



Ronald E. Masters Wins the Henry Wright Lifetime Achievement Award

The Association for Fire Ecology (AFE) is pleased to announce Dr. Ronald E. Masters has been awarded the 2019 Henry Wright Lifetime Achievement Award for his significant contribution to fire ecology and management in grasslands and shrublands.

Dr. Masters is an Emeritus Professor of Forestry and Wildland Fire Science at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. He earned a PhD in Wildlife & Fisheries Ecology in 1991 from Oklahoma State University, and held a Master's of Science in Wildlife Biology, Bachelor's of Science in Wildlife & Fisheries Science, and Bachelor's of Science in Forestry. Ron's work has spanned different regions of the US, focusing on both management and research through positions at the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, Oklahoma State University, and Tall Timbers Research Station. Throughout his career, he authored or co-authored more than 150 articles, book chapters, or other publications; taught university level courses, webinars, and workshops; managed many fire research and management grants; gave more than 100 presentations at a variety of conferences; and was chair or committee member for 30 graduate students. Ron has actively participated in several professional organizations, and volunteered his time to serve on committees and boards, assist with conference planning, and review manuscripts.

AFE honors career achievements in fire ecology and management by recognizing the pioneers and early advocates in our field. Each year, lifetime achievement awards are presented to individuals who have made significant contributions to fire ecology and management and who have inspired and mentored a generation of fire ecologists. The award for individuals who primarily work in grassland and shrubland ecosystems is named after Henry Wright of Texas Tech University. Henry's extensive research in prescribed fire, along with his extension programs and university courses, helped fire become an accepted management practice for controlling brush and weeds and for restoring grasslands.

Dr. Masters was recognized for receiving the Wright Award at the 8th International Fire Ecology and Management Congress, November 18-22, 2019, in Tucson, Arizona. A list of all Lifetime Achievement Award winners is available at <https://fireecology.org/afe-award-winners>.

About AFE

The Association for Fire Ecology (AFE) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the knowledge and use of fire in land management. Our members include scientists, educators, students, managers, practitioners, policymakers, and interested citizens. To learn more about AFE, visit www.fireecology.org.



"It is not often that someone has been this instrumental at different institutions in different regions, making a difference in all. Ron has excelled in making not only transformational wildland fire experiences for students, but has provided transformational research and leadership in fire ecology and management."

~Brian Oswald,
Stephen F. Austin State University