

Letter from the Editor

Ten-Year Anniversary of *Human–Wildlife Interactions*



TEN YEARS AGO, a new peer-reviewed journal burst onto the scene—a journal dedicated to advancing the science of wildlife damage management and resolving human–wildlife conflicts by providing an outlet for high-quality research on wildlife damage management. Initially, the journal was named *Human–Wildlife Conflicts*, but 2 years later, it was renamed *Human–Wildlife Interactions*. The first issue published during Spring 2007, containing an In the News section written by Rosanna Vail; 14 peer-reviewed articles written by distinguished wildlife biologists; and 3 columns authored by Bruce Leopold, Bill Clay, and Ben West.

That first issue set a high standard for excellence that we have tried to maintain ever since. It is hard for me to believe that 10 years have already passed since the first issue. This issue, Fall 2016, marks our journal's tenth anniversary. I have had the honor to serve as editor of the journal since its creation. Fortunately, I had a wonderful managing editor, Phil Parisi, who ran the editorial office, found reviewers for articles, kept track of manuscripts through the review process, edited them, typeset the articles, and used artistic skill to design each issue. He did the heavy lifting of publishing the journal. Phil retired last year and was replaced by Rosanna Vail, whose article appeared in our first issue. She has done admirably filling Phil

Parisi's shoes and has produced the tenth volume. I thank Joe Caudell who has written the In the News section since 2008 and the Associate Editors listed on the journal's inside front cover. Special thanks go to Bill Clay for his continued support of the journal. *Human–Wildlife Interactions* would not be possible without the hundreds of people who allowed us to publish their research, who served as peer reviewers, and who subscribe to our journal.

This issue also is noteworthy because it marks a changing of the guard. I am retiring as editor of this journal. It is a good time for a transition because *Human–Wildlife Interactions* is on firm ground with the largest backlog of manuscripts in its history and is fiscally sound. It has now been awarded a Journal Impact Factor—an important metric because some scientists do not want to publish in journals without one. Most importantly, I am leaving the journal in strong hands. Dr. Terry Messmer has agreed to replace me as journal editor. Most of you know him already, but for those who do not, he is the director of the Jack H. Berryman Institute, a professor at Utah State University, and has served as editor-in-chief of the *Wildlife Society Bulletin*. I know that under his guidance, the journal has a bright future. In closing, I want to thank our readers. Without you, *Human–Wildlife Interactions* would not be celebrating its tenth anniversary. May God bless you and our journal.

Michael R. Conover, Editor
