

Dr. Joel R. Brown

Dr. Joel R. Brown has made outstanding contributions to the field of rangeland management as a practicing conservationist, scientist, and policy advisor. Dr. Brown began his involvement with the Society as an undergraduate on the Ft Hays State University plant team, and has served on numerous committees, as a paper presenter and chaired symposia and technical sessions.



He has been instrumental in providing intellectual leadership in developing new ecological theories relevant for practical application of rangeland management. His studies of basic ecological systems, vegetation dynamics and state-and-transition concepts involve breaking new ground considering non-linear, non-equilibrium approaches to vegetation change. His research works in Australia, the study of the key processes of shrub invasion of grasslands, and his leadership to develop new ecological theories into practical management applications central to proper range management. Dr. Brown co-authored a paper on the re-examination and revision of problems with the condition and trend concepts, and the development of state and transition models for range management. He has also provided technical guidance to develop reasonable and realistic expectations for evaluating and managing national programs related to greenhouse gases and soil carbon sequestration to NRCS and USDA in his role as Special Assistant to the (NRCS) Chief for Global Change.

Dr. Brown has devoted his career to critical analysis of the basic tenets of our profession in an effort to "get them right." The Society is proud to present the Outstanding Achievement Award to Dr. Joel R. Brown.