**THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY**

**SECTION REPRESENTATIVE NOMINEE FORM**

Congratulations on being nominated for consideration as a Section Representative to The Wildlife Society’s Council. To help facilitate the nomination process by the Section, please complete this form by February 16th, 2024**:**

  **CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION**

**Nominee for: \_\_\_Erika Nowak\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_SW SECTION**

**Personal Data:** New Hartford, New York.

**Education:** BS in Wildlife Biology, Cornell University (1991); MS in Biology (1998), Northern Arizona University; PhD in Biology (2009), Northern Arizona University

**Present Position:** Assistant Research Professor. Center for Adaptable Western Landscapes, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona, 2017. And also:
Owner and Principal Scientist, Erika M. Nowak Herpetological Consulting, Flagstaff, Arizona, 1998.

**Former Positions:** Part-time Faculty. Department of Biological Sciences, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona, 2009-2017.

Research Associate and Herpetologist. USGS Southwest Biological Science Center, Colorado Plateau Research Station, Flagstaff, Arizona, 1992-2017.

**Wildlife Society Activities:** TWSMember since 2006; SW Section Treasurer, 2020-2023.

**Other Professional Affiliations:**

IUCN Viper Specialist Group, 2013-present

NAU (formerly USGS) Representative, Gartersnake Conservation Working Group, 2006-present.

Board Member, Habitat Harmony, Inc., 2009-present.

Steering Committee, Southwest Chapter of Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (PARC), 2007-2011.

Honorable Member, Tucson Herpetological Society, 1997-Life.

Founding member, Study Group for Wildlife and Open Spaces, in support of City of Flagstaff Regional Plan revisions. Volunteer biological advisor to non-profit and local governments, 1997- present.

Member, Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles (SSAR), 1993-present.

**Leadership Experience (professional and organizations):** TWS Section Treasurer. Successfully took over treasurer position during the initial COVID-19 pandemic and consolidated/moved accounts to a more ethical and supportive bank. Advocated for and implemented (with Board approval) increased chapter spending for student research and travel awards.

Secretary and Secretary of Banking, Habitat Harmony, Inc. Improved typing speed and accuracy during lively meetings, and have been complemented for my ability to capture details of complex conversations. Assisted with hands-on mitigation translocation of urban prairie dogs. Prepared/co-administered successfully-funded an Arizona Heritage Program grant awarded through the City of Flagstaff, and ensured successful project deliverable production.

**Principal Professional Interests:** venomous reptile and TES snake conservation, management, and biomonitoring; reptile, amphibian, and small mammal inventory and monitoring; student mentoring; educational outreach to decrease ophidiophobia.

**Views**: This is my first time running as a candidate for TWS SW Section Representative. I understand the workings of the Section fairly well by virtue of being your treasurer for the past few years and through my interactions with other board members. Truthfully, though, Kathy Granillo has much more experience with this position, and her long-standing support of the Section inspires me. I hope to learn from her until such time as she decides to leave the position. At that time, in addition to whatever the Section asks of me, I’d like to help the Section increase its support (logistical and financial) of international chapter members, for example by encouraging virtual and in-person attendance at regional and national meetings.

**Photo:** Attach a “head and shoulders” photograph (ideally in .jpg, .jpeg or .tif format)

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**Name** Erika Nowak

(Print name **exactly** as you want it to appear in the *eWildlifer* and on the official ballot if selected as one of the two candidates for your section.)

**Address**

Business: Center for Adaptable Western Landscapes

Box 5694

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1395 S. Knoles Dr., Flagstaff, AZ 86011 \_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Telephone:** Business: 928-699-6722 \_\_\_ \_\_ Home: 928-556-0546

**E-mail:** Erika.Nowak@nau.edu \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_