

# ANREP and ANROSP: An Opportunity for Cross-Pollination in Citizen Science?

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*How can ANREP work in partnership with other professional organizations to support the work we do in the realm of citizen science?*

At the recent 2018 Biennial ANREP conference in Biloxi, Mississippi, several Michigan ANREP members (Georgia Peterson, Julie Crick, Beth Clawson, Mike Schira, and myself) presented the "Sorting Out Citizen Science Means, Motives, and Messages" roundtable session. There were many great conversations on common topics we face in our work. One topic of particular note that surfaced was how ANREP might work together with other groups such as Alliance of Natural Resource Outreach and Service Programs (ANROSP), Citizen Science Association, and/or others to support, strengthen and coordinate the citizen science work in which many of us are currently involved. Simply, we know ANREP has overlap with other organizations, so how can we best come together to serve our common professional and programmatic needs?

For those who are not familiar, ANROSP is a national network of natural resource education and service programs which provides leadership, information, and resources to support the establishment and expansion of its member programs. ANROSP promotes active stewardship by supporting science-based outreach and service programs in the field of natural resources. Across the country, these types of programs are commonly referred to by a variety of names across the country, but generally referred to as "Master Naturalist" programs.

ANROSP offers an annual professional development conference targeting natural resource professionals and partner organizations that coordinate, administer, or host training and volunteer programs in natural resource conservation, education and outreach or for those interested in developing similar programming. This is a great opportunity to gain knowledge from a diverse range of programs, network with colleagues, and obtain valuable tools to enhance your existing program or develop a new one. This year, the 2018 ANROSP National Conference will be held on September 11-13 in New Orleans, Louisiana. More information about the conference can be found on the [ANROSP Conference](#) page.

Taking a closer look at the sessions offered at the recent ANREP conference, it was apparent that several ANREP members are currently affiliated with the naturalist program in their state and which are also ANROSP member programs. This is not surprising, but there are so many reasons to enhance the interaction and connection between ANREP and ANROSP. To this end, several ANREP members, who also serve on the ANROSP Board of Directors, are seeking your input on the following questions:

- **What other organizations similar to ANROSP should ANREP be working with in the area of citizen science and other related topic areas?**
- **Do you have input to help ANROSP determine what technique, tool and/or skill set member programs you would like to see presented at its September conference that would help individuals become better program coordinators for their state naturalist program?** ANROSP would like to offer conference sessions that will help with your professional development needs. Please share your ideas with [Mary Pearl Meuth](#).
- **Would you like to learn more about ANROSP and the many benefits of [membership](#)?**

Visit the [ANROSP website](#) for additional information.

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