

28Feb2017

Nominee for Wildlife Conservation Award for outstanding professional achievement:

Kevin White

Research Biologist

Alaska Department of Fish & Game, Douglas

Professional affiliations: TWS, AK TWS, Norther Wild Sheep and Goat Council (NWSGC)

Alaska Chapter of TWS,

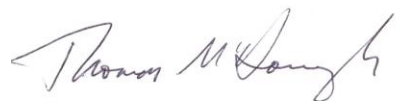
Kevin has published at least 11 peer reviewed papers in the past 5 years on moose and mountain goats (https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Kevin_White14). His work on mountain goats has essentially set the benchmark of understanding goat ecology in Alaska. To outline a few of the impacts of his work, his early collaboration with present and past goat researchers in creating a range wide assessment of goat survival was innovative in combining new and historical data to better understand goats throughout their Alaskan distribution. His collaborations with Aaron Schafer on goat genetics (2 publications) defined what we know about goat biogeography. His 2014 paper in Ecology elegantly tells of how migratory behavior within a population of moose can influence fitness. Along with being very prolific in publishing, Kevin is passionate about presenting his work at professional meetings. For example, Kevin has been a lead author on a presentation to the NWSGC meeting every meeting since 2006.

His long-term study on Gustavus moose has and will continue to contribute to our understanding of moose ecology. Fiscal conservatives will also appreciate that his Gustavus work is often done on a shoestring budget through a successful methodology of ground darting (i.e., tip toeing through the forest), eliminating the expense of helicopter captures.

Outside of the peer review arena, Kevin is also a skilled photographer. He authored the Mountain Goat Research section of the ADF&G website, which includes some of his amazing photography. Kevin helped spearhead an educational pamphlet to help hunters distinguish the difference between male and female goats to aid in focusing the harvest on males, which contributes to the long-term sustainability of harvest. This has had a positive impact on goat management across Alaska's goat range. He also has helped strengthen cultural traditions. He has fostered relationships with native weavers in acquiring goat wool for producing traditional native tapestries (http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=wildlifeneews.view_article&articles_id=403).

Kevin is an all-star biologist with the Department. Thank you for considering this nomination for Kevin White.

Sincerely,



Thomas McDonough

Research Biologist

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