



*2013 TSSRM President Jeff Goodwin and Outstanding Contribution to Rangeland Management Award Winner Dan Caudle*

**Texas Section Society for Rangeland Management  
Outstanding Contribution to Rangeland Management  
Dan Caudle**

The Outstanding Contribution to Rangeland Management Award is the most prestigious award presented by the Section. Each year the Texas Section awards the OCRM to the member that it feels has made the most significant and note-worthy contribution to the rangeland profession.

Dan Caudle has not only contributed greatly to rangeland management over his esteemed career in the field, he has earned the respect of his peers, mentors and mentees. One of Dan's greatest contributions was as a pioneer in the development and application of the Ecological Site Description concept. These descriptions have now replaced range site descriptions and have forever changed the way we view and describe rangelands and their ecological status on the landscape. These ecological site descriptions are now the industry standard for rangeland management, monitoring and are the cornerstone document for conservation planning on rangeland. Ecological site descriptions are now utilized and supported by federal agencies, state agencies, universities and ranchers across the United States.

Dan has served selflessly in several different capacities throughout his career, and not once has he ever compromised his technical integrity when it comes to rangeland management. He has been a mentored to numerous young rangeland professionals, many of whom are following in his footsteps today.