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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
November 1, 2017

Banovich Wildscapes Foundation and Southeastern Wildlife Exposition  
present  
AWARD for CONSERVATION EXCELLENCE (ACE)



sponsored by Cabela's Outdoor Fund, the Cabela Family Foundation & Bass Pro Shops  
February 14, 2018, Gaillard Center, Charleston, SC

### **Award For Conservation Excellence (ACE) 2018 Award Finalists Announced**

George Archibald, PhD. (United States)  
Joel Berger, PhD (United States)  
K. Ullas Karanth, Ph.D, F.A.Sc. (India)  
David Macdonald, PhD (United Kingdom)  
Timothy McClanahan, PhD & Nyawira Muthiga, PhD (Kenya)

**View Finalists:** <http://www.wildscapesfoundation.org/ace-award/conservation-heroes/c/ace-award-nominees>

### **Award for Conservation Excellence (ACE)**

ACE is a non-profit award rewarding and acknowledging exceptional contributors to wildlife conservation. The first ACE Award will be presented at a premier awards ceremony during the Southeastern Wildlife Exposition February 14, 2018 at the Gaillard Center in Charleston, SC.

The ACE Award, sponsored by Cabela's Outdoor Fund, Cabela Family Foundation and Bass Pro Shops, recognizes the enormous contributions of Jim Cabela and Dick and Mary Cabela - extraordinary conservationists and entrepreneurs. **The Award for Conservation Excellence** was created to recognize the exceptional contributions made by some of the world's leading conservationists and is intended to become the most significant award in the conservation arena.

The mission of ACE is to honor and appreciate a legacy of conservation through recognition of men and women who share their passion to conserve the great outdoors, and have made extraordinary contributions to the sustainability of nature and wildlife. The Award will recognize a conservationist's long-term commitment to making our planet a better place, and empower people in both local and international communities to advance wildlife conservation.

### **OVERVIEW**

Many of the world's leading conservationists, biologists and scientists are working tirelessly in the field of conservation to save the world's remaining species. These unsung heroes dedicate their lives to the preservation of flora and fauna, often working in remote, unforgiving wilderness areas under extreme and challenging conditions. In committing to this lifelong journey, they often subject themselves to what some might consider a vow of poverty. With their astute minds and diligent work ethic, they could potentially be the top earners in private industry had they not chosen the unheralded work of the nonprofit world. Instead they are driven by their passion for saving wildlife and making the world a better place.

Today, there is a large public chasm between the hunter/sportsman conservation world and the non-hunting environmental/conservation world; in some circles this disconnect is widening. Banovich Wildscapes Foundation, with support from Southeastern Wildlife Exposition (SEWE), believes that the ACE will not only acknowledge and honor an outstanding individual working for conservation, but will create an awareness of the need for everyone to work together to protect and preserve the earth's wild places and wildlife.

### **FIRST ACE AWARD CEREMONY OVERVIEW**

The first ACE ceremony will honor the world's leading conservationists and provide sponsors and guests the opportunity to experience gourmet cuisine and world-class entertainment. Five finalists have been chosen from across the globe and the First place winner will be awarded a \$100,000 cash prize (donated by The Cabela's Outdoor Fund & Cabela Family Foundation) and a \$5,000 Cabela's gift certificate. Four finalists will receive a \$5,000 Cabela's Gift Certificate donated by Cabela's Outdoor Fund and a \$5,000 cash reward, donated by Bass Pro Shops. Each finalist will be introduced by celebrity guest who will have the opportunity to share a few words about their own project or relationship with wildlife and wild spaces. A short film on each finalist's project will be shown and the finalist will give a brief speech about their project.

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### **SPONSORSHIP LEVELS AVAILABLE**

Several sponsorship levels are available that include exclusive access to the ACE ceremony and SEWE events and national press recognition. Additionally, we are offering five host sponsorships to support the nominees travel expenses to the ceremony.

#### **\$10,000 Level**

- Logo overlay during live stream and recorded versions of ACE ceremony Logo on Corporate Partner Signage – Centrally located "thank you" signage at all venues throughout weekend.
- Logo on SEWE Website – Linkable logo listed on homepage rotation and Corporate Partner Page.
- Name/Logo in Official 2018 SEWE Brochure – 40,000 brochures printed with approximately distributed via direct mail prior to event, included with advance and weekend-of ticket purchases and used throughout the year for promotional purposes.
- Half-Page, Four-Color Advertisement in Official 2018 SEWE Directory – Distributed through the VIP program and placed in host hotels. Also available for public purchase throughout the event and used all year for promotional purposes.
- Name / Logo in 2018 SEWE Section of The Post & Courier – Dedicated full page ad thanking Corporate Partners in special 2018 SEWE insert section.
- Table Sponsor & preferred table location at ACE ceremony dinner (table for 10 people)
- Inclusion in brochure insert & press releases
- Logo presence ACE landing pages across multiple websites for 18 months
- Special recognition during ACE ceremony
- SEWE Preview Gala & Sale & Private viewing hours
- SEWE Soiree tickets
- Reserved seating at all Gaillard Center presentations
- Access to all VIP lounges & Priority Entry to all SEWE exhibits/programs

#### **\$5,000 Level**

- Table Sponsor at ACE ceremony dinner
- Preferred table location
- Event signage
- Included in press releases
- Brochure insert
- Logo presence on ACE landing pages across multiple websites for 18 months
- Special recognition during ACE ceremony
- Two SEWE passes

#### **\$2,500 Level**

- Table Sponsor at ACE ceremony dinner
- Preferred table location
- Two SEWE Passes

#### **HOST an ACE Nominee - \$2,500**

- We are offering FIVE host sponsorships to support the nominees travel expenses to the ceremony.
- Two SEWE passes

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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**307.200.1622**



VENUE: Gaillard Center, Charleston, SC

*"The Award for Conservation Excellence brings a critical focus to the world's dedicated conservationists, and the common ground shared by sportsmen and conservationists. Historically, responsible hunters and fishermen were the first conservationists in all cultures around the world, and today responsible sportsmen contribute significantly to game and fish management and research. This award honors the basic science and conservation upon which modern wildlife management is based. When sportsmen, scientists, and conservationists act together we comprise an enormous constituency that can protect public lands, habitat, and fish and wildlife populations."*

Dr. Frank Lance Craighead, Craighead Institute