

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Canadian Section - 2016

*The **Wildlife Society Distinguished Service Award** recognizes TWS members who have made a long-term commitment to the Society based on at least 20 years of membership and their actions to further the mission of the Society. The member is someone who is/was “always there” and could be counted on to serve the chapter, section, or international organization.*



Elston Dzus

Unit Leader of Environmental Sciences Team
Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries

Dr. Dzus received his MSc at the University of Manitoba and PhD at University of Saskatchewan, where he worked on wetland characteristics influencing mallard demography. He currently works for Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries where he coordinates ecological research as it relates to Forest Management. Elston has worked extensively with caribou conservation and was the Research Coordinator for Boreal Caribou Research Program. During his career he also taught at the Universities of Alberta and Calgary, worked with Ducks Unlimited and the Canadian Wildlife Service and as a fishing guide. He has maintained bald eagle studies in northern Saskatchewan that now are some of the longest on-going studies in North American. Elston became a member of The Wildlife Society in 1988, well before the existence of the Canadian Section. He stepped in to serve as a Director for the Manitoba Chapter in 1988 and its President-elect in 1989. From 1999 to 2001 he served in the positions of President-elect, President, and Past President for the Alberta Chapter. While President of the Alberta Chapter, Elston teamed up with the President of the Manitoba Chapter, Dr. Rick Baydack, and pitched to TWS Council the idea of hosting TWS' Annual Conference in Canada. The bid was successful, and Elston then turned his attention and energy to helping ensure the success of the 2004 Annual Conference in Calgary, Alberta. Elston continues to be active at the Chapter level, currently serving in 2015-17 as an Executive Director. Elston also contributes to TWS' mission by applying his expertise in forest wildlife ecology and management as a peer reviewer for the *Journal of Wildlife Management*. He also has published his research findings in *Journal of Wildlife Management* and has shared his research in TWS conferences at the chapter, section, and international levels.