



The mission of The Quivira Coalition is to foster ecological, economic and social health on western landscapes through education, innovation, collaboration and progressive public and private land stewardship.

## The New Ranch Network

In the fall of 2002, the Board of Directors of The Quivira Coalition decided to implement a new program, called the New Ranch Network, as part of a long-range plan of work for the organization.

The goal of the New Ranch Network is to respond to the specific needs of a landowner, association, or community – ‘eager learners’ – and give them whatever assistance we can through a network of ranchers, scientists, consultants, specialists, conservationists, volunteers and others. The purpose is to assist a rancher or other landowner in ‘making the leap’ to progressive stewardship through collaboration.

This assistance is in the form of Referrals, Coaches, Mentors, Specialists, a Grant Program, and a Web-based Directory.

Typical assistance includes: helping a rancher develop a planned grazing program; organizing a low-stress livestock handling clinic; finding a mentoring rancher for someone who needs one; giving a small grant to a landowner; linking a scientist or graduate student with a rancher; helping to start a watershed-based collaborative effort; organizing tours for local ranchers; finding an apprentice or a young rancher to work with a landowner; or delivering monitoring or mapping services.

The inspiration for the New Ranch Network grew out

of our seven-year partnership with Jim and Joy Williams, who ranch south of Quemado, New Mexico. Through our contacts we were able to link Jim and Joy to a variety of resources, including Kirk Gadzia, who helped them design a new grazing plan in collaboration with the Forest Service; Gail Garber with Hawks Aloft, who conducted bird surveys on the Williams’ private land; Bill Zeedyk, who led a substantial riparian restoration project; and numerous volunteers and friends, all of whom have assisted the project over the years.

Although this project was quite successful, we realized that The Quivira Coalition could not become this deeply involved in project

after project. It was a question of scale – how to best help landowners across the region. Rather than become deeply involved with a landowner, we decided we could be more useful as a “matchmaker” – linking landowners with resources, both financial and human, through a formal Network.



Upper Eagle Creek Watershed Group

### Current funding for the New Ranch Network is provided by:

- ▶ The USDA Forest Service
- ▶ Environmental Defense
- ▶ Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM)
- ▶ Sonoran Institute; and
- ▶ Individual Investors like you! (see back page)

### Getting Started

In 2003, The Quivira Coalition received grants for the New Ranch Network (NRN) from the Messengers of the Healing Winds Foundation and the Thaw Charitable Trust, both located in Santa Fe, New Mexico. It was followed, early in 2004, by a grant from the Sonoran Institute via their Resources for Community Collaboration (RCC) program.

The aim of all three grants was to get the Network on its feet.

In the summer and fall of 2004, The Quivira Coalition received two additional grants. The first was from Environmental Defense, a national nonprofit conservation organization. The grant was part of a new campaign called 'Back From the Brink' which focuses on private land and key endangered species across the nation. The goal of this campaign is to encourage best management practices and other voluntary conservation activities among private landowners through incentive programs – such as the 2002 Farm Bill.

The second grant came from the U.S Forest Service, Region Three. This is a substantial, two-year grant to support the New Ranch Network's outreach to grazing permittees across Arizona and New Mexico. The list of potential activities that could be conducted under this grant is long, including website development, range schools, workshops, and small grants.

At The Quivira Coalition's Fourth Annual Conference in January, 2005, we hosted a day-long Range School, sponsored by the Forest Service, featuring instructors from Colorado Extension Service and the USFS. Over one hundred people attended.

Shortly following the Conference, questionnaires went out to ranchers, consultants, scientists, conservationists, and many others who we considered to be likely members of the 'pool' of resources we needed to get the NRN started.

The idea was to create a database of potential NRN partners, complete with information on daily rates, willingness to travel, subjects of interest or expertise, desire to be a 'Coach,' 'Mentor' or 'Specialist' – so that we know who is willing to do what before we enter

into a dialogue with landowners or other community members.

### So Far

Here is a summary of what the New Ranch Network has accomplished to date:

✿ Cost-shared the employment of Kirk Gadzia as a Coach for Tom and Cinda Cole, who recently purchased a ranch near Silver City, NM. The Coles are eager to manage their property for land health goals, including restoring their substantial riparian area and improving the uplands for wildlife. Kirk helped them set goals and create a long-term vision for the property.



Nick Ewing practicing low-stress herding techniques during the September 2005 Springerville, AZ Low-Stress Livestock Handling Clinic.

✿ We accepted a grant proposal from the Upper Eagle Creek Watershed Association, located in the Blue Mountains north of Morenci, Arizona. The grant enabled them to complete a comprehensive watershed restoration plan in cooperation with the Forest Service. A group of eight ranch families, most of whom are public lands permittees, the Association recently became a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization. In August 2005, their work paid off when the Arizona Dept. of Agriculture awarded them over \$700,000 in grants to implement their watershed plan.

✿ We have accepted a grant proposal from the Canelo Hills Coalition, a group of Forest Service permittees and private lands ranchers located south of Sonoita, Arizona, to train Coalition members in new monitoring protocols developed and taught by the University of Arizona and the NRCS.

✿ We have accepted a grant proposal from rancher Anne Verner, a public school science teacher and member of the Upper Verde River Adaptive Management

# The NEW RANCH NETWORK

www.newranch.net

A project of The Quivira Coalition

Partnership – an association of Forest Service permittees located near Prescott, Arizona – to cost-share an environmental education program at Chino Valley High School. This program focuses on land health, ranching, and public lands.

✿ We have accepted a proposal from the Diablo Trust, a twelve-year old ranching and conservation collaborative group based in Flagstaff, Arizona, to implement an innovative social and ecological monitoring program in cooperation with faculty members at Northern Arizona University.

✿ We paid the expenses for Guy Glosson, a rancher and educator and member of the New Ranch Network,

to teach a two-day low-stress livestock handling clinic in Springerville, Arizona, in mid-September. The clinic was organized by the Upper Eagle Creek Watershed Association, who provided a substantial in-kind match. The clinic was advertised to five Forest Service Districts in the area.

✿ We have launched the New Ranch Network web site (www.newranch.net) which will be a Directory for folks looking for contact information and other assistance.

And we're just getting started!

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Please consider attending our Next New Ranch Network educational opportunity.

The Quivira Coalition and the USDA Forest Service Announce a One-day Range School with

*Dr. Fred Provenza*

## *Cows Have Culture Too: the Behavioral Principles for Animal, Vegetation and Ecosystem Management*

Thursday January 12, 2005 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Albuquerque Hilton, Albuquerque, NM  
(in connection with Quivira's 5th Annual Conference)

This seminar will discuss relationships among soils, plants, herbivores, people, and the management of ecosystems. We highlight behavioral principles and processes, explore avenues for research, and discuss implications for managing dynamic systems, including current issues in production agriculture (feedlots, pastures, rangelands), ecosystem restoration (riparian areas, control of invasive species), wildlife damage management (food and habitat preferences), biodiversity (enhancing and maintaining diversity), and conservation biology (re-introductions of endangered species).

Throughout, we discuss principles of behavior as they pertain to food and habitat selection, and illustrate implications for enhancing dispersion of grazing across landscapes, thereby changing traditional patterns of use for managing riparian areas; for controlling weeds and managing fire breaks; for minimizing damage to economically valuable crops by wild and domestic herbivores; for enhancing and maintaining biodiversity; and for reducing losses in animals from toxic plants and "hard" introduction into unfamiliar environments. (con't page 4)



## ***Cows Have Culture Too....***

(con't from page 3)

This Seminar is a BEHAVE short course. BEHAVE, founded by Dr. Provenza, is a learning process dedicated to inspiring and enabling people to understand and use knowledge of behavior – ours and other creatures – to provide ecological, economic, and social services. In this process, everyone involved is a student attempting to better understand behavior at all levels from genes to landscapes, to use understanding of behavior to better manage landscapes, and to help people to learn to appreciate that our differences are our collective strength in managing landscapes for various values and services.



The Quivira Coalition  
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Santa Fe, NM 87505

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Santa Fe, NM  
Permit No. 523

### **Cost: \$20 per person**

You can register on-line at:

<http://www.quiviracoalition.org> and click on Annual Conference and then Register On-Line or Mail-In Registration. For more information, e-mail [admin@quiviracoalition.org](mailto:admin@quiviracoalition.org) or phone 505-820-2544 Ext. 0#.

## **Become an Investor in The New Ranch Network!**



The Quivira Coalition can very efficiently and effectively put your financial support to work. By investing in the New Ranch Network, you can help us leverage significant change on-the-ground quickly! Many grants and other form of supports to participants are small - in the range of \$2,500 - \$5,000. Often, that's all it takes to help someone take the 'leap' to progressive management.

All contributions from New Ranch Network funds are matched 1 to 1 by the local landowner or community.

Please consider a contribution to The New Ranch Network Fund. You can give on-line at [www.quiviracoalition.org](http://www.quiviracoalition.org) or send a check to 1413 Second St. Ste #1, Santa Fe, NM 87505. Please identify your tax-deductible gift as 'New Ranch Network'.

Thank You!  
Courtney White

*Courtney*



"Collaborative Ranching in Action" workshop on the Ute Creek Cattle Co. Ranch, Bueyeros, NM. August 2005. Photo by Deborah Myrin