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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AARON GRIMSLEY RECEIVES CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR AWARD FROM LOCAL DU CHAPTER

Manassas, VA – March 1, 2021 – Aaron Grimsley was recently awarded the 2020 Conservationist of the Year Award by the Prince William Chapter of Ducks Unlimited at their 43rd Annual Virtual Fundraiser and Auction. The award recognizes outstanding achievements in conservation, particularly in the waterfowl arena.

Grimsley, a member of Ducks Unlimited for nearly 30 years and a Prince William DU chapter member for 3 years, demonstrates positive conservation principles and has undertaken conservation efforts over a number of years that have shown long-term benefits for water, soil and living things.

Grimsley began building bluebird boxes as a youngster and eventually managed the Bluebird Trail on the Quantico Marine Base. His volunteerism has spanned from improving the habitat on C.F. Phelps Wildlife Management Area in Summerduck, VA, to managing and teaching a "Field to Table" game processing seminar, to his active and ongoing membership with the Delta Waterfowl Foundation.

As a 19 year member of the Fairfax Wildlife Club, Grimsley's involvement includes management of their fishing derby and youth archery range. He is also the chairman of the book program at the club which has donated more than \$2,000 to the local schools for books on conservation.

Grimsley is active in the VA Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) and often teaches at the annual VA DWR Youth Hunter Weekend where he instructs students in shooting and hunting. He also instructs at the annual DWR Youth Hunter Education Challenge.

As a volunteer Hunter Education Instructor for the DWR, Aaron has compiled over 3,000 hours to teaching students young and old to hunt safely as well as teaching conservation education. He's an Instructor's Instructor, teaching new Hunter Education instructors as well as advance training for seasoned instructors. He rounds out his service to this organization as their Secretary for the past 7 years.

In July 2019 Grimsley was honored by the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and the Virginia Conservation Police Officers as a "Wildlife and Natural Resources Protector" for his countless hours of support to protect Virginia's wildlife and natural resources.

"In light of Aaron's long-standing passion for conservation and the great outdoors, combined with his achievements and contributions to the cause, we are honored to bestow this award to such a worthy recipient," said Chip Rohr, PW Ducks Chapter President.

To learn more about the Prince William Chapter of Ducks Unlimited and how you can become involved at the local level, please contact Chip and Nancy Rohr at (703) 369-7821.

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Ducks Unlimited Inc. is the world's largest nonprofit organization dedicated to conserving North America's continually disappearing waterfowl habitats. Established in 1937, Ducks Unlimited has conserved more than 14.5 million acres thanks to contributions from more than a million supporters across the continent. Guided by science and dedicated to program efficiency, DU works toward the vision of wetlands sufficient to fill the skies with waterfowl today, tomorrow and forever. For more information on our work, visit www.ducks.org.