Volume 44, Number 2 Summer 2015

INTELLIGENT TINKERING

Wisconsin Chapter of The Wildlife Society Newsletter

To keep every cog and wheel is the first precaution of Intelligent Tinkering. – Aldo Leopold

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New Student Representative "On Board"

Recent changes to Chapter bylaws led to the creation of a student representative on the Chapter Executive Board. Please welcome our Chapter's first student representative, Amber Acker.

"My name is Amber Acker and I am very excited to represent the student chapters as the student representative on the board. I am a senior at Northland College and the president of Northland's student chapter for the coming year. Originally from New London, WI, I am loving life in Ashland, WI and am enjoying my time at Northland. I am majoring in Natural Resources with an emphasis in Fisheries and Wildlife Ecology. Currently, I have a summer position at Whittlesey Creek National Wildlife Refuge. I cannot wait to see what the future holds for me, especially after graduation."

A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends to do otherwise. – Aldo Leopold

Presidents Soapbox

By Mark Pfost

While considering what I was going to write about in this issue of the Presidents Soapbox, I read Jack Ward Thomas' essay *Effectiveness—The Hallmark of the Natural Resource Management Professional.* Thomas wrote of the difference between a job and a vocation. The newly minted biologist is glad to have the job and the ability to pay bills and live life, but hasn't yet reached the point where the person has a vocation. That comes later when the person has grown to where mission, not dollars is the motivation. Thomas cites a definition in which vocation, derived from the Latin *vocare*, "is work to which one is called to by the gods."

I also looked back at the past five summer issues (corresponding to my return to Wisconsin) to re-read how my predecessors had approached this assignment. Was there a common tenor or approach? Was it all business—or a mix of business and biology? How different were styles? Each of the five stood alone. Craven brought sixteen past presidents together to confer over Chapter business. Ryan described her interest in the interconnectivity of animal, human, and environmental health. Hull grappled with how to communicate with people who don't have our view of science. Drake told how mentors helped him in his career and the importance of mentoring up-and-coming wildlifers. Walter shared his love of his family farm and the questions he tries to answer as he works through habitat management choices for that farm.

For me, being a "Partners for Fish and Wildlife" biologist is just about the sweetest gig a person could find. If and when I move on, it will be hard to find a job I enjoy as much. I get to work with landowners who are interested in improving habitat on their property. Landowners I've met fall into two broad groups: those who have a specific goal in mind, "I'd like open water to attract ducks;" or the general idea that they "want to do something for wildlife." Either way, the landowner and I spend time walking their patch of ground and talking about what might be feasible. I enjoy answering their questions and engaging in conversations about habitat fragmentation, invasive species, the value of snags, and a multitude of other topics. I get a kick out of working with the landowner to put a project together. Sometimes another agency or conservation partner gets involved and I am able to make a better project by working with other biologists.

A Taylor County landowner sends me reports of seeing grouse and woodcock following an alder shredding project. He also sends pictures of a new puppy that he hopes to hunt over. Another landowner greets me with "You son-of-*&^&, I thought you were dead—you haven't visited in so long. My casa, your casa." Although he loves to hunt deer he doesn't do it on his prairie—but he does watch deer and coyotes meander through it from his kitchen window. Tears almost come to his eyes as tells of what he has seen. There's the seventy-plus woman who helps her son burn his savanna/prairie. She's less than five foot tall, but still carries the torch. Another family's motivation was Karners and lupine, but they loved having my wife and me walk their land, helping them learn to identify the birds and prairie plants we saw. Helping someone improve habitat for wildlife can build friendships.

I'll let others decide whether, as Thomas asserted, that the gods led us to vocations instead of jobs, but I'm pretty certain that a bad day as a wildlife biologist still beats a good day in another profession hands down.

——

There are a few business items that need to be addressed before I close, most are referenced in the minutes of the Board's July meeting.

- Advocacy—the League of Conservation Voters, our North-Central Section, and Chuck Pils representing our interests in recent months. An executive director could have done no more—for a lot more money.
- Determining investment options to obtain a better return on Chapter funds has been on agendas for several years. The Board is planning a special meeting to discuss options with a consultant to begin that process.
- Student Awards and Scholarships—those attending our annual business meeting in Duluth voted to allow the Awards Committee the flexibility to give up to two awards, (four total)

$1000 each to undergraduate and graduate students. The vote did not conform to our by-laws, and as such will have to be dealt with in a manner which does conform.

- Article XII Section 1. These bylaws may be altered or amended by a majority of the Chapter members voting electronically or at any annual or special meeting if due notice (at least 30 days) of the proposed changes is followed . . .
- Article IX Clause I—Leopold Scholarship. This clause states ". . . an undergraduate and graduate student Leopold scholarship." The scholarship is singular for each of the two levels.
- The motion voted upon at the business meeting alters or amends the bylaws, however we did not provide 30 days' notice, and we did not allow all Chapter members the opportunity to vote. We violated our bylaws and I take responsibility for not knowing them well enough to address these problems at the annual meeting.
- To remedy this we will send the ballot to members electronically in the near future (with 30 days' notice). The ballot question will be: should the Awards Committee be given the flexibility to award up to 2 awards for each category, $1000 each? Arguments, pro and con will be included with the ballot. The motion's sponsor and a Board member will provide arguments. This will address the desires of those making the motion, will conform to our bylaws, and will allow all Chapter members the opportunity to vote.

Ojibwe Cultural Awareness Training Summary

Submitted by Lesa Kardash, Newsletter Editor

The training began the evening of June 3 at the Lac du Flambeau campground. A traditional feast was prepared and participants were provided a diverse, delicious meal laid out on blankets, which included wild rice casserole, fish, and strawberries and cream to add on top of fried bread.

Following the meal, everyone was invited to sit in a circle on the ground and partake in a welcome ceremony led by several tribal members. A pipe ceremony was conducted whereby tobacco was shared with all present to hold onto during a prayer and then collected. Tribal pipe carriers then lit and began smoking the tobacco and white sage in their ceremonial pipes. The tobacco was an offering to express gratitude to the spirits and allowed communication with the spirits to take place. A talking circle was held. The pipe carriers present held a staff adorned with feathers and introduced themselves. Each person around the circle stood up, held the staff, and said who we were, where we came from, and shared what we hoped to learn from the training. A pipe filled was passed around to all present. During the latter part of ceremony, we were blessed with a light, refreshing rain which eventually becoming a steady rain. We were also welcomed by several nearby loons. After the ceremony concluded, some participants shared stories around a campfire. People either camped at the campground or headed over to the Lake of the Torches Resort to retire for the remainder of the evening.

The second day of the training was held in the Lac du Flambeau Convention Center at the Lake of the Torches Resort, with 26 in attendance not including tribal members and guest speakers. The day began with a prayer shared by Biskakone St. Germain. We were also welcomed by Butch St. Germain, Lac du Flambeau Tribal President. Kekek Jason Stark, a Lac Courtes Oreilles tribal attorney and Dylan Jennings, a Bad River member and a public information officer for GLIFWC, provided us with an introduction to tribal governance and sovereignty. We were given an Ojibwe language lesson and learned about the importance of language from Wesley Ballinger and Levi Tadgerson. They

shared information about Anishinaabe identity, including the naming ceremony and the three levels of recognition. By the end of the lesson, we all managed to say our name and where we come from. "Nindizhinikaaz Lesa Kardash. Nindoonjibaa Verona, Wisconsin." Jennifer Burnet, GLIFWC Outreach Specialist, presented information on Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK), including the different protocols tribes have in requesting knowledge and how to respect and validate the knowledge that is shared with you. Stories were shared about harvesting natural resources by Brooks BigJohn and Tom Maulson. Latisha Coffin and Owen Maroney explored natural and native foods important to the tribes including ways they were trying to reconnect tribal members with those foods for healthy living. Larry Wawronowicz, LDF Natural Resources Director, shared information about on reservation resource management, providing an overview on the inventory of lakes, wetlands, and forestland they manage, while James Zorn (GLIFWC Executive Director) provided a background of off-reservation management and GLICWC's role. The final presentation was a who, what, where, why, and when on consultation by Ann McCammon-Soltis, Director of the Division of Intergovernmental Affairs with GLIFWC. She provided information on how agencies and other organizations should approach tribes when making decisions and how to reach consensus with tribes. The training concluded with prayer and song by Dylan Jennings. All participants were provided a packet of information on numerous topics ranging from Ojibwe treaty rights, the importance of manoomin (wild rice), traditional tobacco use, and native food recipes.

Everyone had opportunities to ask questions of the speakers throughout the training and enhance their understanding of Ojibwe culture. Participant evaluations indicated that the training was very beneficial, topics covered were of great interest, their expectations were met, and they supported the training to be offered again.

The Wisconsin Chapter of The Wildlife Society would like to thank everyone involved in this training. We would especially like to thank Dr. Jonathan Gilbert, Wildlife Section Leader for GLIFWC, for his willingness to oversee the planning for the training, and to all of the tribal members and guests who shared their time and knowledge, creating a welcoming environment for everyone to learn.

Pictured above: Participants sitting in circle during welcoming ceremony at Lac du Flambeau Campground. Pictured below: Participants listening to a presentation by Kekek Jason Stark at the Lac du Flambeau Convention Center.

WCTWS Business Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2015 Conference Call

Submitted by Carey Strobel, Secretary/Treasurer

1. Status of cultural training with Jon Gilbert. Where are we? Do we need to do anything to help?
   Carey: 3 are enrolled, 10 estimated to sign up
   Lesa will send out an email again to DNR and members. Jon is letting people know on his end as well.
   Scott will be working with Jon to figure out details on further involvement and minimum registration.

2. Accounting of joint conference with Minnesota.
   Carey: Should be receiving $1800 from the meeting. If further sponsorship funds are received then they will send along the additional funds.

3. P.O. Box update
   Carey: New PO Box 274, Tammy Ryan (Tami Ryan) was contact Madison. We need to close that box down

4. Newsletter—thanks Lesa
   a. Ad hoc committee on strategic planning?
      Mark: strategic steering and finance committees should have some back and forth as they work.
      Scott: Strategic planning would need to lead so that finance would know what was expected of them.
      On the other hand, the strategic planning committee may be constrained by the financial investments
   b. Financial committee?
      Berkey principle limitations, might prohibit us from adding on the 2 Aldo Leopold scholarships
      $50,000 dollars should be untouched, but funds from meetings should not go back into that fund or be confounded with the principal
      Need to check to see if money is getting confounded with Bjerke.
      Scott and Mark: Maybe get a separate account for the income, and still protect $50,000. Need to find the minutes from the initial Bjerke account.
      The actual principle of Bjerke is $64000 in two donations of $50000 and $14000

5. Computer storage and digitization of records
   Bought a $90 2 TB hard drive. Get in touch with Necedah NWR to scan

6. LCV, Chuck Pils
   NRB has been dropped from budget prop.
   The stewardship funds will not be frozen, no action but rumor
   The science positions are up in the air,
   LCV and Wildlife Federation is working hard.
   Chuck volunteered to help us out and interface with them. Might be better off using his assistance and do away with Executive Director

7. Update from Section
   Mark:
   Highlights: Survey to students to determine why lack of membership
   Discussed WI budget
   A statement coming out on feral swine, Mark sent to Lesa to send out to membership for review.
   Workshop in Duluth this year. Need to try to figure out how to fund these workshops.

8. Next year's annual conference—
   Scott Hygnstrom is willing to help get locations set - Sentry World Center in Point, or Stony Creek.
   We usually start planning location/dates/food over the summer.
   Are we going to continue to have sponsors this year? Try to get sponsors sooner and determine dates.
   Do we need a raffle permit? Bryan will look into it to

Schedule meeting around exam dates for students. Mark will get in touch with Jason and Amber Acker.

9. Scholarships and student awards—discussion

Scott: Make changes to student awards, needs a bylaw change? Student award is same work as scholarship but reward is minimal. Maybe eliminate the award and put funds toward scholarships.

In next newsletter lay out an argument in the newsletter, need a 2/3 vote from membership. Lesa can send it out like elections to membership. Might want to bundle changes with Bjerke so that we only poll the membership once instead of several small votes.

Newsletter would be sometime around July.

Schedule next meeting face to face:

Next meeting in Point mid-July 7-9 or 15-16. Try to get together face to face this summer to discuss conference. Have Jason and Scott try to firm up a meeting place.

Lesa

APHIS has a new director: Dan Hirchert. But will still be involved with us and easily accessible

Forgot travel grants this last year. 2 $1000 grants for offsetting National conference costs. Need to get this out in the summer Newsletter.

WCTWS Business Meeting Minutes
July 15, 2015 4pm
University of WI-Stevens Point

Submitted by Carey Strobel, Secretary/Treasurer

Student Chapter Report

Student Rep: School is out – No report. Student rep has found UW-Madison chapter unresponsive to communication attempts.

Planning for next winter's meeting

Scott Hyngstrom: Discussed pros and cons of three potential locations in Stevens Point

1. Sentry World
2. Holiday Inn
3. UW-Stevens Point DUC

Break down of costs based on 40 sleeping rooms or 200 people.

	Sentry World	Holiday Inn*	UWSP DUC
Food	$10,000.00	$9,150.00	$9,000.00
Meeting Rooms	$3,000.00	$1,100.00	$1,800.00
Service Charge	$2,000.00	$1,830.00	

Board asked Hyngstrom to continue negotiations.

Discussed possibility of holding conference in conjunction with DNR statewide

-awaiting further information

-proposed late February or early March (Holiday Inn only available Feb 16-18)

Discussed approaching vendors for financial support—decision made to do so.

Heeringa to lead effort.

Encourage student chapters to hold silent auction to raise funds.

Travel grants for National meeting

Board will offer 2 $1000 grants to membership to attend National meeting in Winnipeg. President elect will attend national meeting does not need WCTWS support.

Board declined to offer **UW-Madison student chapter financial assistance to travel to National, but offered ideas that may help. Approval may have led to similar requests from all chapters in the future.**

Discussion on other options available to UW-Madison students. UW-Madison offers support for this. National also offers support to student chapter members. Request may lead to other student chapters asking for assistance in the future, and there are other options available to UW-Madison students.

Bylaws need updated to reflect change voted upon last winter to include a student representative on the Board.

President will contact Dan Hirchert about assuming Damage control committee chair.

Intelligent Tinkering

Lesa needs student chapters' president contact info, writing assignments are due July 31st.

Discussion on request to publicize DNR Wildlife Bureau awards recipients in IT. Those employees who are WCTWS members will be recognized in IT. Decision to announce members who received awards in IT.

Discussed the Ojibwe Cultural Training event led by Jonathon Gilbert. Feedback was positive, but attendance low—especially from Chapter. Why? What could be done better if a similar event was held again. Thanks to Jonathon for his efforts.

Student Awards

Discussed lack of applicants for Outstanding Student Award. Unanimous agreement that Leopold Scholarship should be limited to one graduate and one undergraduate student—as per Article IX Clause I. Discussed vote held at last winter's annual business meeting: vote did not conform to Article XII, Section 1. Procedure, specifically; majority of *Chapter* members and lack of due notice.

President to ask Awards Committee to make recommendations to either improve applicant pool for Student Award, change its criteria, eliminate it award, or combine it in some fashion with Scholarship.

Board agreed that **LCV** and N-S Section have advocated for changes in the state budget proposals better than the Chapter (with officers restricted by agency rules) could do. Board does not believe an Executive Director would be money well spent.

Need to find candidates for next election cycle.

Financial Planning

Discussed potential investment strategies.

Will attempt to meet with advisors working with The Prairie Enthusiasts to gather information about their "TPE model."

Negative: Higher management fees than if we invested ourselves?

Positive: Rapid turnover of Chapter officers—greater continuity?

Invite two ad hoc members to participate in investment discussions with Board.

Pull Bjerke funds from CD when mature to gain liquidity for investing.

Determine historical annual operating budgets

Continue gathering information on history of CUNA funds and multiple savings accounts in order to better develop an investment strategy.

Financial Status Report, 07/15/15

Submitted by Carey Strobel, Secretary/Treasurer

Income	**Amount**
Winter Meeting	$ 2,174.55
Technical Training	$ 1,260.00
Membership	$ 90.00
	$ 3,524.55

Expenses	**Amount**
Northland StudentChapter	
fuel for Leadership workshop	$ 103.00
Stamps	$ 9.80
New PO Box	$ 54.00
League Cons. Voters Advocacy Donation	$ 100.00
Leopold Scholarships	$ 2,000.00
External hard drive	$ 92.99
UW-Madison – Winter Meeting Programs	$ 654.25
Reimbursement of FF mail from Madison PO box	$ 5.85
Reimbursement of food for technical training	$ 48.00
Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission	$ 1,817.81
	$ 2,885.70

ACCOUNT	DATE	AMOUNT	DIFFERENCE
CHECKING	12/31/14	$1,764.61	
	07/15/15	$4,011.73	$2,247.12
SAVINGS 1	12/31/14	$15,941.87	
	07/15/15	$15,949.82	$7.95
SAVINGS 2	12/31/14	$1,069.26	
	07/15/15	$1,069.83	$0.57
CD #1	12/31/14	$1,954.07	
	07/15/15	$1,956.06	$1.99
CD #2 (Bjerke)	12/31/14	$83,715.37	
	07/15/15	$83,840.03	$124.66
CUNA Brokerage	12/31/14	$17,141.92	
	07/15/15	$17,999.35	$857.43
TOTAL	12/31/14	$122,087.10	**$2,739.72**
	07/15/15	**$124,826.82**	

Student Chapter Corner

Northland College

By Amber Acker, President

Northland College is happy to have completed its first full year as an official student sub unit. In April a student presented about her study abroad experience and the field experience and connections she gained. In May members went on a hike and had a picnic at Forest Lodge. This was an opportunity to encourage involvement in opportunities in the future and to toss out some ideas for next year's activities.

The Northland College TWS student chapter is gearing up for another exciting year. Planning is in progress to begin a long-term research project in collaboration with a Northland College professor. We will continue to have monthly meetings and whenever possible bring in guest speakers. This year will be focused on generating a larger presence on campus. As a part of this, the club will be starting a project to document wildlife sightings on campus. We are very happy to be a part of Wisconsin's TWS unit and are excited to see continued growth in our student chapter.

University of Wisconsin-Madison

By Jade Arneson, edits by Lucas Olson

The Wildlife Society's officers have been busy hosting events for student chapter members. Here are highlights of our spring activities so far: Carolyn from the Madison Audubon Society headed an Owl Prowl at Picnic Point, we led an early morning Picnic Point birding trip, helped educate kids at Wingra School about common Wisconsin wildlife during a Family Science Night, assisted David Drake in aiding salamanders across high traffic roads, organized a highway cleanup, and lent a few hands to help with pre-elk release preparations in Black River Falls. Our club members were excited to learn that

26 elk were recently translocated from Kentucky to an acclimation pen in Black River State Forest, Wisconsin. Three of our members helped move hay bales as part of the pre-elk release preparations. The student chapter recently hosted officer elections as well as participated in a frog and toad survey with the WI DNR. More recently this summer, we have been helping the Dane County Humane Society with Camp Pawprint, teaching kids ages 7-13 about wild animals.

TWS club members Lucas Olson (second from right), Kyle Andreska (third from right), and Cody Tisdale (fourth from right) help move 750 hay bales as part of pre-elk release preparation near Black River Falls.

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

By Anna Schneider, President

The academic year wrapped up nicely for our chapter. On April 21st, we hosted our Wild Game Feed and several students brought in dishes ranging from paddlefish caviar to elk sloppy joes. Each person who bought a ticket to the dinner was automatically entered into a raffle drawing that included prizes such as gift cards, artwork, and books. Overall, the game feed was a huge hit!

Photo (left): Members enjoy the array of various wild game dishes at the game feed. Photo (right): Project of the Year recipient: The Ruffed Grouse Project. Pictured (left to right) James Hansen and Michelle Murawski. Not pictured: Chase Gadbois and Bryn Webber.

Elections for next year's officers were held the week after the game feed. The new officers for the 2015-16 academic year are as follows:

President:	Anna Schneider	Conference Chair:	Nathan Klopmeier
Vice President:	Lisa Zoromski	Mentorship:	Tara Buehler
Secretary:	Emma Doden	Membership:	Brandon Enck
Treasurer:	Nathaniel Yost	Education:	TBD
Liaison:	James Hansen	Web Design:	Ashley Steadman

The education coordinator position will be elected once the school year starts again. This year, we wanted to recognize both a member and a student project that we feel have made the biggest contributions to this chapter. The chapter's Project of the Year award went to the Ruffed Grouse project and the co-leaders are Bryn Webber, Chase Gadbois, Michelle Murawski, and James Hansen. These students are passionate about their research and have not only encouraged members to participate in their drumming surveys and telemetry, but also presented both posters and oral talks at several conferences. At the annual University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point College of Natural Resources Student Research Symposium, they received Highest Honors for their poster.

The project will also be presenting at the national conference in Winnipeg in October.

The Member of the Year award went to James (Jim) Hansen. When Jim transferred to UWSP in the fall of 2014, he wasted no time in getting involved with our chapter. He attended every meeting and made connections effortlessly with his charming personality. Jim participated in nearly all of the research projects available to our members and became the co-leader of three of those projects by the end of the year, Saw Whet Owl, Ruffed Grouse, and Quiz Bowl. He also attended several conferences and participated in the winning quiz bowl team at the Wisconsin and Minnesota joint meeting. Jim is also a member of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and will be the liaison for the chapter for the 2015-16 academic year.

The Leadership Workshop, held on February 28th, received the Student Organization Program of the Year award (pictured below). We were honored to receive this award, and we thought that the workshop itself was beneficial for both our members and the chapter as a whole.

There will be several students from the UWSP chapter at the national conference in Winnipeg this October, including the eight that our chapter has chosen to sponsor. A few students are presenting at the conference as well. We will also be hosting the Midwest Student Conclave at Treehaven in Tomahawk, WI the weekend of April 1st-3rd. As a new president of the chapter, I am excited to see what this year holds in store!

Truisms - Contributed by Tom Bahti

Shamelessly borrowed, stolen and plagiarized from other sources

There's a fine line between cuddling and holding someone down so they can't get away.

If you can't handle me at my worst you don't deserve me at my best.

Vodka mixes well with everything...except my decisions.

I found the key to happiness: stay away from idiots.

Everything happens for a reason, and that reason is usually physics.

Never mix sleeping pills and laxatives.

Age is a very high price to pay for maturity.

Sometimes my greatest accomplishment is just keeping my mouth shut.

Issue Committee Updates

Wildlife Damage Issue Committee

The 2015-2017 Wisconsin state budget bill included language that eliminated the Class B bear license. The Class B license allowed residents and non-residents to participate in bear baiting, hunting and training activities and was also required when utilizing a bear agricultural damage tag. Currently the only people that are eligible to harvest a bear on a bear agricultural damage tag would be the permit holder and anyone who holds a Class A bear license. This change will limit the pool of hunters available to assist, and affect the ability of agricultural producers to manage bear damage to crops.

Dan Hirchert, Chair

Farm Wildlife Committee – New Chair!

Having taken a new position with the Ruffed Grouse Society, Scott Walter has stepped down as Chair. Mark Witecha, Wildlife Biologist with the Wisconsin DNR has stepped up as the new Chair. Mark has provided a bio to introduce himself below. Welcome Mark!

To give you some background on my professional experience, my areas of interest include Farm Bill policy and upland game bird biology and management. Prior to coming on with the DNR, I was an upland game bird biologist in western Kansas, promoting habitat management on private farms and ranches through Farm Bill conservation programs. It was a great place to work with game birds, my region had healthy populations of lesser and greater prairie-chicken, pheasant, quail, and Rio Grande wild turkeys, and encompassed the hybridization zone for lesser and greater prairie-chickens. This work experience provided me with intimate knowledge of Farm Bill policy and programs, farm wildlife issues, and upland game bird biology and management. Beyond my work experience, I'm originally from southern Wisconsin. I attended UW-Stevens Point for my B.S. and Texas A&M University-Kingsville for my M.S.

Silvicultural Guidance Team Update

Submitted by Ron Eckstein

I represent the Wisconsin Chapter on DNR's Silviculture Guidance Team. The team advises the DNR Division of Forestry on silviculture and forest management. In the last five months the Team has reviewed Silviculture Handbook updates in the jack pine and forest economics chapters and began review of the bottomland hardwood chapter. We toured jack pine and scrub oak management on county and Lyme Timber land in the Northwest Sands. I attended the oak wilt management meeting and made recommendations. I reviewed and made recommendations for forest habitat management for the Woodboro Wildlife Area in Oneida County. I attended the Forest Guild meetings with loggers to hear complaints about wildlife habitat restrictions on timber sales. There remains significant pressure from the forest industry to remove harvest restrictions (including restrictions that maintain wildlife habitat) on MFL and public lands. The recent state budget saw the legislature, through Joint Finance, remove DNR foresters from MFL cutting notices. In addition, Joint Finance changed certain silviculture and forest habitat provisions in the Master Plans for five northern State Forests. Both of these changes by Joint Finance will reduce the ability of DNR to conserve forest habitat on MFL lands and on State Forests.

Wisconsin DNR Recognizes TWS Members

Information Provided by Helen Hartman, Wisconsin DNR
Edited by Lesa Kardash

Recently, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Management Program recognized the contributions of several current members of The Wildlife Society (TWS), as well as several other individuals, during their annual statewide meeting in June in Rothschild, WI. Current TWS members who were recognized included Angela Rusch, David MacFarland, and Tim Lizotte.

Angela Rusch received the 2014 Technician of the Year award. Angela, a Wildlife Technician stationed in the Pike Lake Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest, has a passion for restoring and maintaining wild prairies, and her work involves a wide array of activities, including writing all the burn plans for her area and being involved in several community outreach projects, including youth outreach and coordinating volunteers for wildlife surveys and other conservation activities.

David MacFarland received the 2014 Wildlife Conservation Excellence Award among full time employees. David was recognized for his dedication to wolf management in Wisconsin. His grasp of the complexities of wolf biology, state and federal law, history, and sociology have contributed to his ability to serve in a leadership role. David coordinates the DNR's efforts to update the Wolf Management Plan, which will be used to help guide wolf conservation through the next decade.

Tim Lizotte received the 2014 Land Division Supervisor of the Year award and the 2014 Wildlife Leadership of the Year award. Tim, the Southern Fox Area Wildlife Supervisor stationed in Waukesha, has been involved in numerous habitat restoration successes during his career, including the Glacial Heritage Restoration Area and the Paradise Valley Wildlife Area. Tim is known for his excellent customer service and helped guide development of the Richard Bong Class I Dog Training Grounds Management Plan. He also spearheaded the Effective Wingshooting Program to help improve shooting ability.

Pictured from top to bottom: Angela Rusch at the WI State Fair, Dave MacFarland preparing for a wolf flight survey, and Tim Lizotte at a Wingshooting program.

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