

SCOTT BECKERMAN

Past President

Current Position: State Director/Supervisory Wildlife Biologist, USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services, Springfield, IL. 2006-Present.

Education: B.S. (1988) and M.S. (1992) in Fisheries and Wildlife, University of Missouri-Columbia.

Personal: Scott grew up in the suburbs of St. Louis. He is married to Jean Beckerman and they live in Chatham with their daughter Paige who attends Glenwood High School. Their son Tyler is attending the University of Missouri-Columbia majoring in forestry and wildlife management. Scott enjoys working to improve the habitat diversity on his 68 acres of timber, hunting for shed antlers and arrowheads with the family, hunting and fur trapping, and following Paige around the country watching her play volleyball.



Work History/Positions Held:

Scott began working as a Biological Science Technician with USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services in 1992 while attending graduate school in Columbia, Missouri. He became a Wildlife Biologist with Wildlife Services working to resolve wildlife conflicts in Missouri, Iowa, and Illinois in 1993. In 1994 Scott transferred to the Wildlife Services program in Iowa, where he worked to reduce conflicts with a variety of species of wildlife. Between 1998 and 2003 he worked in Wisconsin as a Wildlife Biologist/District Supervisor overseeing Wildlife Services' activities in the southern half of the state. In 2003, Scott became the Assistant State Director for California Wildlife Services. While living in Sacramento Scott supervised 100 Wildlife Services employees who assisted thousands of Californians prevent and reduce conflicts with wildlife. In 2003, Scott moved to Springfield as the State Director for Wildlife Services in Illinois. Scott currently supervises 35 employees who work to assist Illinois residents prevent and reduce conflicts with a variety of wildlife throughout the state. Scott and the employees of Wildlife Services in Illinois help cooperators reduce wildlife threats to human safety, as well as wildlife damage to property, agricultural crops/livestock, and natural resources including when abundant wildlife pose threats to threatened or endangered plants and animals. Scott has been a member of TWS for nearly 30 years and was a Councilperson-At-Large for our Chapter from 2014 to 2016.

Views:

The role of wildlife professionals as educators has become increasingly more important as our society has become more urbanized. Wildlife managers must continue to rely on sound science and professionalism when addressing challenges and we must take advantage of every opportunity to inform the public about the importance of sound natural resource management. I also feel it is critically important that wildlife professionals from different agencies work collaboratively to overcome the challenges faced by the resources which we are entrusted to protect and preserve. I have no specific agenda to pursue if elected as our President Elect. However, I will utilize my skills to help our Chapter complete the tasks which we commit to and I will help the Chapter address challenges which we encounter to the best of my ability.