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**Dr. Rich Reading, VP of Science and Conservation, Butterfly Pavilion, Newly
Appointed as Vice Chair of the Colorado Parks
and Wildlife Commission**

Denver, Colorado – July 3, 2023 - The Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission announced last week the appointment of Dr. Richard Reading, Vice President of Science at Conservation at Butterfly Pavilion, as Vice Chair of the Commission. The decision was made during the Commission's recent meeting, where Dallas May was also named the Commission Chair and Karen Bailey was elected as Secretary.

Dr. Richard Reading, a public-at-large representative since 2022, brings a wealth of experience and expertise to his new role. Reading holds significant positions within academic institutions such as the University of Denver and Colorado State University. He is also a Fellow with the University of Nebraska's Center for Great Plains Studies. Reading received a Ph.D. and three master's degrees from Yale University in Wildlife Ecology and Human Dimensions of Wildlife and an Honorary Doctorate from the National Education University of Mongolia.

In 2020, Rich was honored to receive the Order of the Polar Star, the highest honor from the Mongolian National Government for expatriates, for contributions to conservation. He has conducted or overseen projects in dozens of countries, working primarily on grassland and arid ecosystems on six continents, with a focus on the Great Plains of N. America, the steppes and deserts of Mongolia, the savannahs and deserts of Botswana, and the Altiplano of Peru.

Reading serves on the boards of directors or advisors for several non-profit organizations in the U.S. and overseas. With an extensive background in scientific research and conservation, Dr. Reading has published numerous scientific papers, book chapters, and popular articles, as well as authored or edited nine books.

The Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission is composed of 11 governor-appointed members who play a crucial role in setting regulations and policies for Colorado's state parks and wildlife programs. Their dedication to conservation

and sustainable management ensures the protection of Colorado's natural resources and the well-being of its diverse communities.

For more information about the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission and its members, please visit cpw.state.co.us.