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# Conservation Commission Welcomes New Commissioner Nicole Wood

AUGUST 02ND 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

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## **Conservation Commission welcomes new commissioner Nicole Wood**

The St. Francois County outdoor enthusiast brings experience and passion to MDC.

Jefferson City, Missouri - Gov. Greitens announced on July 31 the appointment of long-time conservationist and outdoor enthusiast Nicole Wood to the Missouri Conservation Commission. The Governor has appointed Wood to a term that expires June 30, 2023. Wood replaces James T. Blair, IV, of St. Louis whose Commission appointment expired. Wood's appointment will be subject to confirmation by the Missouri Senate.

Wood is the director of operations at Woodland Operations and Maintenance, where she is involved in the daily management of 20,000 acres of land in the Missouri Ozarks. She is only the fifth woman appointed to the Conservation Commission in the Department's 80 year history.

"Nicole's passion for the outdoors and her strong business acumen will be extremely beneficial to the Commission's ongoing work in strategic planning, budget guidance, and Wildlife Code regulations," said Missouri Department of Conservation Director Sara Parker Pauley.

Wood serves on the boards of the National Wildlife Federation, Conservation Federation of Missouri, Parkland Hospital Foundation, and the National Wildlife Federation

Endowment. She and her family share a passion for the outdoors.

“Missouri has the best Department of Conservation in the United States and, to be part of that as a commissioner is an incredible honor,” Wood said. “I look forward to working with all the commissioners, staff and citizens on continuing to make the Department the best in the country.”

Her interest in the outdoors started at a young age while on family hunting and fishing trips. She enjoys floating, rafting, kayaking or just sitting on a gravel bar. Wood also has a family history of commitment to conservation with her father, Howard Wood, serving as commissioner from 1997 to 2003.

The Missouri Conservation Commission controls, manages, restores, conserves and regulates the bird, fish, game, forestry and all wildlife resources of the state, including hatcheries, sanctuaries, refuges, reservations and all other property owned, acquired or used for such purposes, as well as the acquisition and establishment of those properties.

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