

July 15, 2021

**ITEM 195-1001-R0721**

**Request for Authorization for Rangeland Analytics, Inc to license and use UM-owned intellectual property – University of Montana, Missoula**

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**THAT**

The Board of Regents of Higher Education approves UM-Missoula employees Dr. Brady Allred, Dr. Matthew Jones, and Dr. David Naugle for having an equity interest in and to serve as officers, employees, or members of a governing board of Rangeland Analytics, LLC. The Board of Regents of Higher Education further authorizes the University of Montana-Missoula to enter into patent option or licensing agreements and other contractual arrangements with Rangeland Analytics, LLC, consistent with MUS and UM policies that support faculty inventors and support Montana economic development.

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**EXPLANATION**

Dr. Brady Allred is an Associate Professor in the Department of Forest Management in the W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation. Dr. Matthew Jones is a research scientist in the Numerical Terradynamic Simulation Group. Dr. David Naugle is a Professor in the Department of Ecosystem and Conservation Sciences in the W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation. Drs. Allred, Jones, and Naugle seek approval to hold equity interests in and to serve as officers, employees, or members of a governing board of Rangeland Analytics, LLC.

Drs. Allred, Jones, and Naugle will work in accordance with conflict management plans developed by UM. Under Policy 407 and MCA 20-25-109, university employees must have board approval to serve as officers, employees, or members of a governing board of a business entity, or to hold an equity interest in a business entity which has an agreement with, or shares ownership of intellectual property with the university relating to the development, licensing, or commercial exploitation of that intellectual property.

UM benefits from this approval. By allowing this University/private-sector relationship, intellectual property developed at the University of Montana can be used to grow a Montana-based company, will set an example for other entrepreneurs from the University looking for opportunities for commercialization of their innovations and creations, and will generate goodwill for University employees and the private sector.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment #1: Submission Form