



# **NAPPC DIRECTORY**

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#### **Contact**

Email [info@nappc.org](mailto:info@nappc.org) to be removed from the NAPPC Directory or if you have questions about our policy.

**Laurie Davies Adams**  
Executive Director Emeritus  
Pollinator Partnership  
423 Washington St., 5th Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94111  
415-260-8092  
[lda@pollinator.org](mailto:lda@pollinator.org)

**Maria del Coro Arizmendi\***  
Professor  
UNAM  
Ave. de los Barrios 1, Los  
Reyes Iztacala  
Tlanepantla 54090 Edo de  
Mexico, CP  
52-555-623-1130  
[coro.arizmendi@gmail.com](mailto:coro.arizmendi@gmail.com)

**Amber Barnes**  
Field Research Intern  
Pollinator Partnership  
423 Washington St., 5th Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94111  
415-362-1137  
[ab@pollinator.org](mailto:ab@pollinator.org)

**Brannen Basham**  
Owner  
Spriggly's Beescaping  
240 Hunt Estates Drive  
Waynesville, NC 28786  
484-888-1189  
[brannen@sprigglys.com](mailto:brannen@sprigglys.com)

**Ron Bitner**  
Owner  
Bitner Vineyards  
16645 Plum Road  
Caldwell, ID 83607  
208-454-0086  
[rbitner46@gmail.com](mailto:rbitner46@gmail.com)

**Ron Bonnett**  
President  
Canadian Federation of  
Agriculture  
21 Florence St.  
Ottawa, ON K2P 0W6  
613-236-3633  
[office@canadian-farmers.ca](mailto:office@canadian-farmers.ca)

**Scott Brady**  
Graduate Student  
Brigham Young University  
4007 LSB  
Microbiology & Microbiology  
Department  
Provo, UT 84602  
801-888-1071  
[thomasscottbrady@gmail.com](mailto:thomasscottbrady@gmail.com)

**Gene Brandi**  
President  
American Beekeeping  
Federation  
15346 S. Johnson Road  
Los Banos, CA 93635  
209-769-0501  
[gbrandi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gbrandi@sbcglobal.net)

**Zac Browning\***  
Owner/Manager  
Browning Honey Co. Inc.  
3270 86<sup>th</sup> Ave SE  
Jamestown, ND 58401  
701-320-6942  
[z\\_browning@msn.com](mailto:z_browning@msn.com)

**Samantha Brunner**  
State Apiary Inspector  
AIA/ND Dept. of Ag  
600 E. Boulevard Ave.  
Dept. 602  
Bismarck, ND 58505  
701-328-4765  
[sbrunner@nd.gov](mailto:sbrunner@nd.gov)

**Wendy Caldwell\***  
Coordinator  
Monarch Joint Venture  
2003 Upper Buford Circle  
135 Skok Hall  
St. Paul, MN 55108  
320-226-6507  
[Maczi001@umn.edu](mailto:Maczi001@umn.edu)

**Dewey Caron**  
Emeritus Prof Ud, Affiliate  
Faculty OSU  
15965 SW Queen Victoria  
Place  
Portland, OR 97224  
[dmcaron@udel.edu](mailto:dmcaron@udel.edu)

**William Carromero\***  
National Botanist  
US Forest Service  
201 14<sup>th</sup> Street  
Washington, DC 20250  
479-280-3242  
[wcarromero@fs.fed.us](mailto:wcarromero@fs.fed.us)

**Paul Charland**  
Fire Management Specialist  
USFWS, Midwest Region  
2651 Coolidge Rd.  
Suite 101  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
517-351-8469  
[paul\\_charland@fws.gov](mailto:paul_charland@fws.gov)

**Mary Clock-Rust**  
Biologist  
US EPA, OPP  
2777 S. Crystal Drive  
Arlington, VA 20222  
703-308-2718  
[clock-rust.mary@epa.gov](mailto:clock-rust.mary@epa.gov)

**William Collins**  
Fort Lewis College  
1000 Rim Dr.  
Durango, CO 81301  
970-317-1444  
[collins\\_w@fortlewis.edu](mailto:collins_w@fortlewis.edu)

**Diana Cox-Foster**  
Research Leader/Scientist  
USDA-ARS-PWA Pollinating  
Insect Research Lab  
Old Main Hill, UMC 5310  
USU-BNR 261  
Logan, UT 84322  
435-797-0530  
[diana.cox-foster@ars.usda.gov](mailto:diana.cox-foster@ars.usda.gov)

**Bob Curtis**  
Director, Agricultural Affairs  
Almond Board of California  
1150 Ninth Street  
Suite 1500  
Modesto, CA 95354  
209-604-0385  
[rcurtis@almondboard.com](mailto:rcurtis@almondboard.com)

**Stephanie Darnell**  
Research Scientist  
Bayer CropScience  
2 T.W. Alexander Dr.  
Durham, NC 27709  
919-549-2333  
[stephanie.darnell@bayer.com](mailto:stephanie.darnell@bayer.com)

**Rob Davis**  
Director, Center for Pollinators  
in Energy  
Fresh Energy  
408 St. Peter St.  
Ste. 220  
St. Paul, MN 55102  
612-423-4536  
[davis@fresh-energy.org](mailto:davis@fresh-energy.org)

**Jane DeMarchi**  
Vice President, Govt. and  
Regulatory Affairs  
American Seed Trade Assoc.  
1701 Duke St., Ste. 275  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
703-837-8140  
[jdemarchi@betterseed.org](mailto:jdemarchi@betterseed.org)

**Barbara De Rosa-Joynt**  
Division Chief for Biodiversity  
U.S. Department of State  
OES/ECW HST 2658  
2201 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20520  
202-647-4511  
[derosabm@state.gov](mailto:derosabm@state.gov)

**Dominique Demers**  
Business Manager  
Biobest USA Inc.  
28777 Goddard Rd.  
Suite 206  
Romulus, MI 48174  
519-999-1131  
[dademers@biobest-usa.com](mailto:dademers@biobest-usa.com)

**Val Dolcini\***  
President and CEO  
Pollinator Partnership  
4617 Blagden Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20011  
530-400-6100  
[vdolcini@pollinator.org](mailto:vdolcini@pollinator.org)

**Cameron Douglass**  
Biologist  
US EPA, OPP  
2777 Crystal Dr.  
Arlington, VA 20222  
703-347-0410  
[douglass.cameron@epa.gov](mailto:douglass.cameron@epa.gov)

**Danielle Downey**  
Executive Director  
Project Apis m.  
P.O. Box 26793  
Salt Lake City, UT 84126  
808-936-5483  
[danielle@projectapism.org](mailto:danielle@projectapism.org)

**Alex Echols**  
Consultant  
Sand County Foundation  
6504 Boulevard View  
Suite A2  
Alexandria, VA 22307  
703-587-2052  
[echols@conrod.com](mailto:echols@conrod.com)

**John Englert\***  
National Program Leader –  
Plant Materials  
USDA NRCS  
1400 Independence Ave., SW  
Room 6157-S  
Washington, DC 20250  
202-720-0536  
[john.englert@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:john.englert@wdc.usda.gov)

**Erin Engstrom**  
Board Secretary  
PX3-Pollinators Prospering  
People  
8404 Croom Road  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772  
206-707-5179  
[erineengstrom@yahoo.com](mailto:erineengstrom@yahoo.com)

**Andy Ernst**  
Vice President  
Ernst Conservation Seeds  
8882 Mercer Pike  
Meadville, PA 16335  
814-336-2404  
[andy@ernstseed.com](mailto:andy@ernstseed.com)

**Jay Evans**  
Research Leader  
USDA-ARS  
10300 Baltimore Ave.  
BARC-East Bldg 306  
Beltsville, MD 20776  
301-504-5143  
[jay.evans@ars.usda.gov](mailto:jay.evans@ars.usda.gov)

**Briana Ezray**  
Graduate Student  
Pennsylvania State University  
208 Mueller Laboratory  
University Park, PA 16802  
916-396-7807  
[bde12@psu.edu](mailto:bde12@psu.edu)

**Sarah Federman**  
AAAS Science and Technology  
Policy Fellow  
Office of the Chief Scientist,  
USDA  
1400 Independence Ave. SW  
Room 3858, South Building  
Washington, DC 20250  
202-260-9482  
[sarah.federman@osec.usda.gov](mailto:sarah.federman@osec.usda.gov)

**Melinda Fegler**  
Volunteer & Stewardship  
Coordinator  
Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary  
1361 Wrighton Road  
Lothian, MD 20711  
410-741-9330  
[rfegL00@aacountry.org](mailto:rfegL00@aacountry.org)  
[mel.px3@gmail.com](mailto:mel.px3@gmail.com)

**Howard Ginsberg\***  
Ecologist  
USGS Patuxent Wildlife  
Research Center  
Rhode Island Field Station,  
Woodward-PSE  
University of Rhode Island  
Kingston, RI 02881  
401-874-4537  
[hginsberg@usgs.gov](mailto:hginsberg@usgs.gov)

**Terry Griswold\***  
USDA-ARS Bee Biology &  
Systematics Lab  
5310 Old Main Hill  
Logan, UT 84322  
435-797-2526  
[terry.griswold@ars.usda.gov](mailto:terry.griswold@ars.usda.gov)

**Paul Growald**  
Pollinator Partnership  
PO Box 459  
Shelburne, VT 05482  
802-985-9028  
[epa@joinervalley.com](mailto:epa@joinervalley.com)

**Kevin Hackett**  
National Program Leader  
USDA ARS  
5601 Sunnyside Avenue  
Beltsville, MD 20705  
301-504-4680  
[kevin.hackett@ars.usda.gov](mailto:kevin.hackett@ars.usda.gov)

**Cindy Hall**  
National Coordinator,  
Integrated Pest Management  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
5275 Leesburg Pike  
Mailstop: NWRS 3N022C  
Falls Church, VA 22042  
703-358-1831  
[cindy\\_hall@fws.gov](mailto:cindy_hall@fws.gov)

**Chris Hiatt\***  
Vice President  
American Honey Producers  
Association  
P.O. Box 435  
Mendon, UT 84325  
281-900-9740  
[hiattch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hiattch@sbcglobal.net)

**Steve Hilburger\***  
Wildlife Program Manager  
USGS  
12201 Sunrise Valley Dr.  
MS301  
Reston, VA 20192  
703-648-4036  
[shilburger@usgs.gov](mailto:shilburger@usgs.gov)

**Angelique Hjarding**  
Director, Pollinator and Wildlife  
Programs  
North Carolina Wildlife  
Federation  
1346 St. Julien St.  
Charlotte, NC 28205  
704-718-0928  
[angel@ncwf.org](mailto:angel@ncwf.org)

**Paul Hoekstra**  
Stewardship and Policy  
Manager, Canada  
Syngenta  
Syngenta Canada Inc.  
140 Research Lane  
Guelph, ON N1G 4Z3  
519-837-5338  
[paul.hoekstra@syngenta.com](mailto:paul.hoekstra@syngenta.com)

**Sandra Hope**  
Professor  
Brigham Young University  
3134 LSB  
Microbiology & Molecular  
Biology Department  
Provo, UT 94057  
[sandrahope2016@gmail.com](mailto:sandrahope2016@gmail.com)

**Matt Horning**  
Geneticist  
U.S. Forest Service  
Deschutes National Forest  
63095 Deschutes Market Road  
Bend, OR 97701  
541-408-1711  
[mhorning@fs.fed.us](mailto:mhorning@fs.fed.us)

**Rachel Hosna**  
Seeds of Success National  
Curator  
Chicago Botanic Garden\BLM  
20 M Street SE  
Washington, DC 20003  
202-912-7233  
[rhosna@blm.gov](mailto:rhosna@blm.gov)

**Skip Hyberg**  
Senior Economist  
USDA/FSA  
7328 Centennial Rd.  
Derwood, MD 20855  
202-841-4594  
[skip.hyberg@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:skip.hyberg@wdc.usda.gov)

**David Inouye\***  
Professor Emeritus  
Department of Biology  
University of Maryland  
College Park, MD 20742  
301-405-6946  
[Inouye@umd.edu](mailto:Inouye@umd.edu)

**Sheila Jackson**  
Marketing & Communications  
Specialist  
Project Apis m.  
P.O. Box 26793  
Salt Lake City, UT 84126  
206-799-3808  
[sheila@projectapism.org](mailto:sheila@projectapism.org)

**Jill Jacobs**  
Owner  
Spriggly's Beescaping  
240 Hunt Estates Drive  
Waynesville, NC 28786  
717-319-9935  
[jill@sprigglys.com](mailto:jill@sprigglys.com)

**Rosalind James**  
National Program Leader,  
Invasive Pests of Crops  
USDA ARS  
5601 Sunnyside Avenue  
Beltsville, MD 20705  
301-504-4609  
[rosalind.james@ars.usda.gov](mailto:rosalind.james@ars.usda.gov)

**Cathy Johnson**  
Environmental Contaminants  
Specialist  
DOI, U.S. Fish & Wildlife  
Service  
2800 Cottage Way,  
Room W-2605  
Sacramento, California 95825  
916-414-6596  
[cathy\\_s\\_johnson@fws.gov](mailto:cathy_s_johnson@fws.gov)

**Jody Johnson**  
CEO  
Cullaborate LLC  
10145 Falls Rd.  
Lutherville, MD 21093  
443-841-4644  
[johnsonjody05@gmail.com](mailto:johnsonjody05@gmail.com)

**Tyler O. Jones**  
Graduate Student  
Pennsylvania State University  
218 W Aaron Dr.  
State College, PA 16803  
678-524-8000  
[toj2@psu.edu](mailto:toj2@psu.edu)

**Peter Kevan\***  
University Professor Emeritus  
Canadian Pollination Initiative &  
ICPBR  
School of Environmental  
Sciences  
University of Guelph  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1  
Canada  
519-824-4120 x52479  
[pkevan@uoguelph.ca](mailto:pkevan@uoguelph.ca)

**Anne Kinsinger**  
Associate Director, Ecosystems  
Mission Area  
USGS  
12201 Sunrise Valley Dr.  
MS 300  
Reston, VA 20192  
703-648-4051  
[akinsinger@usgs.gov](mailto:akinsinger@usgs.gov)

**Mara Koenig**  
Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
5600 American Blvd West  
Suite 990  
Bloomington, MN 55437  
[mara\\_koenig@fws.gov](mailto:mara_koenig@fws.gov)

**Gary Krupnick\***  
Plant Conservation Unit  
Smithsonian Institution  
P.O. Box 37012  
NMNH MRC 166  
Washington, DC 20013-7012  
202-633-0940  
[krupnickg@si.edu](mailto:krupnickg@si.edu)

**Kathryn Kuivila**  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Oregon Water Science Center  
2130 SW 5th Ave  
Portland, OR 97201  
503-251-3257 voice  
[kkuivila@usgs.gov](mailto:kkuivila@usgs.gov)

**Chuck Kutik**  
Executive Board Member  
American Honey Producers  
Association  
PO Box 435  
Mendon, UT 84325  
281-900-9740  
[kutikshoney@hotmail.com](mailto:kutikshoney@hotmail.com)

**Karen Kutik**  
Owner  
Kutik's Honey Farm LLC  
285 Lyon Brook Road  
Norwich, New York 13815  
403-831-9544  
[kutikshoney@hotmail.com](mailto:kutikshoney@hotmail.com)

**Kathleen Law**  
Outreach Program Manager  
P2 Canada  
101-77 Wilson Park Road  
Toronto, Ontario M6K 3B6  
416-838-6373  
[kl@pollinator.org](mailto:kl@pollinator.org)

**David Lehmann**  
Toxicologist  
US EPA  
109 TW Alexander Dr.  
RTP, NC 27711  
919-541-0234  
[lehmann.david@epa.gov](mailto:lehmann.david@epa.gov)

**Karen Levin**  
Executive Director/Trustee  
Levin Family Foundation  
7812 McEwen Road  
Suite 100  
Dayton, OH 45459  
937-223-1669  
[karen@levinfamilyfoundation.org](mailto:karen@levinfamilyfoundation.org)

**Christina Liang**  
Research Ecologist and  
National Pollination Ecology  
Research Lead  
USDA Forest Service  
1400 Independence Ave., SW  
Mailstop 1114  
Washington, DC 20250  
[christinaliang@fs.fed.us](mailto:christinaliang@fs.fed.us)

**Becky Longenecker**  
Wildlife Biologist  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
300 Westgate Center Drive  
Hadley, MA 01035  
413-253-8636  
[rebecca\\_longenecker@fws.gov](mailto:rebecca_longenecker@fws.gov)

**Lori Makarick**  
Landscape Restoration and  
Adaptation Branch Chief  
National Park Service  
1201 Oakridge Dr.  
Suite 200  
Fort Collins, CO 80525  
970-267-2176  
[Lori\\_Makarick@nps.gov](mailto:Lori_Makarick@nps.gov)

**Julia Marano**  
President  
Monarch Red Carpet  
2413 Summerwood Dr.  
Henrico, VA 23233  
828-424-0046  
[julia@monarchredcarpet.org](mailto:julia@monarchredcarpet.org)

**Tim May**  
Vice President  
American Beekeeping  
Federation  
18804 Lincoln Rd.  
Harvard, IL 60033  
815-715-8585  
[tim@sunnyhillhoney.com](mailto:tim@sunnyhillhoney.com)

**Ray McAllister\***  
Senior Director, Regulatory  
Policy  
CropLife America  
1156 15th Street, NW  
Suite # 400  
Washington, DC 20005  
202-577-6657  
[rmcallister@croplifeamerica.org](mailto:rmcallister@croplifeamerica.org)

**Julie McIntyre**  
Endangered Species Biologist/  
Pollinator Coordinator  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
PO Box 1306  
Albuquerque, NM 87103  
505-248-6507  
[Julie\\_McIntyre@fws.gov](mailto:Julie_McIntyre@fws.gov)

**Rob Mies\***  
Executive Director  
Organization for Bat  
Conservation  
39221 Woodward Ave.  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303  
248-645-3128  
[rmies@batconservation.org](mailto:rmies@batconservation.org)

**Ray Mims**  
Conservation and Sustainability  
Horticulturist  
U.S. Botanic Garden  
245 First Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20024  
202-409-1659  
[rmims@aoc.gov](mailto:rmims@aoc.gov)

**Lora Morandin**  
Western Canada Program  
Manager  
Pollinator Partnership  
1212 Juno Street  
Victoria, British Columbia V9A  
5K1  
Canada  
250-889-8194  
[lm@pollinator.org](mailto:lm@pollinator.org)

**Heather Moylett**  
USDA APHIS PPQ Science &  
Technology  
1730 Varsity Dr.  
Suite 400  
Raleigh, NC 27606  
919-855-7248  
[heather.moylett@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:heather.moylett@aphis.usda.gov)

**Matthew Mulica**  
Policy Facilitator  
Keystone Policy Center  
1628 Sts. John Road  
Keystone, CO 80435  
303-531-5511  
[mmulica@keystone.org](mailto:mmulica@keystone.org)

**Nathan Oakes**  
Complex  
1191 Ellis Hollow Rd.  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
814-404-6570  
[nathan@beecombplex.com](mailto:nathan@beecombplex.com)

**Talia Pappas**  
Environmental Consultant  
TerraFlora Environmental  
100 Woods Lane  
Landenberg, PA 19350  
610-274-2118  
[thaliapappas@gmail.com](mailto:thaliapappas@gmail.com)

**Susan Pell**  
Deputy Executive Director  
US Botanic Garden  
245 First Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20024  
202-225-1110  
[spell@aoc.gov](mailto:spell@aoc.gov)

**Mary Phillips**  
Senior Director,  
Garden for Wildlife  
National Wildlife Federation  
11100 Wildlife Center Drive  
Reston, VA 20190  
240-472-0606  
[phillipsm@nwf.org](mailto:phillipsm@nwf.org)

**Cora Lund Preston**  
Communications Specialist  
Monarch Joint Venture  
2003 Upper Buford Circle  
135 Skok Hall  
St. Paul, MN 55108  
612-625-8739  
[mjv@umn.edu](mailto:mjv@umn.edu)

**Jennifer Riem**  
Science Programs Coordinator  
Ecological Society of America  
1990 M St NW  
Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-833-8773  
[jennifer@esa.org](mailto:jennifer@esa.org)

**Sabrina Rondeau**  
Graduate Student  
Laval University  
5225 Avenue Des Generations  
17  
Levis, QC G6X 2G6  
819-691-7959  
[sabrina.rondeau.1@ulaval.ca](mailto:sabrina.rondeau.1@ulaval.ca)

**Robyn Rose**  
National Policy Manager  
USDA APHIS  
4700 River Rd  
Riverdale, MD 20737  
301-851-2283  
[robyn.i.rose@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:robyn.i.rose@aphis.usda.gov)

**Kelly Rourke**  
Program Coordinator  
Pollinator Partnership  
423 Washington St., 5<sup>th</sup> Fl.  
San Francisco, Ca 94111  
415-362-1137  
[kr@pollinator.org](mailto:kr@pollinator.org)

**Dara Satterfield**  
Post-Doctoral Researcher  
Smithsonian Conservation  
Biology Institute  
2700 Connecticut Ave. NW  
Apt. 107  
Washington, DC 20008  
770-584-4965  
[satterfieldd@si.edu](mailto:satterfieldd@si.edu)

**Dolores Savignano\***  
National Pollinator  
Conservation Coordinator  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
5275 Leesburg Pike  
MS: FAC  
Falls Church, VA 22041  
703-358-1864  
[dolores\\_savignano@fws.gov](mailto:dolores_savignano@fws.gov)

**Caydee Savinelli**  
Pollinator & IPM Stewardship  
Lead  
Syngenta  
8528 Rosedale Drive  
Oak Ridge, NC 27310  
336-632-2283  
[caydee.savinelli@syngenta.com](mailto:caydee.savinelli@syngenta.com)

**Hailey Scofield**  
PhD Student  
Neurology and Behavior  
1191 Ellis Hollow Rd.  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
907-382-9094  
[hns36@cornell.edu](mailto:hns36@cornell.edu)

**Elizabeth Sellers\***  
Data Development Specialist  
U.S. Geological Survey  
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive  
Mail Stop 302  
Reston, VA 20180  
703-648-4385  
[esellers@usgs.gov](mailto:esellers@usgs.gov)

**Julie Shapiro**  
Senior Policy Director  
Keystone Policy Center  
1628 St. John Road  
Keystone, CO 80435  
970-513-5830  
[jshapiro@keystone.org](mailto:jshapiro@keystone.org)

**James E. Sherman**  
Chief Operating Officer  
Pollinator Partnership  
423 Washington St, 5<sup>th</sup> Fl.  
San Francisco, CA 94111  
415-362-1137  
[js@pollinator.org](mailto:js@pollinator.org)

**Steve Shestag**  
Board Chair  
Pollinator Partnership  
423 Washington St, 5<sup>th</sup> Fl.  
San Francisco, CA 94111  
415-362-1137  
[steven.l.shestag@boeing.com](mailto:steven.l.shestag@boeing.com)

**Patty Shreve**  
Director of Operations  
Project Apis m.  
P.O. Box 26793  
Salt Lake City, UT 84126  
808-936-5483  
[patty@projectapism.org](mailto:patty@projectapism.org)

**Sarah Shugrue**  
Science Technician  
USDA APHIS PPQ  
1398 West Truck Road  
Buzzards Bay, MA 02542  
860-877-5017  
[sarah.e.shugrue@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:sarah.e.shugrue@aphis.usda.gov)

**Julie Slacum**  
Division Chief  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
177 Admiral Cochrane Drive  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
410-573-4595  
[julie\\_thompson@fws.gov](mailto:julie_thompson@fws.gov)

**Tamara Smith**  
Fish and Wildlife Biologist  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
4101 American Blvd East  
Bloomington, MN 55425  
952-252-0092, Ext. 219  
[tamara\\_smith@fws.gov](mailto:tamara_smith@fws.gov)

**Carol Spurrier**  
USDA Forest Service  
Forest & Range Management  
and Vegetation Ecology (3SE)  
201 14<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20250  
202-538-9998  
[cspurrier@fs.fed.us](mailto:cspurrier@fs.fed.us)

**James Strange**  
Research Entomologist  
USDA-ARS-PIRU  
1410 N 800 East  
Logan, UT 84341  
435-797-7151  
[james.strange@ars.usda.gov](mailto:james.strange@ars.usda.gov)

**Chip Taylor\***  
Watch, Professor  
Monarch Watch  
2021 Constant Ave  
Lawrence, KS 66044  
785-864-4850  
[chip@ku.edu](mailto:chip@ku.edu)

**Barry Thompson**  
Owner/Operator  
Estate and Orchard  
Beekeeping  
13201 Moran Drive  
North Potomac, MD 20878  
301-922-1810  
[BHT1113@aol.com](mailto:BHT1113@aol.com)

**Monica Tomosy**  
National Program Leader for  
Wildlife Research  
USDA Forest Service,  
Research and Development  
1400 Independence Ave., SW  
Washington, DC 20250  
703-402-5625  
[mstomosy@fs.fed.us](mailto:mstomosy@fs.fed.us)

**Amber Tripodi**  
USDA-ARS-PIRU  
1410 N 800 East  
Logan, UT 84341  
435-797-7013  
[amber.tripodi@ars.usda.gov](mailto:amber.tripodi@ars.usda.gov)

**Maria Ulloa-Bustos**  
Botanist  
Bureau of Land Management  
20 M St. SE  
WO-230  
Washington, DC 20003  
202-912-7074  
[mulloabustos@blm.gov](mailto:mulloabustos@blm.gov)

**Thomas Van Arsdall**  
Director of Public Affairs  
The Pollinator Partnership  
P.O. Box 351  
Chester, MD 21619  
703-509-4746  
[tva@pollinator.org](mailto:tva@pollinator.org)

**Wayne Wehling**  
Senior Entomologist  
USDA APHIS  
4700 River Rd., Unit 133  
Riverdale, MD 20737  
301-851-2336  
[wayne.f.wehling@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:wayne.f.wehling@aphis.usda.gov)

**Paul Wenger**  
President  
California Farm Bureau  
2300 River Plaza Dr.  
Sacramento, CA 95833  
916-541-5388  
[pwenger@cfbf.com](mailto:pwenger@cfbf.com)

**Megan Whatton**  
Habitat Network Project  
Manager  
The Nature Conservancy  
4245 Fairfax Dr.  
Suite 100  
Arlington, VA 22203  
260-580-0963  
[Megan.whatton@TNC.org](mailto:Megan.whatton@TNC.org)

**Bob Wildfong\***  
Executive Director  
Seeds of Diversity Canada  
#303 40 King St South  
Waterloo, Ontario N2J 1N8  
Canada  
519-505-7814  
[bob@pollinationcanada.ca](mailto:bob@pollinationcanada.ca)

**Marjorie Williams**  
Animal Care Coordinator  
Cape Cod Museum of  
Natural History  
869 Main St.  
Brewster, MA 02631  
862-242-0509  
[mwilliams@ccmnh.org](mailto:mwilliams@ccmnh.org)

**Kimberly Winter\***  
NatureWatch  
National Program Leader  
USDA Forest Service  
201 14<sup>th</sup> St SW  
Washington, DC 20024  
703-341-7292  
[kawinter@fs.fed.us](mailto:kawinter@fs.fed.us)

**Terry Witzel**  
Board Member  
Pollinator Partnership  
423 Washington St., 5th Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94111  
415-362-1137  
[tpwitzel@comcast.net](mailto:tpwitzel@comcast.net)

**Victoria Wojcik**  
Research Director  
P2 Canada  
40 Lauder Avenue  
Toronto, Ontario M6H 3E3  
Canada  
647-546-3890  
[vw@pollinator.org](mailto:vw@pollinator.org)

**Julie Zahniser**  
General Counsel  
The American Bee Project  
5655 S Indian River Drive  
Fort Pierce, FL 34982  
772-460-6100  
[zahniser@bellsouth.net](mailto:zahniser@bellsouth.net)



**\*NAPPC Steering Committee Members**

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Bob Wildfong, Ph.D., Seeds of Diversity Canada

NAPPC Liaison - Dolores Savignano, Ph.D., Liaison to USFWS

# NAPPC PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES

## October 2017

*The following information was provided by participants. Some biographies were edited to reduce length. We thank those who gave this information and offer apologies in advance for any errors.*

**Laurie Davies Adams** is Executive Director Emeritus of the Pollinator Partnership (P2) and has over thirty years experience in management and communications. She began her career at the Public Broadcasting Service, continued in independent film and television, and has received numerous awards, including a Gold Medal at the New York International Film and Television Festival. Adams was a Director of the Fortune 500 Shaklee Corporation, has created permanent exhibits in Vancouver, San Francisco, and New York City and produced for Wells Fargo Bank, AT&T, and the Army Corps of Engineers. As Executive Director of the Pollinator Partnership, she has overseen the initial organization and the development of the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC), the 130 +member collaboration of stakeholders from Mexico, Canada, and the US that work for a variety of fields including science, the environment, agriculture, and private industry. NAPPC's successes under Ms. Adams include the National Academy of Sciences NRC Study on the Status of the Pollinators of North America, the US Postal Service's "Pollination" stamp series, and the US Senate and USDA proclamations creating Pollinator Week. Please visit [www.pollinator.org](http://www.pollinator.org) for more information.

**Maria del Coro Arizmendi Arriaga** PhD Ecology. Full time Profesor Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Facultad de Estudios Profesionales Iztacala, 1999-now. Teacher in 54 courses in UNAM and 10 outside UNAM in Mexico and other Universities. 52 papers published in journals with impact factor, 10 in non-indexed journals and 5 in national journals. Author of 7 books and 31 book chapters both national and internationally published. 98 papers presented in international congresses and 61 in national events. 57 students have obtained their degrees under my tuition in UNAM (34 Biology, 19 Masters and 4 PhD). Revisor of submitted papers in several national and international journals. President of CIPAMEX (1998-2002) and part of the National and tri-national Steering Committee of NABCI since its foundation in 1999. Part of PIF Scientific Committee. AOU council 2013 to 2015. Mexican Chair at the NAPPC from 2010 to date. Coordinator of the Graduate Program in Biology of UNAM (2011-to date).

**Amber Barnes** is a nature enthusiast who holds both a Bachelor and Master of Science in Biology, from the University of Akron. While her undergrad focused on Zoology, she has since broadened her interests through volunteer work and field positions. As a Field Botanist for the Cleveland Metroparks she contributed toward the long-term PCAP (Plant Community Assessment Program), which sparked an interest in vegetative research and the use of native plants in gardening and restoration projects. The following summer she was chosen to participate in the Chicago Botanic Garden's Conservation and Land Management Internship as a Wildlife Technician. While stationed in Cedar City, Utah, she worked with the local Bureau of Land Management field office on several wildlife projects including greater sage-grouse conservation work, raptor nest surveys, Utah prairie dog studies, as well as several rangeland and riparian ecosystem health assessments. She is excited to bring her plant and wildlife experience together for the Pollinator Partnership as she monitors plant-pollinator relationships through the Bee Buffer and Monarch Wings Across Ohio programs. In her spare time she enjoys hiking, photography, and volunteering.

**Scott Brady** received his bachelor's degree in Microbiology in 2016 at Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah. He then directly entered graduate school in the same Microbiology and Molecular Biology Department to pursue a Master's Degree. Scott's graduate research involves studying bacteriophages that infect and kill *Paenibacillus* larvae, the causative agent of American Foulbrood.

**Gene Brandi** is Owner/operator of Gene Brandi Apiaries since 1978 and currently Vice-President of the American Beekeeping Federation. Previously, he was President of the California State Beekeepers Association, and has been a member CSBA Board of Directors since 1978. Also, Gene is a board member Project Apis-M, and past Chairman of the National Honey Board.

**Wendy Caldwell** is the coordinator of the Monarch Joint Venture, a national conservation partnership working to conserve the monarch butterfly migration. In this position, she works with over 50 partner organizations across the U.S. to protect and restore habitat for monarchs and other pollinators. Wendy has been working with monarch monitoring, education, and conservation programs since 2007. She works with a wide variety of landscapes, engaging many different audiences ranging from youth and teachers to land managers to agency directors.

**Dewey Caron**, Emeritus Professor UD (1981-2009), Affiliate Faculty Horticulture, Oregon State University (since 2009). Active with bee club short courses and club talks. Spend 4-5 months annually in Bolivia with Africanized bees and bee development program.

**William Carromero** is the National Botanist for the USDA Forest Service National Headquarters. Dr. Carromero started his career with the Forest Service in 2004 as the District Botanist at the Ocala National Forest in Florida. He then became the Forest Ecologist at the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests in Arkansas from 2010 to 2015. During his tenure at the Ozark-St. Francis, he led the Ozark Highlands Ecosystem Collaborative Restoration project as the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration (CFLR) Coordinator. He also coordinated the Joint Chief's Initiative for the Western Arkansas Woodland Restoration Project. In 2014, William and his team received a Chief's Honor Award in Sustaining National Forests and Grasslands for their CFLR project accomplishments. Dr. Carromero joined the Rangeland Management and Vegetation Ecology Staff at the Forest Service's National Headquarters in October of 2015 as the Invasive Species Specialist. During his tenure at the Washington Office, William has participated in various projects including the Collaborative Restoration Advisory Team, Species of Conservation Concern Issue Team and Strategic Framework Team.

**Diana Cox-Foster**, Ph.D., is a Professor of Entomology at Pennsylvania State University. Her research focuses on bees and their interactions with pathogens and stresses (parasites, lack of nutrition, and pesticide exposure). She is among the researchers working to unravel the causes of abnormal colony losses. Her research has revealed new information on the transmission routes of viruses and the impacts of stress on the infections. Dr. Cox-Foster is determining if any of the factors affecting honey bees are impacting native pollinators, keystone species essential for food security and environmental health. Diana Cox-Foster received her Bachelor's of Science at Colorado State University, her Master of Science and Doctorate of Philosophy from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and a post-doctorate at Vanderbilt University. At Penn State, Dr. Cox-Foster participates in the Huck Institute for Life Science, Center for Pollinator Research, and Center for Infectious Disease Dynamics.

**Rob Davis** is a director at Fresh Energy where he leads the nonprofit organization's work building partnerships to realize numerous benefits from America's accelerating transition to clean energy. Davis' work on pollinator-friendly solar has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Energy and featured in training both by the U.S. Department of the Interior's National Conservation Training Center and by EPRI, an organization representing the nation's largest electric power generators. Davis has advised National Geographic, Modern Farmer, Martha Stewart, and Bee Culture magazine on their coverage of solar arrays planted with abundant nectar and pollen sources. Previously, Davis helped launch technology start-ups and created the international crowdsourced campaign that launched the Firefox web browser. He is a two-time recipient of the Teresa Du Bois Exline Award for Best Practices in Communications and Marketing and a graduate of Macalester College.

**Jane DeMarchi** joined ASTA from the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG), where she was Director of Government Affairs for Research and Technology, and involved with research-related policy issues and industry-wide efforts to bring biotechnology to wheat. She coordinated the Wheat Innovation Alliance and served as secretariat for the National Wheat Improvement Committee. Prior to NAWG, Jane was Director of Government Affairs for the North American Millers' Association (NAMA), responsible for advocating on behalf of the corn, wheat, and oat milling industry. Before NAMA, she worked in economic development and trade promotion for the Ohio Department of Development and the U.S. Department of Commerce in Ohio, Hong Kong and Shanghai. Jane received her Bachelor's degree in Asian studies from Dartmouth College.

**Val Dolcini**, formerly the Administrator of the USDA Farm Service Agency, is a fifth generation Californian, a passionate supporter of American farmers and ranchers, and a firm believer in the promise of our nation's rural places. He is currently the President & CEO of the Pollinator Partnership, an organization dedicated to the support and protection of pollinators throughout North America. Over the course of his career, he has worked at all levels of government and for Fortune 500 companies to develop successful political and business strategies. Val has served on numerous boards and commissions and is currently a Director of the San Francisco State University Foundation, his alma mater. He lives in Washington, D.C.

**Danielle Downey**, Executive Director for Project Apis m., has been working with honey bees and the parasites that plague them for 25 years. Her background includes training and research from bee labs in Minnesota, Canada and France; beekeeper education, work with commercial beekeepers and queen breeders, regulatory work as a State Apiarist in Utah and Hawaii, and wrangling bees for TV and film. She has worked closely with the Apiary Inspectors of America, Bee Informed Project and a bee breeding project with collaborators in Hawaii, Louisiana and Europe selecting and refining Varroa resistant bees. She holds a BSc from University of Minnesota and an MSc from Simon Fraser University.

**Alex Echols** grew up on the family's farm (known as the New Farm by the family – 1780) in Virginia. Alex got most of his education at the College of Hard Knocks after completing his formal education (B. Philosophy in Environmental Science – Miami University – and Master of Urban Planning - Texas A&M.) He came to Washington to work on conservation and agricultural issues. He worked for Senator Robert W. Kasten, Jr. (R-WI) for 12 years where he wrote key programs like the Conservation Title of the Farm Bill and an extensive rewrite of our bilateral and multilateral foreign aid programs. Alex subsequently worked for a trade association where he used market incentives to encourage the use of recyclables and then spent 6 years at the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The first 4.5 as Deputy Director and the last year and a half as Acting Executive Director. In 2001 Alex set up his own consulting firm (Terra Altus) to help industry, landowners, the conservation community and government deliver more for their dollar invested. Of particular interest to Alex is non-regulatory approaches to better environmental management, getting a better return on investment, use of incentives and markets to improve conservation delivery and fostering broader participation in conservation. Alex's largest clients are the Sand County Foundation where he has developed a market based approach to reducing non point source pollution from Agriculture, and the Philanthropy Roundtable where he is the director of a program designed to recruit new donors to conservation and broaden the tools used to enhance the quality of our environment. He is a founding and managing partner of Ecosystem Services Exchange <http://www.ecoexch.com/>. He has extensive experience in board recruitment and management and helping institutions better achieve their mission. Alex has been a leader in helping advance private lands recovery of Monarchs and species that share this habitat.

**John Englert** is the National Program Leader for Plant Materials with the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service in Washington, DC. He has been with the agency for over 25 years. John provides technical leadership on agency-wide vegetation issues that affect soil stabilization and soil health, water and air quality, wildlife and pollinator habitat, and livestock production. John provides overall guidance and direction for activities at NRCS' 25 Plant Materials Centers. Plant Materials Centers develop plants and plant information on a wide range of topics, including appropriate wildflowers species and methods of establishing and managing plantings to support NRCS pollinator habitat efforts.

**Erin Engstrom** earned a double B.S. in Zoology and General Biology from Humboldt State University in California. She worked on biological monitoring of spotted owls, amphibians, and shorebirds for the National Park Service, and as an analytical chemist for Food Quality Labs in Honolulu. In the summer of 2015, Erin was a Naturalist at Seneca Creek State Park where she strove to increase the public's interest in stewardship for the natural wonders close to home. With a passion for both science and art, Erin uses her skills in scientific illustration to share the complexities of the living world with a wide audience.

**Jay Evans** is Research Leader of the USDA-ARS Bee Research Laboratory in Beltsville, Maryland. The BRL uses laboratory and field approaches to identify and mitigate abiotic and biotic stresses faced by honey bees. Dr. Evans' research is focused on managing disease in honey bees and improving our understanding of bee defenses. Prior to joining the BRL in 1998 he studied social insects while earning A.B and PhD degrees at Princeton University and the University of Utah, respectively.

**Melinda Fegler** is the founder and Executive Director of PX3-Pollinators Prospering People. PX3-Pollinators Prospering People is a non-profit dedicated to providing services that increase sustainable pollinator habitat by designing and implementing spaces that focus on the relationship between edibles and pollinators with education and community involvement. Mel has a background full of diverse experiences in biological monitoring, resource management and outreach. After graduating with a BS in marine biology from Texas A&M University she started her career. Mel began her journey working in sea turtle research with the National Marine Fisheries Service before her teaching stint of 7 years at a Galveston, Texas High School. In 2012 Melinda completed her MS in Natural Resource Management from Texas A&M University while working for the university's Ecosystem and Science Management Department in a variety of conservation studies. Melinda has had the opportunity to work with agencies such as National Park Service's Intermountain Region, the non-profit Salmon Protection and Watershed Network (SPAWN). Currently as the Volunteer and Stewardship Coordinator for a Chesapeake Bay National Estuary Research Reserve component, Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary, Mel shares her passion for ecological research, restoration, citizen science, outdoor education and most of all pollinators.

**Howard Ginsberg** is a Research Ecologist with the U.S. Geological Survey at Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. He is Unit Leader of Patuxent's Rhode Island Field Station, and Professor in Residence at the University of Rhode Island. He received his Ph.D. in entomology from Cornell University in 1979. Dr. Ginsberg has published widely on the ecology of vector-borne diseases, especially tick-transmitted infections such as Lyme disease, and on mosquito ecology. His emphases are on transmission dynamics and factors that influence human exposure to vector public health while minimizing negative effects on sensitive natural systems. He is also interested in conservation of invertebrates and bee foraging ecology, especially the interactions between native and introduced species. Dr. Ginsberg received the Director's Award for Natural Resource Research, 1999, from the U.S. National Park Service.

**Terry Griswold** is a researcher with the USDA-ARS Pollinating Insects Research Unit, a laboratory dedicated to conservation of our native bee fauna and the use of this wealth in agricultural pollination. The focus of his research is the biodiversity, systematics, and conservation of native bees with emphasis on North America. He is curator of the U. S. National Pollinating Insects Collection, world class collection with over 1.5 million specimens, now largely digitized for North America. Current research includes revisions of North American bee genera with potential as managed crop pollinators, faunal studies and biodiversity patterns across the Nearctic. The faunal studies provide the opportunity to ask such questions as: How are bees distributed spatially and temporally? What is the nature of plant-bee interactions and how do these relationships vary in time and space? What is the impact of fire on bee populations? What are optimal methods for inventory and monitoring of bees on large landscapes?

**Chris Hiatt** is co-owner of Hiatt Honey, a family owned beekeeping business that was started by his father 48 years ago. They traditionally are in the top 5 honey producers in the country, with 6 brothers and over 20 employees pollinating crops in California and Washington and producing honey in North and South Dakota in the summers. Chris is on the executive board of the American Honey Producers Association. AHPA represents over 60% of the managed beehives in the country. He lives in Madera, CA during the winter and spring and Bowman, ND in summer and fall.

**Angelique Hjarding** is the Director of Pollinator and Wildlife Habitat Programs for the North Carolina Wildlife Federation. Her areas of research include wildlife habitat conservation, citizen science, urban biodiversity conservation, and community-based conservation planning. She received a Master's of Science in biology from Copenhagen University in Denmark and a doctoral degree in Geography from the University of North Carolina Charlotte. As a part of her doctoral research, she conceptualized the Butterfly Highway as an urban beautification and conservation project. In 2015, the Butterfly Highway became an official program of the North Carolina Wildlife Federation and has grown from 50 residential pollinator pit stops to over 1,400 across North Carolina.

**Sandra Hope** earned her bachelor's and master's degrees at Utah State University. She completed her Ph.D. in Veterinary Science at the University of Kentucky and post-doctoral research at the University of Kentucky Medical School. Dr. Hope has been a faculty member at Brigham Young University, Provo, UT for the most recent 13 years in the Microbiology & Molecular Biology Department. She is the director of the Research Instrumentation Core facility for the College of Life Sciences and teaches biology, infection & immunity, and immunology classes. Her research focuses on bacteriophages, and on nanotechnology for gene therapy and for producing transgenic animals. Dr. Hope's most recent bee-related research has been to find and study phages to treat American Foulbrood.

**Matt Horning** is a plant geneticist with the USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest Region stationed on the Deschutes National Forest in Bend, Oregon. His primary responsibility is to provide guidance to land managers on the use of genetically appropriate plant materials in restoration activities. In cooperation with multiple collaborators, much of his work is focused on creating seed transfer guidelines for native grasses and shrubs planted on arid lands. Additionally Matt has expanded the scope of this work to include revegetation planning and implementation on highly disturbed sites. Through this work Matt has established extensive partnerships with a diverse array of agency, university, and NGO cooperators. Matt also consults and trains domestic and international natural resource specialists on numerous aspects of nursery, revegetation and reforestation practices.

**David Inouye** is a Professor in the Department of Biology at the University of Maryland, College Park, where he teaches classes in ecology and conservation biology. He does research each summer at the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory in Colorado where the National Science Foundation funds his long-term work on the phenology, pollination, and demography of wildflowers. The data he has collected there since 1973 are providing insight into the effects of global and regional climate change, particularly on the phenology and abundance of flowering. David is on the Steering Committee of the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign, on the Board of Directors of the National Phenology Network, and the Scientific Advisory Board of the Endangered Species Coalition.

**Sheila Jackson** is new to the world of pollinators, supporting Marketing and Communications at Project Apis m. She brings a rich combination of experience in design, fundraising and development for non-profits from a variety of missions, but her passion is conservation. She especially thrives building collaborative efforts with a variety of stakeholders, which is perfectly suited to the plight of pollinators! Sheila has a BFA in Graphic Design from the University of Washington and holds the Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) credential. Sheila is an avid skier, and lives in Park City, Utah.

**Jill Jacobs** is Co-Owner of Spriggly's Beescaping, a new small business that protects, preserves, and protects pollinators through products, services, and educational opportunities that increase awareness and habitat. Jill's background is in marketing, with over 7 years' experience, with a focus on social media, web design, and strategic business development. Her background includes work with for-profit and non-profit businesses including a variety of performing arts centers, museums, fundraising organizations, and an arboretum. Although her professional career seems mostly steeped in arts and culture, her passion is for nature and our environment. Jill believes that marketing plays a key role in the success of our pollinators, especially native pollinators. The promotion of the work every business, agency, and individual is doing, is a key step in raising awareness for pollinators. Currently, Jill serves full-time as Marketing Manager for the Bardo Arts Center at Western Carolina University (WCU) in Cullowhee, NC and Marketing Advisor to the WCU College of Fine and Performing Arts.

**Gary Krupnick** is the head of the Plant Conservation Unit in the Department of Botany, National Museum of Natural History at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. His research examines how data from herbarium specimens can be used in assessing the global conservation status of plant species. He has conducted assessments of the flora of Hawaii and the flora of the West Indies. With the American Society of Botanical Artists, he co-curated the traveling exhibition, "Losing Paradise? Endangered Plants Here and Around the World," a convergence of art, science, conservation, and education. He received his Ph.D. from the University of California Irvine, with a thesis examining the link between the effects of insect herbivory and pollination on plant reproductive fitness. He is the co-editor of the book *Plant Conservation: A Natural History Approach* (University of Chicago Press; 2005), and the editor of two newsletters—the Biological Conservation Newsletter and The Plant Press.

**Kathleen Law's** interest in native plants and restoration ecology lead her to discover a love for pollinators and a fascination with their crucial role in sustaining ecosystems. She completed a Masters degree in geography at the University of Guelph, Ontario (Canada), where her research focused on farmer-centered and collaborative approaches to pollinator conservation on farmland. Her favourite research topics are landscape-level habitat provision and crop production interactions, and innovative governance approaches to environmental problems. Kathleen has volunteered on the North American Native Plant Society's Rescues and Restoration Committee, and led environmental leadership workshops and research internationally, notably in Guyana and Senegal. Based in Toronto, Ontario, Kathleen is engaged with both the urban and rural conservation communities, with a special place in her heart for farmers.

**Christina Liang** is a Research Ecologist with the USDA Forest Service. Her work focuses on species-environment interactions particularly in the face of disturbances such as species' invasions, forest management practices, and climate change. Her research combines field observations and experiments, geographic information sciences, and genetic and genomic approaches. Her current pollinator research project investigates the impacts of non-native predators on insect pollinators and native plant reproduction in a Hawaiian dry forest system. Dr. Liang also currently serves as the National Pollination Ecology Research Lead for the Forest Service Research & Development deputy area. In this role, she works to coordinate and participate in pollinator-related issues with other national partners and agencies.

**Becky Longenecker** is the northeast regional pollinator coordinator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. She facilitates a regional team, comprised of various USFWS programs, that is focused on implementing pollinator conservation. Some of the work accomplished by this team includes habitat restoration work on public and private land, pollinator inventory and monitoring, and public education and outreach. Becky began work as a Wildlife Biologist for USFWS after receiving her Ph.D. in Wildlife Ecology from the University of Delaware in 2015.

**Cora Lund Preston** is the Monarch Joint Venture (MJV) Communications Specialist. A graduate of the University of Minnesota, she uses her degree in Environmental Science, Policy and Management to engage various audiences in conservation actions. She works with MJV partners on online, print and in person education, outreach and communications projects to continue and advance monarch conservation work around the United States.

**Lori Makarick** spent half of her life with the vegetation program at Grand Canyon National Park. She has a passion for protecting and restoring native ecosystems – from growing native plants and removing invasive plants, to documenting and understanding the intricate connections. She recently moved to Fort Collins, CO with the Biological Resources Division of the Natural Resource Stewardship and Science Directorate of the National Park Service, where she has the great fortune of providing support to all national park units. She works with an amazing staff who provides expertise in ecological restoration, invasive plant management, integrated pest management, data management, and forest health protection. She has the great fortune of serving as one of the primary leads for pollinator protection and habitat restoration for the NPS.

**Lora Morandin** has been doing research on bees and pollination since 1997. She started out working on bee pollination of greenhouse tomatoes at Western University in Ontario and that grew into an interest in native pollinator conservation and sustainable agriculture. She then did a PhD at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia studying modern agriculture and pollinators, followed by post doctoral research at the University of California, Berkeley working on enhancement of native pollinators and natural enemy insects through small-scale farm restoration. Lora has more than 20 peer-reviewed publications on pollinators and sustainable agriculture, including innovative work on economic benefits of ecosystem services. She has consulted for government and industry on diverse ecological topics such as seabird oiling from offshore oil and gas operations, and honey bee health research gaps. One of her main interests is finding ways that production and conservation can co-exist for a healthy and sustainable environment. Lora lives in Victoria, British Columbia and when she's not working part time for Pollinator Partnership Canada, spends time working on her urban farm and enjoying BC's beautiful natural areas. Lora is excited to be working with P2C to bring more research, outreach, and conservation of pollinators to urban and agricultural areas of Western Canada.

**Heather Moylett** is a biological science technician with USDA APHIS PPQ Science and Technology. One of her responsibilities is to provide scientific support to Science and Technology on pollinator issues, especially as it relates to agriculture. Heather is a subject matter expert with regulatory experience and expertise in pollinator biology and ecology. Prior to working with APHIS, Heather studied the impacts of land management on wild, native bee communities in the Sandhills of North Carolina and also worked as the scientific assistant to Dr. Jerome Rozen at the American Museum of Natural History at New York. She is currently interested in how agricultural landscapes can be managed to shift pollination reliance from honey bees to local, wild pollinators.

**Matthew Mulica** is a policy facilitator with Keystone Policy Center, providing mediation, facilitation and project management services within Keystone's environment, health, and energy practice areas. Matthew works with diverse public, private and NGO stakeholder groups and has designed and facilitated stakeholder dialogues, public engagement processes, and strategic planning processes. He is the facilitator of the Honey Bee Health Coalition. Matthew holds a master's degree in Conflict Resolution from Portland State University and bachelor's degrees in marketing and management from the University of Montana.

**Nathan Oakes** is a current PhD student at Cornell University studying computational biology. Nathan has collaborated on numerous projects related to pollinator health. He is interested in migratory pollination and remote monitoring of honey bees. Nathan is a cofounder of Combplex.

**Thalia Pappas** current assignment is as a consultant for the Delaware Department of Agriculture, to help achieve the goals for Delaware's Pollinator Protection Plan. She worked for DuPont Agricultural Products, in research and discovery roles (environmental fate of pesticides, and rice global herbicide discovery program leader), followed by an assignment as a global regulatory manager leading registration teams and negotiations with regulators to retain permission to sell commercial Ag. Chem. Products. In her last assignment she worked in the Industrial BioSciences business as a regulatory manager to develop and execute compliance strategies for bio-based chemicals and polymers. Thalia received a Ph.D. from Purdue University in Plant Physiology, a M.S. in Horticulture from University of Arkansas, and a B.S. in Plant Science from the University of Delaware.

**Mary Phillips** has led the National Wildlife Federation's Garden for Wildlife™ program since 2014, helping people create habitat where they live, work, play, learn and worship and recognizes approximately 10,000 Certified Wildlife Habitats® a year. Garden for Wildlife is the nation's oldest and largest Backyard Habitat program spanning four decades and totals approximately 213,000 Certified Wildlife Habitats across North America and U.S. Embassies worldwide.

Ms. Phillips also coordinates NWF's pollinator and monarch strategy which includes co-founding the National Pollinator Garden Network and co-launching the Million Pollinator Garden Challenge with over 50 national conservation, garden trade, and federal and voluntary civics organizations, including the Pollinator Partnership. In addition, she launched and manages NWF's Butterfly Heroes campaign funded by the Disney Conservation Fund which has recruited 150,000 participant monarch pollinator gardens. She managed NWF's MOU with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to "Save the Monarch" and is a member of the Monarch Joint Venture steering committee. Mary co-facilitates an NWF internal team that integrates the Mayors' Monarch Pledge, I-35 corridor and other rights of way habitat work, pollinator policies, native plant resources and NWF's affiliate led Habitat Networks Caucus.

Prior to NWF, Ms. Phillips operated The Abundant Backyard for five years providing conservation landscaping consultation. At the same time she provided organizational development consultation for 20 years as principal of MDP Strategies, a nonprofit management practice serving environment and national health and human service agencies.



**Sabrina Rondeau** is a graduate student from Laval University (Quebec, Canada), completing a Master in Plant Sciences. She received a bachelor's degree in Biological and Ecological Sciences from the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières (UQTR). Although Sabrina has always been fascinated by pollinators, she discovered her passion for honey bees during a research internship in biology where she had her first contact with beekeeping. For the past two years, Sabrina has also been working as a student employee within the beekeeping network of the Quebec Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAPAQ), where she collaborates with various projects related to honey bee health. Supervised by Valérie Fournier and Pierre Giovenazzo (Laval University), her Master's project focuses on the biological control of Varroa mites. Sabrina has been chosen as a recipient for the 2017 NAPPC Honey Bee Health Improvement Project Grant for her project titled "The Predatory Mite *Stratiolaelaps scimitus* as a Biological Control Agent against Varroa destructor."

**Kelly Rourke** is Program Coordinator for the Pollinator Partnership (P2). Kelly holds a degree in Environmental Studies and a minor in Anthropology from the University of California at Santa Cruz. Her background in ecology, conservation, and culture has propelled her career in the non-profit sector. Prior to P2, Kelly worked at another bay area-based environmental non-profit called Conservacion Patagonica (CP). CP's mission is to establish national parks in Chile and Argentina where there is not only fragile ecosystems, but also, complex cultural and societal struggles. Kelly is currently working towards a Master's of Science in Environmental Management at the University of San Francisco.

**Dolores Savignano** is the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Pollinator Conservation Coordinator, and liaison to the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign. She chairs the USFWS Pollinator Work Group, which works to raise awareness of and support for the value, conservation, protection, and enhancement of native pollinators and their habitats. The Service has a wide range of pollinator projects throughout the county and internationally (learn more at: [www.fws.gov/pollinators](http://www.fws.gov/pollinators)). Dolores is also the Conservation Education Team Lead and Climate Coordinator for the Fish and Aquatic Conservation Program. Dolores received a B.S. in Biology from Yale University, and a Ph.D. in Zoology from Univ. of Texas at Austin for her research on the facultative mutualism between Karner blue butterfly larvae and attendant ants. She also conducted status surveys on the now endangered Karner blue butterfly and assisted in the preparation of an Element Stewardship Abstract on the Karner blue butterfly for The Nature Conservancy.

**Hailey Scofield** is a current PhD student at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY studying honey bee behavior with Professor Tom Seeley. Hailey is interested in hive homeostasis, developmental temperature, and behavior in managed bee colonies. She is particularly interested in how transportation of colonies for commercial pollination can affect the internal environment of the hive, and how hive homeostasis changes during the winter.

**Julie Shapiro** has 14 years of experience in the environmental and natural resource field as a facilitator, mediator, and educator. As a Senior Policy Director at Keystone Policy Center, Julie assists diverse public, private and NGO stakeholders in creating common understanding and forging shared solutions on topics including gene editing, sustainable agriculture and food production, pollinator health, landscape-scale wildlife and habitat conservation, climate change, forest health, water quality, mine reclamation, renewable energy standards, oil and gas planning, carbon capture and storage, and blended learning. Julie has designed and facilitated stakeholder dialogues, public engagement processes, and strategic planning processes on national, regional, state and local scales. Julie holds a Master's degree in environmental studies from the University of Colorado at Boulder and Bachelor's degrees in geosciences and English from Williams College. Julie facilitates the Honey Bee Health Coalition.

**Sarah Shugrue** is a Biological Science Technician with USDA-APHIS PPQ Center for Plant Health Science and Technology. While she currently works on commodity treatment research projects, her graduate studies focused on supporting native pollinators in tree fruit production. Sarah provides technical and administrative support for PPQ's honey bee health agreements.

**Elizabeth Sellers** (B.Sc. Honors – Botany & Geomorphology) has served the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) as a Technical Information Specialist (Biology) for 11 years. She currently serves under the USGS Core Science Analytics, Synthesis and Libraries Program ([http://www.usgs.gov/core\\_science\\_systems/csas/](http://www.usgs.gov/core_science_systems/csas/)) acquiring and processing species occurrence data for the Biodiversity Information Serving Our Nation (BISON – <http://bison.usgs.ornl.gov>) species mapping application and US Node of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF); working with Dr. John Ascher (AMNH) to update the bee taxonomic data and 2009 World Bees Checklist in the Integrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS – [www.itis.gov](http://www.itis.gov)); and participates in the newly formed USGS Pollinator Research Community of Practice. She is also a co-author of the draft FWS National Bee Monitoring Protocol with Sam Droege (USGS), Joseph Engler (FWS), and Lee O'Brien (FWS).

**James Sherman** is a graduate of UC Berkeley in evolutionary biology, Jamie has been an energy project financier, C-level finance and operations manager, and water resource executive. He has also served on the boards of private and not for profit organizations, the later in chairman and development roles. In addition to natural history, Jamie enjoys fishing, ranching, sailing and woodworking. A fifth generation San Franciscan, he has lived and worked in Chicago, London, Sydney, and Los Angeles during his career. Jamie is married to his high school sweetheart, and is the father of three children, and a faithful Labrador.

**Steve Shestag** is the director of Enterprise Remediation for The Boeing Company. He is responsible for shaping an integrated strategy for completion of environmental remediation activities, as well as leading environmental due diligence activities to support the company's mergers, acquisitions and property transactions. Shestag has over 30 years of experience in environmental permitting, geotechnical studies, remedial investigation, contaminant treatment, engineering design, stormwater management, sustainable remediation, water supply studies and program management. His expertise includes working with diverse groups of stakeholders to find practical and timely solutions that improve the environment and reduce risks. Shestag has also led the visioning, design and creation of a variety of restoration projects, including riparian habitat in the Arroyo Seco watershed, nearly 500 acres of native habitat near Reno, NV and pollinator habitat outside Kansas City, KS. Prior to joining Boeing in 1996, he was an engineering geologist for two major environmental engineering firms. Shestag earned a bachelor's degree in geochemistry from San Diego State University. He is registered as a professional geologist and a certified engineering geologist in California. Shestag serves on the Board of Directors for the LA Conservation Corps, which provides job skills training and education for inner-city youth and young adults. He resides in Ventura, California where he enjoys participating in beach cleanups and habitat restoration events. In his spare time, he enjoys cycling, mountain biking, general aviation, fly-fishing and hiking with his wife, Carol.

**Patty Shreve** is new to the world of pollinators, as the Director of Operations for Project Apis m. She brings a unique and rich combination of experience in animal husbandry and nonprofit management. She has B.S. in Biology from the University of Utah, and additional certificates in Management and Fundraising. She has field experience primarily with avian species, but is a keen naturalist and gardener. She lives in Salt Lake City, Utah.

**James Strange** is a Research Entomologist for the USDA-ARS at the Pollinating Insect- Biology, Management and Systematics Research Unit in Logan, UT. His work focuses on bumble bee genetics, pathology and commercial production. He is currently leading a nationwide bumble bee pathogen survey to understand the distribution and prevalence of potential bumble bee pathogen in the United States.

**Barry Thompson** is a long-term "sideliner" beekeeper, Dr. Thompson manages pollination services for "pick your own" orchards and for individuals who wish to support efforts to promote the health of honey bees and native bees by having colonies on their properties. Dr. Thompson has participated in honey bee research at DARPA, USDA, and as part of the Sustainable Honey Bee Project in VA. He has served, for several years, as a co-chair of the Pesticide Education Task Force for NAPPC.

**Monica Tomosy** is the Forest Service's National Program Leader for Wildlife Research, leading research, science delivery and partnerships to sustain and restore biological composition and ecological function. Monica was the US Forest Service's Liaison to the DOI's climate change and landscape conservation initiatives, and was an Assistant Station Director, supporting climate change, invasive species, and wildlife and fish research and inventory programs. She worked in the U.S. Geological Survey as the Chief of the Bird Banding Laboratory, and as the Imperiled Species Research Coordinator. As a biologist in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, she worked on Endangered Species Act listing and critical habitat determinations and policies, and produced training courses and workshops on the ESA duties and the integration of conservation biology disciplines into regulatory decision-making. Early in her career, she worked in the US Forest Service as a biologist in Pacific northwest National Forests. She conducted field research and monitoring for the critically endangered Puerto Rican Parrot. Monica's graduate degree was from the School of Natural Resources at the University of Michigan, focusing on conservation biology, forest ecology, and behavioral ecology.

**Tom Van Arsdall** With three decades of experience in the national policy arena, Tom Van Arsdall is widely known and highly respected for his expertise and demonstrated track record on environmental, energy, bioenergy, ag research and conservation issues affecting U.S. agriculture, agribusiness and agriculture's "downstream neighbors." Tom currently serves as the Public Policy Representative for the Pollinator Partnership (P2) and the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC), managed by P2. He is particularly well known for helping diverse stakeholders work together toward consensus-based actions. He has a thorough understanding of the legislative and regulatory process and how to get results. Other current clients include the National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research [Executive Director]; NCRRA, a farmer-owned cooperative petroleum refinery; the Pesticide Policy Coalition; and biodiesel and biobased education and outreach for the United Soybean Board and the National Biodiesel Board. Tom received his MA in economic geography from the University of Illinois. Tom is an active outdoorsman, conservationist and river rat. Currently a houseboat is his home and office on the Chesapeake Bay.

**Megan Whatton** is the Habitat Network Manager for The Nature Conservancy where she works with scientists, partners, private landowners, citizen scientists and volunteers to re-imagine their properties as habitat for the benefit of wildlife and people. Most recently she was the volunteer coordinator for the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute on the eMammal project to monitor mammal populations in the mid-Atlantic region. Megan has a M.S. Degree in Environmental Science and Policy from George Mason University and B.S. Degree from Ball State University.

**Kimberly Winter** is the National Program Leader for the Forest Service NatureWatch Program. As former Habitats Program Manager at the National Wildlife Federation and the first International Coordinator for the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign, Kim has dedicated most of her efforts towards partnerships for conservation. Her passion for outreach to diverse audiences inspires her to travel internationally as much as possible, and her fluency in Spanish brings her most often to Latin America. Kim holds a Ph.D. in Wildlife Ecology and Management and a M.A. in Ecological Anthropology.

**Terry Witzel's** career has focused on agriculture, food processing and food distribution. He is also interested in promoting sustainable food systems and serves as a member of the San Mateo County Food System Alliance. Additionally, Terry serves on the Agricultural Advisory Council for the California State Fair. He joined the Pollinator Project because of its emphasis on the global and economic importance of pollinators in food crop production.

**Victoria Wojcik** is an optimistic ecologist and city dweller that believes human populations and the natural world can coexist. For the past five years she studied the impact of urban landscapes on local bee populations, with a particular focus on how habitat resources are perceived and used by urban bees. Her current interests lie in the fields of pollinator conservation and in continuing to understand how anthropogenic factors affect species living in close proximity to human settlements. Recently, she has become increasingly interested in how policy and management decisions impact conservation efforts within cities. Vicki's academic work has been published in peer-reviewed journals, books, and magazines. She received her B.Sc. Honours from the University of Guelph, Canada in 2004 and her Ph.D. in Environmental Science, Policy, & Management from UC Berkeley in 2009. In addition to her work at the Pollinator Partnership, Vicki holds an appointment as a lecturer in biology at the University of California, Berkeley.

**Julie Zahniser**, the 2014 NAPPC Pollinator Advocate for the United States, is the founder and general counsel of The American Bee Project. A real estate tax attorney of 25 years, Julie realized that tax laws already on the books could be the key to preserving pristine, healthy bee habitat from development and to making such land available to beekeepers for rebuilding bee colonies. Julie has created a 50 state guide to obtaining tax benefits for pollinator habitat and has filed test cases to establish the concept of bee forage as a fully legitimate agricultural use for property tax purposes. Despite fierce opposition from local governments more concerned about tax revenues than pollinator protection, she has prevailed in 100% of her cases. This fall, the American Bee Project launched a new online platform that will seamlessly connect government and private landowners with beekeepers in need of forage land. As a result of this program, beekeepers participating in the American Bee Project were able to supply close to 42 billion bees to support the California almond pollination this year from the over 4,500 pristine acres made available through the American Bee Project.