

Chair Nominees

Charles S. Evans

Employer: Georgia Wildlife Federation

Position: R3 Coordinator

Working Group membership status as of June 1, 2017: Member

Charles S. Evans is an Associate Wildlife Biologist® and the Georgia R3 Coordinator. He attended the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources at UGA where he earned his B.S. and M.S. in Wildlife Sciences and Forest Resources, respectively. In previous roles, Charles has worked in eight states and overseas focusing on everything from forest management plans to non-native ungulate eradication. In his current role, he is working to secure the future of wildlife conservation funding by acting as the strategic conduit between stakeholders from industry, agency, and non-governmental organizations.



The next leadership term for the FWFG will need to focus on communication to effectively facilitate information exchange, engage forest managers, enhance technical capabilities of professionals, and increase public awareness of important forestry practices as they relate to wildlife. The development of a newsletter was a step in the right direction for our workgroup, however there is still a substantial amount of progress to be made. If elected chair, I will ensure increased dissemination of pertinent information, advertisement of available travel grant funding, and development of new partnerships to help achieve our objectives.

Krishna Faw

Employer: F&W Forestry Services

Position: Forest Inventory Analyst

Working Group membership status as of June 1, 2017: Non-member

My Masters and Bachelor's degrees are in natural resources conservation and management and I've been working in the field for over 10 years. I hold both the Associate Wildlife Biologist® and Candidate Certified Forester® (SAF) certifications. I currently serve as the Conservation Affairs Network representative for Georgia TWS. I'm an active member of SAF and the Georgia Forestry Association.



My vision for the FWWG is to continue to focus on developing and strengthening the partnerships that have been created. As one of the largest working groups, we have the ability to engage many forestry professionals across the U.S. that are not TWS members. I'd like our leadership team to encourage our members to facilitate joint SAF and TWS meetings and work to give them tools and resources to do so. This includes continuing to work on a dedicated wildlife scientific/technical session hosted by our working group at the SAF national convention.

As a participant of The Wildlife Society's Leadership Institute last year, I was able to learn more about the inner workings of the society and grow as a leader in this profession. I hope to bring some of the experience and knowledge from that to our working group.

Chair-elect Nominee

Jason Scott

Employer: Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College

Position: Associate Professor – Wildlife Ecology and Management

Working Group membership status as of June 1, 2017: Member

My career in wildlife management started 23 years ago when I began studying at the University of Idaho's College of Natural Resources. I worked as a private contractor for 4 years before completing both advanced degrees at the University of Georgia's Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources. While there, I studied habitat relationships for many species that included game, nongame, and threatened and endangered species mostly in forested systems. All those experiences have undoubtedly shaped my views of using forest management operations to generate habitat manipulations that benefit targeted species or natural communities.



Most recently, I've been teaching in the department of forest resources at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (ABAC) in Tifton, Georgia for the past 6 years. Our entire program of study at ABAC is centered on the concept of conservation under the wise use paradigm established by Aldo Leopold all those years ago.

Though timber harvest is a necessity, we benefit the resource by understanding relationships between these forest habitat manipulations and responses by various species of interest. In my view, we must push as a collective group to accomplish 3 major goals:

- 1) Promote research that targets manipulative studies that investigate impacts of alternative management actions on community level and species level processes.
- 2) Generate venues (i.e. symposiums, workshops) for this type of research that targets impacts of forest management actions.
- 3) Produce consistent high quality newsletter for our membership in the working group that promotes recent research grants awarded or recent publications that fit our ideals. This newsletter would also serve as a means to document our actions as a working group to our membership.

In my view, the accomplishment of these three objectives would go a long way in promoting what this working group represents

Secretary/Treasurer Nominee

Kelly Douglass

Employer: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

Position: Technical Assistance Biologist

Working Group membership status as of June 1, 2017: Member

Most of my experience in forestry and wildlife has been in my current position. As a technical assistance biologist, I provide technical guidance to private landowners in the Piedmont region of North Carolina who are interested in managing their property for wildlife. This includes conducting site inspections and ecological assessments and developing detailed management plans and maps, including specific recommendations needed for landowners to create and/or maintain quality wildlife habitat. Because NC is about 60% forested, much of that management is forestry-related. My position keeps me involved with the Forest Stewardship Program, Tree Farm Program, Farm Bill Program (occasionally), and various conservation partnerships in NC.



My vision for the FWWG is for us to continue to be a conduit for forestry and wildlife scientific knowledge distribution and networking opportunities. If elected as Secretary/Treasurer, I would be responsible for drafting meeting minutes, maintaining the FWWG account, and maintaining the FWWG email distribution list. I have served as Secretary for the NC Chapter of TWS (2012-2014), and am currently serving as e-Newsletter Editor for the FWWG.

At-Large Board Member Nominees

Mario D. Giazzon

Employer: Pennsylvania Game Commission

Position: Northcentral Region Wildlife Diversity Biologist

Working Group membership status as of June 1, 2017: Non-member

I have worked as the Wildlife Diversity Biologist for the Pennsylvania Game Commission's Northcentral Region since 2007. My primary duties are to provide technical assistance to private landowners regarding habitat management for species of greatest conservation need identified in the state's wildlife action plan. This work mostly focusses on planning a variety of silvicultural practices through state and Federal funding programs to improve habitat for a species such as golden-winged warbler, cerulean warbler, American woodcock, etc. I engage in direct implementation supervision for projects that utilize agency funding sources. Additionally, I contribute to the development of management strategies for all State Game Lands within the Region, collaborating directly with foresters, land managers, and work crews to identify target wildlife species and identify the best management practices to improve their habitat conditions. I served two consecutive terms as an At-Large Board Member for the Pennsylvania Chapter of TWS from 2011-2015. Prior to my current position I worked on similar private lands programs in Pennsylvania (NRCS), The Nature Conservancy in Kentucky, and the Indiana Division of Fish & Wildlife. I received my B.S. degree in Biology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 1999 and my M.S. in Biological Sciences at Illinois State University in 2002.



Despite my wildlife knowledge and skills coming into this job, it quickly became apparent that I needed to take an exponential learning curve to develop knowledge not only about standard silvicultural techniques, but other creative ways to approach habitat creation for forest wildlife species. While good forest management typically yields good wildlife habitat, this is not always the case, and being able to bridge that gap is essential not only for wildlife professionals, but equally for forestry professionals. My vision for this working group is to foster the development of ways to bridge that gap between wildlife biologists and foresters to ultimately improve forest management for the wildlife species that need it most.

Jeff Larkin

Employer: Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Position: Faculty

Working Group membership status as of June 1, 2017: Non-member

I earned a Masters degree in Forestry and PhD in Wildlife Ecology and Conservation from the University of Kentucky. I am also a long time TWS member and CWB. Throughout my career, my students and I have examined many questions related to forestry, forest structure, and wildlife. For example, I was a co-PI on research projects that resulted in Forestry Best Management Practices for Cerulean Warbler and Golden-winged Warbler. My students and I have also examined topics such as SMZ width and forest dwelling salamanders, rest site selection of fishers, and American Woodcock use of managed forests. I am also very committed to using my forestry and wildlife expertise to bridge the communication gaps between professionals of these two disciplines. In 2011, I initiated



an effort to secure funding to develop a private forest owner outreach and implementation program. Currently, I supervise 3 full-time foresters and 1 conservation planner. These positions are housed in NRCS field offices and they assist that agency with delivering the *Working Lands for Wildlife* Program for the Golden-winged Warbler in PA and MD. Paramount to all of my activities associated with forests and wildlife is that they are grounded in the use of sustainable forestry practices. Good forestry is good for forest wildlife and for human communities.

My vision for the working group is to provide opportunities to build stronger relationships between the forestry and wildlife biology communities. All too often, forestry and wildlife are portrayed as being at odds with each other. I argue, however, that these two disciplines have much to offer each other. Finding ways to build synergy between these disciplines will be essential for maximizing benefits to wildlife in working forests.

Clayton Lutz

Employer: Pennsylvania Game Commission

Position: Wildlife Diversity Biologist

Working Group membership status as of June 1, 2017: Non-member

For the past six years I have been a wildlife biologist focusing on habitat management for the PA Game Commission. I primarily work on privately owned forests to improve habitat conditions for Species of Greatest Conservation Need. I work closely with landowners and foresters to develop forest habitat improvement projects including young forest, palustrine and upland shrub, and old growth forest habitats.

I would like to see the working group continue to promote forestry, silvicultural techniques, and forest ecology so that the field of Wildlife Management can implement practical wildlife management through active habitat management.



Aura Stauffer

Employer: Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Forestry

Position: Wildlife Biologist

Working Group membership status as of June 1, 2017: Non-member

Aura has a B.S. and M.S. from the Pennsylvania State University in Wildlife and Fisheries Science. She has worked with the Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Wetlands and Waterways in Washington, DC as a consultant, and for the Audubon Society at the Audubon Camp in Maine as a marine biology instructor. More recently, she worked as an environmental consultant for Gannett Fleming Engineers in Harrisburg, and as the County Inventory Coordinator for The Nature Conservancy, PA Science Office in Middletown, PA. She is currently employed (since 2002) as a wildlife biologist with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Forestry where she works mostly with non-game species.



Scott Stoleson

Employer: USDA Forest Service, Northern Research Station

Position: Research Wildlife Biologist

Working Group membership status as of June 1, 2017: Member

I have worked with the Forest Service's Research and Development branch since 1997. My research focuses on assessing the effects of forest management methods (including cutting, herbicide, oil and gas development) on vertebrate populations, particularly Neotropical migratory birds. In addition to conducting primary research, I present wildlife research findings as part of our SILVAH training course for practicing foresters, as well as at numerous landowner's workshops organized by the PA Bureau of Forestry and the Appalachian Mountain Joint Venture. I helped organize a symposium on using silviculture to help conserve birds of conservation concern at the recent North American Ornithological Congress.



I see the Working Group as an ideal venue to work towards shifting attitudes towards forestry from being a source of habitat destruction to a useful tool for wildlife conservation. Such a shift would require educating both conservationists as well as foresters.