

## **Society of Range Management Research Priorities**

### **Agricultural and Environmental Quality**

Since managed grazing is rangeland agriculture, agriculture and environmental quality research priorities center on developing grazing management technologies that protect and/or enhance environmental quality. Of particular interest are the management of riparian areas (i.e., water quality concerns) and the manipulation of a suite of rangeland vegetation types as they relate to providing a quality environment for a wide array of uses (i.e., wildlife habitat, endangered species, recreation, etc.). In addition, developing effective technologies for managing and controlling invasive and noxious weeds is of paramount concern as is the restoration of degraded rangelands to their productive capacity.

### **Agricultural Security**

Research focuses on developing technologies that protect rangeland resources critical to the production of food and fiber (e.g., soil and water) while maintaining and/or enhancing biodiversity. This includes developing effective resource assessment and monitoring technologies that identify long-term trends in the ecological condition and functional capacity of rangeland ecosystems. It also includes developing technologies that limit ecological, economic, and social risks associated with such phenomena as drought and wildfires.

### **Genomics and Food and Fiber**

Research focuses on protecting native and developing new germplasm required to enhance agricultural production, protect valuable resources (e.g., soil), and restore degraded rangeland ecosystems.

### **Obesity, Human Nutrition, and Food Science**

### **Food Safety**

### **Rural and Community Development**

Research is needed to better understand the ecological and social connectedness between rural rangeland based economies and the overall economic and social well-being of American society. In addition, research is needed to develop new and innovative rangeland based enterprises that are ecologically and economically sustainable, socially acceptable and capable of sustaining rural American communities.