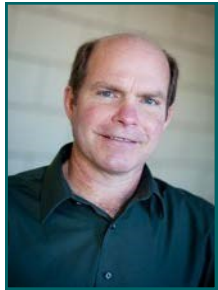


**PROFESSIONAL WETLAND SCIENTIST E-LETTER**

**Volume 8, Issue 1, 2015  
Spring 2015**

**PRESIDENT’S CORNER**



It’s finally May here in Pennsylvania, and while spring seems to be late in coming, the redbuds are blooming and the warm weather is finally sticking around for a while. May also means that my term as President is winding down as we rapidly approach the SWS conference in Providence R.I. It promises to be a great conference, with some interesting pre-conference field trips and intriguing scientific and professional sessions throughout the week. SWSPCP will be hosting a two-part ethics workshop on Monday and Wed. (11:30 – 1:00), and the annual WPIT/PWS info session and mixer are slated for Monday evening, from 4:30 – 5:30, and 5:30 – 7:30 respectively. I usually fly to conferences, but I’m taking the train to this one, just for something different – be sure to ask about my adventures on Amtrak.

The past year as President has been a busy one, but the “heavy lifting” of the Professional Certification Program is done by its various committees. While all are important, I’d especially like to thank Pat Frost, Chair of the Certification Renewal Panel, and John Lowenthal, Chair of the Certification Review Panel, as well as their committee members, for their dedication and for keeping track of the hundreds of WPIT, PWS, and renewal applications that come in every year. Mal Gilbert, as Chair of the Ethics Committee, has also worked diligently to heighten awareness of the ethical standards expected in the wetland science profession. The Board is also discussing mandatory ethics training as a component of the certification process, and considering the development of online ethics training modules to satisfy this requirement. The Professional Short Course Review Panel, chaired by Harold Jones, continues to do a stellar job with pre-certifying short courses for use as certification credits and renewal points.

Our business office, The Center for Association Resources, has been busy updating our application and review processes to full electronic mode. That has recently been accomplished, and should make the application and renewal processes much more efficient for both applicants and reviewers. Because the certification program has been in existence for 20 years, we have acquired thousands of pages of applications and reviews, many of which are paper copies stored in filing cabinets among our various committee chairs and business office. The business office has also recently contracted with an archiving company to digitize and electronically store our two decades-worth of records, thus providing a heightened level of security and accessibility to these records.

Many thanks to the hundreds of WPITs and PWS’s that participated in the Body of Knowledge survey, sent to all WPITs and PWS’s back in February. Every five years, our accrediting agency, the Council of Engineering & Science Specialty Boards (CESB) requires that we update our Body of Knowledge document. The document, which outlines specific skills, knowledge, and abilities that a Professional

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The Society of Wetland Scientists Professional Certification Program, serving the public’s need to identify qualified individuals to assess and manage the nation’s resources. This program is intended to meet the needs of professional ecologists, hydrologists, soil scientists, educators, agency professionals, consultants, and others who practice wetland science. [www.wetlandcert.org](http://www.wetlandcert.org)

Wetland Scientist should possess, will be used by the SWSPCP Certification Review Panel in assessing an applicant's experience towards PWS certification as part of the Statement of Expertise essay. Many thanks also to Kurt Phillip for coordinating this effort with CESB and the business office, which is currently tabulating the survey results. These results should be published to our website and social media sites soon after the annual conference.

Lastly, our President-elect, Robbyn Myers, has enhanced our social media presence by initiating SWSPCP Facebook and LinkedIn sites. I know with certainty that our organization is in good hands as Robbyn steps up to the President position. Thanks for the great year, and I look forward to reconnecting with many of you at the SWS conference in Providence!

*Robert D. Shannon, PhD, PWS*

## SWSPCP Quality Assurance Survey

In 2014 SWSPCP processed over 200 applications for WPIT & PWS and over 150 renewal applications. It was no easy task for our volunteer committees and application reviewers. SWSPCP is trying hard to provide an outstanding service to our applicants who recognize the value of our program and our certifications. This year we have worked relentlessly in transitioning to an "all online review" process so we can serve you better and provide a more streamlined review process.

Thank you for all your feedback and please continue to share what you think as we are here to serve all of YOU.

Here are some examples of actual responses we received.

*After review of my initial application, I needed to provide additional supporting information to satisfy my minimal requirements. Fortunately, I was able to re-organize my submission and obtain my certification. It has opened my career path by promotion within my current employer.*

*The online application process was quick and relatively painless.*

*An overall positive experience with help received from the applications office as well. Thanks!*

*The PWS certification helped with a job I interviewed for. There were others with considerable experience, but they told me after I was hired that it was one of the things that put me on top. I have also had a lot of inquiries from people needed more advanced wetland expertise for particular projects. I am also more diligent than ever, simply because clients, employers, and colleagues expect more out of someone who uses the PWS title.*

## PROFESSIONAL WETLAND SCIENTIST REGISTERED MARK

We are pleased to announce the certification mark PROFESSIONAL WETLAND SCIENTIST was registered in Class B on the Principal Register at the United States Patent and Trademark Office on April 14, 2015 via Registration Number 4,718,572 for:

“Ecology, hydrology, botany, soil science, education and research services, government services, non-government services, and consulting associated with the practice of wetland science.”

The certification mark should be used in brochures and in advertising for the services. When the mark is used the registered ® should appear in association with the mark.

### PROFESSIONAL WETLAND SCIENTIST ®

Additional information regarding use of the mark can be found on the SWSPCP website [www.wetlandcert.org](http://www.wetlandcert.org) under link: <http://www.wetlandcert.org/docs/PWS3462.pdf>

*United States of America*  
United States Patent and Trademark Office

## PROFESSIONAL WETLAND SCIENTIST

**Reg. No. 4,718,752**

**Registered Apr. 14, 2015**

**CERTIFICATION MARK**

**PRINCIPAL REGISTER**

SOCIETY OF WETLAND SCIENTISTS PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM  
(NORTH CAROLINA NON-PROFIT CORPORATION)  
1901 NORTH ROSELLE ROAD #920  
SCHAUMBURG, IL 60195

FOR: ECOLOGY, HYDROLOGY, BOTANY, SOIL SCIENCE, EDUCATION, AND RESEARCH SERVICES, GOVERNMENT SERVICES, NON-GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES, AND CONSULTING ASSOCIATED WITH THE PRACTICE OF WETLAND SCIENCE, IN CLASS B (U.S. CL. B).

FIRST USE 1-21-2003; IN COMMERCE 1-21-2003.

THE MARK CONSISTS OF STANDARD CHARACTERS WITHOUT CLAIM TO ANY PARTICULAR FONT, STYLE, SIZE, OR COLOR.

NO CLAIM IS MADE TO THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHT TO USE "WETLAND SCIENTIST", APART FROM THE MARK AS SHOWN.

THE CERTIFICATION MARK, AS USED BY PERSONS AUTHORIZED BY THE CERTIFIER, CERTIFIES THAT THE SERVICES HAVE BEEN PROVIDED BY A PROFESSIONAL WHOSE ACADEMIC BACKGROUND, PROFESSIONAL TRAINING, WORK EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE AREA(S) MEETS THE STANDARDS OF THE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM AND THAT ARE EXPECTED OF A PRACTICING WETLAND PROFESSIONAL. PROVIDES ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO HIS OR HER PEERS OF ADHERENCE TO STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL ETHICS WITH REGARD TO THE CONDUCT AND PRACTICE OF WETLAND SCIENCE. THIS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM SERVES THE PUBLIC'S NEEDS TO IDENTIFY QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS TO ASSESS AND MANAGE THE NATION'S WETLAND RESOURCES BY CERTIFYING QUALIFIED PROFESSIONAL ECOLOGISTS, HYDROLOGISTS, BOTANISTS, SOIL SCIENTISTS, EDUCATORS, RESEARCHERS, GOVERNMENT PROFESSIONALS, NON-GOVERNMENTAL PROFESSIONALS, CONSULTANTS, AND OTHERS WHO PRACTICE WETLAND SCIENCE.



## Psssst! See you at the SWS Annual Meeting!

If you are planning on attending the full week of the conference, you may earn 1.5 renewal points towards the PWS renewal requirement. Other conference –related activities that may earn additional renewal points are:

- Field Trips
- Poster Presentation
- Oral Presentation
- Ethics Workshops

Section 26 (G) of the Standing Rules highlights and clarifies requirements for Section G of the renewal application.

*Attending a wetland-related conference shall earn renewal points at the rate of 0.5 points per conference lasting a minimum of 8.0 hours per conference. Conferences lasting 16 hours shall earn 1.0 renewal point and conferences lasting more than 16 hours shall earn 1.5 points. No more than 4.0 points for attendance of wetland conferences shall be applied to certification renewal per five-year period. PWS seeking renewal points must submit evidence of participation. Application for points from conferences sponsored by SWSPCP, Inc. need only submit evidence of participation and the length of the conference. Applicants seeking points for other conferences must include a description of the conference, including technical content for approval.*

Patrick Frost, PWS

## PWS CERTIFICATION RENEWAL

Professional Wetland Scientists must complete ongoing certification requirements in order to maintain certification. Section 21 (c) (d) of the Standing Rules highlight these certification requirements.

- ◆ **Annual Maintenance Fee:** Maintenance of certification as a PWS requires an annual fee of \$75.00 and \$50 as a WPIT. The fee is due upon receipt of a bill from the business office. Individuals are not required to submit an annual maintenance fee in the year in which they are certified.
- ◆ **Five Year Certification Renewal Fee:** A fee of \$100 is required upon application for certification renewal. Applicants for emeritus status pay a one-time certification fee of \$150.00 (see Section 26 for certification renewal requirements).

To maintain WPIT & PWS certification, WPITs & PWSs pay an annual maintenance fee of \$50/\$75 respectively. Maintenance notices and reminders are generally sent out during the last quarter of the current year for fees applied to the upcoming year.

Maintenance notices are sent out via email in December and can be paid online by logging into the SWSPCP website ([www.wetlandcert.org](http://www.wetlandcert.org)). Log in credential would include your **six digit application/member number** and last name. Retrieving one's application/member number is as easy as providing the system your email address.

In addition, PWS certification renewal is required of each PWS every five years and includes completing a renewal application and demonstrating that 10 renewal points have been earned. Renewal requirements and guidelines can be found at <http://www.wetlandcert.org/rules.html#s26>. One requirement for renewal of your PWS is that you must be current with your annual maintenance fees.

The PWS renewal application can be completed online by logging into the renewal portal of the SWSPCP site ([http://www.wetlandcert.org/login.html?r=ren\\_app](http://www.wetlandcert.org/login.html?r=ren_app)). Log In credential would include your **six digit application/member number and last name**.

The business office is always ready to assist you with any questions and issues pertaining to your PWS renewal. Email us at [info@wetlandcert.org](mailto:info@wetlandcert.org) or contact us at 877.226.9902.

## Call For Nominations

The SWSPCP Nominations Committee is pleased to announce the call for nominees to serve on the 2016 SWSPCP Board of Directors. There are two open positions for the 2016 Board slate:

To submit a candidate for consideration, please prepare a nomination email message specifying your reasons for the nomination, including the following information about the nominee:

- A. History in the Field
- B. Present Professional Position
- C. Brief 2-3 paragraph Candidate Statement presenting interest in supporting and promoting the mission of SWSPCP.
- D. Willingness to stand for election
- E. Commitment to serve and fulfill the duties of the position sought (see below)

### Duties of the President-elect

Duties of the President-elect are to assist the president and to perform the duties of the President when that officer is absent or unable to act.

### Duties of the Secretary-General

- A. Obtain quarterly updates from the business office of certified or pending applicants.
- B. Upon request from the Board of Directors, provide digital copies of such updates.
- C. Maintain and update the Certification Program Bylaws and Standing Rules.
- D. Record and read minutes of the annual meeting and the mid-year meeting of the Certification Program and all called meetings of the Board of Directors. Distribute minutes to Board members.
- E. Oversee development, procurement, brochures, postage, photocopying, stationery, and other items as needed or directed.

**Submit your nomination via email no later than July 6, 2015 to:  
[info@wetlandcert.org](mailto:info@wetlandcert.org)**

## NEW PWS CERTIFICATIONS

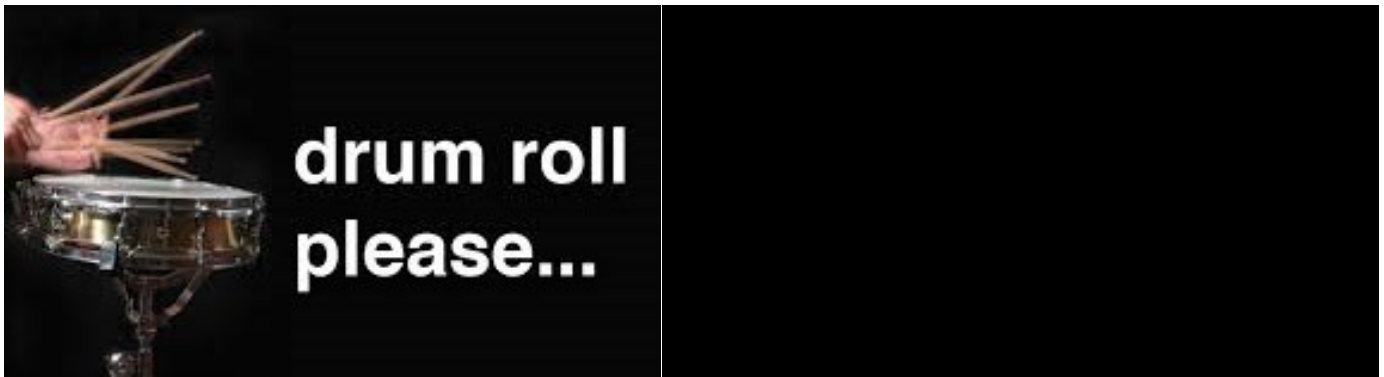
Congratulations to the following individuals who received their PWS certification:

Michael Levinson	2526	Justin Whitfield	2546
Carter Teague	2527	Maria Tupper-Goebel	2547
Brian Roberts	2528	Kevin Schroeder	2548
Steven Glickauf	2529	Arnaud Roux	2549
Leigh Ann Anderson	2530	Joshua Tallis	2550
Ann Ertman	2531	Chant Eicke	2551
Alison Robinson	2532	Rusty Griffin	2552
Devin Wilson	2533	Danielle Tetreau	2553
Lauren Mack	2534	Justin Reel	2554
Lindsey Meyers	2535	Andrew Guempel	2555
Clare Kenny	2536	Troy Savage	2556
Christie Coon	2537	Linda Sekura	2557
Matt Heddin	2538	Mark Hepner	2558
Carland Holstead	2539	Emily Hirsch	2559
William Neighbors	2540	Paul Fisher	2560
James Pflaum	2541	Lynn Bacon	2561
Amy Ball	2542	Sarah Rowe	2562
Michael Bell	2543	Lucas Gasek	2563
Laura Heil	2544	William Hohman	2564
Josey Walker	2545		

## NEW WPIT CERTIFICATIONS

Congratulations to the following individuals who received their WPIT certification:

Jesse Daubert	Nathan Turk	Julia Gillespie
Kyle Medash	Joe Bettis	Laura Hundy
Geovanne Ijpkemeuele	Daniel Hinnebusch	Matthew Pluta
Aliana Britson	Erik Engnell	Beth Krumrine
Katherine Durand	Kolten Kosters	Aliisa Harjuniemi
Danielle Iliucci	Alena Gerlek	Amanda Schellhamer
Rose Whitson	Luke Sposki	



## SWSPCP WOULD LIKE TO GIVE CREDIT TO OUR DEDICATED GROUP OF VOLUNTEER REVIEWERS.....

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### Certification Review Panel

John M. Lowenthal, PWS, Panel Chair  
Gregg Antemann, PWS  
Leandra Cleveland, PWS  
David Davis, PWS  
Kathleen Hale, PWS  
Ingeborg Hegemann, PWS  
Gary R. Pritts, PWS  
James A. Thomas, PWS  
Karla Van Leaven, PWS

### Certification Renewal Committee

Patrick M. Frost, PWS, Committee Chair  
Vikki Jackson, PWS  
Robert J. Jontos, PWS  
William Kirchner, PWS  
David G. Purkerson, PWS  
Amy W. Rollins, PWS  
D. J. Silverberg, PWS

### Professional Short Course Review Panel

R. Harold Jones, PWS, Emeritus, Committee Chair  
James Wakeley, Ph.D., PWS  
Janet Morlan, PWS  
Scott W. Jecker, CWB, PWS  
Steve Walls, PWS  
Charlie Newling, PWS  
Alice Allen Grimes, PWS



Following are short courses that have been pre-approved by SWSPCP:



Title Wetland Delineation Short Course  
 Contact Person Philip J. Quarterman, PWS  
 Address 9755 SW Barnes Road, Suite 300  
 Portland, OR 97225  
 Phone (503) 626-0455  
 Fax: (503) 526-0775  
 URL: <http://www.whpacific.com/>



Title Wetland Delineation & Regional Supplement Training  
 Contact Person Marc Seelinger  
 Address 621 Starburst Lane  
 Raleigh, NC 27603  
 Toll Free Phone (877) 479-2673  
 URL: [www.swampschool.org/](http://www.swampschool.org/)



Title Monitoring and Assessment of Wetland and Riparian Ecosystems  
 Contact Person Stephanie McGinnis  
 Education Outreach Coordinator  
 Address 335 Culbertson Hall  
 Bozeman, MT 59717  
 Phone (406) 994-6671  
 Fax: (406) 994-6660  
 Email: [mcginnis@montana.edu](mailto:mcginnis@montana.edu)  
 URL: [www.mtwatercourse.org](http://www.mtwatercourse.org)

## SWSPCP Pre-Approved Courses:

**RUTGERS** Office of Continuing Professional Education

Title	Southern Vegetation Identification for Wetland Delineation
Title	Vegetation Identification for Wetland Delineation
Title	Introduction to Wetland Identification
Contact Person	Bianca Sardina
Address	102 Ryders Lane New Brunswick, NJ 0890
Phone	(732) 932-1187
Email:	Sardina@rutgers.edu
URL:	www.mtwatercourse.org

**Contact Information**
**President**

Robert D. Shannon, PWS

**President Elect**

Robbyn Myers, PWS

**Secretary General**

Robbyn Myers, PWS

**Treasurer**

Yvonne M. Vallette, PWS

**Immediate Past President**

Leandra L. Cleveland, PWS

**SWSPCP Executive Office**
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Executive DirectorDonn Lesko  
Executive AdministratorTim Ceglarek  
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Asst. Program AdministratorJocelyn Cordero  
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