SRM website (BOF policies, program description, applications, brochure, find a CRM) --
<https://calpacsrcm.org/certified-rangeland-managers>
- 2008 Memo from Deputy Attorney General – Certified Rangeland Rangeland Management Issues --
<http://www.elkhornsloughctp.org/uploads/files/1223682249DAG%20Opinion%20on%20CRM.pdf>
- 1997 CRM History (Frost, Bartolome, and Connor) --
<https://arizona.aws.openrepository.com/bitstream/handle/10150/640485/11358-10900-1-PB.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>
- 2025 RMAC/SLGLLM “Grazing Agreement” and “Management Action Plan” templates and guidance (finals available soon)