



Illinois - Indiana - Iowa - Michigan - Minnesota - Missouri - Ohio - Wisconsin

The Biennial Newsletter of the North Central Section of The Wildlife Society

Spring 2015

## President's Message



Mike Larson, 2015  
NCS President

Last year the board of the North Central Section (NCS) began making a concerted effort to communicate the relevance and importance of the NCS to its members and to wildlifers who are not yet members. We included brief “why membership matters” sections in the newsletter,

invested in sponsorship of the Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference, which included an exhibit booth where board members talked with attendees about the value of the NCS, and incorporated similar messages into countless conversations with colleagues throughout the year.

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I think we did this for two main reasons. One reason is that membership dues have been the sole source of revenue for the NCS for a long time, and although we will be investigating additional sources of revenue, they

still are. More fundamentally, though, the strength of every level of The Wildlife Society (TWS) is its members. Active and supportive members are needed to run for and serve on the governing board, to work on committees, such as those that recommend award recipients and work to provide professional development opportunities, and to support advocacy for wildlife and wildlife professionals.

Recently I wrote a letter to Governor Walker of Wisconsin on behalf of the NCS to support public involvement in making policy for natural resources, agency-based research, and the use of public funds to secure habitat for wildlife, all of which are at risk due to his state budget proposals. The higher the proportion of wildlife professionals in the NCS that are members of NCS, the more meaningful letters like that are. The same is true for other work of the Conservation Affairs Network.

It is likely that most people reading this column are already members of the NCS. If you are one of those people, thank you. Your support has enabled the NCS to do what it does every year to recognize our outstanding peers, support networking and professional development, and advocate for wildlife and wildlife professionals. This year please go one step further and reach out to your colleagues to ensure they understand the role and value of the NCS, too.

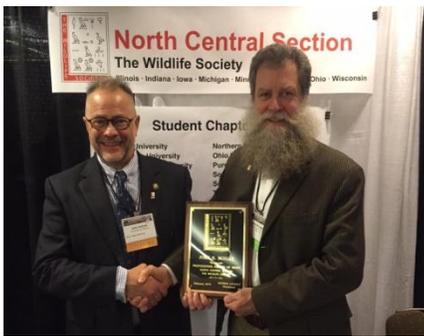
If you are not yet a member of the NCS, please give me a call, and I will gladly tell you why I am confident that your modest investment in membership will be worth it to you.

## 2014 NCS Awards

### Professional Award of Merit

The North Central Section's 2014 Professional Award of Merit was awarded to John Schulz of Columbia, Missouri.

John has had a long and storied career, starting with the Minnesota DNR, many positions with the Missouri Department of Conservation, the Non-Lead Campaign Manager for the American Bird Conservancy, and now in what I suppose could be called "active retirement" with the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at the University of Missouri.



*Pat Lederle, 2014 NCS President,  
with John Schultz*

John's more recent primary professional interests have focused on mourning dove population ecology and harvest management. Much of this work has resulted in the

realization that the issue of lead in ammunition and fishing tackle needs to be addressed by management agencies and other conservation partners. Although he has authored or co-authored over 50 papers in peer-reviewed scientific journals, his greatest accomplishments are derived from the fact that he has a real ability to question assumptions, and get to the fundamental issues that need to be addressed and come up with innovative approaches to resolve them. He has been very active in the Central Flyway and in 2007 was the Midwest Association of Wildlife Agencies Biologist of the Year.

John has been active in the Wildlife Society since he joined in 1980. He has been the Missouri Chapter President, North Central Section President, and was inducted as a Fellow of the Wildlife Society in 2013. Perhaps most importantly, John is

a great mentor and gives freely of his time so others can succeed in the profession.

### Student Chapter of the Year

The North Central Section's Student Chapter of the year for 2014 was awarded to Missouri Western State University.

Missouri Western is a perennial powerhouse of a student chapter in the Section and has been the recipient of this award several times, and it is not because there isn't very stiff competition. This student chapter epitomizes what a student chapter should be all about – scholarship, service, and having a great time doing what they are passionate about. Good examples of the scores of activities they are involved with include collaboration with the National Wildlife Refuge system for the past 12 years, yearly engagement at the Missouri State Chapter of TWS, and the highest participation in the Hunter Education Program of any student chapter in Missouri (and I would guess in the entire Section!)

Congratulations Missouri Western Chapter!

### Outstanding Graduate Student

The North Central Section's 2014 Graduate Student of the Year was awarded to Tracy Swem of Michigan State University.



*Pat Lederle, 2014 NCS President, with  
Tracy Swem*

Tracy has an eclectic background, ranging from the love of airplanes to deep interests in herpetology - and she is passionate about them

all. She is very generous with her time, co-developed and led a study abroad course to Fiji

(which she won a Dean's award for), is active in the Michigan Chapter of TWS and was the Chair of the TWS IGNITE session held this past TWS meeting in Pittsburgh. She's very interested in stakeholder engagement and communicating the positive outcomes of wildlife management efforts. She is interested in working toward a PhD with a goal of a position at a research university someday.

Congratulations Tracy!

## Outstanding Undergraduate Student

The North Central Section's 2014 Undergraduate of the Year is awarded to Shaley Valentine of Northern Michigan University.

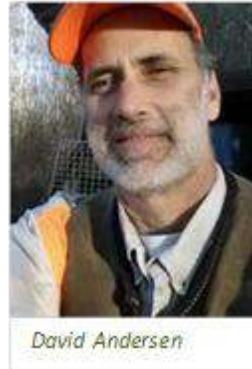
In addition to being a 4.0 student, Shaley has been active in the Wildlife Society, as an officer of the Student Chapter at Northern Michigan University, serving as co-organizer of the 2014 Student Conclave, and serving as Student Representative to the North Central Section. Shaley lead an ecology and evolution book club at the University and is a member of the University's Student Leader Fellowship Program. She is interested in a career in research and hopefully it will involve international travel.



*Pat Lederle, 2014 NCS President,  
with Shaley Valentine.*

Congratulations to you, Shaley!

## Section Rep. Report



The Wildlife Society (TWS) Council met in conjunction with the 2015 North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in Omaha, Nebraska in early March 2015, and there are several updates of Council activities to pass along to North Central Section, state chapter, and student chapter members. First, as many of you know, TWS has been working to improve our financial footing and recover from several years of deficit spending. In addition, TWS transitioned to a fiscal year that runs from July through June, and the fiscal year starting in July 2015 will be the first under our new calendar. I'm quite happy to be able to report good financial news—TWS experienced a slight surplus during the last fiscal year, and the budget approved for the 2015-2016 fiscal year projects a larger surplus. Of course, these are based on projections for both revenues and expenses, and where TWS finances are at the end of the 2015-2016 fiscal year can't be predicted with certainty. But, the trend is certainly in the right direction and efforts of TWS staff, Council, Sections, and state and student chapters have all contributed to TWS turning around a rather dire financial situation. TWS still has a way to go to reach the financial position we all desire, but the organization is back on the right track. TWS Executive Committee members (Past-President Jon Hafler, President Rick Baydack, President-Elect Gary Potts, and Vice President Bruce Thompson) have worked diligently with TWS staff to track budgets, align spending with strategic goals, and otherwise work to get TWS back in the black.

Some other positive developments include working to continue the strong leadership of TWS journals, continuing roll-out of a new TWS website (Wildlife.org), reformatting and new delivery of wildlife policy news, revision and streamlining of

TWS position statements, and continued development of the Conservation Affairs Network:

*TWS publications:*--The Editors-in Chief of both the *Journal of Wildlife Management* (Evie Merrill) and the *Wildlife Society Bulletin* (Chris Ribic) indicated their intent to step down at the end of their current terms (Evie in June 2015 and Chris in December 2015). Both Evie and Chris contributed mightily to continuing the high quality of TWS publications and deserve much credit for taking on and performing these critical services to our Society. I encourage TWS members to express their appreciation to both Evie and Chris, as appropriate, as I know that these are often thankless jobs and that sometimes a small expression of appreciation makes a lot of difference. TWS is also working diligently to identify the next Editors-in-Chief for both these journals, and several highly qualified individuals have stepped forward—hopefully, more on selection of new Editors-in-Chief will be forthcoming this spring and summer.

*TWS website:*--TWS rolled out a new website in conjunction with the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference in Pittsburgh in October 2014. As with all websites, it is a work in progress and the website has been upgraded and material is continually being migrated to the new site. I encourage you to view the new website (<http://wildlife.org/>) and look for ways to keep improving it.

*TWS policy news and position statements:*--Over the last year, a subcommittee of TWS Council worked on revising TWS position statements. Some existing position statements had expired or were near expiry, and several others were no longer relevant or had been supplanted by more recent statements. The subcommittee recommended revising how position statements are currently structured into (1) standing position statements that broadly address topics core to TWS, (2) position statements that address specific, important areas of interest, and (3) fact sheets that provide summaries of science related to specific topics. At the March 2015 Council meeting, this subcommittee presented this outline to Council and will work to implement this reorganization over the next several months. Council authorized this review and revision to make

TWS positions more clear and useable, and once this revision is completed, TWS positions should be more useable, especially for Sections and Chapters.

*TWS Conservation Affairs Network:*--The Conservation Affairs Network was developed by TWS Council and staff over the last several years and rolled out beginning in 2014. The idea of the Conservation Affairs Network is to allow more efficient engagement in issues important to TWS membership across all levels of the organization (parent society, Sections, state and student Chapters) and the profession. Sections and Chapters are in various stages of engagement in the Conservation Affairs Network, and I'm happy to report that the North Central Section has engaged the Conservation Affairs Network and is working toward implementation at the Section and state Chapter levels. In addition, the Conservation Affairs Network is a key component of the TWS Strategic Plan, in that it is a mechanism to more closely integrate and engage all levels of the Society. If you are not familiar with the Conservation Affairs Network, please take a few minutes and find out more on the TWS website.

Although there was mostly good news to report from the recent TWS Council meeting, not everything is positive. TWS has a distressing downward trend in membership, and although this downward trend has slowed during the past year, TWS needs to engage wildlife professionals and make them want to be members. TWS staff are focused on engaging current, lapsed, and potential new members and increasing membership is a high priority. Part of the issue is making clear what the value of TWS membership is to former and potential new members—something that current members can help accomplish. To that end, note that TWS member benefits (e.g., *The Wildlife Professional*, the *eWildlifer*, action alerts, etc.) have increased, are more accessible than ever, and provide communication across all levels of TWS.

Finally, a reminder that the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference will be in Winnipeg, Manitoba (make sure your passport is up to date!) 17 – 21 October 2015. There are some exciting opportunities being offered in association with the conference, including the

opportunity to participate in field trips to Churchill to see charismatic megafauna/dangerous wildlife up close and personal. The 2016 Annual Conference will be in Raleigh, North Carolina and the 2017 conference will be in Albuquerque, New Mexico. TWS is also a co-sponsor (jointly with the Mammal Society of Japan) of the 2015 International Wildlife Management Conference in Sapporo, Japan in July 2015, which promises to be an exciting meeting and opportunity to engage international colleagues.

## Treasurer's Report

### GENERAL FUND (Checking & Savings)

General Fund Balance as of December 31, 2014..... **\$13,401.64**

Checking Starting Balance	\$ 1,794.73
<b>Checking Income</b>	
4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr 2014 TWS Dues	\$1,740.00
Transfer from Savings	\$2,000.00
Subtotal	\$3,740.00
<b>Checking Expenses</b>	
MSU – flash drives (MFWFC booth prizes)	\$ 63.60
Rochelle Renken – travel support	\$ 500.00
Clay Nielsen – Award Plaques	\$ 559.12
MFWFC membership meeting	\$ 681.12
catering	\$ 887.25
John Schulz – Professional Award of Merit travel support	\$ 500.00
Katy Reeder – travel support	\$1,000.00
Student Chapter of TWS – conclave grant	
Subtotal	\$4,191.09
<b>CHECKING TOTAL as of March 31, 2015</b>	<b>\$1,343.64</b>

General Fund Balance as of March 31, 2015..... **\$ 9,923.33**

<b>Encumbered Savings Expenses</b>	
2015 Student Chapter of the Year Travel Award	\$1,000.00
Subtotal	\$1,000.00

General Fund Balance (minus encumbrances) as of March 31, 2015..... **\$8,923.33**

### CONTINUING EDUCATION FUND

Balance as of December 31, 2014 ..... **\$28,646.08**

<b>Continuing Education Income</b>	
January 2015 Interest	\$ 2.43
February 2015 Interest	\$ 2.20
Subtotal	\$ 4.63
<b>Continuing Education Expenses</b>	
None	
Subtotal	\$0.00

Balance as of March 31, 2015 ..... **\$28,650.71**

### SYMPOSIUM FUND

Balance as of December 31, 2014..... **\$10,191.81**

<b>Symposia Income</b>	
January 2015 Interest	\$ 0.87
February 2015 Interest	\$ 0.78
Subtotal	\$ 1.65
<b>Symposia Expenses</b>	
None	\$0.00
Subtotal	\$0.00

Balance as of March 31, 2015..... **\$10,193.46**

**TOTAL FUNDS as of March 31, 2105.....48,767.50**

**TOTAL FUNDS (minus encumbrances) as of March 31, 2015.....\$47,767.50**

Respectfully submitted by the Treasurer of the North Central Section:



Jim Schneider  
Department of Fisheries and Wildlife  
Michigan State University

## State Chapter Reports

### Illinois Chapter

No Report.

## Indiana Chapter

*Rob Chapman*

The Indiana Chapter of The Wildlife Society co-hosted the 75<sup>th</sup> Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Indianapolis on February 8-11, 2015 with the Indiana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. The conference was a big success with over 900 participating. Moving the conference from December to February resulted in an increase of undergraduate and graduate student attendance which exceeded 250. There were 302 presentations and 124 posters. Plenary sessions included presentations by Dr. Joe Caudell on Midwest wildlife disease issues, Peter Anin on the use of technology and social media, and Dr. Gary Alt on human interactions with large predators. There were four workshops and eleven symposia that were well attended and included such topics as bats and forest management, recruitment of hunters and anglers, conservation education, human dimensions of imperiled wildlife, and using agent based modeling in fish and wildlife management.

Several Chapter awards were presented during the Chapter business meeting at the Midwest. Dr. John Castrale was awarded the Hoosier Wildlife Award in recognition for his many career contributions to the recovery and management of birds, including the successful bald eagle and peregrine falcon restoration efforts in Indiana. The Champions of Wildlife Award was presented to Bob and Ellen Mulford for the restoration of over 400 acres of grassland and wetland habitats on their Ripley County, Indiana farm. Scott Haulton was awarded the Best Paper Award for his presentation at the 2014 Chapter Spring Meeting. Budd Veverka received the Past President Award his service as 2014 Chapter president, and Sally Weeks was presented the Outstanding Service Award for her years of service as Chapter secretary and treasurer. On March 11-12, 2015, the chapter co-hosted *Integrating Wildlife Habitat into Forest Management Prescriptions: A Hands-on Workshop* with the Indiana Chapter of the Society of American Foresters. The workshop was attended by over 70 foresters, wildlife biologists, and students. The workshop included four indoor modules on bats, birds, herptiles, and small mammals, emphasizing what researchers have learned about these taxa from

the Indiana Hardwood Ecosystem Experiment (<http://www.heeforeststudy.org/>). An outdoor session consisted a tree-marking exercise implementing ideas and concepts from the indoor modules.

## Iowa Chapter

*Tyler Harms*

Greetings from Iowa! The Iowa Chapter of The Wildlife Society has had many exciting things happen this winter and we're looking forward to the summer field season.

On 3-4 March 2015, the Iowa Chapter convened in Ames for its annual Winter Meeting. More than 100 wildlife professionals from across Iowa (and even some from outside Iowa) enjoyed ample networking opportunities, great camaraderie, and an informative program with topics such as using genetic data to determine distinctiveness of the "prairie" Gray Fox and refuge habitat management planning. We were very lucky to have Dr. Susan Skagen, Research Scientist with the U.S. Geological Survey Fort Collins Science Center, as our keynote speaker. Dr. Skagen presented a very interesting and informative talk entitled, "The implications of climate change for migratory birds in the central and northern Great Plains", which highlighted much of her work evaluating the impacts of a changing climate on migratory birds. Many thanks to Dr. Skagen for joining us! Again this year, we hosted a student poster session and social and were excited to have five students (four undergraduates and one graduate) from three colleges and universities present on their independent research. During the business meeting, Dr. David Andersen of the Minnesota Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit and Council Representative for the North Central Section, shared with us information about the Section and current happenings at the National level. In addition, Dr. Andersen gave a very interesting presentation during the general program about his work with colleagues using geolocators to study the migratory connectivity of Golden-winged Warblers. We appreciated Dr. Andersen's willingness to join us, provide information about the

North Central Section, and give an interesting presentation!

This year, the Iowa Chapter recognized three individuals for their outstanding contributions to wildlife conservation in Iowa. The Iowa Conservation Hall of Fame award is the highest award presented by the Iowa Chapter of The Wildlife Society. The award is bestowed upon an individual who has made significant contributions which have impacted the conservation effort and ultimately the wildlife resource in Iowa. The award shall be bestowed to honor national as well as local conservationists for outstanding contributions to conservation and the wildlife profession. Dr. William R. Clark, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology at Iowa State University, was awarded the Iowa Conservation Hall of Fame award for his huge impact on wildlife conservation in Iowa through his research, service, and teaching. Mark C. Ackelson, President Emeritus of the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation, was also awarded the Iowa Conservation Hall of Fame award for his many efforts to protect tens of thousands of acres of land in Iowa and continuing to challenge himself to do more for conservation. The Iowa Conservation Award of Merit is bestowed upon an individual by the Iowa Chapter of The Wildlife Society for outstanding contributions to the field of wildlife conservation including: education, enforcement, management, and research. Loren Lown, Natural Areas Administrator for Polk County Conservation, was awarded the Iowa Conservation Award of Merit for his significant contributions to the betterment of wildlife in central Iowa. The Iowa Chapter was thrilled to recognize all three of these worthy individuals, and we congratulate them and thank them for what they've done to further wildlife conservation in Iowa.

On March 23, 2015, the Iowa Chapter officially adopted a position statement on the impacts of biofuels energy development on Iowa wildlife. This position statement, which is one of the first in the nation on this topic, was composed by members of the Resolutions and Public Statements Committee of the Iowa Chapter and aims to bring wildlife and healthy ecosystems into the biofuels discussion.

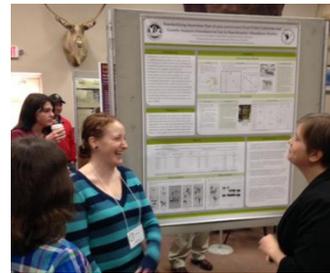
You can find the position statement on our website here:

[http://www.iowatws.org/Library/PositionPapers/IOWA\\_TWS\\_Biofuels\\_Statement\\_2015\\_Final\\_draft.pdf](http://www.iowatws.org/Library/PositionPapers/IOWA_TWS_Biofuels_Statement_2015_Final_draft.pdf). In addition, we are currently working on an educational letter on the Iowa Department of Natural Resources' depredation program in response to criticisms about the program from other stakeholder groups and are in the process of composing a position statement on the regulation of commercial turtle harvest in Iowa.

As spring quickly approaches, we wish everyone in the North Central Section a safe and pleasant field season.

## Michigan Chapter

*Richard Olsen*



*Genelle Uhrig, Michigan Chapter member, discussing her poster with meeting attendees.*



The Michigan Chapter of The Wildlife Society held its annual meeting from March 26-27 at the Jay's Sporting Goods in Clare, MI. The meeting included two organized sessions, one on long-eared bat conservation and the other on using climate science for on the ground management. We also had a contributed paper session, a poster session, and an evening banquet. On any given day there were 50-60 members in attendance.

Tracy Swem, graduate student in the Applied Forest and Wildlife Ecology Lab at Michigan State University and Chapter Member, was the recipient of the 2015 North Central Section Outstanding Graduate Student Award. Congratulations Tracy!

## Minnesota Chapter

*Richard Olsen*

The Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society held its 2015 annual meeting jointly with the Wisconsin Chapter in Duluth Minnesota, in February. The meeting was attended by over 400 professionals and students, some of whom represented states and provinces outside of Minnesota and Wisconsin.

The annual meeting plenary session, "Global Warming: Carbon Solutions for a Warming World" provided a series of presentations on how the effects of global warming might be mitigated by natural resource managers. Innovative ideas were offered by many of the presenters, leading to extensive commentary and discussions among meeting participants after the session.

General session presentations covered a diversity of topics from endangered butterflies to caribou and moose, as well as presentations about the effects of climate change on wildlife resources. Over 70 oral presentation and 30 posters offered something for everyone. The meeting also had special sessions on elk restoration and management in the Midwest, wild rice management in Minnesota and Wisconsin, and applying LiDAR technology to wildlife management and research: all were well received, interesting, and educational.

We also held a Minnesota Chapter Past-President Summit in Duluth before the start of our annual meeting. 12 former chapter presidents were able to attend and engaged in a lively and helpful discussion to generate new ideas for our current leadership, provide historical insights, and help give direction to our strategic planning process.

The Minnesota Chapter, under the leadership of past president Steve Windels, has also begun a strategic planning process with the help of the non-profit group Freshwater Future. The strategic planning effort will help the chapter better define who we are and what we do, and provide focus and direction to our activities and efforts. Some of our desired outcomes include enhancement of our activities in

professional development of chapter members, student programs, advocacy, and overall organization structure and efficiency.

## Missouri Chapter

*Tony Elliott*

The Missouri Chapter (MOTWS) held its annual meeting on February 5, 2015 in conjunction with the Missouri Natural Resources Conference (MNRC). MOTWS was the host society for this year's MNRC which was very successful, thanks to the excellent work of committee chair Alan Leary and all of the other committee members. At the meeting we announced the Farmer Conservationist Award given to Kevin Strange of Edina, MO and the Conservation Federation of Missouri (CFM) Scholarships in Natural Resources – Wildlife winners, Shawn Colborn (Ed Stegner Undergraduate Award) and Travis Schepker (Carl Marrow Graduate Award). We also presented the University of Missouri Graduate Student Fellowship to Evan Hill and the James D. Chambers Memorial Scholarship to Shawn Colborn. MOTWS also presented the G. Andy Runge Wildlife Award to Missouri River Relief and the E. Sydney Stephens Professional Wildlife Award to Dr. Joshua Millspaugh.

New officers were elected to the MOTWS Board in 2015: President-Elect Ryan Diener, Secretary Mary Crowell, and Board Member Charles Anderson were welcomed to the Executive Board. Thank you to Tim Kavan, Luke Miller, and Jason Isabelle who rotated off the Board after completing their terms of service. Brandon Butler, Executive Director of the CFM, provided an update on issues related to conservation that are being considered by the Missouri legislature, many of which could affect the funding and function of the Missouri Conservation Commission. Keith Norris, Assistant Director of Government Affairs with the parent Society, provided an update on the Conservation Affairs Network emphasizing its utility for vertical and horizontal communication and networking within the Society.

In February, MOTWS submitted a letter to Missouri legislative leaders outlining the Chapters stance on several issues under consideration. President Anthony Elliott, President-Elect Ryan Diener, and Treasurer Scott Sudkamp spent a day represented MOTWS at the CFM Convention March 20 – 22 and MOTWS had a booth at the inaugural Conservation Day at the Missouri State Capital Building on April 2, 2015. Our annual Missouri Student's Workshop will be held on April 17 – 19 at Columbia Bottom Conservation Area near St. Louis. This year, the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society will join with our Chapter to cohost the student chapter event.

## Ohio Chapter

No Report.

## Wisconsin Chapter

No Report.

## Student Chapter Reports

### Ball State

*Riley Carswell*

The Ball State Chapter of TWS has had a successful spring semester thus far! Our spring semester meetings had many excellent guest speakers. Barry Banks, director of Red-tail Land Conservancy, gave a presentation on land trusts and their mission preserving land in Delaware County and surrounding areas. Dr. Rod Williams from Purdue University presented his research on hellbenders and his goals for the future of the species. Along with other guest speakers, we also hosted a pet night where members could bring in their pets for show

and tell. This year, our chapter has started bi-weekly skill builder workshops for members to gain extra experience with CV editing, tagging and banding, trapping, and radio telemetry. These are useful skills for our members to have that extra step up in the job search.

Our chapter has also been very active in community volunteering this semester. Members spent a weekend at Smith-Crisler Nature Preserve with Red-tail Land Conservancy picking up trash and eradicating invasive bush honey suckle. In collaboration with Ball State's American Fisheries Society, members spent an afternoon picking up large amounts of trash in a section of the White River.

Our chapter participated in Ball State Science Department's Clash of the Sciences event. This event was aimed for elementary students and their families to explore all the sciences with various activities put on by chemistry, physics, and biology organizations. Our chapter had two activities, one comparing mammals and reptiles and one with bird identification. Our members demonstrated these activities to 200 Muncie families! This event gave our members the opportunity to gain public speaking educating our community on wildlife and the importance of science.

In February, nine members, including our officers attended the 75<sup>th</sup> Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Indianapolis. This was a great opportunity for our members to network with professionals in our field. While there, 6 members attended the professional workshop where they learned important skills about CVs, interviews, and had the opportunity to ask professionals questions about their particular job. During the awards ceremony, Chapter President, Riley Carswell was selected as a finalist for the Janice Lee Fenske Memorial Award!

At the beginning of March, chapter elections were held. Our 2015-2016 officers are as follows: President- Bridget Stancombe, Vice President- Sarah Fischer, Secretary- Samantha Rodriguez, and Treasurer- Natasha Rollings. We are excited about the things they will contribute to our chapter and look forward to them serving in their new positions.



Our chapter has two more guest speakers planned for the rest of the semester. We are having a cookout to celebrate the end of the year and wish the graduating members the best of luck in their wildlife careers!

## Bemidji State University

*Brian J. Hiller*

The Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society at Bemidji State University (TWS BSU) has had a busy past several months. Foremost was the success of the 2015 North Central Student Conclave, held at the Audubon Center of the North Woods in Sandstone, MN over the weekend of March 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>. This was the first time that the Conclave has been hosted in Minnesota for almost three decades and it was, by all accounts, a tremendous success. This event was co-hosted with the University of Minnesota, Crookston, and had the successful registration and participation of 107 students from over 12 schools and seven states in the North Central Section. The Conclave's keynote speaker was MN DNR Commissioner, Tom Landwehr, and also 16 invited presenters who

covered a wide variety of topics including: prescribed grazing, human dimensions of wildlife, furbearer management, wildlife depredation, unmanned aerial vehicles and bears, wildlife photography, wetland management, fisheries management, and prairie dancers. Five hands-on workshops also took place including: duck wing identification, wildlife depredation, radio telemetry, passerine banding, and copper bullet workshop demonstration.

In addition to the Conclave, students have also assisted in bobcat necropsy at Grand Rapids DNR, the Audubon Christmas bird count, and conducted deer spotlight surveys for the MN DNR and City of Bemidji. The TWS BSU has also been diligently working on a management plan for a wildlife management area (WMA) near Bemidji, MN. Members are researching the history of the particular land use of the WMA including, topography, geology, hydrology and the possibilities of installing bat houses, artificial amphibian habitats, and yellow rail habitat management. Other upcoming studies in the WMA include: surveys of vegetation diversity, scent post surveys, invertebrate diversity, and small mammal diversity.

As we near the end of the semester in April, the TWS BSU has planned a duck decoy carving weekend with the University of Minnesota-Crookston and the BSU Ducks Unlimited Chapter. We are also headed out for sharp-tailed grouse trapping and collaring, owl surveys, adoption of a 2-mile stretch of highway, and assisting in the planting of trees after prescribed burns. It has been a busy, but exciting, year at Bemidji State and we're looking forward to the future!

## Lakehead University

*Dacotah Ateah, Alexander Duncan, Jessica Iltgen, Alaina Vandervoort*

As students who had never been to a TWS meeting



before, we had no idea what we were in for. Luckily for us it was an incredible experience. How could it not be with so much shared knowledge and passion of the field apparent to us in the meeting venue? The welcome we received on arrival to Duluth was exciting, even if not many knew of Lakehead University or even the city of Thunder Bay. Making new connections is especially exciting due to our location being so far from other Canadian universities. We were able to make contacts and connections that are now specifically helping with our current projects in school.

Being thrown into a new situation is something we have to learn in our careers and we definitely were in a new situation for the Quiz Bowl. In that moment moving to the front, we came to the realization we did not know a lot about American law, policy or the shared history of natural resource management between our countries. All was well, however, as we had four students who agreed to share the spotlight for a few minutes. Remarkably, we did not get booted from the stage.

The overall experience of the Duluth conference with the Wisconsin and Minnesota chapters of The Wildlife Society hosting was a warm and welcoming one. As the group of Canadians representing Lakehead University, we were very keen on engaging in talks and presentations from our neighbours to the south. The numerous presentations and posters by students, professors and other wildlife professionals added to the overall learning and educational experience. This is an event that we would most definitely recommend to our student colleagues to attend in the upcoming years.

## Missouri Western University

*Daniel Robertson*



This has been an amazing year for our Student Chapter. Our members have been very active in a variety of different projects and events. One of our biggest accomplishments this year was receiving the 2014 North Central Section Student Chapter of the Year Award. We are continuing our young partnership with Swan Lake National Wildlife Refuge. This partnership with Swan Lake has offered great opportunities to help with their 1st Friday program and 8th grade outdoors day starting May 5. These events are great ways to help educate the next generation of young outdoorsmen. This year we had 7 of our members that took the S130/190 Wildland Fire Behavior and Ecology Training, taught by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). Over half of our members are certified through the BIA for the S130/190. For the sixth year in a row our Student Chapter hosted the Safe Capture International, Inc. to offer their Chemical Immobilization of Animals: Free-Ranging & Captive Wildlife workshop. Several of our members participated in that workshop. Our members also assisted the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) with their annual events such as Herp-O-Rama, Insect-O-Rama, and Eagle Days. We are excited to have participated in our first Conclave, the Western Conclave, hosted by Texas A&M. We were among 13 schools represented. Our team participated in several activities and competitions. We placed first in individual radio telemetry, and turkey calling. We also placed 5<sup>th</sup> in team telemetry out of approximately 25 teams. We also placed first in the "Biologist Equipment Identification".

Other professional development and applied learning community outreach activities included the deer population surveys at Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge and Swan Lake NWR, managed handicap deer hunts, wood duck box monitoring and management, attending the Missouri Natural Resource Conference and presenting peer-reviewed research and internship experience posters, and the goose round-up and dove wing collection at Pony Express Conservation Area for the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC). Our Chapter also worked with MDC's Share the Harvest Program and the regional Second Harvest Food Bank, by collecting approximately 1140 pounds of venison, thereby enabling the distribution of over

2600 meals to the needy regionally. We have two members that have permits through MDC and the US Geological Survey for bird banding. We also had Chapter members assist with Super Science Saturday community outreach and education, Missouri River Cleanup, and GPS workshops hosted on our campus. Chapter members served as Interpretive Interns at Squaw Creek NWR. This year our Chapter hosted Antler Measuring and Deer Aging/Tooth Collection Workshops, and helped staff the annual Antler Measuring Day with MDC. We also staffed four counties for aging deer and collecting teeth and lymph nodes (for CWD monitoring) for MDC's Resource Science Division. Many of our members presented the results of their Applied Learning research in natural resource law as well as Applied Learning through internship experiences, and independent research at various state, national and international meetings last spring, fall and this spring. These conferences included MO Academy of Sciences, International Applied Learning in Higher Education, MO Natural Resource Conference, American Society of Mammalogists, Annual Meeting of The Wildlife Society. Our Chapter members served as judges at the Missouri Junior Academy of Science. Our Chapter and presented a Best Project in Environment Science Division Award.

Some of our upcoming events this Spring and Summer will include, staffing Wings Over Weston community education outreach program, presenting a Conservation Student of the Year Award at the Biology Honors Convocation on campus, habitat restoration workdays at Squaw Creek NWR, outreach interpretive programs with MDC on Arbor Day, and a new event that we are excited to help with, called Prairie Day MDC, outreach and education events 1st Friday and 8th Grade Outdoor Day series at Swan Lake NWR. Our members are participating in a Canada Goose management and population survey here on the campus of Missouri Western. We are also looking forward to helping with the state-wide deer project that examines survival, recruitment, and movement patterns of white tailed deer in Missouri. Many members will participate in internships throughout the summer. Some of our members will also be participating in various summer research projects with faculty. We

will end the semester with our annual Beast Feast and Award Ceremony.

## Purdue University

*Sussman Morgan*

Ever been to Michigan's Upper Peninsula? I had the opportunity to go (first time visiting Michigan, yay!) and to make it more awesome I got the chance to touch yearling black bear cubs. Through Purdue's Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society, some students had the chance to go to Crystal Falls, Michigan to shadow Mississippi State graduate students with a project they were working on concerning white-tailed deer. So of course I went, what else am I going to do on a random weekend in February?

We arrived in Michigan eight hours later with plenty of snow on the ground and the temperature already near the negatives. We met up with the graduates Sunday and they explained to us the purpose of their project; looking into the population decline of white-tailed deer. In order to fully analyze the decline, the project needed to look into role of predators, winter weather, habitat, and the condition and reproduction of deer in order to understand the aspects affecting the population.

So what does this entail? Well first, we got to hike through deep snow through the woods to reach bobcat hair snares to collect any fur, feathers, or hair found on thin, spiky coils of wire. The site was baited with a deer rib cage or beaver, which attracted a variety of visitors including bobcats, wolves, coyotes, martins, fishers, hawks and owls, chickadees, snowshoe hares, and even flying squirrels. By collecting the hair or feathers caught in the snares, the graduates could collect data using the DNA from the samples. It's amazing how much you can do with just a little bit of fur!

Next we got to check deer traps, which were called as clover traps. Mainly they wanted to catch pregnant does so they could radio collar them and track their progress. They also used a temperature measuring device to get data on whether the doe was alive or dead, or whether or not she had dropped fawn (the device would fall out upon birth,

as it was placed in the vagina of the animal). I got the chance to use telemetry to locate a doe and see whether or not they were alive by the frequency of the feedback.

The graduates also wanted us to get the opportunity to see what they did when they received feedback that a doe was dead. They had a unique case where a radio-collared doe was hunted down by wolves so we travelled over to the site and got to see her remains. We were shown several ways of identifying whether it was a wolf kill or not; this included taking into consideration the space between teeth marks in bite wounds, whether there was hemorrhaging beneath the skin (this only occurs when a deer is alive and bleeding, indicating it was being hunted), and if there was blood foam on the nose it indicated a crushed throat where blood from the jugular mixed with breath. Wolves have a unique way of hunting, as do any predator, and knowing the different marks they leave can help decipher between the different predators.

After seeing the aftermath of a wolf kill, we asked if we could go out at night and try to get one to respond to howls. So with the temperature just above -30 degrees, we ventured out into the woods and eventually to a frozen lake. We got a few coyotes to respond, but the wolves were silent, making me wonder if they knew the difference between a recording and a real wolf or if they could smell us nearby. Either way, it was still awesome.

On the final day in Michigan, we got the best opportunity of all; to get up close and help take measurements on wild black bears. The mother and two cubs were sedated and pulled from their den while we had the chance touch them and help work them up. It was an incredible experience seeing the cub up close; she was licking her nose (a typical habitat of sedated bears) and shivering. We did our best to keep her warm and the work up took about an hour to complete.

It is projects like these that really give you a glimpse into a day in the field as a wildlife biologist and what they can achieve by completing this research. The data provided by this project will be used for years to come in determining whether

predator control is necessary and what are the real factors causing deer decline. It will give people a glimpse that there are multiple mechanisms at play when it comes to nature, and there is never a simple answer.

## University of Illinois

*Isha Robertson*



The UIUC Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society has had some exciting experiences since our last update! Last semester we

took two major trips, one was to the St. Louis Zoo and the other was to The Peoria Wildlife Prairie Park. While we were at the Peoria Park we helped with activities like feeding the wolves, cleaning the reptile cages, and preparing for the pig race. After we finished working we walked around the park and saw the other animals. Later in the semester we also took a trip to the St. Louis Zoo where two of the staff members gave us a tour, talked with us about the zoo, and brought in a few of their live animals. These were both really great trips that we hope to repeat in future years.

In addition to our field trips, we also organized some smaller events, and had a few guest speakers. Last semester we hosted a photography contest for our members that featured all winners in our club calendar that we sold as a fundraiser. A few weeks prior to that event we took a very exciting and informative tour of the Vet clinic on our campus. Then as part of our education outreach program we volunteered at one of the local elementary school's science nights and had a lot of fun. One of the speakers we brought in was Dr. Robert Pahre, a UIUC professor who came and taught us about his research on the politics of national parks. We also brought in Suzie Marlow and her canine co-worker, Ranger, from Conservation Canines. We learned a lot about scent detection dogs and how they can help in wildlife conservation efforts.

These are just a few of the many great activities we've had this year! During the last few weeks of our spring semester, we will be volunteering at the Exotic Feline Rescue Center, spending the day at the gun range learning to shoot with policemen, having our board elections, and ending with a yearend cookout. We have had many great experiences so far and are looking forward to finishing off the year with a couple additional trips and events that should be very exciting!

## University of Wisconsin – Steven's Point

*Emilia Kenow*

The UW-Stevens Point student chapter has had a busy couple of months. Our chapter was able to send seven students down to Indianapolis, IN for the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference while just one week later twelve students headed north to the joint state meeting between Minnesota and Wisconsin in Duluth, MN. At both conferences many members presented their research and Rebecca Kelble earning an outstanding undergraduate research award at the Duluth meeting. During the state meeting, Molly O'Grady was awarded the Aldo Leopold Memorial Scholarship. We also were able to take home the title of Quiz Bowl champs. Several members also attended the Wisconsin Waterfowl Hunters Conference. Aside from sending members to conferences, the board worked hard on developing and hosting a leadership workshop that took place on Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>.

The workshop was an idea developed by members of the board after identifying the need to seek out more leaders early in their academic career. This was a growing need in our chapter because we have about fifty leadership roles between the officers, board, and project leaders. Other student chapters voiced similar concerns during the Student Chapter Session and student breakfast at the National TWS meeting in Pittsburg this past October. Therefore,

we extended invitations to the other student chapters in Wisconsin (UW-Madison and Northland) as well as other student organizations in the College of Natural Resources. We had a total of 45 participants.

Part of the leadership training required participants to take the Myer-Briggs Personality Test prior to meeting as a group. Then, students met at the UWSP campus on Saturday to hear from speakers, Dr. Bernie Patterson (UWSP Chancellor), Dr. Karl Martin (Program Director for UWEX- Community Natural Resource Economic Development), and John Zach (UWSP Career Services). Chancellor Patterson began the morning by addressing the value of student leaders on campus and in the community as well as the importance of diverse leaders. Dr. Martin followed with a discussion on leadership and teamwork in the field of Natural Resources. Following a quick break, John Zach finished off the morning by applying the results from the Personality Tests to types of leadership.

Participants were assigned to groups after lunch for the afternoon breakout sessions. Each group had a UWSP faculty leader who facilitated discussion on the relationship between personality types and leadership styles in the context of a team. Groups had a problem solving activity that demonstrated various personalities within their group. The groups then identified an issue from within their student organization, brainstormed solutions, and created action items to solve the issue. Following these breakout sessions, all groups then presented and discussed proposed action items with each other. These action items were recorded and distributed in a follow-up communication to all participants to implement within their own groups. The day ended with a closing statement from Dr. Scott Hygnstrom (Douglas R. Stephens Chair in Wildlife at UWSP and Director of the Wisconsin Institute for Wildlife) and the presentation of certificates.

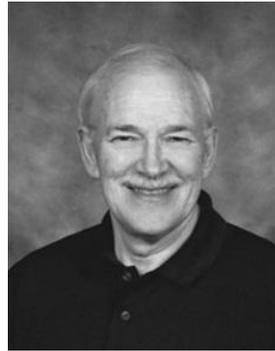
Participant enthusiasm, feedback, and evaluations all indicated the workshop was a success. This was a huge learning opportunity for the officers and steering committee as we worked to make this happen. We hope this is the first of many workshops and look forward to improving and expanding our Leadership Workshop offerings. Specifically, we plan to create a three-year workshop series rotation on leadership development, teambuilding, and conflict-resolution.

A special thank you goes out to our speakers and faculty leaders who helped to make this possible. We would also like to thank the UWSP College of Natural Resources, Wisconsin Institute for Wildlife, and the Wisconsin State Chapter for their financial support and encouragement of our efforts.

In regular business, our weekly meetings have had high attendance with over 100 members some weeks. The flying squirrel, grey squirrel, wolf, woodpecker and deer projects have all been extremely active while prairie chicken and woodcock will be starting up over the next month or so. As the semester comes to a close we will be hosting our game feed on April 21<sup>st</sup> and holding elections April 28<sup>th</sup>. It has been quite the year and I am extremely grateful to have been able to be a part of such a great officer team and chapter.

## In Memorium

*By Eric Anderson, University of Wisconsin –Stevens Point*



More years ago that I care to remember, I read a story to our kids about John Henry. If you recall the story, John Henry was a legendary figure that pitted his strength against the steam drill and died trying to best the machine. One line in that story has stayed with me all these years. In the book John says: “Dying ain’t important. Everybody does that. What matters is how well you do your living.”

By any measure you can name, Jim Hardin did his living well.

I can tell you about his significant professional life. The fact that he wrote the first recovery plan for the Florida Key Deer, served as Assistant Director of the Cooperative Wildlife Research Lab at Southern Illinois for 4 years, worked with 13 grad students on everything from Karner Blue butterflies to Greater Prairie Chickens and in 2005 was named a fellow by the Wildlife Society for his significant contributions to wildlife resources and the profession. Clearly he was highly regarded and well respected as a scientist.

But that would not capture what was truly remarkable about Jim.

I can tell you about his exceptional teaching abilities. During his 27 year career at UW-SP he was awarded the CNR Outstanding Teacher an unprecedented 4 times – and the top University Teaching Award twice. He taught and advised

literally thousands of students – many of whom have gone on to work for state and federal agencies, direct wildlife programs for non-profits, and teach at other universities. For 10 years he advised the Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society during which time the organization won the national award for best student chapter twice. He created the captive wildlife minor – a minor still alive today with more than 200 students enrolled. I never saw Jim’s office door shut when he was there. The message to students was that they were always welcome to stop by to say hi, ask him questions, or seek his help. Jim loved working with students and devoted his life to them.

But that would not capture what was truly remarkable about Jim.

I can tell you about the gifts he brought to the community of Stevens Point. How he played the trombone and oboe in this church and in community orchestras. How in retirement he and his Golden Retriever Bachelor would visit the hospital weekly to bring the love and companionship of a dog to patients, and how Jim and Bachelor would regularly visit Bannach School to let the 2<sup>nd</sup> graders read to them. And for anyone who ever heard that beautifully rich and deep baritone voice of his would know that he could never share enough of that gift. And Jim’s smile – what a remarkable smile - was genuine, warm and radiant. You always knew he truly was glad to see you.

But that would not capture what was truly remarkable about Jim.

What was truly remarkable about Jim was his gentle and unending capacity for kindness, compassion, and caring. In all the years I knew him, I never heard him utter an unkind word about anyone. That was his very essence. In the last few days of his life, I had the honor to spend a few hours with him. Most of his cognitive functioning had left him, and

he was floating adrift between consciousness and unconsciousness. As I got up to leave, he gently touched my arms and in a voice nearly too raspy to hear said “Thank you...thank you so much for coming”. When you stripped away all that was a comfort in his life, emaciated his body, stole his capacity to think...still at his core was the kindest, gentlest man I may have ever known. I wept.

The other thing that lived at Jim’s core was his truly selfless humility. I am quite sure that if Jim could hear me, he would stop me and say – “thank you, but look at all that you’ve done”. He was so quick to raise everyone else’s banner, but never his own. Jim was not a man to call attention to himself or want to leave a legacy that bore his name. Not some stone and mortar edifice with his name over the door, nor a memorial so people would remember how great a man he was. But that doesn’t mean he didn’t leave a legacy...a powerful and long lasting one that was given freely to any one that knew him. It was the inspiration he offered, simply by knowing him, to be a little bit **kinder**, a little less **judgmental**, a little more **humble**.

Truly good men like Jim are far too uncommon on this earth. The entire world may not mourn his passing, but for those of us that knew him, it is a great loss.

Jim, thank you for the gifts you leave behind and for enriching the lives of thousands of students, colleagues, and friends by your gracious and humble presence. You will be missed. You will be remembered.

## Why membership matters

Your support of The Wildlife Society is important at all levels (i.e., chapter, section, parent society). TWS is our professional home—where we network, learn, and serve. The North Central Section needs your membership support to fulfill our mission of upholding and promoting wildlife and conservation professionals. For only \$10 your membership and support allows the North Central Section to:

- Sponsor symposia at the Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference
- Sponsor workshops of regional importance
- Sponsor conclaves for student chapters in the North Central Section
- Recognize students & professionals with awards
- Advocate for wildlife, their habitats, and the use of science in conservation decision-making

Please support the NCS of TWS today by going to <http://wildlife.org/join/> and join or renew your

and retention efforts by providing opportunities for member involvement in Society activities. The Student Chapter of the Year award pays tribute to this important unit of The Wildlife Society.

Please consider submitting a nomination for Student Chapter of the Year. Nomination forms can be found at:

[http://drupal.wildlife.org/ncs/sites/wildlife.org/ncs/files/images/SCOTY\\_Form.pdf](http://drupal.wildlife.org/ncs/sites/wildlife.org/ncs/files/images/SCOTY_Form.pdf).

Completed nomination forms should be sent to: President NCS Mike Larson, attn.: Chapter Awards Committee by April 30, 2015. ([Larson.GRapids@gmail.com](mailto:Larson.GRapids@gmail.com).)

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## NCS Professional Award of Merit Nominations

Please consider submitting a nomination for the North Central Section Professional Award of Merit. The Professional Award of Merit is bestowed by the North Central Section to Society members living in the North Central Section for outstanding professional accomplishments in wildlife conservation. The award is restricted to living conservationists who are or have recently been active within the geographic boundaries of the Section. The award is given only in those years in which a truly deserving candidate is available. No more than one such award is made annually.

Criteria for judging the professional accomplishments of nominees include:

- (1) contribution to knowledge
- (2) single outstanding acts, and/or
- (3) leadership over a period of several years in any area of wildlife work -- for example, research, wildlife law enforcement, management, administration or education -- as evidenced by publications, skillful development and/or application of effective management or educational programs or methods.

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## Announcements

### NCS Student Chapter of the Year Award Nominations: Deadline is April 30, 2015

The North Central Section presents the Student Chapter of the Year Award to an outstanding student chapter each year for its exemplary contributions to the Society's mission and goals. The goal of the award is to encourage and recognize exceptional achievements by Section student chapters. Active and effective student chapters are needed to achieve The Wildlife Society's goals, many of which are best addressed at the state/provincial or local level. Student chapters also strengthen the Society's membership recruitment

Nomination forms can be found at:  
[http://drupal.wildlife.org/NCS/sites/wildlife.org.NC/S/files/images/Award\\_Merit\\_NominationForm.pdf](http://drupal.wildlife.org/NCS/sites/wildlife.org.NC/S/files/images/Award_Merit_NominationForm.pdf).  
 Nominations can be sent to Mike Larson at:  
[Larson.GRapids@gmail.com](mailto:Larson.GRapids@gmail.com).

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## National Student Chapter of the Year Award Nominations: Deadline is June 30, 2015

The National Student Chapter of the Year Award deadline is June 30, 2015. The winning student chapter will receive a special certificate at the Society's annual conference award ceremony and their names are added to a permanent plaque on display at the Society's headquarters. Student chapters also receive a \$1,000 travel grant to send a student delegation to the annual conference.

Student Chapters that are interested in submitting a nomination form can find more information, including more information on the Award Nomination Process and Criteria, at:  
<http://wildlife.org/get-involved/awards/chapter-of-the-year-award-and-student-chapter-of-the-year-award>.

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## We need Fall Newsletter Articles!!

Do you have interesting, thought-proving information from a recent meetings, symposia, or workshops you have recently attended? Are you working on an exciting, new project you need others to know about? Do you think there is a public issue the NCS should be aware of and thinking about? Or do you just have a topic you would like to share with other members of the Section and other Chapters? If you do, please consider contributing to our next Newsletter by sending any articles you would like to see included to Chris Newbold, at [Chris.Newbold@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Chris.Newbold@mdc.mo.gov).

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## Plan to Attend The Wildlife Society 22nd Annual Conference

October 17-21, 2015

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada



The Wildlife Society's Annual Conference is one of the largest gatherings of wildlife professionals, students and supporters in North America.

More than 1,500 attendees gathered to learn, network and engage at our 2014 Annual Conference in Pittsburgh, PA.

In 2015, you'll be able to experience TWS live in Canada! It's a rare opportunity since it's the first time the event has been held in Canada in a decade.

You'll be able to choose from more than 400 learning opportunities on wildlife management, research and techniques through a wide variety of symposia, contributed papers, panel discussions, workshops, contributed posters and field trips. And since there are more opportunities than you can possibly attend in person, your conference registration also includes post-conference access to the presentations so that you can continue to learn all year round from the convenience of your home or office.

At our conference, wildlife professionals make new connections with colleagues in wildlife science, research, management, business and

education. Students meet professionals who can provide insights on careers, job opportunities, current research and best practices, and who might even become mentors. Through more than 40 meetings, receptions and special events, you'll have plenty of opportunities to meet professionals with similar interests who can be valuable assets to your career growth and wildlife knowledge.



The 76th Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference will be held January 24 - 27, 2016 at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The annual conference attracts over 800 biologists and students from state, federal and tribal natural resource agencies across the 13 Midwestern states. Highlights include: over 400 technical talks, poster displays, plenary sessions, networking opportunities and social events.

More information regarding the 76th Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference can be found at: <http://midwestfw.org/>

### **Important Deadlines to Remember:**

Call for symposia and workshops:	April 30, 2015
Deadline for symposia and workshops:	June 1, 2015
Call for contributed papers/posters:	July 15, 2015
First deadline for contributed papers/posters:	October 1, 2015

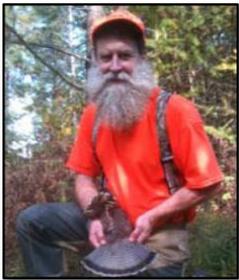


## **Don't Forget to Visit**

<http://wildlife.org/publications/>

**For current articles and publications**

## TWS North Central Section Officers

	<p><b>Mike Larson</b>, President                  235 SW 4th Street                  Grand Rapids, MN                  (218) 929-7372                  Larson.GRapids@gmail.com</p>
	<p><b>Chris Newbold</b>, President-Elect                  3500 E. Gans Rd.                  Columbia, MO 65201                  (573) 815-7901 x3392                  Chris.Newbold@mdc.mo.gov</p>
	<p><b>Pat Lederle</b>, Past-President                  Michigan Department of Natural Resources                  Wildlife Division                  P.O. Box 30444                  Lansing, MI 48909                  (517) 243-0700                  lederlep@michigan.gov</p>
	<p><b>Katy Reeder</b>, Secretary                  Iowa Department of Natural Resources                  Wildlife Bureau                  502 East 9th Street                  Des Moines, IA 50319                  (515) 281-8396                  kathy.reeder@dnr.iowa.gov</p>
	<p><b>Jim Schneider</b>, Treasurer                  Department of Fisheries and Wildlife                  Michigan State University                  East Lansing, Michigan 48824                  (517) 353-2979                  schne181@msu.edu</p>
	<p><b>David E. Andersen</b>, Section Representative                  MN Coop Fish and Wildlife Research Unit                  200 Hodson Hall, 1980 Folwell Avenue                  St. Paul, MN                  (612) 626-1222                  dea@umn.edu</p>

## State Chapter Presidents

Also members of the NCS Exec. Board

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Please send corrections to Chris Newbold  
and

Mariah Simmons  
(MSimmons@wildlife.org).

Visit us online at

[www.wildlife.org/NCS/](http://www.wildlife.org/NCS/)