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## DSRMP Welcomes New Cohort of Students

*The Dan Scott Ranch Management Program welcomes the Class of 2023 to the Ranching Systems major. For the next 2 years, this cohort of students will take courses in animal science, rangeland ecology and business; complete internships on working ranches; and sharpen their leadership and management skills.*

### ARENA PLENTY

Growing up on my family's ranch on the Crow Reservation, I grew a passion for the ranching lifestyle. After graduating from Hardin High School, I attended Dawson Community College where I received my Associate of Science degree. I now am looking forward to building the foundation for what it takes to look at ranching from the managerial perspective. I aspire to continue ranching and running a successful and sustainable operation.

*"I found everything I was looking for in the Ranching Systems Major. I believe with the wide range of education I will receive while in the program, as well as getting the opportunity to gain hands-on experience with the summer internship, I can build a strong foundation to take with me as I continue to pursue my goals of becoming a successful rancher in today's world." – Arena Plenty*



### CAYDEN ROSE

I was raised on Mountain Sky Guest Ranch and B Bar Ranch, both located near Emigrant, MT. I have worked at multiple ranches in the Paradise Valley which expanded my experiences in horsemanship and training, pasture roping, doctoring, noxious weed management, pasture management, fencing, haying, and complying with organic standards along with many other ranch activities. I enjoy the outdoors as I am an avid hunter, fisherman and skier. While spending my life on ranches, I have realized the importance of gaining a broad knowledge of the agricultural industry.

*"I believe that the Dan Scott Ranch Management program more accurately addresses this goal than any other major MSU has to offer. A degree in Ranching Systems would certainly provide an excellent foundation for my long term goal of becoming a ranch manager." – Cayden Rose*

Photo courtesy of Tristan Bess



## GEORGIA WORTMAN

I grew up on two different, multi-generational ranches southeast of Big Sandy, Montana: one in the Upper Missouri River Breaks and the other in the southern part of the Bear Paw Mountains. Both operations run around a hundred head of commercial Black Angus cattle. Prior to college, I was an active member and leader of the 4-H and FFA organizations, and at MSU I am a active in Collegiate Stockgrowers of MSU, the Collegiate Young Farmers and Ranchers of MSU, and the Collegiate CattleWomen of MSU. Upon graduation, I plan to return home to keep the family legacy alive.

*"I am incredibly impassioned to be a part of this relatively new program! I hope to become more knowledgeable of our rapidly developing industry, and I hope to apply new ideas and approaches to my past experiences and understandings regarding the ranching profession." – Georgia Wortman*

## JULIA HUDSON

I grew up in the tiny town of Potomac, MT with a passion for Red Angus cattle, good horses, family, and my faith. I showed in 4H for 11 years and spent my free time helping on the ranch or playing sports. Between years spent showing 4H and working alongside my family, I have grown to appreciate and love ranching and the values of the agricultural community. This has led me to pursue my future in agriculture through Montana State University.

*"My love for ranching began early in life and I am grateful to the Dan Scott Ranch Management Program for helping me pursue that passion and for the opportunity to become a better advocate for ranching. I am most looking forward to the incredible people I know I will meet along the way." – Julia Hudson*



## **Host a student intern through the Ranching Systems Degree**

**The Dan Scott Ranch Management Program is seeking ranches that are dedicated to the education of the next generation and are interested in hosting interns through the program.**

### **When are students available for work?**

- Students serve 2 consecutive summers with the host ranch, but are encouraged to maintain the relationship year-round to maximize learning and to participate in significant ranch events throughout the year.

### **How are interns and host ranches matched?**

- The initial pairing is done by the DSRMP Program Lead based on student experience and interests and ranch opportunities. Ranches interview prospective students and can choose to extend a job offer or decline the intern.

### **Are the internships paid positions?**

- Students are employees of the ranch with salary and living arrangements determined by the ranch. The DSRMP does not set a minimum wage, but encourages ranches to compensate students fairly in accordance with their experience and skills.
- Students are expected to work as a regular ranch hand, but we also ask the ranch to involve the student in as many different day-to-day tasks as possible along with the planning and decision making activities of the ranch.

### **How will hosting an intern benefit my ranch?**

- Students will work closely with the ranch to identify areas where the student and MSU can assist the ranch on a specific topic or project of importance to the ranch.
- Expand the relationship between your ranch and Montana State University and associated resources.
- Student interns are prospective future employees.

### **How do I apply to host an intern?**

- Go to [https://animalrange.montana.edu/danscott/danscott\\_mentor\\_ranches\\_application.html](https://animalrange.montana.edu/danscott/danscott_mentor_ranches_application.html) and fill out the application to become an internship host. Or, contact:

Rachel Frost, Program Lead, [frost@montana.edu](mailto:frost@montana.edu), 406-994-3724 office, 406-223-7262 cell

***“By turning young people’s passion for ranching into a profitable profession, the Dan Scott Ranch Management Program at Montana State University is ensuring the legacy of MT ranching does not just continue, it thrives.”***

*-Rachel Frost, Program Lead DSRMP*



**Not interested in hosting an intern? – You can support the program by becoming a Partner.**  
Learn more at: [http://animalrange.montana.edu/danscottranchmanagementpartners\\_program.html](http://animalrange.montana.edu/danscottranchmanagementpartners_program.html)

# Dan Scott Ranch Management Outreach Program: Natural Resource & Policy Seminar Series

## Speakers and dates set for 2020-2021 Seminar Series

Please join us for the remaining 4 seminars in the Natural Resource & Policy Seminar Series. All the seminars will be offered virtually through WebEx. Join in real-time, or watch the recordings at your convenience.

To access the meetings, or recordings visit:

<http://animalrange.montana.edu/danscott/danscott-seminars.html>

### Natural Resource & Policy Seminar Series Spring 2021

- **January 26th, 2021** – *The Endangered Species Act and CCAAs* (Jodi Bush, US Fish & Wildlife Service and Kelsey Molloy, The Nature Conservancy)
- **February 23rd, 2021** - *The NEPA process and opportunities for public participation* (Peter Taylor, Crowley Fleck Attorneys, Bozeman)
- **March 30th, 2021** - *Natural resource planning and cost-share conservation programs* (TBD Natural Resource Conservation Service)
- **April 27th, 2021** - *Noxious weed law and the growing threat from invasive species* (Jasmine Reimer, MT Department of Agriculture)
- **May 25th, 2021** - *Conservation Easements / Grass banking and helping the next generation of ranchers get on the land* (Brian Martin, The Nature Conservancy)

## Conservation and Ranch Planning Research



**We need rancher voices.**

Colorado State University is surveying ranchers in Colorado, Wyoming, North and South Dakota, Montana, New Mexico, and Nebraska on ranch management planning.

Results will inform outreach and program design on ranch management planning, not just for Colorado State, but also other groups supporting ranching. Too often, programs come to producers via national or university programs that may not match rancher needs and preferences. **Here is your chance to have a voice and help steer programs to be more effective for conservation AND ranchers.**

Please, take the survey at this link and circulate with friends, family, and peers: <https://bit.ly/RanchSurvey>

## Seasons Greetings from DSRMP

*Much like the picture, this past year was a shaky ride and there were times when we were barely hanging on. However, the rhythm of the seasons kept beating, the ancient patterns of life kept repeating, and somehow we have found this most extraordinary year drawing to a close. We have all adapted, left our comfort zone behind, and accepted (if not embraced) a new way of doing business. We could not have done it without your support and encouragement along the way.*



*Wishing you all the comfort of memories, the blessing of health, the hope of the future and the joy of family this Christmas and in the New Year.*

*- Rachel Frost, Program Lead*

## Events and Educational Opportunities

MSU Extension produces resources for generational transfer of farms and ranches, a challenging process for many families. The MSU Extension MontGuide “Transferring Your Farm/Ranch to the Next Generation” has worksheets and information for each member of a family to help focus their thoughts and feelings about succession planning issues.

<https://store.msuextension.org/publications/FamilyFinancialManagement/EB0149.pdf>

King Ranch Institute for Ranch Management releases 2021 Rancher Education Opportunities, many of which are offered virtually. Check out these valuable educational opportunities.

<http://krirm.tamuk.edu/lectureships-and-symposia/>

- W.B. "Dub" Yarborough Lectureship on Real Estate Law for Ranchers. Zoom Webinar: January 7-8, 2021

Northwest Farm Credit Services Upcoming events

<https://www.northwestfcs.com/en/Resources/eventsregistration>

MT NRCS Upcoming workshops and trainings:

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/mt/newsroom/events/>

### Cowboys- A Documentary Portrait

“COWBOYS - A Documentary Portrait” is a feature-length film that gives viewers the opportunity to ride alongside modern working cowboys on some of America’s largest and most remote cattle ranches.

Montana Ranch Sales Boom in wake of Covid-19 Pandemic – what does this change in demographics mean for the ranch management industry?

[https://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/coronavirus/state-ranch-sales-boom-as-covid-migrants-seek-refuge/article\\_b2c9e992-7f09-5a7e-a3dd-5ebdb7f9c04f.html](https://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/coronavirus/state-ranch-sales-boom-as-covid-migrants-seek-refuge/article_b2c9e992-7f09-5a7e-a3dd-5ebdb7f9c04f.html)

## Sharing Expertise

Networking for students has looked very different this year, but thanks to some dedicated ranch managers and technology, they still had the opportunity to learn from some of the best in the business. Thanks to Race King, Hank Willemsma, Jaime Wood and the remarkable Burke Tiechert for sharing their expertise, advice, and career pathways with students.



## A Time of Thanks



As we reflect on 2020 and the growth of the Dan Scott Ranch Management Program, it is only appropriate to extend our sincere thanks to our partners who continue to support this program and its students. We appreciate you and wish you all the best in 2021!

### Dan Scott Ranch Management Program Partners

Risa Scott  
Switchback Ranches  
8 Mile Ranch  
Northwest Farm Credit Services  
Trailsend Foundation  
Lonestar Land & Cattle  
Shields Valley Ranch  
Ken & Mary Beth Walsh  
Madison Valley Garden Ranch  
Solso Family Foundation

Hamilton Ranches  
Fay Ranches  
Legacy Ranch  
Turner Ranches  
Ralston Gap Cattle Company  
Swan Land Company  
Centennial Livestock  
Spur Cross Ranch  
Wiedemann Ranch

To join the Dan Scott Ranch Management partner program call Jesse Tufte at the MSU Alumni Foundation. 406-994-4207  
Or at [jesse.tufte@msuaf.org](mailto:jesse.tufte@msuaf.org)