

## David L. Ledford

David Ledford joined the External Review Panel in 2004. He is currently the Director of the Appalachians Wildlife Initiative for the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF). In this role, he is working to create and develop a new landscape habitat conservation initiative for the RMEF, covering about 4 million acres in Tennessee and Kentucky, and supporting about 4,500 elk. His responsibilities include organizing a coordinated conservation planning process among corporate, agency, NGO, and local and state government personnel, building a network of partnerships, implementing the conservation plan, and developing and executing high leverage conservation strategies that can affect wildlife habitat at a landscape scale.

Before moving to Kentucky, he was Senior Vice President with RMEF in Missoula, Montana, where he managed all of RMEF's field operations. Prior to 1999, he was a wildlife biologist with Smurfit-Stone Container Corporation, an SFI participant with lands in AZ, MT, MI, OH, VA, NC, SC, GA, FL, AL, MS, LA, TX, AR and Costa



Rica. His activities ranged from T&E species issues on federal and non-industrial private lands, to aspen regeneration and grouse and shrub-scrub songbird species, to pine savannah restoration for quail, deer management plans, and bird habitat research in Costa Rican operations. He worked on the SFI wildlife committee and won major recognition in 1998 when Smurfit-Stone was the winner of the AF&PA award for Wildlife Stewardship,

He holds a B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from the University of Tennessee, and an M.X. in Forest Resources from the University of Georgia.