

Sustained Lifetime Achievement Award Recipients

John L. McLain

John McLain, SRM Past President (2000), has been an active member of the society and has worked to advance rangeland management and production agriculture in the West for more than forty years. His experience as a young professional in rural Montana instilled a deep appreciation for working on and caring for the land. His understanding of the relationships between natural resources and local economies was inspired by his mentors and many hours spent on horseback with ranchers and other professionals to find on-the-ground solutions to natural resource problems.



John is a visionary who converts ideas into actions. Congressional delegates and agency staff at the State and National level seek his advice and expertise on rangeland policies and problems. McLain is respected by SRM professionals as well as by others who oppose his positions because of his strong edict for prioritizing “conservation of the resources” as his primary goal. He has dedicated endless hours to assure that SRM’s professional doctrines are based on sound scientific knowledge. He has often been in conflict situations and has been one of SRM’s strongest advocates for fact-finding processes such as the Experimental Stewardship Program, Coordinated Resource Management, and Cooperative Monitoring.

McLain participated in creating *Range Magazine* to inform the general public about positive achievements on rangelands. As a founder and Principal Range Specialist at Resource Concepts Inc, McLain continues to advance regional and global rangeland issues including rehabilitation of cheatgrass dominated rangelands, biomass utilization, and climate change.