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KRIRM Ranch Management Symposium to Focus on Integrating Wildlife and Ranching Enterprises

KINGSVILLE, TEXAS (June 19, 2015)—Ranching and wildlife experts from across the country will present at the King Ranch® Institute for Ranch Management's (KRIRM) annual symposium Oct. 22-23, 2015, in Kingsville, Texas.

The topic for the 12th Annual Holt Cat® Symposium on Excellence in Ranch Management, "Integrating Wildlife Management into a Ranching Enterprise," will feature discussions on the effective management of wildlife as part of the broader management objective of diverse ranches.

On a ranch that encompasses land, livestock, and people, managing another aspect, such as wildlife, can be challenging, said KRIRM Director and Robert J. Kleberg, Jr. and Helen C. Kleberg Endowed Chair Clay Mathis, Ph.D.

"There are a host of issues and opportunities managers and landowners face across the country when it comes to integrating these facets of ranching," explained Mathis. "That is why we have assembled a symposium that will provide learning opportunities of equal value to managers from Texas and other private lands states, to those that manage ranches in the western states that are predominantly public lands."

Throughout the two-day program, presentations will include wildlife regulatory and management approaches, managing habitat for cattle and wildlife, leasing access versus guided hunting enterprises, transmission of diseases between wildlife and livestock, and more. A separate educational track for ranchers from public lands states will include muledeer management, commercialized hunting in the West, and the implications of sage grouse recovery on ranching.

The speaker lineup boasts experts from diverse ranches to wildlife research institutes, all with experiences that will provide value and knowledge to each symposium attendee.

"Our speakers have been selected because of their unique and extensive experience in managing ranches, including wildlife and livestock," said Mathis.

Speakers will include Carter Smith, Executive Director, Texas Parks and Wildlife; Dave DeLaney, Vice President and General Manager of Ranching and Wildlife Operations, King Ranch, Inc.; Fred Bryant, Ph.D., Leroy G. Denman, Jr. Endowed Director, Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute; Bob McCan, National Cattlemen's Beef Association Past President and Manager, McFaddin Enterprises; and more.

Registration is \$150, which includes all workbook materials, lunch, refreshments, Thursday night steak dinner, and an in-depth tour of ranching and wildlife operations at King Ranch. A trade show will also be held during symposium that will host vendors from wildlife and ranching industries, agricultural businesses, and land management and nutrition companies. For more information about the symposium and to download the agenda, visit krirm.tamuk.edu/symposium.

About KRIRM

KRIRM is a ranch management master's program at Texas A&M University-Kingsville that was formed in 2003 in honor of the 150th Anniversary of the legendary King Ranch. As the only ranch management master's program in the world, KRIRM teaches graduate students using a multi-disciplinary, systems approach to ranch management and provides the highest quality lectureships and symposia to stakeholders in the ranching industry. The programs serve the ranching industry by empowering graduate students and outreach attendees with skills that will enable them to strategically manage complex ranching operations and successfully lead our industry. For more information about KRIRM, and the master's and certificate programs, visit krirm.tamuk.edu.