
SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY: PRODUCING, INCORPORATING, AND ADVOCATING FOR SCIENCE IN THE AGE OF ALTERNATIVE FACTS

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Technical information – along with politics, economics, public opinion, societal values, and legal considerations – is one input into wildlife management decisions. As information consumers, decision-makers require objectivity of those who produce such information, and

should have an understanding of the inference scope and strength (and uncertainty) associated with technical information. Information producers must earn, demonstrate, and protect that reputation of objectivity. Both producers and consumers must both foster and guard a culture of integrity, such that the processes of producing and applying information are transparent and can withstand intense scrutiny. Today, rather suddenly, there is national discourse on these subjects of transparency, professional integrity, and rigorous questioning and defense of scientific information. The discussion of the role of science and scientists in informing public policy has assumed a prominent position in traditional and social media. This panel, consisting of representatives from federal, state, tribal, and non-governmental organizations will engage in this discussion with the audience.