

In Memory

Daniel S. Vice

DANIEL S. VICE was a USDA, APHIS, Wildlife Services (WS) employee for >18 years. An avid fisherman, waterfowl hunter, and amazing birder, he was a conservationist who seamlessly blended these passions with the WS mission. He was at the forefront of invasive species management on the island of Guam and the western Pacific. As a wildlife biologist, Dan was instrumental in establishing some of the current efforts regarding the threat of invasive species on insular vertebrates. Moreover, his high professional standards enabled the WS-Guam program to grow, thrive, and perpetuate the agency's mission and made him well-respected among cooperators, senior level management, and field personnel.

Despite many challenges with funding, personnel shortages, geographic restrictions, and the threats of a federal government shutdown, Dan always remained positive, guiding the growth and expansion of the program to eradicate the invasive brown treesnake (BTS) in different ways. As a result of his efforts, the program continued to provide a high level of service to cooperators, and WS-Guam continued BTS interdiction, thus, protecting other ecosystems from this invasive pest.

Dan nurtured and supported new ideas and research to improve how WS could deliver the best product. His dedication was demonstrated by his working on different projects simultaneously, either in research or on programmatic development. Even when on vacation or on the weekend, he always made himself available for consultation.

Dan's noteworthy achievements included: Coco Island rat eradication project; BTS toxicant research and delivery from ground-based

applications; and BTS toxicant delivery via aerial application for larger landscape suppression of the snake. As a result of his efforts, since 1994 >150,000 BTS have been removed from the



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transportation network, and no BTS has been found in cargo or aircraft bound for Hawaii. Additionally, there has been a limited recovery of native birds, reduction in frequency of power outages (caused by BTS), and the ability to provide technical assistance with wildlife hazard assessments for Guam International Airport, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, and American Samoa. His untimely passing has left a large void in the WS-Guam program, and his legacy will long be remembered. His high level of service will continue to be a hallmark of the program on Guam.

In 2015, Daniel S. Vice was posthumously awarded the coveted Spalsbury award, which is given annually to 1 WS employee in the Western Region. The Spalsbury award honors employees who exemplify the highest degree of professionalism, dedication, and personal integrity.

Daniel S. Vice is survived by his wife Dian, daughter Ami, and son Aaron.

*Submitted by Jeffrey B. Flores
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