



# THE NATIONAL CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

*Developing Extraordinary Conservation Leadership*

## NCLI Informational Session

Cohort 17 2023:24

February 22, 2023, at 1:00 PM Eastern

# Agenda

Background/ Overview

Eligibility

Tuition/ Scholarship Funds

Application Process

Selection Process

NCLI Alumni

Q&A



THE NATIONAL CONSERVATION  
LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

*Developing Extraordinary Conservation Leadership*



The NCLI is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that relies on donations from individual contributors and organizational sponsors.

Governed by a Board of Directors.

Staffed by the Management Assistance Team, a part of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies that provides leadership and organizational development to state fish and wildlife agencies and other AFWA member agencies.

Chair – Jimmy Bullock, Resource Management Service, LLC

Vice Chair – Judy Camuso, Maine Dept of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Secretary/Treasurer – Ron Regan, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Lowell Baier, Boone And Crockett Club

Dave Chanda, Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation

Jon Gassett, Wildlife Management Institute

Baaswewe Fred Maulson, Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission

Jonathan Mawdsley, U.S. Geological Survey

Joanna Prukop

Greg Schildwachter, Watershed Results LLC

Scott Talbott, WY Game and Fish Department, Retired

Karen Waldrop, Ducks Unlimited

Nick Wiley, Ducks Unlimited

Steve Williams, Wildlife Management Institute

Board Member Emeritus - Max Peterson, U.S. Forest Service, Retired

Ex Officio – Steve Chase, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



# Mission

The NCLI successfully defies the ordinary, acting to preserve the legacy of our natural resources by developing extraordinary conservation leadership. The unique curriculum challenges assumptions, piques critical thinking, fosters high-trust relationships, and strengthens confidence.

# Format

- Prework
- Fall residency (10 days)
- Peer group consultations (1 x month minimum)
- Significant work on an individual, organization based adaptive leadership challenge
- Spring residency and graduation (3 days)







## The Ideal Applicant/Nominee:

Exceptional mid-career professional with high leadership potential

Significant work experience, yet substantial tenure left within the agency

Commit fully to the program

Reflective and resilient; ready to be challenged and up for deep leadership learning

Willing to explore the edges of their own competence, understanding that their repertoire is likely inadequate given current pressures and expectations

Curious, introspective, open to exploring divergent diagnoses about the challenges they are facing

Willing to explore their own blind spots and the ways they might also be a part of the problems they are trying to solve

Hungry to reconnect to a deeper sense of purpose and to one another

Up for experimenting with novel approaches to their work



State Fish and  
Wildlife Agencies

Federal Agencies

Non-governmental  
Organizations

Native American  
Tribes

Industry

# Eligibility

The NCLI serves diverse natural resource related organizations throughout North America.

Each organization can nominate up to 3 applicants.





# Tuition

Tuition covers lodging, meals, and other program costs for both residencies. It does not cover travel or per diem.

- Full Tuition | \$10,000
- Subsidized Tuition | \$8,000 (for organizations facing financial challenges)
- Tribal Participation | \$6,000. Scholarship funds available through the NCLI Diversity Scholarship Fund and the NAFWS.



# NCLI Diversity Scholarship Fund

Established in 2021 by the Cohort 14 Diversity Working Group to create sustainable diversity in the NCLI program. Provides funds towards tuition and travel for Native American tribal agency participants.

# NAFWS Funding Opportunity for NCLI



Please contact Ashley Mueller for more details: [amueller@nafws.org](mailto:amueller@nafws.org)



# Applicant Mentoring

Created by the Cohort 14 Diversity Working Group. NCLI Alumni volunteer their time to help applicants without access to alumni in their organization navigate the application process and clarify expectations on what it means to be a fellow should they be accepted.

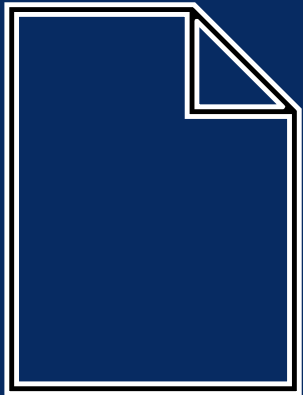


# Application Period

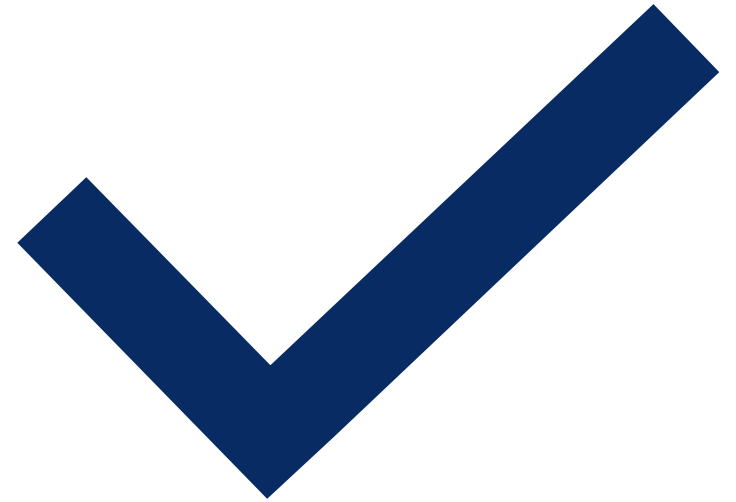
- Applications accepted February 3 – April 15.
- Must be submitted online at [www.conservationleadership.org](http://www.conservationleadership.org)

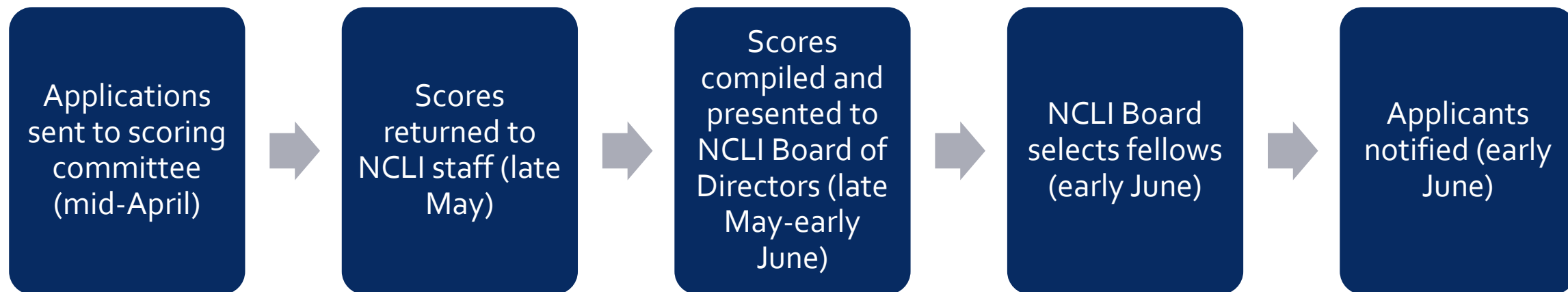


# Application Package Requirements



- Nomination Letter from Director/CEO
- Resume
- Essay
- Three letters of recommendation including one from immediate supervisor





# Selection Process



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# NCLI Alumni



# Questions and Answers



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Thank you for joining us today!

Email: [institute@fishwildlife.org](mailto:institute@fishwildlife.org)  
<https://conservationleadership.org/>