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FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT**

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



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Dr. John Walker—TSSRM President

When I graduated with my B.S. degree our discipline was called range science. Having a slight speech impediment when I told people what I was studying, they often misunderstood me and thought that I wanted to be a “rain scientist” or I was studying to be an oven repairman. Now when I meet someone and they want to know what I do, I tell them I am a rangeland ecologist. They seem to understand this moniker better than the term range scientist. The rains over the Memorial Day weekend led me to consider that perhaps we really are rain managers. Our profession is as much about rain management as it is

range management. Much of Texas, and certainly West Central Texas where I live, went from less than 10 percent of normal rainfall for the first half of the year to over 100 percent of normal rainfall in less than four days. Rangeland production, composition, and services are determined by many factors, but rainfall is the most variable and thus the one that must be managed. Before I discuss managing rainfall, let’s first consider some of the characteristics of rain. If you are asked how much rain your country gets and you answer with the average annual amount of rain, you just gave the wrong answer. The correct answer would be the median amount of rain. The median is the amount of rainfall that half of the years are above, and half of the years are below, and is about 10 percent less than the average annual rainfall. Median rainfall is less than average rainfall because large rainfall events like the recent rains are relatively rare, but cause a disproportionate increase in the average. Rain intensity is also important so the 6 to 11 inches of rain that fell on West Central Tex-

as at the end of May were less effective relative to increasing soil moisture because of greater runoff than less intense rain. Season of rainfall is also important because it affects which plants will most benefit from the moisture. Winter rain favors Texas wintergrass, annual grasses, many forbs, and woody plants. Summer rain favors warm season grasses, which produce the bulk of the forage on good condition rangelands. At the end of the day, good rangeland managers mostly manage soil moisture. The management goal should be to maximize the amount of rain that goes into the soil and minimize the amount that runs off. This is done by keeping adequate herbaceous cover, which slows runoff and increases infiltration, and increasing the amount of soil organic matter, which increases water holding capacity of the soil. Research at the Sonora AgriLife Research Station showed that infiltration doubled for each percentage unit increase in vegetative soil cover. Finally, managing soil moisture is really about managing stocking rate to maintain adequate herba-

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ceous cover and conserve or increase soil organic matter. Managing stocking rate is about understanding the seasonal growth patterns of forage and how it will be affected by current soil moisture and the chance and effect of future rain. About half of the annual forage production is expected in May and June. If soil moisture is below average during these months it is not reasonable to expect to make up the decreased production later in the year. For much of West Central Texas, 2013 was a good forage production year. It started much like 2014, though not as severe. In 2013 we received about half of our normal rainfall through the first of May and soil moisture, as determined by the monthly Palmer Drought Index, was about normal last year. While this year, at the end of April, the Palmer drought category was severe.

The question is, what to do now that we were blessed with the Memorial Day weekend rain? It certainly forestalled the need to execute destocking plans just as grazing managers had begun to rebuild herds. Although we are not out of the woods yet, and good range managers always have a well thought out destocking plan for the inevitable drought, the prognosis is encouraging. Current sea surface temperatures are over 0.5°C above normal in the equatorial Pacific and the probability for El Niño conditions to develop this summer is 65 percent, increasing to 80 percent by late fall. This historically means wet winters. But temper your optimism with the fact last year's good summer moisture occurred when sea surface temperatures were below normal and 2013 was forecast to be a very active hurricane year, but there was not a single severe hurricane. So with guidance from Winston Churchill, "I always avoid prophesying beforehand because it is much better to prophesy after the event has already taken place." Wait until my August column and I will predict what this summer will bring!

Mark your calendars for the Texas Section Annual Meeting October 7 – 9 in Marfa and Alpine. Co-chairs Michael Margo, Santana McMullan, and Will Juett along with help from many others are planning a fantastic meeting. The highlight will be a bi-national symposium that provides Mexico and U.S. perspectives on range management issues of interest and field tours showcasing the rangelands of this unique part of the state.—*Dr. John Walker*

A word from the Nominations and Elections Committee:

This is the time of year when our committee solicits members willing to be considered for Director or 2nd VP in the Texas Section. If you have an interest in serving, or would like to nominate someone to be considered, please contact Jason Hohlt at jason.hohlt@yahoo.com. In addition, we would like to encourage everyone to consider voting electronically this year. Doing so will save the section some money and help keep membership dues down. If you haven't switched to electronic voting and would like to try it out, you can make the switch on the SRM home page. Log in as a member, go to "member profile," and click "ballot preference". If you are thinking about making the switch, please go ahead and do so now. Our committee will have to take an assessment of printing needs in the near future. So, if you wait until late summer to switch, we will end up printing a ballot we don't need. Thanks! - *Jason Hohlt*

2013 TSSRM Youth Range Workshop

-Barron Rector-

The 59th Annual TSSRM Youth Range Workshop was held at Junction on June 23-28, 2013. A total of 39 4-H and FFA youth participants came to the workshop from all of the vegetational areas of Texas. The six-day training was coordinated by Dr. Barron S. Rector and Mr. Hoyt Seidensticker with 13 full-time Workshop Directors and 11 additional Directors who played key roles in transferring rangeland and natural resource management knowledge to the participating youth. Workshop Directors included SRM First Vice President Jenny Pluhar, SRM Director Paul Loeffler, Texas Section SRM President Jeff Goodwin, TSSRM Past President Bob Knight, Dr. Roger Q. Landers Jr., Keith Blair, Lee Knox, Dandy Kothmann, Kevin Durzaph, Aaron Sumrall, Kim Peters, Shane Wigington, J.D. Folbre, Kaylee Farquhar, Jerry Kidd, Sam Silvers, Bill Armstrong, Joe Franklin, Dr. Jason Johnson, and Dr. Megan Clayton. Junior Directors for the workshop included Lindsey Pressler and Jasper Klein.

The 26 major learning areas included defining what rangelands are, range plant identification, plant collecting, making a plant herbaria, the vegetational areas of Texas, kinds of range plants, how range plants grow, principles of range ecology, plant succession, plant-soil-water relationships, watershed management, describing ecological sites, determining rangeland health, degree of use, range economics, grazing animal habitat requirements, poisonous plants, prescribed burning, fire ecology, endangered species on rangelands, livestock grazing management, stocking rates, whitetail deer management, rangeland monitoring, resource planning, feral hog management, and our stewardship responsibility. Indoor lectures and presentations were complimented with hands-on training opportunities on three field trips to Mason, Menard and Kerr Counties. Youth participants were actually involved in conducting and monitoring a prescribed burn. Additional learning areas and activities included public speaking, stewardship and leadership.

From the knowledge areas covered and the work required of these youth participants, the 2013 YRW Directors honored the following youth for excellence in work, leadership and completing all of the requirements of the workshop. 2013 Honor Ramrods (Picture 1) included Tristan Dick (Cabin 5), Robert Marshall (Cabin 6), Kadden Kothmann (Cabin 7), Jadie Marshall (Cabin 9) and Myca Reed (Cabin 10). Plant herbarium awards (Picture 2) were presented to Lanna Stapper, Rachel Wilson, Megan Arney, and Myca Reed. Range notebook awards (Picture 3) were presented to Ryanne Lewis, Lexie Brooks, Lanna Stapper and Myca Reed. The youth that prepared the best range notebook and plant collection was recognized with the Sam Coleman Award of Excellence (Picture 4). The 2013 recipient of this award was Myca Reed. From all of the leadership activities conducted during the week, the workshop's best leader was recognized with the Roger Q. Landers Trail Boss Award (Picture 5). For 2013, Kadden Kothmann was recognized as the Trail Boss Award recipient.



Picture 1. 2013 TSSRM Youth Range Workshop participants recognized as Honor Ramrods; from back row left to right – Kadden Kothmann, Robert Marshall and Tristan Dick; from front row left to right Jadie Marshall and Myca Reed. Youth were recognized by YRW Director Paul Loeffler.



Picture 4. The Youth Range Workshop Sam Coleman Award of Excellence was presented to Myca Reed. The Award, in recognition of the longtime work of past YRW Director Sam Coleman, is sponsored by the Upper Llanos Soil and Water Conservation District. Presenting the award to Myca Reed is Mr. Art Mudge, Chairman of the Upper Llanos SWCD.



Picture 2. YRW Plant Herbaria winners included from left to right Megan Arney, Rachel Wilson, Lanna Stapper and Myca Reed. Recipients were recognized by YRW Director Dr. Bob Knight.



Picture 5. The 2013 Roger Q. Landers Sr. Trail Boss Award was presented to Kadden Kothmann. The award, honoring the 1954 President of the Texas Section SRM Roger Q. Landers Sr., was sponsored by the Landers Family. Representing the Landers Family and making the presentation to Kadden was YRW Director Dr. Jake Landers.



Picture 3. Youth were recognized for making a useable range notebook. Award recipients include from left to right Ryanne Lewis, Myca Reed, Lanna Stapper and Lexie Brooks. The awards were presented by YRW Director Keith Blair.

2014 Hackamore Ranch Initiation Plant Identification and Range Evaluation Contests

-Barron Rector-

Cody and Albina Fowler, owners of the Hackamore Ranch near Thorndale in Milam County, presented \$10,000 in scholarships for the second year at the Hackamore Invitational Range Evaluation and Range and Pasture Plant Identification Contests for 4-H and FFA members conducted on April 5th. The scholarships were presented to the top placing senior in each contest. The contests were coordinated by Milam County Extension Agents Cheryl Walker and Jon Gersbach.

Collin Kostroun, a Cameron 4-Her placed first and received the \$5,000 scholarship for the Range and Pasture Plant I.D. Contest. He scored 513 points out of a possible 600 points. Ginny Cowan of Kendall County 4-H placed first and received the \$5,000 scholarship for the Range Evaluation Contest. She scored 465 points out of a possible 500 points. Congratulations to both of the scholarship winners.

Along with the Hackamore Ranch providing \$10,000 in scholarships they also provided belt buckles for the first place individuals plus the first place team members and coaches, medals for second place individuals and team members, and plaques for the top five teams and top 20 individuals.

The 44 Farms, near Cameron and owned by Bob McClaren in Milam County, served as the facilities for the Range and Pasture Plant Identification Contest and Awards ceremony. Terri Lyster, ranch owner in Milam County, provided the site for the Range Evaluation Contest. The La Copa Ranch, owned by Larry and Priscilla Jackson, sponsored the lunch for participants and volunteers at the contest.



2014 Hackamore Ranch Open First Place Senior Team - Range Evaluation Contest
Kendall County 4-H Team – Dr. Barron Rector, Lindsey Pressler, Skylar Kitzmiller, Joy Miller, Ginny Cowan, and Mr. Cody Fowler.



Scholarship Winners - Hackamore Ranch Invitational Contests
Mr. Cody Fowler, Ginny Cowan, Collin Kostroun, Dr. Barron Rector.



First Place Senior Team Range and Pasture Plant Identification Contest
Milam County 4-H Team -- Devin Fisher, Collin Kostroun, Ryan Luckey, Irby McWilliams, Cody Fowler, owner ; Dr. Barron Rector. Not pictured is team member Cheyenne McWilliams.

Texas Delegates to the 2014 SRM High School Youth Forum

-Barron Rector-

The Directors for the 2013 TSSRM Youth Range Workshop selected three youth to represent the Texas Section Society for Range Management at the SRM High School Youth Forum (HSYF) on February 9-13 in Orlando, Florida. The three delegates selected included Lexie Brooks of Junction (Kimble County), Myca Reed of Mathis (Live Oak County) and Kadden Kothmann of Garden City (Glasscock County). In addition, a 2012 workshop participant Heston Henry (formerly from Ector County) traveled to Orlando with these delegates to serve as the 2014 SRM High School Youth Forum President and preside over all activities of the Forum. The Texas delegates were escorted to the meeting by TSSRM members Dr. Barron Rector and Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt Seidensticker.

With a limit on the number of delegates that can attend the High School Youth Forum each year, it is quite an honor for the youth that are selected to represent their respective SRM Section and participate in a 4 day educational activity at a professional society meeting. Very few professional societies include or even invite high school age youth to participate in activities or annual meetings. The Society for Range Management is a special society and has conducted a program for Section sponsored youth to participate since 1966.

The Texas HSYF delegates had the opportunity to capitalize on new knowledge and techniques in the fields of range and natural resource management and land stewardship. They had the opportunity to meet people from various careers and jobs in range management and related fields of study. They met and interacted with other high school age youth from South Dakota to Hawaii and western Canada to Arizona, including all states in between. Forum youth delegates get a first-hand view of what SRM is all about, including its organization, goals and the role it plays on a world-wide basis. Activities for these youth included an ecological tour to Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge on the Atlantic coast, a professional interaction on college and careers, giving a 6 to 8 minute professional presentation in a general session on a range related topic of their choosing, a workshop on the invasion of unwanted invasive plants and animals, the SRM Trade Show, a meeting with SRM officers and Directors, professional papers, award ceremonies, a concert and evening dances.

The Texas HSYF delegates were a special hard working group and performed at a high standard. Forum President Heston Henry did a spectacular but honorable job of conducting all Forum activities. With 25 Forum presentations this year, the four international judges honored Lexie Brooks with First Place in the High School Youth Forum competition with her presentation titled "The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly: A Landowner's Guide to the Do's and Don'ts of Land Management". Myca Reed placed third with her paper titled "The Struggles of Quail Management" while Kadden Kothmann placed fifth with his paper titled "Cedar: Turning Wood into Feed". By winning first place, Lexie Brooks will be invited to return to the 2015 Forum in Sacramento, California, to present her paper to the SRM membership at the Annual Meeting Awards Program.

Barron Rector and Hoyt Seidensticker serve as SRM High School Youth Forum Sub-committee Co-Chairs

with Mary Reece at North Platte, Nebraska. Many thanks to the Texas Section Society for Range Management, the Section Youth Activities Committee and the many donors who made this exceptional educational opportunity a reality for four deserving Texas youth. We also thank Texas Dupont and the Texas GLCI for being sponsors of the SRM High School Youth Forum program in Orlando.

What impact will this program have on the future of Texas rangelands? Note, legislative candidate Andy Murr of Junction was a 1994 Youth Range Workshop participant, a 1995 High School Youth Forum delegate at Phoenix and the 1996 High School Youth Forum President. We promote sound knowledge, stewardship responsibility and excellent leadership in the proper management and decisions made concerning the largest natural resource in Texas, rangeland. Registration is currently open for the 60th Consecutive Annual TSSRM Youth Range Workshop to be held June 22-28, 2014 at Junction, Texas.



Caption: 2014 Texas Section SRM Delegates to Orlando SRM Annual Meeting; (pictured left to right) Hoyt Seidensticker, Lexie Brooks, Forum President Heston Henry, Myca Reed, Kadden Kothmann, and Dr. Barron Rector.

2014 Grass Roots Award

The deadline for nominations of this years Grass Roots Awards are July 1, 2014.

You can find the application and information at:
<http://www.rangelands.org/texas/awards/Grass%20Roots%20Award%20Nominationo.pdf>



Please send your completed forms to:

**Stephen Deiss at:
sdeiss08@hotmail.com**

Texas Section SRM Awards

One of the functions of a professional society is to properly recognize members who make significant contributions to the profession. The TSSRM Awards Committee is now accepting nominations for the following five awards and deadlines:

- Fellow Award (Aug 15)
- Special Recognition Awards (Aug 15)
- Outstanding Contribution to Rangeland Management (Aug 15)
- Outstanding Achievement (Aug 15)
- Outstanding Young Range Professional (Aug 15)

Award categories, criteria and nomination format can be found on the website:

<http://www.rangelands.org/texas/awards.htm>

Please submit completed nominations to:

Jacob Shaffer

604 N Main Ste 100

Weatherford, TX 76086 or

shaffdog04@hotmail.com

OUTSTANDING RANGELAND MANAGEMENT (ORM) - *continued*

TSSRM/TSCRA OUTSTANDING RANGELAND STEWARDSHIP (ORS) AWARD

PURPOSE

The purpose of this committee is to recognize those who have demonstrated outstanding skill and knowledge in practicing sound management and care of rangeland resources. This is a competitive award and only one will be given each year. This award is linked to the ranch. Once a ranch has received the award, it is not eligible to receive it again. If more than one ranch is owned and/or operated by the same person, each ranch is eligible. It is the responsibility of the committee to solicit nominations and select recipients for the award. The recipient must be a member of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA); membership in the TSSRM is desirable, but not specifically required.

STRUCTURE

This committee should have at least 12 members with two co-chairs – one from TSSRM and one from TSCRA. Six members will be from each organization. Not more than one-half of the committee membership will be replaced each year.

PRIMARY DUTIES

1. Mail ORS nomination forms to agencies, TSSRM and TSCRA for distribution in early spring, so that high quality nominations and slides can be developed. Coordinate awards process with TSSRM *Grass Roots* Newsletter and TSCRA's *The Cattleman* magazine. (Annual deadline for submission is June 1st.)
2. Committee representatives will make field visits to most deserving nominations.
3. Select recipient for the Outstanding Rangeland Stewardship Award by August 1st.
4. Notify recipient of this award and determine whether or not they can be present at the TSCRA annual meeting of both associations. Notify nominator that they should see to it that the awardee is escorted and assisted at the TSCRA annual meeting and made to feel welcome.
5. Send letter of recognition to nominees who were not selected.
6. Coordinate with TSCRA Annual Meeting Committees for TSSRM and for number of banquet tickets, photographer, registration, and visual aid needs.
7. Have gate signs made including ranch name and date.
8. Have awards presentation typed, edited, and slides prepared one month prior to annual meeting. (Nominators should furnish PowerPoint Presentation with 5 to 10 slides ready for narration).
9. Coordinate with the annual meeting committee to determine how the award will be given. Prepare a slide presentation to be presented at the Awards Banquet and coordinate with appropriate media personnel at the annual meeting.
10. Arrange for greeter, ribbons and proper identification of recipient at annual meeting
11. Present awards to the recipient at the TSCRA annual meeting. Mail certificates to recipient not able to attend. Strongly recommend a nice ceremony and publicity for recipient unable to attend the annual meeting.
12. Report the committee's activities and proposals to the Board at its regularly scheduled meetings. Submit a written report on the status of committee's respective funds to the president and the treasurer three weeks prior to scheduled BOD meetings (adopted Jan. 1989).
13. Have news releases prepared prior to the TSCRA Annual Meeting. Provide digital prints (300 dpi) that are satisfactory for news releases. Submit to appropriate newspapers, TSCRA Managing Editor and to TSSRM Newsletter Editor for publication.
14. A list of any awards presented is to be sent to the President, Newsletter Editor, Archivist, and the Administrative Handbook coordinator.
15. **All Committee Chair/Chair-Elects** who receive donations to the Section will send a letter of acknowledgement to the donor (cc: Treasurer). Forward donation and copy of letter directly to Treasurer. In the event that a donation to the Section is sent directly to the Treasurer, the Treasurer will send the letter of acknowledgement (cc: Committee Chair or Chair-Elect).
16. Brief incoming Chair.

OUTSTANDING RANGELAND MANAGEMENT (ORM) - *continued*



**TSSRM/TSCRA
OUTSTANDING RANGELAND
STEWARDSHIP (ORS)
AWARD**



The purpose of this award is to recognize those cattle producers who have demonstrated outstanding skill and knowledge in practicing sound management and care of rangeland resources. This is a competitive award and only one will be given each year. This award is linked to the ranch. Once a ranch has received the award, it is not eligible to receive it again. If more than one ranch is owned and/or operated by the same person, each ranch is eligible.

Nominations shall be made by persons who are well acquainted with the ranching and range management practices of the nominee. Nominations may be made by anyone, although all nominations must be concurred by two members of TSSRM who agree the nominee is truly deserving of this recognition.

The ORS Committee will appraise the nominations and select those that meet the standards for outstanding rangeland management. The committee will select the most qualified and coordinate field visits to the ranches.

Nominators should submit an article to the hometown paper(s) to recognize winners locally. A photo of the winners will be sent to the nominee to go with the article.

Recipient must be a member of TSCRA. Membership in the TSSRM is desirable, but not specifically required.

The ORS Award Winner Committee will be recognized during the TSSRM's Annual Awards Luncheon. Additionally, the ORS Award Winner will be recognized during the TSCRA Annual Conference. If audio/visual equipment (A/V) is available for use, a PowerPoint presentation of the winning nomination will be shown. In the absence of A/V, a citation of the winning nomination will be read. It is strongly encouraged that the nominator arrange for the recipients to be present at the annual meeting to receive this recognition.

Mail completed nominations, by June 1st, to the TSSRM ORM Committee Chair.



**OUTSTANDING RANGELAND
STEWARDSHIP (ORS)
AWARD
NOMINATION FORM**



Requirements for Nomination:

By stewardship, we mean environmentally beneficial management of rangeland resources.

Nominees need not be members of National Cattlemen's Beef Association, but they must support the NCBA mission: *Working to increase profit opportunities for cattle and beef producers by enhancing the business climate and building consumer demand.*

Evaluation Criteria:

1. Environmental Stewardship Practices, Accomplishments and Goals (40 points)
2. Local, Regional and National Leadership Activities that Improve Conservation Perception of the Cattle Industry (30 points).
3. Endorsements from Cattle Groups, Conservation Organizations and/or Government Agencies (15 points).
4. Economic Viability and Size of Operation (15 points).

Key to a Successful application: Provide specific examples and results of stewardship practices.

Nominees will compete for one of seven regional awards based upon their residency. The seven regional winners will then compete for the national (NCBA) award.

Winners will be expected to attend the Cattle Industry Summer Conference and Annual Convention, paid for by Dow AgroSciences and NRCS. Winners will be honored for their stewardship and receive their award bronze.

Nomination Information (*please follow carefully*):

- Applications must be typed (12 point) and submitted on loose-leaf typing paper or via electronically via email. **DO NOT send nominations in notebooks or binders.**
- Applications, including documentation, must not exceed 12 pages. (Nomination letter will not be considered as part of the 12 page restriction.)
- Color photographs are encouraged. Please provide brief descriptions beside the photographs.
- Videotapes will NOT be accepted.
- Nomination packets will not be returned.

A sample winning application can be found at: <http://hill.beef.org/easp>.



OUTSTANDING RANGELAND STEWARDSHIP (ORS) AWARD

NOMINATION FORM



Nominee(s): _____

Address: _____

Ranch Location: _____

Requirements for Nomination:

1. Nominee must have owned or operated the ranch for at least five years and been responsible for making rangeland management decisions.

Number of years operated _____

2. Is Nominee must be a member of TSCRA _____ YES _____ NO (*If No, Not eligible for Award*)
 - Is Nominee must be a member of TSSRM _____ YES _____ NO (*Desirable, but not required*)

3. A significant part of the land on the farm or ranch must be rangeland (or in East Texas – grazable woodland).

_____ Acres Rangeland	_____ Acres Grazable Woodland
_____ Acres Tame Pasureland	_____ Acres Other
_____ Acres Cropland	_____ Acres Total

Eligibility Requirements

By stewardship, we mean environmentally beneficial management of rangeland resources.

Winner of this award will be nominated by TSCRA to the National Cattleman’s Beef Association (NCBA) Environmental Stewardship Award Program as representative of Region IV, and will be one of seven regional winners competing for the national NCBA award.

Nominees need not be members of the National Cattleman’s Beef Association, but they must support the NCBA mission: Working to increase profit opportunities for cattle and beef producers by enhancing the business climate and building consumer demand. Nominees must be members of TSCRA and should be encouraged to join NCBA.

Evaluation Criteria

The applications will be judged on the following criteria:

1. Environmental Stewardship Practices, Accomplishments and Goals (40/100 points).
2. Local, Regional, and National Leadership Activities that Improve Conservation Perception of the Cattle Industry (30/100 points).
3. Endorsement from Cattle Groups, Conservation Organizations and/or Government Agencies (15/100 points).
4. Economic Viability and Size of Operation (15/100 points).

Keys to a Successful Application: provide specific examples and results of stewardship practices. Regional winners will be expected to attend the NCBA Cattle Industry Summer Conference and Annual Convention, paid for by Dow AgroSciences and NRCS. Winners will be honored for their stewardship and receive their award bronze.

OUTSTANDING RANGELAND MANAGEMENT (ORM) - *continued*

ORS Nomination Information *(Please follow carefully)*

Applications must be typed (12 point) and submitted on loose-leaf typing paper or via email. Applications, including the documentation, may not exceed 12 pages. Color photographs are encouraged. Please provide brief descriptions beside the photographs. Videotapes will not be accepted. We expect three (3) letters of recommendation stressing the nominee’s leadership in conservation. Please do not send nominations in notebooks or binders. Packets will not be returned.

Please submit application electronically – or submit twenty (20) copies – **along with a nomination letter stating:**

1. Name of nominator (your organization or group) and contact person.
2. Mailing Address
3. Phone number/Fax/Email Address (letter will NOT be considered as a part of the 12 page restriction).

A sample winning application can be found at: <http://hill.beef.org/easp>.

Completed nomination forms and applications are due (or postmarked) by June 1.

Nomination may be made by a non-TSSRM member. Nomination must be concurred by two TSSRM members with signature below.

Nominator _____ Signature _____

Organization _____ Date _____

Address _____ Phone _____

_____ Fax _____

Email _____

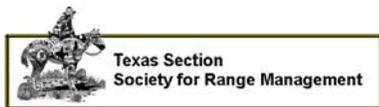
Nomination concurred by two TSSRM members

Name _____ Signature _____

Name _____ Signature _____

Mail, or email, completed nominations by June 1 to:

TSSRM ORM Committee Chair
See online Officers, Directors, and Committee Chairs
<http://texas.rangelands.org/committees.htm>



Outstanding Rangeland Management Award

Page 1

Nominee(s): _____

Address/Phone: _____

Ranch Location (include driving directions from nearest town): _____

Requirements for Nomination:

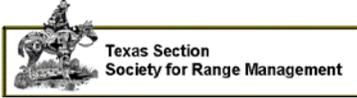
1. Nominee must have owned or operated the ranch for at least five years and been responsible for making rangeland management decisions.

Number of years owned or operated: _____

2. A significant part of the land on the farm or ranch must be rangeland (in East Texas, grazable woodland).

_____ Acres Rangeland
_____ Acres Grazable Woodland
_____ Acres Tame Pastureland
_____ Acres Cropland
_____ Acres Other(specify) _____
_____ **Acres Total**

3. On separate pages thoroughly describe the nominees rangeland management and why they are deserving of special recognition. Items listed below should be discussed (be specific).
 - a) Describe improvements which have been made in range condition, range trend, livestock performance, wildlife quality, water quality, etc. as a result of rangeland management (be specific).
 - b) Describe in detail rangeland management practices which are used to help meet ranch goals such as; proper stocking rates, grazing systems, water development, brush management, range seeding, prescribed burning, wildlife management, etc.
 - c) Describe specifically how nominee plans for and deals with drought. Provide examples.
 - d) Describe nominees skills in and knowledge of grazing management, plants, livestock, wildlife, etc.
 - e) Describe the livestock, wildlife or other enterprises which are used to harvest and market the rangeland resources.
 - f) Describe other activities or awards related to rangeland including how the nominee promotes sound rangeland management.
 - g) Have rancher write a brief narrative describing the goals and objectives for the ranch or farm and any unique or interesting rangeland management philosophies.
4. Furnish 5-10 slides which show representative rangeland, rangeland management, livestock or wildlife. Nominee should be clearly shown in one or more slides. Slides will be used in awards ceremony if nominee is selected. Slides will be returned. Slides are not required at the same time as the narrative.
5. Nominator agrees to make the recipient feel welcome at the annual meeting. If the recipient is unable to attend the annual meeting, the nominee agrees to arrange for a suitable local presentation.
6. Nomination may be made by a non-TSSRM member. Nomination must be concurred by two TSSRM members with signatures below.



Outstanding Rangeland Management Award

Page 2

Nominator: by signing below, I acknowledge that I have included all required information, including necessary attachments, for proper consideration of this nomination packet. I recognize that the ORM Committee may/may not consider an incomplete packet for this award(at their discretion).

Nominator _____ Address _____

Date _____

Signature _____ Phone _____

Nomination Concurred by Two TSSRM Members

Name _____ Signature _____

Name _____ Signature _____

Mail, or email, completed nominations by June 1 to:

TSSRM ORM Committee Chair

See online TSSRM Officers, Directors, and Committee Chairs

<http://texas.rangelands.org/committees.htm>