





# MIDWEST

Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies

89TH ANNUAL

MIDWEST
ASSOCIATION
OF FISH AND
WILDLIFE
AGENCIES

DIRECTORS'
MEETING



JUNE 25-28, 2023 | GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN

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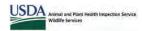


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Brandt is transforming the outdoors experience by providing simple, modern and secure technology solutions to conservation agencies and their users.

## **Canadian NAWMP Partners**

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Ducks Unlimited and the Canadian partners of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan are thankful and honored to work in collaboration with State fish and wildlife agencies through the Fall Flights program to improve waterfowl habitat across the continent.

## **Ducks Unlimited**

James Rader

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Ducks Unlimited conserves, restores, and manages wetlands and associated habitats for North America's waterfowl. These habitats also benefit other wildlife and people.

## **Sovereign Sportsman Solutions**

Chris Willard

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At S3 we make it easier and more fun to gain access, spend time in, and more fully enjoy the outdoors by empowering the governmental agencies, non-profit organizations, and brands that help make it happen. We are developers, project managers, marketers, and problem-solvers, bound by our shared passion for the outdoors and conservation. We are committed to building conservation agency business and bringing them more customers. Throughout North America, millions of consumers use our technology to purchase hunting and fishing licenses, volunteer and attend events, license boats and ATVs, and so much more.

## U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Chuck Traxler

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www.fws.gov

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We will continue to be a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service.

## **Gold Level Sponsors**

## **Archery Trade Association**

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The Archery Trade Association is the organization for manufacturers, retailers, distributors, sales representatives and others working in the archery and bowhunting industry. The ATA has served its members since 1953. We work to increase the recruitment and retention of new, current and once-active archers and bowhunters. We are the driving force in defending, educating, and lobbying for the greater good of the industry and sport. W/e preserve and promote archery and bowhunting's rich heritage to ensure active consumer participation, and successful manufacturing and retailing for generations to come. The organization also owns and operates the ATA Trade Show, the archery and bowhunting industry's largest and longest-running trade show worldwide.

# **Bass Pro Shops**

**Bob Ziehmer** 

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Bass Pro Shops is North America's premier outdoor and conservation company. Founded in 1972 when avid young angler Johnny Morris began selling tackle out of his father's liquor store in Springfield, Missouri, today the company's offerings span premier destination retail, outdoor equipment manufacturing, world-class resort destinations and more. In 2017 Bass Pro Shops acquired Cabela's to create a "best-of-the-best" experience with superior products, dynamic locations and outstanding customer service. Bass Pro Shops also operates White River Marine Group, offering an unsurpassed collection of industry-leading boat brands, and Big Cedar Lodge, America's Premier Wilderness Resort. The company is a national leader in protecting habitat and introducing families to the outdoors.

# **Gordon-Darby**

Mitch Strobl

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Gordon-Darby, Inc. is a U.S.-based leader in providing government services. Delivering innovative and quality programs, systems, and services for our state partners has been the company's guiding principle since our founding in 1982.

## **National Wild Turkey Federation**

Mark Hatfield

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www.nwtf.org

The National Wild Turkey Federation is a 501 (c) (3) non-governmental organization dedicated to the conservation of the wild turkey and preservation of our hunting heritage. The NWTF is grassroots, volunteer organization governed by a volunteer member board of directors. Its volunteers are organized in a state and local chapter system.

## **USDA Forest Service**

Tracy Grazia

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The mission of the USDA Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.

#### **USDA/ APHIS/Wildlife Services**

Keith Wehner

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www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/wildlifedamage/sa program overview

The mission of USDA AP HIS Wildlife Services (WS) is to provide Federal leadership and expertise to resolve wildlife conflicts to allow people and wildlife to coexist. WS conducts program delivery, research, and other activities through its Regional and State Offices, and its Field Stations, as well as through its National Programs.

## **Silver Level Sponsors**

# **Airgun Sporting Association**

Mitch King

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The Airgun Sporting Association is committed to working with state wildlife agencies to promote airgun hunting and recreational shooting across the country. The airgun 'industry recognizes the important role of the state wildlife agencies in wildlife management hunter and recreational shooter access and hunter recruitment retention and reactivation and we look forward to working with the agencies to identify future partnership opportunities.

# **National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF)**

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NSSF is the Firearm Industry Trade Association. Leading the way in advocating for the industry and its business and jobs, keeping guns out of the wrong hands, encouraging enjoyment of recreational shooting and hunting and helping people better understand the industry's lawful products.

# **U.S. Geological Survey**

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Created by an act of Congress in 1879, the USGS provides science for a changing world, which reflects and responds to society's continuously evolving needs. As the science arm of the Department of the Interior, the USGS brings an array of earth, water, biological, and mapping data and expertise to bear in support of decision-making on environmental, resource, and public safety issues.

## **Bronze Level Sponsors**

## **Aspira**

Ray St. Germain

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Our mission is to cultivate a connected world through shared experiences. By putting preservation first, we expand opportunities, bring different cultures and communities together, and create new ways to unite people through technology. Together, let's serve those seeking solitude, adventure and quality time with their loved ones.

## **DJ Case & Associates**

Phil Seng

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We approach conservation with a diverse toolset that includes strategic marketing and communications, social science (human dimensions) research, video and multimedia production, web application development, and user experience design.

## **Pheasants Forever**

Ronald Leathers

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Pheasants Forever's mission is to conserve pheasants, quail, and other wildlife through habitat improvements, public access, education, and conservation advocacy. Pheasants Forever's unique chapter model and our partnerships with local, state, and federal agencies has allowed us to impact more than 22 million acres since 1982.

## **Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation**

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Founded more than 39 years ago, fueled by hunters and a membership of more than 225,000 strong, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) has protected or enhanced nearly 8.6 million acres of wildlife habitat and opened or secured public access to 1.5 million acres. RMEF also works to fund and advocate for science- based resource management, and to ensure the future of America's hunting heritage.

## **The Wildlife Society**

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Founded in 1937, The Wildlife Society (TWS) and our network of affiliated chapters and sections represent more than 15,000 professional wildlife biologists, managers, and educators dedicated to excellence in wildlife stewardship through science and education. TWS' mission is to inspire, empower, and enable wildlife professionals to sustain wildlife populations and habitat through science-based management and conservation.

## **Tyler Technologies**

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Tyler Technologies partners with local, state, and federal agencies to streamline outdoor recreation management including campground and park reservations, hunting and fishing licenses, activity registrations and more. As the only outdoor recreation technology and services provider exclusively focused on government, Tyler helps you increase revenue, save time with the latest digital experience, and see data in real time.

# **Voss Signs**

Tom Tenerovicz

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Since 1965, Voss Signs, LLC has produced custom and stock signs for various customers that include: Forestry Professionals, Landowners, State and Federal Government Agencies. Contributing Sponsors

# Association of Midwest Fish and Game Law Enforcement Officers (AMFGLEO)

**Bob Thompson** 

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www.midwestgamewarden.org

The Association of Midwest Fish and Game Law Enforcement Officers (AMFGLEO) was chartered February 1944 at Lincoln, Nebraska. There are currently 23 member agencies from Canada and the United States. The AMFGLEO meets every year taking turns in different states and provinces. The meetings have been beneficial to the member agencies. Over the years, the AMFGLEO has become the lead group among wildlife enforcement organizations in the development and maintenance of training for field officers that protects the resource and benefits the citizens of our states, provinces, and countries.

## **Contributing Sponsors**

# **The Nature Conservancy**

Ben Postlethwait

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Phone: 913-200-4288 www.nature.org/en-us/

The Nature Conservancy is a global environmental nonprofit working to create a world where people and nature can thrive. Our mission is to conserve the lands and water on which all life depends.

## **Mule Deer Foundation**

Steve Belinda

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muledeer.org

The Mule Deer Foundation is the only national, non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of mule deer, black-tailed deer, and their habitats.

#### Safari Club International

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safariclub.org

Founded in Los Angeles, California in 1970 and headquartered today in Washington, D.C., Safari Club Internacional (SCI) exists with a mission to protect the freedom to hunt and to promote wildlife conservation worldwide. SCI is the leader in educating and influencing elected officials and policy decision makers on the essential role of hunting in science-based management of wildlife and habitat. SCI's government affairs experts, legal counsel, and communications specialists work hand-in-hand with wildlife biologists from our sister organization, the Safari Club International Foundation (SCIF), to champion ethical, regulated and science-based hunting regardless of species, location or method of take. With it all, SCI is First For Hunters. As a member driven organization, SCI is the voice for hunters at the international, U.S. federal and state & local levels. SCI's membership is spread out amongst 200 Chapters in all 50 U.S. states as well as 106 other countries. Our active grassroots network, working in conjunction with SCI's advocacy team, works with legislators and policy makers co develop, promote and communicate positions on in1portant issues, laws, regulations and initiatives chat impact all hunters. Additionally, SCI is the only hunting organization that has a Political Action Committee (SCI-PAC) and a Super Political Action Committee (Hunter Action Fund), critical cools in supporting pro-hunting legislators. The extremely active membership of SCI regularly engages with elected officials and educates them on issues important to all hunters through the grassroots Hunter Action Advocacy Center. SCI members from around the globe convene annually to celebrate and advance the future of hunting at the SCI Convention, the Ultimate Sportsmen's Marketplace.



# **Thanks**

The Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies would like to thank President Amanda Wuestefeld, MAFWA president, Indiana for running the meeting and Diane Brusoe, Division Administrator, Wisconsin and her staff for hosting a great conference;

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Copies of these proceedings can be obtained from: Sheila Kemmis, Recording Secretary c/o Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks 512 SE 25<sup>th</sup> Ave. Pratt, KS 67124