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For Immediate Release  
January 25, 2016  
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### **Texas Big Game Awards Announces Landowner of the Year Awards Presented by Capital Farm Credit**

San Antonio, Texas – The Texas Big Game Awards (TBGA) is proud to announce the 5<sup>th</sup> annual “Landowner of the Year” (LOTY) Awards program, presented by Capital Farm Credit. The prestigious LOTY Awards recognizes the important contributions that Texas private landowners make to wildlife and habitat conservation, as well as recognize their perpetual commitment to our hunting heritage.

The objectives of the LOTY Awards are to:

- Recognize TBGA landowners for excellence in habitat management and wildlife conservation on their lands;
- Recognize their encouragement of youth and adult education;
- Promote best stewardship practices in the TBGA’s eight regions;
- Illustrate the important role of Texas’ private landowners in the future of our natural resources.

Nominations for the LOTY Awards may come from natural resource agencies, conservation organizations, the general public, or from the ranches/landowners themselves. Nominees must have current entries in the TBGA program, as well as have their ranch listed as an awardee through the official TBGA entry forms.

Considerations will also include the number of TBGA awards the ranch/landowner has produced, number of youth and first-timers experiencing the outdoors, habitat and wildlife management projects related to the property, and more.

Finally, nominees will be considered for the LOTY Awards based on the TBGA Region in which their land is located. Up to eight regional awards may be awarded each year, and one overall statewide landowner of the year will be recognized. Nominations will be accepted through March 31, 2016. The landowner must accept the nomination in order to be considered for an award.

To download the application or to learn more, please visit [www.TexasBigGameAwards.org](http://www.TexasBigGameAwards.org).

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About the TBGA: Celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the Texas Big Game Awards (TBGA), a partnership of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) and the Texas Wildlife Association (TWA), continues to be the leader in recognizing the contributions that landowners, land managers and responsible hunters make to managing and conserving wildlife and wildlife habitat on Texas’ private lands. The Texas Big Game Awards program is designed to recognize 1) the quality of big game animals in Texas, 2) the hunters who harvest these animals, 3) the land managers who produce these animals through their management efforts, 4) the importance of our hunting heritage, and 5) the achievements of young and new hunters. For more information on the program visit [www.TexasBigGameAwards.org](http://www.TexasBigGameAwards.org) or call (800) 839-9453.