

Jonathan W. Gassett

Jon Gassett joined the External Review Panel in 2008. He is Commissioner, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources in Frankfort, Kentucky, a position he has held since June 2005. In that position he supervises the activities, functions, and employees of the Department, working with a current budget of \$54.5 million and a staff of 450 permanent full time employees, 40 contract employees, and 150 interim employees.



Prior to assuming the Commissioner's role, he was Wildlife Division Director and Big Game Coordinator for the Department. He also operates a small business that develops wildlife management plans, conservation easements, and real estate plans with individual landowners and corporate partners that wish to conserve wildlife resources and wild places. He serves as an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the School of Forestry at the University of Kentucky, the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources at Clemson University, and the Department of Biological Sciences at Eastern Kentucky University.

Gassett holds a B.S. in Biology from Kennesaw State University (1993) and an M.S. (1995) and Ph.D. (1999) in Forest Resources from the University of Georgia. He completed the inaugural class at the National Conservation Leadership Institute in 2007.