

Nate Zorich

Senior Project Manager, PMP, MBA

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Professional Summary

Award-winning Senior Project Manager with 20+ years of experience leading complex, multi-organizational programs and projects. Adept at uniting subject matter experts across diverse stakeholder groups to achieve strategic objectives, drive critical deliverables, and implement innovative solutions. Recognized for guiding federal cybersecurity and infrastructure initiatives, including Zero Trust strategies and custom application development, while maintaining meticulous attention to detail and clear communication.

Core Competencies

- Complex Program & Project Management
- Cross-Functional Team Leadership
- Stakeholder Engagement & Communication
- Risk Analysis & Mitigation
- Process Improvement & Innovation
- Zero Trust Cybersecurity
- Data Governance & Infrastructure

Professional Attributes

- Strategic thinker with the ability to align complex projects with organizational objectives.
 - Effective communicator, bridging the gap between technical execution and high-level strategic vision.
 - Self-motivated leader with a proven track record of process innovation and team empowerment — even under pressure.
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Professional Experience

Principal Operations Officer for Zero Trust

U.S. Department of Interior - special detail assignment | Oct 2024 – Present

- Leads strategic operations for the Zero Trust initiative which requires continuous verification of identity, strict access controls, and least-privilege principles to minimize security risks, ensuring robust cybersecurity frameworks and seamless cross-departmental integration that includes 6 pillar teams and 153 team members.
- Oversee risk management, stakeholder communications, and the integration of complex IT systems to enhance critical infrastructure security.
- Help frame and build our community of practice with 1,082 members.
- Coordinate with 11 bureaus to align operational objectives with federal cybersecurity standards.

Project Management Specialist

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | Dec 2020 – Oct 2024

- Served as Sr. Project Manager and COR for a nationwide public WiFi project, partnering with Cisco-Meraki to deploy updated technology at 176 sites with 226 access points.
- Directed all phases of the project life cycle—from alternative analysis and decision briefing to contract award, implementation, and resource supervision.

- Developed the project charter, concept of operations, and risk management framework; maintained clear, proactive communications with stakeholders.
- Led an internal cellular operations improvement initiative, implementing a custom application to reconcile billing data with actual usage, resulting in streamlined processes and cost savings.
- Championed cross-cutting project management efforts for the development and implementation of a federal Zero Trust model.

Project Manager

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | Nov 2016 – Dec 2020

- Managed multiple IT projects within the Information Resource Technology Management (IRTM) division, including the high-stakes relocation of a data center to the Denver Federal Center.
- Coordinated detailed operational tasks such as data backup, power management, vendor logistics, and post-move system testing to ensure a seamless transition.
- Successfully relocated 7 data cabinets housing 38 servers and storage units, valued at \$2.5 million, minimizing risk and downtime through meticulous planning.

Program Analyst

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | July 2009 – Nov 2016

- Provided leadership on the Environmental Conservation Online System (ECOS) initiative, directing 4 contracted project managers and 32 staff members to advance custom conservation applications.
- Oversaw Capital Planning and Investment Control projects, developed risk assessments, performance metrics, and the ECOS Acquisition Plan to secure critical investments.
- Delivered alternative analyses and strategic recommendations to senior leadership, ensuring transparent and data-driven decision making.

Program Analyst

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | May 2005 – June 2008

- Designed and implemented project management tracking and reporting systems to monitor performance targets and drive continuous improvement.
- Conducted detailed data analytics to assess performance and inform future strategic initiatives.

Education & Certifications

- Federal Acquisition Certification – Program & Project Management (FAC-P/PM 3), 2016
- Federal Acquisition Certification – Contracting Officer Representative (FAC-COR 3), 2016
- Program Management Professional (PMP), 2007
- M.B.A., Northcentral University, Scottsdale, AZ, 2006
- B.A. in Communications, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA, 1998

Awards

- U.S. Department of Interior Citation for Unit Award for Excellence of Service (Nov 2024)
Recognized for extraordinary coordination and collaboration across functions and bureaus, strengthening critical infrastructure and cybersecurity.

Technical Skills & Tools

- Microsoft Project, Power BI, Power Automate, Power Apps
- Adobe Creative Suite, Jira, Microsoft 365 (Word, Excel, OneNote, SharePoint)
- Asana, Trello, Basecamp, Smartsheet