

PRESS RELEASE

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ORTEGA-S. RECEIVES FELLOW AWARD from the Society for Range Management (SRM)

Dr. J. Alfonso “Poncho” Ortega-S. of Kingsville, Texas received the Fellow Award at the Society for Range Management’s (SRM) 70th Annual Meeting held in St. George, Utah, January 29 – February 2, 2017. The Fellow Award recognizes SRM members for their exceptional service and contributions to the Society and its programs in advancing the science and art of range-related resource management.



Dr. “Poncho” Ortega is a professor and Research Scientist at Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute, Texas A&M University – Kingsville. He was born and raised in Gonzalez, Tamaulipas in Northern Mexico. Poncho has been involved with rangeland management for his entire life; being involved with his family’s ranch growing up and professionally as a federal researcher in Mexico, and as a university professor and rancher. After Poncho obtained his Ph.D. at the University of Florida, he worked his way up from a research scientist to National Leader of the Range and Forage Program for Mexico’s National Research Institute of Forestry, Crops and Livestock (INIFAP). In 2001 he joined the Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute at TX A&M University-Kingsville (TAMUK).



SRM’s 2017 Fellow Award recipient Dr. Poncho Ortega S
with (2016) SRM President Dr. Val Jo Anderson

Poncho’s research focuses on rangeland ecology and management for wildlife and domestic animals. He has received numerous awards for teaching, research and service at the University, as well as the Outstanding Achievement Award at both the Section (Texas) and national levels of the Society for Range Management. He has authored or co-authored more than 25 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters. He is the co-author and editor of two award winning books; “White-tailed Deer Habitat: Ecology and Management on Rangelands” (written in English and

Spanish), and “*Ecolgía y Manejo de Fauna Silvestre en Mexico.*”

Poncho has provided countless hours of service to SRM by serving on numerous committees and positions at both the Section and National levels and he is the current president of the Texas Section of the Society for Range Management. He continues to spend his free time by ranching in South Tamaulipas Mexico and in South Texas where he raises cattle and Quarter Horses, as well as being a professional horse trainer and farrier. For his dedication and accomplishments, Dr. J Alfonso “Poncho” Ortega-S is most deserving of the 2017 Society for Range Management’s Fellow Award.



MISSION: Providing leadership for the Stewardship of Rangelands based on sound ecological principles.

VISION: A well-trained and highly motivated group of professionals and rangelands users working with productive, sustainable rangeland ecosystems.