



THE WILDLIFE SAMPLER

Newsletter of The New England Chapter
Of The Wildlife Society
Spring 2016

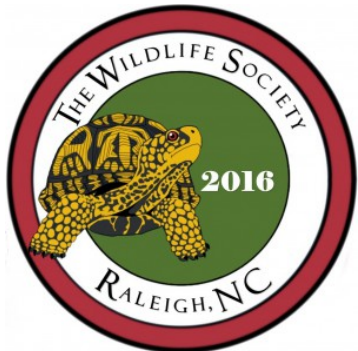
MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**2016 New England Chapter TWS
Spring Workshop and Business Meeting
Thursday March 24, 2016
Antioch University
Keene, NH**

Join the New England Chapter of the Wildlife Society for our annual chapter business meeting and workshop. The morning portion of the workshop will include Chapter updates and award presentations followed by several presentations on hot topics in wildlife management today. A complete agenda is included in this newsletter on page 8.

**72nd Annual Northeast Fish & Wildlife
Conference
Annapolis, MD
Sunday, April 3 – Tuesday, April 5, 2016**

This annual event attracts over 500 natural resources professionals in the fields of wildlife biology, fisheries and fisheries management, information and education and law enforcement. The event provides opportunities for education, discussion, and exchanging of ideas. Highlights include: over 50 workshop sessions, keynote speakers, poster displays, and social networking events. For more information on the conference including the schedule and registration, please visit NEAFA's website: <http://www.neafwa.org/>



**TWS Annual Conference
October 15-19, 2016**

<http://wildlife.org/tws-23rd-annual-conference/>

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*David Paulson, President
New England Chapter, TWS*

The election season is upon us. Regardless of your personal beliefs, politics heavily influences our ability to manage wildlife and their habitats. From budgets to human dimensions, we need to know how to navigate this ever evolving landscape. This is one skillset that does not come natural to biologists or resource managers. If you wish to learn more about this dynamic and see how it influenced recent projects in our region, I strongly encourage you to attend the spring workshop on March 24, 2016. Entitled "Hot topics", the meeting will cover recent research in our region and examine how human dimensions factored into the conversation. The workshop will also provide a great opportunity for you to interact with your counterparts from all over New England. Our role in wildlife conversation and management maybe very focused, however, we must not lose sight of how it interacts with society. Whether it is fulfilling your civic duty by voting or developing a study design for a research project, we need to make informed decisions.

STATE REPORTS

Connecticut

Tracy Rittenhouse, CT Representative to the Executive Committee

CT DEEP Commences Celebration of the 150th Anniversary of Natural Resource Conservation

Throughout 2016, we will look back at our history and also look ahead to the future of natural resources in our state. Follow the year-long celebration and learn about special events at www.ct.gov/deep/naturalresources150 or on our Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/CTFishandWildlife. View our 150th Anniversary Video at https://youtu.be/3FM_zJK_tUM

Connecticut's Wildlife Action Plan Received Federal Approval

The strategy identifies 469 species of "Greatest Conservation Need," including 28 mammals, 95 birds, 31 reptiles and amphibians, 73 fish, and 242 invertebrates. Approval by the USFWS was announced at a kick-off event for the 150th Anniversary of the DEEP Bureau of Natural Resources on January 28, 2016. "Connecticut is a state of great diversity in landscapes and wildlife species," said DEEP Commissioner Robert Klee. "What could be more fitting as we celebrate the conservation successes of the 150-year history of Connecticut's Bureau of Natural Resources than to receive approval on our vision for stewarding these resources through the next decade and beyond." Conservation actions to address threats to Connecticut's wildlife will be coordinated with key partners, including USFWS, US Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Office of Policy and Management, The Nature Conservancy, Partners In Flight, Connecticut Audubon Society, Audubon Connecticut, Connecticut Forest and Parks Association, many sportsmen's and conservation organizations, tribal groups, watershed groups, land trusts, private landowners, and many others. Connecticut's Wildlife Action Plan can be viewed on the DEEP's web site at: www.ct.gov/deep/WildlifeActionPlan.

Connecticut Hosts Brush Pile Workshop

It may seem odd that there would be so much confusion about building a brush pile for wildlife, but NRCS had raised concerns about paying for some brush piles that just did not seem appropriate for New England cottontails or other wildlife. Last year, CT DEEP set about re-writing a very detailed and illustrated brush pile job sheet for NRCS with input from several wildlife experts. In October they hosted a brush pile building workshop attended by over 35 land managers and foresters.



October DEEP workshop on brush pile construction

Massachusetts

Todd Olanyk, MA Representative to the Executive Committee

150th Anniversary Year for MassWildlife

The agency will be celebrating this milestone throughout the year with a number of different activities and events including a speaker series and an anniversary party being planned for June 4. More information is on the Masswildlife website.

Black Bear Preliminary Harvest Report

228 bears were harvested during the three 2015 open seasons combined. This was a little short of the previous season's record harvest of 240 bears. 53 bears were taken during the new two-week season which runs concurrently with the shotgun deer season. Two bears were taken in Wildlife Management Zone 9 and six in WMZ 8; no bears were taken in the newly-opened WMZs to the east of Zone 9.

Blue Hills Reservation Hunt

This controlled deer hunt was set up like the Quabbin Reservoir hunt. David Stainbrook, Deer and Moose Project Leader, reported that despite the highly urbanized area, it was conducted safely, with no incidents or injuries. This is a great example of what can be done to bring effective deer management to areas where hunting has been previously excluded. If anyone would like to check out the details of the organization and objectives of the hunt they can be found on MA DCR's website. In total, 64 deer were harvested on the 4 hunting dates and this harvest represented a reduction of 14 deer per square mile of forest in the managed areas. The harvest included 47 females, which equates to 120 fewer deer in the coming spring.

Online Harvest Reporting System

The online reporting system has become quite prevalent since its inception in 2012. This past hunting season 70-80% of all eligible reporting was done through the online system.

MassWildlife's Paraplegic Hunt

This hunt began in 1972; 2015 was its 43rd year. There were nearly 30 participants at five different hunting sites across the commonwealth. Trina Moruzzi organizes this hunt and gets tremendous support from a group of dedicated volunteers.

Piping Plovers in MA

The piping plover population in MA has exceeded its New England recovery unit goal of 625 breeding pairs the last four years. As a result the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and MassWildlife are working to increase the flexibility of recreational and operational management on beaches with nesting plovers, with a focus on long-term conservation for

the shorebird. There was an open public comment period through Feb 19th 2016 on a draft statewide long-term habitat conservation plan that would help balance recreation and conservation by increasing flexibility for beach managers and ensuring protections for the plover population. The draft plan would cover activities including use of roads, parking lots and over-sand vehicles in the vicinity of flightless chicks, as well as other recreational and beach management around plover nests.

Timber Rattlesnakes at the Quabbin

MassWildlife has a proposal to establish endangered Timber Rattlesnakes on an island at the Quabbin Reservoir that is getting quite a bit of attention. The thought is that this island will give them at least one location away from the threat posed by human recreational traffic which is typical on other state lands where they struggle to persist. There was an article in the most recent MassWildlife magazine about it as well as a number of other media sources.

MassWildlife Magazine

Long-time magazine Editor and Biologist Pete Mirick will be retiring in mid-February after a 38-year career with the agency. As a result of some recently discovered health issues, Pete has asked that the agency postpone a retirement gathering. However, as friends and colleagues, he will appreciate your well wishes. His mailing address is: 164 Woodland Street, West Boylston MA 01583.

MassWildlife Promotions

Laura Conlee is now the Assistant Director of Wildlife and Mike Huguenin is now Assistant Director of Operations. Congratulations!

New Hampshire

Allison Keating, NH Representative to the Executive Committee

Bald Eagle Poisoning

During late February 2016, several Bald Eagles were reported sick on a farm in Swanzy over the course of several days. New Hampshire Fish and Game, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and wildlife rehabilitators responded to the scene. Bald Eagles and other wildlife were observed feeding on a horse that had been euthanized with Pentobarbital and disposed of on the farm without burying. At least four Bald Eagles and one Raven were observed with signs of poisoning. Three of the sick bald eagles and the raven were retrieved from the site and delivered to Maria Colby, Wings of Dawn, for rehabilitation. The remaining sick eagle was not located and its fate is unknown. One of the retrieved bald eagles died shortly after treatment was initiated. The remaining two eagles and raven

have successfully recovered and were released March 4th.

This is a good reminder that many species of wildlife are extremely vulnerable when scavenging euthanized domestic animals. Landowners should take proper precautions to dispose of any animal remains or other toxins that may be consumed by wildlife. Biologists and others that may respond to reports of sick or injured wildlife should not automatically presume the animals dead if unresponsive. Wildlife that have been exposed to Pentobarbital, or other chemicals, may remain unconscious for days before recovering. The US Fish and Wildlife Service has developed a fact sheet on the subject that may be useful to you and your clients, <http://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/poison.pdf>

Moose Research

The current moose research project with the University of New Hampshire has been extended for another two years to allow for capture and collaring of additional moose. This winter 45 moose were collared; 21 cows and 22 calves and another 2 that subsequently died. Previous work by grad students counted between 70,000 – 80,000 ticks on half hides from necropsied moose. Tick counts on harvested moose brought into check stations are highest in the northern parts of the state. Tick counts are much lower on moose harvested south of the White Mountains. However, it is suspected that brain worm is having more of an impact on moose in southern parts of the state. One of the Graduate Students from UNH who worked on the project will be presenting at the annual spring workshop in Keene on March 24th. The pictures below show ticks on a moose's ear and ticks lining the hide of a moose. Both photos are courtesy of NH Fish and Game Moose Project Leader, Kris Rines.

A joint effort between New Hampshire, Maine and Vermont is working to develop an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) to be utilized as a diagnostic test for the determination of *Parelaphostrongylus tenuis* (P.Tenuis/brain worm) infection of cervid sera (deer and moose blood). Development of this test will be coordinated and administered through the Northeast Wildlife Disease Cooperative (NWDC) at the Cummins School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University. Additional expertise will be provided by the veterinary diagnostic laboratories at the College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University and the College of Veterinary Medicine at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Game Species Rule Making Process

2016 is a rule-making year for game species managed by the NH Fish and Game Department. Below is a run-down of some of the key recommendations for the 2016-2017 hunting and trapping seasons:

Moose: The annual moose hunt will continue in 2016 but with fewer permits being issued. The number of permits will be reduced to 71 and all of those will be either sex. This is a decrease in the number of permits issued in previous years (2015 = 108; 2014 = 127; and 2013 = 280).

Deer: Additional either-sex days are being proposed for certain Wildlife Management Units for the muzzleloader and regular firearms seasons in 2016 & 2017. This past winter was been relatively mild with warm temperatures and little snow which will likely have been beneficial to many wildlife populations including deer. As of the end of February we had not recorded any snow points (18+ inches of snow required to accumulate a point) at any of our WSI weather stations throughout the state.

Bear: Complaints are the lowest they have been in 20 years. Recommendation for the 2016-2017 hunting seasons is to maintain status quo.

Turkey: Recommend adding 2 days to the fall shotgun season. Currently the fall shotgun season is 5 days and occurs Monday through Friday. Adding two days would add a weekend either at the beginning or the end of the week.

Fisher: Recommending to reduce the limit on the number of fisher for various regions and statewide. This is in response to an apparent reduction in fisher populations in NH and throughout the region.

Pheasant: Recommendation is to change the days of the week for stocking and to close all stocking sites for the full day on stocking days.

Bobcat: Proposal to re-open the hunting and trapping season in 2016 with a maximum of 50 permits issued by lottery. Public hearings were held February 1st and 2nd and the NH Fish and Game Commission voted 5-4 in favor of moving forward with rule-making on February 16th. Next it will go to the Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (JLCAR) for review on April 1st.

taken during the five-day fall shotgun season, and 198 turkeys were taken during the fall archery season.

Vermont

Jaclyn Comeau, VT Representative to the Executive Committee

Turkey: Vermont wild turkey hunters had safe and successful spring and fall hunting seasons in 2015, according to the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department. A total of 5,874 turkeys were taken by hunters during Vermont's three hunting seasons – the spring youth hunt, the regular May spring season, and the fall hunt. Young turkey hunters mentored by experienced hunters took 510 bearded turkeys, which are almost always males, during the youth turkey hunt on the weekend before the regular spring season. Hunters took 4,460 bearded turkeys in the May 1-31 regular spring turkey season. Fall turkey hunting during October and November produced 904 male and female turkeys. "Although turkey reproduction was above average in 2015 and on par with the average in 2014, severe winters and wet springs over the past couple years may have contributed to a lower than average harvest this fall," said wild turkey project leader Amy Alfieri. "In addition, a highly variable mast production year this fall may have made turkeys harder to find in some areas." Vermont's wild turkey population is estimated at 45,000 to 60,000 birds.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife also reports that no turkey hunting-related shooting incidents were reported for the fourth consecutive year.

Bear: Preliminary numbers show that hunters took 669 black bears during the 83 days of the two-part 'early bear season' and 'late bear season.' There were also no hunting-related shooting incidents. Fish & Wildlife Department bear biologist Forrest Hammond says this is a higher harvest than the past 10-year average of 502 bears taken annually, but it is consistent with a statewide goal of stabilizing the bear population between 4,500 and 6,000 bears.

"Nearly equal numbers of bears were harvested during the early and late bear seasons," said Hammond. "Warmer than average hunting conditions, a lack of heavy snow cover and an abundance of wild apples along with some beech nuts caused many bears to delay entering their dens, which in turn allowed for more bears than normal to be taken at the end of the late bear season."

A lack of substantial snowfall also is believed responsible for the many reports from the public of bears visiting bird feeders and garbage at a time of year when they would normally be in their dens. Hammond also noted that participation in the early bear season has remained high with large numbers of hunters choosing to purchase a \$5 early season bear tag. "Between an abundant population, a long

hunting season and the potential of harvesting delicious and nutritious bear meat, Vermonters and visitors are becoming increasingly interested in hunting this big game animal," said Hammond.

Deer: The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department says preliminary numbers show 12,710 deer were taken during Vermont's 2015 deer hunting seasons. Reports from big game check stations indicate hunters had successful deer seasons in 2015, taking 3,398 deer in archery season, 1,277 in youth season, 6,592 in rifle season, and 1,443 in muzzleloader season. The 12,710 deer brought home by hunters yielded more than 630,000 pounds of local nutritious venison.

"Compared to the previous three-year averages, harvest numbers increased slightly during the archery and rifle seasons, but decreased during the youth and muzzleloader seasons," said deer project leader Nick Fortin. "The legal buck harvest of 8,294 was nearly identical to the previous three-year average of 8,286.

"However, we saw an overall decrease primarily due to the department issuing 43 percent fewer muzzleloader antlerless permits this year. These permits were reduced in response to the back-to-back severe winters of 2014 and 2015. Following a winter like 2015, a stable buck harvest clearly demonstrates the value of managing for a healthy deer herd."

The primary goal of Vermont's deer management strategy is to keep the deer herd stable, healthy and in balance with available habitat. "Maintaining an appropriate number of deer on the landscape ensures deer and the habitats that support them remain in good condition and productive," said Fortin. "This year's harvest is a good indicator that we are meeting the management objectives established in Vermont's 10-year Big Game Plan."

Each year the department operates biological check stations during deer hunting seasons to gather information on the age, sex, field dressed weight, antler characteristics, and overall health of Vermont's deer herd. In 2015, biological data were collected from 1,747 deer examined during the two-day youth season and November rifle season.

To provide additional data, more than 2,600 teeth were collected from bucks harvested during the rifle season. Fortin adds, "The effort made by hunters and many of our big game reporting stations to collect teeth during rifle season will significantly improve our understanding of the age composition of Vermont's buck population."

Based on weights of deer examined by wildlife biologists, Vermont's deer herd is as healthy now as it has been at any time since the 1940s when such data were first collected. Deer that go into winter with heavier body weights are better able to survive harsh winter conditions.

Moose: Vermont moose hunters had a successful hunting season according to the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department. A record bull was taken in the October 1-7 archery moose hunt, and the regular moose hunting season was October 17-22. A total of 119 moose were harvested – ten moose were taken during the archery-only season and 109 in the regular season providing an estimated 16 tons of moose venison. For the first time in Vermont, bulls-only permits were issued in most of the 17 Wildlife Management Units open to moose hunting. This change was made to increase population growth in order to achieve goals called for in Vermont's Big Game Management Plan. Only in northern Vermont were hunters able to take moose of either sex. The archery season hunter success rate was 24%, down from 38% for the previous 4 seasons combined. The regular season hunter success rate was 47%, down slightly from 52% the previous year. The restriction to bulls-only likely contributed to the lower success rate, but lower moose densities, warm weather, and late leaf-drop may also be contributing factors. Pre-season scouting in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom paid off on the second morning of the archery moose hunt for Tammy Miller of Fairfax, Vermont. Using a compound bow, Miller took a 931 lb. bull moose with an antler spread of 53 ¾ inches while hunting in Norton with her husband, Eric. Miller's huge bull topped the 919 lb. previous archery record moose taken last year by Kevin Rice.

Permit Proposal for Vermont's 2016 Moose Hunt

A total of 135 regular firearms and 25 archery moose season permits have been proposed by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department for the 2016 moose hunting season. The proposal of 160 permits represents a 40 percent decrease from the number of permits approved for the 2015 season. Permits would be for bulls-only in all Wildlife Management Units except, B, C and E1 units. Under this proposal, hunters are expected to harvest close to 70 moose. The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Board will vote on these proposed numbers in April.

"We recommended a reduction in permit numbers and a continuation of bulls-only permits in most of the units this year based on biological data we collected on Vermont's moose, and our population estimates indicating moose densities remain below management goals in many areas," said biologist Cedric Alexander, Vermont's moose project leader. "The intent of the proposal to allow slow population growth in most of Vermont." Alexander estimates Vermont has 2,050 moose statewide with the greatest concentration in the Northeast Kingdom.

"We continue to take a very conservative approach given recent regional and national trends of moose populations and health," added Alexander. "Moose biologists from the southern tier of moose range across North America are increasingly concerned about the effects of warming temperatures on moose health. Moose can easily become stressed by warmer weather causing them to feed less and early spring snow melt that results in higher winter tick loads the following year."

Vermont's Habitat Stamp Promotes Land Conservation

In 2015 the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department introduced The Habitat Stamp. Fashioned after the successful federal Duck Stamp, the Habitat Stamp is priced at \$15, but donors can give any amount from \$5 to \$500. The stamp comes in the mail as a sticker, in addition to being printed directly on hunting or fishing licenses. Thus far it has received widespread support, raising more than \$30,000 in direct donations in its initial months. Because the funds can be used to leverage federal dollars, the program may bring over \$100,000 to habitat conservation in Vermont.

"We want to thank everyone who bought a Habitat Stamp in its first season," said Louis Porter, commissioner of the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department. "We were deeply gratified by the support we received from people who care about saving wild spaces in Vermont. Due in part to these generous donations, the department celebrated the grand opening of newly conserved lands at Lemon Fair Wildlife Management Area in Addison County this fall. Thanks to the Habitat Stamp, our continuing efforts to conserve critical habitat throughout Vermont will receive an important push in 2016. For example, the department anticipates using Habitat Stamp funds to create a brand new wildlife management area by the Clyde River in the Northeast Kingdom. Conserving these lands will protect essential wetlands and riverbank habitat along one of Vermont's truly scenic and premier salmon and trout rivers."

The Clyde River wetlands are home to moose, bald eagles, river otters, and ducks and geese. The department is also looking to use Habitat Stamp funds to hire staff to work directly on habitat management efforts throughout the state. "The Fish & Wildlife Department is uniquely positioned to conserve habitat in Vermont because we can leverage every dollar donated for nearly three dollars in federal funds," said Porter. "Even a small donation makes a big difference for habitat conservation and management. As forests and fields in Vermont yield to development, the Habitat Stamp will allow us to continue to protect the critical open spaces that Vermonters enjoy."

Rhode Island

Chase Bernier, RI Representative to the Executive Committee

No report submitted.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

**New England Chapter of The Wildlife Society
Executive Board Meeting**

January 26, 2016

MassWildlife Field Headquarters

In attendance:

David Paulson, Trina Moruzzi, Todd Olanyk, Allison Keating, Dave Cowell, Susan Ingalls, Tracy Rittenhouse, Jaclyn Comeau, John McDonald, Andrew Major

Agenda

Treasurer's Report
Fall Workshop Recap
New England Chapter TWS Membership Survey
Spring Workshop Planning
Vermont Techniques Course Scholarship
NEAFWA Conference 2016
Donations for the Envirothon
I&E Updates
State Updates
Northeast/National Updates
Action Items

Treasurer's Report 2015: The Chapter's income for the 2015 calendar year totaled \$839.00 and consisted of apparel purchases and membership dues paid at both the workshops and online. Expenses for the year totaled \$626.02 and included a donation to RI Envirothon, purchase of retirement gifts for Wayne MacCallum, purchase of refreshments for the spring and fall workshops, and a rental fee for the fall workshop. Petty cash available for use totals \$147.00 and the TD Bank account balance is \$11,225.24 as of December 31, 2015.

Fall Workshop Recap: The fall workshop on October 15, 2015 was a success with nearly 25 members in attendance. It was held at the Nashua River Watershed Association River Resource Center in Groton, MA. The topic was Wildlife and Sustainable Energy. Talks were given on wind development and bat populations, solar arrays and rare species, and impacts of wind development on black bear. In the afternoon, a solar facility was visited to look at its impacts on rare species. The workshop was well-received with some new chapter members attending.

Membership Survey: In order to assess interest in future Chapter workshops, a survey was sent out to the general membership in December. Results from the survey can be viewed by following this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-HLKRPCJQ/>. Important findings included a greater interest in the spring workshop taking place in either February or March, and in October for the fall workshop. Respondents selected the middle of the work week (Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays) as the best times for attending a workshop. Locations of greatest convenience for members included southern Vermont/New Hampshire and eastern Massachusetts.

Spring Workshop: Dave, Allison, and Jaclyn will be taking the lead on organizing the workshop and finalizing the location which will likely be in southern NH. The spring workshop topic will be "Hot Topics in Wildlife Conservation", which resulted from ideas most selected in the membership survey. Examples of topics that may be discussed include: the discussion in New Hampshire regarding the re-opening of a bobcat season; American Marten dispersal into Vermont and potentially northwestern Massachusetts; moose decline in New England due to winter tick and brain worm. The workshop is tentatively set for a time at the end of March or in early April.

VT Techniques Course Scholarship: John reported that the annual scholarship for a student attending the Vermont Techniques Course is currently available to any one student in our geographic area. John will let the enrollees of the course know that the scholarship is available for application.

NEAFWA: The Chapter and Section will not likely have any formal representation at the conference, as it is being held outside of New England in 2016.

Donations for the Envirothon: Both the New Hampshire and Massachusetts Envirothon coordinators have requested donations from the Chapter. When written requests are received, each will be issued checks from the Chapter for \$150.00 to put toward event expenses.

I&E Updates: Neither Michelle nor Ken were in attendance. As a result, there are no updates on Facebook or newsletter at this time. Michelle will soon be requesting articles for the next newsletter.

State Updates: Representatives from Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Connecticut all gave state updates. MA representative discussed deer and bear harvest

numbers, as well as the upcoming 150 year celebration of MassWildlife. NH representative discussed the public hearing process for the re-opening of a bobcat season, the significant reduction in moose tags to be issued next fall due high moose mortalities attributed to winter tick and brain worm, as well as harvest reports for deer and turkey. VT representative discussed American Marten research efforts, moose and deer harvest numbers, and a reduction in moose tags issued that is not expected to be as dramatic as in NH. CT representative stated that their state agency (DEEP) will also be celebrating 150 years of conservation, she discussed that the data from the most recent CT black bear study is under review and is to be published soon and also discussed the launching of a data viewer which will allow members of the public to determine black bear density in their area. Further detail on each of these state reports will be included in the next Newsletter.

Northeast/National Updates – John McDonald, Vice president of the National TWS chapter, reported on the last national conference held in Manitoba which he said was well-attended. The next national conference in 2017 is being held in North Carolina. John reiterated the need to resurrect the Conservation Affairs Committee. He voiced that the New England Chapter should have a bigger presence in the region regarding policy changes and contentious topics such as the NH bobcat season and the Conte Refuge CCP proposal of the Great Thicket NWR. John also suggested that the New England Chapter consider establishing an internship or fellowship program similar to that which was initiated by the Wyoming TWS chapter.

Action Items – Items that require attention soon include: sending out award announcements for the New England Chapter, finalizing details for the spring workshop, providing articles to Michelle for the E-Newsletter, and sending a note out to the general membership to generate interest in Conservation Affairs Committee involvement.





New England Chapter of The Wildlife Society
Annual Spring Workshop

Antioch University New England
40 Avon Street, Keene, NH
Thursday, March 24th, 2016
9:30am- 3:00 pm

Hot Topics in Wildlife Management and Conservation

Agenda

- 9:30 – 10:00 am Refreshments and Registration
- 10:00 – 10:15 am Welcome
- 10:15 – 11:55 pm Presentations
- 10:15 – 10:45 Collaborative Turtle Conservation Projects in the Northeast
Presenter: Liz Willey, Antioch University New England
- 10:50 – 11:20 New Hampshire Bobcats
Presenter: Patrick Tate, New Hampshire Fish and Game
- 11:25 -11:55 American Martens
Presenter: Patrick O'Brien, Central State CT University
- 12:00 – 12:45pm Break for Lunch
- 12:50 – 1:20 Moose Mortality and Productivity in Northern New Hampshire
Presenter: Henry Jones, University of New Hampshire
- 1:25 – 1:55 Introduction of Timber Rattlesnakes at Quabbin Reservoir
Presenter: Tom French, MA Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program
- 2:00 – 2:30 Massachusetts Piping Plover Habitat Conservation Plan
Presenter: Jon Regosin, MA Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program

The Wildlife Society Continuing Education – 3.0 Credits

Registration will occur at the door:

Members (Regular & Student) – Free.

Student Nonmembers - \$5.00, which includes membership in the chapter.

Regular Nonmembers - \$10.00, which includes membership in the chapter.

THE NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY CONTACT INFORMATION

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CHAPTER MERCHANDISE

The New England Chapter of The Wildlife Society has many items available for purchase displaying our logo you see on page 1! Items will be available for purchase at the spring workshop.

THE WILDLIFE SAMPLER

The Wildlife Sampler is a biannual newsletter of the New England Chapter of The Wildlife Society that provides up-to-date information on both state (CT, MA, NH, RI, VT) and regional wildlife management programs and conservation issues. The success of this newsletter depends on **your** contributions. Suggestions regarding the content and format of the newsletter are always welcome, as are contributions of news articles, job announcements and meeting notices. Letters and commentaries offered for publication also will be considered. Contributions from student members and members employed by consulting firms, educational institutions, or other environmental organizations are encouraged. Newsletter items should be forwarded to your state representative. Please email documents as attachments in Microsoft Word format. See email addresses above. State representatives must submit newsletter items to the Editor by the deadline to be considered for inclusion in the newsletter.

New England Chapter TWS logo created by Paul Rego, CT DEP Wildlife Division