

April, 2013
Spring Edition

The Wildlife Society



New Jersey Chapter Newsletter

Spring 2013 Meeting:

Human infrastructure in the way: impacts of roads, towers, aircraft et al. on wildlife and studies to mitigate their effect

When: Wednesday, April 10, 2013; 9:30-3:30.

Where: NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife Assunpink Conservation Center, Upper Freehold Twp., Monmouth County

Location of Assunpink Conservation Center:

- Take Rt. I-195 to Exit 11 (Imlaystown/Cox Corner)
- End of ramp take Hightstown Rd. north
- At stop sign go across Rt. 524
- At first intersection past little bridge make a right
- Enter Assunpink WMA, go past new office
- Conservation Center is located on the right at bend in the road

Lunch: Lunch will be provided at the Conservation Center for a reasonable fee.

To obtain a head count for lunch, please contact Ted Nichols at 609-628-3218 or at ted.nichols@comcast.net if you plan on attending.

MEETING AGENDA

9:30-10:00

NJTWS business meeting

Evan Madlinger, NJTWS President

10:00 – 12:00 and 1:00 – 3:30

PRESENTATIONS

**Vegetation Management on Transmission Line Corridors in New Jersey:
Improving Conditions for Species of Greatest Conservation Need**

Kristin Munafo, Gylla MacGregor, John Cecil and David Mizrahi, New Jersey Audubon

New Jersey Habitat Connectivity Plan

Gretchen Fowles and Brian Zarate, NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife

Roads Crossing Stream Corridors: Considerations of Culvert Designs to Enhance Wildlife Use

Ellen Creveling, New Jersey Chapter of The Nature Conservancy

Wildlife Guardians Project: Improving Permeability of Wildlife Habitats in NJ

Kelly Triece, Natalie Sherwood, Meiyin Wu, Gretchen Fowles, Brian Zarate*

**M.S. Ecology and Evolution, Montclair State University*

Individual Highlights:

Spring 2013 meeting agenda	1,2
Committee Status	2
President's Message	3
Scholarship info	4
Election Info	4
NJTWS corr	5

Spring 2013 Meeting Agenda Cont.

Surviving Salt: Impact of Road De-icers on New Jersey Amphibian Species

Lisa Hazard and Kevin Jamieson, Montclair State University

Dams: The ultimate road block to migrating fish and how to get rid of them

Eric Schrading, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Effects of Human Infrastructure on Black Duck Habitat Use and Carrying Capacity

Dane M. Cramer, Ryan A. Boyer*, John M. Coluccy*, Paul Castelli, (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, E.B. Forsythe NWR), and Christopher Williams (University of Delaware)*

The effect of roads on the movement of the Northern Pine Snake

Dane Ward and Walter Bien, Drexel University

Increasing Stakeholder Support Through a Community Based Canada Goose Hazard Management Program at Teterboro Airport

Pam L. Phillips (Port Authority of NY & NJ), Kimberly Gurlavich, and Andrew Clapper*; *USDA-APHIS-WS*

NJTWS Committee Summary

The New Jersey Chapter of The Wildlife Society has numerous committees that are important in the success and function of the chapter. Following is a list of the committees identified in the By Laws, inclusive of those individuals that take the time to serve as the chairperson:

Awards: Miriam Dunne

Audit: OPEN

Nominating & Elections: OPEN

Membership: Kimberly Gurlavich

Programs: Ted Nichols

Legislative: Andrew Clapper

Education and Information: OPEN

We are always looking for members interested in becoming involved. These Committees are the ideal way to get started. Please review the open Committees and contact any Board Member or Committee Chair if you are interested in volunteering your time to chair one of these positions. We can provide you with a summary of the duties.

NJTWS Spring 2013 President's Message

I hope this message finds everyone doing well and surviving all the fiscal woes. I always enjoy the bi-annual New Jersey Wildlife Society meetings as they are a great escape to the (sometimes) daily grind where we as professionals can spend a day listening to and discussing the issues that made us all choose this profession.

Over the last couple years I have been spending a fair amount of time on NRCS's new Working Lands for Wildlife program. This program specifically targets the creation and/or restoration of habitat for two species on New Jersey's private lands, the bog turtle and Golden-winged warbler. While bog turtles were a species I was already familiar with as a long term species targeted by NRCS programs the Golden-winged warbler was a completely new species for me. Learning about this species and its habitat needs (early successional forest habitat) has been a fun challenge for me over the last couple years. It has lead to some interesting days in the field for me and the development of some great partnerships both new and old.

When thinking about what I wanted to write about for this spring's President's message I thought about a recent field day with one of these Golden-winged warbler partnerships, the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) and in particular Bob Eriksen who serves as a Regional Biologist for them. While Bob's expertise with Golden-winged warbler habitat was an excellent addition and of great value to our site visit that day, the most interesting and beneficial discussions in my opinion took place in the car to and from the site between myself, Bob, and Sharon Petzinger (NJ Endangered and Non-Game Species Biologist).

As most of you probably know, Bob was a long time Biologist with New Jersey Fish and Wildlife and is one of the few credited with reestablishing wild turkey in NJ. In the hour long car ride to and from the site we had many great discussions with Bob regarding the reintroduction of turkey and today's status, the rapid disappearance of pheasant and quail in the state, mourning dove hunting, and many other topics. What was so interesting for Sharon and I, was that Bob lived through and was an active participant in many wildlife issues that Sharon and I (as relatively young biologists in our 30s) either learned about in school or just generally picked up piece meal over the years.

As enjoyable as these discussions with Bob were it got me thinking about how much knowledge and experience has already been lost or will be in the very near future as so many agency Biologists are reaching retirement age. I really think that those of us that are younger Biologists have a responsibility to devote time and have conversations with these folks. It is also important for the more experienced Biologists to take the time to mentor some of our younger Biologists to impart some of their knowledge on the next generation. As we all know it is important to understand your past as you move forward into the future!

Evan Madlinger, Chapter President

NJTWS 2013 Russell A. Cookingham Scholarship Information

The NJTWS is again offering the Russell A. Cookingham scholarship for 2013. Following is information in regards to the scholarship:

This scholarship is made possible by an endowment from Russell A. Cookingham, former Director of the New Jersey DEP Division of Fish and Wildlife. It is intended to assist qualified undergraduates in the wildlife/fisheries or conservation education/communication field with college and related expenses. The [NJ Chapter of The Wildlife Society](#) manages the endowment fund and awards the scholarship.

Students who have completed at least one half of the degree requirements for Wildlife/Fisheries majors or Conservation Education/Communications majors may be eligible for this \$1000.00 scholarship. (Conservation Education/Communication majors must have at least 15 credits in the biological sciences to be eligible). Students must reside permanently in New Jersey. New Jersey residents attending school out-of-state are eligible.

The application form must be completed along with two letters of recommendation, a cover letter and an official copy of your transcripts. The deadline for receipt of application and supporting documents is May 15, 2013. The award will be made by early summer.

[Russell A. Cookingham Scholarship Application Form](#) (pdf, 10kb)

Send all information by May 15, 2013 to:

Cookingham Scholarship
Attn: Mim Dunne
NJ DEP Division of Fish & Wildlife
605 Pequest Rd.
Oxford, NJ 07863

Direct questions to: Mim Dunne at Miriam.Dunne@dep.state.nj.us. The NJ Chapter of The Wildlife Society maintains a list of past winners on our website.

Election and Executive Board Member Status

Fall 2013 is the next election opportunity. At that time one Board Member position, the Vice President, and Treasurer are up for re-election. We are asking all members to think about becoming involved and running for one of the open positions. An email will be sent out prior to the fall meeting as a reminder, and will include a brief summary of the open positions.

Evan Madlinger and Amy Jones will continue as President and Secretary, respectively, for one more 2 year term until the fall of 2014. At that time, the Chapter will be looking for new individuals to step up and run for these positions. Start thinking now as to whether you would like to run for these offices. Feel free to contact Amy or Evan at the next spring meeting to discuss the duties and time commitment involved.

Thanks in advance for your consideration!

Special thanks to all New Jersey Chapter officers and chairs for providing specific information for inclusion in the Spring 2013 newsletter.



New Jersey Chapter The Wildlife Society



Mr. Joe DiVincenzo
Office of the County Executive
Hall of Records, Room 405
465 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd
Newark, NJ 07102

December 10, 2012

Dear County Executive DiVincenzo,

The Wildlife Society (TWS), founded in 1937, is an international non-profit scientific and educational association dedicated to excellence in wildlife stewardship through science and education. Our mission is to enhance the ability of wildlife professionals to conserve diversity, sustain productivity, and ensure responsible use of wildlife resources for the benefit of society. The Wildlife Society encourages professional growth through certification, peer-review Publications, Conferences, and working groups.

The New Jersey Chapter of The Wildlife Society (TWS) would like to express its concern regarding the discontinuation of Essex County's long standing deer management program. TWS recognizes the importance of wildlife as a component of the environment even in highly modified and urban areas. TWS also understands how wildlife can positively and negatively impact the quality of human life in these areas. Because of these impacts it is crucial to manage wildlife populations while educating the public on the usefulness and necessity of a management program. Heightened public awareness combined with the willingness of urban land managers and biologists to use a holistic approach to wildlife habitat and population management has proven to be the most successful method in reducing wildlife conflicts in an urban environment.

TWS encourages Essex County to continue and to move forward with their deer management program, focusing on the benefits of a more balanced ecosystem. Abandonment of lethal management at this stage in the program would allow deer population numbers to exceed carrying capacity. As you know, the result will be seen in not only an increase in human-wildlife conflicts, but also habitat changes that have negative effects on many other species in all trophic levels.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,

Evan Madlinger
NJTWS President

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