

Biographical information for EPN and WMAO joint meeting presenters, March 7, 2017

Bob Irvin has been President and CEO of American Rivers since July 2011. As President, Bob leads American Rivers in its mission to protect and restore our nation's rivers. He is responsible for management of the strategic, programmatic, and financial operations of American Rivers. Before becoming President of American Rivers, Bob was Senior Vice President for Conservation Programs at Defenders of Wildlife. Bob has also served as Director of U.S. Conservation for World Wildlife Fund; Vice President for Marine Wildlife Conservation and General Counsel for the Center for Marine Conservation; Senior Counsel for Fish and Wildlife on the Majority Staff of the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works; Counsel and Director of the Fisheries and Wildlife Division, National Wildlife Federation; Trial Attorney in the Civil Division of the U.S. Department of Justice; and was in private legal practice in Portland, Oregon. Bob is an expert in biodiversity conservation, wildlife law, and the Endangered Species Act. He has written and lectured extensively on biodiversity conservation issues. He is the co-editor, with Donald C. Baur, of the American Bar Association's deskbook on the Endangered Species Act, *ESA: Law, Policy, and Perspectives* (2nd ed. 2011). He co-authored, with Michael J. Bean, the chapter on the Endangered Species Act and marine species in *Ocean and Coastal Law and Policy* (American Bar Association 2008). He was a member of the IUCN's Red List Criteria Review Working Group which revised the standards for listing threatened species globally. He has taught Biodiversity Protection at the Vermont Law School for nearly 20 years and has also taught at the University of Maryland School of Law. Bob holds a B.S. degree in Forest Science from Utah State University in 1980. He earned a J.D., Order of the Coif, in 1983 from the University of Oregon School of Law. He has served as co-chair of the Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources Section of the District of Columbia Bar and on the board of directors of the Environmental Law Institute.

Chris Yoder is Research Director at the Midwest Biodiversity Institute where manages and executes cooperative agreements with the U.S. EPA, Office of Water, grants with nongovernmental organizations, and contracts with private and public organizations. He was most recently a senior research associate at the Ohio University Voinovich School for Leadership and Public Affairs (2001-2006) and prior to that Manager of the Ecological Assessment Section at Ohio EPA (1989 – 2001) and supervisor and staff member since 1976. His 40+ years of work experience includes service on national, regional, and state working groups and committees dealing with monitoring and assessment, biological criteria, environmental indicators, and water quality standards (WQS). Primary areas of expertise include fish distribution, ecology, and taxonomy, water quality, biological assessment, monitoring program design and execution, and state bioassessment program review and redesign. He is a lead instructor for the Qualified Data Collector training under the Ohio Credible Data program (2006-present), serves on a U.S. EPA working group for biocriteria and tiered aquatic life uses (2000-present), and the National Research Council committee on the role of science in the TMDL process (2001 and 2013). He received WMAO's Wayne S. Nichols award for his state service in 1997, The Nature Conservancy Outstanding Public Service Award in 2002, and the Environmental Stewardship Award from the Society for Freshwater Science (formerly NABS) in 2009. He has authored 66 technical publications and more than 200 oral presentations. Current research includes biological and water quality assessment, water quality standards (WQS) and policy, and assisting state programs to improve their WQS and monitoring programs.

Andrew Phillips is an Environmental Specialist 2 for the Environmental Protection Agency in the Division of Surface Water in the Ecological Assessment Section. The Ecological Assessment Section (EAS) conducts biological monitoring surveys in streams and rivers throughout Ohio to assess overall integrity of these resources. Andrew is a relative newcomer to the agency, having started full time in 2013. Previously, Andrew was an intern with the agency. He graduated with honors from the Ohio State University School of Environment and Natural Resources in 2013 with a degree in Forestry, Fisheries, and Wildlife with a specialization in Fisheries Science.