



Photo by Lee Knox



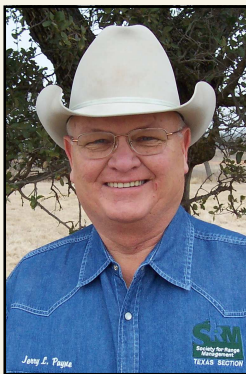
PUBLISHED BY THE TEXAS SECTION SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT

*Providing Leadership for the Stewardship of Rangelands
Based on Sound Ecological Principles*



JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2008 **Volume 60, Number 1**

President's Notes



**Jerry Payne
President, TSSRM**

2008! A Leap Year filled with unbelievable opportunities. We have one extra day (24 hours) to enjoy this year. What will we do with it? I am so humbled at being your TSSRM President, that I need this extra day to express my sincere gratitude to you for trusting me to lead and promote our great Texas Section.

I hope you can receive the benefits that I have received from the Texas Section of the SRM. My membership and participation has been unbelievably beneficial to me and my family. Yes, my family. My wife, Doris, our son, Robert and our daughter, Mary Stone, have shared and learned through our Section. We have attended numerous annual national summer meetings. We have made SRM and our rangeland resources a family affair. I hope you will encourage your family to also participate in various functions.

One of the greatest benefits from our involvement has been the friendships we have made and cultivated. What other venue could we have used to meet so many interesting and caring individuals? The contacts and the networking that the Section affords us are irreplaceable. The confidence, support and trust that we have received from our peers has been extraordinary. We truly are a Section of varied interests and beliefs but with a common love of the land and its resources.

My membership in SRM has broadened my perceptions, experiences, and knowledge of our rangelands. The continuing education that I have received from our annual meetings, field days, and periodicals have kept me abreast of the newest and most advanced concepts within our discipline. Anyone who works with or is interested in rangelands will benefit from being a member. As in all organizations, you will get out of the TSSRM what you put into it.

If you are a new member, we solicit your participation and input. We have an untiring and dedicated core group of individuals who work countless hours, but we need YOU. New ideas, thoughts and experiences are what will keep our Section viable and growing. We do not want to do it like it has always been done, but do it the best way – old or new.

I have heard and read the same appeal every year, but I admit that I have not always listened or committed myself to work to include new or inactive members.

We worry about the future of the TSSRM. WHY? We need to work to make membership in our Society so exciting that there is no question as to why it is so important. We need to encourage our co-workers, friends, and associates that we need them. We must show them how they will benefit from their membership. We have so much to offer. Tell someone! Show someone! Encourage someone! Mentor someone! Just care!

See **President's Notes** on page 2

The Inside Story...

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- **TSSRM Awards Recipients**
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Texas Section Officers and Directors

Jerry L Payne, President
 PO Box 465
 Henrietta, TX 76365-0465
 H: (940) 538-5241 M: (940) 781-2250
 E: dlpayne465@hotmail.com

Melony Sikes, First Vice President
 16061 Fitzgerald Drive
 San Angelo, TX 76904
 H: (325) 835-3025
 E: melonytssrm@zipnet.us

William E. "Bill" Pinchak, Second Vice President
 3515 Beaver St., Vernon, TX 76384-6555
 H: (940) 553-3880 O: (940) 552-9941 x242
 F: (940) 553-4567
 E: w-pinchak@tamu.edu

Paul V Loeffler, Past President
 PO Box 1407, Alpine, TX 79830-1407
 H: (432) 837-2635 M: (432) 386-3101
 E: pvl913@yahoo.com

Bruce S. Healy, Secretary
 Website, Administrative Handbook
 (9229 CR 530)
 PO Box 67, Tynan, TX 78391-0067
 H: (361) 547-5148
 E: tssrm_secretary@yahoo.com

Robert Moen, Treasurer
 PO Box 43, Sonora, TX 76950-0043
 H: (325) 387-2942 O: (325) 387-3168
 F: (325) 387-5045 E: rmoen@sonoratax.net

Phillip N Wright, Director 2006-2008
 290 Ave. M, Hondo, TX 78861-1005
 H: (830) 426-2967 E: threebelle@sbcglobal.net

Robert K. Lyons, Director 2006-2008
 100 River Valley, Castroville, TX 78009
 H: (830) 538-9140 O: (830) 278-9151
 H: (830) 278-4008 E: rk-lyons@tamu.edu

Donald Q. Cox, Director 2007-2009
 5730 SE 5551, Andrews, TX 79714
 H: (432) 524-3744 O: (432) 557-3789
 F: (432) 524-6200 E: dcox@utsystem.edu

Lee A. Knox, Director 2007-2009
 361 Foothill Rd., Abilene, TX 79602
 H: (325) 692-1026 E: leeaknox@yahoo.com

Scott James Petty, Director 2008-2010
 Petty Ranch Company
 1200 St Hwy 173 N, Hondo, TX 78861-6511
 H: (830) 741-3969 F: (800) 537-5466
 E: scottjpetty@mindspring.com

Jeff Goodwin, Director 2008-2010
 4321 W Hwy 22, Corsicana TX 75110
 H: (254) 977-2663 O: (903) 874-5131 x3
 F: (903) 872-1130
 E: jeff.goodwin@yahoo.com

Jeff Goodwin, Newsletter Editor
 4321 W Hwy 22, Corsicana, TX 75110
 H: (254) 977-2663 O: (903) 874-5131 x3
 F: (903) 872-1130
 E: jeff.goodwin@yahoo.com

Jan Wiedemann, Archivist
 4000 Stony Creek Ln
 College Station, TX 77845
 H: (979) 690-8685 E: read.books@verizon.net
 Grass Roots, 4321 W Hwy 22, Corsicana, TX 75110, is published bimonthly by the Texas Section, Society for Range Management.
 Address inquiries to Jeff Goodwin, Editor

TSSRM New Members

Let us welcome our new members to the Section.

Thank you for your continued support for rangeland stewardship.

- James W. Batey College Station, TX
- William A. Cohen Horseshoe Bay, TX
- Brenda A. Gibson Bend, TX
- Justin L. Gonzales Ingram, TX
- Kelly N. Jones Bastrop, TX
- David A. Keierleber Wills Point, TX
- Regina C. Knorpp Clarendon, TX
- Barbara Loeb De Leon, TX
- Kimberly C. McCuiston Kingsville, TX
- Elizabeth McMahon Harper, TX
- Clayton Swanson El Campo, TX

President's Notes (continued from page 1)

We must understand and encourage diversity. We do not and will not and should not always agree or support the same initiatives. But, we must be of one mind in learning, growing, debating, and agreeing to disagree. We are not a one-dimensional Society. The objective of TSSRM is "to foster advancement in the science and art of grazing land management, to promote progress in the conservation and greatest sustained use of forage and soil resources, to stimulate discussion and understanding of scientific and practical range and pasture problems, to provide a medium for the exchange of ideas and facts among Section members and with allied technologists, and to encourage professional improvement of its members."

We are professionals including; ranchers, consultants, agency personnel, academia, researchers, environmentalists, and others who use our rangeland resources. We are all different with various training, life experiences, goals, and biases. This is what makes us so great. Our Texas Section was well represented at the Louisville Annual Meeting.

The Board of Directors is considering several issues which they believe will improve our Society.

Some of these proposals are readily acceptable, but one or two are open for debate. What really is the best for our Society? Attached to this newsletter is a summary of one of these issues and a short questionnaire to be completed and returned by March 1. This is your chance to have your voice heard. Please read, consider and express your opinion.

Jerry Payne

Upcoming Events

Pesticide CEU Workshop
 Washington County Fairgrounds
 February 29, 2008
 RSVP-(979) 277-6212

Grazing Management Workshop
 Blooming Grove, TX
 May 16, 2008

Red Buffalo Prescribed Burn School
 Junction, TX
 July 2008

Oct. 8-10, 2008
TSSRM ANNUAL MEETING
 Nacogdoches



POSITION AVAILABLE

M.S. Level Research Associate in Rangeland Plant Ecology

DESCRIPTION: Seeking an individual to assist the Project Leader in conducting research related to the ecology and management of woody plants such as mesquite and juniper on rangelands in north Texas. Research topics include rangeland restoration, fire ecology, shrub/grass interactions, and shrub biomass for bio-energy uses. Activities will be conducted at the Texas AgriLife Research center in Vernon, Texas. **QUALIFICATIONS:** Master's degree in rangeland science, ecology or a related field is required. Experience with plant ecology field data collection and statistics is required. Experience with GIS technology, dataloggers and/or prescribed burning is preferred. Must possess a valid driver's license and be able to work outdoors in summer. This is a full time budgeted position. **APPLICATIONS:** Applicants should apply online at <https://greatjobs.tamu.edu> (Click on "Search Postings" and enter Research Associate in the Position Title category. The Hiring Unit is Chillicothe-Vernon). Contact information (e-mail or phone) for 3 references is required. **For more information, please contact Dr. Jim Ansley at 940-552-9941 ext 234 or E-mail: r-ansley@tamu.edu.** The Texas AgriLife Research (formerly the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station) is part of the Texas A&M System and is an EO/AA Employer.

SRM Awards Nominations Deadline – April 30, 2008

Each year an important part of the Texas Section activities is the recognition of deserving individuals for various awards. SRM award nominations are due by April 30, 2008 at SRM office. Information regarding the various SRM award categories can be found at <http://rangelands.org/awards>. Nominations can be submitted directly to the SRM office; however, it is preferable for nominators to work with the Section Awards Committee to assure that the nomination is properly prepared and submitted in the appropriate award category. TSSRM Awards Committee would need to receive the nomination forms by April 1, 2008. If there is someone you would like to nominate or if you need additional information, please contact George Peacock, TSSRM Awards Committee Chair at pea01@msn.com or 817-484-2605.

Attention, Member Photographers

By Bruce Healy, TSSRM Secretary

At the Lubbock Board of Directors meeting, the Board charged Jeff Goodwin and myself to come up with a way to update the photo contest to allow *submission of digital photos throughout the year* and have the winners announced at the annual meeting.

A proposal was given to the board at their January meeting, and it was approved for uploading. If it is not "live" by the time you read this, it will be shortly. Check out the website for more information.

In addition to the photo contest rules/submission process via email, we are adding an additional webpage of rangeland photos. Some of the photos may also be distributed throughout the website, also. (If I have already used one of your photos on the webpage, but I haven't given you photo credit, please let me know and we will get it updated.)

If you were a winner in a past photo contest, we would love to have the photo electronically, please include your name, year of contest/placing, and a photo caption.

Anyone who has not participated in the contest, and has excellent **color or black and white photos** (categories: Plants, Landscapes, Wildlife, Ranching, Livestock) who would like to contribute to our webpage, we would love to have them also. *Please follow the photo contest rules for identifying the files when submitting.*

Photographers should be aware that all photos submitted may also be considered for TSSRM use in other publications (e.g. newsletter), informational booth updates, etc. as these future needed projects are identified.

Depending on the number of photos submitted, we may use yours right away, or save it for a future update. Anyway, all photos used will have appropriate photographer/citation credit.

Thanks for your interest in photography, now submit those photos!

Call for Nominations

Outstanding Rangeland Management Award

The purpose of this award is to recognize one Texas ranch each year that has demonstrated outstanding skill and knowledge in practicing sound management and care of their rangeland resources. If you know of a ranch that is deserving of this award please, please take the time to nominate them. If a ranch has received the award in the past, they can not receive the award a second time. The deadline for receipt of the nominations is June 1st. Do not wait until the last minute. Contact Allan McGinty (ORM Committee Chair) for a copy of the nomination form and for a list of past recipients to ensure your ranch is eligible. Allan can be contacted by e-mail (a-mcginty@tamu.edu) or phone (325-653-4576).

Frederic G. Renner Award

Dr. E. Lamar Smith



The Frederic G. Renner Award is the most prestigious award bestowed by the Society. It was made possible by a generous contribution from Frederic G. Renner, a Charter and Life member, and SRM's second President (1949). The award is presented with the belief that such recognition will foster better use of rangeland resources and a broader understanding of the contributions that these resources make to the welfare of all people.

Lamar Smith has been a researcher, teacher, extension educator, Fulbright Scholar, international development specialist, rancher, consultant, real estate appraiser, and department head. He has served the Society for Range Management in every way conceivable from member to committee member, committee chair, board member and officer. He has served outside of SRM in promoting the cause of range management through activity on Advisory Councils, as an invited speaker, and as an international consultant.

What one often forgets about Lamar is his activity as an educator. Lamar has taught every course considered mandatory for one to be formally trained in range management, as well as several other natural resources courses, and has been active in extension work. He started the CPRM process by asking the Professional Affairs Committee to develop a proposal and served as co-chair of the Certification Committee to get the process going. It is now a model certification program.

The paper, *A Critical Evaluation of the Range Condition Concept*, which Lamar presented at the First International Rangeland Congress in 1978, has been credited as being the first paper to critique the range condition concept after a long period of relatively little attention to the concept. Two papers, which Lamar published in 1988 and 1989, discuss the range condition concept as it relates to ecological theory and fully outlined the problems with the application of successional concepts to range condition assessment. SRM established the RISC Group in 1978, with Lamar acting as Chair in 1981. They recommended a change from "range site" to "ecological site", and created the "resource value rating" concept. This group became the *Task Group on Unity in Concepts and Terminology* in 1988, with Lamar as Chairman. Their final report to the Board of Directors was in 1991, published in the *Journal of Range Management* in 1995. The Task Group worked contemporaneously with the National Academy of Sciences. Unity emphasized the use of ecological sites and introduced the concept of "site conservation thresholds." More than thirty years since Lamar began his involvement with rangeland assessment and monitoring he is still active with the concept. He is co-author of a "handbook" published by the University of Arizona which encourages utilization to be used in a way that is supported by the profession and good science. It is being evaluated for use throughout the United States.

**It is with great honor that we hereby present Dr. E. Lamar Smith
with the Society for Range Management's most esteemed Frederic G. Renner Award**

W R Chapline Research Award

Dr. David D. Briske

The W.R. Chapline Research Award gives special recognition to members of the Society for exceptional and sustained research accomplishments in range science and associated disciplines, including biology, morphology, physiology, and the ecology of specific range species, ecosystems, relating plant environments, wildlife and domestic livestock on such lands.

The recipient of the 2008 W. R. Chapline Research Award is Dr. David D. Briske, Professor, Department of Ecosystem Sciences and Management, Texas A&M University. Dr. Briske's research contributions have significantly contributed to important advances in both rangeland ecology and rangeland management for approximately 30 years. Dr. Briske has organized his research program to serve as a bridge between plant ecology and rangeland management. Attainment of this challenging goal required an in-depth understanding of contemporary science and its relevance to rangeland issues. His work has contributed to several rangeland principles that support effective rangeland conservation and management such as; grass and grassland responses to herbivory, population ecology of bunchgrasses, and most currently, contributions to state-and-transition models and thresholds.



As an example, the book chapter co-authored with Jim Richards addressing plant responses to defoliation that was published in the Society for Range Management publication, "Wildland Plants: Physiological Ecology and Developmental Morphology", remains one of the most definitive syntheses of perennial grass responses to grazing. Dr. Briske has utilized this research insight to develop a well-funded research program with great relevance to the rangeland profession. The recognition and impact of his research is evidenced by the frequency with which his publications have been cited and the number of high profile speaking invitations that he has received.

Dr. Briske continues a high level of research activity by evaluating the ecological foundations for state-and-transition models and thresholds. He was senior author on two invited synthesis papers addressing state-and-transition models, ecological thresholds and rangeland health in the January 2005 and May 2006 issue of Rangeland Ecology and Management. This work provides a means for rangeland professionals to begin to integrate existing ecological information with the new assessment procedures that are currently being developed and implemented. Dr. Briske and two TAMU colleagues have established a large-scale field facility on the Texas A & M campus to explore the effects of global change on oak savannas. This project investigates the effects of precipitation redistribution (summer to fall and spring) and simulated global warming on several widely distributed rangeland plant species including eastern red cedar and little bluestem.

Dr. Briske has contributed to numerous outreach activities that demonstrate his commitment to translate ecological information into practices and policies that promote effective rangeland stewardship. He brings cutting-edge science into the classroom as well as the research arena. His students develop a clear understanding for how science relates to practical rangeland issues. This approach has placed him among the highest rated educators in both undergraduate and graduate classes in the Department of Ecosystem Sciences and Management at Texas A&M University.

It is with great honor that the Society for Range Management hereby presents Dr. David D. Briske with the 2007 W R Chapline Research Award.

W R Chapline Land Stewardship Award

Dr. Wayne Hanselka

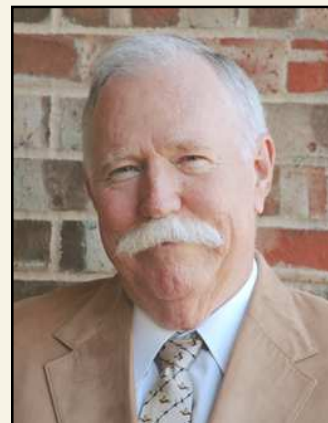
The W R Chapline Land Stewardship Award gives special recognition to members of the Society for exceptional accomplishments and contributions in the application of the art and science of range contributions in the application of the art and science of range management to specific to rangeland entities and to wildlife and domestic livestock on such lands.

During his 30-plus year tenure as an Extension Range Specialist, Dr. Wayne Hanselka has been responsible for planning, implementing, and evaluating range management educational programs in 37 South Texas Counties. The product of his efforts has been to obtain the ultimate but illusive goal of all Range professionals. Simply stated, he has made a difference; not only for Extension within his assigned counties, but also for rangeland owners and managers across Texas, the Southwest and Mexico, and most importantly for the valuable rangeland resources so important to everyone.

During his career, Dr. Hanselka has written over 163 publications, made hundreds of presentations, and secured over one million dollars in grants to support his programs. From 1996 to 2007 he served as the Associate Department Head and Extension Program Leader for Texas A&M University's Department of Ecosystem Science and Management. Dr. Hanselka has not confined his efforts to Texas. Over the years he has worked closely with Mexico in their efforts to reorganize the Mexico Chapter of the Society for Range Management and to create a future Agriculture Extension Service in the State of Tamaulipas.

Dr. Hanselka's innovative leadership and programs; integrating county-based needs with regional, state, national and international efforts, have resulted in the improved ecological health and productivity of Texas rangelands and rangeland throughout the Southwest and Mexico. The resulting products for all include an improved quantity and quality of water from rangeland watersheds, enW R Chapline Land Stewardship Award

Because he has "made a difference" for rangelands and the people that manage them; throughout Texas, the southwest, and Mexico; the Society for Range Management is proud to present Dr. Wayne Hanselka with the W. R. Chapline Land Stewardship Award.



Outstanding Achievement Award, Research

Dr. J. Richard Conner

Dr. J. Richard Conner, Thomas M. O'Connor Professor, Department of Ecosystem Science and Management and the Department of Agricultural Economics, Texas A&M University, is awarded the SRM Outstanding Achievement Award, Research for his pioneering work as an Agriculture Economist specializing in the development of economically sustainable rangeland and ranch management strategies and tactics. Dr. Conner's research on the economic impacts of water harvesting through rangeland management has benefited thousands of landowners and hundreds of communities across Texas and will pay untold dividends for future generations. His research to develop Federal drought insurance policies for forage-based livestock producers is benefiting thousands of ranchers across the West. Likewise, his innovative rangeland and forest management decision support systems are helping landowners be better stewards of the land and manage rangeland resources for generations to come.

Dr. Conner's work has also inspired many of his students and colleagues. For example, Department Head Dr. Van Tassel, wrote, "Working with Richard lit a fire within me that continues today. I will forever be grateful for his patience, understanding, guidance and enthusiasm during the time I worked for him. I credit Richard for much of the success I have had during my career." A former research associate at Texas A&M wrote, "With a strong staff and good training I was reasonably successful in meeting my personal goals as a research scientist for the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station. However, once I began working with Dr. Conner, my career goals, personal view-points, and awareness of the big picture simply exploded as he added a new component to my research. He became my closest colleague as he had a unique way of guiding both me and his graduate students to higher levels of understanding and achievement."

Dr. J. Richard Conner, Thomas M. O'Connor Professor, Department of Ecosystem Science and Management and the Department of Agricultural Economics, Texas A&M University, is awarded the SRM Outstanding Achievement Award, Research for his pioneering work as an Agriculture Economist specializing in the development of economically sustainable rangeland and ranch management strategies and tactics. His exemplary national and international reputation for excellence in service relative to his research in range and ranch management and development of decision support programs for landowners and conservation management personnel clearly validates SRM's decision to honor Dr. Connor with this award. As such, this award brings great credit to Dr. Connor personally, his family, his friends and colleagues, Texas A&M University, and the Society for Range Management.

It is with great honor that the Society for Range Management hereby presents Dr. J. Richard Conner with the 2007 Outstanding Achievement Award, Research.



Outstanding Achievement, Stewardship

Jennifer (Jenny) Pluhar

Jenny Pluhar is a talented range scientist with high standards for professional performance and ethics. She has been a leader in SRM for 23 of the 27 years she has been a member, helping to advance range science and the careers of range scientists. Her outstanding contributions to land stewardship as a professional include exemplary work in her roles as a wetland scientist, range consultant, and ranch manager.

Jenny's activities in SRM are many and varied. They include SRM Life Member, 27-Year Member, and Certified Professional in Rangeland Management. She founded Tapping the Top in 1991 as well as the Student Employment Workshop. She has served as International Plant ID Contest Co-Chair (23 years), Student Activities Committee Chair (4 years), Masonic Range Science Scholarship Co-chair (18 years), *Rangelands* Editorial Board (12 years), *Rangelands* Steering Committee, Publications Committee, and Professional Affairs Committee.

Jenny has co-authored or authored several publications including *Texas Range Plants*. In her positions as a range consultant, ranch manager, and a senior wetland scientist, Jenny contributes to the sound management of



rangelands in a broad geographic area, including wetland delineations, restoration, mitigation, rangeland monitoring, grazing management, and wildlife management. Jenny's 23 years of leadership in Student Activities demonstrate her dedication to fostering the next generation of range scientists and managers. Countless SRM members have been positively impacted by her work on undergraduate student competitions, scholarships, professional development workshops, training, and mentoring. Over 2500 students and 1000 professionals have been positively impacted by Tapping the Top and the Student Employment Workshop.

Jenny Pluhar is a talented range scientist with high standards for professional performance and ethics. She has been a leader in SRM for 23 of the 27 years she has been a member, helping to advance range science and the careers of range scientists. Her outstanding contributions to land stewardship include exemplary work as a wetland scientist, range consultant, and ranch manager.

As a professional, Jenny contributes to the sound management of rangelands in a broad geographic area, including wetland delineations, restoration, mitigation, rangeland monitoring, grazing management, and wildlife management. Jenny's 23 years of leadership in Student Activities demonstrate her dedication to fostering the next generation of range scientists and managers. Countless SRM members have been positively impacted by her work on undergraduate student competitions, scholarships, professional development workshops, training, and mentoring. Over 2500 students and 1000 professionals have been positively impacted by Tapping the Top and the Student Employment Workshop.

It is an honor for the Society for Range Management to award Jennifer (Jenny) Pluhar with the Outstanding Achievement Award in Stewardship.

Outstanding Achievement Award, Academia/Research

Dr. R. James Ansley

Dr. Jim Ansley has established a world-wide reputation as a rangeland ecologist based on his extensive experience in semiarid mesquite and juniper woodlands. Jim's expertise is in the areas of plant ecophysiology and community ecology, and how management of natural resources affects plant communities. Jim has conducted and reported research on gas exchange, water use, seed production, seed predation, herbicide control, herbaceous responses, and fire ecology of woody communities. Jim has quite a diverse interest in rangeland processes.

Being located at an Agricultural Research & Extension Center places a priority on research that addresses producer problems and ecological sustainability. Jim has conducted a well-respected program in these areas for more than 20 years. His research is defined by addressing complex ecological interactions in a structured scientific method approach that yields innovative and insightful results which are relevant to society, as well as the scientific community.

We could list all of Jim's accomplishments, but there really isn't time. The real reason Jim deserves this award goes beyond a catalog of accomplishments. Jim cares deeply about proper management and sustainability of our rangelands. He is willing to present his results and his understanding of the issues to his peers in the scientific arena, agricultural businesses, local clubs and groups, undergraduate students from other universities, and students ranging from kindergarten to high school. He is an advocate for sustainable management. We can think of no one more deserving of the Society for Range Management Outstanding Achievement Award than Dr. R. James Ansley.

Dr. Jim Ansley has established a world-wide reputation as a rangeland ecologist based on his extensive research and experience in semiarid mesquite and juniper woodlands. Jim has conducted and reported research on gas exchange, water use, seed production, seed predation, herbicide control, herbaceous responses, and fire ecology of woody communities. Being located at an Agricultural Research & Extension Center places a priority on research that addresses producer problems and ecological sustainability. We could list all of Jim's accomplishments, but there really isn't time. The real reason Jim deserves this award goes beyond a catalog of accomplishments. Jim cares deeply about proper management and sustainability of our rangelands. He is willing to present his results and his understanding of the issues to his peers in the scientific arena, agricultural businesses, local clubs and groups, undergraduate students from other universities, and students ranging from kindergarten to high school. He is an advocate for sustainable management.

It is an honor for the Society for Range Management to award Dr. R. James Ansley with the Outstanding Achievement Award in Research and Academia.



Outstanding Achievement Award, Academia/Research

Dr. Robert (Bob) K. Lyons

Dr. Lyons has been the imminent leader in the understanding and research on animal behaviour in the state of Texas. His major areas of emphasis include brush management, range cattle nutritional analysis using the combined tools of NIRS fecal analysis and body condition scoring, and use of GPS and GIS to investigate range cattle pasture use to determine reasons for use and nonuse.

Through his applied research, he has identified thresholds for cattle pasture use relative to percent rock cover and brush density scores. This information has been used in Extension Educational Programs and has lead to publications and presentations at international, national and state-wide meetings.

His work on Near Infrared Reflectance Spectroscopy (NIRS) equations to estimate cattle forage quality from fecal analysis provided the basis for establishing the Grazing Animal Nutrition (GAN) Lab at Texas A&M University. This lab has been used extensively by NRCS in working with ranchers, and has clients from 48 states.

Dr. Lyons has authored the Extension Range Detect Series, a series of 7 Extension publications developed to provide observational skills and promote their use as a tool in range animal nutrition, forage intake, herbivore feeding types, range forage quality, a photo guide to grazing beef cattle forage quality, forage quality and forage quantity, interpreting grazing behaviour, stocking rate considerations, using cow body condition scores in range management, grazing and browsing effects on plants, and grazing distribution for range resource management.

In his position as Professor and Extension Range Specialist in the Ecosystem Science and Management Department at Texas A&M University, Dr. Lyons leaves his mark on the science, understanding and application of range management over a broad sweep of rangeland landscapes. Dr. Lyons has been a productive and meaningful researcher and educator. His efforts serve us well in our understanding, use and stewardship of our rangeland resources.

It is an honor for the Society for Range Management to award Dr. Robert (Bob) K. Lyons with the Outstanding Achievement Award in Research and Academia.



Outstanding Young Range Professional

Dr. Cody Scott

Dr. Cody Scott, Professor of Animal Science at Angelo State University in San Angelo Texas, is the recipient of the 2008 Outstanding Young Range Professional Award. Dr. Scott has been able to demonstrate his extraordinary promise as a range management professional over and over again in his 12 year career at Angelo State. He has gained a reputation as a great research scientist and an extraordinary range management instructor. His many contributions to SRM and range management are extraordinary accomplishments for a Young Range Professional.

Scott's career has been devoted to rangeland related research and teaching. His research interests include using goats as a biological control of juniper, understanding the role of livestock and wildlife in the spread of mesquite seeds, reducing poisonous plant problems, and other plant animal interaction and animal behavior interests. Dr. Scott feels that his primary objectives in teaching are to (1) improve students appreciation of range and wildlife management; (2) introduce students to critical ideas and concepts in the field; (3) provide students with an understanding and tools necessary to evaluate issues in the field; and (4) improve their ability to solve problems encountered daily concerning range and wildlife management.

Scott's greatest contribution to range management is his ability to produce rangeland managers. Students leave his classes and go into the work force with leadership abilities, a general understanding of the basics of range management, the ability to implement what they learn, and most importantly the ability to be independent thinkers.

Dr. Scott has been able to positively impact SRM and range management as a whole in his short career. His contributions will continue to grow, and will undoubtedly be realized more and more in the years to come.

It is an honor for the Society for Range Management to award Dr. Cody Scott with the Outstanding Young Range Professional Award.



CALL FOR PAPERS

Texas Section Society for Range Management Annual Meeting October 8-10, 2008 Nacogdoches, Texas

The Texas Section will be hosting its 2008 Annual meeting in Nacogdoches, Texas on October 8-10, 2008. The theme for the program is "Restoration and Management of East Texas Native Plant Communities". The program committee is issuing a call for a limited number of papers for the program.

Papers should be pertinent to the program theme. Presenters will be asked to give a fifteen (15) minute presentation, with an additional five (5) minutes for questions from the audience.

Additionally, the program committee is soliciting presentations for the Young Professionals Committee paper presentations. These papers may address any subject. Presentations will follow the same format as other papers. Within the Texas Section Young Professionals are defined as any member 40 years of age or younger.

Members responding to the call for papers should submit an abstract with a cover letter to:

Mark Moseley – markchrismoseley@aol.com

and

Willy Conrad – william.conrad@ci.austin.tx.us

All submissions must be sent via email. Abstracts must be submitted in PDF format. Submissions must be post marked no later than April 30, 2008.

Members responding to the call for Young Professional Committee papers should submit an abstract to:

Rob Cook – robwcook@yahoo.com

All submissions must be sent via email. Abstracts must be submitted in PDF of Microsoft Word format. Deadline for YPC to be announced later.

WANTED

Texas Section members interested in updating/creating new publications for use in the informational booth. Items created would be 1-2 pages on a single rangeland topic (think SRM sage grouse publication, Texas NRCS Sideoats Grama publication). Good photos/layout desired. You don't have to take all the photos - that's what we have members for. We can also update TSSRM publications like "Enjoy Texas Rangelands."

At the recent Board meeting, it was approved to combine the former Activities and Information and Education committees into one (tentatively called Activities and Education) to reduce the overlap of committee duties. Melony Sikes and Bill Pinchak are chair/elect for this committee, but welcome help from across the section membership on the informational campaign.

Folks have asked us to come up with more TSSRM publications for the informational booth so we don't have to depend upon NRCS and Texas AgriLife Extension so much. **Here is your chance to get involved!!!** Remember, the board can't do it all...

Your help is greatly appreciated. Thanking you in advance for your involvement.