

The ***Jan van Haaften Award for Wildlife Management in Europe*** (hereafter the “***Jan van Haaften IUGB Award***”) is a distinction bestowed since 2013 by the *International Union of Game Biologists IUGB* for eminent service to applied wildlife research in Europe, contributing to the best possible management and conservation.

The Award is called after Dutch wildlife professional Professor Dr Jan L. Van Haaften (1928 – 2012) whose career included research on roe deer, seals, wolf and brown bear in the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, Romania and Mongolia, while contributing greatly to our understanding of the relationship between large carnivores and their prey.



As a scientist, Jan advocated the wise and sustainable use of wildlife resources, and emphasized the importance of scientific research to improve our knowledge on wild “game” populations and their management. He was co-founder of IUGB and participated in virtually all IUGB Congresses until 2011.

The basic selection criterion for the ***Jan van Haaften IUGB Award*** is the significance and impact of an individual’s or a team’s contribution(s) to the field of wildlife research, undertaken in Europe and having resulted in application of management and conservation “on the ground”. This work should be characterised by a sustained record of productivity in applied wildlife research over a substantial period of time, with a direct value for managing and conserving wild birds and/or mammals, in particular when these efforts have influenced public opinion in a constructive manner.

The recipient of the first **Jan van Haaften IUGB Award** in 2013 was Professor Harto Lindén whose long career at the *Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute* covered research on a wide range of species, from voles to large carnivores, and in particular on grouse. He also developed the Finnish “wildlife triangle census” scheme, often described as the best game monitoring scheme in Europe. Harto was also founding Editor-in-chief of the leading “*Wildlife Biology*” journal, President of the *Finnish Ornithological Society* and, last but not least, IUGB *Liaison Officer* for Finland from 1987 until 2007.



Recipients receive a unique bronze sculpture, created by Dutch wildlife artist Pieter Verstappen exclusively for IUGB, representing a roe buck, a European species of particular interest to Jan Van Haaften.



Pieter Verstappen (°1952) is a highly successful self-taught artist for 30 years, painting realistic canvases of wildlife he observes near his home in the Dutch Province of Limburg and its Peel moorland area, as well as bronzes and lately also more impressionistic work. He was selected several times to participate in the prestigious “Birds in Art” exhibitions at the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum (US). See also [www.pieterverstappen.com](http://www.pieterverstappen.com)



## **Nomination & selection procedure**

The nominee should have a well-established and distinguished career that has been of undoubted significance, in particular through research leading to significant improvements in wildlife management and conservation, on-the-ground management practices, or wildlife policies.

The ***Jan van Haaften IUGB Award*** is given to a living individual, or team of individuals, with an international reputation for excellence in applied wildlife research undertaken in Europe. Representatives of research bodies may be eligible for the Award if they were intellectually involved in the research, i.e. contributed to the development, experimental design, analysis, and/or application of said research.

**A nomination statement that clearly outlines the nominee's contributions to wildlife management and applied research in Europe, providing an explicit link between the nominee's career and a serious track record relative to wildlife management and research findings, recognised success, and application of results that have high importance in the field of conservation and/or wildlife management, is to be presented by Email to the Chair of the *Scientific Committee* of the 2017 IUGB Congress: [matthieu.guillemain@oncfs.gouv.fr](mailto:matthieu.guillemain@oncfs.gouv.fr)**

**Alternatively such nomination may also be presented as a hard copy at the latest on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August – the first day of the IUGB 2017 Congress in Montpellier.**

A Judging Panel, consisting *inter alia* of members of the Congress *Scientific Committee* and the European IUGB Presidents (past, acting and elect), will meet on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August to carefully examine all nominations and select the winner for the 2017 ***Jan van Haaften IUGB Award***, to be announced next day at the Closing ceremony of the Congress.