



## Dr. Michael Passmore Class of 2014

Dr. Michael (Mick) Passmore graduated from Las Plumas High School (LPHS) in 1965. As a student there, he played 2 years JV baseball, 2 years varsity baseball and was captain and most valuable player in 1965. He lettered in JV and varsity basketball and was captain his senior year. Mick was also active in Associated Student Body activities, serving as student body president in the fall of 1964 and senior class president in spring of 1965. He was a member of the LPHS band all 4 years.

He attended Yuba College where he lettered in baseball. He then studied at Oregon State University in Corvallis, OR, where he earned BS and MS degrees in Wildlife Science. His MS research on Band-tailed Pigeons stimulated permanent changes to hunting seasons in Oregon and Washington which facilitated improved protection for that species. Then it was on to Texas A&M University where he earned his PhD in Wildlife Ecology. While at Texas A&M, he was awarded the Rob and Bessie Welder Wildlife Foundation Fellowship to support his dissertation research on the ecology of common ground doves.

Mick's long and distinguished career officially began in Walla Walla, WA where he accepted a Wildlife Biologist position with the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). As the lead biologist in the District's Environmental Planning function, he led studies and public meetings throughout Wyoming, Nevada, Utah, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. In 1987, he was selected as Chief of the Environmental Resources Branch with responsibilities for all district studies in wildlife, fisheries, cultural resources, and master planning. In 1996, he was promoted to Branch Chief in the USACE Environmental Laboratory (EL), Vicksburg, Mississippi.

During the last 8 years of his career, he was instrumental in developing and executing the EL Leadership Development Program (LDP), which became the model for the USACE Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) LDP in Mississippi, New Hampshire, Illinois, and Virginia. He also instructed the Army Leadership Education and Development (LEAD) course for 6 years in Vicksburg, training over 150 personnel. After a temporary detail as the Ecological Engineering Division Chief, he was selected as Deputy Director of EL, managing 300 scientists and engineers with an annual research budget of around \$100M. He retired from USACE-EL in 2010. As a Leadership Consultant following his retirement, he led the training of ERDC supervisors until 2013.

Mick was bestowed with numerous honors and awards during his career. Early on, he received awards for Supervisor of the Year and outstanding performance and achievement. Other honors included the Department of the Army Superior Civilian Award, the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Military Fish and Wildlife Association, the Department of Army Bronze de Fleury Medal (third highest civilian award in the USACE), and the Distinguished Graduate Award from Oregon State University, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife.

Over the years, he was published several times, authoring articles in professional journals and also gave numerous presentations. He maintains membership in the National Military Fish and Wildlife Association, and served as newsletter editor, vice-president, president elect, president, and past president. He held several positions in The Wildlife Society (TWS) throughout his career. Recently, as a member of the Washington Chapter of TWS, he co-chaired the 2014 "Enhancing Northwest Wildlife Program Delivery" meeting which was attended by almost 300 biologists in 5 professional organizations representing 14 states and 4 Canadian provinces.

He served his community in Walla Walla, WA, as Boy Scouts of America Assistant Scoutmaster for 8 years, and coached Little League baseball and youth soccer. In Wahkiakum County, WA, he graduated from the Citizen's Law Enforcement Academy, and is currently volunteering in the county's Adult to Youth Mentoring Program. In 2014, Mick earned Master Hunter certification from WA Department of Fisheries and Wildlife.

Living in the Pacific Northwest community of Cathlamet, WA with his wife Elise, Mick plans to continue fishing, hunting, camping, birdwatching, photographing and enjoying the outdoors with his family.