

# Biographies of Authors

## **Authors**

**Kenneth A. Bridle**, Ph.D., has been a professional research scientist for over 20 years. Trained as a botanist with emphasis on plant physiology and natural product chemistry, he has applied these interests to a variety of projects. His experience includes commercial industry and non-profit consulting. He has worked as Biological Inventory Director for the Piedmont Land Conservancy. Currently, Principal Biologist for Heritage Lands Associates, a landscape resource consulting and planning firm. Employed as a conservation consultant for natural area inventory, documentation, design, conservation planning, and research. Consultant to botanical gardens, nature centers, state parks, gardeners, and the conservation community.

**Dennis W. Herman**, B.S., was employed at Zoo Atlanta for 24 years before moving to North Carolina to become the coordinator of living collections at the NC State Museum of Natural Sciences in 1996. While at Zoo Atlanta, he was instrumental in establishing a nationally recognized breeding program for the bog turtle and developing naturalistic habitats for his charges. He has been conducting field studies on the bog turtle in the Southeast, especially in North Carolina, for nearly 25 years. He is the founder and co-chair of Project Bog Turtle and is a member of the US Fish & Wildlife Service's recovery team for the bog turtle.

**A. Barry Nelson**, P.A., is Chief Geohydrologist and Vice President of Engineering Tectonics, Inc., a geotechnical and environmental consulting engineering firm located in Winston-Salem, NC. Educated in geology and civil engineering, Mr. Nelson holds undergraduate degrees from NC State University and has completed graduate studies in the Senior Professional Program at Duke University's Nicholas School of the Environment. His main areas of expertise and research interests lie in surface water hydrology and developing methods of groundwater system monitoring. Mr. Nelson has over 20 years of experience in the consulting field.

**Ann Berry Somers**, M.S., teaches Biology and Conservation at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG). She has been involved in statewide concerns regarding reptiles and amphibians for 25 years, including conducting surveys for the Natural Heritage Program and serving on the Nongame Advisory Committee of the NC Wildlife Resources Commission. She was one of the founding members of the North Carolina Herpetological Society. Student involvement in research is a high priority in her professional life and her teaching includes a course on sea turtle research in Costa Rica. She was the 1998 winner of the Junior Alumni Teaching Excellence Award at UNCG. She is a director of Project Bog Turtle and serves as the Principle Investigator on the project that inspired this manual.

### **Contributors**

**Dick Everhart**, now District Conservationist for Surry County, has worked for the Natural Resources Conservation Service since 1979. He manages the day-to-day activities of the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Surry Soil and Water Conservation District, providing technical and financial assistance to landowners and landusers for managing and improving their natural resources. At this time the focus is working with landowners in the Mitchell and Fisher River watersheds on stream and riparian corridor restoration projects. It was Dick Everhart's efforts and enthusiasm that initiated the projects that inspired this manual.

**Matt Flint**, the NRCS staff biologist, has been stationed in Raleigh, North Carolina since 1995. He provides ecosystem restoration and wildlife conservation planning assistance to the state's Soil and Water Conservation Districts and helps NRCS ensure that Farm Bill programs accomplish their wildlife objectives. His special interests include conservation of native plant diversity, fire ecology, and sustaining healthy wildlife populations around working farms. Flint is a member of The Wildlife Society, Society for Ecological Restoration, and Society of Wetland Scientists.

**Ingrid Franzen** worked as an intern for the Sierra Club of North Carolina and NRCS in 1997 while in graduate school at the Nicholas School of the Environment, Duke University.

**Steven Lund** is a Biologist and Regulatory Project Manager in the Asheville Regulatory Field Office, Wilmington District, Corps of Engineers. Mr. Lund has 22 years experience in the Corps Regulatory Program, working in the Coastal Plain, Piedmont, and Mountains of North Carolina, and in Alaska. In his current position, he serves as the coordinator for NC Department of Transportation projects, wetland mitigation and mitigation banking issues, and other public development projects in a 31-county region of western and south-central North Carolina. Mr. Lund is a certified Professional Wetland Scientist and a member of the Society of Wetland Scientists.

**Nora Murdock** has worked for the past 21 years in the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Endangered Species Program. The two years before that were spent working for the Fish and Wildlife Service's National Wildlife Refuges Division. Two years prior to that she worked with the US Forest Service in coldwater fisheries research and forest diseases. She holds B.S. and Masters degrees in Wildlife Biology and Natural Resources Management from NC State University and Western Carolina University.

**Patrick D. McMillan** is a naturalist/botanist, who grew up in Sparta, NC, where he learned early a deep appreciation for the flora and fauna of the unique wetland communities of the area. He has worked as a curator at the NCSM and as an environmental consultant and ecologist throughout the eastern US. His research interests include the flora and community ecology of Southern Appalachian wetlands, fire maintained vegetation of the southeast, and endangered species biology. Several of the species that have only recently been documented in our area and are included in the appendix were located in the course of his research.

**Elizabeth M. Walton** is the Administrative Director for Piedmont Land Conservancy and a member of Project Bog Turtle. She serves as the database manager for bog turtle field research at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where she is enrolled as a student.