



SOCIETY OF WETLAND SCIENTISTS PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

PROFESSIONAL WETLAND SCIENTIST E-LETTER

Volume 9 Issue 3, 2017
Winter 2017

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Dear PWS's and WPIT's

It is an honor to address you as President of SWSPCP once again! I hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful summer. As the leaves begin to fall we embrace yet another solid financial position year to date ahead of budget! I was thrilled to see so many of you at the Puerto Rico conference, and reception. This year's conference was indeed a successful one with a fantastic turnout. I want to express my gratitude to John Lowenthal, for his leadership and his continued support as our Immediate Past President, along with all the hard work our committees have accomplished this past year.

I am proud to report on the accomplishments of the Professional Certification Program in 2017, along with some plans and goal for 2018. SWSPCP has seen an increased number of PWS's and WPIT's as a result of the certification campaign that was carried out over the last two years. I am pleased to report that some of our PWS have converted to Emeritus status

and also want to welcome several newly credentialed WPIT's. I envision SWS & PCP as a family and strive to increase and strengthen the relationship. In this coming year, the certification committee will continue to welcome and receive new certification applications with open arms to obtain their PWS certification, especially new student WPITs who are the new generation of the SWSPCP family.

The international certification committee is working diligently to develop the certification requirements moving forward to grow our certification program internationally.

We continue to advance our website capabilities and infuse new technologies for www.wetlandcert.org. This includes digital certificates and online processes to streamline our certification program administration. Our vision is to make our website not only a valuable resource for PWS but also for the wetland scientist community. I look forward to another successful year and hope to see everyone again in Colorado!

Warmest Regards,

James Perry, PWS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

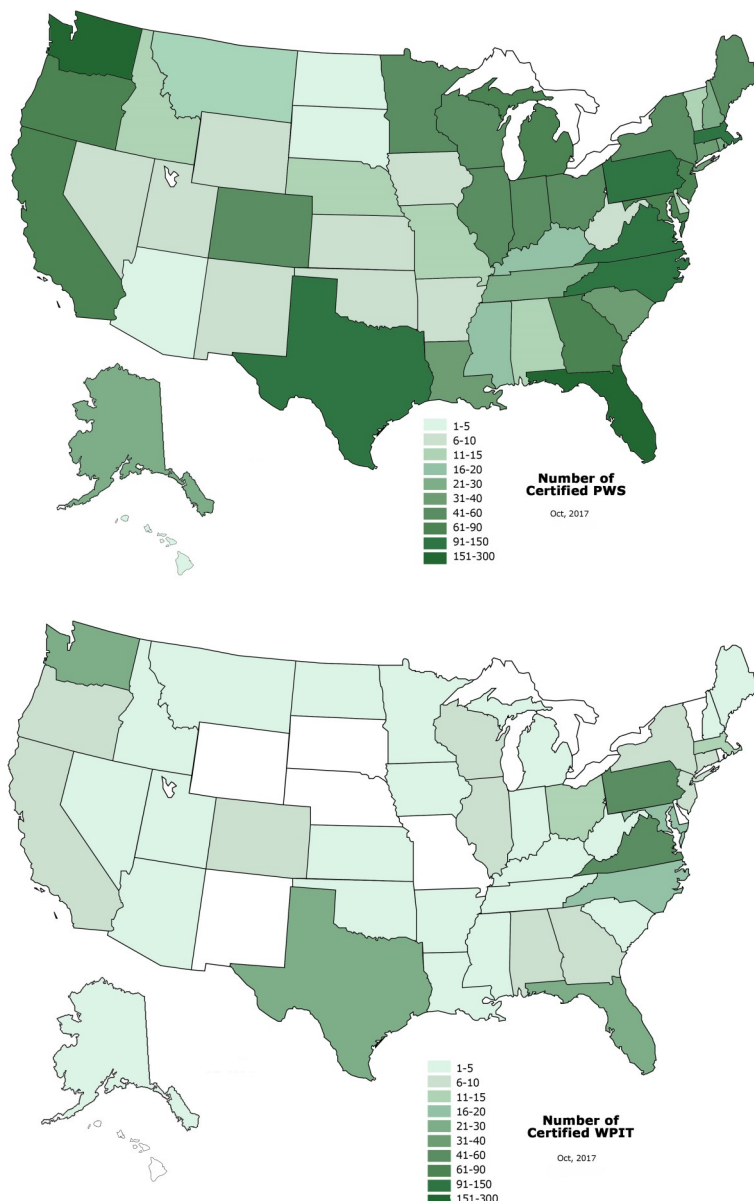
| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| Presidents Corner | 1 |
| Why Become Certified | 2 |
| Overview of the Program | 3 |
| SWSPCP Pre Approved Courses | 3 |
| Pre Approved Courses RENEWAL PROCESS | 4 |
| Annual Meeting | 5 |
| New PWS Certifications | 6-8 |
| Certification Corner | 9 |
| Maintenance / Seal Orders | 10 |
| Maintenance Fee Notice | 11 |
| Note from the Renewal Panel Chair | 10 |

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

WHYBECOME CERTIFIED ? NATIONAL REPRESENTATION

In an ongoing effort to better understand, service, and recognize the breadth of representation by PWS and WPIT across the United States, the SWS Professional Certification Program recently conducted a spatial exploration. The results are quite interesting.

For PWS, the highest concentrations are aggregated in just two states; Florida and Washington. Stand out regions include the West Coast, Great Lakes and the Atlantic Seaboard. Along the Gulf Coast, the state of Texas had the largest concentration of PWS. The story is similar for WPITs with the highest representation in Pennsylvania, Florida, Washington, and Virginia.



OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM

The **Society of Wetland Scientists** was formed to further non-profit scientific and educational objectives related to wetland science. Encouraging and strengthening professional standards in all activities related to wetland science is consistent with these objectives. The Society developed a program for certification of wetland science training and experience as a separate not-for-profit corporation, The SWS Professional Certification Program, Inc., to meet the needs of professional ecologists, hydrologists, soil scientists, educators, agency professionals, consultants, and others who practice wetland science. This program is aimed at serving the public's need to identify qualified individuals to assess and manage the our wetland resources.

WETLAND PROFESSIONAL IN TRAINING VS PWS

Wetland Professional in Training (WPIT) is considered a preliminary step for persons who meet the basic educational requirements but not the experience requirements. Professional Wetland Scientist (PWS) certification is awarded for those meeting both educational and experience requirements.

Minimum degree requirements for WPIT and PWS are the BA or BS degrees, with course distribution of 15 semester hours each in biological and physical sciences and 6 hours in quantitative areas. For certification as a PWS, an additional 15 semester hours in wetland-related courses are required. In addition to comprehensive training in wetland science, a PWS is expected to have professional experience of at least 5 years as a wetland scientist, demonstrating the application of current technical knowledge dealing with wetland resources and activities.

SWSPCP PRE-APPROVED COURSES:

The Society of Wetland Scientists Professional Certification team has created a way for the future certified wetland scientists to know that a short course will qualify as part of the requirements. Applicants seeking certification as a Professional Wetland Scientist or seeking certification renewal are required to document specialized wetland course work. Such training may consist of professional short courses or continuing education courses. The content of such courses varies widely and in many cases may have little applicability to wetland science. To help applicants ensure that professional short courses will be accepted by the Certification Review Panel and the Certification Renewal Committee, proponents of said courses may apply to the Professional Short Course Pre-Approval Program to have their courses evaluated and pre-approved. Such approval provides certain predictability that the course offered will receive credit or points, as appropriate, by applicants seeking PWS certification or certification renewal. This program is not intended for regular semester or quarter hour courses offered by accredited colleges or universities.

The Organizations listed here have submitted one or more courses that have been pre-approved for training credits and/or points by the SWSPCP.



Continued on pg.4

Continued from pg.3



Institute for Wetland & Environmental Education & Research

RICHARD CHINN ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING, INC.

PROFESSIONAL SHORT COURSES NEED TO BE RENEWED

Approved professional short courses will remain valid for a period of 2 years from the date of initial approval, and then subject to a 5-year review and renewal cycle thereafter, unless approval is withdrawn by SWSPCP as described in Section (3) above, or sponsors/instructors voluntarily withdraw the course.

| Individual Courses per year* | 1-5 | 6-10 | 11-15 | >15 |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Course and Instructor Approval fee | \$650 | \$1,200 | \$1,700 | \$2,500 |
| Initial 2-Year Renewal Fee | \$300 | \$600 | \$900 | \$1,200 |
| Thereafter 5-Year Renewal Fee | \$500 | \$1,000 | \$1,500 | \$2,000 |

Sponsors/instructors wishing to extend course approval may re-apply at any time.

However, if a course is taught without pre-approval, an applicant for PWS certification or certification renewal seeking credit for the course will not be guaranteed automatic credit.

2018 SWS ANNUAL MEETING!



The 2018 SWS Annual Meeting will take place at the Denver Marriott City Center. This venue offers breathtaking views of the Rocky Mountains and the Denver city skyline with several restaurants within walking distance of the hotel.

The 2018 SWS Annual Meeting will be held at the Marriott Denver City Center in Denver, CO, USA, on May 29 - June 1, 2018. Save the date!

A block of rooms has been reserved at a special nightly rate of **\$172** per night. Book online or call the hotel at 1.800.228.9290 to make your reservation. Be sure to mention you're with SWS to receive the discounted rate before **May 7, 2018**. <https://www.swsannualmeeting.org/meeting-location/>



NEW PWS CERTIFICATIONS

Congratulations to the following individuals who received their PWS certification:

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| 2715 Marc | Auten |
| 2716 Michael | Takacs |
| 2717 Jeanne | DiFranco |
| 2718 Emily | Foster |
| 2719 Trisha | Stone |
| 2720 Brian | Bury |
| 2721 Paula | Gill |
| 2722 Brady | Trahan |
| 2723 Clay | Fischer |
| 2724 Richard | Gundlach |
| 2725 Kolten | Kosters |
| 2726 Jeffrey | Allen |
| 2727 Mike | Foster |
| 2728 Winthrop | Taylor |
| 2729 Mathew | DeCoursey |
| 2730 Tracy | Sharkey |
| 2731 Christopher | McGinness |
| 2732 Steven | Ball |
| 2733 Jason | Teschler |
| 2734 Victoria | Luiting |
| 2735 Liam | Bevan |
| 2736 Jillian | Arnold |
| 2738 Kazimierz | Wieski |
| 2739 Philip | London |
| 2740 Glenn | Martin |
| 2741 Cory | Darnell |
| 2742 Matthew | Waldrip |
| 2743 Bradley | Luckey |
| 2744 Matthew | Paroulek |
| 2745 Ryan | Mountain |

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| 2746 Edward | Avizinis |
| 2747 Kevin | Webb |
| 2748 Joshua | Glance |
| 2749 Kaitlyn | Kiehart |
| 2750 John | Finley |
| 2751 Jason | Hartshorn |
| 2752 Claire | Hoffman |
| 2753 Kristian | Holmberg |
| 2754 Erin | Gora |
| 2755 Liliana | Hansen |
| 2756 Daniel | Cardoza |
| 2757 G. Alan | Wood |
| 2758 Rebecca | Beduhn |
| 2759 Michael | Rabalais |
| 2760 Carla | Fenner |
| 2761 Benjamin | Furr |
| 2762 Thomas | Slowinski |
| 2763 Lindsay | Merkle |
| 2764 Jocelyn | Wardrup |
| 2765 Cliff | Sunda |
| 2766 Lauren | Shaffer |
| 2767 Casey | Tompkins |
| 2768 Alan | Moore |
| 2769 Dale | Knapp |
| 2770 Alicia | Douglass |
| 2771 Tanner | Harris |
| 2772 Christopher | Gurney |
| 2773 Alexander | Bonazzoli |
| 2774 Dylan | Lueth |
| 2775 Mark | Eldridge |

NEW PWS CERTIFICATIONS

Congratulations to the following individuals who received their PWS certification:

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| 2776 Christopher | Weber |
| 2777 Timothy | Walters |
| 2778 Emily | Choudhry |
| 2779 Sarah | Miloski |
| 2780 Patrick | Ritchie |
| 2781 Elise | Leduc |
| 2782 Amanda | Little |
| 2783 Corey | Novak |
| 2784 Christopher | Berger |
| 2785 Christina | Merten |
| 2786 Larissa | Herrera |
| 2787 Ian | Eckardt |
| 2788 Jessica | Ackerman |
| 2789 Robert | Roos |
| 2790 Michele | Bodtke |
| 2791 Alexander | Levy |
| 2792 Richard | Howard |
| 2793 Matthew | Simpson |
| 2794 Roscoe | Sullivan |
| 2795 Karl | Hoffman |
| 2796 Marshall | Willis |
| 2797 Keith | Carr |
| 2798 Susan | Lindstrom |
| 2799 Michael | Richard |
| 2800 Teagan | Loew |
| 2801 Cesar | Donayre |
| 2802 Debra | White |
| 2803 Nikki | Pisula |
| 2804 Amy | Jones |
| 2805 Kimberly | Bartos |

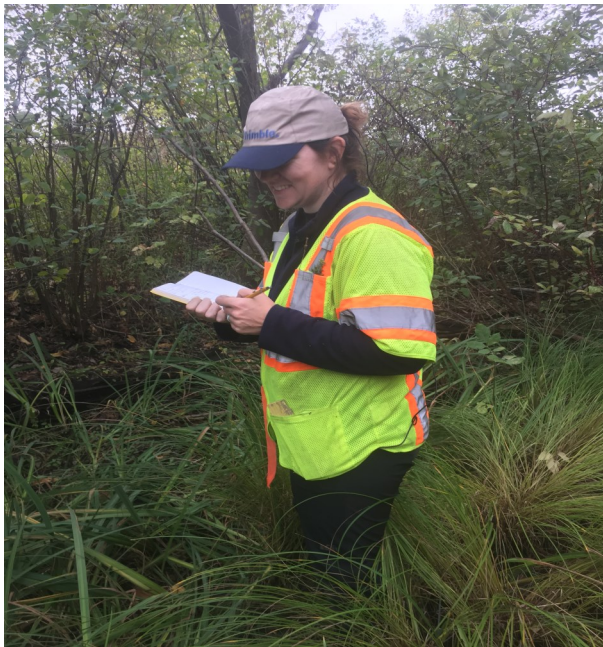
| | |
|---------------|------------|
| 2806 Frank | Henning |
| 2807 Jillian | Olsen |
| 2808 Terry | Burhans |
| 2809 Jeremy | Degler |
| 2810 Brad | Smyth |
| 2811 Nicole | Thomson |
| 2812 Stephen | Dockery |
| 2813 Joseph | Carlo |
| 2814 Kevin | Shelton |
| 2815 Scott | Walters |
| 2816 Tyler | Beemer |
| 2817 Cody | Brounce |
| 2818 Kim | Dixon |
| 2819 Jacob | Bannister |
| 2820 Scott | Martin |
| 2821 Sondra | Collins |
| 2822 Keith | Tollenaere |
| 2823 Daniel | Cox |
| 2824 Jeffrey | Stone |
| 2825 Laura | Meyer |
| 2826 John | Roberts |
| 2827 Jeffrey | Reagan |
| 2828 Harold | Fravel |
| 2829 Evan | Sheppard |
| 2830 McKenize | McKeon |
| 2831 Alex | Brown |
| 2832 Nichoel | Church |
| 2833 Proctor | Grayson |
| 2834 Herman | Hudson |
| 2835 Lailah | Reich |

| | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 2836 Cal | Fontenot |
| 2837 Shelby | Petro |
| 2838 James | Ialeggio |
| 2839 Chris | Cotroneo |
| 2840 Alicia | Metzger |
| 2841 Scott | Brejcha |
| 2842 Aimee | McLaughlin |
| 2843 Sara | Krampe |
| 2844 Jeffrey | Gray |
| 2845 Kristi | Hall |
| 2846 Sara | Nedrich |
| 2847 Jonathan | Hammons |
| 2848 Kyle | Hanson |
| 2849 Steven | David |
| 2850 Vincent | Tremante |
| 2851 Scott | Jones |
| 2852 Daniel | Gillenwater |
| 2853 Parshuram | Acharya |
| 2854 Shane | Brodnick |
| 2855 Joey | Runner |
| 2856 Robert | McInnes |
| 2857 Bipin | Pokharel |
| 2858 Richard | Peel |
| 2859 Colin | Greenwood |
| 2860 Steven | Ivas |
| 2861 Kari | Dupler |
| 2862 Robert | Anderson |
| 2863 Richard | Aldredge |
| 2864 Zachary | Fink |
| 2867 Jodie | Keene |

| | |
|----------------|---------|
| 2868 Justin | Zoladz |
| 2869 Mark | Hurst |
| 2870 Kathryn | Lucier |
| 2871 Dustin | Romero |
| 2872 Nathaniel | Goddard |
| 2873 Jason | Neumann |
| 2874 Millard | Fisher |
| 2875 Matthew | Church |
| 2876 Edward | Tinney |

CERTIFICATION CORNER

From the onset of my childhood, I found a devote interest in observing ecology and chasing waterways at my family's farm in Alberta, Canada. This passion has only been accentuated since receiving my MS in Biology from the University of Windsor in 2013, and into my current position as a Wetland and Streams Ecologist for a Midwest civil engineering company. Obtaining my Professional Wetland Scientist (PWS) certification validates my confidence in the decisions I make on a daily basis, in pursuing greater opportunities, and in mentoring younger individuals in my field of profession. As a biologist, there are few recognized professional designations that set you apart from others in the field. It is for that reason I am grateful the PWS program has accepted me as a new PWS and look forward to carrying on the high standards and ethics that are expected of all PWS's. Kate Lucier, PWS



2018 MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENT

Annual Maintenance Notices are generally sent out via email every last week of December of the current year for fees applicable to the upcoming year. Please be reminded that in order to keep your certification status active, you have to pay your annual maintenance fees.

We have made this process really easy for you. Anytime of the year, you may click on the **maintenance portal** of the SWSPCP site and enter your last name and your six digit member/application number.

http://www.wetlandcert.org/login.html?r=ann_ren

You forgot your six digit member/application number? No worries... on this same link, you can enter your email address associated with your certification account and the system will automatically send via email your member/application number.

MAINTENANCE FEE NOTICE

Annual Professional Wetland Scientist/Wetland Professional in Training Certification Maintenance Fee for 2017

SWSPCP has amended the annual PWS maintenance fee, the five year PWS renewal fee, and the one time Emeritus fee by a minimal \$25 increase on January 1, 2015. The SWSPCP Board unanimously voted to increase these fees after thorough review and due diligence reviewing the current financial and budget demands. The fees have remained the same for the past five years and will be effective for years to come. The remaining fee structure will remain intact.

PWS - \$75.00

WPIT - \$50.00

Only annual certification maintenance fees can be made with this notice.
DO NOT send SWS annual membership fees with this notice.

Name (please print): _____

PWS Number: _____

Application/Member Number: _____

For back dues, kindly indicate the years that you would want your payment to be applied to:

Payment

- ☐ Check Enclosed (*Checks must be made in US dollars and drawn upon a US bank*).
Checks and money orders MUST be made payable to: SWSPCP. Checks made payable to SWS will be returned.
- ☐ Credit Card Payment - VISA OR MASTERCARD ONLY.

Name on Credit Card: _____

Card Number: _____

Card Exp. Date: _____ Security Code: _____ Amount: _____

Name and Billing Address of Cardholder: _____

Cardholder's signature: _____

Remit payment to: SWS/PCP, 2800 W. Higgins Rd. Suite 440 Hoffman Estates IL 60169
or fax this form to 847.885.8393.

Thank you for your payment.

NOTE FROM THE RENEWAL PANEL CHAIR

Greetings from your Certification Renewal Committee. I have the honor of serving as chair of this committee. The committee members are fellow Professional Wetland Scientists and volunteer many hours to provide thoughtful and timely reviews of your certification renewal applications – and they have been very busy in 2017, because all of you take the certification program seriously. We estimate that we have reviewed about 170 applications already this year. The certification renewal process is designed to help all of us maintain high professional standards. I know it is a bit of a drag to have to go through the process every 5 years, but here are a couple of suggestions the committee members want to pass on: [a] Keep good records of trainings, conferences and your work experience; [b] use a brief cover letter to clarify items in your application; and [c] contact the staff at the business office, if you have any questions. They know the ins and outs of the application process. And consider volunteering for one of the many committees that support the program – it is a great way to earn points towards your next certification renewal

Patrick M. Frost, PWS

Committee Chair 2015-2018



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