It is a huge honor serving our Section with the fabulous team of volunteer leaders we have. Prior to my current role, I was CMPS President-Elect (2021-2022) and Vice-President (2018-2021). As an At Large Executive Board Member for CMPS from 2016-2017, I worked with the Executive Board to strengthen CMPS, connect with members from across our section, and encourage relationships between chapters. From 2012 -2015, I served as a Colorado Chapter of the Wildlife Society At-Large Board Member. During this time, I became an Associate Wildlife Biologist®, then a Certified Wildlife Biologist®. In 2013, I completed The Wildlife Society Leadership Institute, which forever changed me through inspirational interaction with outstanding TWS leaders, staff, and classmates.

My background includes diverse training and work in natural resources. I obtained my Bachelor’s Degree in Biology from Azusa Pacific University, California. To gain experience, I helped conduct prairie dog research at Colorado State University, among other field technician jobs. I also sought out independent field courses through Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies in Washington State and Michigan. I earned my Master’s Degree in Wildlife Ecology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison studying forest associations of flying squirrels. Returning to my roots, I worked with Colorado Parks and Wildlife as a combined big game and conservation wildlife biologist. After that adventure, I co-directed research for USFWS on furbearer species at Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge in Kansas and now teach Environmental Science lectures and labs at Johnson County Community College.

What motivates me is a profound appreciation and curiosity of wildlife. Born and raised in the mountains, I developed a love for the outdoors and wildlife during family time spent hiking, biking, rafting, skiing, camping, fishing, and hunting. I love exploring the woods and prairies with my husband, our 2 daughters, and our 2 pup dogs.

The primary goals I have for my CMPS tenure include encouraging unity among the chapters, collaboration with neighboring sections, and inclusive CMPS membership to support effective wildlife conservation for our Central Mountains and Plains Section of The Wildlife Society.