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**Alaska Wilderness League Announces Election of John Gilroy, Doug Ray,
Richard Spener and Mark Wolf-Armstrong to Board of Directors**

Washington, DC — Alaska Wilderness League today announced that John Gilroy, Doug Ray, Richard Spener and Mark Wolf-Armstrong have joined the Board of Directors effective immediately. The new members bring a wealth of experience leading conservation efforts across the country.

John Gilroy is the Associate Director of the Campaign for America's Wilderness and resides in Pittsford, NY. For the past 13 years he has worked on wilderness and forest protection issues with the Campaign and several other national and regional campaigns that he helped develop. In 1993, John was with the Rockefeller Family Fund; and from 1988 until 1992 he was the Executive Director of the Vermont Public Interest Research Group. He is a graduate of Georgetown University Law Center (JD) and New York University (BA). He also serves on the boards of the Vermont Energy Investment Corporation and Public Interest Projects.

Doug Ray hails from Oceanside, Oregon and has been working to balance the needs of people with the needs of nature in his work as an ecological and natural resource consultant. He helps minimize the impact of land development on wetlands and oversees the design and construction of new wetlands when it is necessary. His work is directly linked to his experiences in the Alaska wilderness because it has to be done with an immense amount of humility in order to succeed. His passion for Alaska has shaped his life and who he is today.

Richard Spener is owner of a midwestern manufacturers' food service equipment representative firm. He currently serves on the advisory board of the Hotel and Restaurant Management program at the University of Missouri in Columbia and is active in the local Sierra Club as a trip leader and canoeing and kayaking instructor. Richard's first trip to Alaska was in 1987, when he and his wife, Toni Armstrong, sea-kayaked in Glacier Bay. Since then, they have paddled and hiked in Alaska a total of 12 times, including five unguided trips to the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. As Refuge advocates and avid photographers they have been politically active, supporting candidates who are favorable to Alaska wilderness conservation. Richard lives in St. Louis, MO.

Prior to joining the League's Board, Mark Wolf-Armstrong served as Founding President and CEO of Restore America's Estuaries, a national nonprofit coalition dedicated to restoring coastal habitat



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and ecosystems. Mark brings 30 years of experience in private business and public service, including Executive Vice President of Rails-to-Trails Conservancy; Executive Director of The Nature Conservancy of Ohio; and Deputy Director of the Ohio Department of Aging. He has explored the far reaches of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge by raft and foot, and the fjords of Southeast Alaska by kayak. Mark holds a Masters Degree in Anthropology from Kent State University and lives in Seattle, WA.

“I am pleased to have conservation leaders of this caliber joining the League’s Board,” says Tom Champion, Chairman of Alaska Wilderness League’s Board of Directors. “Their wide breadth of experience will help to guide and maintain the vision and mission of Alaska Wilderness League as we move into a new era of Alaska wilderness lands protection.”

About Alaska Wilderness League:

Alaska Wilderness League's mission is to lead the effort to preserve Alaska’s wilderness by engaging citizens, sharing resources, collaborating with other organizations, educating the public, and providing a courageous, constant and victorious voice for Alaska in the nation’s capital. It is the only organization dedicated solely to the preservation of Alaska's wilderness in the nation's capital. Go to www.alaskawild.org to find out more.

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