



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release: Sept. 26, 2009

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WARD STONE RECEIVES 2009 NATIONAL SIERRA CLUB AWARD

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. – Ward Stone, director of the Wildlife Pathology Unit of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, had been selected to receive the Sierra Club’s 2009 Distinguished Service Award. This award honors a person in public service for strong and consistent commitment to conservation over a long period of time. The award will be presented in San Francisco at the Club’s annual dinner on Sept. 26, 2009.

Stone has served as the state’s sole wildlife pathologist for the past 40 years. He is responsible for diagnosing, monitoring, and researching the causes of sickness and death in the state’s wildlife and conducting field and site investigations on the impact of pesticides, pollutants, and hazardous materials on wildlife. Prior to serving in this role, he received two honorable discharges from the U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Navy, where he served as a Navy Corpsman.

As one of the nation’s leading wildlife pathologists, he has provided depositions and expert testimony in numerous local, state, and federal court cases, and has also addressed the United Nations on two separate occasions. He can currently be heard on the radio program “In Our Backyard” on WAMC 90.3 FM.

According to Joe Gardner, outings chair for the Hudson-Mohawk Group, “Dr. Stone’s dedication to wildlife and the environment is evidenced by his reputation as a leading advocate and activist for many important environmental issues throughout his career. This commitment, coupled with his willingness to push forward against conflicting corporate and government interests, has garnered him the support and admiration of many of the media, community organizations, and the general public. He has been recognized with dozens of awards and honors throughout his career, and continues to be a champion for important environmental issues.”

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