

Illinois, Indiana, & Missouri Wind Energy & Wildlife Virtual Workshop

Speaker Biographies

October 4-6, 2022

Speaker biographies are ordered by session and then alphabetically by last name.

I. Welcome



Abby Arnold

Executive Director, Renewable Energy Wildlife Institute (REWI)

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Abby S. Arnold is Executive Director of REWI. From an early age, Abby has been a passionate advocate for developing policy based on sound science. She recognizes that decisions about renewables and conservation we make today will impact future generations. As a practicing mediator for over 25 years, Abby convened many collaborative efforts including how to site and build biofuels, geothermal, on and offshore wind, and solar power, while conserving wildlife. She has facilitated efforts of the National Wind Coordinating Collaborative since 1994, was lead mediator for the Department of the Interior's Land Based Wind Energy Guidelines Federal Advisory Committee, and many other regional and national collaborations. Abby advised on founding REWI and has led the organization for over a decade. Abby holds a Master's in Public Administration from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government and a B.A. in Environmental Planning and Politics from UC Santa Cruz, with Honors. She is a proud mother of three adult children, lives in Washington D.C. with her husband, and annually returns to Juneau, AK, a second home, where she enjoys the great outdoors.

Joy Page

Environmental Research Manager, U.S. Department of Energy Wind Energy Technologies Office

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Joy Page is the Technology Manager for the environmental portfolio within the US Department of Energy, Wind Energy Technology Office (WETO). In this role, she is responsible for overseeing WETO's investments in understanding and addressing environmental challenges to wind energy deployment. Her career has focused on addressing renewable energy and wildlife concerns for nearly two decades.

Prior to WETO, Joy led Defenders of Wildlife’s Renewable Energy Program where she collaborated with government agencies and developers on policies and strategies to minimize and mitigate wildlife impacts from renewable energy development. Prior to that she practiced law on the environment and energy team at Godfrey & Kahn S.C. where she advised clients on a range of complex environmental permitting and corporate transactional matters. Joy received her Juris Doctor degree from Georgetown University Law Center, has a Master of Science in Environmental Health from University of Illinois, and a Bachelor of Science from Bradley University.

II. Wind Energy in Illinois, Indiana, and Missouri



Jeff Danielson

VP - Advocacy, Clean Grid Alliance

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Jeff Danielson is Vice President, Advocacy at Clean Grid Alliance (CGA). He previously served as Director of Midwest State Affairs for the American Wind Energy Association and the American Clean Power Association.

He is a former four-term Iowa State Senator and past President Pro Tempore, a retired career professional firefighter and a Navy veteran. Prior to serving in the Senate, Jeff was a gubernatorial appointee to the

Iowa Department of Transportation Commission and a mayoral appointee to the Waterloo Planning & Zoning Commission. He is a member of the American Council of Young Political Leaders, No Labels, NewDEAL Leaders alumni and a CSG Midwest BILLD alumni (2006).

Ray Fakhoury

Political and Regulatory Affairs Manager, Pattern Energy

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Ray Fakhoury is the Political and Regulatory Affairs Manager for Pattern Energy covering state legislative and regulatory affairs issues in the East. Prior to joining Pattern Energy, Ray was a policy principal for the Advanced Energy Economy, a national business association focusing on bolstering the clean energy industry. Based in Washington, D.C., Ray first got his start working on Capitol Hill for a California Congresswoman, political campaigns, and nonprofit advocacy organizations. Ray graduated from the University of California, Santa Barbara with a bachelor’s degree in Political Science. In his spare time, Ray enjoys traveling domestically and abroad searching for great eats and fancy cocktails.



Anthony Lopez

Senior Energy Analyst, National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)

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Anthony Lopez is a lead researcher of cross-cutting projects in wind/solar energy potential, energy systems modeling, and spatiotemporal resource modeling. He is a member of the Geospatial Data Science Group of NREL's Strategic Energy Analysis Center. As a technical and project lead, Anthony is responsible for developing novel geocomputation methods, model-based solutions for real-world questions in renewable energy deployment, and project design from resource to capacity expansion to

production cost modeling.



Christina Marshall

Outreach & Engagement Manager, Renewable Energy Wildlife Institute (REWI)

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As Outreach & Engagement Manager, Christina manages REWI's meetings, events, and engagement opportunities. She has worked at REWI for over 3 years and has over 4 years of public relations experience and volunteered teaching classes about political engagement to elementary students in the South Bronx. Her education focused on environmental justice with a historical perspective. She received a B.A. in

Politics and History from The New School, Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts and is currently working on her Masters of Science in Environmental Policy and Management with a concentration in Energy and Sustainability at the University of Denver.

III. Wind Project Development Process & Site Selection



Rachel London

National Energy Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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Rachel London is the National Energy Coordinator for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service at the headquarters office in Falls Church, Virginia where she has engaged in renewable energy issues for over 10 years. Her goal in this position is to work with others to promote environmentally responsible renewable energy and to find solutions to conservation challenges. She completed a B.A. in Environmental Studies in 2003, and a M.S. in Environmental Science with a concentration in Conservation

Biology in 2005, from American University in Washington, DC.



Geoff Marke

Chief Economist, Missouri Office of the Public Counsel

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Geoff Marke, PhD, is the Chief Economist for the Missouri Office of the Public Counsel (“OPC”). In this position, he manages a technical staff that advocates for Missouri ratepayers in utility regulatory and legislative filings involving electric, gas and water/sewer companies. He has provided expert testimony on a variety of issues including, but not limited to: Renewable Energy, Performance Based Regulation and Integrated Resource Planning. Geoff has been a frequent speaker at NARUC,

NASUCA and Michigan State’s Institute of Public Utilities conferences/seminars. He has also served as a US AID/NARUC representative with Baltic Countries surrounding cybersecurity investments and with the country of Indonesia on tariff setting.



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Outreach & Engagement Manager, Renewable Energy Wildlife Institute (REWI)

cmarshall@rewi.org

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Holly Neill

Deputy Director, Conservation Policy, The Nature Conservancy

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Holly Neill is the Deputy Director-Conservation Policy for The Nature Conservancy in Missouri. She is a graduate of Missouri State University with a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a Masters of Natural and Applied Science. Her thesis research was conducted at the Ozark Underground Laboratory and focused on land use effects of water and sediment quality in karst systems. She has also worked in the public school system to integrate scientists into the classroom through a National Science Foundation Fellowship and has experience in the medical and environmental consulting fields. Holly previously served as the executive director of the James River Basin Partnership and Stream Teams United.

Currently she supports TNC’s conservation efforts through leadership of conservation staff, goals and outcomes and fills the external affairs role developing relationships and partnerships with private, academic, and agency sectors to bolster TNC’s conservation priorities. She is the TNC Missouri team lead for Energy and Carbon Reduction efforts and leads Missouri legislation and policy efforts.

Erin O’Shea

Associate Director of Environmental Affairs, EDP Renewables

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Erin O’Shea is the Associate Director of Environmental Affairs for EDP Renewables. Erin manages environmental permitting and permit compliance for EDPR’s projects in the eastern region of the United [Illinois, Indiana, & Missouri Wind Energy & Wildlife Virtual Workshop](#)

States from planning phases through construction and operations, including developing strategies to avoid and minimize environmental impacts. Erin has led the development of Habitat Conservation Plans for over 1.5 GW of EDPR's wind power fleet. Erin has a Bachelor of Science in Engineering degree in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering from Princeton University. She has more than 15 years of professional experience in the renewable energy industry, primarily in environmental and siting issues related to wind and solar energy projects.

Keynote: Sara Parker Pauley, Director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources



Sara Parker Pauley

Director, Missouri Department of Conservation

Sara Parker Pauley serves as the ninth Director of the Missouri Department of Conservation since its formation in 1937. The Missouri Conservation Commission announced Pauley's selection effective November 1, 2016.

A native of Columbia, Pauley received both her law degree and bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Missouri – Columbia, and did post-graduate studies in Australia as a Rotary Fellow. She previously served as Director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources since 2010. She has worked as project manager for D.J. Case & Associates, a natural resources communications firm, and as a deputy director for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. She has been an instructor at the University of Missouri's School of Natural Resources, teaching a course in natural resource policy and administration. She also served as President of the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies.

Pauley began her professional career as a Policy Analyst with the Missouri Department of Conservation from 1993-1996. Over the years, though her career path varied, it has never strayed far from her personal desire to be engaged in the stewardship of Missouri's natural resources.

IV. Overview of Federal, State, and Local Regulations and Environmental Considerations



Abby Arnold

Executive Director, Renewable Energy Wildlife Institute (REWI)

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Matt Buffington

Environmental Supervisor, Indiana Department of Natural Resources

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Matt Buffington is the Environmental Unit Supervisor for the Indiana DNR, Division of Fish and Wildlife. He and his staff review potential impacts to fish, wildlife, and botanical resources due to construction near lakes and rivers and due to mining. Matt also works with mitigation banks, renewable energy projects, and other duties as assigned. Matt has been with the Indiana DNR since 2005, and previously he worked for the Illinois DNR, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and USGS. He received his Bachelor's in Biology from Indiana University and his Master's in Wildlife Resources from the University of Georgia.



Jennifer Campbell

Point-of-contact for wind development, Missouri Department of Conservation

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Jennifer Campbell is the Missouri Department of Conservation’s point-of-contact for wind development. She works with wind developers and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on strategies to reduce wildlife impacts at projects throughout the state. She currently serves on the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies’ Energy and Wildlife Policy Committee. Earlier in her career, Jennifer worked in the wind industry for the developer of King Mountain Wind Ranch, the largest wind farm globally at the time it was completed in 2001. Jennifer is a Missouri native with experience in Oklahoma, Indiana, Texas, and Wyoming.

Jennie Geiger

Director of Environmental, Apex Clean Energy

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Jennie Geiger is a Director of Environmental at Apex Clean Energy, a utility-scale renewable energy company with a mission of accelerating the shift to clean energy. Jennie has been working to find solutions to renewable energy/wildlife issues since 2006, when she first worked as a consultant to NREL and REWI (then NWCC). She has a BS in wildlife biology and an MS in environmental policy and administration, with a focus on collaborative solutions to natural resource issues. Jennie’s work at Apex has included leading environmental studies and permitting for over 2.5 GW of operating wind projects in six states.



Andrew Horton

Regional HCP Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Andrew_Horton@fws.gov

I am the Regional HCP Coordinator for the USFWS Midwest Region. I have worked in the field of natural resources for over twenty years, fourteen of those with the Service. My current role is responsible for managing the development and issuance of habitat conservation plans across eight states, with most plans involving wind energy and bat related impacts.



Geoff Marke

Chief Economist, Missouri Office of the Public Counsel

Geoff.Marke@opc.mo.gov

Geoff Marke, PhD, is the Chief Economist for the Missouri Office of the Public Counsel (“OPC”). In this position, he manages a technical staff that advocates for Missouri ratepayers in utility regulatory and legislative filings involving electric, gas and water/sewer companies. He has provided expert testimony on a variety of issues including, but not limited to: Renewable Energy, Performance Based Regulation and Integrated Resource Planning. Geoff has been a frequent speaker at NARUC, NASUCA and Michigan State’s Institute of Public Utilities conferences/seminars. He has also served as a US AID/NARUC representative with Baltic Countries surrounding cybersecurity investments and with the country of Indonesia on tariff setting.

Heather Osborn

Incidental Take Authorization Coordinator, Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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Heather Osborn works for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources in the Natural Heritage Division as part of the Endangered Species Program. She attended Western Illinois University for both a B.S. and M.S. of Biology focusing on Botany, and later Southern Illinois University – Carbondale for Ph.D. in Plant Biology/Plant Ecology. She joined the IDNR in 2020 as the Incidental Take Authorization Coordinator and is in charge of writing permits for activities that may result in negative impacts on individuals of threatened and endangered species.



Margaret Rheude

Eagle Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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Mags Rheude is an eagle biologist with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, in the Division of Migratory Birds and Eagle Permits. She is stationed in Bloomington, MN, at the Midwest Regional office. She has been with the Fish and Wildlife Service since 2009 and works on both short and long-term eagle permits, NEPA compliance, and web maintenance for the Service’s eagle website. She also collaborates with a myriad of partners on urban bird conservation, including Chimney Swift conservation.



Elizabeth Rigby

Eagle Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

elizabeth_rigby@fws.gov

Beth Rigby is an eagle biologist with the Midwest Region of USFWS, Migratory Birds division. She has contributed to grassland bird and marsh bird field studies in the Southwest, Gulf Coast, and Midwest and has a PhD from the University of Minnesota. She previously worked in the USFWS Ecological Services division as Assistant Regional Energy Coordinator, assessing impacts of pipelines and other infrastructure projects and assisting with the Midwest Region's Avian Radar Project.

V. State of the Science: Bats and Eagles with an eye to the Midwest

Bats



Matthew Becker

Matthew Becker, Avangrid Renewables

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Matthew Becker has worked in renewables since 2005, first as a consultant and then for the industry in 2009. In his current role he leads all phases of permitting and environmental development projects for Avangrid Renewables wind, solar, and storage projects across a broad geography of the Eastern US. Matt has led permitting efforts for approximately 20 GW of renewables projects, including nearly 3 GW of Avangrid's operating fleet. In addition to managing complex, multiyear permitting processes and diverse internal and external projects teams, Matt is responsible for identifying and guiding the company through company-wide wildlife risks, evolving federal and state environmental and wildlife laws, and other challenges to renewable energy deployment. Matt chairs the American Clean Power (ACP) bat subcommittee and holds a BS in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences from the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign.



Amanda Hale

Senior Research Biologist, Western EcoSystems Technology, Inc. (WEST)

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Dr. Amanda Hale is currently a Senior Research Biologist with Western EcoSystems Technology (WEST, Inc.). Prior to joining WEST, Dr. Hale was a professor of biology at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. Dr. Hale has more than 25 years of experience conducting field and lab-based research and has been investigating the effects of wind energy on birds and bats since 2008. In addition to serving as a science advisor to REWI, Dr. Hale is a member of the BWEC Scientific Advisory Committee and is an

active member of several scientific organizations including the American Ornithological Society and The Wildlife Society.

Cris Hein

Senior Project Leader for the Environmental Portfolio, National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)

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Dr. Cris Hein is the Senior Project Leader for the Environmental Portfolio at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory. Cris serves as the Program Coordinator for the Bats and Wind Energy Cooperative and the Operating Agent for the International Energy Agency Wind Task-34 or Working Together to Resolve Environmental Effects of Wind Energy. Cris received his M.S. in Biology from Texas State University in 2001, and his Ph.D. in Forestry and Natural Resources from the University of Georgia in 2008. Cris has studied bat behavior and ecology for 24 years. Of those, he has focused on bats and wind energy interactions for 15 years.

Amber Schorg

Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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Amber Schorg is a biologist with the Illinois-Iowa Ecological Services Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. She specializes in renewable energy coordination and enjoys the challenge of applying pragmatic solutions to complex wind-wildlife interactions. Amber is involved in several wind research projects and HCPs across Illinois and Iowa, in collaboration with many different wind industry partners. Throughout her work with the Service, Amber is committed to working with constituents toward a resilient landscape that meets the needs of both humans and wildlife.

Christine Sutter

Sr. Environmental Services Project Manager, NextEra Energy

christine.sutter@nexteraenergy.com

Crissy is the Bat Subject Matter for NextEra Energy, the world's largest utility and over 45,000 MW of generating capacity. Prior to joining NEER she lead several teams to develop smart curtailment technology (TIMR and DARC). She has worked in wind and wildlife issues for 2 decades.

V. State of the Science: Bats and Eagles with an eye to the Midwest Eagles



Taber Allison

Director of Research, Renewable Energy Wildlife Institute (REWI)

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Taber Allison is an ecologist with special expertise in wind-wildlife impacts. He joined REWI in December 2010 to direct all research initiatives. Previously, Taber was Vice President for Science, Policy and Climate Change at the Massachusetts Audubon Society, where he led Mass Audubon's environmental evaluation of wind energy and climate change. Taber has served at the National Science Foundation, was Director of the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory, and taught at Ohio

State University and the University of Colorado. Taber serves on the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Bats and Wind Energy Cooperative. He holds a Ph.D. in Ecology from the University of Minnesota, a Master's in Forest Science from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, and a B.A. degree in Biology from Wesleyan University.



Chris Farmer

Senior Ecologist and Project Manager, Western EcoSystems Technology, Inc. (WEST)

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Dr. Chris Farmer is a Senior Ecologist at WEST, Inc. with over 20 years of wildlife experience. At WEST, he is a member of an interdisciplinary team developing a predictive spatial model of golden eagle movements for use in risk reduction at wind farms. Chris also has experience in performing due diligence reviews for lenders and buyers of energy projects, and brings this perspective to his analyses of eagle risk. Chris has worked on

numerous eagle conservation plans and eagle take permits (ETPs) in Region 3, and is currently supporting about a dozen ETP applications across seven US Fish and Wildlife Service regions.



Tim Hayes

Director, Environmental Development, Duke Energy Sustainable Solutions

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Tim is the Environmental Director for Duke Energy Renewables where he leads siting, permitting and environmental issues for Duke Energy’s growing renewable energy business. He was named to his current position in May 2011.

Tim has been with Duke Energy and its predecessor companies Cinergy, PSI Energy and Public Service Company of Indiana for 36 years where he was a senior scientist in the corporate environmental department in Plainfield, Indiana. His duties included managing a variety of siting, permitting, environmental and natural resource issues for the Midwest Region of Duke Energy. From 2001 through March 2005 he was in the Federal Legislative Affairs, Environmental Strategy and Sustainability group at Cinergy Corp.

Tim is a past board member of the Renewable Energy Wildlife Institute serving as Board Chair in 2017.

Tim attended Indiana State University and received his BS degree in Life Science.



Margaret Rheude

Eagle Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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Mags Rheude is an eagle biologist with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, in the Division of Migratory Birds and Eagle Permits. She is stationed in Bloomington, MN, at the Midwest Regional office. She has been with the Fish and Wildlife Service since 2009 and works on both short and long-term eagle permits, NEPA compliance, and web maintenance for the Service’s eagle website. She also collaborates with a myriad of partners on urban bird conservation, including Chimney Swift conservation.



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VI. Bats: Streamline Permitting: Opportunities and Challenges



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aarnold@rewi.org

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Becky Heffren

Manager, Compliance- Renewable and Environmental, Liberty Utilities

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I have been fortunate to experience two exciting career journeys. As Manager of Environmental Health and Epidemiology for the Health Department during the attacks of 9/11, we rapidly transitioned to a new era of bioterrorism preparedness and local public health emergency response. COVID-19 tested our early preparations to the max.

My current position as Manager of Compliance for Renewable and Environmental projects has also witnessed transformation. Consistent with our purpose - “Sustaining Water and Energy for Life”- sustainability is embedded in our culture as we implement renewable solutions. Our challenges continue as we meet the ever-growing demand for energy while protecting the environment for future generations.



Andrew Horton

Regional HCP Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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I am the Regional HCP Coordinator for the USFWS Midwest Region. I have worked in the field of natural resources for over twenty years, fourteen of those with the Service. My current role is responsible for managing the development and issuance of habitat conservation plans across eight states, with most plans involving wind energy and bat related impacts.

Jason (JT) Layne

Stantec Consulting Services Inc.

JT.Layne@stantec.com

Mr. Layne is a wildlife biologist with over 15 years of experience in bat monitoring, threatened and endangered species surveys, experimental research, and federal and state regulatory permitting. He coordinates with the USFWS and state regulatory agencies for wind and solar projects. Mr. Layne is federally permitted for bat mist-netting surveys and has extensive experience with acoustic bat monitoring throughout the U.S.



Allison Poe

Senior Manager - Environmental Affairs, EDP Renewables

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Allison Poe has fifteen years of experience in the renewable energy industry sector and has spent the last seven years as an environmental manager at EDP Renewables. During her time at EDP Renewables, she has worked on environmental permitting wind and solar projects at the local, state, and federal levels through coordination with various stakeholders. Allison has worked on both solar and wind projects beginning from early development through construction and operation. Prior to joining EDP Renewables, Allison worked for eight years as a project manager and wildlife biologist consultant specializing in wind energy and wildlife interactions for projects in the U.S. and Latin America. She holds a Master of Science in Ecology and Evolution from the University of Western Ontario where she investigated the intraspecific variation in echolocation calls of Hawaiian hoary bats.

VII. Bats: Monitoring, Reporting, Adaptive Management, and Mitigation



Abby Arnold

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Kathryn Bulliner

Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

kathryn_bulliner@fws.gov

Kathryn Bulliner is a wildlife biologist and the energy lead for the Missouri Ecological Services Field Office. Kathryn educational background is in landscape and bat ecology. Much of her work focuses on compliance and permitting of various energy development projects in areas that pose high risk to federal trust resources. Kathryn enjoys developing relationships with partners and project proponents to find creative and innovative solutions to balance renewable energy needs, while conserving and recovering federal trust resources for the American people.



Goni Iskali

Senior Environmental Permitting Manager, Apex Clean Energy

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Goni Iskali is a senior environmental permitting manager at Apex Clean Energy, Inc., who supports the development and operation of utility-scale and responsible renewable energy projects. Goni is also a wildlife biologist and has been involved for the past 11 years with studying the potential impacts of renewable energy projects on wildlife, with particular focus on bats. This work has included conducting pre and post-construction monitoring studies at wind farms, the development and implementation of Habitat Conservation Plans, and various research studies. Goni is also a federally permitted bat biologist and has studied bats for over 15 years.



Sarah Livesay

Executive Director, Grand Prairie Friends

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As a central-Illinois native, Sarah Livesay graduated from Eastern Illinois University and pursued a career in field biology and environmental education. Sarah has provided services to state, national and international non-profits including the Environmental Education Assn of Illinois, National Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and Japan Parks & Recreation, among others. In 2017, Sarah was hired as the first Executive Director for Grand Prairie Friends land trust. Since 1984, Grand Prairie Friends has served as a volunteer-led, east-central Illinois conservation land trust which preserves, protects and restores over 1,200 acres of natural areas across this region.



Josiah Maine

Environmental Scientist, Burns & McDonnell

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Josiah is a wildlife biologist at Burns & McDonnell. He has a broad background in avian and bat biology, ecological research, endangered species, and environmental permitting. Josiah also serves as the land manager for the Chariton Hills Conservation bank, where he applies ecological concepts to maintain and improve habitat for threatened and endangered bats.



Natasha Skelton

Virginia Field Representative and IBat ILF Coordinator, The Conservation Fund

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Raised on a beef and poultry farm in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, Natasha’s passion for land conservation is rooted in the intimate relationship between working landscapes and the communities that rely on them. She spent over a decade in the corporate world in business operations and marketing roles before serving as Executive Director of Valley Conservation Council. Natasha then joined The Conservation Fund as Virginia Field Representative and IBat ILF Coordinator, where she is driven to deliver conservation solutions that keep both our natural world and our human communities vibrant. Natasha also serves as Chair of Virginia’s United Land Trusts (VaULT).



Molly Stephenson

Wildlife Biologist, Associate, Stantec

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Molly Stephenson is a wildlife biologist with Stantec Consulting Services in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She has been working on wind-wildlife issues since 2011, including study design and data analysis for pre- and post-construction surveys. She has been a lead author on seven published Habitat Conservation Plans, including designing post-construction monitoring protocols using Evidence of Absence and designing adaptive management strategies. Molly has managed 28 seasons of post-construction mortality monitoring at 11 sites in Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana, including compliance monitoring under issued incidental take permits for threatened and endangered bats.