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Acknowledgments

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Quail 8 proceedings and symposium required a small army to be successful. At this writing 5 weeks before the symposium, some key people could be missed in the proceedings acknowledgements, and similarly, institutional contributions in some cases will not be finalized until after Quail 8. Final formal recognition of individuals and institutional contributors will be announced at the meeting and published in the program and on the web site. The formal roles of many of the recognized individuals below, and their affiliations, are listed in the Joint Quail Conference Committees page. Quail 8 was made possible by contributions by the following individuals, listed in roughly chronological order of their contribution to the proceedings, symposium, and Joint Quail Conference.

Quail 8 is part of a series that began in 1972, tying biologists together over decades and across the country. The location in Tennessee was supported by the previous chairs of National Quail Symposia, Dr. Leonard Brennan (Quail IV), Dr. Stephen DeMaso (Quail V), and Dr. John Carroll (Quail 6/Gamebird 2006), and was conceived by Dr. Pat Keyser, University of Tennessee, who announced Tennessee as the host at the Seventh National Quail Symposium in Tucson, Arizona, on January 12, 2012. I relied on the guidance and participation of Lenny, Steve and John, partly for Quail III in 1992, and in 2009 for the transfer of the quail proceedings series to the National Bobwhite Technical Committee (NBTC) and National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative (NBCI), beginning with Quail VII. Together we also agreed to transform the entire series' proceedings to the e-journal, National Quail Symposium Proceedings, forever improving dissemination of each author's publications.

The joining of Quail 8 with the 23rd Annual Meeting of the National Bobwhite Technical Committee (aka, Joint Quail Conference), was supported by NBTC Chairs Chuck Kowaleski and John Morgan, the NBTC Steering Committee, NBCI Director Don McKenzie, and Roger Applegate, Mark Gudlin, and Timothy White of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency.

Collaboration on the Quail 8 proceedings with editors Roger Applegate and Kathleen Ingraham (Allen Press, Inc.) has been transformative in key ways, including frequent editing decisions small and large, and Allen Press's Quail 8 PeerTrack™ online manuscript system. We talked weekly since fall 2016; we have been a great team. Business expertise for the proceedings was provided by Penny Barnhart, and Julia Mitchell and John Aamot of Allen Press, Inc.

The Quail 8 technical program's excellent and diverse quality resulted from leadership by Roger Applegate, Beth Emmerich (NBTC) and Dr. Kelly Reyna (NBTC). Roger also led organization of program moderators, and Beth and Kelly led the Quail 8 Recognition of Excellence and In Memorium programs. Implementation of Quail 8 products, communication, and

services resulted from hard work by Penny Barnhart, Alyssa Merka, Molly Foley and Michele Wilson. Derek Evans and Kenneth Duren (former NBCI staff) established the foundations for communication and organization of Quail 8.

The National Quail Symposium Proceedings e-journal was conceived and implemented by Dr. Rachel Caldwell, University of Tennessee Libraries, graduate student Nick Guernsey, and Alyssa Merka, and guided by decisions by Roger Applegate, Beth Emmerich, and Dr. Kelly Reyna.

The Quail 8 proceedings, timely and of excellent technical quality, required expert communication and technical analysis by the associate editors, working with reviewers and authors (see Reviewers section). The institutes providing in-kind support of Quail 8 via work by Associate Editors are listed in the Institutional Contributors section. Quail 8 Associate Editors included the following individuals: Roger Applegate, Dr. Leonard Brennan, Dr. Brad Dabbert, Dr. Thomas Dailey, Dr. Stephen DeMaso, Kenneth Duren, Dr. Dwayne Elmore, Dr. Joseph (TJ) Fontaine, Dr. Robert Gates, Dr. James Martin, Dr. Mark McConnell, Dr. Theron Terhune, and Dr. Christopher Williams.

The Quail 8 proceedings cover is beautiful and unique among the quail series for representation of the six species of quails in the United States and the sub-species, Masked Bobwhite. David Besenger, a Missouri artist (also the illustrator for Quail III), crafted the 2.5-D images of the quails, and generously donated the copyrights to NBCI. Michael Wifall, an Arizona photographer, donated the Smoky Mountains photo. Alyssa Merka supervised and designed the covers.

The technical program's quality owes much to the invited authors, including Casey Cardinal, Dr. Brad Dabbert, Beth Emmerich, Dr. Eric Grahmann, Dr. James Martin, Don McKenzie, John Morgan, Dr. Frank Thompson, and Dr. John Yeiser.

The technical program was supported by national wildlife leaders. Larry Kruckenberg, Executive Secretary, Western Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA), ensured the National Quail Symposium would be a priority meeting for western state wildlife agencies, including designation as a WAFWA-sanctioned technical workshop. Larry also was the catalyst for participation in Quail 8 by the WAFWA Western Quail Working Group. David Haukos, Editor-in-Chief, Wildlife Society Bulletin, provided the author publication guidelines of The Wildlife Society for use by Quail 8.

The implementation of the Joint Quail Conference, including preparation and follow-up business, was made possible by a dedicated team of individuals under the leadership of the steering committee (see Committees section for details), including the following: Danny Akins, Roger Applegate, Penny Barnhart, Clint Borum, John

Doty, Andy Edwards, Molly Foley, Alyssa Merka, Melissa Raulerson, Stacy Saxton, and Timothy White.

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Please join me in extending a hearty thank you for a job well-done to each of these individuals.

INSTITUTIONAL CONTRIBUTORS

Institutional support of Quail 8 was essential to the publication of the proceedings and to ensure a high-quality experience for symposium participants. At this writing five weeks before the symposium, contributions in most cases will not occur until after the proceedings is printed, and thus, final recognition of contributors will occur at the event and be published in the program and symposium website.

Quail 8 was built on the funding foundation of the National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative, the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, the University of Tennessee, the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program, the

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—*Dr. Thomas Dailey, Chair, National Quail Symposium Technical Committee*