

# ***Outstanding Achievement Award Recipients***

## ***Stewardship***

### **Harvey A. Sprock**

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Harvey Sprock is receiving this award to honor his dedicated 40-year career pursuit to disseminate low-input, sustainable grazing lands information to ranchers, landowners, and other rangeland professionals. As a result, there have been thousands of acres throughout Colorado that have been managed with that philosophy and those principles.

Harvey has also maintained integrity and not compromised those technical beliefs regardless of the pressure and politics associated with them. He believes that sustainable rangelands can be achieved through grass-fed production and ranching closer to nature; a belief that was largely shaped during childhood while growing up on a ranch near Calhan, Colorado.

This sustainable philosophy permeated every part of Harvey's career, including the following professional contributions: writing the majority of Colorado Range Site Descriptions which are used by NRCS and other agencies as the foundation document for decisions on native rangeland; the primary resource in Colorado and surrounding states for the development of the new Ecological Site Descriptions; conducting numerous presentations and tours throughout Colorado; responsible for developing grazing-related NRCS conservation program contracts in Northeast Colorado; took the lead in developing specifications for reseeding two million acres of highly erodible cropland back to native vegetation through the Conservation Reserve Program throughout Colorado; implementing Holistic Resource Management approach on many ranches in Eastern Colorado which resulted in dramatically improved rangeland condition and increased profit to those ranches; mentoring NRCS employees in sustainable rangeland management principles; and providing leadership/instruction in rangeland management to students and teachers at conservation camps.

