



School of Natural Resources
and the Environment

Seminar Series: Spring 2023

REFLECTIONS ON A CAREER IN WILDLIFE SCIENCE AND CONSERVATION: 30 YEARS AND COUNTING

SPEAKER: Dan Varland, Coastal Raptors

DATE: Wednesday, February 22nd

TIME: 3:00-4:00 pm

LOCATION: ENR2 S210 & [Zoom](#)

ABSTRACT:

It is a pleasure to escape the rainy Washington State coast to enjoy several days in Tucson, but a far greater pleasure to reconnect with Dr. Javan Bauder. Javan and I first met when he was a 14-year-old with an emerging interest in wildlife science.

For several years I had the privilege to act as a mentor. We stayed in touch throughout Javan's university and early career years to present time where he serves as Assistant Unit Leader for the Arizona Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit here at the University of Arizona. When we talked about the opportunity for me to present a seminar, he suggested that I share my career path and experiences as a community college instructor, as a wildlife biologist for the timber industry, and currently as director for the non-profit Coastal Raptors. While I prepared my seminar, I was reminded of a line from Stairway to Heaven, a 1971 rock song of my youth: "Yes, there are two paths you can go by, but in the long run there's still time to change the road you're on." During my presentation, I'll stress the importance of mentorship to career development, I'll point to the value of collegial relationships and participation in the science community, and I'll share the benefits of networks formed from participation in professional organizations.

