Tri-State 2017 Speaker List

Keynote – Andrew Hart
Wisconsin NRCS

My name is Andrew Hart. Grew up in Green Bay WI, went to Stevens Point for BS in Forestry, and then to Colorado State University for my M.S. in Forestry. I worked most of my career with US Forest Service in timber in Alaska, S. Dakota, Colorado, California, and Upper Peninsula MI. I also have two years working in Mexico with Peace Corps as well as a combined year assisting agroforestry projects in Guatemala and Honduras. I am currently WI NRCS State Forester out of Madison since April 2015.

Adam Janke
ISU Wildlife Extension Specialist

Adam Janke is an Assistant Professor and Extension Wildlife Specialist in the Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management at Iowa State University. Adam is certified as an Associate Wildlife Biologist through The Wildlife Society and earned his degrees in wildlife conservation and management from Purdue (B.S.), Ohio State (M.S.), and South Dakota State (Ph.D.) Universities. His extension program and research interests focus on finding opportunity areas for wildlife conservation and management in working agricultural landscapes of the Midwest, with a particular focus on gamebird habitat and populations.

Allen Pattillo
ISU Fisheries Extension Specialist

Allen Pattillo is the fisheries and aquaculture extension specialist at Iowa State University. His current research initiatives include aquaponics production, food safety, and sustainability as well as aquaculture production in renovated livestock confinement facilities. Pattillo also specializes in small pond and aquatic plant management, as well as angling education.

Chris Evans
University of Illinois Extension Forester

Mr. Chris Evans is an Extension Forestry & Research Specialist in the Dept. of Natural Resources & Environmental Sciences at the University of Illinois. Chris received his B.S. in wildlife biology from Murray State University and received an M.S. in forest biology from Iowa State University. Prior to his appointment at U of I, Chris worked as a natural resource and invasive species specialist at University of Georgia’s Warnell School of Forest Resources. He also served as coordinator of the River to River Cooperative Weed Management Area in southern Illinois, and most recently as the coordinator of the Illinois Wildlife Action Plan’s Invasive Species Campaign.

Chris Charbonneaux
Certified Applicator / Forester

Chris Charbonneaux is a certified pesticide applicator and works in environmental regulation. He has a B.S. in Forestry and Agronomy from Iowa State University. His expertise is in pesticides, plant physiology, soil health and nutrient management.
Daniel Murphy
senseFly

Daniel graduated from the University of Northern Iowa in 2013 with a B.S. in Geographic Information Science, specializing in environmental systems modelling. Daniel currently serves as a Technical Support Engineer at senseFly, a Swiss-based manufacturer of mapping drones. senseFly was founded in 2009 by a team of robotics researchers and quickly became the industry leader. Today, we continue to lead the way in developing situationally aware systems that help professionals make better decisions.

Greg Heidebrink
IDNR District Forester

Greg Heidebrink has been a forester with the Iowa Department of Natural resources for 16 years. He has worked in both the Elkader and Charles City districts. Before coming to the DNR, Greg ran a private forestry consulting business in western Iowa. Greg graduated from Iowa State University in 1993 with a Batchelor of Science degree in forestry. Greg spends most of his time assisting private landowners in developing management plans for their property. During the summer he is working on tree plantings and in the fall and winter months you will find Greg walking timber and marking timber sales.

Jay Hayek
University of Illinois Extension Forestry

Jay Hayek is the state extension forestry specialist in the Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Sciences at the University of Illinois. Jay received his bachelor’s degree in forestry from the University of Illinois and his master’s degree in silviculture from the University of Idaho. Jay’s area of interest and expertise includes hardwood silviculture; forest management; timber sales, marketing, and logging systems; and forest soils.

Jeff Harris
Illinois District Forester

Jeff Harris graduated from Southern Illinois University with a B.S. and Specialization in Land Surveying (2004) and an M.S in Forest Resource Management (2012). Jeff has worked for the Illinois DNR as a district forester covering northwest IL for over four years. He also serves as Communications Chair for the IL Tree Farm Committee and administers the Illinois Tree Farm - Facebook Page, “Like” it for updates on wood, water, wildlife, and recreation. https://www.facebook.com/illinoistreefarm/

Jesse Randall
ISU Extension Forester

Jesse Randall is an Associate Professor and Extension Forestry Specialist in the Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management at Iowa State University. Jesse received his bachelor’s degree in Natural Resources from Cornell University and his Ph.D in Forestry from Michigan State University. At ISU, Jesse conducts educational programs aimed at improving the management and sustainability of Iowa’s forest resource. He provides technical assistance to both urban and rural landowners throughout the state and Midwest region and conducts hands-on tree selection, planting, and pruning workshops, Master Woodland Manager Courses, forest stewardship field days, and maple syrup production demonstrations. Jesse’s lab researches the use of fire in oak regeneration systems, seedling exposure to agri-chemicals and the impact on seedling growth and function, as well as advancements in non-timber product development (ginseng and maple syrup).
Joe Polak
Maple Hollow

Joe Polak of Merrill, Wisconsin is a third generation maple producer. He operates a family business, Maple Hollow, produces syrup, and sells maple products and maple equipment. The sugar bush currently sets 18,000 taps. Joe serves as Secretary / Treasurer of the North American Maple Syrup Producers Council as well as past president of the Wisconsin Maple Syrup Producers Association. He has B.S. from University of Wisconsin, Madison. An avid spokesperson for the maple industry, he appeared on Wisconsin Public Radio’s call-in program to answer questions about making maple syrup. “There is a bright future for producers of all sizes with a strong interest in wholesome, natural, locally produced foods.”

John Marlin
University of Illinois

John C. Marlin has a Ph.D. in entomology from the University of Illinois. He did his early work on native bee populations. His family has propagated woodland wildflowers for over 25 years. John is semi-retired and manages several native plantings at the University of Illinois. He has served as executive director of the Coalition on American Rivers, was a member of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, and spent two decades with the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center at the University of Illinois. Dr. Marlin’s most recent projects involve reusing sediment from rivers and lakes as topsoil.

Kelly Estes
Illinois Cooperative Ag Pest Survey Program Coordinator

Kelly Estes serves as the State Survey Coordinator of the Cooperative Agriculture Pest Survey (CAPS) program. She coordinates surveys for invasive insects, pathogens and plans that are a threat to Illinois’ agriculture, forestry, horticulture, and natural resources. Based in the Illinois Natural History Survey at the University of Illinois, she works directly with the Illinois Department of Agriculture and USDA-APHIS-PPQ. In addition to coordinating statewide surveys and managing the data associated with them, she also develops public information and educational materials for those invasive pests. You can learn more about CAPS at the program website or keep up to date with invasive pest news on the CAPS blog or on twitter.

Mike Long
Long Forestry Consulting

Mike Long is the Head of Forestry at Long Forestry Consultation. Mike started Long Forestry in 2006 with his brother Chris. Mike received a BS and MS in forestry from Southern Illinois University in 2001 and 2005, respectively. Mike is a certified forester through the Society of American Foresters. You can find Mike’s contact information at www.longforestry.com.

Tom Boehm

Tom Boehm's early career was as a musician building and repairing musical instruments. He later became a full time bowyer and built custom wood bows from the traditional English Longbows to Eastern Woodland Indian hunting bows and bows for re-enactors. Tom greatly enjoys hunting and has taken deer and wild turkey with his wood bows.
Rick Horton,
NWTF District Biologist

Areas of Responsibility: Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa

Background:
- TWS Certified Wildlife Biologist
- University of Wisconsin – Wildlife Ecology B.S. 1992
- Work Experience
  - Florida Game and Freshwater Fish Commission Biological Scientist, 1995-1999
  - Ruffed Grouse Society Regional Biologist – Minnesota, 1999-2006
  - Minnesota DNR Forest Wildlife Coordinator, 2006-2009
  - NWTF Regional Biologist 2010-present.

Position Summary:
As NWTF District Biologist Rick collaborates with natural resource agency partners on habitat conservation projects that positively impact turkey populations, provides policy direction on wildlife and hunting issues, administers grants and agreements that promote turkey habitat, and works with NWTF volunteer leaders to implement state-specific habitat and hunting access strategies.

Personal:  Rick and his wife Tammy live in northern Minnesota with their English pointer Miss Bea, where they enjoy grouse hunting, ice fishing, gardening and motorcycling. And of course traveling somewhere warm each winter to thaw out!

Rick Kalvelage

Rick attended a one room country school (East Sageville) north of Dubuque, Iowa. The school was nestled between the Maquoketa Creek and the wooded hills and a pasture. For many years it only had an outhouse and no running water. Rick would have been an outstanding student if fishing, hunting, and natural history were the only curriculum. He did go on a to earn his BS in science, communication and education from Stevens Point and his MS form Purdue in conservation and engineering. He taught science and biology; was a naturalist for the Wisconsin DNR at the Mackenzie Center and was the Environmental Education and Science Coordinator for the Madison Public Schools until his retirement in 2001. He built his first wood bow around age five and version #2 shortly thereafter. Version #2 broke suddenly at full draw, knocking him to the ground and inflicting a very painful lump on his noggin. This was his last bow that broke while in use. He has made nearly forty wooden bows using a variety of woods. He still greatly enjoys building and shooting bows with his friends.

Nick Van Driel

Nick made his first bow at age 10 from a lilac branch. Since then he has enjoyed target shooting and hunting with a variety of commercial bows. With help from Rick and Tom, he started making hickory bows in 2015 using kiln dried boards from the lumber yard.