



2013 TSSRM President Jeff Goodwin and Outstanding Young Range Professional Award Recipient Corey Owens

Texas Section Society for Rangeland Management Outstanding Young Range Professional Award Corey Owens

The Outstanding Young Range Professional Award is presented by the Society to an individual member who has demonstrated extraordinary potential and promise as a range management professional.

Corey's accomplishments to range management cover all facets of the Society for Range Management. He excels in research, teaching, public and professional service as well as public outreach. In essence, he exemplifies the definition of an Outstanding Young Range Professional.

He is an accomplished instructor, as evident from his impressive course evaluations and the success of his students. Corey spends countless hours recruiting students, working with student organizations, fostering internship opportunities, and assisting students in locating rewarding career opportunities. A large percentage of ASU graduates with majors in Natural Resource Management or minors in Range and Wildlife Management have gone on to successful careers with the Natural Resource Conservation Service. Corey has been instrumental in the development and

implementation of a very successful undergraduate program that is focused on providing the range field with graduates with a strong background in the art and science of Range Management.

Corey also works closely with our graduate research program. He regularly assists graduate students with research projects and oversees management decisions at the ASU Research Ranch. These include cattle rotations, brush control, deer hunting opportunities, and livestock management. Corey's ranching endeavors are not limited to the ASU Ranch. He is a partner with his Dad and Grandfather on the Owens Ranch, near Barnhart, Texas. Because of the collective efforts of the entire Owens family, the ranch remains a productive and profitable enterprise that is focused on rangeland conservation.

Corey also serves the professional range profession well. He was instrumental in the development and continued success of the Ranchers Workshops. The first two workshops were held in Big Lake, Texas followed by workshops in Sonora and Bronte, Texas. In addition, Corey was co-chair of the 2011 TSSRM meeting held in San Angelo, Texas. This year-long time commitment resulted in one of the best attended and most profitable meetings in the last several years. As co-chair, Corey was responsible for finances, sponsorship, exhibitors, and many of the local arrangements.

Corey was instrumental in the formation of the Young Professionals Committee of the TSSRM, and he served as chair of the committee for two years. Currently, he is chairing the College Activities Committee. I am confident that his efforts will increase the participation of college students from across the state.

In addition to his other commitments to the range society, Corey has co-authored 5 peer-reviewed publications, 15 progress report articles, and 56 abstracts presented at scientific and producer oriented meetings.

Corey is very involved with the San Angelo community through his efforts with local and regional 4-H and FFA students. He chairs or co-chairs several contest/events for the San Angelo Stock Show and Rodeo each year. These include the Wildlife and Livestock Judging Contests. He is chair of the Mutton Busting at the Rodeo and serves on the Calf Scramble Committee. In addition, he serves on the Lamb and Goat Show committee and assists with the Horse, Wool, and Ag Product Judging Contests. Corey is co-chair of the Region II Wildlife Contest and is co-chair of the State Wildlife Contest every five years. Corey attends the FFA state Wildlife Convention, 4-H Roundup, and the Fort Worth Stock Show on recruiting missions each year. Corey also serves on the Roping Fiesta Committee and Chairs the Fall Spectacular Lamb and Goat Show.

Corey serves on several university committees and serves as advisor for the Block and Bridle Club and the Delta Tau Alpha Honor society. Corey also was instrumental in the formation of RAMS (Recruiting Ag Majors). This is a student-run organization that focuses on recruiting new students to ASU. These students serve as ambassadors for the Agriculture Department and indeed Angelo State University.