



NOMINATION APPLICATION FORM

Section 1: Applicant Details:

Name: Andrew DiMatteo

Date: 01/12/2022 04:34:31

Email address: andrew.dimatteo@gmail.com

Nominated position: Board of Directors (2 x Positions)

Professional affiliations: CheloniData LLC; McLaughlin Research Corporation

Country of residence: United States

Geographic area of work: eastern United States; Mediterranean Sea

Section 2: Applicant Response:

How would you describe your work with sea turtles?

Researcher – specializing in animal movement, spatial density modeling, and GIS visualization

How many years have you worked with sea turtles?

15

Which Annual Sea Turtle Symposia, or Annual Workshops have you attended?

Symposia – 2007-2011; 2013-2019. Organized the GIS workshop 2014-2016; 2018-2019

Have you been involved with any Symposium activities?

I have made multiple oral and poster presentations, helped with the organization of the Live Auction, provided student presenter feedback, organized workshops, and manned vendor tables.

What would you like the Nominating Committee, Board of Directors, and membership to know about you as a candidate for your nominated position? In what ways would you like to contribute to the Symposium/ International Sea Turtle Society?

My work for United States Navy and State of the World's Sea Turtles involves building coalitions of researchers and conservationists across national boundaries, regions, and the globe. My goal on the Board of Directors will be to ensure that the International Sea Turtle Society and Symposium continue to be inclusive spaces where individuals can interface effectively, regularly, and in a spirit of cooperation for a shared goal. I would also like to improve the Symposium as a venue for technical training in addition to regional coordination and presentation of research, allowing attendees to gain skills rather than just passively see research presented.

How do you envision using the Symposium to advance sea turtle biology and promote conservation?

The Symposium is already a superb venue for researchers to present cutting edge work and interface with collaborators. To build on this, I envision providing more opportunities for students and early career professionals to learn from their more established peers, to bring home expertise to their study sites. I would also like to promote interregional coordination beyond that provided by the MTSG meeting, allowing experts to bring ideas from their regions to others.

Why is the ISTS as an organization important to you, professionally and personally? What is your vision for the ISTS over the next 5 to 10 years?

The ISTS has enabled much of my personal and professional growth over the last 15 years. From my first attendance as a grad student, to organizing and leading workshops, it has allowed me to interface with a diverse array of people and perspectives that I would never have encountered otherwise. I value not only the professional relationships the ISTS has let me build, but the exposure to new cultures and peoples that have become a part of my life in the last two decades. Regardless of

whether the Symposium moves to an every other year format, intermittently online, or stays the same, I will work hard to ensure that these opportunities still exist for others.

Please include a 250-word bio

For over ten years I have worked for the State of the World's Turtle initiative, creating global and regional biogeography maps of marine turtles to inform and connect the global sea turtle community. Through that experience, I have met and interacted with hundreds of data providers across the globe who were kind enough to entrust their data to me, which I find exciting and humbling to this day. More recently I have applied my GIS expertise to animal movement and habitat modeling, working closely with the United States Navy on their at-sea research and compliance efforts for marine turtles. I have been involved in satellite and acoustic tagging of Kemp's ridley, loggerhead, and green turtles on the mid-Atlantic coast of the United States, using these data to explore migratory timing and habitat partitioning in a large estuarine bay. Continuing to build collaborative efforts, I have recently completed large scale spatial density models predicting abundance and distribution for loggerhead turtles in the Mediterranean Sea and loggerhead, green, Kemp's ridley, and leatherback turtles on the east coast of the United States. These models required data from many survey and tagging organizations and would not be possible without the coordination of a diverse set of data providers, which I was honored to be a part of. Though I live in the land-locked state of Colorado, I treasure the opportunities I get to travel to the coast with the sea turtle community.

Photo:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1GT8ihJjElr8HSfWCSSxVqBRgv0guDGHk>

Section 3: Declaration

Circle your response to the below statements:

I am a current member of ISTS Yes

I have read and understand the ISTS by-laws and constitution Yes

I have read and understand the terms of reference for the position which I am nominating for: Yes

For Board of Directors nominees, I understand that the Annual Board Retreat is usually in the 3rd week of August: Yes

For Board of Directors nominees: Please read the following statement and add your initials below to confirm you understand the workload involved:

The Board is a working Board. All members of the Board are expected to carry the workload, share the responsibility of assigned tasks, and respond to written communications – this can typically be 40+ hours per year in addition to the Board meeting at the Symposium and the Board Retreat. If a Board member does not maintain their ISTS membership and demonstrate a high level of commitment to the ISTS as described in the Board members' TORs, they will be asked to resign from the Board. High level of commitment is defined as not missing two consecutive mid-year meetings, except under extenuating circumstances, and annually serving on 1-2 Board task forces, leadership roles, Committees, etc.

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