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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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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)

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.

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.



ACE (Award For Conservation Excellence) 2018 Award Finalists

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)

VENUE: Gaillard Center, Charleston, SC

