

IJWF Outstanding Associate Editor Award 2020

BRET BUTLER

Bret Butler, US Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station.

The reputation and performance of a journal's Editorial Board is vital in maintaining the quality and continually improving the stature and visibility of that journal. On this note, we are very pleased to announce that Bret Butler is the winner of the Outstanding Editor Award of the *International Journal of Wildland Fire* for 2020. Please join us in congratulating Bret for his many years of dedicated and exceptional service to the journal as an Associate Editor.

Bret began his career with the US Forest Service in 1992 when he was hired by Dick Rothermel and Don Latham. His initial focus was to manage the experimental program directed at developing a new fire spread model. In 1994 Bret worked with his colleagues at the Firelab and MTDC to complete the fire behaviour analysis of the South Canyon Fire. This was a watershed point in his career and led to his subsequent focus on developing more quantitative guidelines for firefighter safety zones and escape routes. It also led to his efforts to develop a tool for simulating winds at a fine spatial resolution and eventually the development of the WindNinja wind modelling tool.

In the mid-nineties Bret worked to save the IAWF and IJWF which had fallen on tough financial times. He was part of a team that organised several international conferences, supported the reinvigoration of IJWF, and assisted in publishing a severe backlog of accepted but unpublished papers. He was a member of the Board of Directors of IAWF for several years and has



been a member of the Editorial Advisory Committee as well as an Associate Editor for IJWF since that time. We are pleased to add the 2020 IJWF Outstanding Editor Award to his impressive list of achievements, and most whole-heartedly thank him for his exceptional service to the Journal.

In retirement, Bret hopes to remain in touch with wildland fire research, but is looking forward to spending time with Suzanne, his wife of 33 years, exploring our marvellous world.