

PRESS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE: February, 2018

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GOURLEY RECEIVES OUTSTANDING YOUNG RANGE PROFESSIONAL AWARD FROM THE SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT (SRM)

Blayr Gourley of Copan, Oklahoma, received an *Outstanding Young Range Professional Award* at the Society for Range Management's (SRM) 71st Annual Meeting, Technical Training, and Trade Show in Sparks, Nevada which concluded earlier this month. The *Outstanding Young Range Professional Award* recognizes SRM members who exhibit superior performance and leadership potential in any range-related area.

Ms. Blayr Gourley received her BS and MS from Oklahoma State University. Her graduate work involved the creation of the website, [The Prairie Project](#), which provides rangeland education curriculum for educators and youth. She previously worked for Oklahoma State University in the Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management as an Extension Associate. At OSU she was instrumental in creating and managing the eXtension Prescribed Fire Community of Practice. She assisted with multiple range management, prescribed fire and wildlife field days throughout the southern Great Plains. Additionally, she worked as the coordinator for the [Great Plains Fire Science Exchange](#), to disseminate research-based fire information throughout the Great Plains.

Blayr currently works for CHLOETA, as a Wildland Fire Planner. She and her husband, Adam, operate [Open Range Management, LLC](#) just outside the Flint Hills in northeastern Oklahoma. They also run a Black Angus cow-calf herd in the Flint Hills of Kansas, and in Oklahoma.

Blayr is also very active within the Society for Range Management at both the Section and Parent Society levels. She has served as an officer to the Oklahoma Section of SRM for 7 years, and has provided website and program development services for 5 SRM Parent Society conferences. Blayr uses social media as an outreach platform for range management.

For her accomplishments, Blayr Gourley is most deserving of this 2018 Society for Range Management *Outstanding Young Range Professional Award*.



SRM 2018 Outstanding Young Range Professional Award recipient Blayr Gourley with (2017) SRM President Dr. Larry Howery



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.