

**IBA 2020 Elections
Candidate for Councillor
Colleen Olfenbuttel**

**Affiliation: North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
Certified Wildlife Biologist ® Black Bear and Furbearer Biologist
Country: United States of America
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I am the Black Bear and Furbearer Biologist for North Carolina and have been involved in bear research and management for 20 years. I received my B.S. in wildlife biology from Ohio University (1996) and my M.S. in wildlife management from Virginia Tech (2005). I have been a member of the IBA since 1999 and serve on the IBA Management Committee. I also currently serve on the SEAFWA BearWise Committee (bearwise.org) and the Eastern Black Bear Workshop Steering Committee, previously served as co-chair of the SEAFWA Large Carnivore Working Group (LCWG), and am a current member of the Southern Appalachian Black Bear Study Group and LCWG. I am very optimistic about IBA's future and feel that my experience serving on various bear committees, hosting and organizing meetings and conferences, as well as serving in leadership positions in other organizations (e.g., The Wildlife Society), will be useful in guiding IBA as it implements the structural plan. It is a privilege to be nominated and if elected, I am excited to be a part of the IBA's transition to better serve the conservation and management of bear species and our membership around the globe. I would be honored to be elected and members can be assured I would strive to fulfill the expectations you have for your Council. I have benefited greatly from my membership and involvement with IBA and look forward to giving back to the association and helping IBA realize its true potential.

