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Passionate Advocate Returns to Alaska Wilderness League to serve as Executive Director

WASHINGTON, DC – Alaska Wilderness League (the League) today announced that its Board of Directors has appointed Adam Kolton as the new Executive Director, effective October 10, 2017.

“Following an extensive national search, the board of Alaska Wilderness League is delighted to announce that Adam Kolton has been selected as the Executive Director,” said **Betsy Loyless, Board Chair of Alaska Wilderness League**. “Adam is an accomplished and experienced leader who brings new energy and both continuity and change to the League. He embodies the principles and practices of Alaska Wilderness League with a deep commitment to our mission. Adam has a clear understanding of the League’s campaigns and policy, a long history of effective leadership and collaboration in the conservation community and the strategic vision to address the challenging times ahead. We look forward to the addition of Adam’s skill, passion and commitment to heighten public support for the effort to protect Alaska’s endangered lands and waters.”

Adam has more than 25 years of nonprofit leadership and conservation experience. He joined the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) in June 2002 and currently serves as its Vice President of National Advocacy, managing its Washington, DC office of more than 40 conservation policy experts, advocates, attorneys and organizers. He previously served as the group’s Legislative Director, helping set strategy and coordinate outreach to members of Congress on key campaign priorities, including clean water and wetlands issues, energy policy, federal appropriations for wildlife conservation and protection of public lands in Alaska and the Rocky Mountain West. While in that role, The Hill newspaper named him one of the nation’s top environmental lobbyists.

Prior to NWF, Adam served as the Arctic Campaign Director for the Alaska Wilderness League from 1997 to 2002, where he helped lead the community’s successful campaign to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge from the most serious political challenges it had faced in decades. At the League, Adam traveled extensively throughout Alaska, frequently appeared on national media outlets like CNN and Fox News, and testified on and debated Arctic wilderness issues in many venues.

“I’m deeply humbled to have been selected for one of the greatest conservation jobs anywhere in the country,” said **Adam Kolton**. “For me this is the chance to return home to an organization I spent my formative years at and an opportunity to fight alongside the great team at the League and with our conservation and tribal partners in Alaska and around the country.”

Alaska Wilderness League was founded in 1993 as a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation to further the protection of amazing public lands and waters in Alaska. The League is the only Washington, DC-based



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environmental group devoted full-time to protecting the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and other wilderness-quality lands in Alaska. Our mission is to lead the effort to preserve Alaska's wild lands and waters by engaging citizens and decision makers with a courageous, constant, victorious voice for Alaska.

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