



*Excellence in Wildlife Stewardship Through Science and Education*

New Mexico News

TWS News

Announcements

# Winter 2017

## NEW MEXICO CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

### President's Message—Ginny Seamster

Happy 2017! Snow and cold weather certainly don't slow down our state's wildlife biologists and law enforcement officers – between deer traps, crane check stations, planning for habitat improvement projects that will take place in the spring and summer, and hunt patrols, there's a lot of winter activity!

Efforts continue for planning for the 2017 Annual Meeting this September. The Parent Society and Chapter are working to get more information about the conference online and the Albuquerque Tourism board has put together a site to help promote Albuquerque as a destination for the conference. Check out the conference website (<http://www.twsconference.org/>) and consider submitting a proposal for a symposium, workshop, or panel discussion; proposals are due March 10<sup>th</sup> (<http://wildlife.org/tws-24th-annual-conference/>). All suggestions related to conference fundraising are appreciated, as is all the hard work of the fundraising committee. If you have contact information for any non-profit, corporation, local business, or agency that might be interested in sponsoring the conference or attending the conference as an exhibitor, please let me know ([virginia.seamster@state.nm.us](mailto:virginia.seamster@state.nm.us))! The Parent Society has been developing materials to assist with marketing the conference, including a flier about the two field trips.

I wanted to take a moment and congratulate Brian Hanson, the current chair of our chapter's Conservation Affairs Committee. Brian was recipient of the Distinguished Service Award for the Southwest Section at the 2016 TWS Annual Conference. This award is very well deserved – Brian is the go-to person on everything TWS-related and has assisted with planning for countless Joint Annual Meetings. Congratulations Brian and thank you for all you have done and continue to do for wildlife and for TWS!

Don't forget to register (<https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/?eventid=1899517>) for the 2017 Joint Annual Meeting (JAM), which will be February 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> at the Marriot in Farmington, NM. There will be t-shirts customized for the NM TWS Chapter and even a 5K race!

At New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, things are ramping up for another cycle of reviewing proposals for new Share with Wildlife projects. The State Wildlife Action Plan was accepted with amendments by the New Mexico State Game Commission and is currently under review by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Department will be hosting the New Mexico Outdoor Adventures Hunting and Fishing Show in February at Expo, New Mexico in Albuquerque (February 17-19<sup>th</sup>).

I want to send a big thank you to all my fellow board members – it is a pleasure working with each of you and I look forward to continuing as a member of the NM TWS team as outgoing president after the 2017 JAM. Hopefully see many of you reading this at the JAM!

-Ginny

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>



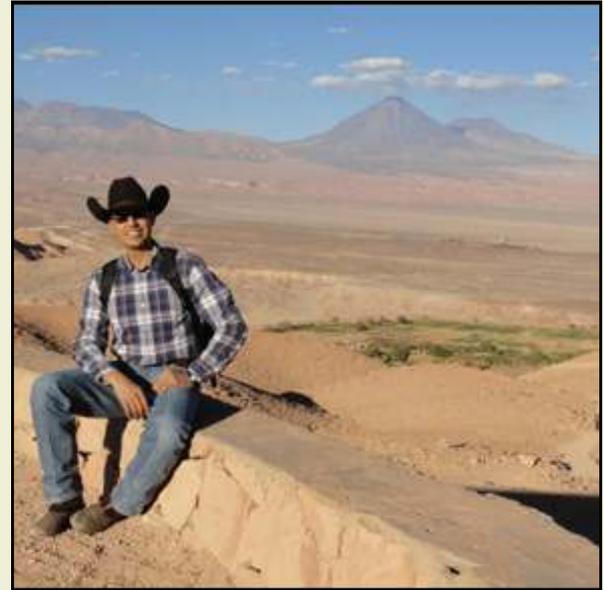
## Southwest Section Tracks

By Fidel Hernandez, Southwest Section Representative

The autumn semester just ended last week, and there is a quietness that surrounds campus this week. Most students have traveled home for the holidays, and although I enjoy the interaction with students and the energy they bring to campus, I also relish the quietness that descends upon campus when semesters end, particularly the autumn one. There's something about the winter weather that adds to this sense of solitude and tranquility. So, as I enjoy this slowing of time, I take the opportunity to catch you up on the latest happenings of The Wildlife Society since we last visited.

### TWS Conference: Raleigh

I had the opportunity to attend the 23rd Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society in Raleigh, North Carolina during October 2016. What a privilege. It was a five-day conference that was jam packed with activities and meetings. The conference offered 961 educational and training opportunities that included 44 contributed paper sessions featuring 360 presentations, 25 symposia featuring 239 presentations, 10 workshops, 10 films/videos, five plenary/keynote sessions, three panel discussions, and more than 330 posters! It seems that with each passing year, the TWS conference gets better and bigger. For example, the number of concurrent sessions increased from eight just two years ago to 12 this year. In addition, the conference in Raleigh was well attended, with more than 1,800 registrants. This attendance placed the Raleigh conference in the top five in TWS' history in terms of attendance.



President Gary Potts' theme of Expanding the Partnership provided an excellent framework and focus for the conference. The conference effectively showcased the progress that TWS has made toward expanding partnerships. In President Potts' address to the general membership, he noted that TWS partnerships had grown from only two a few years ago to about 30 today. This expansion occurred in all areas including state, federal, and private conservation sectors. President Potts also noted that partnerships bring TWS communication and marketing opportunities, collaborative work, shared messaging, joint conferences, funding, and much more. He also commented that, "Expanded partnerships help move TWS in the direction of becoming the go-to organization for wildlife". It appears that TWS has made huge strides toward this end.

Regarding awards, the Southwest Section shined at the annual conference (like always), bringing home quite a few awards:

- **Student Chapter Advisor of The Year:** Scott E. Henke (Texas A&M University-Kingsville).
- **Wildlife Publication Award (Monograph):** Effects of harvest, culture, and climate on trends in the size of horn-like structures in trophy ungulates, co-author James R. Heffelfinger (Arizona Game and Fish Commission).
- **Distinguished Service Award:** Brian L. Hanson (retired, US Fish and Wildlife Service).
- **TWS Fellow:** Carol Chambers (Northern Arizona University).
- **Honorary Member:** Terry Blankenship (Rob and Bessie Welder Wildlife Refuge).

A hearty congratulations to all awardees!

## Southwest Section Tracks, continued

### General Operations

*Finance:* The Wildlife Society continues on an upward trajectory that began in 2013 (a year that sometimes is referred to in Council as the “turnaround” year for TWS). To provide a conceptual framework for the TWS budgeting process, the budget is developed by the TWS Executive Director, and TWS operates on a July-June fiscal year. The Executive Director presents the budget to TWS Council, who then discuss the budget and vote to approve or disapprove. Following is a brief overview of how TWS fared financially during the past fiscal year.

TWS finances for the 2015–2016 fiscal year (June 2015 to July 2016) were strong. Total revenues were \$2.6 million, and total expenses were \$2.4 million. This produced a net revenue of \$202,397. Unfortunately, the total investment yield of TWS investments was -\$19,005 due to poor market performance. This reduced the net revenue had resulted in an overall surplus of \$183,393 for the year. Thus, despite the market underperformance, TWS was able to come under budget and with an ending balance in the black for the 2015–2016 fiscal year. To be honest, I never had a true appreciation for the planning and budgeting process that guided TWS. Serving as your Southwest Section representative gave me this opportunity, and I must admit that I was impressed with the current budgeting process and current leadership of Executive Director Williams. TWS certainly has righted the ship under the current leadership.

*Update, Executive Director Search:* Unfortunately, Executive Director Williams will be retiring in July 2017. On the plus side, however, Executive Director Williams provided TWS leadership with plenty of notice (1 year) of his upcoming retirement. The Executive Committee of TWS has been engaged in succession planning since Executive Director Williams’ announcement. A position announcement was created and distributed through several mediums and closed on October 2016. More than 25 applications were received, and the search committee is busy evaluating applications. Interviews are planned for this spring. Please stay tuned for updates on this search in future newsletter articles.

*Partnership Engagement:* The Government Affairs and Partnerships (GAP) program of TWS is engaged in numerous formal and informal coalitions and partnerships. Because there are numerous organizations TWS could partner with and issues it could tackle, the GAP program prioritizes its involvement in coalitions to ensure it’s delivering the most benefits to TWS and its membership. The basic criteria that determines TWS GAP involvement is whether 1) TWS has something to offer, and 2) TWS obtains a direct benefit for the advancement of the society’s policy objectives. This results in TWS GAP taking an active leadership role in some coalitions and only a participating role in others. It also means that GAP cannot participate with all worthy coalitions because it needs to maximize the benefits it can deliver to TWS members. Following are a few examples of coalitions where TWS plays a current role:

- **National Horse and Burro Rangeland Management Coalition (TWS role: lead):** focused on improving the management of wild horses and burros and achieving appropriate management levels to support rangeland health.
- **Teaming with Wildlife (TWS role: lead):** supports funding for wildlife conservation, in particular the State and Tribal Wildlife Grants program.
- **National Cooperators Coalition (TWS role: lead):** alliance of nonfederal cooperators and other supporters of the Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit Program.
- **Cooperative Alliance for Refuge Enhancement (TWS role: lead):** focused on operations and maintenance of funding for the National Wildlife Refuge System.
- **American Wildlife Conservation Partners (TWS role: lead):** national organization that supports hunting, fishing, and trapping as a part of science-based management in North America.
- **National Environmental Coalition on Invasive Species (TWS role: participating):** a broad collection of groups focused on preventing the spread of invasive species.
- **USGS Coalition (TWS role: participating):** an alliance of scientific organizations with the goal of ensuring proper funding for USGS to continue providing critical data and services for the US.

## Southwest Section Tracks, continued

### **24th Annual Conference: Albuquerque, New Mexico**

Mark your calendars...the 24th Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society is coming to the Southwest! The conference will take place during 23–27 September 2017. Current TWS President Bruce Thompson has identified his conference theme, and it is, "Wildlife Conservation: Crossroads of Cultures".

We are excited about having the conference in the Southwest Section. Bringing the conference back to Albuquerque is even more special knowing that the very first annual conference in TWS' history happened in Albuquerque in 1993.

A local committee has been formed to assist TWS with conference planning. Logistical planning is being led by Quentin Hays (Quentin.Hays@enmu.edu), and fundraising is being spearheaded by Ginny Seamster (Virginia.Seamster@state.nm.us). Please contact either Quentin or Ginny if you want to become involved and assist with the conference. To find out more about the conference, please visit the conference website at <http://www.twsconference.org/>.

We look forward to a great conference and giving TWS a true Southwest welcome!

Until next time, Fidel

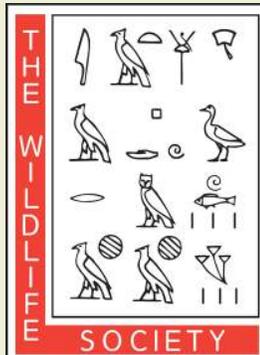


## The 15th Annual Dragon Fly Festival

By Corporal Tyson Sanders, Roswell Supervisory District, NMDGF



On September 10, 2016, the NM Dept. of Game and Fish participated in the 15th annual Dragonfly Festival at Bitter Lake Nation Wildlife Refuge. Over 1,100 people attended the festival which provided a glimpse into several wildlife and outdoors related activities. Activities at the event included wildlife tours, dragonfly tours, art projects, zoo animal demonstrations, firefighter activities, archery, and catfish fishing. Information, education, and demonstrations were given by national wildlife refuges and many other wildlife related agencies. The New Mexico Dept. of Game and Fish was happy to assist in the event by setting up catfishing and the National Archery in the Schools range and shooting. The always popular fishing pool was stocked with about 100 channel catfish brought in by the Santa Rosa Fish Hatchery. Kids caught fish all day, some of them for their very first time. The day started with a drizzly rain, but not long into morning the sun came out, the fish started biting, and smiles were plentiful throughout the rest of the day!



## NMDGF Conservation Officers - Field Notes

### **Maljamar, New Mexico: Anonymous Tip Leads to Charges Filed on Non-Resident Hunters**

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish Cpl. Josh Waldrip used an anonymous tip to catch individuals involved in the illegal take of quail. The tip provided information in early February 2016 about a group of Oklahoma hunters heading to eastern New Mexico to hunt quail. The informant explained that these particular hunters were bragging about the “hundreds of quail” they had killed on several hunting trips to New Mexico. Waldrip was notified that the group would be traveling to New Mexico for the final day of quail season. Although there was no information on names or type of vehicle, Waldrip learned that the party usually stayed at motels in Lovington, New Mexico.

Two days later, Waldrip requested the use of an unmarked Game and Fish vehicle to conduct surveillance operations on Lovington motels. With assistance from Game and Fish Conservation Officer Tyler Twichell, Waldrip traveled to Lovington and was able to locate a possible suspect vehicle with Oklahoma license plates parked at a motel. Inspection of the vehicle revealed shotguns, coolers and other hunting equipment inside. A database check of the vehicle’s plate number came back registered to an Oklahoma business, but there was no name affiliated with the business that was associated with the vehicle.

On the final day of the quail season, Waldrip planned to follow the vehicle to observe hunting activities, he also requested that other uniformed Game and Fish officers be on standby for assistance. Five individuals exited the motel and entered the vehicle at about 5:30 a.m. Waldrip followed the vehicle to a gas station and watched as the suspects entered the convenience store. He recognized an individual he had contacted in the field earlier in the season who was from Oklahoma, but could not recall his name. The party continued traveling due west to Maljamar, before turning north on Crane Road where they jumped a covey of quail on private property. Waldrip and Twichell watched as all five individuals exited the vehicle with shotguns and began shooting at the quail.

Officers observed this party for several hours as they drove around hunting and killing quail. On three separate occasions the party littered the road with empty shotgun shell boxes and water bottles. Officers continued watching from a distance and waited until they believed that a solid case could be made before bringing in uniformed personnel because it is uncommon to make enforcement contact in unmarked vehicles. Due to the terrain, and the vast number of oilfield access roads, the officers eventually lost sight of the party. Attempts to relocate the group were unsuccessful, and they had already checked out of their motel.

Upon reviewing past body camera video files, Waldrip discovered the Oklahoma quail hunter’s license information when he was checked back in November 2015, and matched the license to a Richie Gandy of Wilson, Oklahoma. During a phone interview, Gandy admitted to being in New Mexico hunting quail with Patrick Stewart and his three juvenile sons. The vehicle matched the description of the vehicle Waldrip had observed in the field. Gandy said all five individuals in the vehicle were hunting and claimed that they had taken a total of 30 quail.

Waldrip then retrieved Stewart’s information from the database. While searching the database, it became evident that only Stewart and one of his sons were legally licensed to hunt. Waldrip also found, through the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, that one of Stewart’s sons had not completed the required hunter safety class. During a subsequent phone interview, Stewart said he wasn’t sure who had valid New Mexico game hunting licenses, but was reminded by Waldrip that only one of his three sons was legal to hunt and that one had not completed a required hunter safety class. Stewart stated that approximately 110 quail were killed and taken back to Oklahoma by the hunting party, and that he and his licensed son had both taken their limits over two days, which totaled 60 quail. Adding the 30 quail that Gandy said he had killed brought the legal total to 90. According to Stewart’s statement, this left approximately 20 quail taken illegally by the unlicensed youths.



## NMDGF Conservation Officers - Field Notes, continued

Oklahoma State Game Warden, Ted Hasty, was asked to seize the illegal quail and found approximately 190 quail at the Stewart residence that were taken in New Mexico. Of the 190 quail, 25 were in a separate bag that Patrick Stewart claimed were killed by his unlicensed sons during the New Mexico hunting trip. New Mexico state law allows a legally licensed hunter to possess 30 quail, meaning the total number of quail that could be legally possessed at the Stewart residence was 60. Warden Hasty seized the remaining 130 quail.



Quail found at Patrick Stewart's residence, seized by Oklahoma warden Ted Hasty

Stewart took full responsibility for his juvenile sons' actions and was issued seven citations for use of firearms by minors, lacking the required current licenses, unlawful killing of small game, unlawful possession of quail, hunting private property without written permission and littering. Total fines and fees came to \$938.00. Stewart's case will next go before the commission for revocation and a possible civil assessment. He is eligible to have his hunting and fishing privileges revoked in New Mexico and in all other compact states, including Oklahoma. Gandy was cited for littering and hunting on private property without written permission, totaling \$98.00 in fines and fees.

## The North American Bat Monitoring Program (NABat)

By Marikay Ramsey

North American bats are facing ever-increasing threats to their existence due to on-going habitat loss and fragmentation, white-nose syndrome (WNS), wind energy development, and climate change. With the westward spread of WNS over the past ten years, there is an especially urgent need to document changes in bat populations in response to these threats as well as to evaluate management actions aimed at conserving bats.

Monitoring trends in North American bat populations has long been a high priority for bat researchers, however due to the many inherent challenges involved in studying bats; no standardized program existed for many years. In an attempt to fill this critical gap, several workshops were held from 1999 to 2014 in order to develop approaches and goals for a North American bat monitoring program. The end result is the North American Bat Monitoring Program (NABat) which facilitates the monitoring of bats at local to range wide scales in order to provide reliable data to support conservation decision making and the long-term viability of bat populations across North America. NABat is an international, multi-agency effort which provides the biological, administrative, and statistical structure for coordinated bat population monitoring to support regional and range wide inferences about changes in the distributions and abundances of bat populations facing current and emerging threats.

Photo by Marikay Ramsey



Townsend's Big-eared Bat

## The NABat Monitoring Program, continued

The objectives of NABat are to 1) provide the infrastructure for a coordinated bat monitoring program across national, state, provincial, tribal, and private land boundaries, 2) provide a centralized database to house and manage data collected under NABat, 3) define a statistically robust, continent-wide sampling framework for the collection of bat monitoring data, 4) provide recommended field protocols for colony count and acoustic monitoring data collection, 5) provide statistical analyses of status and trends in populations at national and regional scales using the most appropriate and robust methods available, 6) provide periodic “State of NA’s Bats” reports that assess the status and trends of bats in relation to current and emerging threats, and 7) continually assess the monitoring program and adjust protocols, sampling designs, and analyses as necessary.

Photo by Jim Stuart

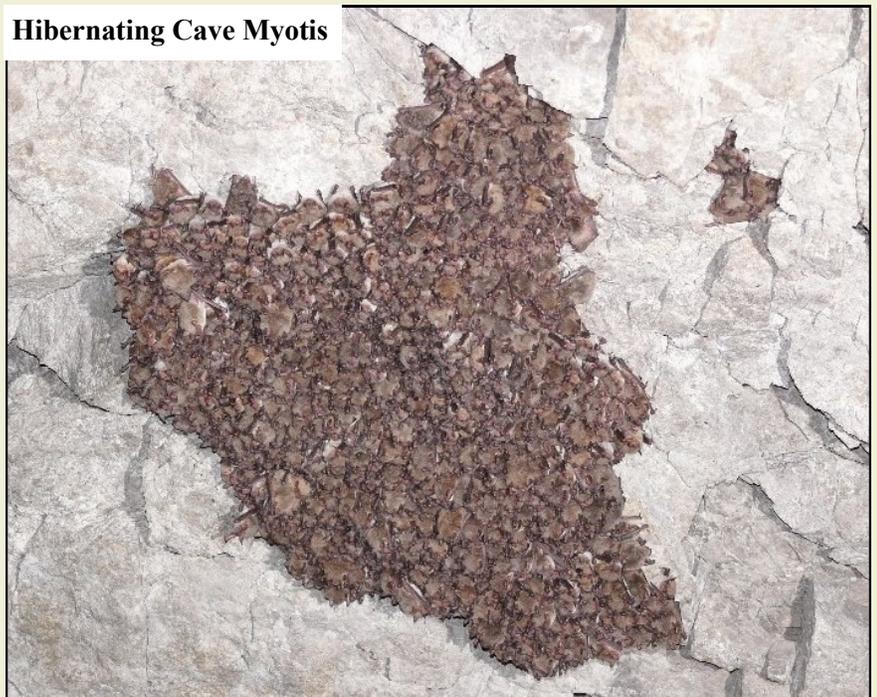


Hoary Bat

The NABat sampling frame is a grid across Canada, U.S., and Mexico, consisting of 10 x 10 km (100 km<sup>2</sup>) grid cell sample units. These 100 km<sup>2</sup> sample units are the focal analytical unit for regional and range-wide assessments. NABat’s sampling framework uses a spatially balanced design known as Generalized Random Tessellation Stratification (GRTS). This method combines the advantages of probability sampling with most of the spatial balance of systematic sampling, and has the added advantage that subsets of the samples are also approximately spatially balanced. When survey data is collected using this sampling framework, it will provide valid data for developing accurate estimates for species populations at both local and range-wide scales. The beauty of GRTS is that a local-scale monitoring plan can be incorporated into an existing regional-scale sampling design.

NABat incorporates four approaches to collect monitoring data to assess changes in bat distributions and abundances: 1) winter hibernaculum counts, 2) maternity colony counts, 3) mobile acoustic surveys along road transects, and 4) acoustic surveys at stationary points. Because of the diversity of bat life histories and behavioral characteristics, the appropriate approach will vary by species and season. The most appropriate methods for a species or group of species may also vary geographically. For example, hibernaculum counts are common in eastern North America, but in the southwest where many hibernaculum are unknown or for species that don’t aggregate in large groups, other approaches are more appropriate.

Photo by Debbie Buecher



Hibernating Cave Myotis

## The NA Bat Monitoring Program, continued

In New Mexico, BLM, USFS, and others periodically conduct colony counts in caves and mines that house medium to large colonies of hibernating bats. Several techniques are used, such as individual counts, digital photography, and thermal imaging. Long-term datasets from several NM sites are currently available, and will form the basis for much of the hibernacula count monitoring. Where hibernacula are unknown, the emphasis will be on determining appropriate sites for acoustic monitoring. Regular counts of bats in maternity colonies will also provide data for estimates of population trends.

Photo by Jim Stuart

For bat species that do not form colonies, or for those species whose colonies are not easily accessible, acoustic surveys are the method of choice. Two approaches to acoustic surveying are used in NABat, they are stationary point surveys and mobile transects. Mobile transects have been demonstrated to be useful in the East,



Mexican Free-tailed Bat

but are currently being evaluated for their effectiveness in the West. Stationary point surveys involve bat detectors placed for multiple nights at various features across the landscape. Two to four detectors are placed in areas that maximize the number and quality of recordings. When selecting sites for stationary point samples, it is critical that quality sites are selected and to consider bat species and their habitat associations.

The NM Abandoned Mine Land Program (NMAMLP) and White Sands Missile Range (WSMR) have both conducted pilot projects for NABat in New Mexico. In 2014 the NMAMLP focused on abandoned mine complexes with important bat habitat where they had worked to safeguard mine features with bat-compatible closures and develop reclamation projects. Sites included mine complexes in Santa Fe, Socorro and Luna Counties. Preliminary work in 2014 and 2015 was exploratory, and methods included video counts, stationary acoustic monitoring, and mobile transect surveys. Goals in 2017 are to intensify efforts at these sites, add a location in Grant County, and seek more land owner collaboration.

To implement NABat at WSMR in 2015, Bat Conservation International (BCI) established acoustic detector stationary survey points. Six grid cell sample units were selected from the national grid, and two monitoring points were chosen in each grid cell, for a total of 12 stationary points. Since that time, bat detectors have been deployed on a rotating basis at these points, with detectors moved between and/or within grid cells during each visit, resulting in multiple deployments per year. Acoustic data collected in 2015 and 2016 has resulted in over 20,000 recorded bat calls that have been identified to various taxonomic levels. Preliminary call analysis has identified at least 13 bat species, with many additional calls grouped into high and low frequency acoustic clades. Maternity and hibernacula surveys were also conducted at caves and abandoned mines known to receive significant bat use. WSMR and BCI are funded to implement NABat through 2018.

BLM will initiate two NABat stationary point survey pilot studies in 2017 on the Taos and Rio Puerco Resource Areas.

If anyone is interested in implementing the NABat Program at other sites in New Mexico, the plan is available at [https://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/gtr/gtr\\_srs208.pdf](https://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/gtr/gtr_srs208.pdf), or you can contact me at [marikayr@blm.gov](mailto:marikayr@blm.gov).



Debbie Buecher Conducting WNS Survey

## **Berrendo River Open Gate Property**

**By Corporal Tyson Sanders, Roswell Supervisory District, NMDGF**

On Red Bridge Road just north of East 19th Street on the outskirts of Roswell, sits a red bridge that passes over the Berrendo River. Well, it is actually more of an orange bridge from the years of weathering. Just east of the bridge is a dam on the Berrendo River that legend says was built by former Lincoln County Sherriff, Pat Garret himself. The dam creates a body of water that has historically produced and held monstrous Largemouth bass and other fish species. Old timers will tell you how they once came to this location and caught giant bass in their childhood. They will then tell you how they wish it was that way again.



The properties in this area of the Berrendo River are all privately owned and fishing has not been allowed for many years. The only current public land in the area is along the red bridge itself and the county road right-of-way which comes with safety concerns that has caused Chaves County to prohibit fishing from the bridge. Through the New Mexico Dept. of Game and Fish Open Gate Program, the landowners to the west of Red Bridge have been generous enough to enter into an agreement to open up access to licensed anglers on the Berrendo River. The project has not been without its challenges and bringing this opportunity to the community of Roswell and the anglers of New Mexico has been in the works for over three years.

The property provides about half a mile of river side access with waters that still hold some of the best bass fishing this state has to offer. Adjacent landowner, Bill Fenn, owner of Farmers Country Market, has stocked these waters for years and on October 6th he generously stocked the Berrendo River Open Gate property with 600 largemouth bass. They ranged in size from 1.5lbs to 4lbs. The Chaves County Flood Control has done an extensive amount of work in this area which has in turn produced an amazing fishing and parking area that will hold up to 30 vehicles. Sportsmen For Wildlife has also been a huge help in providing the initial set up for trash removal on the property. A special thank you to all the agencies and people who have participated to make this project possible!

The Department of Game and Fish has posted signs on the property and is working towards addressing all the challenges such a high use area may present. The parking area for the property is located off of Red Bridge Rd. 0.3 miles north of East 19th St, and on the west side of the road. There is a large metal trash container and outhouses for the public to use on the property along with a very nice parking area off of the county road.

The bass fishing will be catch and release ONLY, with bag limits posted for trout, bluegill, and catfish. We ask the public to respect the property and obey the posted signs, because this amazing opportunity can disappear as fast as it arose. And keep in mind it is against the law to violate posted signs on an Open Gate property.

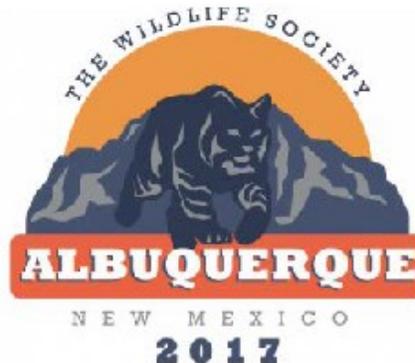


**Stocking Fish at the Berrendo River Open Gate Property**

## Berrendo River Open Gate Property, continued

With recent public recreation closures in the City of Roswell, the youth of the community are hurting for fun and safe activities to occupy their time. This property is only a few minutes drive from the city limits of Roswell and is within bike riding and even walking distance for some people of the community. The New Mexico Dept. of Game and Fish is excited to play its role in bettering recreation opportunities for the Roswell community as well as anglers statewide. On October 1st, the property opened for licensed anglers to come and enjoy fishing on the Berrendo River once again. And maybe, the old timers can re-live a little piece of their childhood while the new timers make lasting memories of their own.

# Save the Date!



*The Wildlife Society's 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference*

*Albuquerque Convention Center*

*Albuquerque, NM September 23<sup>rd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>, 2017*

Have ideas for sponsors, exhibitors, or contributors for the conference?

Please contact Ginny Seamster ([virginia.seamster@state.nm.us](mailto:virginia.seamster@state.nm.us)).

Interested in helping with conference planning?

Please contact Quentin Hays ([quentin.hays@enmu.edu](mailto:quentin.hays@enmu.edu)).

**AZ/NM AFS JAM Photo Contest and Wildlife Art Show**

**Photo Contest AND Wildlife Art Show!**

**Part of the 2017 AZ/NM AFS JAM - February 9-11, 2017**

***Photo Contest: Cash Prizes for first place and "Best of Show!"***

**Art Contest Category**

- ⇒ AZ/NM AFS Wildlife Then or Now  
A wildlife related 2-dimensional artwork (photo art, ink, graphite, watercolor, acrylic, etc.)

**Photo Contest Categories**

- \* *Three new categories added this year in Celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> JAM!*
- ⇒ Wild Mammals
- ⇒ Wild Birds
- ⇒ Reptiles and Amphibians
- ⇒ Wild Fish and Invertebrates
- ⇒ Landscape
- ⇒ Caught in the Act
- ⇒ \* **Historic AZ/NM Wild-lifer's Caught in the Act** (pictures of wildlife/fisheries work taken before 1997 (>20 years old)
- ⇒ \* **Remote Cams** (specific to trail/game/remote/drone camera images)
- ⇒ \* **"NextGen"** (students/kids doing wildlife work)

AZTWS, NMTWS and AFS accepts no responsibility for damages to photos or artwork submitted and displayed.

**General Rules:**

1. On-site registration only, 2/9/17 to 2/10/17 before 5pm. Late entries will not be accepted.
2. All participants must be a member in good standing.
3. Limit one entry per photo sub-category and art category; three total entries will be accepted.
4. Art and Photographs must be of their own work.
5. Professional photographers and artists are not eligible to enter. Amateurs only!
6. Art and Photographs must be labeled on the back with: 1) photographer's name, 2) the category, 3) email address, and 4) cell number
7. Judging is based on artistic merit and suitability by meeting participants.

**Photo Instructions for Submission:**

1. Only photos 5"x7" to 11"x14" will be accepted.
2. Photographs must be mounted on stiff paper, poster board or matting—No glass or frames.
3. Photographs of captive animals can't be used.

**Art Instructions for Submission:**

1. Only Artwork must be two-dimensional 16"x20" or smaller will be accepted.
2. Artwork must be mounted and ready for hanging.

Questions or more information please contact :  
Chrissy Kondrat-Smith at [ckondrat-smith@azgfd.gov](mailto:ckondrat-smith@azgfd.gov) or Mark Watson at [mark.watson@state.nm.us](mailto:mark.watson@state.nm.us).

# 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](mailto:dan_collins@fws.gov)*