

**CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION**  
**SHANE PATRICK MAHONEY**

**EDUCATION**

M.Sc. Zoology (1979) Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada  
B. Sc. Honours Zoology (1977) Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada.

**CURRENT POSITIONS**

2014 – present - President & CEO, Conservation Visions Inc.  
2015 – present - Executive Director, High Lonesome Institute

**RECENT MAJOR INITIATIVES**

**Wild Harvest Initiative (WHI)** - In 2015 I officially launched the Wild Harvest Initiative, a multi-year research study designed to evaluate the economic and social benefits of wild animal harvests by recreational users in American and Canadian societies. The project's outcomes will contribute to conservation policy regarding the relevance of wild animal harvest in modern North American society.

**Johns Hopkins University Press Book Project:** Co-editing a multi-author volume examining the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation to review the emergence of conservation in North America and describe the social, economic, and intellectual forces that historically provided inspiration and opportunity to establish a revolution in the societal approach to natural resource use, wildlife management and the valuation of nature.

**International Journal of Environmental Studies – Monographs:** Hunting and Wildlife Conservation in North America - This work provides case study examples of the direct benefits of recreational hunting and fishing for wildlife conservation and species recovery in North America.

**Second National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Congress (NFWCC)** I am currently organizing, in partnership with the Canadian Wildlife Federation, a second National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Congress for Canada, scheduled for Alberta in November 2017 to enable the public, all levels of government, First Nations, NGOs, academics, and the media to discuss challenges facing fish and wildlife populations and to seek solutions for their conservation in Canada.

**Film Documentary - Ice, Seals and Men** In 2013, I released the documentary film, Ice, Seals and Men, as part of an ongoing program of conservation outreach to portray the history and hardship as well as the conservation and economic realities of the highly controversial Newfoundland harp seal hunt.

**EXAMPLES OF ADDITIONAL POSITIONS PERTINENT TO TWS PRESIDENT POSITION**

**2003 – 2014 Executive Director of Sustainable Development and Strategic Science**, Government of Newfoundland Labrador and Institute for Biodiversity, Ecosystem Science, and Sustainability - I was responsible for overall strategic direction and implementation of the Sustainable Development Initiative for Newfoundland and Labrador, as well as for the expansion and continued operation of the Institute for Biodiversity, Ecosystem Science and Sustainability (IBES).

**2001 – 2003 - Executive Director, Science - Wildlife and Protected Areas.** I functioned as the senior scientific authority for both wildlife and natural areas research in Newfoundland and Labrador. I established two new research entities for the province and established the Institute for Biodiversity, Ecosystem Science and Sustainability in partnership with Memorial University of Newfoundland.

**1994 – 2001 - Chief of Wildlife Ecosystem Research and Inventories**, Wildlife Division, Government of Newfoundland Labrador. I functioned as the senior authority for Newfoundland and Labrador respecting all provincial wildlife research and inventory initiatives. As Chief of Wildlife, I also was the

senior contact with other research organizations and with industry and the public at large regarding wildlife research and inventory needs.

### **SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS**

My major career emphasis has been population ecology of large mammals; moose, black bears, and caribou, specifically. Numerous long term field studies have been strategically combined to elucidate processes of population change in these species, including effects of human disturbance and habitat alteration, hunting, predator-prey interactions, density dependent nutritional factors, and the influence of short and long-term weather and climatic patterns on fecundity and survival. Spanning over 3 decades, my field research was partnered with diverse academic, public, and government institutions and results have been published in a wide range of peer-reviewed journals and presented at numerous national and international colloquia. The most ambitious initiative is an exhaustive synthesis and interpretation of sixty years of caribou research and monitoring information for the island of Newfoundland, presently assembled in thirteen volumes focused on meta-population dynamics of resident populations from the mid-1800's to the present day. My research focus eventually expanded to include wider economic, natural resource, and conservation issues best conceptualized as inclusive to Sustainable Development. Recent research thrusts involved socio-economic evaluations of natural resource development options, landscape management planning and community based stewardship, and climate change implications for resource and community sustainability. I remain a strong advocate for communicating conservation science and my scientific research continues to be published in a broad range of scientific and peer-reviewed journals. Recent publications during 2015-2016 have appeared in *Canadian Wildlife Biology and Management*, *Canadian Journal of Zoology*, *Journal of Mammalogy*, *Journal of Animal Ecology*, *Journal of Wildlife Management*, *Population Ecology*, *Molecular Ecology Resources*, and *International Journal of Environmental Studies*.

### **MEMBERSHIP AND INVOLVEMENT WITH TWS AT THE CHAPTER, SECTION, AND NATIONAL LEVELS**

#### *Appointments / Nominations*

- Appointed to TWS's Strategic Planning Team for North American Conservation 2005
- Nominated for Vice-President of The Wildlife Society 2006
- Led establishment of the Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society 2007
- Appointed to TWS's Technical Review Committee for the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation 2007
- Appointed to TWS's International Working Group 2007
- Appointed TWS's International Liaison 2008
- Appointed to TWS's Technical Review Committee for Management of Large Carnivores in North America 2009

#### *Awards and Recognition*

- Recipient of The Wildlife Society's Special Recognition Service Award Plenary/Symposium Addresses 2013
- Plenary Address at the Special Alberta Conservation Session of The Wildlife Society Meeting, Canadian Conservation Efforts and the Role of Non-governmental Agencies 2004
- Plenary Address at The Northeast Section of The Wildlife Society, Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference, 2007
- Plenary Address at The Wildlife Society Utah Chapter Meeting, 2008
- Plenary Address at The Wildlife Society Canadian Section Inaugural Meeting, 2008
- Plenary Addresses at the Annual Conference, 1998, 2003, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2016.

#### *Presentations*

- Presented at Northeast Section Annual Meeting - 1996

- 2004 Presentation at the TWS Annual Conferences , Metapopulation Analysis of insular Newfoundland Caribou Herds
- 2009 Presentation at the Annual Conference, What is Killing Newfoundland Caribou Calves?
- 2009 Presentation at the Annual Conference, Trends in Body Morphology of Newfoundland Woodland Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus*) During Periods of Population Growth and Decline
- 2009 Presentation at the Annual Conference, Woodland Caribou in Newfoundland: A Century of Change in the Ecological Community
- 2011 Presentation at the Annual Conference, Dependent Dietary Habits of Caribou on the Island of Newfoundland
- 2013 Presentation at the Annual Conference, Application of Distance Sampling to Determine Calving Ground Abundance and Aggression of Parturient Female Caribou in Newfoundland
- 2013 Presentation at the Annual Conference, Experimental Predator Reduction to Improve Caribou Calf Survival
- 2016 Presented at TWS South Dakota Chapter's 50th Anniversary Celebrations
- 2016 Special Presentation of Ice, Seals and Men as a TWS Featured Film at The Wildlife Society Annual Conference
- 2016 Presentation to the International Working Group at the Annual Conference
- 2016 Presentation to the Hunting, Trapping and Conservation Working Group at the Annual Conference

#### *Publications*

Extensively published in *The Journal of Wildlife Management*, *Wildlife Society Bulletin*, *The Wildlife Professional*, and *Wildlife Technical Reviews* from 1996 to the present

#### **MEMBERSHIPS WITH OTHER PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

*Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies* - Sustainable Use Committee

*Boone and Crocket Club*- Thought Leadership Council, Media Response Committee

*Conservation Force* - Director

*Dallas Safari Club* - Conservation Director-at-Large

*Houston Safari Club*

*International Council for the Conservation of Wildlife (CIC)*

- North American Expert, since 2002
- Moderator, Joint CIC-FAO Session: Protected Areas and Sustainable Hunting and Fishing  
*International Council for the Conservation of Nature World Parks Congress, Sydney, Australia, 2014*
- Head of Canadian Delegation, 2010
- Vice President, Sustainable Use Commission, 2003

*International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)*

- Species Survival Commission (SSC)
- Commission on Environmental, Economic, and Social Policy (CEESP)
- Sustainable Use and Livelihoods (SULi) Specialist Group
- Vice-Chair, SULi (Global) and Chair, SULi – North America
- Managed SULi's Seal Range State Policy and Management Review, recently published

*Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever*

*Pope and Young Club*

*Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation*

*Safari Club International* - Conservation Committee

*Wild Sheep Foundation* - Field Editor, *Wild Sheep Magazine*

*O'Connor Conservancy*

## **OTHER PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

- 2007 White House Conference on North American Wildlife Policy (Executive Order #13443)
- 2005 Advisory Board, International Wildlife Film Festival
- 2004 Board Member for the International Cultural and Environmental Film Festival
- 2001 International Advisor to the Pennsylvania Biodiversity Strategy
- 2001 Co-Chair for Canadian/American Committee on North America's Hunting Heritage

## **VIEWS**

I have been associated with the Wildlife Society since 1996 when I gave my first presentation to members at the Northeast Section annual meeting. Over the course of many years and many engagements I have watched the Society develop into an organization that has a true leadership role in North American conservation and has increasing capacity to meaningfully contribute to international issues. The Society's diverse membership, its commitment to science-based approaches to conservation, and its ongoing efforts to communicate with and inspire its community of young students, established professionals and leading researchers, as well as the wider public, collectively represent for me an engine of power and vitality in the race for conservation solutions. With my current roles and partnerships within major international conservation organizations such as the IUCN, I believe I can help TWS achieve even greater influence and impact for conservation. Never in my experience have we more desperately needed artful dedication to this cause, insightful pursuit of knowledge and the passionate commitment to dialogue centering upon wildlife and the challenges nature faces. For me, these are all things The Wildlife Society represents. The planet is at a crossroads and conservation at a turning point, increasingly overwhelmed by humanity's hunger for resources. In North America we have had great conservation success and thus inherit great responsibility to forge and support leading models for conservation science, law and policy, at home and abroad. Thus, it is this combination of critical need and escalating relevance and capacity that have encouraged my decision to run for the office of TWS Vice President. I believe in this organization and in its potential to influence conservation's future. I want to play as much of a role in this as I can and to serve in greater capacity than I have. Conservation is, after all, about service. To the greatest extent I can, I want to help guide and hopefully inspire TWS to become an even more influential and more widely recognized and better supported wildlife organization. It would be an honor to have such an opportunity.

## CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Gary C. White

Nominee for: Vice-President

Personal Data: October 1, 1948; Grinnell, Iowa, USA

Education:

- B.S. Iowa State University, 1970, Fisheries and Wildlife Biology
- M.S. University of Maine Orono, 1972, Wildlife Biology
- Ph.D. Ohio State University, 1976, Zoology
- Post-doctoral Utah State University, 1976-77

Present Position: Retired

Former Positions:

- 1977-1984 -- Staff Member, Environmental Science Group, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, New Mexico
- 1984 - 1990 -- Associate Professor, 1990 - 2007 -- Professor, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado

Wildlife Society Activities:

- Member since 1969
- Certified Wildlife Biologist 1978
- Certification Committee 1980–1983
- Sec.-Treas. NM Chapter 1981
- Vice President NM Chapter 1982
- President NM Chapter 1983
- Ad hoc Committee on Toxic Shot 1983
- TWS MONOGRAPH OF THE YEAR 1984
- Chairman, Ad hoc Committee on Computer Software Exchange 1984-88
- Colorado Chapter, TWS 1988 DOUGLAS L. GILBERT AWARD for Outstanding Professional Achievements in Wildlife Science
- Chairman, Colorado Chapter Certification Committee, 1989–1997.
- Chairman, Colorado Chapter Nominations Committee, 1990.
- Chairman, TWS Certification Committee 1992.
- Associate Editor, Journal of Wildlife Management, 1993–1995
- Member, TWS Publications Committee 1997–8.
- 51st recipient of TWS's ALDO LEOPOLD AWARD AND MEDAL for Distinguished Service to Wildlife Conservation, March 27, 2000.
- Member, TWS Grizzly Bear Technical Manuscript Review Committee, 2000.
- Member, TWS Publications Committee 2000–1.
- Member, TWS Special Committee on Electronic Publishing 2000–1.
- Associate Editor, Wildlife Society Bulletin, 2002–6

- **Executive Board Member, TWS Central Mountains and Plains Section, 2001–2005.**
- **Faculty Adviser, Colorado State University Student Chapter of TWS, 2001–2007.**
- **TWS FELLOW by TWA Council, awarded September 6, 2003**
- **Special advisor to the President on Electronic Publishing, 2004.**
- **President-elect, Central Mountains and Plains Section, 2005–6.**
- **President, Central Mountains and Plains Section, 2006–8.**
- **Associate Editor, Journal of Wildlife Management, 2006–2014.**
- **TWS OUTSTANDING ARTICLE AWARD 2010** Kendall, K. C., J. B. Stetz, J. B. Boulanger, A. C. McLeod, D. Paetkau, and G. C. White. 2009. Demography and genetic structure of a recovering grizzly bear population. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 73:3–17,
- **APPRECIATION AWARD from the Biometrics Working Group of The Wildlife Society, October 4, 2010, for leadership, dedication, and service to the Biometrics Working Group of The Wildlife Society.**
- **Associate Editor, Wildlife Society Bulletin, 2010–2014.**
- **TWS Council Representative for Central Mountains and Plains Section, 2008–2014.**
- **TWS PUBLICATION AWARD FOR BOOK 2012** Forsman, E.D., Anthony, R.G., Dugger, K. M., Glenn, E.M., Franklin, A.B., White, G. C., Schwarz, C.J., Burnham, K. P., Anderson, D. R., Nichols, J.D., Hines, J.E., Lint, J.B., Davis, R.J., Ackers, S.H., Andrews, L.S., Biswell, B.L., Carlson, P.C., Diller, L.V., Gremel, S.A., Herter, D.R., Higley, J.M., Horn, R.B., Reid, J.A., Rockweit, J., Schaberel, J., Snetsinger, T.J., and Sovern, S.G. 2011. Population of northern spotted owls: 1985-2008. *Studies in Avian Biology* 40. 106p.

**Other Professional Affiliations:**

- **Ecological Society of America, Member 1978–2009, Certified Senior Ecologist 1984**
- **Biometric Society, Member 1974–2008**
- **American Statistical Association, Member 1980–2007, Subcommittee on Wildlife Statistics 1980**
- **AAAS, Member 1980–2009**
- **American Fisheries Society, Member 1984–2008**
- **Society for Conservation Biology, Member 1991–2007**

**Principal Professional Interests:**

1. **Quantitative ecology**
2. **Estimation of population parameters, particularly development of software to perform this task (Program MARK)**
3. **Population dynamics**
4. **Compensatory mortality in mule deer populations**

**Views:** limited to 300 words

Representing the Central Mountain and Plains Section on Council was a time-consuming task that with my emancipation from Colorado State University as a full-time faculty member in June, 2007, I welcomed for 2 3-year terms. Prior to my retirement, my schedule did not allow me to attend the numerous chapter meetings around the section, nor the 2 Council meetings each year. I attended 35 of the possible 42 state chapter meetings in the CMPS during my 6 years on Council. Chapter and Section meetings have given me the chance to hear what the membership is thinking about TWS. Thus, I am well aware of the huge time commitment if elected to the Vice-President of TWS, but am prepared to once again allocate this time.

I have been a stalwart supporter of bringing TWS into the electronic age, and will continue to support and push for these changes. I continually encourage Chapters to maintain and update their web sites (I have been webmaster for 4 TWS sites, and currently the Biometrics Working Group web site). Distribution of scientific knowledge is one of the primary functions of our professional society, and the electronic library is no longer a futuristic dream. I promoted the re-establishment of the Wildlife Society Bulletin as an electronic journal, which Council approved in 2010.

I also fully back the following topics:

- Women and minorities in the wildlife profession – TWS needs the diversity
- Conservation Affairs Network – TWS should be the provider of scientific information in the wildlife arena
- Additional funding for wildlife management through to re-energizing the CARA initiative, although unlikely in the current political climate.

Most importantly, one of the primary sources of monetary support for TWS has traditionally been our peer-reviewed journals and published books. With the continued increase in open-access journals and electronic books, this source of revenue is going to degenerate. I believe I understand better than most TWS members how critical this situation will become, and would actively promote solutions.

In conclusion, I have been active in TWS since my graduate student days, and have attended numerous TWS Council meetings as an observer through the years. Many of my graduate school mentors served as President of TWS, as have many of my professional colleagues. I have an appreciation of the last 40 years of history of TWS, and hence have a sense of what has worked, what has not worked, and I will bring this knowledge to bear on the future decisions facing TWS. My views typically fall in the middle of the range of views within this Society – from the more traditional attitudes of the SE Section to the futuristic views of the Western Section.

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## CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Bob Lanka

### Nominee for:

Central Mountains and Plains Section Representative to TWS Council

### Personal Data:

August 21, 1955 – Oak Park, IL

### Education:

M.S. Zoology and Physiology (Fisheries), University of Wyoming, Laramie, 1985

B.S. Wildlife Management, Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA, 1982

B.S. Range Management, Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA, 1982

A.A. Wildlife Management, Fullerton College, Fullerton, CA, 1979

### Present Position:

Statewide Wildlife and Habitat Management Program Supervisor, Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD), July 2010 to present

### Former Positions:

Regional Information and Education Supervisor, WGFD, April 2007-June 2010

Wildlife Management Coordinator, WGFD, December 1995-March 2007

District Wildlife Biologist; WGFD, July 1988 – November 1995

Environmental Biologist; WGFD, July 1987-June 1988

Data Control Technician; WGFD, July 1986-June 1987

### Wildlife Society Activities:

TWS – Member since 1986; CMPS Representative to TWS Council (October 2014 – Present), Several Council Committees, TWS Fellow (2013); Rangeland Wildlife Working Group (2013-2014), Jim McDonough Award (2011); Certified Wildlife Biologist May 13, 2009; Recertified February 20, 2014, Student Activities Sub-committee Chair and Member of the Arrangements Committee 1997 TWS Annual Meeting

Central Mountains and Plains Section – Member since 1995; President-Elect, President, Past President (2007-2011); Vice President (2004-2006); Board Member at Large (2001-2003); Arrangements Committee Chair (2006 Meeting); By-Laws Revision Committee Co-Chair (2005-2006); Awards Committee Chair (2006); Nominations Committee Co-Chair (1999, 2000, 2005); Section Representative Nominations Co-Chair (1998, 2001, 2004)

Wyoming Chapter TWS – Member since 1986; President-Elect, President, Past President (1995-1997), Wyoming State Chapter Liaison to University of Wyoming Student Chapter (1998-2001), Professional Wildlifer of the Year (1991)

### Other Professional Affiliations:

No current;

National Wild Turkey Federation Technical Committee Representative from Wyoming 2002-2009;

Member IUCN, Species Survival Commission, Specialist Group on Sustainable Use of Wild Species; 1992-1995

### Principal Professional Interests:

Management of wildlife and the habitats they depend upon;

student and early career professional development;

wildlife program administration

### Views: limited to 300 words

I have had the distinct honor of serving as Central Mountains and Plains Section Representative to The Wildlife Society Council since October 2014. Since then, with the incredibly generous support of my



employer the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, I have been able to attend State Chapter meetings in all the states within our Section at least once. The opportunity to meet and get to know members from State and Student Chapters across our Section has been one of the highlights of my professional career. To each of you, but particularly to those of you who have chosen to step up and volunteer to serve our professional society, The Wildlife Society, in leadership and support roles I say THANK YOU.

It has been a privilege to serve our professional society at the Wyoming State Chapter and Central Mountains and Plains Section levels and now as a member of TWS Council. I must admit I have enjoyed the work of Council and getting to know the incredible people that serve on Council as well as TWS Staff. My work on Council has benefited greatly from your willingness to share your ideas and views with me. If reelected, I want to continue to work with you to ensure that each of your membership dollars is spent efficiently and wisely, to enhance the relationship between the Society and Section, State and Student Chapters, to increase the relevance of the Society to the many State Chapter members who are not members of the Society, to enhance TWS publications so that they better meet the needs of research scientists and managers, to help focus policy work and to continue Society efforts to encourage student and early career professionals to become life-long members of our Society and leaders in our profession. Thank you for your consideration.

## CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Adam Ahlers

**Nominee for:** CENTRAL MOUNTAIN AND PLAINS SECTION

**Personal Data:** Born in Neligh, NE.

**Education:** Ph.D., University of Illinois, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences, Urbana, IL (2015)

M.S., University of Illinois, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences, Urbana, IL (2010)

B.S., Eastern Illinois University, Biological Sciences, Charleston, IL (2007)

A.A., Northeast Community College, Liberal Arts, Norfolk, NE (1998)

**Present Position:** Assistant Professor, Kansas State University (since 2015).

**Former Positions:** Research Assistant, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL (2007-2015)

Squad Leader, Illinois Army National Guard, Effingham, IL (2005-2008)

Team Leader, United States Army, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, KY (2001-2005)

Operations Supervisor, Little Blue Natural Resources District, Davenport, NE (2000-2001)

Water Resources Technician, Upper Elkhorn Natural Resources District, O'Neill, NE (1998-2000)

**Wildlife Society Activities:** TWS Member since 2007, certification on December 2013 (Associate Wildlife Biologist).

Wetlands Working Group (2013-present)

Hunting, Trapping, and Conservation Working Group (2015-present)

Publication Awards Committee (2013-present)

**Other Professional Affiliations:** Outdoor Writers Association of America (2017-present)

Gamma Sigma Delta (2016-present)

North American Colleges & Teachers of Agriculture (2015-present)

Central Plains Society of Mammalogists (2015-present)

American Society of Mammalogists (2007-present, Life Member)

**Principal Professional Interests:** My interests include wildlife ecology, management, and education. I

am also interested in R3 efforts.

**Views:** The Wildlife Society (TWS) has become a leader in advancing biodiversity conservation efforts through active engagement with numerous working groups and committees at the national, regional and state levels. Additionally, TWS is an important organization that has wide-reaching benefits for field biologists, policy makers, academics, and students. For our TWS initiatives to remain effective, individual membership and active participation is critical.

If elected as the CMPS representative, I would work to find ways to actively engage young professionals and college students in the TWS mission. Although basic membership is critical for TWS (i.e., the number of people paying dues each year), *active membership* (e.g., number of people participating in working groups or committees) is likely more important for ensuring our collective success. My own participation in TWS as a young professional and student has been extremely rewarding and hopefully a good long-term investment for TWS. I wish to help other early career biologists and college students realize their potential as effective wildlife professionals and as engaged members of TWS.

## CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Paul R. Johansen

**Business Address:** West Virginia Division of Natural Resources  
Wildlife Resources Section  
324 Fourth Avenue  
South Charleston, West Virginia 25303

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**Nominee for:** NORTHEAST SECTION REPRESENTATIVE TO THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

**Personal Data:** Born October 31, 1954 in Attleboro, Massachusetts. Married with 1 son.

**Education:** B.S., Wildlife Biology, University of Massachusetts (1977); M.S., Fisheries and Wildlife Science, Virginia Tech (1981).

**Present Position:** Chief of the Wildlife Resources Section, West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (2015 – present).

**Former Positions:** Assistant Chief in Charge of Game Management (1995 – 2015), Wildlife Planner (1988 – 1995), Assistant District Wildlife Biologist (1983 – 1988) and Wildlife Manager (1982 – 1983) for the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources; Wildlife Technician, University of Maine (1981).

**Wildlife Society Activities:** Northeast Section Representative to The Wildlife Society (2014 – present); Member of The Wildlife Society (1978 – present); Certified Wildlife Biologist (1994); President, West Virginia Chapter (1988 – 1990); Chair, Northeast Section Awards Committee (1990 – 1991); Chair, Wildlife Planning and Administration Working Group (1993 – 1996); Member, Aldo Leopold Memorial Award Committee (1994); Vice-Chair, Northeast Section (2001 – 2002); Member, 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Committee (2010 – 2011); Member, Northeast Section Awards Committee (1991 – present).

**Other Professional Affiliations:** Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (State Agency Representative, Energy and Wildlife Policy Committee, Federal and Tribal Relations Committee and Fish and Wildlife Health Committee); Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study

(Chair, Steering Committee); Northeast Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (State Agency Representative); Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (State Agency Representative).

**Principle Professional Interests:** Administering effective wildlife management programs by training, recruiting and supporting a cadre of wildlife professionals.

**Views:** It has been my greatest professional honor to serve as your Northeast Section Representative to The Wildlife Society. With strong support from The Wildlife Society, the Northeast Section has demonstrated a continued commitment to address the professional needs of dedicated wildlife managers, educators, researchers and administrators throughout the region. Working together, we can continue to meet the challenges and opportunities that face our natural resources and the users of these valuable resources.

In today's changing society, it is imperative that the wildlife profession be prepared to address a wide range of issues and concerns (e.g., limited operating budgets, growing anti-management sentiment among various segments of the public, threats undermining the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation, climate change impacts, accelerated habitat degradation, impending retirements that will result in the loss of institutional knowledge, etc.). The Wildlife Society is well positioned to assist the wildlife profession, as we attempt to address many of these challenges. By adopting an effective and business-like approach to management, The Wildlife Society continues to improve its scientific and technical publications, networking and information dissemination capabilities, wildlife policy activities and other programs designed to support its membership in all areas of wildlife conservation, research and management. I fully endorse these initiatives, recognize their importance to our profession and pledge to explore additional means for improving organizational effectiveness and program delivery to our membership.

I am proud to be a member of The Wildlife Society, the Northeast Section and the West Virginia Chapter. Council strives to demonstrate excellent leadership skills and commitment to the resources we all value. Should I be reelected to this office, I will attempt to continue this fine tradition and serve to the best of my ability.

## CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Duane Diefenbach

Nominee for: NORTHEAST SECTION

**Personal Data:** Burlington, VT

**Education:**

B.S. in Wildlife Biology with Honors, 1985, Washington State University

M.S. in Wildlife Management, 1988, University of Maine

Ph.D. in Forest Resources (Wildlife Management), 1992, University of Georgia

**Present Position:** Unit Leader, Pennsylvania Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit, U.S. Geological Survey, 2007-present

**Former Positions:**

Assistant Unit Leader, Pennsylvania Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit, U.S. Geological Survey, 1999-2007

Biometrician, Pennsylvania Game Commission, 1992-1999

**Wildlife Society Activities:** Member since (year); certification (year); and chapter, section and Society committees, offices, etc. (limit to 10 entries).

Member since 1987, Certified Wildlife Biologist since 1994, recognized as a TWS Fellow in 1998, and awarded Caesar Kleberg Award in 2013

Served on program committee for the 1995 Annual Meeting and chaired the Workshop Committee for the 2003 Annual Meeting,

Biometrics Working Group - Treasurer 1998-99, Chair-elect, 2001-02, Chair, 2002-03, Past-Chair, 2003-04

Faculty Advisor, Penn State Student Chapter, 1999-2012

Northeast Section of The Wildlife Society, member since 1993, Vice President, 2006-2008

Pennsylvania Chapter of The Wildlife Society, member since 1993, Board Member, 1994-96, Membership Committee, Chair, 1993-97

**Other Professional Affiliations:** Ecological Society of America, The Biometric Society

**Principal Professional Interests:** Research on the application and evaluation of estimators to monitor wildlife populations and the direct application of research to management problems.

**Views (Statement of Interest – this will be what appears on the on-line ballot):** Limit of 250 words.

I have been active in The Wildlife Society throughout my career and have always considered it the organization that represents my professional and personal interests with respect to the conservation of wildlife and wild places. I have been active in the leadership at the state and regional levels of TWS, and would like to be involved in leadership at the national level.

The Wildlife Society exists to help wildlife professionals conserve and manage wildlife and wild places and I see that being accomplished by providing support to all members (at whatever career stage they may be) through a variety of means (e.g., networking, mentoring, continuing education). Also, many wildlife professionals are employed by government agencies and so TWS becomes their voice advocating for the use of science-based information in developing public policy. I think TWS has made great strides toward its mission over the past 5-10 years and is firmly established to continue to make continued progress.

My career has been in both research and management, and I would like to see TWS further help integrate these two aspects of the wildlife profession. Doing so will help us learn faster and make better management decisions, and make sure our limited resources are most effective at gaining a better understanding of the systems we manage. In the wildlife profession we are commonly taking actions that could be used as “experiments.” I would like to see TWS take a greater role in developing the tools and skills for integrating research and management so we can make the most of the experimental nature of our profession.