Greetings working group members,

I hope springtime is bringing you some much-needed sunshine, wherever you are! As we round the corner to summer, many of the Board Members have been discussing activities for this year’s conference in North Carolina. We are excited to be a co-sponsor and participant in a panel being hosted by the Ethnic and Gender Diversity Working Group, entitled “Handling Microaggressions in the Workplace”. The objective of this panel discussion is to create an honest dialogue regarding ways to curtail and respond to microaggressions in the workplace, particularly including issues surrounding socio-economic challenges, conflict with family life, salary inequities, dual careers, and professional networking.

The NPWM Working Group is also sponsoring the “Women and Minorities in Wildlife Science” Symposium, being hosted by the Women of Wildlife group. This symposium will address challenges and opportunities for women and minorities in the wildlife profession. This will include the history and current status of women and minorities in wildlife careers and compare to non-minority male colleagues and provide models that work or proposals for new models to increase engagement of women and minorities in the workplace. This symposium forms the basis for a book that Chambers and Nicholson are preparing titled ‘Women and Minorities in Wildlife Science: a History and a Plan’.

While we will not be hosting our own symposium this year, we look forward to participating in these events and planning an impactful symposium for 2017. We will once again be coordinating the Native Student Professional Development Program and look forward to meeting this year’s students. As always, thank you for everyone’s hard work, and hopefully we’ll all see each other in October!

Heather Stricker
Chair

Native Peoples Wildlife Management Working Group
The Wildlife Society continues Professional Development Program for Indigenous Students Interested in the Wildlife Profession: Apply Today!

As a scientific organization for professionals who manage and conserve wildlife and habitats, The Wildlife Society (TWS) is increasingly concerned about the lack of ethnic and cultural diversity within the profession. Diversity is essential if the profession is to grow and meet the nation’s conservation challenges. The indigenous community has enormous potential to enrich diversity within the wildlife profession.

TWS has an active Native People’s Wildlife Management Working Group composed of wildlife professionals and students, tribal and non-tribal, who recognizes native people’s cultural, spiritual, and biological connections to the land. TWS and the Working Group have been exploring ways to promote the early development of Native American and indigenous wildlife professionals. The Wildlife Society believes that one of the most effective ways to support indigenous wildlife students is to give them the opportunity to attend TWS’s Annual Conference – the largest gathering of wildlife professionals on the North American continent. The Society is therefore raising funds to enable indigenous students to attend the 23rd Annual Conference, to be held in Raleigh, NC, October 15-19, 2016 through the Native Students Professional Development Program.

How the Program Works: Individuals selected for this program will receive funds to help cover registration fees, lodging, meals, and transportation to and from the conference. Program participants will also receive a one year membership in The Wildlife Society and become members of the Native People’s Wildlife Management Working Group.

Selected Students will join us at The Wildlife Society’s 23rd Annual Conference, to be held in Raleigh, NC, October 15-19, 2016. There they can learn about cutting-edge research in wildlife biology, management, and conservation, as well as meet colleagues and receive mentoring from wildlife professionals in a wide range of fields. The conference offers hundreds of paper and poster presentations, half-day and full-day workshops, related field trips and many networking opportunities. Student attendees can also participate in a career fair and attend a host of student activities including a student-professional mixer and quiz bowl.

Eligibility: Candidates must be members of a Native American, First Nations, or Indigenous Tribe, or identify as Native Alaskan or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and currently enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program in a relevant academic discipline such as wildlife biology or ecology. Applicants must display a record of academic excellence and a strong interest in pursuing a career in wildlife management or conservation. Qualified applicants will be evaluated by a panel consisting of the Chair of the Native People’s Wildlife Management Working Group, two other working-group members, a TWS staff member, and representatives from other program partners. Find out more information about the conference here: http://wildlife.org/learn/conferences-2/

Applications: Submissions must include name, address, email, phone number, tribal affiliation, name of college or university, current level of study (undergraduate, graduate, post-graduate), field of study, and a copy of most recent official transcripts, showing courses and grades. Also include an essay (500-750 words) explaining why you would like to participate, how this program might benefit your career development, how your personal and cultural experiences and skills contribute to the wildlife profession, and any other special circumstances you may have. Mention any relevant extracurricular activities, societies, honors, or awards.

Deadline: Email all application materials to Serra Hoagland (serrahoagland@gmail.com) no later than August 1, 2016.

TWS would like to extend thanks to the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community, the USDA Forest Service and USDA APHIS for their generous financial contributions to this worthwhile effort.

* We need your HELP! We are always looking for ways to FUND the Professional Development Program. If you have insight on any possible funding opportunities or donors, please email Serra Hoagland at SerraHoagland@gmail.com.
In May 2016, TWS Native Peoples’ Working Group (NPWG) member Seafha Ramos (Yurok/Karuk) completed her doctoral program at The University of Arizona, where she majored in Natural Resources Studies and minored in American Indian Studies. She received the 2016 “Outstanding Dissertation” award from The University of Arizona School of Natural Resources and Environment for her work, entitled “Hkelanah ye Meygeytohl: Traditional Ecological Knowledge in Wildlife Conservation and An Interdisciplinary Approach to Culturally Sensitive Research with the Yurok Tribe”. Dr. Ramos has participated in the NPWG since 2006. Her involvement over several years facilitated an invitation for her to present at the 2010 TWS national conference plenary on the topic of diversity in the wildlife profession. She has also served as a Board Member of the NPWG and is a former Native Student Professional Development program participant.

There is a dearth of literature in the wildlife field that expresses TEK through an Indigenous lens.

─ Seafha Ramos

The term Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) is generally interpreted as the knowledge held by Indigenous communities about their environment and the cultural frameworks in which such knowledge is transmitted. There is no universally accepted definition of TEK and interpretations can vary between Western and Indigenous lenses. TEK as an academic field has gained a vast literature base; however, there is a dearth of literature in the wildlife field that expresses TEK through an Indigenous lens. There has been growing attention on TEK in the wildlife profession, warranting further exploration of how Indigenous and Western scientific paradigms may be used together in natural resources conservation. In her doctoral research, Dr. Ramos focused on a culturally sensitive approach in the pursuit of TEK studies. She conducted interdisciplinary research with the Yurok Tribe of northwestern California in two parts: (1) a human dimensions study where she interviewed Yurok people regarding TEK and their relationship with wildlife and (2) a wildlife survey on Yurok ancestral lands where she used genetic analyses of scats as a noninvasive method for determining species presence and diet. In addition, she developed a synthesis document regarding historical aspects of Indian Country in the United States and philosophical contexts of TEK as science to facilitate dialogue regarding cultural sensitivity in wildlife research with a TEK component. During an internship with the National Park Service (NPS), she developed a guidance document to provide resources regarding TEK in wildlife conservation and a case study detailing how she navigated her doctoral research. Dr. Ramos’ dissertation consists of five manuscripts, each formatted for a specific journal or the NPS. Access from The University of Arizona is expected in the summer of 2016.
SAVE THE DATE!!

October 15th-19th, 2016
2016 Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society
Raleigh Convention Center
Raleigh, North Carolina

Interested in Attending the 23rd Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society?

Join us for one of the largest gatherings of wildlife professionals and students in North America at The Wildlife Society's 23rd Annual Conference on October 15 – 19, 2016 in Raleigh, NC!

You’ll have the opportunity to experience more than 600 wildlife science and management educational opportunities, engaging field trips and workshops, and more than 40 networking opportunities where you can meet peers, mentors and colleagues. And this year we’ve added special daily events specifically for students!

For more than 75 years, TWS has been protecting the future of wildlife and wild places through science-based education and by sharing best practices in wildlife management. Start making your plans now to experience TWS live in Raleigh, NC this October!

Registration: TWS members save $200 on a full-access registration, and $100 on a one-day registration. All attendees save $50 by registering no later than July 31, 2016.

To Register or find out more information about the Annual Conference, Visit: http://www.twsconference.org/

To view the Schedule At-A-Glance, visit: http://www.twsconference.org/schedule-at-a-glance/

The Native People’s Wildlife Management Working Group Annual Meeting 2016:

Date: Monday, October 17th
Time: 10:10 am - 12:10 am
Location: Room TBA

Symposium:
“Women and Minorities in Wildlife Science”
Location: TBD
Date: October 17th, 2016
Time: 1:10 pm – 5:00pm

Wildlife conservation and management is practiced globally and thus there is tremendous ethnic, cultural, and gender diversity in our profession. Underrepresented groups in wildlife management include Native Americans, African Americans, and others. Why do they remain underrepresented and how can we change this?

This symposium will examine the roles of women and minorities in the wildlife profession and historical and current factors affecting career options. We will investigate how the choices of underrepresented groups (e.g., training through college majors) and societal and cultural settings influence their success in finding jobs, in the wildlife species they study (e.g., are women more likely to study non-game species than men?), and other factors. We review the literature on bias and barriers faced by these groups in the wildlife profession. What are the stressors or supporting factors that influence career choices of new generations and what work environments best support a diverse workplace? The symposium closes with workplace changes that have improved conditions for women and minorities, from child care options to placement of women and minorities in top-level positions to tactics to effect change when you are the new and different person.

Organizers: Carol Chambers, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ; Serra Hoagland, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ

Sponsored by: Women of Wildlife Organizational Committee, Native Peoples’ Wildlife Management Working Group
Panel Discussion:
“Handling Microaggressions in the Workplace”
Location: TBD
Date: October 19th, 2016
Time: 3:20 pm – 5:00pm

The Ethnic and Gender Diversity Working Group strives to “increase awareness of all forms of human diversity among members of the Society and the profession at large.” We have successfully organized symposia at prior Annual Conferences to both discuss current challenges to recruiting, maintaining and mentoring a diverse workforce and to develop a path forward.

Over the past several years we’ve shown a positive collaboration with the Native Peoples Wildlife Management Working Group (NPWMWG) in joint support of various diversity related initiatives. This proposal will continue our relationship with the NPWMWG and solidify our common goals.

Here, we propose to hold an interactive and focused discussion on handling microagressions in the workplace that will improve workplace climate and feelings of inclusiveness. Our panel includes wildlife professionals across career stages and backgrounds and a local scholar of gender studies to provide insight and knowledge into microaggressions and implicit bias.

Organizers: Misty L. Sumner, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Van Horn, TX; Jessica A. Homyack, Weyerhauuser, Vanceboro, NC

Sponsored by: Native Peoples Wildlife Management Working Group; Ethnic and Gender Diversity Working Group

British Columbia unveils deal regarding coastal rainforest

After 10 years of negotiations between government, private, and aboriginal groups, British Columbia has announced a deal regarding the management of a large area of rainforest along its coastline. The agreement removes about 85% of the Great Bear Rainforest from logging operations, and places the remaining land under stricter logging standards. The rare spirit bear (Ursus americanus kermodei), a subspecies of black bear with white fur and claws, is found in the region and helped motivate these forest management changes.

Logging in this area became a highly contentious issue during the 1990s, resulting in occupation and boycott campaigns. Then in the year 2000, a coalition between forestry companies and environmental groups was formed, suspending both logging and the resistance movement. Meanwhile, the province and First Nations engaged in discussions about the same issue. Six years later, all of those groups agreed to work together to address management of the Great Bear Rainforest. The decade since has involved negotiations that eventually resulted in the deal announced on February 1.

Territories of 26 First Nations overlap the Great Bear Rainforest, and they were all involved in negotiations. This decision may give First Nations precedent for opposing future development of their lands. Additionally, this deal ends commercial grizzly bear hunts on First Nation territories.

Sources: CBC News (Feb 1, 2016), Reuters (Feb 1, 2016)

Need Financial Assistance in order to attend the TWS Annual Conference?

Many TWS Sections, Chapters and Working Groups offer travel grants (including the NPWMWG through our Native Student Professional Development Program) at http://wildlife.org/travel-grants/

OR Consider Volunteering at http://www.twsconference.org/call-for-volunteers/

Image Copyright: Maximilian Helm
Elisha Flores, a student at UC Berkeley, and Chase Voirin, a graduate student at the University of Arizona, will be mentored by Serra Hoagland, a biological scientist at the Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center. Their project topic will be “Assessment of wildfire risk in treated and untreated Mexican spotted owl (Strix occidentalis lucida) territories on tribal lands.”

La’akea Low, a student at the University of Hawai’i – Maui College, will be mentored by Richard Mackenzie, an aquatic ecologist at the Pacific Southwest Research Station. Their project topic will be “Climate change impacts on recruitment/dispersal of native Hawaiian stream fauna.”

Paden Alexander, a student at the University of Montana, will be mentored by Mike Schwartz, Director at the National Genomics Center for Wildlife and Fish Conservation. Their project topic will be “Combining Cutting-Edge Genetic Technology and Traditional Ecological Knowledge to Assess and Monitor Wolverine Distribution on the Flathead Indian Reservation.”

“Wildlife are not just names on lists of taxonomic classifications. They are our relatives with whom we live and from whom we learn.”
—Fred Clark, Director of the Office of Tribal Relations at the USFS

The Native American Research Assistantship Program begins its second year, a program made possible by the Premier Partner relationship between the U.S. Forest Service and The Wildlife Society. The Research Assistantship program provides valuable knowledge to Native American students who are interested in becoming wildlife biologists. The program allows students to learn and gain beneficial hands-on experience while working with a wildlife professional on the approved project.

The USFS has worked closely with TWS to develop mentoring opportunities for Native American students to work as research assistants with USFS Research & Development (R&D) scientists. R&D funding will be used to provide living stipends for upper-level undergraduate (juniors or seniors) and graduate students during their mentorship, while TWS will provide administrative support and coordination.

Five students have been selected for research assistantships, which will last for approximately 12-14 weeks, beginning in late spring of 2016 and running through late summer of 2016.

Bryan Begay, a student at Northern Arizona University, will be mentored by Deahn Donner, a project leader and landscape ecologist at the Northern Research Station. Their project topic will be “Monitoring bat populations and sharp tail grouse habitat during a barrens ecosystem restoration.”

TWS Native People’s Wildlife Management Working Group also provides educational and networking opportunities for Native Americans. They are very thankful for the support of Native American students interested in wildlife biology and management. For more information on the working group click here.

As a Premier Partner of TWS, the USFS also provides funding for travel grants to Native American students to attend the TWS Annual Conference. The USFS and TWS would like to extend their thanks to the scientists who submitted project proposals and to the individuals who will be mentoring the five students in this year’s program.
July 18th – 29th, 2016
This summer the Mohegan Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) is proud to welcome college-aged indigenous students to participate in a 2-week workshop on archaeological fieldwork and historic preservation. Students will gain exposure to basic archaeological methods and theories, including field survey, mapping, and laboratory work. Dr. Craig Cipolla (of the Royal Ontario Museum/University of Toronto) will teach the workshop in partnership with the Mohegan THPO. The Tribe will provide housing, meals, and daily transportation. Participants would be responsible for travel to and from the New London area of Connecticut.

Contact James Quinn (jquinn@moheganmail.com) or Craig Cipolla (craigcipolla@mac.com) as soon as possible if you have any interest in the program.

Native American high school students in grades 10-12 are invited to apply to the NAFWS Pacific Region/National Summer Youth Practicum being held on August 1-5, 2016 in Bellingham, WA at the Northwest Indian College. Students interested in a career in natural resources, wildlife/fisheries management, and native environmental sciences are invited to apply. There will be hands-on learning, field trips, outdoor classes taught by Native American natural resource managers, tribal leaders, and tribal elders. For information and application: http://www.nafws.org/index.php/projects/summer-youth-practicum

GLIFWC’s Youth Trailer
An outdoor skills classroom on wheels, Enforcement’s youth trailer carries the gear for all seasons—riceing equipment, snowshoes, maple sugaring equipment, spears, decoys, traps, fur kits, track identification kits, and general fishing gear. Using the trailer’s resources, GLIFWC officers instruct one to two-day sessions on a variety of outdoor/traditional skills on member tribes’ reservations.

Camp opportunities

- **National Indian Youth Leadership (NIYLP) Camp**
  One week at Camp Nesbit for 5th-6th graders, focuses on science and math skills, teambuilding, leadership and culture.

- **Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Camp**
  One week at Camp Nesbit and Northern Michigan University Campus for 7th-8th graders, focuses on science and math skills, teambuilding, leadership and culture with a stronger emphasis on science and math.

- **Camp Onji-Akiing (From the Earth)**
  Two and a half days at Camp Nesbit for 4th-8th graders, focuses on leadership skills, natural resource management, and environmental stewardship through Anishinaabe traditions.

**Intercultural Leadership Initiative**
At Camp Jorn, Manitowish, Wisconsin, two-day outdoor skills training in collaboration with the Lakeland School District.
Field Trip 3: “Love the Everglades - Miccosukee Traditional Ecology and Contemporary Environmental Challenges”

**When:** Saturday, August 6, 2016: 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM
**Where:** *Shuttle Drop-off outside Lobby A area, Ft Lauderdale Convention Center

**Organizer:** Timothy J. Nuttle

The Miccosukee people are intimately tied to their traditional homelands in the Florida Everglades. This field trip through Miccosukee tribal areas of the Everglades will explore the unique ecosystem, its cultural significance to the Miccosukee people, current challenges facing the ecosystem, and restoration efforts. The field trip will include an airboat tour and visit to traditional Miccosukee camps on one or more tree islands, where Miccosukee tribal members will share some of their traditional ecological knowledge about the local plants and animals. The field trip is co-organized by Love the Everglades Movement (LTEM). LTEM aims to address the environmental, structural, cultural and spiritual problems plaguing the Florida Everglades by raising awareness and organizing positive community engagement at the local, regional, national and global levels. LTEM leads regular excursions to the Everglades to teach about the issues facing the ecosystem and indigenous people’s rights.

**Registration Fee:** $110

**Itinerary:** 8:00 AM - Leave Greater Fort Lauderdale-Broward County Convention Center for Miccosukee Indian Village (Mile Marker 35, U.S. Highway 41 Tamiami Trail, Miami, FL 33194) to arrive by 9:30 AM. 4:00 PM - Leave Miccosukee Indian Village for Greater Fort Lauderdale-Broward County Convention Center (1950 Eisenhower Boulevard) to arrive by 5:30 PM.

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**Special Session 9:**


**When:** Monday, August 8, 2016: 8:00 PM-10:00 PM

**Where:** Grand Floridian Blrm C, Ft Lauderdale Convention Center

**Organizer:** Brenda Gail Bergman

**Speakers:** Michelle L. Stevens, Ricardo Rozzi, Frank K. Lake, Jean Polfus, Caleb R. Hickman and Serra Hoagland

This session explores the role of traditional ecological knowledge and management practices in the context of novel social and ecological systems. We discuss how knowledge generated through traditional ways of long-term, close relationship with ecosystems can contribute to ecological study and management in an era of rapid ecological change. Panelist comments will be framed with an introduction and summative discussion about how embracing diverse worldviews and fostering bio-cultural refugia may affect ecosystem health in the modern era, including the contribution of these worldviews to research, management, and policy affecting ecosystems and earth stewardship (led by Ricardo Rozzi).

Panelists will explore practical examples of how traditional knowledge can interface with and contribute to the study and management of novel ecosystems.

**ESA Conference Update Continues On Page 9…..**
Conference Updates

**Ignite Session 7-5:**
“Incorporating Native American traditional knowledge in managing a western scientific discipline”

**Where:** 316, Ft Lauderdale Convention Center
**Michelle L. Stevens,** Environmental Studies, CSUS, Sacramento, CA

In this talk, I tie together my life experiences as a wetlands and restoration ecologist and person of Native descent (Nez Perce or Nimi’ipuu). It is very important to me to advocate for inclusion of cultural knowledge and traditional management in restoration ecology, conservation biology and land management. Over the years I have been able to incorporate traditional knowledge into my work with Native California basketweavers and eco-cultural restoration in Iraq, enabling me to be a meaningful gateway between traditional knowledge and western science.

**ESA 2016 theme: Novel Ecosystems in the Anthropocene**

With a rapidly changing climate, altered hydrological and nutrient cycles, dominance of large regions by agricultural and urban ecosystems, and massive movement of species to new continents, the Earth has entered a new epoch characterized by human influence. Understanding the basic principles of ecology will be more important than ever before; to predict how new combinations of species in new environments will develop into functioning, novel ecosystems. Building on The Ecological Society of America’s 2015 Centennial meeting—Ecological Science at the Frontier—the 101st annual meeting will support sessions that explore how ecosystem structure and function respond to multiple drivers of change, how resource managers can cope with developing novel ecosystems, and potential benefits and problems that society will face as we progress into the Anthropocene Epoch.

Employment Opportunities

**Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians**

Environmental Protection Office of the Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians (Tribal EPA) is looking for an **ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR:**

**Coachella, CA**
**Full-Time Employee**

Responsible for the management and implementation of the programs and activities of the Environmental Protection Office of the Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians (Tribal EPA). Manages grant obligations with EPA, BIA, DOE and other Federal agencies, and compliance with the Federal Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Act and other applicable Federal agencies and laws. Performs monitoring of water quality, solid waste and air quality, and also implements the Tribe’s recycling, fire prevention and natural resource protection programs.

Apply Here:

**1854 Treaty Authority** is looking for a **CLIMATE CHANGE SPECIALIST**

**Application Deadline: July 15th, 2017**
**Term:** Regular Full-Time (2 years)
**Salary:** $19.00/ hr

The incumbent will assist the Resource Management Division in understanding and communicating impacts of climate change to the resources within the 1854 Ceded Territory area of northeastern Minnesota. The position will be responsible for developing a climate change program. Specific duties can be found on website.

Apply Here:
http://www.1854treatyauthority.org/
Submission Requests for Newsletter

Calling all Working Group members!! We want to know what is going on where you are! As a national (and now international!) working group, it is difficult to always keep up on what members in other parts of the country and other reaches of the world. Keep members of our group informed on issues and announcements pertinent to wildlife management and conservation in Indian Country. Please feel free to submit any of the following for inclusion in the newsletter:

- Job and internship openings
- Scholarship opportunities
- Research and management on indigenous lands
- Policy regarding wildlife management as it pertains to Tribes

Any other announcement or information you’d like to get out to your colleagues in Tribal wildlife management. Please submit to Molly O’Grady, NPWM Communications Coordinator, at: mtogrady1158@gmail.com. Submissions are accepted on a rolling basis.

How to Join NPWM Working Group

If anyone is interested in joining the NPWM Working Group, please visit your TWS login website (through wildlife.org) and select the “Add Subunits/Publications to Active Membership” button. To be eligible for a membership in a working group, interested individuals must be a current member of The Wildlife Society. It is not required to be affiliated with a Tribe to participate. Student dues are waived by the working group. If you have any questions concerning working group dues or how to join, contact the membership coordinator at (301) 897-9770 or by E-mail at membership@wildlife.org.

For more information on our Working Group, check out our new TWS webpage! http://wildlife.org/npwmwg/

Working Group Officers

Chair: Heather Stricker
(Heather.Stricker@fcpotawatomi-nsn.gov)
Chair-Elect & Professional Development Director: Serra Hoagland (serrahoagland@gmail.com)
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Communications Specialist: Molly O’Grady
(mtogrady1158@gmail.com)
Board Members: John Gilbert, Chase Voirin, Laura Lagunez, Kristin PEet, Megan Judkins

Calendar of Events

August 7-12, 2016
ESA Annual Meeting 2016
Fort Lauderdale, Florida
http://esa.org/ftlauderdale/

October 15-19, 2016
The Wildlife Society 23rd Annual Conference
Raleigh, NC
http://wildlife.org/tws-23rd-annual-conference/

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