

## PRESS RELEASE

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CONTACT: Vicky Trujillo, Office Services Manager  
Society for Range Management  
[vtrujillo@rangelands.org](mailto:vtrujillo@rangelands.org)  
P: 303-986-3309 F: 303-986-3892



### REECE RECEIVES FELLOW AWARD FROM THE SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT (SRM)

Mary B. Reece of North Platte, Nebraska, received a *Fellow Award* at the Society for Range Management's (SRM) 72<sup>n</sup> Annual Meeting, Technical Training and Trade Show in Minneapolis, Minnesota, February 10-14, 2019. 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.

Mary Reece has been employed by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for more than 33 years, and an active member of the Society for Range Management since the mid-1980s. She started her career as a range conservationist intern in 1984, worked in 2 field offices in western Nebraska as a Range Conservationist, and has been the NRCS District Conservationist in North Platte, Nebraska since 1992. As a District Conservationist, Mary has supervised 52 NRCS and Conservation partner employees, and more than 30 volunteers.

Throughout her career with NRCS, educating her staff, clientele, and youth about range management has been her passion. Mary has been an integral member of the Nebraska Range Youth Camp Committee since 1983, including serving as the Range Camp Co-Director from 1993 through 2006. In 2018, Nebraska held its 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Range Camp, educating 35 to 60 youth annually.

Mary is a current Co-Chair of the High School Youth Forum (HSYF) which is a subcommittee of the SRM's Student Activities Committee. Mary joined the Subcommittee in October 1999, becoming a Co-Director of the HSYF with Dr. Barron Rector in 2000, and continues in that role today. This important and valuable youth activity at the Society level includes leading 25 to 35 youth each year through a program held at the SRM Annual Meeting. Mary's selfless contributions to SRM, youth education in rangeland management, and delivery of services to rangeland managers make her worthy of recognition by SRM with the Society's Fellow Award for 2019.



SRM 2019 Fellow Award recipient Mary Reece with (2018) SRM President Dr. Barry Irving



**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.