



# 2016 WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AWARDS DINNER

SEPTEMBER 29, 2016 | THE MAYFLOWER HOTEL | WASHINGTON, D.C.

## Award Recipients and Speakers

### **Dr. Lee M. Talbot**, *Legacy Award*

*Presented by Dr. Thomas Lovejoy, Senior Fellow at the United Nations Foundation and University Professor, Environmental Science and Policy, George Mason University*

As one of the original authors of the Endangered Species Act, Lee Talbot has been a committed advocate for endangered species and the preservation of biodiversity for over 60 years. Currently serving as a senior environmental advisor to World Bank and U.N. organizations and a professor of environmental science and policy at George Mason University, he was cited as "an acknowledged leader in the shaping of national and international environmental policies and principles" when receiving the highest award of the American Institute for Biological Sciences. He has advised on environmental issues in 134 countries and conducted over 150 exploration and research expeditions to remote or unknown areas on five continents, usually with his wife Marty Talbot. In addition he is author of over 300 scientific, technical and popular publications. His former positions have included, among others, Chief Scientist and Foreign Affairs Director of the President's Council on Environmental Quality for Presidents Nixon, Ford and Carter, head of Environmental Sciences for the Smithsonian Institution and Director-General of International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources.

### **Donald Barry**, *Spirit of Defenders Public Service Award*

*Presented by Dinah Bear, environmental attorney*

Donald Barry has been a tireless advocate for the preservation of wildlife and public lands for over 40 years, having helped to draft key implementing regulations for the Endangered Species Act and having been involved in every major amendment or reauthorization of the ESA ever since. He spent 19 years at the Interior Department, serving as the Chief Counsel for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and as the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, overseeing the programs and policies of the National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service. After leaving public service, Don worked for 19 years in senior leadership positions within the non-profit conservation community, including Defenders of Wildlife, Environmental Defense Fund, The Wilderness Society, and World Wildlife Fund.

### **Rose Letwin**, *Spirit of Defenders Citizen Advocacy Award*

*Presented by Harvey Locke, Founder of the Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative*

Rose Letwin is the founder, president, and sole funder of Wilburforce Foundation, a private, philanthropic foundation protecting important lands, waters and wildlife in Western North America by empowering conservation organizations and leaders. Since 1991, the Wilburforce Foundation has invested more than \$150 million in conservation efforts. With a long-term commitment to sustaining wild places for the betterment of wildlife and communities for generations to come, Wilburforce is seen as an international leader in collaborative conservation. In 2010, Rose founded the Greenfire Group, a team of individuals committed to a vision of sustainability for the next century. Their project, the Seattle campus where the Wilburforce Foundation's offices are now located, reflects Rose's values and priorities of resource conservation, habitat restoration, urban agriculture and community.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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