

CONTACTS: JoLynn Worley, BLM, 775-861-6586
Rachel Buzzetti, Nevada Cattlemen's Association, 775-738-9214
Doug Busselman, Nevada Farm Bureau Federation, 775-674-4000
Don Henderson, Nevada Department of Agriculture, 775-684-5333

Call for Nominations for Outstanding Rancher Award

February 24, 2006 - Elko, Nev.—The Nevada Cattlemen's Association, the Nevada Farm Bureau, the Nevada Department of Agriculture, the Society for Range Management, and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) are soliciting nominations for an Outstanding Rancher Award to be presented at the Nevada Cattlemen's Association annual conference banquet November 17, 2006 to be held in Elko. The organizations are jointly sponsoring the award.

The award will be presented to the nominee who best demonstrates sound and innovative stewardship practices in managing a successful ranching operation. The Outstanding Rancher Award was first presented in 1996 and has become an annual recognition for Nevada ranching operations who have achieved significant, positive natural resource accomplishments while at the same time maintaining a progressive livestock enterprise.

Management activities could involve vegetation and weed management, fish and wildlife habitat restoration and enhancement, water quality improvement, soil protection and building, watershed improvement, and riparian area restoration and protection. The selection committee will be looking at what effect the management activities have had on the productivity and profitability of the ranching operation.

Nominations of candidates for the Outstanding Rancher are welcome from all areas of interest. Past award winners have been nominated by neighbors, organizations and agencies who have worked with the ranchers.

The selection committee will be made up of representatives of the sponsoring organizations and be accepting nominations until May 1. Nomination forms may be obtained from any of the sponsoring organizations listed above.