



MISSOURI CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Newsletter

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2014 MOTWS Committees

Audit — Tom Bell

Chambers Scholarship — Dan Zekor

Education/MU Fellowship — Josh Millsbaugh

Farmer/Conservationist — Jeff Powelson

MNRC Steering — Alan Leary

Membership — Chris McLeland

Nominating/Elections — Andrew White

Professional Development — Jason Sykes

Resolutions/Public Statements — Tom Kulowiec

Runge Award — Chris Newbold

Raffle/Auctions — Eric Merritt and Nate Mechlin

Operations Manual Editor — Margie Mitchell

Stephens Award — Anonymous

Cons. Heritage Scholarship — Tom Kulowiec

Technology — Tom Kulowiec (web) & Jennifer Mittlehauser (listserve)

Historical Committee — Margie Mitchell



**Values of Conservation...Fostering Natural
Resources Appreciation through Research,
Management, and Outreach**

2015 Missouri Natural Resources Conference

February 4 - February 6, 2015

Tan-Tar-A Resort and Golf Club

Lake of the Ozarks

Visit MNRC website www.mnrc.org for updates,
agenda and registration.



President's Corner

by Ted Seiler

Wow, time is flying! I am glad that I did not promise any sweeping changes during my presidential campaign because it does not feel like I have done much of anything. As I was reflecting on the first several months as president, I felt a little bad that I had let the hustle and bustle of work keep me so busy that I really did not get to do a lot for the MOTWS. But then again, some really great things have been done by the chapter in that time period.

We finalized the position statement on lead shot and fishing tackle and also sent a letter to the Missouri House and Senate about the bills regarding a JCAR (joint committee on administrative rules) that would have subjected every rule the MDC (and all other state agencies) proposes to approval by a few selected politicians. Many of our membership voiced their opinions and helped spread the word which brought outdoorspeople's concerns to light with Senators and Representatives. Thank you for that! At present, Senate bill SJR 42 still has some traction, but I am confident the feedback our elected officials received went a long way. In fact I had heard some senators wanted to exclude the MDC from the JCAR's authority but I am not sure if that amendment was ever submitted. I have learned that just because a Senator wishes to make an amendment does not mean they will be recognized on the floor and allowed to do so. There are still serious battles to fight in the political world and with help from our Legislative Action Committee, I will try to stay current on those and to keep you informed if there is an urgent need for your action.

The student workshop was held at and around Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge in northwest MO and was a big success. Thanks to Jeff Powelson and the rest of the committee that organized that workshop. It was a collaborative event with many people and agencies pitching in to help make a great learning opportunity for all students that attended. You can read more about the student workshop in the write-up by Jeff Powelson in this newsletter but I wanted to extend a HUGE THANK YOU to all who made the workshop a success! Providing such opportunities for up and coming professionals is an important part of what this chapter is all about.

Another part of what we do is providing professional development opportunities for current professionals and this year is no exception. We still have people taking advantage of the travel grant opportunity and plans for the professional development workshop are currently being made. More details on that will come as it becomes more set in stone, but it looks like it will be sometime in August and will be covering riparian ecosystems.

Like I said, a lot of good things have happened in a short amount of time. So I guess when you are surrounded by an awesome executive board and great committee chairs, you don't have to spend a ton of time working to make the chapter successful. My plans for the rest of my term as president include keeping these awesome people involved and letting them make me (and the chapter) look great.

As always, if you need anything from me or see an area where the chapter could do something better, please let me know. Also, the nominations committee will be seeking candidates for secretary, board member, and President-elect in the next couple months. If you might have an interest in serving your chapter in one of these roles, feel free to let someone from the nominating committee or myself know.

Thank you!

Treasurer's Report

12/31/2013 – 6/10/2014

Scott Sudkamp, Treasurer

Checking Account

BEGINNING BALANCE 12/31/13: \$3,145.42

CREDITS

Memberships	\$1,305.00
Midwest F&W Conference Income	\$1,822.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$3.94
<u>2014 MNRC Income</u>	<u>\$2,493.00</u>
TOTAL 2014 CREDITS	\$5,623.94

TOTAL CREDITS INCLUDING BEGINNG BALANCE \$8,769.36

DEBITS

Awards	\$364.07
Midwest F&W Conference Expenses	\$899.99
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$188.29
2014 MNRC	\$856.00
Supplies	\$43.68
<u>2014 Student Workshop</u>	<u>\$1,069.59</u>
TOTAL 2014 DEBITS	\$3,421.62

ENDING BALANCE 6/10/14 \$5,347.74

12/31/14—6/10/14 NET INCOME \$2,202.32



MOTWS Rivers/Riparian Management Workshop



Linn, MO August 20-21, 2014

MOTWS Professional Development Committee is offering a day-and-a half workshop highlighting the conservation, restoration, and management of river systems and associated habitats. [Registration](#) is limited to the first 50 people!!

FEATURING: Presentations by professionals about restoration and management of various riparian habitats, bank stabilization techniques, effects of surrounding land management on water quality, and other various topics. Both days will feature field trips to view various management scenarios, with the majority of Thursday canoeing the Gasconade River.

- **Wednesday, August 20** – Meet at the Osage County Community Center in Linn, MO at 1:00 pm. Approximately 3 - 4 hours of presentations by professionals will be followed by a land tour of practices for management/restoration of river systems. The tour will then be followed by an evening cook-out and bonfire at Prairie Star Restoration Farm between Bland and Belle, MO.
- **Thursday, August 21** – Meet at Osage County Community Center in Linn, MO at 8:00 am for approximately 2 hours of talks by professionals, followed by canoeing the Gasconade River with various stops for discussion/presentations. Lunch will be provided. Canoe trip should last until 3:00 to 4:00 pm.

Who should attend?

- Any and all natural resource professionals from around the state and beyond!

What is the cost? (Cost is the same whether attending one or both days of the workshop.)

- Members = \$5.00 (to help cover costs of 2 meals)
- Non-members = \$15.00 (includes annual membership to MOTWS)
- If unsure about current membership status, please contact MO Wildlife Society Treasurer Scott Sudkamp at 417-884-2089 or Scott.Sudkamp@mdc.mo.gov.

How many CEUs can I earn for my Professional Development Certificate or CWB renewal through the TWS parent chapter?

- You can earn up to 13 CEUs (Wed = 4-5; Thurs = 7-8).

Due to logistics of procuring free canoes and associated gear to keep costs down,

REGISTRATION WILL BE LIMITED TO THE FIRST 50 PEOPLE!!!!

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Friday, August 8th

[---CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ON-LINE---](#)

LOGISTICAL INFORMATION

Osage County Community Center:

Located on the campus of Linn State Technical College at One Technology Drive, Linn, MO 65051. The Community Center is labeled #22 on [this map](#) (click to open link or google 'LSTC Tour and Directions'). The workshop will be held in the auditorium.

Accommodations:

1. **Settle Inn & Suites** at 1639 Highway 50 East, Linn, MO 65051 is located just west of Linn State (573-897-9903, 1-800-677-3060, or <http://www.settleinn.com/hotels/linn>). Room rates: 2 queen beds for \$75.05 or single king bed for \$78.85 (government rates and no occupancy tax). Rooms have not been blocked off as the hotel is not doing that at this time and are on a first come-first served basis, so please make reservations early.
2. **Camping** is available at several of the nearby conservation areas and accesses, including: Ben Branch Lake CA, Rollins Ferry Access, Pointers Creek Access, and Cooper Hill CA. Pointers Creek Access and Cooper Hill CA are the put-in and take-out points, respectively, for the canoe float on Thursday. Check the MDC website for amenities provided at each area ([MDC Conservation Atlas](#) > select Osage County).

If you have questions or specific needs, please contact Jason Sykes at 573-769-2235 ext 131 or jason.sykes@mdc.mo.gov.

2014 MOTWS Student Workshop

By Jeff Powelson

College students from around the state attended the annual Wildlife Society Spring Student Workshop held in Mound City, Missouri. The Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society (MOTWS) puts on this event every spring to help provide professional leadership and real world, hands-on management skills for college students studying to become wildlife biologists. This year's event was held April 4 - 6, 2014 at the Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge in Northwest Missouri.

Four different universities were represented at this year's workshop including Missouri State University (MSU, Springfield), University of Central Missouri (UCM, Warrensburg), University of Missouri (MU, Columbia), and Missouri Western State University (MWSU, Saint Joseph).

On the first evening students learned techniques for capturing and monitoring bats with the use of a 25 foot tall mist net. Jason Layne, a Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) bat biologist, showed the students how to assemble and work the net system in the dark. Saturday morning came early as students were up before sunrise capturing birds and recording data about them. Following breakfast, students toured the refuge and wetlands. Corey Kudrna, a Biologist with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), discussed management techniques with the students during the tour.



The students then met with Kansas City Power & Light (KCP&L) Environmental Consultant Dawn Hein and discussed how the power company helps the refuge.

Hein discussed swan diverters on power lines that discourage birds from flying near the lines. These tightly wound spoils of hard plastic are placed on the power lines to help the swans see the lines when they are flying low to come into the refuge. Since placement of these diverters on the power lines, collision deaths have greatly diminished. Wildlife and biology professors from MWSU were on hand to help with several technique demonstrations as well. Activities such as radio telemetry, aquatic invertebrate sampling, rocket netting demo, and herpetology sampling were some of the hands-on activities taught to the students.

After lunch on Saturday, the MDC Fisheries Division allowed the students to participate in Missouri River sampling including electro shocking and fish identification. The students also spent time with USDA Wildlife Services (WS) staff on wildlife damage management control techniques.



Saturday evening was topped off with a hog roast while listening to MDC Conservation Agent, Jade Wright, on "Life as an Agent". After dark, WS' staff shared the use of various night time vision optics, which aid in the surveillance of wildlife. USFWS personnel provided a real-time experience surveying mammals with spotlights on the Refuge.

Cont. on pg. 6



The Wildlife Society Online Mentoring Program provides a platform for mentees to realize their potential by facilitating professional relationships with mentors, who act as role models and provide guidance to them.

The program offers opportunities to develop business contacts, access industry information, and gain valuable insights from experienced and successful professionals.

This program is available to TWS members only. If you want to participate and you are not a member, join TWS now.

Please Don't Forget to Pay Your Dues!

State Chapter dues (\$10.00 for 2014, \$15.00 for 2015, effective Aug. 1, 2014) are important to maintain our funds towards projects, the website, scholarships, workshops, and travel reimbursements. Please remember to pay your dues by mailing your payment to:

Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society
PO Box 743
Columbia, MO 65205 – 0743



2015 MNRC PLANNING UPDATE

Only about 7 months until the 2015 Missouri Natural Resources Conference and as you all know, MoTWS has the lead for planning the Conference this year. The Conference will be held February 4 – 6, 2015 at Tan-Tar-A Resort and the Theme will be: "Values of Conservation....Fostering Natural Resources Appreciation Through Research, Management, and Outreach." Planning for the Conference is well underway, we have two Plenary Speakers confirmed, one is Dr. Doug Tallamy who is a Professor and Chair of the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware. The other Plenary Speaker is Mr. Dave White who is the former Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and he served on the White House Task Force for Livable Communities and also served on the Senate Agriculture Committee. An early call for Papers went out back in May and another will go out in August. If you have any ideas for Workshops please contact Chris McLeland (573-876-9365) and share them with him. We are hoping to get 1,000 people to register for the Conference this year so please plan to attend and please talk with coworkers and colleagues and encourage them to attend as well. It has been a number of years since 1,000 people registered for the Conference but I think if everyone in the Chapter helps promote it we can get there this year.

Alan Leary - 2015 MNRC Chair

2014 MOTWS Student Workshop Cont.

The workshop ended on Sunday morning with another round of ornithology sampling with mist nets. Students were able to handle and release some of the captured song birds.



The team effort provided by several conservation agencies and organizations made this a successful event. These consisted of the USFWS, MWSU Biology Department, KCP&L, WS, and the MDC.



The 36 students attending this three day event included 23 from MWSU, six from UCM, five from MSU, and two from MU. This was a total team effort.

MOTWS as well as the MWSU TWS Student Chapter funded all the food for this event. Special thanks go to the USFWS Cory Kudrna for helping with the logistics and the use of the Squaw Creek National

Wildlife Refuge facility. This would not have been possible without the efforts of Cory and his staff.

Photos by Jeff Powelson

Summer Travel Grant Deadline is August 15!

Jef Hodges was awarded the Winter 2014 grant to attend the NBTC meeting in Des Moines, IA in late July.

Get your requests in today!



CHECK OUT THE NATIONAL
TWS WEBSITE

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

The MOTWS Travel Grant is available to all MOTWS members for travel to conferences. The Grant was developed to assist members in travel costs to conferences and workshops. The travel grant funds can be used toward travel not only to Wildlife Society Events (such as the National Conference), but also other professional workshops and conferences throughout the country. In these days of tight budgets for all agencies, additional funds such as the MOTWS travel grant could be just what you need to convince your boss to let you make that trip! **There are two application periods for the Travel Grant. The 2014 Summer application deadline for travel grant funds will be August 15. The 2015 winter deadline will be February 15.** Go to the website at www.motws.org for more details.

GET INVOLVED!

ARE YOU ON THE LIST???

Make sure you're on the MOTWS Listserv to get the most up to date information from your MOTWS! Contact Jennifer Mittelhauser by emailing mittelhauser@ucmo.edu and asking to be added to the Listserv.



ARCHIVES

If you have any historical documents that might be significant, or any old photos, please contact Margie to get them added to the chapter archives. Margie.Mitchell@mdc.mo.gov



New Senate Bill to Reduce Shortfalls in Wildfire Funding

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Chairman Ron Wyden (D-OR) and Senator Mike Crapo (R-ID) introduced the Wildfire Disaster Funding Act of 2013 (Wildfire Act; S. 1875) in early December in an effort to stem shortfalls in wildfire funding that have forced the U.S. Forest Service and Department of the Interior to utilize other budget accounts to cover wildfire costs.

The Forest Service alone has spent \$3 billion in seven of the past 12 years from non-fire accounts to fight increasingly large and devastating wildfires. While Congress repaid all but \$400 million, this still leaves a huge funding gap. According to a memo released by the Forest Service, most redirected funds come from forest research, reforestation efforts, and capital improvements, which may directly impact the Forest Service's efforts on behalf of wildlife and their habitats.

Senator Wyden has been encouraging House and Senate appropriators to include the Wildfire Act in the Fiscal Year 2014 spending package. This Act would move fire suppression spending in excess of 70 percent of the 10-year average to a separate disaster account, similar to procedures in place for other agencies, which deal with natural disasters such as floods and hurricanes.

The Wildfire Act is supported by the Fire Suppression Funding Solutions Partner Caucus and has been deemed especially critical in the face of global climate change. The Forest Service states that as a result of a changing climate, forest conditions are more conducive to large, severe wildfires than ever before.

Sources: Energy and Environment Daily (January 8, 2014), Greenwire (October 30, 2013), U.S. Forest Service (accessed January, 2014), Fire Suppression Funding Solutions Partner Caucus (accessed January, 2014)

Copied from a Wildlife Policy News update from the National Chapter. If you are interested in receiving these updates, contact a member of the MOTWS Executive Board for information.



Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Application Information

The Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society cordially invites you to join us! If you haven't already done so, take a look at [what we are all about](#).

You do **not** have to be a member of our parent society, [The Wildlife Society](#) to join our State Chapter. However, if you would like more information about our parent society, just click [here](#).

Annual Dues are just \$10.00 for 2014 (\$15.00 for 2015 effective Aug. 1, 2014). As a member you will receive:

- The opportunity to interact with other wildlife professionals in Missouri.
- The opportunity to serve on committees and working groups which actively influence wildlife conservation and management in Missouri.
- The opportunity to attend professional development workshops and symposia.
- A semi-annual newsletter

To Join: Down-load a [membership form](#) (in PDF format)

OR

Send us your:

name

mailing address

phone number (optional)

Fax number (optional)

e-mail address (optional)

dues - \$10.00 (\$15.00 for 2015) dues (make Checks payable to Missouri Chapter TWS) To:

Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society; P.O. Box 743; Columbia, MO 65205 - 0743

If you just would like more information, you can e-mail us at motws@motws.org.

We Hope To Be Hearing From You!!

