

SRM Honor Awards

Presented at the Society's 60th Annual Meeting in Reno, Nevada, on February 14, 2007.



John Tanaka, Linda and Tom Bartlett, and Ginger Renner.

Fredric G. Renner Award

The Fredric G. Renner Award is the highest bestowed by the Society for Range Management. The award is named for one of the SRM's founding fathers, who served as its second president.

The Society for Range Management's most prestigious award, the Fredric G. Renner Award, is presented this year to **Tom Bartlett**.

Tom Bartlett joined the American Society of Range Management in 1963. He is only 10 years away from being a Founding Member.

When one thinks of the Finance Committee of the Society for Range Management, one immediately thinks of Tom Bartlett. For 11 years, Tom served on the Finance Committee of the SRM, also serving as Chair. Many of those years were a time of considerable change in the Society. Whereas the Board of Directors was selling one property, housing the staff in rented facilities, and considering whether to purchase a new facility, the Finance Committee had to constantly try

to keep the Society afloat financially. At the same time, new thought was going into how the Executive Vice President (EVP) position should be handled and by what sort of person. For that, the Finance Committee had to act as advisors for the financial interests of the Society. Through this, Tom stayed the course as a solid advisor and, as people who know Tom will tell you, he did not mince words about what he would suggest. The Society now finds itself with a new office facility; a full time EVP, who shares his time between Washington, DC, and Denver, Colorado; and with a sound Financial Plan in place. We would not be there without a sound Finance Committee, one that had Tom Bartlett at its core.

Tom also served 3 years on the Society Board of Directors.

We all think of Tom as the leader in the Range Economics world and rightfully so. He has been the mentor to most of the present-day range economists on University faculty and in land management organizations. No one can speak about federal land grazing fees without thinking of Tom Bartlett. He has been at the heart, or in the leadership, of the many studies that have been done over the years on this topic.

Although many regard Tom as an academic from the research side, we forget that he was the Advisor for the Colorado State University Range Club for 27 years. He served on the Student Affairs Committee for 6 years, leading the Student Display Contest.

When most folks would be entering their retirement years and finishing tasks left undone, Tom took on the leadership of the Sustainable Rangelands Roundtable. An effort initiated by the US Forest Service, the Roundtable quickly took on a national level of involvement, thanks to Tom's dogged determination to see the effort through. With monitoring and assessment "standardization," a high priority within

the profession, new thinking in ecological classification of rangeland conditions, and the need for data on the status of rangelands nationally, this effort caught the attention of all in the range science field. The effort required committed people for a long period and involved an enormous amount of coordination between topic groups. Tom skillfully coordinated these subgroups through countless meetings held around the country.

Tom Bartlett, through SRM membership, sustained accomplishments, eminence, and contributions to the Society, is truly deserving of the Frederic G. Renner Award.



John Tanaka and Kirk McDaniel.

W. R. Chapline Research Award

The W. R. Chapline Award was established in 1986 to provide recognition to members of SRM for exceptional research accomplishments in range science and related disciplines.

Dr Kirk McDaniel joined the New Mexico State University (NMSU) faculty in 1978 and is a Professor in the Department of Animal and Range Sciences with a joint appointment in research and extension as the Range Brush and Weed Control Specialist. He is recognized nationally and internationally as a leader in the development of vegetation management strategies in natural ecosystems.

Dr McDaniel has pioneered innovative approaches for managing shrub and weed species on New Mexico's rangelands. We now have a better understanding of the ecology and preferred control strategies for invasive species, including broom snakeweed, locoweed, sagebrush, creosote, salt cedar, mesquite, and other problem species, thanks to Dr McDaniel's research and extension programs. His brush-control research is unique in that it documents the long-term ecological consequences of managing plants for land restoration purposes.

Millions of dollars have been spent to control salt cedar along the rivers of the West, and more will be spent. These control programs are based on years of research (both successes and failures) conducted cooperatively between Dr McDaniel and John Taylor and others at the Bosque del Apache near So-

corro, New Mexico. The Bosque is now held up as "the example and proof" that salt cedar can be managed and controlled.

Kirk's work has always emphasized collaboration with others, including ranchers, land agency personnel, private industry, students, and other university scientists. Dr McDaniel's research provides one of the few long-term databases documenting benefits from managing plants for land restoration. Kirk is also widely recognized for his expertise in rangeland ecology, rangeland monitoring, and public land policy. Over his career, Kirk has assisted in resolving public land management conflicts and encouraged sound management practices on both public and private lands.

Dr McDaniel has written over 200 peer-reviewed articles and given many invited presentations that recognize his expertise in the management of numerous brush species that are problematic on southwestern rangelands. He has served for 15 years as research leader for US Department of Agriculture (USDA) research grants to NMSU on rangeland ecosystems and locoweed research. Combined funding for research directed by Dr McDaniel has been more than half a million dollars per year in the past 10 years. He has been active in SRM, serving on various national committees and as Section President, and serving on the New Mexico Section Board of Directors.

Kirk is a careful, thorough, and exacting researcher. His numerous former students acknowledge the hard work and attention to detail expected of them. The Society for Range Management and the Weed Science Society have benefited from his leadership, research contributions, and professional activities. It is a pleasure for me to participate in awarding to Dr McDaniel the W. R. Chapline Research Award.

It is with great honor that we hereby present Dr Kirk C. McDaniel with the 2007 W. R. Chapline Research Award.

W. R. Chapline Stewardship Award

The W. R. Chapline Stewardship Award was created in 1986 to provide recognition to members of SRM for exceptional accomplishments and contributions to the art and science of range management through specific rangeland entities.

F. Stephen Hartmann of Midland, Texas, is the 2007 recipient of the Society for Range Management's W. R. Chapline Land Stewardship Award. As the Executive Director of University Lands—West Texas Operations, Steve is recognized for his distinguished service and exemplary success in managing the 2.1 million acres of Permanent University Fund lands of the State of Texas. Most of these lands are semiarid or arid rangelands in western Texas. Revenue from this land is deposited into the Permanent University Fund, which has a current value of more than \$9 billion. Investment income from this Fund and income generated from the surface estate are used to finance construction, facility renovations, major library acquisitions, significant educational and research equipment, and academic excellence programs in The University of Texas System and the Texas A&M University System.

Hartmann's mission is "to maximize the revenue from University Lands by applying intensive management, ac-



F. Stephen Hartmann and John Tanaka.

counting, conservation, and environmental programs which will improve and sustain productivity of the lands in a manner which will protect both the interest of The University of Texas System and promote awareness and sensitivity to the environment.” In addition to oil and gas revenues, the surface estate generates income (\$9.1 million in 2005) from grazing, hunting, recreation, business site, and farming leases; pipeline, power line, and utility line easements; and permits for oil field-related operations. Steve’s flexible lease policy yields maximum income from 116 grazing leases while ensuring sustainable production from rangeland resources and stability for grazing lessees. Under his policies, a leaseholder pays rent on the hunting value, recreational value, and the actual number and types of livestock grazed. The fees vary yearly based on actual steer-calf prices at a major regional market. Stocking rates are based on Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) recommendations. Aerial surveys are used to verify the livestock numbers present are appropriate. Grazing lessees are required to develop and implement sound conservation and range and wildlife improvement plans with the NRCS. Revenue from surface damages for oil and gas development is used to improve grazing management and wildlife habitat on University lands. Steve values sound research for improving rangeland health and sustaining its productivity. His agency funds about \$300,000 annually for range research. Over 1 billion gallons of water are sold annually to several Texas cities from wells on University lands. About 100 wind turbines, with a total generating capacity of 65 megawatts, have been erected on University land and are currently producing electricity for Texans. Steve’s proactive management ensures that significant archaeological sites or rare and endangered plants or animals are not disturbed by any type of development activities.

Steve Hartmann has been an active member of the Society for Range Management for 40 years. He has served as a Director, second and first Vice President, President of the Texas Section-SRM, and was named a Fellow of the Texas Section in 1999. He also participates with his clientele in 9 other

societies and associations. He is held in the highest esteem among all rangeland resource managers, educators, scientists, ranchers, and agency personnel who know him. His stewardship of the 2.1 million acres of Permanent University Fund lands has been diligent and exemplary. Steve Hartmann is most highly deserving of the honor bestowed by the W. R. Chapline Land Stewardship Award.

Fellow Award

The title of Fellow is conferred upon members of the Society for Range Management in recognition of exceptional service to the Society and its programs in advancing the science and art of range-related resource management. This high honor is granted in the belief that special recognition should be given for exceptional and dedicated service to the Society.

Dr Walter H. Schacht has been actively involved in range management during his entire professional career and has been a member of SRM since 1979. His current posi-



John Tanaka and Walter Schacht.

tion at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) includes both teaching and research responsibilities. Dr Schacht ranks among the top educators in the nation in the discipline of Range and Forage Sciences. He has received several teaching awards, successfully competed for education grants, and is active in teaching, advising, scholarly activities, and curriculum development. He has been responsible for extensive revision of the Range Ecology and Management major at UNL and a key leader in the development and administration of the Grazing Livestock Systems and the Plant Biology majors. At the regional and national level, his leadership in range management education is made evident by his coordination of the development of a regional distance-education program in grassland management in the central Great Plains, active roles in the Range Science Education Council, organization of educational symposia, membership of the SRM accreditation committee, and long-term commitment to student activities associated with SRM. Dr Schacht’s research concentrates on

the study of interactions between grazing animals and the biotic and abiotic components of grassland ecosystems. His long-term research projects have focused on developing ecologically and economically sustainable, year-round grazing and foraging programs. His productive research program has focused on graduate student education and multidisciplinary and multistate projects. He has mentored numerous graduate students that have gone on to become successful professionals. His research has been supported by a diversity of grant sources and led to the publication of 50 articles in refereed journals or symposium proceedings. He also is an associate editor of *Rangeland Ecology & Management*. His skills and expertise in many aspects of range management have gained respect from students, ranchers, and peers. Dr Schacht also has an active leadership role in the Society for Range Management as Chair and Committee Member at both the International and Section levels.



John Tanaka and Carolyn Hull Sieg.

Dr Carolyn Hull Sieg has served the Society for Range Management in elected, volunteer, and assigned positions over the past 20 years. She has been elected as Director on the International and State levels as well as Section President of the South Dakota Section. She has taken major responsibility in 2 of our annual, international meetings, with primary program responsibility in 1997. She has volunteered for the Public Affairs Committee and the Information and Education (I&E) Committee at both the Section and National level and has served as Chair of the Advisory Board. All of these positions are positions of responsibility that require active management and participation in SRM functioning. All of these positions can make a lasting impact on our professional Society.

Probably the most time-consuming volunteer position Dr Sieg has performed is that of Associate Editor for our professional journal. After serving a 4-year term as an Associate Editor, Carolyn volunteered to remain with the journal for an additional year through the transformation from the *Journal*

of Range Management to *Rangeland Ecology & Management*. Her insight and dedication helped provide the continuity to make the journal change.

In summary, Carolyn has served the Society in every conceivable office and committee. She has improved how the SRM functions by serving on numerous committees that address not only the business of the Society but also how the Society does business. She consistently provides a professional and caring attitude that enhances the SRM both internally and to other professionals and organizations—and she has done this for more than 20 years. Naming Carolyn Hull Sieg as Fellow of the Society for Range Management is clearly deserved and long overdue.

Sustained Lifetime Achievement Award

The Sustained Lifetime Achievement Award is presented by the Society for Range Management to members for long-term contributions to the art and science of range management and to the Society for Range Management.

Dr Charles A. (Butch) Taylor's work at the Texas A&M Sonora Research Station since 1983 has established him as a leading authority in Texas and the Southwest on rangeland resource management, especially in the areas of livestock grazing management and the use of prescribed fire and goats for managing juniper and prickly pear cactus. Through his leadership, the Sonora Research Station has become a premier location to see and learn about the latest rangeland management techniques.



John Tanaka and Charles A. (Butch) Taylor.

Dr Taylor discovered that terpenoids limit juniper consumption by goats. He found that there is genetic variation within goats and the use of a selective-breeding program can create a goat herd with greater genetic ability to tolerate terpenoids. This, along with top-killing large junipers, has allowed ranchers to seriously address the juniper invasion threatening ranchers and rural communities of the Edwards Plateau.

Butch's innovative research on prescribed fire has shown that fires conducted under hot, dry conditions can effectively control

juniper and prickly pear cactus without permanently damaging the desirable grasses. His low-cost summer burning program is rapidly being adopted by ranchers. He also recognized that prescribed burning required more skill, labor, and equipment than individual ranchers possess. Thus, he has “neighbors helping neighbors” carry out prescribed burns on 40,000+ acres of the over 1 million acres represented by the Edwards Plateau Prescribed Burning Association 200 members.

His research on rangeland water budgets was completed long before the importance of rangelands as watersheds for expanding urban populations was recognized. Thus, he is partially responsible for the Texas Brush Control Program—targeting more than 1 million acres of Texas rangelands for brush control to increase water yield.

Recognizing the changing landscape of land ownership, with the “new” owners knowing little to nothing about ranching and rangeland management, Dr Taylor and 2 colleagues created the Academy for Ranch Management to teach these new landowners how to be good stewards of their range resource. Currently they have taught more than 70 students with land holdings in excess of 500,000 acres.

For his continuing dedication to rangelands, it is an honor to present Dr Charles A. Taylor with the Sustained Lifetime Achievement Award.

Outstanding Achievement Awards

The Outstanding Achievement Awards are presented by the Society for Range Management to members and other qualified individuals and groups working in rangelands. The Outstanding Achievement Awards have been subdivided into 2 groups: Research/Academia and Stewardship (ranchers, agency professional, and consultants).

Research/Academia

Dr Terrance Booth is one of those rare scientists who have taken their knowledge of rangeland science and applied it to the development of new knowledge and theory that has greatly benefited many whose careers involve the manage-



John Tanaka and Terrance Booth.

ment of western rangelands. Starting out in seedbed ecology and reclamation research, Terry made several substantive advances that have affected or changed industry standards in the processing of seeds, in the reclamation of disturbed lands, and in the development of a new cultivar. He advanced the science of seedbed ecology by elucidating the physical, physiological, and morphological reactions of seeds in processing and priming and the consequences for seedling vigor and plant establishment. His research pointed out the need to fully understand, for all relevant species, their seedbed ecology, including all diaspore functions that contribute to seedling establishment. He also pointed out the need to understand seed processing to develop the most economical and effective seed-handling protocols.

More recently, but building on work begun as a graduate student under Dr Paul Tueller, Dr Booth created an aerial survey system that fully addresses the rangeland monitoring problem defined by Brady et al., who in 1995, commented in a *Journal of Range Management* (48:187–190) article, “The monitoring problem in natural resource management is one of how to design ... *economical* inventory methods that will detect ecologically important vegetation changes with acceptable error rates.” The technical problems and obstacles in this accomplishment were multiple, substantive, and, to many, would be defeating. But Terry persevered, and today has developed an aerial monitoring system that numerous groups, including organizations like the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), US Department of Agriculture–Agricultural Research Service (USDA–ARS), the Northern Nevada Stewardship Group, Nevada Bighorn’s Unlimited, and Bitterroot Restoration Inc., see as a solution to the problem in monitoring vast acreages of rangelands.

In summary, Dr Terry Booth has been a dedicated and accomplished rangeland scientist who has used his scientific skills and knowledge to develop critical tools that rangeland managers desperately need. His curriculum today is a leading range science program, and his contributions will be a standard upon which future advances in aerial monitoring will be based.

Mr Duane McCartney’s contributions to range management have been substantial with most of his contributions being in the planted pasture arena rather than the more traditional rangeland management arena. This is largely because planted pastures are key components of rangeland grazing systems in the Aspen Parkland region of Alberta and Saskatchewan, Canada. Moreover, where operations include significant amounts of native rangeland, his work has allowed operators to delay and shorten their native rangeland grazing period, which is of direct benefit to the rangeland resource.

Mr McCartney is held in high esteem by both his colleagues and customers. This is because, in the past 5 years alone, he has 1) research accomplishments including 24 refereed journal articles, 27 conference proceedings, and 8 other publications; 2) 50 written and 34 oral technical and



John Tanaka and Duane McCartney.

semitechnical presentations; 3) received many distinguished professional awards; and 4) enjoyed many significant leadership roles on both a national and international level, such as organizing numerous conferences including the International Grasslands Congress in Winnipeg and Saskatoon, Canada, which hosted 1,100 people from 90 countries for 2 weeks, and presenting the opening address at the same Congress; forming a Canadian Chapter of the Society for Range Management for Saskatchewan and Manitoba, Canada; serving as President of the Northern Great Plains Section of SRM (North Dakota, eastern Montana, and Saskatchewan and Manitoba, Canada); serving on the nomination and awards committee of SRM; representing the grazing and range industry on the Expert Committee on Forage Crops; forming the Western Forage Beef Network that brought together all forage and beef researchers at Ag Canada and Universities plus all the forage and beef extension personal from British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba, Canada, on an annual basis for the further development of the forage beef industry; serving on an array of Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture Food and Rural Revitalization forage and beef committees and Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA) Green Plan committees; and serving as a Canadian ambassador and instructor on an educational trade mission to Ukraine and Cuba. In addition to these many accomplishments, a capstone achievement of Mr McCartney's is that he initiated and led a team of 55 people from across Canada in the development of a forage and beef cattle informational Web site <http://www.foragebeef.ca>.

Because of the above accomplishments, it is truly a privilege for the Society for Range Management to honor Mr McCartney with a 2007 Outstanding Achievement Award.

Dr Kevin Sedivec has distinguished himself as an outstanding rangeland extension specialist, educator, and research scientist. His success as an extension specialist is reflected by the sheer number of extension workshops, meetings, etc that he has organized or participated in over the



John Tanaka and Kevin Sedivec.

past 15 years. For example, he has organized or chaired 70 customer workshops and 35 in-service training courses. He has made more than 350 educational presentations, authored or coauthored 20 peer-reviewed extension publications, 38 other extension publications, and 75 field day reports or fact sheets. He and his work have been featured in more than 225 popular articles, videos, and other avenues of outreach. Dr Sedivec has taught several rangeland science courses at North Dakota State University, and he has served as either major or co-major advisor to 22 graduate students. In addition, he has served as a member of 19 additional Graduate Student Committees. His independent and graduate students' research has resulted in 1 senior- and 9 junior-authored, refereed journal articles and 46 abstracts. Also, he has been the principle or coprinciple investigator on 76 research grants funded to the amount of \$2.9 million. Dr Sedivec has received numerous awards for his dedicated service to his profession, including the 1998 SRM Outstanding Young Professional Award. He has also served in numerous SRM leadership positions in the North Dakota Chapter, the Northern Great Plains Section, and the Parent Society.

Because of these accomplishments, it is truly a privilege for the Society for Range Management to honor Dr Sedivec with a 2007 Outstanding Achievement Award.

Dr Roger Sheley has developed an international reputation as a weed ecologist. He is currently a lead scientist for the Agricultural Research Service program in Burns, Oregon, and previously was on the faculty at Montana State University. Roger has developed research programs that span the spectrum from very applied to very theoretical. He is a prolific speaker and writer, often giving 20–30 presentations per year, and he recently was senior or coauthor on 10 scientific journal publications in a single year.

During the past 10–12 years, Dr Sheley has worked to provide a conceptual framework that would help integrate research, teaching, and management associated with rangeland weed management. A strength of this approach is that research and management can be evaluated on a unified basis. The second real advantage to the system (which Roger



John Tanaka and Roger Sheley.

has termed *Ecologically Based Invasive Plant Management*) is that it forces both managers and researchers to consider the primary mechanisms of succession when evaluating success and failures. Roger's goal is to develop principles for weed management that are based on the best existing ecological knowledge.

Much of his drive to improve rangeland weed management comes from a sincere desire to improve the land for our children. Along with his extensive research effort, Roger has also mentored a host of graduate students and other professionals, been active in technology transfer and outreach activities, and generally contributed to the success of those with whom he has worked.

Dr Allen Torell joined the New Mexico State University faculty in 1984 and is a Professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Business. Dr Torell is recognized as one of the top range economists in the western United States. His research and teaching emphasis has contributed extensively to the areas of production economics, resource economics, public land policy, and ranch and range economics. He is widely sought for his knowledge and expertise in econometrics, computer applications, and farm and ranch management.



John Tanaka and Allen Torell.

Dr Torell has contributed to rangeland science for many years, conducting critical economic evaluations that are particularly valued by land management agencies. His cost-and-return data for ranches of various sizes has been invaluable to landowners, academia, bankers, and real estate personnel. He has been the driving force and major investigator in the "What is a Ranch Worth" idea, showing that rangelands have values far beyond just livestock grazing. He is, however, passionate that we continue to recognize that livestock grazing is a major factor in managing rangelands. His "Ran-val" work is used across the western United States and is a valuable tool for determining true ranch value when all aspects of ownership are taken into consideration.

Dr Torell not only conducts economic research, he has been instrumental in collaborating with rangeland scientists in New Mexico and nationally. He has worked and published on the economic impact and benefits from managing various brush and weed species, including mesquite, sagebrush, snakeweed, locoweed, and others. He is widely sought to determine economic values, impacts, and effects on local economies of various rangeland and ranching practices. Nearly all his publications are multi-authored, indicating the degree of collaboration.

Dr Allen Torell was bestowed with the New Mexico Section SRM Rangeland Manager of the Year Award in 2005. In part, he was recognized as the *one* agricultural economist available to New Mexico residents that is well versed on, and knowledgeable in, rangeland economics.

He was further recognized as always willing to spend time and energy to disseminate this information in a usable, timely, and understandable fashion.

Dr John Walker has distinguished himself as an outstanding rangeland scientist and agriculture administrator. The primary focus of Dr Walker's research has been in developing new understandings of grazing livestock diet selection processes and incorporating findings into the development of



John Tanaka and John Walker.

effective grazing management strategies that can affect the consequences of domestic herbivory on rangeland ecosystems. In this interest, he has investigated the effects of grazing systems on many aspects of range livestock production systems, the use of livestock to manage noxious weeds, and the use of selective breeding to modify diet preference. He has also investigated a variety of other topics including rangeland monitoring, many aspects of range livestock production systems, brush removal to increase rangeland water yield, and fecal near-infrared reflectance spectrometry (NIRS) to predict diet composition. These research endeavors have resulted in numerous scientific publications including 16 senior- and 25 junior-authored, refereed journal articles, 70 other publications, 33 abstracts, and 29 invited presentations or papers.

Dr Walker has also distinguished himself as an outstanding rangeland agriculture administrator having served as a Post-doctoral Rangeland Scientist, a Category 1 (CAT 1) Rangeland Scientist, and as acting Research Leader at the USDA-ARS Sheep Experiment Station, Dubois, Idaho (1988–1997), and as Resident Director of Research at the Texas A&M University Agricultural Research and Extension Center in San Angelo, Texas (1997–present). At both locations, Dr Walker's role was to provide leadership to a multidisciplinary team of scientists developing new technologies for increasing the efficiency and sustainability of range livestock production.

Because of these accomplishments, it is truly a privilege for the Society for Range Management to honor Dr Walker with a 2007 Outstanding Achievement Award.

Stewardship

Christopher Dale Allison's major career emphases have been in grazing management, poisonous plants, public land management, and youth development. Chris has developed range-monitoring techniques that have been applied by ranchers and federal land management agencies. He also developed a program to certify resource consultants for the New Mexico State Land Office. He has been extensively involved

with public land agency–producer–environmentalist conflict resolution throughout his career. He recently developed a rangeland evaluation protocol (*Rapid Assessment Methodology*), which is being used in Arizona and New Mexico to determine range suitability for livestock grazing.

Recent emphasis on elk–livestock interaction and competition has led to involvement with the federal and state agencies and producer groups in trying to resolve this growing conflict on rangelands. A study initiated by Chris in 1995 attempted to partition forage consumption into elk and livestock components.

Chris' involvement with toxic plant management is focused on developing management strategies and guidelines for grazing locoweed-infested pastures. He has developed, with the local extension agents, criteria for supplementation and proper turn-in time for cattle that minimize incidence of locoism as well as conducting field trials on locoweed aversion.

Chris works extensively in the 4-H and Future Farmers of America (FFA) youth education areas also. He developed a judging contest for evaluating rangelands in New Mexico as well as assisted in development of the national rangeland-judging contest held annually in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He instructs at the state 4-H horse school and the state 4-H livestock schools and started the first 4-H pig school. He conducts the state and national 4-H shotgun contest in the 4-H Shooting Sports Contest and serves as the state and national Chair of the shotgun event at the Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC).

Chris has served as the Interim Coordinator for the Range Improvement Task Force, he serves as the Department Head for the Extension Service's Animal Resources Department, and he has served as the Administrator of the Clayton Livestock Research Center.

Chris has more than 65 refereed journal articles and other professional publications. He has given over 75 public presentations.

Dr Charles R. Hart is deserving of the SRM Outstanding Achievement Award for his comprehensive and integrat-



John Tanaka and Christopher Dale Allison.



John Tanaka and Charles R. Hart.

ed programs to improve rangeland health and stewardship. These projects include the Pecos River Ecosystem Project, the first in Texas to attempt to reclaim and restore an entire river ecosystem damaged by salt cedar invasion. Through his leadership, the project has, as of this date, reclaimed over 289 river miles (13,497 acres), with an estimated 10,000–15,000 acre-feet of water salvaged annually along the Pecos River in Texas.

Dr Hart's achievements are not limited to rangeland watershed issues. He also developed the Integrated Toxic Plant Management Program in 1996. More than 700 landowners have been trained in workshops conducted by this program. One outstanding achievement of the program was the book *Toxic Plants of Texas* (College Station, TX: Texas Cooperative Extension Service B1605, 2003), which includes color pictures of over 100 toxic plants in the state as well as descriptions of symptoms, toxic agents involved, distribution, habitat, and suggested integrated management strategies to reduce livestock losses. This has been one of the most popular rangeland publications produced by Texas A&M University.

Dr Hart's achievements are many, including his work to develop the Texas Digital Diagnostics System, his 200 or more applied research and demonstration projects in the area of rangeland weed and brush control, and his authorship of 24 Extension Service publications.

There can be no better measure of achievement than "making a difference." Dr Charles Hart and his work as an Extension Service Range Specialist in West Texas have made a difference for rangeland owners and, most important, for the ecological health and productivity of rangelands.



John Tanaka and Mark Moseley.

For more than 30 years, **Mark Moseley** has been a practitioner and promoter of rangeland management and sustainability. Beginning on the family ranch in McCulloch County, Texas, through the pursuit of a bachelor's degree in Range and Wildlife Management at Texas Tech University, work at several NRCS field offices in Texas, the NRCS State

Rangeland Management Specialist position in Oklahoma, and finally, the state Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI) Coordinator for Texas, Mark has exhibited a contagious passion for rangelands.

Mark is very well respected among partners as a leading authority on rangeland issues in Oklahoma and Texas. He was instrumental in the formation of the original GLCI coalition in Oklahoma. Mark has served as a mentor to many young conservationists. He enjoys training and helping others to learn, as is evident in his efforts with the National Range Judging Contest, range camps, High School Youth Forum, and many NRCS training sessions. He is always available to answer questions and provide guidance when needed. His positive effect on these individuals is evident in the fact that most of them remain in contact with Mark many years later, despite career changes and relocation.

To Mark, it does not matter what time it is, it does not matter whether he is on the clock or off the clock, it does not matter whether he is participating in a major conference, out on the ground visiting with a rancher, or talking to a grade-school class, Mark is *always* promoting rangelands and rangeland management. He has the ability to talk at whatever level is necessary—carving out policy, regulations, etc; spilling his knowledge to help ranchers with their management skills; or telling the story of rangelands to fourth graders who may become the next generation of policy-makers, ranchers, or agency employees. Mark never stops promoting rangelands and range management.

His long-term service and passion for rangelands make Mark Moseley a most worthy recipient of the SRM Outstanding Achievement Award.



John Tanaka and John Williams.

John Williams, long-time SRM member and County Chair for the Oregon State University Cooperative Extension Service, Wallowa County, Oregon, has many, far-reaching accomplishments. He is known regionally in northeastern Oregon as the "go-to guy" for rangeland management, water quality, land management, weed control, and team build-

ing. He is the motivation behind the Wallowa County/Nez Perce Tribe Salmon Habitat Recovery Plan, which is touted in Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia, Canada, as the model to follow in dealing with the “sticky wickets” germane to creating an acceptable rare and endangered species recovery plan across 3 states and an international boundary! Mr Williams would modestly suggest that the plan itself is not exportable, but that the process is ... meaning that the format, protocol, and social and biophysical processes that he fostered to resolve conflict and actively engage in positive pathways are the critical features of any successful plan.

Mr Williams has been instrumental in enhancing and providing education on Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) requirements and in the Local Environmental and Resource Network (LEARN) to help beleaguered landowners find ways to comply with land-use regulations that are acceptable and financially doable. He has provided leadership to the Natural Resource Advisory Committee (NRAC), which has provided more than \$1 million in input toward road inventories, satellite imagery research, training in stewardship principles, removal of fish passage barriers, vegetation projects, and investment in off-site livestock watering.

John Williams is a compelling force for the better. He is believable, acceptable, and clearly in it for the long haul.

Outstanding Young Range Professional

The Outstanding Young Professional Award is presented by the Society to an individual member who has demonstrated extraordinary potential and promise as a range management professional. This award is presented as an encouragement for outstanding performance by young men and women entering the profession of range management.

Duane Coombs is an unusual and remarkable young man. As a Utah State University graduate by education and a “cowboy” by a lifetime of experience, he has brought professionalism, intelligence, and insight to the Smith Creek Ranch grazing operation in central Nevada.

One of Duane’s first responsibilities when he started work at the Smith Creek Ranch was to work with BLM and the ranch’s consultants to develop and implement an allotment management plan. He was instrumental in developing the grazing management system for the plan by incorporating innovative ideas on training cattle to graze uplands and use off-riparian watering areas and on implementing selective culling of the cattle herd based on trainability of the cattle to the herding system.

Duane is a strong advocate of the adage that you cannot manage what you do not measure. He participates in the ranch’s third-party monitoring and in agency monitoring, and he has implemented a monitoring program of his own.

Duane is constantly striving to learn more about resource management, and he is always willing to share his ideas and experience with local land managers, interest groups, and livestock growers. Duane also has the ability to be adaptable; he learns from mistakes and devises solutions to meet resource and economic goals. Duane has been active in Nevada’s sage grouse planning effort and is implementing sage grouse management practices on the ranch. He is also working on pinyon juniper control and aspen regeneration projects on the Smith Creek Ranch.

Duane has a strong land and resource management ethic and believes in sharing this with youth and is an avid supporter of Nevada Range Camp. Ask Duane about some of his accomplishments, and he will start naming the young men and women that he has worked with over the years. He will tell you that he is most proud of his cowboys. Without good, well-trained, and enthusiastic employees, much of what has been accomplished on the Smith Creek Ranch would never have occurred. Duane is proud to say that he has been an influence on at least 2 of his employees, who are now attending college in rangeland management programs.

Duane Coombs is most deserving of the Outstanding Young Range Professional Award.



John Tanaka and Duane Coombs.



John Tanaka and Paul Meiman.

In his short tenure as Extension Service Specialist for Rangeland Resources at the University of Wyoming, **Dr Paul Meiman** has quickly risen to the ranks of “superstar.” He rapidly developed a trustworthy reputation for applying scientific insight to practical rangeland management challenges. He is in high demand to make presentations to a broad spectrum of groups that care about sustainable rangeland management—all while maintaining the respect and esteem of agency personnel, ranchers, and environmental interest groups. He also has the skill to make the connection between research and aiding on-the-ground application through Extension Service education.

Dr Meiman has successfully established a statewide Rangeland Management School and a Wyoming rangelands Web site, developed a series of regularly broadcasted radio and television Public Service Announcements, and helped with the Wyoming Rangeland Resources Camp each summer. He has had 12 televised informational programs aired in Wyoming since June 2004. He has *already* had 140+ formal presentations, 5 scientific journal articles, 8 popular articles, 6 Extension Fact Sheets, and several other publications since he arrived at the University of Wyoming in 2003.

In addition to his Extension Service duties, Paul teaches 2 classes, has diverse research interests (from invasion ecology to soil-plant-microbe interactions to watershed interactions to wild land ecology), and is collaborating on several interdisciplinary projects.

Paul is one of those rare individuals that we in higher education look for to carry on and expand our intellectual horizons. He has a great aptitude for developing keen insights regarding the underlying principles of his profession and has demonstrated an ability to understand the cross-disciplinary linkages.

He is a real leader—well respected and liked by those who have had the good fortune of working with him.

Dr Meiman is aware that the future of range and natural resource management depends on recruitment of quality young men and women into the field. Paul takes the time to visit with high school and college students in group settings and individually about career opportunities in range and natural resource management.

Dr Meiman is an excellent example of an “Outstanding Young Rangeland Professional” and is most deserving of this award.

Range Science Education Council Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher Award

The Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award is presented annually to the individual who makes the greatest contribution to undergraduate education in the broad discipline of range science. The award is presented jointly by the Range Science Education Council and the Society for Range Management.

The Range Science Education Council and the Society for Range Management proudly present **Dr Christopher Call** with the 2007 Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award. Since 1987, Dr Call has taught a wide range of undergraduate range management courses in the Department



John Tanaka and Christopher Call.

of Wildland Resources at Utah State University. Dr Call also serves as an advisor to the Student Chapter of the Society of Range Management at Utah State University and was the former Coach of the Range Plant Identification Team.

Dr Call is well known among his colleagues as a faculty member driven to learn the process of teaching students. He immerses himself in literature which describes the many different learning techniques and continues to integrate them into his classes. He also strives to better the department by presenting these findings to other faculty, so they too can make their classes more advantageous. He describes teaching as a learning experience. All students have a story, and Dr Call learns through their questions, observations, and challenges, just as each student learns from Dr Call's presentations, exams, and assignments. He boosts interest in subject matter by letting students interact with one another in small groups as they attempt to solve real-world problems. These groups facilitate critical thinking and encourage interpersonal communication among students. At Utah State University, Dr Call has developed a study abroad program for undergraduate students in the College of Natural Resources. The program exposes students to the culture and management of natural resources in countries such as Mexico, Iceland, and Morocco. Dr Call is also known for his development of the Undergraduate Range Management Exam (URME) Contest.

Dr Call is a highly motivated teacher who strives to know his students on an individual level. He makes himself readily available to students and is well known for his friendliness and willingness to help. It is no wonder that he has been awarded Teacher of the Year at Utah State University more than once and is now being recognized as the Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher for 2007.

Annual SRM International Travel Fellowship 2007

The SRM International Travel Fellowship, presented for the first time in 2006, is awarded to a rangeland scientist or man-

ager from a developing country. The purpose of this fellowship, which includes a \$1,000 travel stipend, is to foster international exchange about advances in rangeland ecology and management and to promote participation in SRM by rangeland scientists and managers from developing countries. The fellowship is competitive and is awarded on the basis of scientific merit and applied significance of research, financial need, professional development objectives, and clarity of expression in English.

The 2007 winner of the International Travel Fellowship is **Dr Batjaviin Batbuyan** for his paper titled “Herder and Livestock Practices in Mongolia.”

SRM 2007 Distinguished Service Awards

Recipients: **Mr Thane Johnson** and **Mr Donald Smith**

If SRM was governed by a royal family as opposed to a board of directors, these 2 west Denver, Colorado, residents and long-time SRM members would both be granted Knighthood at this awards ceremony today.

They are both great friends of our society; they both believe deeply in what our organization stands for, and their dedication and service to SRM is exemplary.

From key business and construction connections to showing up at the office with their cars and trucks full of tools for building maintenance to finding a local youth to help with yard and landscape projects, Thane Johnson and Don Smith have been there to assist our Denver, Colorado, staff with the upkeep and maintenance of our new office building.

These 2 men have saved SRM countless dollars through their efforts to complete both small and large maintenance jobs at the new office building in Wheat Ridge, Colorado. Our organization has benefited in many different ways from their connections to local businesses, construction firms, and other maintenance companies.

Their willingness to work with our Denver-based staff on making our new building functional and operational has been a great shot in the arm to our Society.

For this reason, SRM is very pleased to announce that both Thane Johnson and Don Smith are receiving Distinguished Service Awards from our Board of Directors.

Congratulations and a great big THANK YOU to Mr Thane Johnson, and Mr Donald Smith for all that they have done for our Society.

Don and Thane are the recipients of the 2007 Distinguished Service Awards from our Board of Directors. *Editor's note: As part of the recognition, Don Smith received a Life Membership along with the award. Thane Johnson was already a Life Member.*

Special Life Membership

During the awards ceremony, Bill Hurst, on behalf of the Society for Range Management, presented **Ginger Renner** a Life Membership for her continued endorsement of the Society's highest award, the Fredric G. Renner Award, named for her late husband. ♦