

Steve Rader

NASA Center of Excellence for Collaborative Innovation



Steve currently serves as the Program Manager of NASA's Center of Excellence for Collaborative Innovation (CoECI) and the NASA Tournament Lab (NTL) which are working to infuse challenge and crowdsourcing innovation approaches at NASA and across the federal government. CoECI focuses on the study and use of curated, crowdsourcing communities that utilize prize and challenge-based methods to deliver innovative solutions for NASA and the US government.

In 2015, Steve was named as one of 20 Challenge Mentors for U.S. Government Services Administration's (GSA) Prizes and Challenges government-wide community of practice. Steve has worked with various projects and organizations to develop and execute over 100 different challenges. He speaks regularly about NASA's work in crowd-based challenges and the future of work both publicly and internally to the NASA workforce to promote the use of open innovation tools.



Steve has a Mechanical Engineering degree from Rice University and has worked at NASA's Johnson Space Center for 33 years. Prior to joining CoECI/NTL, Steve worked in mission control, flight software development for the Space Shuttle and International Space Station, command and control systems development for the X-38, and led the Command, Control, Communications, & Information (C3I) architecture definition for the Constellation Program.

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Paul Rauch

Assistant Director Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program



Paul Rauch is the Assistant Director for Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration (WSFR) for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service). Mr. Rauch is responsible for the administration and oversight of federal grant programs that provide over \$1.5 billion of funding annually to help States, territories and the District of Columbia conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, their habitats, and the hunting, sport fishing and recreational boating opportunities they provide. During his tenure as Assistant Director, Mr. Rauch has focused on program improvements through collaboration with State and industry partners.

Previously he has served as Assistant Director for Business Management and Operations for the Service. In this role, he served as the Chief Financial Officer, Head of the Contracting Activity, Designated Safety and Health Official, and Senior Sustainability Officer, while leading the financial operations, procurement, facilities, personal property, engineering, economics and safety programs for the organization. In addition to his business management experience, Mr. Rauch has a background in natural resource management and has worked in a variety of positions over his 30 - year career with the Service.

<https://www.fws.gov/program/wildlife-and-sport-fish-restoration>

Jarah Meador

Director Open Innovation Programs (Challenge.Gov and CitizenScience.gov). Technology Transformation Services, GSA



Jarah is the Director, Open Innovation Programs at the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA). In this capacity, she leads GSA's crowdsourcing, citizen science and prize competition open innovation portfolio that includes Challenge.Gov and CitizenScience.Gov. Previously, she led the open innovation sourcing program at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Center for Innovation. This portfolio included prize competitions, broad agency announcements, and pay for success/social impact financing. A Science and Policy Technology Fellowship from the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) brought her to the federal government in 2013 and ignited her interest in open innovation.

As a fellow with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), she led her first challenge – a large-scale desalination technology development prize competition. Prior to her work in government Jarah was a research scientist working on projects related to DNA repair, environmentally-induced cancer, and radiation biophysics. She is also a U.S. Air Force veteran and served as a flight medic in the 433rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron at Kelly/Lackland Air Force Base during her time in the military. Jarah has a PhD in Cancer Biology from the University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

