



FELLOW AWARD

Ray Schimcek

This year the Texas Section Society for Range Management proudly awards the Fellow Award to Ray Schimcek for his long term and excellent service to the organization. Ray has been a member of the TSSRM since 1974 and is a Certified Professional in Rangeland Management. Ray served as a Director from 2003-2005.

Ray has been employed with the USDA- Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) where he has remained for 32 years. While working for the NRCS, Ray has served in Pecos, Sanderson, Sterling City, and Big Spring Field offices as a range management specialist. He is currently serving as the Midland Resource Team Leader. As a Range and District Conservationist, Ray has received 7 certificates of merit for outstanding work performance and was awarded a President's Citation from the Texas Soil and Water Conservation Society in 2006. During his career, Ray has worked closely with both state and federal agencies. He has written numerous articles related to Range Management and implemented various livestock grazing and water systems and wildlife management plans.

As a member of the Texas Section, Ray's biggest accomplishment has been his role during the 2005 national meeting in Fort Worth, Texas as the co-chair for the exhibitors and sponsorship committee.

This meeting had the largest trade show ever for a national meeting consisting of 82 exhibitors and 93 booths from 18 states and one foreign country. Ray was instrumental in getting SRM subcommittee members to help from Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana. Ray was a major contributor to the money raised for the Texas Section meetings held in Midland in 1998 and Odessa in 2001. He has been a member and chaired numerous other committees at the Section level as well as the National level and has volunteered his time with different Texas Section fund raisers. Ray is presently serving on the Planning Committee for the 2010 annual meeting in Odessa, Texas.

When Ray is away from his job duties, he remains active within his local community. He is a former member of Keep Midland Beautiful Board of Directors (chairman in 2003-04). He is a member of the St. Ann's School Board and served as President in 2003-04. Ray volunteers his time with the St. Ann's Annual Family Fair in Midland every year and was Chairman in 2004. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus, City of Midland Aquatics Board of Directors, as well as several other organizations. Ray is also an active member in societies such as the Texas Wildlife Association, Permian Basin Chapter of Quail Unlimited, National Rifle Association, and the Texas Council of Chapters of the Soil and Water Conservation Society.

Because of Ray's accomplishments and service to the Texas Section, it is with great honor that the Texas Section Society for Range Management presents Ray Schimcek with the 2008 Fellow Award.