

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 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 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/papers.



Dr. Walker has also distinguished himself as an outstanding rangeland agriculture administrator having served as a post-doctoral rangeland scientist, a CAT I 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 multi-disciplinary 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 honour Dr. Walker with a 2008 Outstanding Achievement Award.

