

SUMMER 2021



Organization of Fish and Wildlife Information Managers



President's Message

To say the least, the last year has been a true test of resilience and adaptability. It's been inspiring to see all the creative ways being used to stay connected in a time where social distancing is encouraged. We definitely missed the in-person conference last year, but I was so impressed with the quality of presentations and engagement at the virtual conference last fall. Although we were hopeful about an in-person conference this year, there were too many uncertainties around traveling and agency budgets due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, OFWIM decided to again host a virtual conference in 2021, October 5-6. Since the planning had already begun for the 2022 conference in Georgia, it was decided to move the Fort Collins meeting to 2023.

Make sure to take a look at the virtual meeting announcement in this newsletter and submit an abstract! There is a small registration fee this year to cover some bonus conference swag for registrants, so make sure to register for the meeting. Share this meeting with your colleagues! Maybe folks who normally cannot attend will be able to do so this year! OFWIM will not offer any scholarships or awards this year with the exception of the Innovation Award. Submit your application to receive recognition for a project you were involved with!

We definitely had our challenges, but I am impressed with OFWIM's ability to function as usual during this time. Committees continue with their monthly calls and work continues. I want to especially recognize Dyan Pursell and the rest of our Conference Planning Committee. Dyan brought innovation and creative ideas to help make this virtual conference even better than last year. Thank you all for your flexibility and graciousness during these unexpected developments!

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ORGANIZATION OF FISH & WILDLIFE INFORMATION MANAGERS

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE & BUSINESS MEETING

October 5-6, 2021

First Call for Abstracts

Deadline to submit
abstracts:
August 27, 2020



Registration is OPEN

Registration is \$50
and includes a
Tableau workshop
on October 12

www.ofwim.org

Adapt and Overcome Successfully Navigating Change

Our 2021 Conference theme is timely! Members and colleagues have been asked to navigate plenty of changes in the past year and a half. We'll share stories of how we've addressed those changes, and how we continue to adapt, as OFWIM once again goes virtual.

Join us online and invite your co-workers to do the same! In addition to two full days of presentations, the \$50 registration fee will cover a Tableau workshop to be presented October 12 with sessions for beginners and experienced users. We'll also host a virtual raffle and silent auction to support future student scholarships. Use the links below to get involved.

- [Submit an abstract](#) (deadline August 27)
- [Register for Conference](#)
- [Donate a raffle item](#)
- [Donate item for silent auction](#)

Officer Elections

Two positions on the Executive Committee are up for election at OFWIM's 2021 Business Meeting in October. Online voting will open to all current members in the fall. In the meantime, read about the candidates here!



Candidate for President-Elect

Amy Martin

Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources

Amy Martin currently serves as Environmental Services Biologist and Wildlife Information Services (WIS) Program Manager at the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR). Amy is responsible for reviewing projects, policies, and permits for impacts upon wildlife, wildlife habitats, and programs for which DWR is responsible, including threatened and endangered species protection. Amy represents DWR on the inter-agency team that oversees wetland and stream mitigation banking in Virginia as well as other inter-agency committees, including the Virginia Forest Conservation Partnership. In addition, Amy guides and oversees the work of DWR's WIS staff; a data scientist focused on internal biological data projects, and a biologist focused on external education

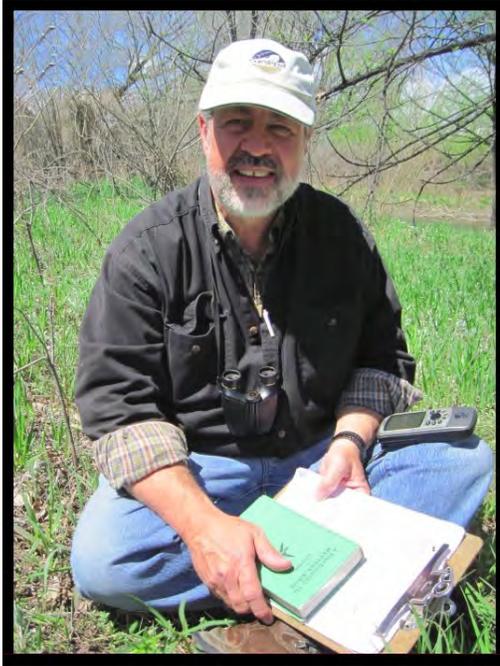
and updating of internal wildlife information.

Amy received her B.S. in Wildlife Management from Virginia Tech in 1996 and her M.S. in Environmental Science from the Center for Environmental Studies (CES) at Virginia Commonwealth University in 2002. Amy first became an OFWIM member in 2001 and currently serves as Member-at-Large. She previously served as Member-At-Large and Secretary and has also led the Data Standards and Technology Trends Committee. Amy has presented numerous times at OFWIM, been a session moderator, helped Beth with the raffle, and has often participated as a member of the Conference Planning Committee.

Amy lives in Hanover with her kids, Abby Sue (12) and Isaac (10), two dogs and two cats. She enjoys landscaping with Virginia native species, vegetable gardening, traveling, organizing community functions, kayaking, and hiking. She can often be found playing on her parent's property on the Pamunkey River.

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Officer Elections, continued



Candidate for Member-at-Large

Don Schrapp

Don Schrapp is a wildlife ecologist who retired from the Colorado Division of Wildlife in December 2006 as the Wildlife Inventory Coordinator, having overseen development of the Wildlife Resource Information System. He oversaw development of the Colorado Wildlife Species Database, geographic information systems and remote sensing applications for land use planning, and environment assessment activities. He provided the geospatial content for the first Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas. He was Principal Investigator for the Colorado Gap Analysis Project, and a Co-Principal Investigator in the Southwest Regional Gap Analysis

Project. He is still a member of The Wildlife Society and formerly was a member of The American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing and the Society for Conservation Biology.

Don has a BS in Wildlife Biology – Research Option (1972) from Colorado State University (CSU), as well as a MS in Wildlife Biology (1989) from Colorado State University. He was a founding member of the Organization of Fish and Wildlife Information Managers, has chaired a number of OFWIM Committees in the past and was the organization's President in 2000. In his younger days he enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, cross-county and downhill skiing. He is an enthusiast of Quantum GIS and the Geographic Resource Analysis Support System (GRASS), as well as the Linux operating environment.

Is Your Membership Up to Date?

While many of us are staying close to home and limiting our travel, the work of OFWIM goes on. We count on our members to stay involved, share questions and innovative answers to information management challenges, and continue paying dues to support the organization.

Have you paid your dues for 2021? Have you moved to a new address or changed jobs? visit the [Membership section](#) of our website to update your record.

Innovation Award 2021

Nominations Due September 1

The Organization of Fish and Wildlife Information Managers invites individuals and conservation agencies/organizations to apply for the OFWIM Innovation Award. This award recognizes excellence in the advancement of fish and wildlife information management technology or processes. Nominated projects will be evaluated for their technical accomplishment, innovation, success in meeting their stated goals, and/or success in developing and sustaining a partnership.

Eligibility for this award is open. Nominees may be individuals or agencies/organizations, but the nominee must have retained creative control over any website or technical application. The winning individual or organization will receive a year's free membership to OFWIM, as well as recognition at the 2022 Conference in Georgia and on the OFWIM website.

Please find the Innovation Award Application at:

<http://www.ofwim.org/awards/>

This form may be used to nominate the submitter's own work or that of others.

Send the completed nomination form (electronic submission preferred) to:

Jim Husband

Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources

7870 Villa Park Dr., Suite 400

Henrico, VA 23228

jim.husband@dwr.virginia.gov

For additional information, please contact Jim Husband at 804-367-8391 or at the above e-mail address.

President's Message, continued

Last year, Karen Horodysky started the strategic thinking effort. Thank you to all the committees for taking on this extra work and contributing to OFWIM's future. We are navigating through the final phase that includes outlining goals and action items. There were four main goals identified in the Strategic Thinking Effort survey last year:

1. Continue to support and enhance networking opportunities
2. Directly target recruiting new members
3. Provide relevant training
4. Recruit more member articles for the newsletter

ExCom is working directly with the committee chairs to develop action items that might fit into these goals.

Please make sure to renew your membership online or via mail to keep connected with the OFWIM community. Let's continue to grow and contribute to the future of OFWIM.

–Chelsea Krause

CALL FOR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS!



We would love
to see your
work!

- Published papers
- New tools
- Professional shoutouts
- Awards and accomplishments
- Interesting webinars

Due:
August 31 for
Fall
Newsletter

SUBMIT TO:
[http://www.ofwim.org/
publications/newsletter
-submission/](http://www.ofwim.org/publications/newsletter-submission/)

OFWIM OFFICERS

President



**Chelsea
Krause**

**President
Elect**



**Dyan
Pursell**

Secretary



**Susan
Watson**

Treasurer



**Michael
Barbour**

**Member-At-
Large**



**Amy
Martin**

**Past
President**



**Karen
Horodysky**

OFWIM COMMITTEES

Communications, Membership, & Outreach

- Heather Konell (Chair)
- Susan Watson (Vice-Chair)
- MaryEllen Wickett
- Chris Gerecke
- Donald Schrupp
- Dyanne Cortez
- Julie Defilippi Simpson
- Karen Horodysky
- Jordan Hartman
- Julie Prior-Magee
- Mike Bialousz
- Liz Clark

Conference Planning

- Dyan Pursell (Chair)
- Amy Martin
- Andrew Treble
- Beth Stys
- Rebecca Scully
- Brittany Bajo
- Chelsea Krause
- Don Schrupp
- Jordan Hartman
- Karen Horodysky
- Keith Hurley
- Lynn Barrett
- MaryEllen Wickett
- Sabra Tonn
- Susan Watson
- Michael Barbour

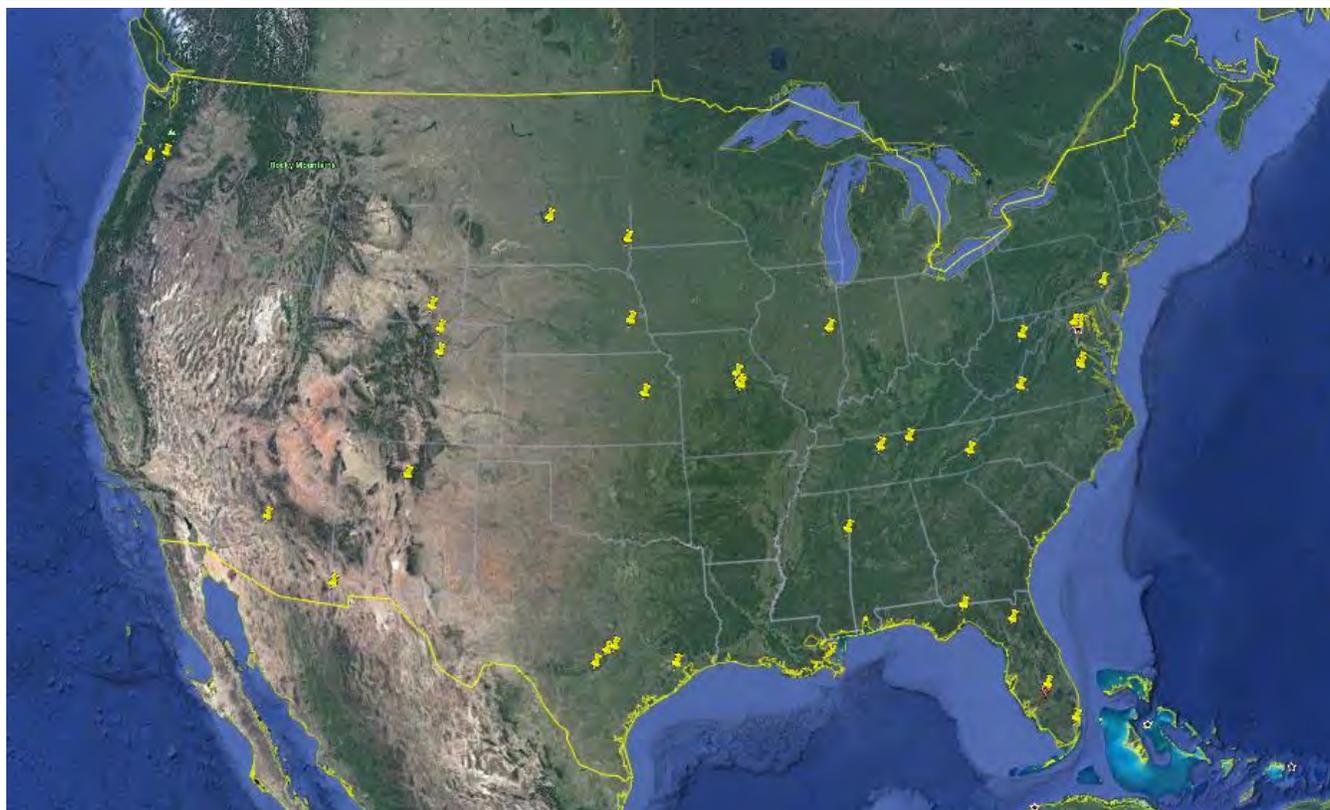
Elections, Nominations, & Awards

- Jim Husband (Chair)
- Beth Stys (Vice-Chair)
- Kyle Kaskie
- Ross Scott
- Jessica Perkins
- Mack Frantz
- Dyan Pursell
- Sabra Tonn
- John Taylor

Training & Education

- Michael Barbour (Chair)
- Amy Martin
- Keith Hurley
- Rebecca Scully
- Ross Scott

Where are we from?



Of the 80 current members,
we have representation from 21 different states!