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TWS CURRENTLY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR CLASS OF 2016

It's that time of year again! TWS is currently accepting applications for the LI Class of 2016. The deadline this year is March 21. Please help us spread the word about LI and encourage young professionals that you know to apply. Many past participants only applied because of a nudge from a friend or colleague!

We're looking for early-career professionals who are currently working full-time in a wildlife professional position and have demonstrated evidence of their leadership potential. Successful applicants will get free registration at the Annual Conference in Raleigh, North Carolina, in October, as well as a travel grant to defray their travel expenses.

There's more information, including application requirements, at <http://wildlife.org/next-generation/leadership-institute/>.

ALUMNI NEWS

Chris Ayers ('12) is now an instructor (faculty) in Wildlife, Fisheries, and Aquaculture at Mississippi State University. He is on the university IACUC committee and the MS representative to the Southeastern Section of TWS. He is also the faculty advisor for the student chapter of TWS at MSU. He is also the proud dad of a baby as of last year February!

Rachel Williams ('13) has accepted a position as a biologist with the FWS in their Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program. Her primary duties will involve working with private landowners to do habitat improvement projects that will benefit the bi-state population of sage-grouse.

Mike Larson ('06) is currently wrapping up a year as President of the North Central Section of TWS and a fellow in this year's cohort of the National Conservation Leadership Institute. Lastly, he recently hired Andy Tri ('15) as wildlife research supervisor.

Bridget Collins ('10) is now the Private Lands Stewardship Manager for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund.

Dominic Bachman ('12) recently hung up his FWS uniform after over ten years of wearing brown to work every day and accepted a new position as the state level wildlife biologist for the NRCS in Washington based in Spokane. He will finally achieve his dream of becoming an Idaho resident! He is very sad to be leaving the great people in California, the FWS, and his refuge family, as he has been the lead biologist for Modoc NWR for over 8 years and in the Pacific Southwest region for over ten years.

Kent Fricke ('10) recently became the Small Game Coordinator for the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism. In this position, Kent has statewide responsibilities for turkeys, lesser and greater prairie-chickens, pheasants, quail, and small mammals. Kent will continue to work on his PhD from Kansas.

Sarah Fritts ('13) was recently promoted to Assistant Research Faculty at Texas Tech University.

Chad Rittenhouse ('11) is now a Research Biologist with WEST, Inc., an environmental and statistical consulting firm. Chad will continue his previous position as coordinator and instructor of the Sustainable Environmental Planning & Management online graduate certificate program at the University of Connecticut.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Nominations Open for National Conservation Leadership Institute

The National Conservation Leadership Institute (NCLI) recently announced that it is accepting applications for its next cohort of future conservation leaders. The program trains upper and middle level managers how to address adaptive challenges, lead through change, and other critical leadership skills that are essential for the efficient and effective management of today's fish and wildlife agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and related industries. Applications are due by April 30.

<http://www.conservationleadership.org/>

Leading From Within

Leading from Within is a five-month ICL intensive program of workshops, coaching, and peer learning. Develop a leadership style that takes advantage of your unique personal traits. Be ready to tackle any situation through greater awareness of your individual strengths and confidence to impact others. Develop life-long leadership skills to create productive teams, address conflicts, and build the trusting relationships we all need to succeed.

<https://www.icl.org/leaders/leadership-programs/leading-from-within-program/>

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK!

Did you know the LI have our own group and our own page to share information and updates with each other? Please find us at <https://www.facebook.com/LITWS/> and <https://www.facebook.com/groups/TWSLIAlums/>!