

Andy Gilbert (Councilperson At Large Candidate)

Current Position: Assistant Waterbird Ecologist –
Illinois Natural History Survey

Education: B.S. Wildlife Research and Management,
University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point; M.S. Biology,
Western Illinois University

Personal Background: Andy grew up in a small town in central Wisconsin, where he spent his time hunting, fishing, and camping with his family and friends. After taking an ornithology course in college, Andy became fascinated with birds. He is an avid birder and an eBird reviewer for Illinois. Andy currently lives in Havana, IL with his wife Cassy Gilbert.

Work History: After graduation Andy spent several years traveling and working as a technician on many avian research projects in locations including North Carolina, Arkansas, Wyoming, Tennessee, and Peru. In 2013 Andy began working as a waterbird research technician for the Illinois Natural History Survey (INHS) at the Forbes Biological Station in Havana, IL and in 2015 he began his graduate degree with a joint project with INHS and WIU. In 2018 Andy was hired as an Assistant Waterbird Ecologist for INHS at the Forbes Biological Station.

Views: I believe that communication and collaboration between the wildlife professional community is important to the success of wildlife management and research throughout Illinois. ICTWS provides an opportunity for wildlife professionals from across the state to come together and share information about natural resource conservation and management. As wildlife professionals we should strive to increase membership and participation within the chapter to grow this community and facilitate greater opportunities for cooperation statewide. Student involvement is crucial for the success of the chapter because they represent the future wildlife managers and researchers of Illinois.

