

Adam Kolton rejoined Alaska Wilderness League as its executive director in October 2017, overseeing its 17 person staff in Washington, DC and Alaska and working in service of its more than 100,000 members and supporters. Earlier in his career he worked for the organization as its Arctic Campaign Director, leading the successful defense of the Arctic Wildlife Refuge during the early George W. Bush years. In that role, Adam traveled in Alaska extensively, working with Native leaders and state-based groups and experiencing many of the state's iconic landscapes firsthand. He also testified before Congress, debated Arctic drilling before the House Democratic Caucus, the DC Bar Association and on major news outlets like CNN and Fox News. Between stints at the League, Adam held three different positions at National Wildlife Federation over the course of 15 years, most recently overseeing its 40 person Washington, DC office as Vice President of National Advocacy. During his NWF tenure Adam was once named one of the top environmental lobbyists by The Hill. He oversaw legislative strategy and campaigns related to the protection of public lands in the Rocky Mountain West, funding for agriculture conservation, the reform of U.S Army Corps of Engineers policies and the protection of millions of acres of wetlands and streams. Adam was also a co-chair of the America's Great Waters Coalition and helped re-launch National Wildlife Federation Action Fund and its associated bipartisan political activities. Adam has had a variety of other roles including working in the public affairs department of Sierra Club, as the lead media coordinator for a 1992 presidential environmental forum and as a technical advisor of conservation awards given out by President George H.W Bush. Outside of the conservation arena, Adam co-founded a consumer advocacy group called Sports Fans United and an organization that arranged youth baseball events in and cultural exchanges with Puerto Rico. Adam graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and has degrees in journalism and history. He lives in Bethesda, MD with his wife Laura, two boys and dog Riley.