June 2021



We sincerely apologize for reporting the award winners incorrectly. Below is the correction.

The Collier Award Winner Announced

The John M. Collier Award for Forest History Journalism is given to a journalist whose work incorporates forest or conservation history in an article or series of articles published in North America that relate to environmental issues.

The 2021 Collier Award is Gabriel Popkin, an independent journalist covering science, the environment, and society from Mount Rainier, Maryland. His work has



been published in the New York Times, New York Times Magazine, Nature, Science, the Washington Post, the Washington Post Magazine, American Forests, National Geographic, NPR, the Atlantic, Discover, and many more. His wining article, "Can Genetic Engineering Bring Back the American Chestnut?", was published on April 30,2020 by New York Times Magazine (online), and tells the story of an attempt through genetic engineering to rescue the great American Chestnut tree which was all but wiped out by 1940.

The Blegen Award Announced

The Theodore C. Blegen

Award recognizes the best scholarship in forest and conservation history published in a journal other than *Environmental History*.

The 2021 Blegen Award winner is Lee H. Whittlesey, for the article "Abundance, Slaughter, and Resilience of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem's Mammal Population: A View of the Historical Record, 171-1885" Montana The Magazine of Wester History Volume 70, Number 1 (Spring 2020): 3-26. This winning article reveals that while subsistence hunting by indigenous inhabitants and Euro-American



settlers affected the greater Yellowstone regions' wildlife populations, unregulated commercial hunting and thrill killing increased the numbers of mammals killed to the level of wholesale slaughter between 1871 and 1885. A study of the historical record yields evidence that the region supported an extraordinary abundance and diversity of animals, all of which continue to survive in the park to this day.



