

# Pennsylvania Wildlife

FALL 2019

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The mission of the Wildlife for  
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Cover photo: Linda Stager



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Autumn is one of my favorite seasons in Pennsylvania. I love how the verdant trees morph into yellow, red, and

orange hues. I love the cozy warmth of fleece sweaters as the air turns chilly.

When you love nature, it transcends all four seasons. Wildlife for Everyone works hard all year long for all nature lovers and outdoor enthusiasts... from hikers, to birders, to hunters, to anglers, to photographers, to nature writers, each person's connection to nature is unique. Wildlife for Everyone is working to educate Pennsylvania citizens and conserve our woodlands and streams to benefit wildlife and you, the nature lover. We want to ensure that what each of you love best about nature will always be here for you.

It is no great secret that it takes money for Wildlife for Everyone to present educational programs and collaborate with conservation partners to restore streams and improve habitat, and to offer scholarships that advance the careers of our future conservation leaders. Every year we seek funding through memberships, an annual appeal, special events like the annual Wildlife Gala, Sporting Clay Classic and Great Outdoor Picnic, as well as grants. Every year, we seek to expand our reach throughout the state, spreading the conservation message and seeking opportunities to improve wildlife habitat and conserve Pennsylvania's natural resources.

If you value nature and the restorative benefit it provides, please make a donation



Photo: Mark Nale

Great Egret in Tom Ridge Wetlands

to Wildlife for Everyone so that we may expand our activities and increase our impact across the state. If you are

already a contributor to Wildlife for Everyone, please consider giving more.

When I first started raising money for non-profits, I felt a little uncomfortable asking people to give more. A colleague said the following to me, "If you are committed to this project, and believe in why you are raising money, then you should not feel bad about asking people to give; you are offering them the opportunity to invest in something wonderful." So true! Your investment will make a difference!

Wildlife for Everyone is laying the groundwork for a Nature Center on the site of the Tom Ridge Wetlands in Centre County. The design will feature elements that meet ADA standards allowing all individuals, regardless of physical limitation, the opportunity to connect with nature through recreational pursuits. I encourage you to visit the Tom Ridge Wetlands. Call us at 814-238-8138 to set up a tour or for directions. Search Wildlife for Everyone Foundation on Facebook and like us to stay informed about the happenings at Wildlife for Everyone. Check out our website, [www.wildlifeforeveryone.org](http://www.wildlifeforeveryone.org) to learn more about our organization.

I thank you for your passion and generosity.

Best,

Susan

Susan Hawthorne, Executive Director

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Jim and Janet Nyce

# PENNSYLVANIA *plays prominent role in* GOLDEN EAGLE MIGRATION

by GREG GROVE

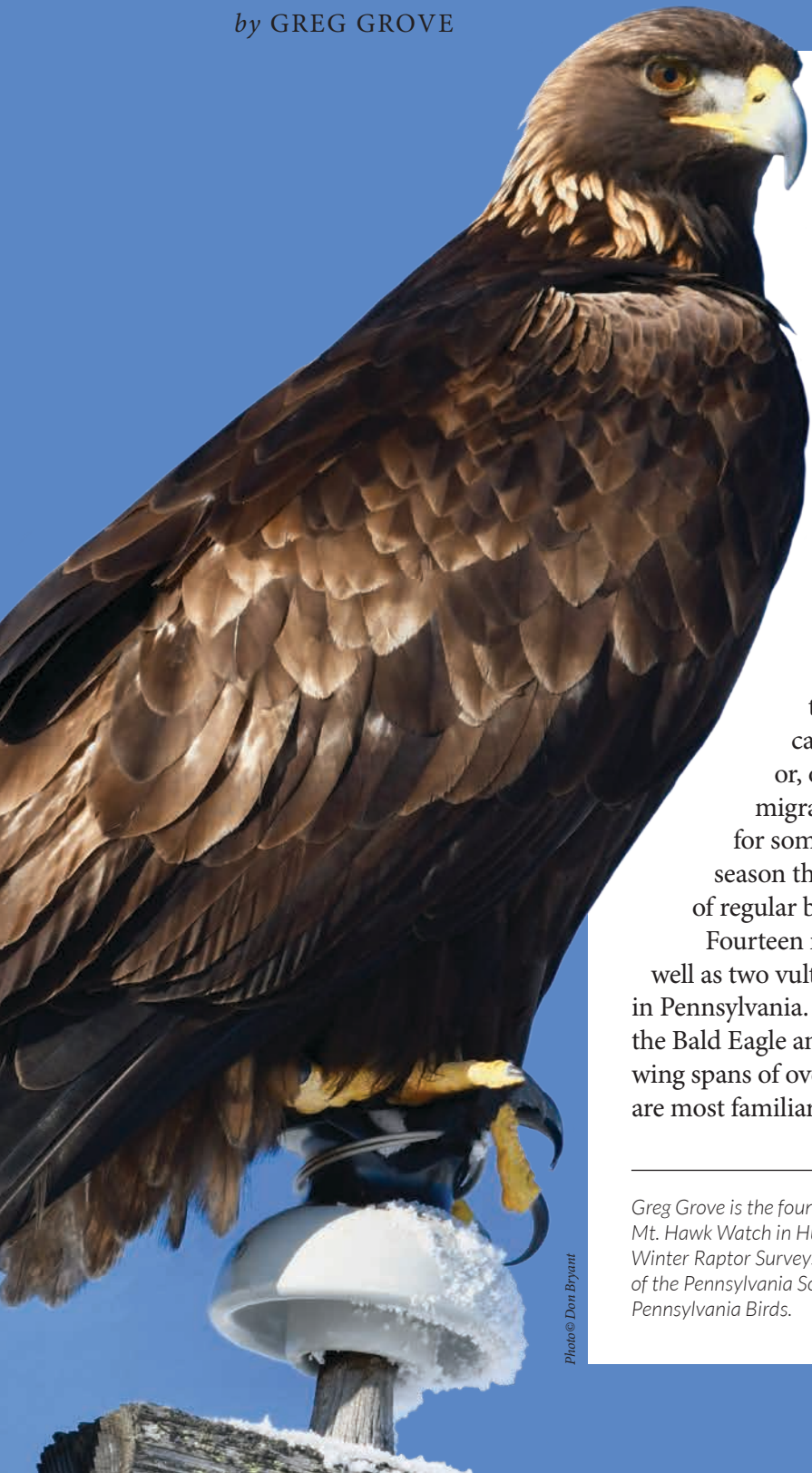


Photo © Don Bryant

*Greg Grove is the founder and lead counter at the Stone Mt. Hawk Watch in Huntingdon County, the compiler of Winter Raptor Surveys in Pennsylvania, former President of the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology and Editor of Pennsylvania Birds.*

Pennsylvania occupies a central location in the Ridge-and-Valley Region of the Appalachian Mountains of eastern North America, a series of roughly parallel long, high ridges that more-or-less bisect the state from northeast to southwest. Each ridge serves as a “highway-in-the-sky” during raptor migration and also provides high perches for humans where, with an open view and the right wind, an observer can see dozens, hundreds, or, occasionally, thousands of migrating raptors in a single day; for some species, more in a single season than one could see in a lifetime of regular birding.

Fourteen migrating raptor species, as well as two vultures, are recorded annually in Pennsylvania. The two largest species are the Bald Eagle and the Golden Eagle, with wing spans of over six feet. While non-birders are most familiar with the Bald Eagle, many

veteran hawk-counters will cite the Golden Eagle as their personal favorite. They are top level predators that nest in far northeastern Canada and in the rugged mountains and high plains of the western U.S. and Canada. In the east, Pennsylvania sits right in the center of their principal migration corridor. The mystique of the Golden Eagle is enhanced by the timing of their north and south movements, which usually take place during cold, sometimes brutal conditions of early spring (early March) and late fall (November and December)—conditions that push humans who are not well dressed quickly towards something resembling hypothermia. But the big birds fly undaunted on the cold winds, impervious to the numbing chill felt by the earthbound counters.

Golden Eagles and other raptors migrate hundreds of miles (some species migrate thousands). Using wing power all the way would require enormous amounts of energy and time spent hunting. Instead, raptors use moving air to keep them in flight with far less effort than beating their wings all the way south and north each year.

Moving air occurs in two ways. Wind which strikes the ridges at a favorable angle and is then deflected upwards in strong drafts provides enough current to support migrating birds. At a little over ten pounds, eagles, with their great wing surface area, readily find sufficient lift even on light wind. The second kind of moving air is the “thermal”, which occurs on sunny, warm days with little wind. As the sun warms the ground, the air above (especially on non-forested land) begins to warm and rise, creating a thermal updraft. Raptors are expert at finding and using thermals to gain elevation. When high enough, they set their wings and glide in the desired direction. They can cover miles with scarcely a wing-flap, losing elevation only

slowly, and when necessary, finding another thermal to repeat the process. While both wind and thermals work for the raptors, hawk watchers like windy days better because the updrafts bring the raptors closer to the ridge, providing a better view.

Golden Eagles migrate mostly in the colder weather of early spring and late fall, when thermal formation is limited by shorter days and weaker sun, and when windy days are more frequent. The best days for seeing migrating Golden Eagles in Pennsylvania occur soon after a cold front has passed through the state, especially in very late October and much of November. Golden Eagle numbers peak on such days, with the best hours often occurring late morning to mid-afternoon. Really good days might see the count push past 25, and on a few rare occasions counts in excess of 35 may occur, but such days do not happen annually (*see Table*).

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***“Raptors use moving air to keep them in flight with far less effort than beating their wings all the way south and north each year.”***

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Pennsylvania has a dozen or more hawk watch sites that are staffed full-time during the fall season. Two sites average over 200 Golden Eagles in the fall season—Wagoner’s Gap near Carlisle and Allegheny Front, west of Bedford. In the spring, the premier Golden Eagle watch is at Tussey Mt., near State College, where the counting begins in late February to catch the early Golden Eagles; most have already moved north of Pennsylvania by the third week of March.





Golden Eagle identification is not difficult with a bit of experience. Golden Eagles are mostly brown but derive their name from the golden feathers on the nape of the neck. They may be confused with immature Bald Eagles, also mostly brown but lacking the adult's white head and tail. When gliding, as in migratory flight, Golden Eagles often hold their wings in a slight dihedral (a very shallow V) with wing tips pulled back, in contrast to Bald Eagles who hold their wings straight and perpendicular to the body, giving the appearance of a long, straight plank.

The recovery of Bald and Golden Eagles, and other raptors, is a true conservation success story. Thanks to suspension of DDT use, less poison-baiting of predators such as coyotes, and presumably fewer people that shoot raptors on sight, Golden Eagle numbers in the east may be increasing. To see a Golden Eagle soaring overhead on a cold November wind is to see true wilderness.

Site	Location (County)	Season	10-year season avg.	High one-day count
Allegheny Front	Bedford/Somerset	Fall	205	74 (2015)
Bake Oven Knob	Carbon/Lehigh	Fall	100	42 (2012)
Hawk Mt.	Berks/Schuylkill	Fall	133	48 (2012)
Jacks Mt.	Mifflin	Fall	92	56 (2014)
Stone Mt.	Huntingdon/Mifflin	Fall	129	61 (2018)
Wagoner's Gap	Cumberland/Perry	Fall	236	50 (2012)
Allegheny Front	Bedford/Somerset	Spring	70	70 (2019)
Tussey Mt.	Centre/Huntingdon	Spring	185	62 (2008)



*Hawk is a term used by raptor counters to refer to all species being counted on a watch (buteos, accipiters, falcons, osprey, harriers, eagles and even vultures).*

Photo© Nick Bolgiano



# Getting a Read on Bear Mange

by ASHER JONES

Peering through the holes of the trap, I can make out the bear's back. In places where the fur is thinning, the skin beneath is dark, thickened, and crusty with deep fissures that remind me of cracks in parched earth.

It's early July and I'm in Sproul State Forest with Brandon Snavely, bear biologist aide for the Pennsylvania Game Commission, and Hannah Greenberg, doctoral candidate in entomology at Penn State University. Of the seven black bears the team has trapped today, this bear is the first with mange.

The now-sedated bear is a young female. She is missing fur from almost half of her body, and emits a strange, musty odor. Greenberg scrapes skin from the bear's chest and legs and examines the samples with a microscope propped on the truck tailgate. She's looking for *Sarcoptes scabiei*, the

Asher Jones is a PhD Entomology student at Penn State University and an aspiring science writer.

Photo © Hannah Greenberg

parasitic mite responsible for the bear's condition. According to Greenberg, the tiny mites burrow into the skin, triggering a hypersensitive reaction that makes bears uncomfortable and itchy. Mangey bears often scratch themselves vigorously, opening wounds and causing further skin infections.

Using a set of criteria, Greenberg deems the bear to have a moderate case of mange. Bears with severe mange can lose their fur almost entirely, become emaciated because they cannot forage effectively, and may eventually die. "When you think of a bear you think of a very strong animal," says Erika Machtinger, assistant professor of entomology at Penn State. "So, when you see that animal reduced to basically a skeleton, it can be extremely shocking. You can't imagine how it got that way and how it's still alive. It's really sad."

Since the first cases of mange were identified in black bears in the early 1990s, the disease has increased in prevalence and range, radiating outwards from Pennsylvania into neighboring states. Although black bears are still at record numbers in Pennsylvania, mange has caught the attention of Mark Ternent, black bear biologist with the Pennsylvania Game Commission. "We don't necessarily understand the disease in bears that well yet," says Ternent. "So, we have a lot of questions and I think the more of those we get answered, then that can influence our policies and management strategies in the future."

The game commission has partnered with researchers like Greenberg and Machtinger to learn more about mange in bears. As part of her doctoral research, Greenberg will collar 12 healthy bears and 24 mange bears with GPS sensors. She will track the animals across the landscape to study how the disease affects their behavior, movement, and reproduction. Greenberg will also inject 12 of the mange



Photo © Taylor Miller

Hannah Greenberg examining a sedated, healthy black bear.

bears with an anti-parasite medication called Ivermectin to assess if a single dose can effectively treat the disease, and whether bears can recover without intervention.

To limit further spread of mange, Greenberg urges people not to feed wildlife. The disease is highly contagious, and feed piles are likely hotspots for mite transmission between bears.

Greenberg collects skin biopsies and blood samples from the bear for lab analysis. Historically, mange had affected coyotes and red foxes—but not bears. Greenberg and Machtinger want to understand how the *Sarcoptes* mite was able to jump hosts. If the mite has become more bear specific, the researchers could find evidence of this adaptation in its genes.

Our sedated bear receives an ear tag and collar. The team can now monitor her location from a computer, and they will re-examine her health during the winter denning season. For now, newly dubbed Bear #51308 rouses suddenly from the sedative and lumbers away, turning once to look back at us before she disappears into the forest.

If you see a bear with mange, contact the appropriate Pennsylvania Game Commission regional office.





## PROFILE IN CONSERVATION

# Tim Schaeffer

*Executive Director,  
Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission*

by BARBARA SCHROEDER

**T**im Schaeffer does not let any grass grow under his feet. A master multi-tasker, he is focused and super organized; he has to be to oversee 400 employees responsible for Pennsylvania's more than 86,000 miles of streams and rivers, 4,000 inland lakes and ponds (in addition to Lake Erie), as well as the massive fishing and boating opportunities these aquatic resources present.

Schaeffer has been in his current position at the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) since November of last year. Prior to a brief stint at the PA Department of Environmental Protection, he served for almost 10 years as Director of Policy and Planning at PFBC. According to Schaeffer, his career moves have been driven by where he can make the biggest difference on the conservation front. "My understanding of the Commission and the issues, as well as the

relationships I had forged, made it feel like pursuing the Executive Director position was the right move for me," he says.

Surprisingly, it wasn't until grad school that he learned a career in conservation was even possible. This epiphany came during an environmental policy class that often featured a conservationist and lawyer debating policy. Schaeffer realized that an intermediary was needed; someone who could communicate the intent of both parties. He enrolled in the Syracuse University College of Law and the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry where he simultaneously earned the degrees of Juris Doctor and Doctor of Philosophy. The unique skill set he attained provided a background in policy and an expertise in environmental science that would prove immeasurably valuable in the career that followed.

Since returning to Pennsylvania, Schaeffer has strived for a collaborative approach to initiatives he oversees, seeking to make conservation relevant to the groups involved. His philosophy is: "If the parties involved get something out of the project, then it will be relevant to them. If it's relevant to them, they will invest themselves in it." Communicating that relevance is his biggest challenge, but it ensures a positive outcome.

All of these projects require funding which is the biggest need of the PFBC according to Schaeffer. There are no general state fund appropriations allocated to the agency. Funds are generated by the sale of fishing licenses, boating registrations and the excise tax added to the cost of equipment purchased by the consumer. License fees are set by the legislators. "This arrangement has resulted in a boom then bust pattern in terms of the number of licensed fishermen and women," remarks Schaeffer. Under the current system, anglers may pay the same price for a license for 15 years, and then suddenly face a big fee increase in order to make up the deficit. The end result has been a reduction in the number of licensed fishing Pennsylvanians. According to Schaeffer, "We are very close to getting the bill passed that will permit the PFBC to set its own fees. This will result in gradual increases that will keep the number of anglers constant, lessening the negative impact on funding." Schaeffer is hopeful the bill will be approved by the Senate this fall.

Within the next year the fishing license buyer will experience an automated license

system that will allow the PFBC to analyze data and foresee trends. Equipped with this knowledge, the Commission will be able to connect the fishermen with the fishing and boating opportunities most appealing to them. "It will allow us to be more strategic and deliberate in delivering our message," says Schaeffer.

Schaeffer's vision for the PFBC is to find a way to communicate the vast array of fishing and boating opportunities available to the residents of Pennsylvania and make it easier to take advantage of them. "I want to demystify fishing and convey to

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***"PFBC offers more than trout and bass fishing. This year, 27,000 muskies will be stocked in Pennsylvania waters."***

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*Stocking Muskies in the Susquehanna.*





Photos © Andrea Feeney

These youth are participating in Mentored Youth Fishing Days.

Commission's goals of Recruitment, Retention and Reactivation.

A native of central Pennsylvania, Schaeffer cites his upbringing as the source of his current interest in the environment and conservation.

He recalls an idyllic

youth swimming and fishing with friends at Yellow Breeches Creek in Cumberland County. A love of the outdoors is part of Schaeffer's fabric and he is committed to fostering that value in his 15-year old twin sons. He is earnest about carving out time for his family, dedicating a day on the weekend to get outside and engage in adventure at the

parents that it is easier to get kids out for the fishing experience," states Schaeffer. To accomplish this, the PFBC has a mobile app, *Fish Boat PA* (available at <https://pfbc.pa.gov/mobile.htm>), an active social media presence, and will be hiring an "R3" Coordinator to develop strategies to communicate opportunities and achieve the

whim of his sons. He and his boys typically ski 30 times during the winter season! "It's a challenge to do, but you need to make the time," states Schaeffer. Returning to the idea of relevance, Schaeffer opines, "if the environment is relevant to kids, they'll take care of it. If kids are outdoors doing what they love," he continues, "they'll appreciate the land, water and air they're using, and want to protect and conserve it. It's important to instill this ethos in the next generation."

On the day I interviewed Tim Schaeffer, he was heading to Luzerne County to assist biologists with the installation of habitat structures at Frances Slocum State Park. In addition to providing another set of hands, Schaeffer wanted to learn what they were doing and why. A hands-on leader, Schaeffer earns the respect of his staff by his hard work, ability to trust and delegate to those who are the field experts, and his genuine

assumption of people's good intentions. "I feel it is a privilege and an honor to do this job," says Schaeffer. "I hope to harness the existing energy of the staff and empower them with resources to do the work of the future."

*The PFBC is doing all it can to respond to the effects of climate change on habitat. One example addresses the brook trout's need for cooler water. Biologists have identified where the fish are located, and in some cases, removed dams and felled trees over streams to lower the water temperature.*

*Check out the PFBC website to find out the programs and events planned in your area: [www.fishandboat.com](http://www.fishandboat.com).*

*Support the Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA), the federal bill to fund state-based conservation efforts for more than 12,000 species of fish, wildlife and plants identified in the greatest need of conservation. This bill would provide \$1.3 billion annually to state agencies to help keep at-risk, non-game species off the endangered lists.*





# PRESCRIBED FIRE

## Valuable Wildlife Habitat Management Tool

by MITCH BLAKE

Biologist, National Wild Turkey Federation

Prescribed fire, also known as a controlled burn, can do great things for habitat and the wildlife that rely on the land for food and cover. Legislation passed in 2009 made it easier to conduct prescribed fires in Pennsylvania by declaring its use as a land management tool that benefits the safety of the public, the environment and the economy of the Commonwealth.

The size of the area affected by a controlled burn may cover a large expanse that includes a range of ecosystems, conservation objectives and land uses. Many species, including the wild turkey, are considered disturbance species requiring different habitat types and ages of forest succession to meet their annual needs. Using fire to create this habitat mosaic is not only the easiest way to manage large acres, but it is also the most cost effective.

In addition to its function as a landscape scale management tool, controlled burning promotes restoration of woodlands. Located near ridge tops where the soil is dry and sandy in Pennsylvania, are stands of low-quality timber such as pitch pine or scrub oak. Historically, these sites were subject to

natural fires. In the absence of fire, shade tolerant /fire intolerant species such as red maple, black gum, and black birch have proliferated. To restore these habitats, teams of workers use a Royer machine (which is like a big shredder) to thin the underbrush by mowing the undesirable trees and leaving the woody material to be used as fuel during the fire. The controlled burn removes the decomposed layer of organic material called the duff layer, stimulating the herbaceous and grass seed bank, thus initiating regeneration. Controlled burns are also being used to establish oak seedlings in the understory, ensuring that this valuable hardwood will remain dominant in a stand of timber, and wildlife can continue to depend on its acorns as a primary source of food.

Many vulnerable habitats can't be sustained without routine prescribed fire. Habitat is roughly defined as an animal's requirement for food, cover, water, and space. While the first three are tangible, space is not as easily understood. Most think wildlife is surrounded by space in a large-scale state forest. While true, the conditions of the forest and more specifically the habitat

*Controlled burns are conducted by highly trained crews. Crews plan operations and prep burn lines to ensure the safety of themselves and the public.*

make the space usable or not usable. Fire transforms marginal habitat (non-usable space) into usable habitat. The best example is mountain laurel, which often occurs in impenetrable patches. The use of prescribed fire on these low quality, non-commercial sites turns non-usable space into highly valued usable space. The new landscape creates great nesting habitat for many bird species and brood rearing habitat for wild turkeys. By cost effectively managing and restoring natural forest cover on a landscape scale, the use of prescribed fire is a win from every angle.

*Controlled burn ignition patterns provide wildlife escape routes as the burn progresses. Choosing the correct weather conditions ensures that spread rates are slow and flame heights low, allowing the slowest wildlife to reach safety.*







## AMERICAN BULLFROGS HUNGRY INVADERS

by CARTER WYNN

The United States is home to about 90 species of frogs, most of which do not cause disruptions in their ecosystems. However, the American bullfrog is an anomaly; slowly becoming a big problem in its respective ecosystems. The bullfrog population is increasing at a rapid rate. This sudden increase is pushing the species out of

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*Carter Wynn is a senior at the Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School in Richfield, PA. He is a 2018 graduate of the Brookies Field School of the Wildlife Leadership Academy and a regular contributor to the organization's NextGen Blog.*

its native range in search of new ecosystems containing the necessary prey and places to breed. Historically, bullfrogs were only found in the central and southern portions of the eastern United States, but due to increasing populations, they are now migrating into the northern and western states.

American bullfrogs are the largest frog species in the United States, growing up to eight inches in body length. Typically, females are slightly larger than males, but males have larger tympanic membranes than females. Analyzing the sex of a bullfrog is actually quite simple; if the tympanic membrane is larger than the frog's eye, it is a male. If the tympanic membrane is smaller than the frog's eye, the frog is a female.

One of the detrimental problems associated with the movement of the American bullfrog is its voracious appetite. Bullfrogs will eat anything they can fit in their mouths, including insects, spiders, small mammals, fish, small snakes, frogs, and even other bullfrogs. They have also been known to actively prey on birds sitting on the water. As a result, American bullfrogs decimate small animal species as they begin to move into new ecosystems. For example, native amphibian populations have plummeted in western states since the American bullfrog migrated into these areas.

Bullfrogs consume anything smaller than themselves and compete with native species for resources like food, water, and breeding space. A female bullfrog lays thousands of eggs, which hatch into voracious and cannibalistic tadpoles. Bullfrogs remain as tadpoles for up to two years, giving them twice the amount of time and chances to decimate the tadpoles of other amphibian species.

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***“Bullfrogs will eat anything they can fit in their mouths, including insects, spiders, small mammals, fish, small snakes, frogs, and even other bullfrogs.”***

***–Carter Wynn***

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Eradicating the American bullfrog from these new areas is a difficult task. While American bullfrogs are big, they are also stealthy. Attempting to catch one during the day is nearly impossible if they are close to a water source. The best time to catch American bullfrogs is at night when they are most active and engaged in feeding. Shining a spotlight on the frogs causes them to have a delayed reaction to anyone in pursuit of them. The biggest challenge is finding people who are willing to spend their night trying to catch these frogs.

While the Bullfrog is considered a nuisance and an invasive species in some parts of the United States, they are unique frogs and very interesting to observe in their native range. Learning about the American bullfrog in a “hands-on manner” is the best way for people to truly understand the beauty, threats, and excitement of this frog species.



# Seedlings for Schools

## new & POLLINATOR GARDEN A huge success!

The new *Pollinator Garden* program was rolled out in 2019. Packages of 25 native, pollinator-friendly shrubs and seedlings were packaged for Pennsylvania teachers to order and plant with their students on school premises. Advertised as available on a first come-first serve basis, these packages were depleted on the first day!

The Pennsylvania Game Commission's Howard Nursery administers the Seedlings for Schools and Pollinator Garden programs and the Wildlife for Everyone Foundation raises funds to help subsidize the programs which are available at no cost to all students in Pennsylvania.

These free, hands-on educational opportunities connect youth to nature and instill an appreciation for conservation practices that will impact their future actions.



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Constellation Community Champions Program

**67** schools ordered pollinator gardens

**837** schools participated in  
Seedlings for Schools program

**165,000** students learned about  
importance of conservation

Additional funding is needed to expand the Pollinator Garden program in 2020. Please make a donation:  
[wildlifeforeveryone.org](http://wildlifeforeveryone.org) or 814-238-8138



## NATURE CENTER VISION TAKES FOCUS

by JERRY REGAN  
Board Member, Wildlife for Everyone Foundation & Chair,  
Nature Center Committee

The new nature center project has begun thanks to our friends at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The weather has finally cooperated and the major restorations to Bald Eagle Creek have been completed after a year of rain delays. Mark Roberts, who heads the Partners for Fish and Wildlife program for the USFWS in State College, has been doing this type of conservation work for more than 20 years. He is one of the extraordinary people in this field who spends his days restoring the quality of our creeks, planting habitat for all types of wildlife and creating corridors for migrating species. You may also find Mark operating equipment to combat the invasive species that attack our woods and grasslands. Mark is a foot soldier for conservation in Pennsylvania and we share a heartfelt appreciation for his work. Thank you, Mark!

What this means is that our plan to create a world class accessible trail with wildlife viewing

areas, fishing platform and education pavilion has begun to unfold. We welcome all visitors to walk our mown trails or sit along the creek and take in nature's beauty. Before snow returns to Centre County, the planning committee will be putting the final touches on all design elements and waiting for permits to be approved by the various agencies so that construction bids can be solicited. This long-anticipated effort promises to be worth the wait! When completed, it will offer **everyone**, regardless of physical challenge, a chance to enjoy nature with dignity and receive the restorative benefit it offers.

Thank you for your continued support. We are currently seeking contributions to build a \$200,000 endowment that will generate \$10,000 annually to expand our native plantings and create optimal habitat for our flora and fauna. If you want to help us maintain this natural jewel for future generations, please consider donating to our conservation endowment.



Photo © Judy Onigfrak



## OWL EXPERT *to speak at* 2020 WILDLIFE GALA

Scott Weidensaul, acclaimed writer, lecturer and field researcher on topics of ornithology and natural history, will be the guest speaker at the third annual Pennsylvania Wildlife Gala held at the Nittany Lion Inn on Friday, April 3, 2020. Well known for his research on owls, hummingbirds and songbirds, Weidensaul has authored over two dozen books including “Living on the Wind: Across the Hemisphere with Migratory Birds,” which earned him the distinction of Pulitzer Prize finalist in 2000.

Weidensaul’s research focuses primarily on bird migration. He directs the Northern Saw-whet Owl project that tracks the paths of the small, reclusive owl native to North America. Along with several colleagues, he established Project SNOWstorm which uses state-of-the-art tracking technology to understand the sudden increase in the number of snowy owls into southern Canada and the U.S.

Weidensaul is a founder of the Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art in Millersburg, PA, and has served as its research director since 1998. He is Interim Chair of the Board of Directors of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary. Weidensaul directs the ornithology program for

National Audubon’s Hog Island Center on the coast of Maine which offers ecology programs that focus on the state’s natural history.

A native of Pottsville, Pennsylvania, Weidensaul started his writing career as a weekly nature columnist for the Pottsville Republican. He left that post in 1988 to pursue a freelance writing career in nature and wildlife. Today, Weidensaul is a contributing author to the New York Times, Smithsonian, National Wildlife, Nature Conservancy and Audubon.



Scott Weidensaul

Photo © Beth Sanders



## Pennsylvania Wildlife Gala

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2020

Nittany Lion Inn • [www.wildlifeforeveryone.org](http://www.wildlifeforeveryone.org)

Featured Speaker, Scott Weidensaul



## PENNSYLVANIA WILDLIFE GALA

Friday, April 3, 2020

Nittany Lion Inn, State College, PA

*Guest Speaker:* Scott Weidensaul, Renowned Owl Expert & Pulitzer Prize finalist. Join us for a festive evening in support of Wildlife for Everyone’s mission of promoting wildlife conservation & education.



## SPORTING CLAY CLASSIC

Friday, May 1, 2020

Seven Springs Sporting Clay Facility

Teams compete on a nationally rated course nestled in the scenic Laurel Highlands. The challenging course is perfect for novice and competitive shooters of all ages.



## GREAT OUTDOOR PICNIC

Saturday, June 20, 2020

Penn’s Cave & Wildlife Park

Family fun event that introduces youth to the outdoor sports. Build a bluebird box, watch a dog demo, expanded activities for kids in 2020, huge raffle.



## SUPPORT THE WILDLIFE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

*Advancing our future conservation leaders*

Five college students were awarded scholarships in 2019 to help advance their career interest in wildlife conservation & natural resource-related fields. Please consider supporting our scholarship fund.



*Please sustain our efforts of conserving wildlife in Pennsylvania by including the Wildlife for Everyone Foundation in your estate planning.  
Call 814-238-8138 for more info.*



## HOW CAN I GIVE...*Let Me Count the Ways*

### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Join today and be part of a community of outdoor enthusiasts dedicated to conserving wildlife and its habitat, as well as educating youth and the public at large about environmental issues.

Your membership gift supports initiatives including:

- Seedlings for Schools & new Pollinator Garden programs
- Wildlife Scholarship Fund
- Educational programming
- Coordinated ventures to restore PA streams and improve habitat

*Various levels of membership are available.*

### ANNUAL APPEAL

Our current project is the Nature Center that is planned for the Tom Ridge Wetlands in Centre County. Encompassing 135 acres that includes wetlands, open water, wooded stream sides and brushy fields, the Center will provide passive recreational opportunities such as light hiking, birdwatching, wildlife observation, fishing and picnicking. A fully accessible mile-long trail and fishing platform will allow persons with physical challenges the opportunity to connect to nature.

*A contribution of any amount is acceptable and appreciated.*

### PLANNED GIVING

Support Wildlife for Everyone Foundation through planned giving. Call Susan Hawthorne, executive director, to discuss a charitable gift that will benefit your financial status while supporting the mission of Wildlife for Everyone Foundation. Help us sustain our efforts to conserve wildlife and educate Pennsylvanians about the importance of environmental stewardship by including Wildlife for Everyone in your will.

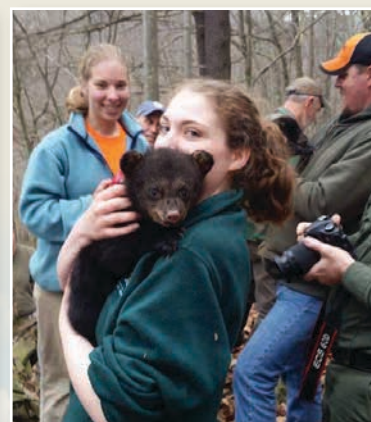
### ATTEND ONE OF OUR EVENTS

- Pennsylvania Wildlife Gala
- Sporting Clay Classic at Seven Springs
- Great Outdoor Picnic

### JOIN THE PRESIDENT'S WILDLIFE CIRCLE

The President's Wildlife Circle is a prestigious group of benevolent patrons which serves to advance the mission of the Foundation through generous donations of money, expertise and counsel. Circle members are a diverse and select group that will be asked to contribute to projects and programs, confirming their position as an integral part of the inner circle of the Wildlife for Everyone Foundation.

Inclusion in the President's Wildlife Circle is established with a \$1,000 membership in the Foundation and maintained with a \$1,000 membership renewed annually. A contribution of \$25,000 and above will grant lifetime membership in the President's Wildlife Circle.



Donations are appreciated anytime. You don't have to wait for one of these giving opportunities to contribute to the Wildlife for Everyone Foundation.

- Set up monthly donations.
- Drop a check by our office.
- Call with a credit card.

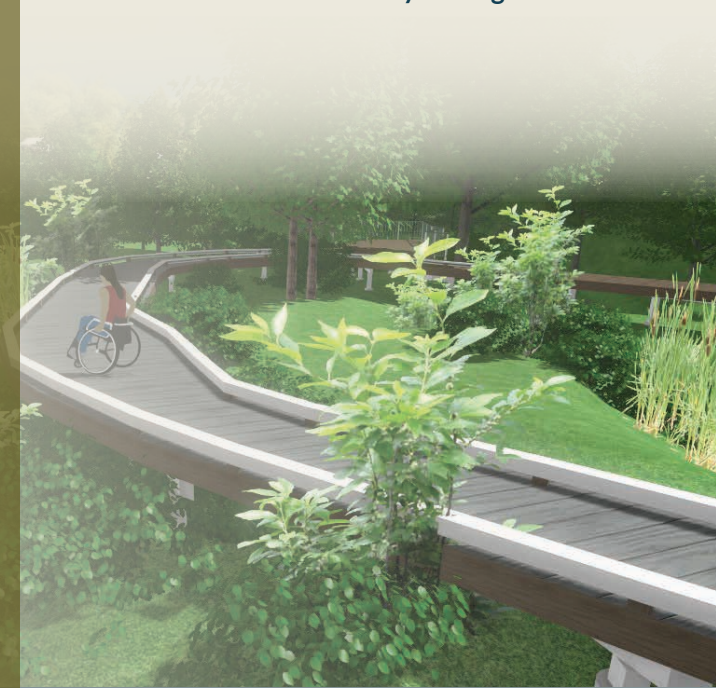
*Invest in the future of Pennsylvania by making your tax-deductible donation today.*



Wildlife for Everyone Foundation  
341 Science Park Road, Suite 103  
State College, PA 16803

(814) 238-8138

[www.wildlifeforeverone.org](http://www.wildlifeforeverone.org)







**Wildlife For Everyone Foundation**  
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**Support PA Wildlife  
by becoming a  
member, JOIN  
TODAY!**

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