



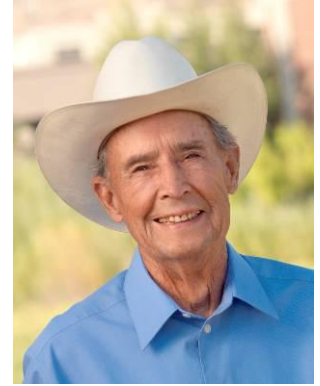
## *W R Chapline Land Stewardship Award*

The **W R Chapline Land Stewardship Award** gives special recognition to members of the Society for *exceptional accomplishments and contributions in the application of the art and science* of range contributions in the application of the art and science of range management to specific to rangeland entities and to wildlife and domestic livestock on such lands.

### *Leonard N. “Bud” Purdy*

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Mr. L.N. “Bud” Purdy has a long history of commitment to excellence in rangeland management and countless examples of his stewardship ethic on his ranch and rangelands. The deeded lands of his ranch border the world-famous trout stream, Silver Creek. Concern for these resources lead Mr. Purdy to adopt innovative irrigation practices, rotational grazing systems, fencing and other management changes to minimize run-off. Picabo Livestock was one of the first ranch operations in the west to partner with The Nature Conservancy and others and create a scenic easement to protect this stretch of Silver Creek from development years into the future. The ranch operates on a mixture of deeded and public lands. Its rangelands provide key forage in the spring through fall and range from top quality native sagebrush-grass types to seeded species such as crested wheatgrass. The integrated ranch and farming operation includes a feedlot for finishing cattle.



More noteworthy than the personal accomplishments of Mr. Purdy on his ranch and rangelands have been his commitment and vision in creating and leading innovative programs that have been at the forefront of instilling management, policy and stewardship on western rangelands. Under Bud’s leadership, the Idaho Rangeland Committee (IRC) was heavily involved in mediation of disputes related to public rangeland use through the grazing EIS era. Bud and the committee also helped formulate critical sections of the Public Rangeland Improvement Act and were very involved in the implementation of the Challis Experimental Stewardship Program, mandated under Section 12 of the Act.

This innovative approach to participatory management resulted in positive management direction for several million acres of public and private rangeland in Idaho, Montana, California and Nevada. After completion of his 18 year term as chairman of the IRC, Mr. Purdy became involved in another innovative program dealing with Idaho’s rangeland resources, the Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission (IRRC). Bud’s leadership on this Commission resulted in the development of the assessment program that generates over \$200,000 per year for use in portraying the positive aspects of rangelands and ranching. The Commission has become a credible source of information on Idaho’s rangeland resources. Educational programs developed for children and teachers have proven to be effective means of gaining new advocates for rangelands. The concept of this Commission is being used as a blueprint for similar efforts in other western states.

Bud is a quality individual who has made a difference in the field of rangeland management. His personal traits embody the concepts of stewardship on his own ranch, and his vision for innovative approaches has helped the profession address stewardship issues in proactive ways throughout the United States.

**It is with great pleasure that the Society for Range Management present the W.R. Chapline Stewardship Award to Bud Purdy.**