

NEW MEXICO CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

President's Message—James Cain

Greetings,

Planning for the 2015 Joint Annual Meeting (JAM) is well under way. The 2015 JAM will be in Las Cruces at the Hotel Encanto on 5–7 February 2015. We have an excellent room rate at the conference hotel, so be sure to reserve your room early (1-866-383-0443). This year's plenary theme is *New Technologies in Fish and Wildlife Science*. We are bringing together a diverse group of presenters that are employing cutting edge technologies in their research and management activities. In addition to the usual technical sessions and socials, the JAM will also include a revised student competition for best wildlife presentation. We will also continue to have the student-mentor lunch which gives students a chance to interact with current professionals and solicit their advice on being successful in the wildlife profession. We will also host a student quiz bowl and several workshops including: Piscicide Training, Interview and Resume Building, Wildlife Handling and Restraint, and 2 workshops on the use of Program R. In addition, we are hosting 2 workshops for law enforcement officers: Reptile Enforcement and Law Enforcement Use of Social Media.

Registration for the conference and workshops, as well as additional information on the JAM are available online <http://www.eventzilla.net/web/event?eventid=2139036783>

We revised our professional award nomination process to streamline the procedures and we added an outstanding student award. We encourage members to nominate deserving professionals and students. The deadline for nominations is 15 December. More specific information on the nomination process can be found on page 11 of the newsletter.

Finally, be on the lookout for the ballots for the 2015 Executive Board Election, which will be sent out in mid-December.

The Board and I are here to serve the chapter and its membership, so feel free to contact me or one of the Board members and let us know how we can be of assistance.

Cheers,

Jimmy Cain

NM-TWS President

NM-TWS Website: <http://wildlife.org/NM/>

Follow us on Twitter: @NewMexicoTWS

NM-TWS Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Wildlife-Society-New-Mexico-Chapter/122478411098284>

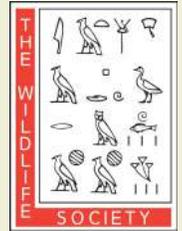


Pecos Wilderness

Ryan Walker



48TH JOINT
ANNUAL MEETING
5-7 FEBRUARY 2015



ARIZONA AND NEW MEXICO CHAPTERS OF
THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

AND

ARIZONA-NEW MEXICO CHAPTER OF THE
AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
LAS CRUCES, NEW MEXICO

NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN FISH AND WILDLIFE SCIENCE

Registration information is currently online at:

<http://www.eventzilla.net/web/event?eventid=2139036783>

More information will be added to the website as it becomes available, so check back often.

Hotel Reservations

Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces

705 S. Telshor Blvd.

Las Cruces, NM 88011

866-383-0443

Room rates (plus tax) are \$88 for single or double occupancy.

Hampton Inn & Suites (Approximately 1 mile from Hotel Encanto)

2350 E. Griggs Ave.

Las Cruces, NM 88001

575-527-8777

Room rates (plus tax) are \$89 for single or double occupancy.

When you make reservations, be sure to tell them you will be attending the AZ/NM Joint Annual Meeting. If you do not identify yourself as attending the meeting you may not get a room because most of the hotel rooms are being held for our use until 31 January 2015.

48TH AZ/NM AFS/TWS JOINT ANNUAL MEETING (CONTINUED)

Workshops:

- Piscicide training
- Interview and resume building
- Wildlife handling and restraint
- Program R
- Reptile enforcement
- Law enforcement use of social media



Bighorn trap

Ryan Walker

Student/Mentor Lunch:

Friday, 6 February, 11:30 am–1:00 pm, at Farley’s Restaurant across from conference hotel. This is an opportunity for students to talk with a variety of professionals from different organizations and agencies. **Pre-registration is required for students**, see event website.

Student Quiz Bowl:

Thursday, 5 February, 7:00–9:00 pm. To register a team, email Heather Bateman (heather.l.bateman@asu.edu) and provide school name, student chapter, team captain, faculty advisor, and team members by **10 January 2015**.

Photo Contest:

There are 6 categories:

- Wild mammals
- Wild birds
- Wild reptiles
- Wild fish
- Habitat and landscapes
- Recreation or employees at work

Photos can be up 11x14” mounted on backing board, no framed art will be accepted. Please register by **10:00 am Friday, 6 February** at the registration desk. Cash prizes will be available for the top 3 pictures in each category as well as a Best of Show.

Socials and Awards Banquet:

There will be a welcome reception on Thursday, 5 February 6:00–9:15 pm and an Awards Banquet on Friday, 6 February 7:00–9:30 pm.

48TH AZ/NM AFS/TWS JOINT ANNUAL MEETING (CONTINUED)

SECOND CALL FOR PAPERS

Submittal deadline: 15 December 2014

The Program Committee for the 2015 JAM invites abstracts for contributed oral presentations and posters. Presentations may include completed projects and works in progress.

**We had a strong response to the first call for papers and the program is filling up quickly. So if you wish to present your work at the 2015 JAM you are strongly encouraged to submit an abstract ASAP.

We encourage students to attend and are particularly interested in student presentations. There will be several awards for “best papers”. The AZ/NM Chapter of the American Fisheries Society will present a “Best Student Paper” and “Best Student Poster” award for graduate and undergraduate students presenting papers/posters in the fisheries field. The AZ and NM Chapters of The Wildlife Society will present a “Best Student Paper” and “Best Student Poster” award for graduate and undergraduate students presenting papers/posters in the wildlife field.

All fisheries and wildlife student posters and fisheries student oral presentations will automatically be considered for awards. The deadline for submission to the wildlife student presentation competition is now closed.

All presenters will receive an e-mail confirmation of their abstract submission within one week post-submittal, abstract acceptance within 2 weeks of submission. Notification of the time and place of presentation or poster will be sent in January.

Please email your abstracts to the appropriate Program Chair below by **15 December 2014**:

Oral presentations for fisheries:	Tiffany Love-Chezem	TLove-Chezem@azgfd.gov
Oral presentations for wildlife:	James Cain	jwcain@nmsu.edu
Poster presentations for fisheries and wildlife:	Annika Keeley	atk25@nau.edu

ABSTRACT EXAMPLE

Authors:

James W. Pitman, New Mexico State University, Department of Fish Wildlife and Conservation Ecology, 2980 South Espina, Knox Hall 132, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003; jwpitman@nmsu.edu

James W. Cain III, U.S. Geological Survey New Mexico Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, New Mexico State University, Department of Fish Wildlife and Conservation Ecology, 2980 South Espina, Knox Hall 132, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88033; jwcain@nmsu.edu.

Stewart G. Liley, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, 1 Wildlife Way, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87507; Stewart.Liley@state.nm.us

Title:

Post-parturition habitat selection by elk calves and adult female elk in New Mexico

Abstract:

Neonatal survival and juvenile recruitment are crucial to maintaining elk (*Cervus elaphus*) populations...

**Student

WHY WASTE TIME FIGURING OUT WHERE TO HAVE
BREAKFAST BEFORE THE BIG PLENARY???

WHY GET OUT IN THE COLD FOR BREAKFAST
BEFORE THE BIG PLENARY???

WHY NOT JOIN THE SOUTHWEST SECTION OF
THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY FOR BREAKFAST INSTEAD!

SOUTHWEST SECTION BREAKFAST AND
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Friday, February 6, 2015 from 7:30–8:45 am
Open to ALL meeting attendees

Join the leadership of the Southwest Section of TWS for a breakfast buffet and to hear the latest exciting news about Section Activities. You DO NOT have to have breakfast if you do not want to but you can still join us free of charge—but you DO need to register for the event so we can determine how much food to prepare. Walk-ups the day of the event will be accommodated but pre-registered members will get preference and once the food is gone, that's all, folks.

\$10 for members of the Southwest Section of TWS
\$15 for non-members of the Southwest Section of TWS
FREE if you do not want breakfast

PLUS—members of the Southwest Section that bring in a new member will be eligible for a prize to be drawn at the end of the meeting!

For more information, please contact Southwest Section President Leland Pierce at leland.pierce@state.nm.us

Revision to List of Species of Greatest Conservation Need

The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish is pleased to hold a workshop to unveil revisions to its Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) list. The SGCN list was originally developed as a required component of the Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy for New Mexico (CWCS). New Mexico's SGCN's are species that include those with low and declining populations and species of high recreational, economic, or charismatic value that are indicative of the diversity and health of the state's wildlife and are associated with key habitats. The CWCS identified 452 species of invertebrates, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals for the original list. The Department is revising the CWCS (now the State Wildlife Action Plan for New Mexico) and has modified the SGCN list.

The Department offers this workshop to inform The Wildlife Society and American Fisheries Society members about the revision to the SGCN list and provide information on habitat classifications used in the document. The Department invites comment on the revisions.

Workshop details:

Date: 5 February 2015
Time: 1–4 pm
Location: Hotel Encanto
Address: 705 S. Telshor, Las Cruces, NM

This workshop is held in conjunction with the Joint Annual Meeting of the Arizona and New Mexico Chapters of The Wildlife Society and Arizona–New Mexico Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. While this event is free of charge, attendees are required to register to help organizers provide proper facilities for the workshop. To register, please go to: <http://www.eventzilla.net/web/event?eventid=2139036783>

To see the original CWCS, including the original SGCN list go to: http://wildlife.state.nm.us/conservation/comp_wildlife_cons_strategy/index.htm

The Department wishes to thank the host of the Joint Annual Meeting, the New Mexico Chapter of The Wildlife Society for this important opportunity.



Broad-billed hummingbird



Long-billed curlew

Jim Stuart

New Mexico hunters and anglers spend more than \$613 million on hunting and fishing, and create nearly 8,000 jobs

New Mexico's hunters and anglers spend more than \$613 million on their recreational activities and contribute another \$51.4 million to the state's economy in labor, income, and taxes according to a study conducted for the Department of Game and Fish.

The study by Southwick Associates, specialists in fish and wildlife economics and statistics, was commissioned to determine the amount of participation and subsequent economic impacts hunters and anglers have on New Mexico overall and by county.

"Hunting and fishing are among New Mexico's most cherished traditions," Governor Susana Martinez said. "This study clearly shows the tremendous value our wildlife resources bring to our state, creating nearly 8,000 jobs and contributing millions to New Mexico's economy. Outdoor activities like hunting and fishing are New Mexico True."

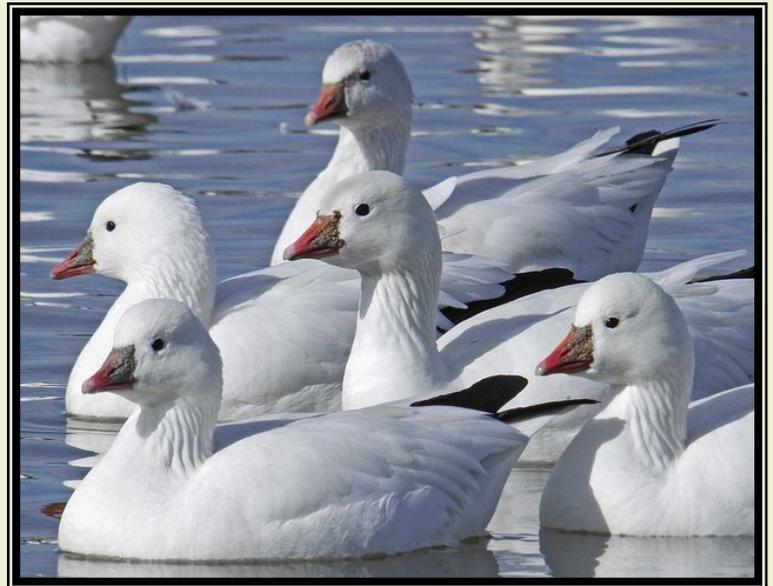
According to the study, New Mexico has more than 160,000 resident and nonresident anglers who spend \$268 million a year on fishing-related activities. The state also has 87,600 hunters who spend \$345.5 million a year on hunting-related activities.

Hunters and anglers also support more than 7,900 jobs in New Mexico that provide more than \$267 million in labor income, according to the study. The estimated state and local revenues generated from these activities is over \$51 million annually.

The study used license-sale records and survey-based data to estimate economic contributions based on retail spending related to recreational hunting and fishing in the state. The report included individual contributions for each of the state's 33 counties. The report also included estimated contributions by hunters who pursue selected species.

Data were collected from an online survey conducted in April and May of 2014 and sent to all hunting and fishing license buyers who provided an email address at purchase. Surveys were delivered to 66,092 license buyers, and 15,379 responded, for a response rate of 23%.

The complete report by Southwick Associates is available on the Department of Game and Fish website, www.wildlife.state.nm.us.



Snow Geese

Mark Watson

NM Chapter Elections coming up in mid-December!

Southwest Section Update—Leland Pierce

The Southwest Section of TWS has been busy of late. Most notably the Section held a conference call by the brand new Women of Wildlife Committee on November 20th. In 2011, The Wildlife Society (TWS) developed Women of Wildlife (WOW), a group intended to promote and support women in the wildlife profession and to provide mentoring opportunities and advice. The SW Section has developed a WOW Committee to continue discussion and outreach about this topic. The conference call included a conversation with the Director of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, Alexandra Sandoval, as well as a panel discussion from the authors of “Glass Ceilings and Institutional Biases: A closer look at barriers facing women in science and technical fields,” the article appearing in a recent Wildlife Professional.

To listen to the call:

Playback Number: (605) 562-0029
Meeting ID: 634-775-555
Reference Number: 1
Time: Overall, approx. 83 minutes

Additionally: the Section executive committee moved to financially support:

- ◆ An important herpetological book, the subject matter of which covering Mexico and the adjoining United States.
- ◆ An application from a member in Texas toward Certification as a Wildlife Biologist by the parent society.

Lastly, the Section business meeting will be held during a breakfast at the Joint Annual Meeting in Las Cruces. The event is open to all, \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members (which gets you a membership) for the breakfast-but if you don't want breakfast, come join us for free. Please register at the JAM website in either case.



Pecos Bighorn Survey

Ryan Walker

National Update—Carol Chambers

Happy holidays all!

Conferences

If you attended the Pittsburgh conference you were one of 1,552 participants that made this a successful event. Get your passports ready now the 2015 conference in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada (17–21 October). The call for proposals is out with deadline of 6 February for workshops, symposia, panel discussions, and special poster sessions (<http://wildlife.org/22nd-annual-conference-of-the-wildlife-society/>).



There's another opportunity for international travel to the Fifth International Wildlife Management Congress (<http://iwmc2015.org/>) coming up 26–30 July 2015, in Sapporo, Japan. The theme of the IWMC2015 is “International Models of Wildlife Biology and Management: Beyond Cultural Differences.” Both cities also have great wildlife-watching opportunities.

TWS President Rick Baydack and members of the Japanese delegation discuss the Vth International Wildlife Management Congress (Sapporo, Japan, 2015) at the 2014 Pittsburgh TWS Council meeting.

Publications and communications

Nancy Sasavage (Nancy.Sasavage@wildlife.org) joined TWS in October as the Director of Publications and Communications and Editor-in-Chief of The Wildlife Professional. She has extensive experience in developing and managing print and digital communications and served as editor of a monthly news magazine. Nancy has worked with hundreds of expert authors throughout her career and is excited to join her interest in wildlife with her scientific editorial expertise. Nancy has a Ph.D. in biochemistry from Michigan State University.

Joshua Learn is our new science writer. Josh has a M.S. in journalism and a B.A. in cultural anthropology, extensive writing experience in wildlife issues.

Dana Kobilinsky, our new editorial intern has a Bachelor's in mass communication. She completed an internship with Defenders of Wildlife prior to joining TWS.

Cassie Martin, our current science writer, is leaving TWS to work as a writer with Oceans at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

National Update—Carol Chambers, continued

The TWS website (<http://wildlife.org/>) has a new look and right now is featuring us! See the article on the Woman of Wildlife (WOW) SW Section event organized by SW Section President Leland Pierce (<http://wildlife.org/southwest-section-wows-us/>). See page 7 for details.

The weekly eWildlifer, available to TWS members only, is now launched and replaces the Wildlifer and Wildlife Policy News. The eWildlifer includes links to previous week's stories, a Quiz Bowl question, announcements, and weekly wildlife photo you can save as desktop background. You'll also find previews and selected articles from The Wildlife Professional in the eWildlifer.

Native American Working Group

TWS worked with Michel Kohl and Serra Hoagland (AZ) of the Native People's Wildlife Management Working Group to support 10 Native American students at the Pittsburgh conference. Individuals selected for this program received grants to help cover registration fees, lodging, meals and transportation to attend and participate in the annual conference. Check out more activities at <http://wildlife.org/network/tws-local/working-groups/>.

Government Affairs

TWS Government Affairs staff released a new policy resource, the Policy Brief Series on the website. Six policy briefs are available for members to download and use to educate themselves and others on various federal policies related to wildlife. This resource and all other policy resources are available at www.wildlife.org/policy.

Membership

Renew your membership now if you haven't already. We are at 9,242 members, close to our highest point of 10,000+. Review membership benefits at <http://wildlife.org/membership-benefits/>. Strong membership supports the changes we want to make at state, section, and national levels. We are also continuing The 1,000 Campaign. Development efforts to date have raised \$56,240. We are considering restructuring Student Conclaves, expanding them from 5 to 8 beginning 2016 to align a conclave with each TWS Section. What are your thoughts on this?

Social Media

The TWS Facebook page currently has over 22,000 likes and is a great way to get news. You can join 256 others by liking us at The Wildlife Society Southwest Section Chapters Hub (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Wildlife-Society-Southwest-Section-Chapters-Hub/205755042835210>). The TWS Women of Wildlife (WOW) Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/TWS-Women-of-Wildlife/234411723382592>) is now at 926 likes, up from 863 in December.

Remember that you are or could be one of the almost 10,000 members of TWS national. Contact me at Carol.Chambers@nau.edu or 928-523-0014 (office) with any comments or questions.

Outstanding Student and Wildlife Professional Awards

The New Mexico Chapter of The Wildlife Society is soliciting nominations for the *Outstanding Student Award and Wildlife Professional Award*. These awards will be presented 6 February 2015 at the JAM of the New Mexico and Arizona Chapters of The Wildlife Society and the Arizona/New Mexico Chapter of the American Fisheries Society in Las Cruces, NM. Please submit nominations by 15 December 2014 to Quentin Hays, New Mexico Chapter of The Wildlife Society, 709 Mechem Drive, Ruidoso, NM, 88345 or electronically to Quentin.Hays@enmu.edu.

Student Award

The *Outstanding Student Award* is given annually to a student who, while attending college or university in NM, made a significant contribution to wildlife science, management, or conservation within the state. Any undergraduate or graduate student may be nominated for this award, but students pursuing a degree in a wildlife-related field will be given preference. The *Outstanding Student Award* may be given to students for a single, exemplary act, or for a more long-term demonstration of outstanding performance.

Nomination Format and Evaluation Criteria:

The nomination should be a brief (<1 page), but persuasive summary of the contributions made by the student that are deserving of the *Outstanding Student Award*. Nominations must also contain a short curriculum vitae (CV) from the student (<2 pages); evidence of academic performance such as grade point average should be included. Selection of award recipients is based on one or more of the following criteria: contributions to the classroom, significant undergraduate or graduate research, extracurricular projects that contribute to wildlife conservation efforts in NM, involvement with a student chapter or the NM Chapter of The Wildlife Society, and overall academic performance.

Professional Award

The *Wildlife Professional Award* is bestowed annually upon a wildlife professional for outstanding contributions to their field within NM. Recipients may be practitioners in research, education, management, conservation, law enforcement, or legislation, but must have demonstrated excellence in their field related to wildlife in NM. The award is based on the significance of contributions made to the field, and may include contributions made over an entire career or over a shorter period of time. Recipients should be currently employed or recently retired wildlife professionals in one of the above-stated fields.

Nomination Format and Evaluation Criteria:

The nomination should be a brief (<1 page), but persuasive narrative describing why the nominee is deserving of the *Wildlife Professional Award*. Nominations should address the specific significance of the contribution(s) to wildlife management or wildlife biology in NM for which the individual is being nominated. These contributions may include pioneering or innovative wildlife research or management strategies, performance exceeding normal job requirements, or exemplary leadership within the array of wildlife-related professions described above. Contributions may also include efforts leading to increased public awareness of a specific wildlife-related issue, or demonstrated excellence in surmounting obstacles in pursuit of improved management and/or conservation. Nominations should also include contact information for the nominee, as well as a synopsis of their educational and professional background.

NEW MEXICO CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

New Mexico Chapter -
The Wildlife Society
P.O. Box 35936
Albuquerque, NM 87176

NM-TWS is an active affiliate of The Wildlife Society that is dedicated to promoting sound management and conservation of New Mexico's wildlife resources.

Membership is open to all professionals, students, and laypersons interested in wildlife research, management, education, and administration.

Our chapter works to maintain communication among wildlife professionals; encourages communication between those professionals and the general public; supports continuing education through grants, workshops, and regional meetings; encourages student involvement in the wildlife profession; and actively participates in shaping management and conservation policy through letters, public statements, and resolutions.

We're on the Web!

Check out our new website that was created last year. <http://wildlife.org/nm>



Membership Form

<i>First name</i>					
<i>Last name</i>					
<i>Organization</i>					
<i>Address</i>					
<i>City</i>		<i>State</i>		<i>ZIP</i>	
<i>Telephone (day)</i>		<i>Fax</i>			
<i>Email</i>					

Please join or update your membership today!

Thank You!

Please complete the membership form and mail it with your \$8 dues to:

**The Wildlife Society
New Mexico Chapter
P.O. Box 35936**

Albuquerque, NM 87176-3593

*For updates to your mailing or email address
please contact Dan Collins, dan_collins@fws.gov*