

I'm a lifelong Kansan and growing up on a farm is where I learned how to hunt and fish at a young age, which turned into a lifelong passion. Knowing how much I loved being outdoors, I went to college to be a wildlife biologist. I graduated from Kansas State University in May 2006 with Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Biology and have been working in the wildlife field ever since. Since 2012 I've been working for the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism (KDWPT) as a wildlife biologist technician. The majority of my days I work with private landowners to create habitat plans that restore habitat or create new habitat for wildlife on their land. Prior to working for KDWPT I was able to travel to a few different states and assist in many research projects. My first job out of college was working on the Big Island of Hawaii for the United States Geological Survey on a relocation study with the Palila, a bird which is an endangered species. My next job I worked for the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries located at Baton Rouge, Louisiana. I trapped and radio collared white-tail deer on a study to assess spatial use and movements of bucks and does. After that job, I moved back to Kansas and worked on another study trapping and radio-collaring white-tail deer at the Quivira National Wildlife Refuge for KDWPT. This study looked at the patterns of habitat selection and densities of white-tailed deer on and around Quivira. My last seasonal job I worked at the Valentine National Wildlife Refuge in the sand hills of Nebraska. I conducted many surveys, two in particular that were unique to the area were surveys on the Federally Endangered Blowout Penstemon (*Penstemon haydenii*), and the federally threatened Western prairie fringed orchid (*Platanthera praeclara*). In 2008, I started working for Colorado State University within the Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands (CEMML) located at Fort Riley, Kansas. I served as a wildlife biological technician responsible for conducting an extensive bobwhite quail study. The findings of the study were published in the Transactions of the Kansas Academy of Science. When I was not working on the bobwhite study, I assisted the Fort Riley Conservation staff with natural resource management practices such as, conducting surveys of game and non-game species, prescribed burning, and habitat management.

In my spare time I enjoy hunting, fishing and farming with my husband. We are both biologist and are committed to improving habitat on our own land for wildlife.

I began my membership with The Wildlife Society when I was in college where I not only was an active member but served on the board of the Kansas State University Student Chapter. With my background in research and management, I understand the importance of science based research in creating management plans for wildlife. The Kansas Chapter of TWS is a leader in supporting the science based research to ensure that wildlife and their habitats are conserved for future generations to enjoy. I would appreciate the opportunity to serve on the Kansas Chapter Board and thank you for your consideration in this position.