

# imagine excellence

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*The 2006 National Park Service Director's Awards for Natural Resources*

*The 2007 George Wright Society Awards*

*Presentation of Honorary National Park Ranger Award  
to Vice President Walter Mondale*

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RETHINKING PROTECTED AREAS IN A CHANGING WORLD

*The 2007 George Wright Society Conference  
on Parks, Protected Areas & Cultural Sites*

THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2007

RETHINKING PROTECTED AREAS IN A CHANGING WORLD  
*The 2007 George Wright Society Conference on Parks,  
Protected Areas, and Cultural Sites*

**The 2006 National Park Service Director's Awards  
for Natural Resources**

**The 2007 George Wright Society Awards**

**Presentation of Honorary National Park Ranger Award**

*Thursday, April 19, 2007  
Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Paul*

Master of Ceremonies  
*Abigail B. Miller  
President, George Wright Society*

Guests of Honor  
*Mary Bomar  
Director, U.S. National Park Service*

*Ernesto C. Enkerlin Hoeflich  
Presidente, Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas*

*Alan Latourelle  
Chief Executive Officer, Parks Canada*

*Vice President Walter Mondale and Mrs. Joan Mondale*

7:15 PM — Seating for dinner  
8:15 PM — Presentation of awards

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What is our praise and pride  
but to *imagine excellence,*

.....

and *try to make it?*  
— RICHARD WILBUR

## *The 2006 National Park Service Director's Awards for Natural Resources*

### *Trish Patterson Student Conservation Association Award for Natural Resource Management in a Small Park*

FRAN PANNEBAKER

Fran Pannebaker has served as chief of natural resource management at Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site (BEOL) since 2003. Fran has also tackled the natural resource efforts at Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site (SAND), a new unit of the national park system. These efforts include an emphasis on educating park staff, cooperators, and visitors on the role of natural resources at two NPS sites established primarily for the protection of cultural resources. Fran has achieved these duties



masterfully and she excels at doing “more with less.” She has integrated natural resource management into the daily park management. She leads both parks’ environmental compliance programs, seeking to build awareness of natural resource concerns and negotiates a consensus for mitigating adverse effects during project deliberations. She aggressively seeks assistance from inside and outside the NPS to bring additional scientific expertise to support park initiatives including restoration of prairie habitats, wild land fire management, integrated pest management, and exotic species management. She enthusiastically embraced taking the lead on reviewing and coordinating the Southern Plains Vital Signs Monitoring Network’s (SOPN) projects for competitive funding for two years. She has received numerous awards for her initiative and efforts which exemplifies her commitment and dedication to natural resource management in the National Park Service. Fran graduated from Albright College, Reading, Pennsylvania, with a B.S. degree in Biology and from The Pennsylvania State University with a M.S. degree in Agronomy with an emphasis on restoration of drastically disturbed lands. She worked for the Environmental Resources Research Institute on the Penn State campus until taking time out to raise a family in 1979. Following a move to Colorado in 1992, she began working for the National Park Service as a seasonal employee at Bent’s Old Fort National Historic Site in 1994.

## *Director's Award for Excellence in Natural Resource Stewardship through Maintenance*

CHUCK STALKER

For nearly thirty years Chuck has been serving the visiting public and assisting with protecting the Natural Resources of Rocky Mountain National Park. He has taken the lead to direct his crew on several resource rehabilitation projects in the past five years. His leadership during these projects has demonstrated his commitment to preserving the integrity of the natural environment and rehabilitating areas impacted through use. During this time Chuck orchestrated projects at numerous sites throughout the park. Along with these efforts Chuck has spearheaded the park's effort to change the fleet to vehicles that operate on E-85 fuel. These actions demonstrate that Chuck and his crew have protected, minimized disturbance of, and improved the natural resources which often requires more time and energy. Chuck consistently encourages and directs his staff to make that extra effort. During the design phase of projects, Chuck has ensured that natural and cultural resources management is consulted to survey for rare or exotic plants, provide input to protect sensitive species, and protect any prehistoric or historic cultural resources. He has committed his involvement in restoration projects and worked with the resource management staff to achieve the desired outcome with the minimum disturbance and maximize cost effectiveness for each project. Chuck's involvement in these projects has saved thousands of dollars by using his crew and equipment to move tens of thousands of cubic yards of material on more than one project. His work is hands-on, he meets on site with resources management staff to discuss the projects often times working side by side with them, operates the equipment beside his crew members, installs silt fence to protect riparian areas, and ensures best management practices are followed. His dedication to the values and mission of the NPS are reflected by his constant attention to detail concerning natural resources protection when assisting the resource management division with these projects. Chuck started his National Park Service career in 1978 in the Young Adult Conservation Corps in Rocky Mountain National Park. It has been his life's work since that time and he continues to draw great satisfaction from his current position as the engineering equipment operator supervisor. He recently retired from the Estes Park Fire Department following 15 years as a volunteer wildland and structure firefighter.



## *Director's Award for Superintendent of the Year for Natural Resource Stewardship*

DALE B. ENGQUIST

Dale Engquist has invested much of his time and energy over the last 23 years developing a professional natural resource program at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, and making a significant contribution in regional, national, and international natural resource efforts. Dale has fostered the concept of partnerships within the natural resource community within the Great Lakes Region. Through his leadership several local community groups, land trusts, state and local governments agencies and environmental organiza-

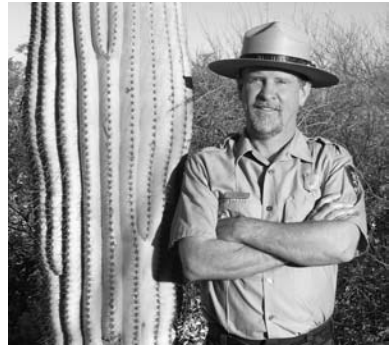


tions were brought together to form a local invasive plant control network. Dale has worked tirelessly to raise the awareness of the region's 8+ million people to the sensitivity and biodiversity of the national lakeshore by serving on the Executive Steering Committee of Chicago Wilderness and on the Board of Directors for the Lake Michigan Coastal Program. In 2001 Dale played a key role in organizing a Natural Resource Challenge "Dialogue" at the Chicago Academy of Sciences with the purpose of helping the NPS build institutional partnerships with universities and other national organizations. Dale willingly supported the co-location of the Great Lakes Research and Education Center (Research Learning Center), with USGS scientists, a regional botanist, regional fire staff, and Fish and Wildlife Service biologist; all in the spirit of promoting cooperation and transfer of ideas. Dale provides leadership while serving on the Great Lakes Inventory and Monitoring Network Board of Directors. Dale's vision was also critical in initiating the development of an environmental impact statement for white-tail deer management. Dale assumed his first permanent position with the NPS in 1964 with the National Capital Parks in Washington, D.C. Following two assignments there, he served as chief park naturalist at Hot Springs National Park, and assistant chief naturalist at Everglades National Park. His first superintendency was at the new Biscayne National Monument. He also managed the Sandy Hook Unit of Gateway National Recreation Area. Since 1977 he has led a program of cooperation between the National Park Service and the National Parks of Poland; Indiana Dunes maintains a sister park relationship with Kampinoski National Park near Warsaw, Poland.

## *Director's Award for Natural Resource Management*

DON SWANN

Don has made significant contributions to the resource management program at Saguaro National Park and to resource programs at other parks in southern Arizona and in the Intermountain Region. His efforts during the past year have been particularly impressive, with major milestones being achieved in four different areas; (1) collecting information to validate an instream flow water right, (2) active restoration of habitat for the lowland leopard frog, (3) contributions to the Sonoran Desert Inventory and Monitoring Network,



and (4) protection of the Sonoran Desert tortoise through research and conservation education. The approach he takes on these issues is comprehensive, starting from an historical context and always proceeding with a long-term perspective. He combines the talents of a visionary with having the ability to implement actions and see projects through to their completion. He includes volunteers and students in every project he works on and develops partnerships with a wide range of interest groups (non-profit groups, neighborhood associations, academics, and biologists working at the federal, state, and local levels). Every project has an educational component and a connection to park visitors; and Don gives numerous presentations to promote preservation of the park's resources. Don has contributed significantly to a wide range of resource projects at Saguaro. He has stepped beyond the bounds of his wildlife biology training, and contributed to physical science and historical projects as well. Don received his M.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences from the School of Natural Resources at the University of Arizona and his B.A. in Geology/Biology from Brown University in Rhode Island. Don's graduate work was on long-term monitoring of vertebrates, and his study sites included Tonto National Monument, Coronado National Memorial, and Fort Bowie National Historic Site. Prior to coming to the NPS, Don worked in a variety of park operations in state parks in Massachusetts and Arizona, including as an interpretive park ranger and supervisor in the Boston Harbor Islands. Don joined the NPS as a seasonal interpreter in 1993, and has been a full-time biologist at Saguaro since 2000. His work is largely collaborative with non-governmental organizations, universities, the Arizona Game and Fish Department, and private landowners.

## *Director's Award for Professional Excellence in Natural Resources*

GLENN PLUMB

First as Supervisory Wildlife Biologist and now as Chief of Natural Resources at Yellowstone National Park, Glenn manages many high-profile and controversial natural resource programs including bison brucellosis; grizzly bear and wolf recovery; protecting extensive geothermal features and predicting hazards from the Yellowstone volcano; conserving the native Yellowstone fisheries; and managing the natural resource aspects of wildland fire. With a background in forestry and livestock agriculture, Glenn shifted interests to conservation biology and joined the National Park Service in 1993. A common thread that runs



through Glenn's career is a commitment to working with non-traditional partners. In 2006, Glenn became the Chair of the United States Animal Health Association Brucellosis Committee; co-edited the international "Laramie Agenda" report on priority research needs for vaccines, vaccine delivery systems and diagnostic tools for brucellosis in elk and bison; spearheaded the Yellowstone Wildlife Health Program, a privately funded government-academia partnership to combine expertise from multiple disciplines to conduct research in how emerging disease may affect the wildlife populations in the Greater Yellowstone Area; served as an invited member of the Science Advisory Committee to the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) and organized the international NFID symposium "Vaccination in Conservation Medicine;" represented the United States at the Central Asian Disease Surveillance Workshop in Kyrgyzstan; and served as an invited advisor and co-investigator on brucellosis vaccine research in Russia sponsored by US State Department Cooperative Threat Reduction Program. As a leader in natural resource management, Glenn actively seeks to develop cooperative efforts, and build upon the common ground amongst multiple land use and stewardship systems, to sustain the ecosystems necessary for the long-term integrity and persistence of natural resources values. Before coming to Yellowstone, Glenn worked as a wildlife biologist at Badlands National Park where he served as the NPS Black-Footed Ferret Field Coordinator to lead participation, within an inter-agency framework, to restore the most endangered mammal species in North America to the park and adjacent public lands.

## *Director's Award for Natural Resource Research (co-winner)*

DARRYLL R. JOHNSON

Darryll R. Johnson has been a leader in linking applied social science research with natural resource research and management since he began working with the National Park Service in 1978. During his career, he has conducted research ranging from the quality of work life of NPS employees to subsistence use of natural resources in Alaska. He has consistently illustrated the management value of social science data through well-designed research programs that have scientific merit and applied recommendations. Darryll's research interests and programs continue to evolve in response to new challenges the National



Park Service is facing as our environment and our publics continue to change. Darryll maintains a strong connection to park staff. He frequently communicates with park staff to offer assistance with their program development, ensure his research designs are grounded in the specific park's environment and needs, and to communicate results. Over the last five years as NPS research coordinator, Darryll has developed a strong NPS partnership at the University of Washington and with all Pacific Northwest Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (PNW CESU) university and agency partners. Through Darryll's leadership, science, education, and technical assistance have flourished at the PNW CESU. Darryll is unique among NPS coordinators in that he also shares co-leader responsibilities for the entire program and has established a CESU program that is truly an active and evolving conversation between the academic community and multiple agencies. All partners have gained by his mentorship. The PNW CESU was the first CESU to include an international partner and the first and only CESU to create a strong working relationship with a state department of fish and game. Under Darryll's leadership the PNW CESU has gained national recognition for administrative innovation and has national visibility. Darryll is a sociologist by training with Bachelor's and Masters degrees from South Dakota State University with additional graduate work in the sociology of natural resources, sociology of leisure and recreation and applied social science at the University of Washington College of Forest Resources. He is also an affiliate associate professor with College of Forest Resources, and serves on the NPS Pacific West Region Science Council and the Glacier Bay National Park Science Advisory Board.



*Director's Award for Natural Resource Research (co-winner)*

NORBERT PSUTY

Norbert P. Psuty is professor emeritus in the Departments of Geological Sciences, and Marine and Coastal Sciences and Geography at Rutgers University. He is currently the director of Sandy Hook Cooperative Research Programs of the Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences, and is located at the Sandy Hook unit of Gateway National Recreation Area. He is a coastal geomorphologist whose research encompasses the dynamics of the coastal zone, incorporating process-response studies of beaches, coastal dune processes and morphology, sediment budget studies, barrier island dynamics, estuarine sedimentation, and sea-level rise. Through his research and long-term knowledge of coastal ecology he has worked throughout his career to provide the scientific basis supporting the NPS's coastal management policies. Although his basic research establishing the importance of coastal dunes in moderating the effects of storms as well as the detrimental effects of shoreline hardening and other artificial storm damage prevention methods has been applied nationally and internationally, his work in the Northeast Region supporting coastal barrier parks (Assateague Island National Seashore, Gateway National Recreation Area, and Fire Island National Seashore) has been critical in helping park managers understand these processes. He has been and continues to be the primary science advisor to the Northeast Region on shoreline dynamics and coastal barrier change. He has been doing research on Sandy Hook, part of Gateway National Recreation Area, since 1969, and at Fire Island National Seashore since 1976.



<8>

His inquiries at Sandy Hook on sediment supply and sediment budget have been instrumental in forging the current sediment management plan that integrates maintenance of park infrastructure with natural resource management and recreational functions. At Fire Island, his research produced the Dune Management District that has been the basis for limiting and directing development in the communities occupying portions of Fire Island. His long-term records have led to an improved understanding of coastal dune dynamics on barrier islands and have generated a coastal dune model based on sediment supply and sediment budgets. Psuty is currently working on an Inventory and Monitoring project through the Northeast Coastal Barrier Network on shoreline monitoring.

## *The 2007 George Wright Society Awards*

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### *The George Wright Society Communication Award*

HARRY BUTOWSKY

Since 1999, Butowsky has been the webmaster for the National Park Service History Website. At a time when most park websites were just a single page containing general information to help a visitor plan a trip to a park, Butowsky was a visionary in recognizing the value of this new tool (the World Wide Web) in helping to bring *detailed* information about our parks *to* visitors. At that time he presented his first two electronic books (*Five Views: An Ethnic Historic Site Survey for California* and *Hard Drive to the Klondike: Promoting Seattle During the Gold Rush*).



Now, the NPS History Website contains the full text of over 2,000 documents written by park personnel as well as books written by other authors whose works are posted by permission of their publishers. Access to rare information, formerly accessible by only a few, is not accessible freely to all simply from any web browser. Butowsky saw the value in helping to present detailed information about our parks so that web visitors from around the world can learn more about their origins, management (both of individual parks, and also of the National Park Service, itself), and evolution of the national park system. The more people understand park histories, the greater appreciation they will have for the value each park has for our culture, and in so doing, the more support is developed for each park and the ideals of the National Park Service.

<9>

Harry Butowsky deserves our recognition for his contributions in communicating that information and those NPS ideals to others through the use of new technologies via the NPS History Website. Butowsky is making a lasting contribution by creating this electronic library of information about our parks.

— *nominated by Randall D. Payne*

Visit the website at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/index.asp>

## *The George Wright Society Cultural Resource Management Award*

NELLY ROBLES GARCIA

Nelly Robles Garcia is widely regarded as the “mother” of cultural resources management in Mexico and as its leading spokesperson in Latin America. Robles holds an undergraduate degree in archaeology and was supported by a Fulbright grant to do a doctorate in anthropology at the University of Georgia. She is the author or editor of eleven books on archaeology and cultural resources management in Mexico, including *The Management of Archaeological Resources in Mexico*, published by the Society of American Archaeology.



Robles sits on Mexico’s Council of Archaeology (the governing body which oversees all archaeological research in the country) and is the first Mexican ever elected to the governing board of the Society for American Archaeology. She has served UNESCO as an evaluator of sites nominated for World Heritage status, sits on the governing board of the International Center for the Study of Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Heritage in Rome, and served as a special envoy for UNESCO to World Heritage sites damaged caused by Hurricane Mitch in 1998. <10> Robles currently sits on a special international committee convened by the President’s Committee on the Arts and Humanities (USA) to establish international educational linkages and a sister parks program between U.S. and Mexican World Heritage sites.

But her real contribution to cultural heritage management in Mexico and Latin America has been her tireless and effective advocacy on behalf of a resource management perspective. In 1997 Robles created the first site management plan for an archaeological zone in Mexico, something which has since become a requirement for all sites. She created the first formal wheelchair-accessible route, became the first archaeological zone director to put a botanist on her management team, and instituted international training courses for site managers from Latin America, established a documentation center where site directors can learn about management innovations at World Heritage sites, and established a collaborative outreach program to serve community museums around the state of Oaxaca.

Recognition of Nelly Robles Garcia’s contributions to cultural heritage management in Latin America provides not only recognition of a pioneering effort, but also buttresses the cause of good practice across the region.

— *nominated by Jack Corbett*

## *The George Wright Society Natural Resource Management Award*

CHARLES VAN RIPER III

For thirty years, Charles van Riper has conducted research that provides information needed by federal land managers to make more informed management decisions. Van Riper is leader of the Southwest Biological Science Center Sonoran Research Station in Tucson, Arizona, and has conducted research throughout the national park system. His contributions to the protection of national parks and other natural areas include development of databases to meet information needs of managers, in-depth studies of the natural history and ecology of vertebrate species, and documentation of the impact of invasive species on native species and natural communities. He has authored more than 200 journal articles and research reports and has edited and authored ten books, almost all dealing with issues of importance to protected area managers.



A hallmark of van Riper's work has been his willingness to work with National Park Service managers to identify research questions most appropriate to their management needs. Early in his career, van Riper recognized that the challenges confronting park managers often have their origins well beyond park boundaries. He was one of the first researchers to examine the importance of size and isolation on the ecological integrity and diversity of parks. His seminal studies on avian disease in the Hawaiian islands and elsewhere documented the role of disease on avian populations and anticipated many of the challenges posed by West Nile Disease twenty years before it was a threat throughout North America.

<11>

For sixteen years he has provided the vision and leadership for the Conference on Research in the Colorado Plateau. The scope of this meeting and the eight management-focused books that resulted from it demonstrate van Riper's ability to bring researchers and managers together to discuss research and management needs and challenges and to establish mutually beneficial research/management partnerships. These conferences serve as a model for how researchers and managers can be brought together to develop problem-solving processes that are relevant to natural area management needs.

Charles van Riper is a bridge-builder and a problem-solver. It is for these achievements that we nominate him for the George Wright Society Natural Resource Management Award.

— *nominated by J. Michael Scott, R. Gerald Wright, and Susan Haseltine*

## *The George Wright Society Special Achievement Award*

GARY E. MACHLIS

Gary E. Machlis has a 27-year record of sociological research and is the Canon Professor of Conservation at the University of Idaho, and visiting senior scientist for the U.S. National Park Service. He has written several books and numerous articles on issues of conservation and management in national parks, including *The State of the World's Parks* (1985, with Don Field), the first systematic study of threats to protected areas around the world; *On Interpretation: Sociology for Interpreters of Natural and Cultural History* (1992); and *National Parks and Rural Development* (2000). Yale University Press will publish his next co-authored book, *Human Ecosystems in the First Urban Century*.



Machlis has conducted studies in over 130 U.S. national parks as diverse as Everglades, the Statue of Liberty, and Yellowstone. In 1996, his research program received a Hammer Award from Vice President Gore for its role in improving efficiency in government.

<12> Machlis was instrumental in the development of the nation's Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) Network, which currently includes 13 federal agencies and over 200 universities; he served as its national coordinator from 1998 to 2005. The CESUs serve as a bridge builder between the National Park Service and other federal agencies. CESUs provide research, technical assistance, and education to meet the needs of park managers.

In 1997 Machlis helped design and establish the Canon National Parks Science Scholars Program, which has resulted in nearly \$10 million in scholarships being provided by Canon U.S.A., Inc., to students throughout the Americas. In doing so he has nurtured a new generation of scientists focused on understanding and protecting national parks. He also helped create the National Parks Ecological Fellowship Program, with over \$4 million in fellowships provided by the Mellon Foundation. Thus, Machlis has not only conducted social science research seminal to park management, he has been visionary and tireless in the creation of conservation, research, and management programs that will ensure the future success of national parks in the changing landscape.

— nominated by J. Michael Scott and Michael Soukup

## *The George Melendez Wright Award for Excellence*

GEORGE B. HARTZOG, JR.

George B. Hartzog, Jr., appointed seventh director of the National Park Service in January 1964, became one of the most influential and effective directors in the service's history. During his nine-year tenure, the national park system underwent its greatest period of expansion since the 1930s, with roughly 70 units encompassing approximately 2.7 million acres coming into the system. Through his varied program and policy initiatives, Hartzog transformed the Park Service and the national park system.



*Hartzog at the time of his directorship*

Hartzog's tenure prompted a new emphasis on science and research, and NPS natural resource management was restructured along ecological lines following the 1963 Leopold Report. Environmental interpretation that emphasized ecological relationships and special environmental education programs for school children reflected and promoted the growing national environmental movement. His accomplishments were equally great in the area of cultural resources, with the Park Service making its greatest advances in historic preservation since the 1930s. Hartzog played an important role in securing passage of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, which increased the Park Service's preservation activities beyond park boundaries, and of the 1967 legislation creating the National Park Foundation.

<13>

Under Hartzog, the Park Service reached out to under-represented and under-served groups, such as urban populations, minorities, and young people, with urban parks and new programs, such as Summer in the Parks and Living History programs. Hartzog created greater opportunities for women and minorities within the service's senior management.



*Hartzog in conversation with NPS Director Mary Bomar, December 2006*

Director Hartzog's contributions were truly outstanding. With his vision, political skill, and dynamic leadership, he left behind a greatly expanded and invigorated National Park Service and national park system and a rich legacy to future generations.

— *nominated by Janet A. McDonnell and Richard W. Sellars*

## *Honorary National Park Ranger Award*

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### VICE PRESIDENT WALTER MONDALE

Throughout his career, Walter Mondale has been an untiring champion of conservation, environmental protection, outdoor recreation and national parks. Senator Mondale and his close friend, Senator Gaylord Nelson from Wisconsin, co-sponsored the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968; today, the Wild and Scenic River System encompasses over 150 rivers. During Mondale's term as vice president of the United States during the Carter Administration, he played a key role in the president's sweeping application of the Antiquities Act, in which 17 national monuments were proclaimed in Alaska, thus preserving some 56 million acres of magnificent land.



Vice President Mondale also provided much-needed support for the newly created Voyageurs National Park, the Boundary Waters Canoe Wilderness Area, and the Superfund Act (CERCLA), as well as strengthening the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act.

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Following subsequent campaigns and a three-year ambassadorship to Japan, Mondale returned to private law practice but remains very active in civic life. He is an avid fisherman. He has been a long-standing good friend to St. Croix National Scenic Riverway, where he and his wife Joan maintain a summer home.

Vice President Mondale's enormous contribution to wild and scenic rivers, national parks, and the environment in general clearly deserve the recognition that comes with the Honorary National Park Ranger Award.



**MARY BOMAR**

*Director*

**MICHAEL SOUKUP**

*Associate Director,  
Natural Resource Stewardship and Science*

**HERBERT C. FROST**

*Deputy Associate Director,  
Natural Resource Stewardship and Science*



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the george wright society biennial conference

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on parks, protected areas & cultural sites

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