



Ensuring the Future of Our Region's Wildlife

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Blue Ridge Wildlife Center Announces Resignation of Executive Director

Boyce, VA – July 1, 2016 - Lisa Goshen, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Blue Ridge Wildlife Center (BRWC), announced that David B. Bancroft, 61, of Berkeley Springs, WV will be leaving as executive director of the BRWC effective July 22, 2016.

“We are very sorry to see David go,” Goshen said. “He has done an amazing job of helping the organization move forward in just fourteen short months.”

Bancroft provided administrative oversight for construction of the new wildlife hospital and rehabilitation center. Additionally, he undertook a complete administrative reorganization, coordinated the updating of the BRWC website and Facebook page, and oversaw security and technology upgrades to ensure excellent communication within and outside the organization.

The construction project's successful conclusion was marked with the big move on June 18-19 into the facility. Bancroft also headed up and coordinated a search committee to find a new wildlife veterinarian. As a result of this search process, Jennifer Riley, DVM joined the staff in February 2016.

“We have been extremely impressed with David's dedication to our staff and the work we do,” stated Riley. “He has been a wonderful administrative leader, always putting our needs first. We are really sorry to see him go, but he has accomplished so much in such a short time. He has built a strong working team and has readied us for our next stage of growth.”

In commenting on his departure, Bancroft said, “With board and staff help, I set about to build a team that could expand into the new wildlife hospital facility and broaden educational opportunities for the public, all the while continuing the important work of rescue and rehabilitation for our native wildlife. I am so proud of all the hard work our board and staff have undertaken to get us here.”

When asked what he would be doing next, Bancroft said, “Well, first of all, I am going to take some time off. Then, I plan to get back to my consulting business serving environmental non-profits. This past year has been a wonderful one, and we accomplished so much. My past experience along with meeting some of the challenges of 2015 will serve me well as I help other similar organizations grow and expand.”

Goshen said, “It speaks to his work ethic and values that he is giving us plenty of notice to start the search process for a new executive director and preside over a smooth transition. We are very appreciative of everything David has done and is doing to help the BRWC.”

Goshen said that a search committee will be formed and in the meantime, Jennifer Riley, DVM will be handling the day-to-day decisions on-site with the assistance of long-time employees, Heather Sparks, Manager of Wildlife and Rehabilitation, Jennifer Burghoffer, Manager of Education, and Jessica Andersen, Wildlife Rehabilitator.

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About Blue Ridge Wildlife Center. The Blue Ridge Wildlife Center is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization located in Clarke County, Virginia and dedicated to protecting the future of our native wildlife through rescue and rehabilitation, education and research. The center assists the native wildlife of Northern Virginia and does not charge for its services. Because the organization does not receive any local, state or federal funding, it is completely dependent on private donations. For further information, please visit www.blueridgewildlifectr.org.