

# Southwestern Wildlife Graduate Student Scholarship

## ***Call for Applications:***

The Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society is soliciting applications for the *Southwestern Wildlife Student Scholarship*. This scholarship will be presented at either the 2019 Joint Annual Meeting of the New Mexico and Arizona Chapters of The Wildlife Society and the Arizona/New Mexico Chapter of the American Fisheries Society in Albuquerque, New Mexico or the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society in Montgomery, Texas. Please submit nominations electronically by December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 to Ginny Seamster, [virginia.seamster@state.nm.us](mailto:virginia.seamster@state.nm.us).

## Southwestern Wildlife Student Scholarship

### ***Description:***

The *Southwestern Wildlife Student Scholarship* is a new award in the amount of \$500. Starting in 2019, this scholarship will be given annually to a graduate student who is currently enrolled in a natural resource-oriented program at a college or university in Arizona, New Mexico, or Texas and is studying wildlife. Wildlife includes all fauna and habitat components, excluding fisheries-related studies. Applicants should have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5. Women, members of minorities, or students who are the first in their family to attend graduate school are especially encouraged to apply. The Southwest Section's Geospatial Advisory Committee encourages exchange of information regarding the application of geospatial technology to wildlife research. In support of the work of this committee, students who are extensively utilizing geospatial data, including satellite imagery or other products of remote sensing technology, and/or generating their own geospatial products through the use of drones, are also encouraged to apply. Incorporation of these technologies in an applicant's graduate research is NOT required; applicants not using these technologies should still apply.

### ***Application Format:***

The application package should be addressed to the Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society Board and consists of a **cover letter** and current **resume**. The cover letter should be no longer than one page, and the resume no longer than two pages. Please use standard one inch margins and size 12 font. The application package should contain the following information:

- 1) In their **cover letter**, applicants should briefly describe their graduate research project, state their academic and professional goals, and include details on past and anticipated future contributions to the conservation of biodiversity in the Southwestern United States, including Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas, and elsewhere. Applicants should also provide information on relevant leadership experience, either through academic or professional experiences or extracurricular activities. Finally, applicants must provide a brief statement of financial need, including personal indebtedness related to education, current scholarships, grants or assistantships, and whether the applicant has previously received the *Southwestern Wildlife Student Scholarship*.

- 2) **Resumes** should contain detailed information on educational experience including: field of study; college or university where currently enrolled and those previously attended; expected date of completion; completed relevant coursework; and cumulative grade point average. Additional information on honors, awards, and/or scholarships previously received is also appropriate. Resumes should also include information on professional experience, whether paid or volunteer, including employers, locations, time periods, and brief descriptions of work responsibilities.

### ***Scholarship Criteria:***

The Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society Board reviews applications and determines awardees through a ranked review process based on the following criteria:

- 1) Current cumulative grade point average and related educational experience and/or achievements receive the highest consideration during the review process.
- 2) Contribution(s) to the field, especially current and anticipated future contributions to the conservation of biodiversity in states within the Southwest Section, receive secondary consideration.
- 3) Demonstrated leadership through professional and/or academic experiences is also given consideration during the review process, as is the inclusion of geospatial data and/or technology in a student's graduate research project.
- 4) Demonstrated financial need and, in the interest of recognizing students from all states in the Southwest Section, the state of the prior year's scholarship recipient, are considered as final determinative factors to distinguish among applicants who may otherwise receive equal rankings during the review process.

### ***Application Submittals:***

Applications for the SWS of TWS *Southwestern Wildlife Student Scholarship* should be submitted electronically to: Ginny Seamster, President of the Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society at [virginia.seamster@state.nm.us](mailto:virginia.seamster@state.nm.us).

Please write *Southwestern Wildlife Student Scholarship* in the subject line and include the submittal package as one email attachment (pdf is preferred) using the following naming format:

Applicant Name\_SWSTWS\_SWScholarship\_Year

Example: GinnySeamster\_SWSTWS\_SWScholarship\_2019