Dr. Clifford S. Duke

Dr. Duke joined the Ecological Society of America (ESA) as Director of Science Programs in January 2003. The Science Office originated with ESA's Sustainable Biosphere Initiative in 1992, and focuses on the application of ecological science to environmental problem solving. To that end, the Office works with ESA members, other professional societies, and public agencies to develop workshops and publications on a variety of topics related to ecosystem sustainability, global change and biodiversity.

Before coming to ESA, Dr. Duke worked for 13 years in environmental consulting, managing preparation of environmental impact statements and ecological risk assessments for Department of Defense and Department of Energy facilities nationwide. He also contributed to a variety of transportation projects, from the environmental impact statement for the breakup of the Conrail railroad, to the planning of a bicycle trail in Washington, DC. Most recently, Dr. Duke ran the Arlington office of The Environmental Company, Inc., a firm headquartered in Charlottesville, VA.

Trained as a marine ecologist, Dr. Duke received his Ph.D. in Botany from Duke University, studying with Dr. Joseph Ramus at Duke University Marine Laboratory. Duke also obtained an M.A. in Public Policy Science from Duke University's Institute of Public Policy. Following his graduate studies, he held postdoctoral positions at Northeastern University, Wellesley College, and the Harvard School of Public Health, before moving into the consulting field. In addition to his BOSC service, Dr. Duke currently serves on the Sustainable Rangelands Roundtable and the Board of Directors of the Chesapeake Potomac Regional Chapter of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry. He is also an active member of a number of other professional societies, including the Society for Risk Analysis and the National Association of Environmental Professionals.