



Letter from the Chair

Boozhoo Working Group Members,

I humbly write this as my last column as Chair of the Working Group. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve the group in this manner. I have been a part of this working group for 11 years, beginning first as Communications Coordinator in 2006. I have watched the group grow, evolve, change, better, and strengthen. I am proud of the group's accomplishments, and the ways in which we have bettered TWS as a whole. The activities the group has been involved in for the 2017 conference, from the plenary to the symposia to the field trips, shows our significant presence within the TWS organization. Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend the conference this year to witness and participate in these events.

I feel a bit disconnected from the group, as luck would have it, I have not been able to attend any of the annual conferences during my time as Chair. Like the changing seasons, my life has done the same. A change of my career path and the joy of new motherhood have led me on new journeys and adventures, and while my heart has been with the working group the entire time, I have deep regrets for not being able to be with you all in person. Nonetheless, the torch will be passed to Serra Hoagland, who will be your new Working Group Chair. Serra has done an excellent job of leading the group in my absence, and I am sure her formal leadership of the group will be just as outstanding.

While the seasons have changed, I have no doubts that the seeds planted more than 10 years ago, both within the Working Group and myself, will continue to grow and blossom. Many, many dedicated, passionate, and talented individuals have contributed to this group and its mission, and I have no doubts that our incoming Chair, Board, and members will continue this. I appreciate every moment I have been involved in this group, and will continue to use the things I have learned from our members and collaborating tribes for the rest of my life.

Gratefully yours,
Heather Stricker
Chair 2015-2017

“Even the seasons form a great circle in their changing, and we always come back again to where they were.”
- Black Elk, Ogalala Sioux



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Our Mission

The Native Peoples' Wildlife Management Working Group promotes improved relationships between state/provincial/federal wildlife managers and tribal wildlife managers through improved communications. The Working Group provides a forum for Tribal and agency wildlife professionals to discuss wildlife management on reservations and aboriginal lands and to share viewpoints on proposed policies affecting wildlife management in Indian Country. The Working Group works to enhance wildlife management on and off reservations through joint activities.

The Wildlife Society, Annual Conference 2017, Albuquerque, NM



We'll See You There! 24th Annual TWS Conference, "Crossroads and Culture"

Albuquerque, NM
Sept 23-27, 2017

Albuquerque Convention Center
401 2nd Street NW
Albuquerque, NM 87102

More info: <http://twsconference.org/>
Program Guide: <http://twsconference.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/2017-Program-Guide.pdf>

JOIN US for The Native People's Wildlife Management Working Group Annual Meeting 2017:



Date: Wednesday, September 27th

Time: Noon - 2pm

Location: Nambe+Navajo rooms combined

We will be holding elections for Working Group Officers, reviewing this past year's activities, as well as discussing future opportunities!

"A Quiet Room for Albuquerque TWS Conference"

Location: ACC 210

When: Sunday, 8:30am-5:30pm
Monday (till 5pm), Tuesday, Wednesday 8:30-5:30pm

The Quiet Room is a place where conference attendees can relax in a peaceful setting and contemplate the vast amount of information delivered to them at this large conference.

Working Groups of TWS allow members to discuss concerns and issues in greater depth than would be possible otherwise in such a large Society. It is exciting when such discussions turn into problem-solving and success. The Ethnic and Gender Diversity, and Native Peoples Wildlife Management Working Groups, as well as the Women in Wildlife group have expressed concern that large, energetic, information-rich conferences may be overwhelming to people who are not used to such large gatherings and who have young children to care for during the conference.

The Quiet Room is for anyone wishing for a peaceful setting in which they may refocus and recharge their spirit for the busy conference itinerary. Additionally, the Quiet Room is a pleasant setting for attendees with small children who need rest, and for nursing mothers.

Thank you for using the Quiet Room respectfully. We honor everyone's need for peaceful contemplation and spirit renewal.



*** * * Download the TWS Annual National Conference App on your smart phone to stay up to date with conference activities!**

The Wildlife Society, Annual Conference 2017, Albuquerque, NM

Events to Consider at this year's Conference

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

8:45 - 10:10 a.m.

Plenary:

"Wildlife Conservation: Crossroads of Cultures"

Coffee/tea/water service available beginning 15 minutes prior to the start

Refreshments sponsored by: Western State Colorado University ACC, Kiva Auditorium

Caesar Kleberg Award for Excellence in Applied Wildlife Research Diversity Award

(Same time and location as Plenary)

11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Aldo Leopold Keynote Address:

Where Science Meets Culture: How Belief Systems Influence Wildlife Policy & Management

ACC, Kiva Auditorium

1:10 - 5 p.m.

Tribal Wildlife Management & Conservation in the Southwest Part I (Sponsored by Native People's Wildlife Management Working Group!)

ACC, 215

Structured Decision Making: A Vehicle for Navigating the Crossroads of Cultures in Wildlife Management

ACC, 235

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2017

10:30 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.

Panel Discussion:

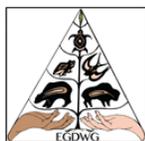
Tribal Bison Conservation

ACC, 215

1:10 - 5 p.m.

Tribal Wildlife Management & Conservation in the Southwest II (Sponsored by Native People's Wildlife Management Working Group!)

ACC, 215



Events Continued...

7 - 9 p.m.

Women of Wildlife Networking Event

Hyatt, Enchantment AB

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2017

8:30 - 10 a.m.

Plenary:

"Paradigm Shifts, Diversity & Inclusion, & Feet in Several Worlds" (Sponsored by Native People's Wildlife Management Working Group!)

Coffee/tea/water service available beginning 15 minutes prior to the start

ACC, Kiva Auditorium

10:30 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.

Panel Discussion:

"Communicating Conservation across Cultures"

ACC, 215

1:10 - 5 p.m.

A New Day for Bison? - Ecology Restoration in the 21st Century

ACC, 230

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2017

7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Working Group:

TWS Ethnic & Gender Diversity Working Group Meeting

ACC, 23

10:30 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.

Cultural Aspects of Wildlife Conservation (11:50-12:10; Single presentation by NPWMWG Board Member, J. Gilbert, Room 82)

ACC, 220

10:30 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.

Panel Discussion:

"The Generation Gap: Opportunities for Five Generations to Work in Harmony"

ACC, 23

12 - 2 p.m.

TWS Native Peoples Wildlife Management Working Group Meeting
ACC, 23



The Wildlife Society, Annual Conference 2017, Albuquerque, NM

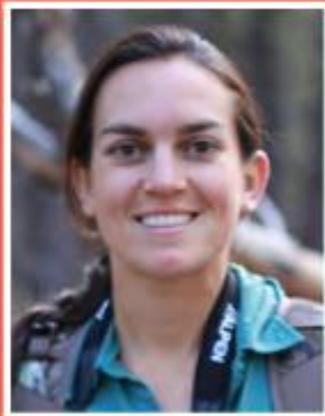
FIELD TRIP:

Tuesday, September 26th, 2017

11:00 am – 5:00 pm: Pueblo of Santa Ana Field trip, Location: off site

Field trip to visit the tribal Department of Natural Resources (DNR) at the Pueblo of Santa Ana (25 minute drive from convention center). On the way to the department from the convention center we will stop at Sprouts Farmers Market for those who did not pack lunch to purchase their own lunch and or snacks for the time we will be on the trip. As soon as we arrive at the DNR office we will have time to eat our lunch during a presentation on past and current projects involving wildlife and habitat restoration and some history of the department. After we finish up lunch/presentation we will then load up and visit some habitat restoration sites in the "bosque" (forest) along the Rio Grande River, a juniper tree cut site, a drinker/weir pond, and a water guzzler on the mesa top all located on the reservation. Students must have emailed Daniel Bird (NSPD 2017 and 2016 recipient) to RSVP for this opportunity. Please bring \$15 cash. Cost covers transportation (van, truck and gas) and 5 conference shirts, which will be given as a gift to tribal DNR folks at the Pueblo of Santa Ana.

DIVERSITY AWARD



Serra J. Hoagland

Caesar Kleberg Award for Excellence in Applied Wildlife Research Diversity Award

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

8:45 - 10:10 a.m.
ACC, Kiva Auditorium

Congratulation Serra!



The Wildlife Society, Annual Conference 2017, Albuquerque, NM

Sunday Plenary: Wildlife Conservation: Crossroads of Cultures

Sunday, September 24, 2017

8:45 - 10:10 a.m.

Sponsored by:



This Plenary highlights cultural factors and considerations that are critical in effective conservation communication and implementation. At their best, natural resource partnerships represent blended cultures with common purposes in conserving habitat and associated wildlife resources. That said, we must recognize that cultural aspects are not just familial heritage of people involved. Cultures develop around natural environments, resource disciplines, ways of learning, politics, technology, business, legal processes, and many other components of social interaction. We all must be aware of this complexity, act respectfully, and communicate inclusively in our engagements with people and professionals of all cultures. As wildlife professionals in today's world, we are successful only when we consciously consider the many cultural aspects of people who appreciate, know about, and use wildlife resources daily. The Wildlife Society's strategic themes of promoting wildlife sustainability, science-based conservation, member engagement and networking, and good business practices all are enhanced by effectively blending diverse cultures.

FEATURED SPEAKERS



Arthur "Butch" Blazer

Retired USDA Deputy Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, Mescalero, NM

Blazer is retired deputy undersecretary for natural resources and environment for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Since retiring, he has remained passionate about engaging the next generation of wildlifers, particularly Native Americans. Blazer, a member of the Mescalero Apache tribe, once managed its 463,000-acre reservation. He has been an active member of TWS and helped found the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society.



Hilary Tompkins

Partner, Hogan Lovells US LLP

Tompkins, a member of the Navajo Nation and former solicitor for the Department of the Interior, will speak about the intersection of Native American tribes with legal processes, an important aspect of cultural influences in wildlife conservation. In her former role, Tompkins represented the department in judicial litigations, negotiations and contracts between federal and state agencies and tribes. Her legal experience includes work with the Navajo Nation Supreme Court in Arizona and the Navajo Nation Department of Justice as a tribal court advocate.



Alexandra Sandoval

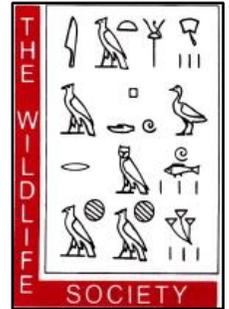
Director, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, Santa Fe, NM

Sandoval is the current Director of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, and just the second woman director in the department's 101-year history. She has worked for the department since 1994 in various roles, including district wildlife officer (game warden), wildlife management specialist, federal grant manager and licensing supervisor. She holds a master's degree in Business Administration and a bachelor's degree in Wildlife Management, and is a graduate of the National Conservation Leadership Institute.



Native American Research Assistantships

Apply now for Native American Research Assistantships!!



Kelci Renshaw, a research assistant in the 2017 program, observes a Mexican spotted owl. ©ISerra Hoagland

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Premier Partner of The Wildlife Society, is sponsoring a research assistantship program for Native American students. This will be the fourth year for the program, which will facilitate mentoring opportunities for USFS Research & Development (R&D) scientists with the students and promote student advancement and training for careers in natural resource and conservation-related fields. The USFS uses an ecological science-based approach to make informed decisions on the multiple-use management of the National Forests and Grasslands.

Short-term assistantships are available for Native American students interested in wildlife and forest resources and excited to learn and work with an interdisciplinary team of researchers. Applicants must be a member of an American Indian or Alaska Native tribe, First Nations, or a Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, or have some other indigenous identification, and be currently enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program from an accredited academic institution. A bachelor's or master's degree in wildlife biology, ecology, forestry or other closely related natural resource discipline is preferred. Students with Associates degrees from TCUs or other community colleges will be considered.

Potential project topics include:

1. Assessment of camera trap surveys to estimate wild pig and white-tailed deer density
2. Integrating wildlife habitat into non-conventional forest management
3. Evaluating regional and landscape-scale movement patterns of wood turtles
4. Long term monitoring of treated and untreated Mexican spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis lucida*) territories on tribal lands
5. Space use, survival, and nesting ecology of avian cavity excavators in prescribed burns
6. Woodpecker Surveys in the Black Hills of South Dakota and Wyoming

[View the application form](#) for more details on each project, including project objectives, location, housing, and duration. Only a limited number of projects may be funded and are dependent on a suitable student/mentor match.

The appointment is for 3 to 5 months within the 2018 calendar year, depending on the project. Starting dates are negotiable within the context of the seasonality of the research topics. For more information and instructions on how to apply please [download an application form](#). **The deadline for applications is October 18, 2017.**

The U.S. Forest Service is a Premier Partner of TWS.

More info: <http://wildlife.org/apply-now-for-native-american-research-assistantships-2/>



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 TWS webpage! <http://wildlife.org/npwmwg/>

Working Group Officers

Chair:

Heather Stricker
(Heather.Stricker@uwsp.edu)

Chair-Elect & Professional Development Director:

Serra Hoagland
(serrahoagland@gmail.com)

Past-Chair:

Michel Kohl
(michel.kohl@aggiemail.usu.edu)

Secretary-Treasurer:

Paige Schmidt
(paige_schmidt@fws.gov)

Media Specialist:

Brandi D. Sadi
(Brandi.D.Saidy@aphis.usda.gov)

Communications Specialist:

Molly O'Grady
(mtogrady1158@gmail.com)

Calendar of Events

Aug 6-11, 2017

The Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting,
Portland, OR

Aug 8-10, 2017

Southwestern Regional Native American Fish and
Wildlife Society Conference
Mescalero Apache Indian Reservation

Sept 23-27, 2017

The Wildlife Society 24th Annual Conference
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Oct 29th-Nov 1, 2017

Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Annual Conference
Louisville, Kentucky

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