## **PRESIDENT:** Tony Gurzick

As a Colorado native, wildlife and the outdoors have always been an important part of my life. I remember when I made the decision to go into the wildlife management field. It was the summer before my Junior year of High School and I was in the back country of Rocky Mountain National Park where I was part of The Student Conservation Association high school program. I was on a day off from building trail and was doing a little fishing. Suddenly, a Park Ranger materialized next to me. After checking my license and spending a long time talking to me about wildlife and fishery biology he started to walk away. I turned my head for just a moment and when I looked back, he was gone. Cool! I wanted to do something similar. A couple of years later, I went to Colorado State University where I earned my Bachelor's Degree in wildlife biology in 1991 and began working for the Colorado Division of Wildlife that same year. I began my career as a District Wildlife Manager in southeastern El Paso County and western Lincoln County. While working as a DWM, I earned a Master's Degree in public administration from the University of Colorado (Colorado Springs) in 1999. That same year, I became the Area supervisor for Durango, Colorado. A few years later, I became the first Assistant Regional Manager for the newly formed Southwest Region. I was the Assistant Regional Manager for several years and just recently moved to Denver where I am now the manager of Colorado Parks and Wildlife's creative services and marketing section. When not working, my family and I enjoy camping, hiking, and fishing and my two children will be taking Hunter Ed this year. I have been a member of The Wildlife Society most years since college and I have had the privilege of being on the board in the past. I look forward to getting more involved with the Society and encourage all members to get involved, too.