



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. 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.
11. 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).
12. 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.
13. A list of any awards presented is to be sent to the President, Newsletter Editor, Archivist, and the Secretary.
16. Brief incoming Chair.



OUTSTANDING RANGELAND STEWARDSHIP (ORS) AWARD

The Texas Section Society for Range Management (TSSRM) is a professional scientific society and conservation organization whose members are concerned with studying, conserving, managing and sustaining the varied resources of rangelands. TSSRM is dedicated to supporting persons who work with rangelands and have a commitment to their sustainable use (www.texassrm.org). TSSRM is the local section of the international Society for Range Management (www.rangelands.org), currently comprised of over 3200 members from 24 countries.

Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers (TSCRA) is a grass roots organization composed of cattle producers and operators and other businesses of all size, backgrounds, ages and incomes located primarily in Texas and Oklahoma. TSCRA offers unique services through its law enforcement and livestock inspection divisions, which protect those involved in the cattle business. TSCRA also provides a strong, unified voice for producers and others concerned with legislation and regulation. It is a classroom for cattle producers seeking additional knowledge on how to be more profitable, whether they are just starting out or have been ranching all their lives. Whenever those associated with the ranching industry have a common need, TSCRA is there to lend a hand. (<https://www.tscra.org>).

Texas Grazing Land Coalition (TXGLC) is an organization made up of ten regional coalitions across Texas that works closely with USDA NRCS and other partners, including TSCRA and TSSRM as well as Texas Farm Bureau, Texas Wildlife Association and many others. The purpose of the organization is to provide technical assistance and educational opportunities to encourage excellent land stewardship on range and pasture lands in Texas. Regional coalitions are made up of local ranchers sharing ideas and tackling local challenges. (www.texasglc.org).

The purpose of this award is to recognize those cattle producers who have demonstrated outstanding skill and knowledge in practicing sound range management and care of the rangeland resources. This is a competitive award, with only one awarded annually. This award is linked to a ranch. Once a ranch has received the award, it is not eligible to receive it again. If more than one ranch is owned and 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.

The nomination process is two-tiered. The first round of nominations submitted are a one-page summary prepared by the nominator describing the accomplishments of the nominee with regard to evaluation criteria. Two TSSRM members, in addition to the nominator, must sign on to the nomination. If necessary, the ORS committee will visit the ranches nominated to select the winner. Ranch visits may be necessary to obtain documentation, photos, etc. From this pool of submissions, the committee will select one ranch as the winner.

Recipient must be a member of TSCRA. Membership in TSSRM is desirable, but not a requirement. Nominees need not be members of 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.

The ORS AWARD WINNER will be recognized during the TSSRM Awards Luncheon at its annual meeting. Additionally, the winner will be recognized by TSCRA during their annual convention. The nominator will assist the award committee in developing a quality power point presentation of the ranch highlights to be shown during the presentation.

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



A sample successful application can be found at <https://www.hill.beef.org>

Evaluation Criteria:

1. Environmental Stewardship Practices, Accomplishments and Goals (40 Points) By Stewardship, we mean environmentally beneficial management of rangeland resources.
2. Local, Regional and National Leadership Activities that Improve Conservation Perception of the Cattle Industry. (30 points)
3. Endorsements from individuals, Cattle Groups, Conservation Organizations and/or Government Agencies (limited to five pages) (15 points)
4. Economic Viability and Size of Operation (15 points)

**Mail or email one page narratives, the information page, and letters of endorsement, by JUNE 1 to:
TSSRM ORM Committee Chair
Chair: Mandi Ligon**

**Find online officers, directors, committee chairs at:
<https://texassrm.org/section-info/section-committees/>**

Organizational Responsibilities:

- TSSRM, TXGLC and TSCRA are encouraged to submit one-page nominations
- TSSRM will provide the committee to evaluate the nominations
- TSSRM will provide gate signs with the three logos (TXGLC, TSSRM and TSCRA) and award plaque at their annual meeting and will provide registration for ranch owners/managers.
- TXGLC will provide accommodations for ranch owners/managers for the TSSRM meeting.
- TXGLC will prepare a poster for the SRM ANNUAL MEETING competition held the February following the TSSRM Annual Meeting. Three copies will be produced, and one provided to each organization
- TXGLC and TSSRM will provide TSCRA with the nomination materials and any supporting materials to assist in TSCRA's preparation of the nomination for the next phase of the awards, the regional ESAP.
- TSSRM, TXGLC and TSCRA will work collaboratively to provide social and traditional media coverage for the award winner.



TEXAS SECTION
**SOCIETY FOR
 RANGE MANAGEMENT**

**TSSRM OUTSTANDING RANGELAND STEWARDSHIP AWARD
 INFORMATION PAGE**

1. Nominee Name: _____
 Address: _____

2. Ranch Location: _____

3. Number of years operated: _____
Nominee must have owned/operated the ranch for minimum five years.

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 Pastureland
- _____ Acres Cropland
- _____ Acres Other
- _____ ACRES TOTAL

Nominator Name: _____
 Address: _____

Email Address: _____
 Phone number: _____
 Nominator Signature: _____

Nomination must be concurred by two TSSRM members with signature below or by attached statement of concurrence.

Name: _____ Signature: _____