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# WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Wyoming Chapter



*2014 Spring/Summer Edition Newsletter*

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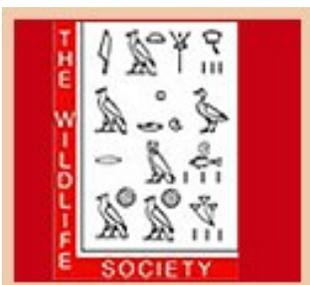
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Cover Art: A creative merger of several of Wyoming's critters and natural features - the primary logo for the 2014 conference. V. Villalobos.

Background, pp2: Lush tall forbs dominate a meadow in the Upper Green River drainage. E. Maichak.

Photos used in "Spring Break: Student chapter attends 50th Western Region Conclave" courtesy J. Grunow, A. Steel, S. Locker, L Collamer, & V. Villalobos.

# A FEW WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT...



I recently traveled to Las Vegas, Nevada, and the trip provided me with some valuable perspectives pertaining to the challenges we face in our profession.

There are currently more people living in the city of Las Vegas than in our entire state, and the city is the market hub for much of the energy extracted from Wyoming. I sometimes wonder why people don't share our passion for wildlife. Not having lived in a large metropolitan area for > 20 years, I was amazed and somewhat saddened by my own adaptations to the comforts and demands of the neon lit desert metropolis. It was a humbling reminder of how easy it is to forget the importance of wildlife in our society when we are surrounded with the conveniences of the modern big city.

If you've never visited the Hoover Dam, I highly recommend it! I have passed by the massive structure several times, but had never stopped in the past. This engineering masterpiece is a true testament of how our society, when mobilized and organized to find a solution, can solve the most complex problems. As impressive as the Hoover Dam is, for a wildlife biologist like myself, it is also a solemn and stark reminder of the challenges our profession

is facing and the stresses our society is placing on our natural resources. During my walk across the dam, I was fortunate enough to spot a lone desert bighorn sheep feeding in the drained spillway, some 200 feet below. I dodged the mass of pedestrian traffic hurrying to and fro along the dam trying to identify the animal before it disappeared. Having identified the young ram, I stood there reflecting on the events that had just transpired. It occurred to me that this is the essence of the challenge that we face each and every single day in our profession. How do we spread our message about wildlife to hundreds and thousands of people who are oblivious, indifferent, and live in a world comprised of conveniences, luxury, and devoid of wild animals?

This sobering question prompted me to action. I was reminded of a quote by the late American poet and conservationist, Ralph Waldo Emerson, "People only see what they are prepared to see." Feeling inspired, I reached out to a single pedestrian and initiated a conversation about wildlife and bighorn sheep in the area. Her face began to glow as she awakened her senses to the world she was unknowingly a part of. My heart warmed as she successfully identified the young ram for the first time. In a matter of minutes, we'd attracted a crowd of people, many of which had never seen nor even knew that bighorn sheep existed in this harsh desert landscape. By the time I left, people were teaching, guiding, and helping each other to watch the young ram. This experience will forever resonate with me and will serve as a reminder that people outside of Wyoming have different concerns than we do. Our challenge is to find a way to connect with them to share our passions because we can't do this alone. Only then can we attempt to mobilize the resources we need to overcome the challenges that are obvious to us as wildlife professionals.

Last year, we invited you to share with us your interests and desires as a member of this Chapter. I thank all of you that responded to our inquiry, and I want you to know that the Board has listened. We continue to move forward in our endeavor to make the Wyoming Chapter more relevant and provide

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, CONTINUED...

more benefits to our membership. This year's joint conference with Central Mountains and Plains Section (CMPS) of TWS is fast approaching and will be held August 26-28, 2014 in Sheridan, Wyoming. Capitalizing on this opportunity, the Board has been working diligently on several new endeavors that I hope make you excited to be a member. President Elect Eric Maichak is putting the final touches on an exciting and rewarding agenda that includes several workshops targeting professional development. I encourage you to review the agenda and sign up for these opportunities early as they are sure to fill up. We plan to use this venue to build our capacity for professional development and have committed to offering a more complete and in-depth GIS course later this fall; stay tuned.

Over the last several months, I've challenged the Board to seek new opportunities to conduct business with the goal of improving our interaction given the difficulties of meeting in person. The Board has risen to the call and our new approaches have opened the door for us not only to be more effective in a world where travel is more difficult but these have also led us to explore opportunities for you the members. Consequently, for the first time ever, we are making arrangements to live-stream the student and professional papers that will be presented during the conference. We hope to send out more information to you soon and look forward to participation from those of you who are unable to attend in person, though we will miss you.

Lastly, I am excited to announce that in a continued effort to broaden and increase our membership, WY-TWS and Wyoming Conservation Landscape Initiative (WLCI) have agreed to partner and hold a joint conference in Lander, Wyoming during the fall of 2015. This joint venture will coincide with our Chapter's annual meeting and presents a unique opportunity to reach out to our federal colleagues while learning about some of the important collaborations that are occurring in the southwest part of the Wyoming.

Spring is by far my favorite time of year in Wyoming. Although I look forward to the return of the house finches that nest in the giant cypress of my front yard and the white-tailed prairie dogs that line the highways I travel, it is without a doubt one of the most uncertain times of the year. As the days grow longer, temperatures rise, and mornings are once again filled with beautiful melodies, I rejoice as our beloved State awakens from its long winter slumber. Then almost without warning, temperatures plummet, and I am reminded that Old Man Winter still has his clutches on the weather. It is a harsh reminder that transitions are a delicate time in Wyoming. It is the belief that the days will soon be warmer and better than they are now that keeps me committed to enjoying the transition.

Our Chapter and our profession are in the midst of a similar transition and I summon you to engage and be part of the future. We need your help to sustain the successes we've had recently. Take the time and reach out to your colleagues and strangers while you travel. Start a conversation about your interests in wildlife and The Wildlife Society. I encourage you to share your passions and let us open the door for others to join us on our wonderful journey.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, CONTINUED...

I look forward to interacting with you in Sheridan and hope you get mud on your knees!

*Martin Grenier, WY-TWS President*

“He who hopes for spring with upturned eye never sees so small a thing as Draba. He who despairs of spring with downcast eye steps on it, unknowing. He who searches for spring with his knees in the mud finds it, in abundance.”

- Aldo Leopold

## WY TWS BOARD MEETING: SPRING BULLETS



Daly Edmunds, WY TWS Secretary

To increase our productivity and minimize travel costs, our Board has fully jumped onto the technology bandwagon ... you guessed it, web-based meetings! Our third meeting of 2014 took place at our desks on April 15. For those unfamiliar with this technology, webinars allow remote interactive participation by logging in to a website where you can view a host's desktop, so as to view presentations or charts, while engaging in live discussions via conference call. Below is a list of some of the topics discussed and decisions made. Board meetings are open to the membership, so participation is always welcome! For complete meeting minutes, please contact Daly Edmunds at [dedmunds@audubon.org](mailto:dedmunds@audubon.org).

- An update on the Fellowship Program was given, including introduction of Corinna Riginos, the new Program Coordinator. As a Research Ecologist with Teton Science School, WY-TWS member Corinna will be overseeing our new Fellow, Victor Villalobos. Victor's fellowship will begin in May and end in late July. Improved advertising and outreach this year resulted in a larger number of applicants. Fellowship Committee will be looking into methods to assess the impacts of this Program.
- Planning for the joint WY-TWS/CMPS meeting continues. This year's annual meeting will be in Sheridan, Aug 26-28. Because it is a joint conference, outreach to other states is being done. Registration will be done entirely online this year, reducing workload and minimizing errors. Past presidents are being invited to attend as this is our 40th anniversary, with recognition at a presidents' breakfast! To diversify membership and attendance, agencies and NGOs across Wyoming are being invited to participate. The meeting will include continuing education opportunities through 8 workshops, ranging from collaborating with the media to chemical immobilization. Members are being asked to help find sponsors and start thinking about auction items to donate.
- A member approached the Board about having a rifle raffle (using a deck of cards) at the WY-TWS/CMPS meeting's banquet to raise money for the Tom Easterly Fund. The Board was unanimously supportive of this idea, and saw this gesture as an opportunity to continue to help a fallen WY-TWS member.

# SPRING BULLETS, Continued...

- The Student Chapter has taken on developing a logo for our 2014 joint WY-TWS/CMPS meeting, based on the conference theme and location.
- The Board formally voted to co-host the 2015 meeting with the Wyoming Landscape Conservation Initiative (WLCI). Anticipated benefits include reduced cost and increased attendance. Lander was discussed as a possible location as they will have a new conference center built by Fall 2014.
- The Scholarship Committee, comprised of UW faculty from three different departments, selected a scholarship recipient – Charlotte Gabrielson. The Committee provided valuable feedback to the board to improve the process going forward.
- The Wyoming Chapter will be represented this year at the 21st TWS Annual Conference in October (<http://wildlifesociety.org/about-2/>). Martin Grenier (President), Eric Maichak (President-elect), and Kevin Monteith (Board Member-at large) are all interested in attending the meeting in Pittsburgh, PA. Early registration closes on August 31.

D. Edmunds, WY TWS Secretary

## CONFLICT & COMPROMISE: STORY BEHIND THE PHOTO

I feel this photo is pretty symbolic of where we are at in wildlife management today. In my 20+ years in the WY Game & Fish Dept., I have definitely seen a dramatic increase in the time spent addressing conflicts between wildlife and people. The photo shows North Jackson Jackson Game Warden, Jon Stephens, Jackson Wildlife Biologist, Aly Courtemanch and Jackson BFH Biologist,



Ben Wise, attempting to coax a group of bison from a subdivision north of Jackson this spring. During winter the bison, and several thousand elk are fed at the National Elk Refuge in part to keep them out of conflict and then when they drift off in the spring they often head for the best green grass, which happens to be at Jackson Hole Golf & Tennis golf course and nearby homes.

Wildlife-human conflict comes in a variety of forms, from increased roadkill to moose in swimming pools to ducks in pit toilets, and EVERYTHING in between. Obviously, the increase in wildlife-human conflict is a direct result of a steady increase in the human population and associated development and it is being realized even here in the nation's least populated state. Sadly, despite our best efforts at public education, highway over/under passes and other efforts to co-exist, the conflicts are only likely to rise.

*M. Gocke, WGFD I&E Specialist and WY-TWS Member*



Dan Thompson, WGFD Trophy Game Supervisor and Science Committee Chair.

## WYTWS Science Committee: Humor. Philosophy. Sweat

Hello true believers! I realize that is a ripoff of Stan Lee, but it is important to maintain our faith in the tenets of Science. The notions of science are in the news quite a good deal lately, with bickering related to “science standards” use, nonuse, and misuse; coupled with the conspiracy theories related to climate change, evolution, flying spaghetti monsters, and wolves (sorry I’m just used to hearing about wolves a lot). We should consider ourselves fortunate that we can always go back to the true basics of the scientific method and hold

our heads high to stringently uphold it’s merits. Right now I think many people in society are interested in science, but moreso in Leonard and Penny getting engaged on the “Big Bang Theory”; but hey...babysteps right? (I had to look that up, apparently it’s a thing that happened recently.) Darwin didn’t come up with his notions of evolution after seeing one finch’s beak—Einstein’s hair looked the way it did for a reason—humble illustrations of the importance to keep fighting the fight.

Our band of misfits has been very busy of late. In April the Committee provided comment on an Environmental Assessment for the Diversiture of Rocky Mountain Oilfield Testing Center and Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 3; this came as a direct request from the U.S. Department of Energy on behalf of the Wyoming Chapter of The Wildlife Society. Most recently we have been developing definitions for migration as it relates to wildlife (primarily ungulate) populations; these types of definitions will be pivotal for future direction in land use plans and wildlife management at the population level. In case you haven’t noticed, the newer conceptualizations of migration are driving a lot of focus in the wildlife profession across the planet right now; we are fortunate that some of the leaders of the cause hail from our State. The next project (soon forthcoming) will be drafting a white paper on the verbiage and impetus behind the use of mitigation and how it relates to wildlife and wildlife habitats. The feverishly busy efforts of the people on this Committee are yielding grand results, and obviously people are taking notice based on the increased amount of activities and requests the Committee is receiving.

With that, as always thanks for coming along for the ride—Right now it’s as jubilantly green as the color spectrum can create outside in Wyoming—GO ENJOY IT!!

Watch yer top knot...D. Thompson

### *The Wyoming Chapter of The Wildlife Society strives to:*

- ◆ *Provide an organization of wildlife management professionals from which statements affecting wildlife can be made exclusive of agency limitations.*
- ◆ *Provide for the exchange of ideas and information between wildlife workers without agency consideration.*
- ◆ *To strengthen The Wildlife Society, its objectives and goals.*
- ◆ *To promote and provide for intradisciplinary communication and training to keep abreast of modern needs and technological developments.*
- ◆ *To promote awareness of and continued improvement in wildlife management.*



Victor Villalobos, recent graduate from the UW wildlife program and recipient of the 2014 WYTWS Fellowship.

## ***High Interest in WY-TWS Fellowship Yields Excellent Candidate for Summer 2014 Program***

The Wyoming Chapter of The Wildlife Society has always taken its mentoring role very seriously. With so many talented professionals retiring and the challenges of wildlife conservation only increasing, the importance of assisting in the professional development of our state's future wildlife stewards couldn't be more critical.

In response, WY-TWS developed the unique Fellowship Program – a summer program designed to expose the fellow to the practical aspects of wildlife management in Wyoming. Now in our fourth year, we experienced high interest among undergraduates and a very strong pool of applicants for the 2014 fellowship. Following review of applications and phone interviews by the Fellowship Committee, WY-TWS is proud to introduce Victor Villalobos as the 2014 Fellow. Victor is a senior at the University of Wyoming, where he is pursuing a degree in Wildlife Fisheries and Biology Management through the Department of Zoology and Physiology. In addition to participating in numerous wildlife-related volunteer projects, he has been an active member of the Wildlife Society Student Chapter for two years.

In his application, Victor noted, "I intend to absorb as much knowledge and direction from this fellowship to better my understanding of conservation, protection, and management of wildlife. I will also use this opportunity to refine my field experience and hone in on a specialization that I could apply towards graduate school and beyond." The purpose of this paid summer position is to provide outstanding upper-level undergraduate students and recent graduates with valuable professional experience by improving their understanding of the duties, responsibilities, and expectations within the wildlife/natural resource management field. By the end of the summer, Victor will have worked alongside some 20 different wildlife professionals – representing state and federal agencies, NGOs, and researchers – and be familiar with a variety of important issues affecting wildlife and natural resources across the state of Wyoming. This program continues to receive regional and national attention among wildlife professionals for its unique focus on providing emerging professionals with a wide range of experiences.

Victor will be supervised by Fellowship Coordinator Corinna Riginos, Research Ecologist with the Conservation Research Center of Teton Science Schools in Jackson and an adjunct assistant professor at the University of Wyoming. "As an organization with a core focus on education and natural resource stewardship, we are delighted to partner with WY-TWS to coordinate this unique fellowship program. Thanks to the numerous mentors who have volunteered their time this summer, Victor will have an enviable opportunity to gain first-hand experience with some of the most interesting and important wildlife issues – and the people working to solve them – in Wyoming," Riginos said.

For more information, please contact Daly Edmunds, Fellowship Committee Chair and WYTWS Secretary.



*D. Edmunds*

# Charlotte Gabrielson Claims the 2014 WYTWS Graduate Student Scholarship



Two frogs up, Charlotte is all smiles as UW PhD student and 2014 grad scholarship recipient.

This year, Charlotte Gabrielson received the WYTWS Graduate Student Scholarship. The Board was interested in finding out a bit more about Charlotte, so Newsletter staff asked Charlotte several questions via email. Charlotte was excited to answer, and the entire “interview” is below.

NL: Where'd you attend school?

CG: I went to Hartwick College in upstate New York for my Bachelor's degree, where I majored in Biology and received a minor in Environmental Science and Policy. Prior to beginning my doctoral studies, I received a M.S. degree in Natural Resources from the University of New Hampshire, where I focused on wildlife management in the context of a fragmented wetland ecosystem.

NL: How'd you get to WY?

CG: In Fall 2012, I began my PhD at the University of Wyoming's Program in Ecology, studying climate change effects on wetland ephemerality and water quality in the Prairie Pothole Region in the U.S. Northern Great Plains. I was interested in working with Dr. Melanie Murphy, as my academic interests were closely aligned with her research program and I was excited for the opportunity to learn from her expertise in modeling and quantitative approaches to studying wetland ecosystems. Furthermore, the Program in Ecology's multidisciplinary approach provided me the chance to work collaboratively across disciplines to address issues of conservation concern.

NL: Who's your advisor?

CG: My advisor is Dr. Melanie Murphy from the Department of Ecosystem Science and Management at the University of Wyoming.

NL: What is your PhD project on?

CG: My PhD project explores the projected effects of climate change on wetland ephemerality and amphibian genetic connectivity in prairie wetland ecosystems. Over the next century, scientists predict increased mean temperature, and altered precipitation form, timing and quantity in the Plains and Prairie Pothole Region. This would increase the prairie wetland ephemerality, which has significant implications for wetland ecosystem services. These changes may threaten wetland-dependent species, including amphibians that require a network of wetlands for dispersal.

I use publicly available high-resolution satellite imagery to identify wetland locations and examine how the presence of these wetlands shifts in wet and dry years. Additionally, I am interested in characterizing how gene flow of amphibians is related to both landscape features and breeding site characteristics. In particular, I am interested in comparing genetic connectivity of three separate amphibian species. Despite overlapping geographic ranges within the region, the three species' habitat requirements differ, which may cause unique responses to climate-induced changes to wetland ephemerality.

NL: What do you want to be when you grow up?

CG: My ultimate career goal is to obtain a position in academia. I hope to teach in a capacity that permits me to engage students in addressing wildlife issues, continue researching anthropogenic effects on wildlife in human-dominated landscapes, and collaborate with resource managers in affected areas.

NL: How have you been involved with TWS?

CG: I have been a member of the Wyoming Chapter of The Wildlife Society for the past two years, since I have been a graduate student at the University of Wyoming. Additionally, I attended and presented my preliminary research at the Wyoming Chapter's Wildlife Society 2012 Annual Meeting in Laramie, WY.

NL: What will you do with the scholarship \$?

CG: The scholarship that I received thanks to the generosity of The Wildlife Society will directly support my summer field research. The scholarship money will be used to defray the costs of field travel, specifically the rental of a 4x4 field vehicle. As nearly all of my field sites are located on unimproved roads, including in rural northern Montana and Wyoming, this is an imperative part of my summer fieldwork.

# Spring Break: Student Chapter Attends 50th Western Region Student Conclave



Instead of soaking up the rays on the beach or visiting with family, 16 members of the University of Wyoming student chapter of The Wildlife Society (UWTWS) packed their bags and headed east toward Nebraska. The reason for that decision was the Western Ecosystems course which included a stop at The Wildlife Society Western Region Student Conclave. This year, Conclave was dual-hosted by University of Nebraska-Lincoln and University of Nebraska Kearney.

Conclave began with our arrival at Kearney, Nebraska. Here we were able to experience a unique wildlife phenomenon, the sandhill crane migration. Beginning with an educational talk from Mary Harner from The Crane Trust, we learned about the restoration and conservation efforts of cranes. We then visited a large concentration of cranes in the fields adjacent to the Platte River and then observed large numbers fly overhead and land in the shallow waters of the roosting site. For many of us this was the first time to see such large numbers of cranes. The sights and especially sounds of one of the world's largest and oldest migrations were amazing!

The Western Region Student Conclave is a chance for students from many schools to meet, share experiences, and forge professional connections with peers. One of the best venues for interaction are the fieldtrips because students from different schools mix and mingle. UW students participated in a trapping and skinning demonstration, a tour to a restoration project of mixed-grass prairie, a visit to a raptor recovery center, and sandhill crane photography. The fieldtrips are always a

highlight of Conclave, and this year was no different.

In addition schools had a chance to compete in the annual Quizbowl. Logan Merrill, Ryan Bagley, Luke May, and Lindy Collamer represented UWTWS. Although they showed good knowledge and had the right battle spirit, our team finished in 4th place. It was no surprise that Humboldt State University took 1st place; they always do!

UW students also shared their knowledge by giving oral and poster presentations. Jordan Winter spoke about his time in Churchill, Manitoba, and his participation in the citizen-science project with Polar Bear International. Kim Menke and Rebecca Burton presented a poster on the effects of climate change on least chipmunks, a project that UWTWS has been involved in for the past 8 years. Nicole Meyer presented another UWTWS project, the Rocky Mountain National Park River Otter Survey. That poster received the Conclave "Best Poster" award. Well done Nicole!



During Conclave, we also had four teams participate in the Wild-Cache game (we introduced this activity during the 2013 Conclave). In the year's Wild-Cache, we drove to the campus of University of Nebraska-Lincoln and participated in a "scavenger hunt" at the Natural History museum (the mammoth and mastodon collections in that museum are fabulous!). We also visited the herpetology facility and were challenged to identify several species of snakes, lizards, and frogs. The highlight of that activity was holding a live and mellow corn snake. We struggled to locate the small radio transmitters, which were planted near a tall building on campus. The bounce was intense. Other tasks in Wild-Cache included diagnosing wildlife diseases, genetic

# 2014 Conclave, Continued...

genetic quizzes, and a few others. Once again, UW put their best foot forward and took 2nd place in this part of Conclave.

Conclave closed with a delicious banquet and award ceremony. Our members collected many prizes for student artwork, with Nicole Meyer winning most for her skillful drawings of raptors.

From Pierre we traveled to Wall, South Dakota and visited Badlands National Park. Badlands was an important stop for us because this was the site where Lindy Collamer discussed reintroductions of black-footed ferrets, Victor Villalobos talked about big-horn sheep management, and Kim Menke taught us about prairie dogs. All presentations were given while we hiked along the Mountain Loop trail. This allowed us to



Although Conclave was over, UWTWS members still had a few days of adventure ahead. On March 18th we stopped to visit Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium. Students enjoyed walking through elaborate exhibits and observing some of the exotic animals on display. Our time at the zoo was short because we had a long drive to our next stop in Pierre, South Dakota. Despite a nasty snowstorm, we arrived at the South Dakota Discovery Center where we spent the night. We thanked Kristie Maher and Danette Jarzab for their kind hospitality.

Early on the morning of March 19th we met with former UWTWS president and current Forest Service Biologist Ruben Mares. Ruben took us out to his research site to view prairie chicken leks. In addition to enlightening us about prairie chickens, Ruben told us about his work and the difficulties that biologists sometimes face. He also shared the benefits and joy of being a biologist. It was here that Logan Merrill presented his talk on the management issues of prairie chickens.

experience the habitats and conditions to which the animals are exposed to, and in the case of prairie dogs observe the critters themselves. Not allowed to consult notes, the presenters did a phenomenal job!

We learned that the area now known as Badlands National Park was once an ancient inland sea that supported marine lizards, fish, and sea turtles. The geologic strata were fascinating, and the good weather made our hike and presentations enjoyable. That night we were invited to join a capture effort of black-footed ferrets organized by Park biologist Eddie Childers and Forest Service Biologist Randy Griebel. We were sad to hear that a plague epidemic reduced ferret numbers from near 400 in 2009 to a mere 45 individuals in 2013. We started at 10pm searching for ferrets with spotlights. Despite many hours driving around prairie dog towns, only 5 of our members were lucky enough to catch the green eye-shine of the ferrets. Exhausted from about a 21-hour day, we returned to the Wall Community Center for some well needed sleep before

# 2014 Conclave, Continued...

continuing west. It is hard to describe our gratitude to Wall Chamber of Commerce and Wall Community Center (especially Carol!) for hosting us in Wall.



March 20th brought forth a day of history as we visited Mount Rushmore. Jordan Winter and Ryan Bagley presented on the history of Mount Rushmore, as well as on the history of wildlife management. They discussed the contributions of President Theodore Roosevelt, Aldo Leopold, Joseph Grinnell, and members of the Wilderness Society to conservation in the United States. They quizzed us and peppered the presentation with interesting anecdotes that made the presentation fun. We also learned about a UW claim to fame. Among our museum collection are some of the original specimens collected by Joseph Grinnell. The visit to Mount Rushmore ended with a close-encounter with a couple of mountain goats (one wearing a radio-collar) that crossed the flag promenade and sniffed Merav's hand.

Later that afternoon, we visited Wind Cave National Park. Wind Cave is the 7th oldest National Park established by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1903. The cave is the sixth longest in the world with 140 miles of passages. New corridors through the cave are being discovered and mapped every year. We enjoyed an hour-long tour through a segment of the cave. During the tour we saw unique cave formations such as cave "popcorn" and boxwork. We learned that unlike other caves, Wind Cave does not have stalactites and stalagmites, which was interesting. Here, Austin Steel presented on the expanding bat disease, white-nose syndrome, and described the threats from this disease to bats in the region. On our way out of the park we encountered a herd of Bison. We all were in awe of the bison until one started licking one of our Suburbans and then proceeded to try and bite the car. At that moment we knew it was time to head on to our next destination.

To let off some steam, our group visited the public pool at Hot Springs, South Dakota. The water was a relaxing 85 degrees and allowed everyone to enjoy some games before we started the last day of our trip. We spent the night at the Wyoming State Forestry Facility in Newcastle, Wyoming, courtesy of Lori Kempton.

On our last day we only stopped once at Devil's Tower. Our plan to take a nice hike around the base of the volcanic structure was thwarted by snow showers. Despite the weather, we learned about wild turkeys from Ariel Vichi. Standing on a log with a large flock of turkeys in the background, Ariel explained the history and management of these birds in Wyoming. After snapping some photos and exploring the visitor's center, we headed back to Laramie.



In conclusion, this trip was very educational and allowed UWTWS students to explore some unique western ecosystems. Many of the stops were new to the students and much of the wildlife seen was also a first. Students had a chance to connect with other students as well as learn about the duties of various professionals. It was a good way to spend spring break furthering our knowledge.

*J. Grunow, UWTWS Conclave Officer*

# Get Ready! WYTWS Hosts the CMPS 2014 Annual Conference in Historic Sheridan, WY AUG 26-28

As most of you are probably aware, the 2014 WYTWS/CMPS conference is just around the corner. WYTWS is thrilled to be hosting the joint WYTWS and CMPS of The Wildlife Society's annual conference August 26-28, 2014 at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in historic Sheridan, Wyoming. Dubbed "Manifesting the Destiny of Wildlife & Habitat Science, Stewardship, & Solvency", this year's conference agenda boasts a list of exciting educational and networking events. We're currently offering eight workshops on applied topics with workshop leaders that include WYTWS past-presidents Todd Cornish and Bryan Bedrosian, Parent Chapter past-president Tom Ryder, and several other dynamic individuals. In addition to captivating oral and poster presentations within four main session themes on new tricks, habitat management, wildlife vs. development, and changing policy, we're pleased to announce the addition of a special session and panel discussion on big game nutrition that includes numerous distinguished subject experts. Furthermore, we're including venues for Celebrating Our Wildlife Conservation Heritage (COWCH) interviews, the WYTWS mentor program luncheon, a boisterous student/professional mixer and quiz bowl, a special breakfast event for current and past-presidents, a fabulous banquet with keynote speaker and acclaimed wildlife writer Chris Madson, as well as field trips for bird watchers, habitat connoisseurs, and necropsy enthusiasts. And to help students get there, WYTWS and CMPS are offering \$500 in travel scholarships!

We encourage attendees to reserve rooms at the Holiday Inn by August 1 by visiting:

<http://www.holidayinn.com/sheridanwy> and entering the group code "WIL" (GSA rates apply).

The call for abstracts as well as application for student travel grants can be found on the CMPS and WYTWS websites at:

<http://wildlife.org/cmp>

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

The deadline for abstract submissions and student travel grant applications is June 30, 2014. Early registration for on-site conference activities or remote access to oral presentations (via WebEx) will be available starting June 6 on the WYTWS website. Additional questions regarding the conference can be directed to conference co-chairpersons Eric Maichak ([eric.maichak@wyo.gov](mailto:eric.maichak@wyo.gov)) or Andrea Orabona ([andrea.orabona@wyo.gov](mailto:andrea.orabona@wyo.gov)). In the meantime, start planning your trip to Sheridan this August and come help WYTWS and CMPS celebrate their respective 40th and 60th anniversaries.

## THE PRIMARY DEADLINES FOR THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE ARE:

**June 30, Abstracts Submissions**

**June 30, Student Travel Grant Applications**

**August 1, Block Room Reservations at the Holiday Inn**

**August 10, Early Registration for Conference (PRICES RISE 20% THEREAFTER!)**

**All conference info and on-line registration can be found at [www.wildlife.org/wyoming](http://www.wildlife.org/wyoming)**

The following several pages of the newsletter have everything you need including the call for abstracts, COWCH interviews, as well as nominations and awards; Donor/Sponsor letter to help explain WYTWS and the conference to prospective donors; donation receipt; the current draft agenda; and workshop descriptions.



## *Call for Professional and Student Abstracts*

### THE WYOMING CHAPTER of THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY HOSTS the CENTRAL MOUNTAINS & PLAINS SECTION of THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY 2014 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

#### **Submission Deadline: June 30, 2014**

The Wildlife Society (TWS) Wyoming Chapter will be hosting the Central Mountains & Plains Section (CMPS) of TWS and invites submission of abstracts from all states/provinces of the CMPS for the annual conference to be held August 26-28, 2014 at the Holiday Inn in Sheridan, Wyoming. The theme of this year's conference is "Manifesting the Destiny of Wildlife & Habitat Science, Stewardship, & Solvency".

Presentations on any pertinent wildlife or habitat related issue will be considered, but submissions in the following areas are especially encouraged:

1. "New Tricks: Methods, Models, & More" – results of research explaining novel or revolutionary monitoring and modeling techniques for wildlife and habitat. Includes technological break-throughs.
2. "Mitigating Habitat Loss, Implementing Habitat Success" – results of research evaluating on- and off-site habitat management (e.g., prescribed fire) and response of vegetation and/or wildlife species.
3. "Costs of Creature Comforts: Wildlife versus Human Development" – results of research explaining interactions of human development (e.g., oil, wind) and wildlife species.
4. "Adapting Management, Changing Policy" – results of research explaining how scientific data were used to alter wildlife or habitat management practices and/or policies of private entities or government agencies.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS can be up to 5 feet wide by 4 feet tall and will be August 26<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8:30pm. We strongly encourage anyone who is currently developing a research study plan, presenting preliminary data, or would prefer to share their research in a format other than an oral presentation to present a poster.

ORAL PRESENTATIONS are tentatively 15 minutes in length, including 2-3 minutes for questions from the audience, and will be in electronic format (MS PowerPoint preferred). Due to the limited number of slots available for student (n=30) and professional (n=28) oral presentations, we strongly encourage abstracts submitted for oral presentations to be from completed projects.

An abstract is required for those submitting for either the ORAL or POSTER sessions, and submitters will be notified about the status of their abstracts by **July 18, 2014**. If an abstract submitted for oral presentation is denied, the submitter will have the option of presenting during the poster session and is required to notify the abstract submission point of contact (see below) by July 25, 2014 that they will be presenting a poster.

Please complete the attached application form and submit abstracts electronically via email attachment to:

**For Students:**

Mr. Ian Abernethy  
University of Wyoming  
(307) 766-3035  
[fisher@uwyo.edu](mailto:fisher@uwyo.edu)

**For Professionals:**

Dr. Dan Thompson  
Wyoming Game and Fish Dept  
(307) 349-9129  
[daniel.thompson@wyo.gov](mailto:daniel.thompson@wyo.gov)

For successful abstract submissions, we encourage both oral and poster presentations that incorporate large font, minimal text, and high quality photos and/or graphics.

STUDENTS, please note that there will be up to \$500 available for travel awards to help offset conference and travel costs. Stay tuned for the formal announcement and application by checking the CMPS website at [www.wildlife.org/cmp/](http://www.wildlife.org/cmp/) or WYTWS website at [www.wildlife.org/wyoming/](http://www.wildlife.org/wyoming/)

### ABSTRACT SUBMISSION INFORMATION

At the **top of your abstract**, please provide the following:

1. Name of Submitter/Author:
- 2a. Specify is Submitting as STUDENT or PROFESSIONAL:
- 2b. If student, please specify if UNDERGRAD, MASTERS or PhD:
3. Institution:
4. Mail Address:
5. Telephone/Fax Numbers:
6. Email Address:
7. Specify if Submitting for the ORAL or POSTER session:

**REQUIRED ABSTRACT FORMAT:** 300 word limit, 12 point font in Times New Roman, 1" margins, single-spaced, capitalize title, provide full name, affiliation, and address for all authors (using superscript numbers to link to appropriate contact info), & underline presenting author. *See example below.*

Due to volume, abstracts must follow the **required format** and be **submitted as MS Word documents**.

**Sample Abstract Submission Information & Abstract :** Please refer to following page.

**2014 Conference of The Wildlife Society – Wyoming Chapter & Central Mountains & Plains Section  
Abstract Submission**

1. **Submitter/Author:** Hall Sawyer
2. **STUDENT OR PROFESSIONAL:** Professional
3. **Institution:** Western Ecosystems Technology, Inc
4. **Mail Address:** 200 South 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Suite B. Laramie, WY 82071
5. **Telephone/Fax Numbers:** Phone
6. **Email Address:** hsawyer@west-inc.com
7. **Submitting for the ORAL or POSTER session:** Oral presentation submission

**A FRAMEWORK FOR UNDERSTANDING SEMI-PERMEABLE BARRIER EFFECTS ON  
MIGRATORY UNGULATES**

Hall Sawyer<sup>1\*</sup>, Matthew J. Kauffman<sup>2</sup>, Arthur D. Middleton<sup>3,4</sup>, Thomas A. Morrison<sup>3</sup>, Ryan M. Nielson<sup>1</sup>,  
Teal B. Wyckoff<sup>3,5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Western Ecosystems Technology, Inc., 200 South 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Suite B, Laramie, WY 82070, USA.

<sup>2</sup>US Geological Survey, Wyoming Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Department of Zoology and Physiology, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY 82071, USA.

<sup>3</sup>Wyoming Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Department of Zoology and Physiology, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY 82071, USA.

<sup>4</sup>Program in Ecology, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY 82071, USA.

<sup>5</sup>Wyoming Geographic Information Science Center, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY 82071, USA.

Impermeable barriers to migration can greatly constrain the set of possible routes and ranges used by migrating animals. For ungulates, however, many forms of development are semi-permeable, and making informed management decisions about their potential impacts to the persistence of migration routes is difficult because our knowledge of how semi-permeable barriers affect migratory behavior and function is limited. Here we propose a general framework to advance the understanding of barrier effects on ungulate migration by emphasizing the need to: 1) quantify potential barriers in terms that allow behavioral thresholds to be considered, 2) identify and measure behavioral responses to semi-permeable barriers, and 3) consider the functional attributes of the migratory landscape (e.g., stopovers) and how the benefits of migration might be reduced by behavioral changes. We used global position system (GPS) data collected from two subpopulations of mule deer *Odocoileus hemionus* to evaluate how different levels of gas development influenced migratory behavior, including movement rates and stopover use at the individual level, and intensity of use and width of migration route at the population level. We then characterized the functional landscape of migration routes as either stopover habitat or movement corridors, and examined how the observed behavioral changes affected the functionality of the migration route in terms of stopover use. We found migratory behavior to vary with development intensity. Our results suggest that mule deer can migrate through moderate levels of development without any noticeable effects on migratory behavior. However, in areas with more intensive development, animals often detoured from established routes, increased their rate of movement, and reduced stopover use, while the overall use and width of migration routes decreased.

# WY-TWS Nomination Form for Awards and Officers



Anna Chalfoun, WYTWS Awards & Nominations Chair and Professor at University of WY.

It is not too early to start thinking about deserving nominees for our WY-TWS awards and officer positions. Please take a few minutes and give some thought about those who are working hard for wildlife and should be recognized for their efforts, as well as those who would make strong candidates for board members. At this year's annual conference in Sheridan, awards (Professional and Citizen of Year, Lifetime Achievement) will be presented to recognize outstanding efforts by individuals in the state who conserve and manage wildlife and wildlife habitat. Successful candidates for officers are also announced at this time, and as of August 2014, positions available will include President-elect, Treasurer, and Board Member At-Large.

To submit a nomination, please fill out the biographical information listed on the form below and write up a short summary of the nominee's accomplishments in the wildlife conservation/management arena. Nominations can be mailed or e-mailed to the following:

WY TWS Awards and Nominations  
Anna Chalfoun  
University of Wyoming  
Dept. 3166, 1000 East University Ave  
Laramie, WY 82071  
307-766-6966  
achalfou@uwyo.edu

Nominee:

Award (circle one): Professional      Citizen      Lifetime Achievement

Officer (circle one): President-elect      Secretary      Board Member At-Large

Address:

Present Position (i.e., Specific Job Title):

Academic Background:

Professional Background:

Submitted By:

Address:

Phone:





Andrea Orabona, WYTWS COWCH Chair and WGFD Non-game Biologist.

## Conserving Our Wildlife Conservation Heritage (COWCH) Committee Gears Up for Annual Meeting

As plans ramp up for the joint WYTWS/CMPS meeting in Sheridan this August, meeting organizers thought this would be an ideal time to complete some COWCH interviews. We currently have a list of 35 potential interviewees (see below) and hope some of these professionals will attend the meeting and sign up for a COWCH interview. We have 18 interview slots available during the meeting; half will be in an indoor venue and half in an outside setting.

To refresh your memory, the goal of the COWCH program is to preserve the history and evolution of the wildlife profession in Wyoming by interviewing influential wildlife biologists, educators, managers, and other pioneers. There are 30 questions COWCH interviewers ask each interviewee, ranging in topic from personal information like education and family background to career experiences and reflections on the profession. Each interview is recorded on a digital camcorder and will be included as a part of the national COWCH archives at TWS headquarters.

This list of potential interviewees is by no means exhaustive! If you know of someone who should be added or if you would like to sign up yourself, please contact COWCH Committee Chair, Andrea Orabona ([Andrea.Orabona@wyo.gov](mailto:Andrea.Orabona@wyo.gov)).

Greg Arthur  
Dick Baldes  
Kim Barber  
Mac Black  
Joe Bohne  
Dave Bragonier  
Tim Britt  
Gary Butler  
Steve Cain  
Rex Corsi  
John Craighead  
Willie Fitzgerald

Kerry Gunther  
Bill Hepworth  
Greg Hiatt  
Mark Hirschberger  
Kevin Hurley  
Ron Iverson  
Jack Kelly  
Steve Kilpatrick  
Calvin King  
Bob Lanka  
Fred Lindsey  
Ron Lockwood

Dave Moody  
Joe Nemick  
Andrea Orabona  
Bob Phillips  
Archie Reeves  
Russell "Buzz" Robbins  
Jim Roseberry  
Betina Sparrowe  
Dan Stroud  
Steve Tessman  
Roger Wilson

Thanks and see you in Sheridan!

*A. Orabona*



## People's Choice: Get Ready to Vote for the 2014 Best Newsletter Article Award!

In the grind to complete daily tasks and stay afloat or let alone get ahead in the wildlife business, writing in a creative sense is something that is sometimes unnoticed or even considered totally unimportant. Creative writing in the wildlife arena is often philosophical and beautiful, can spawn ideas that we might not generate under normal circumstances, and occasionally is used to enhance forms of technical writing. This year, the Communications Committee is pleased to announce that the 2014 "Best Newsletter Article Award" will be judged not by us, but by YOU, the membership. Below are the criteria to help you decide your top pick for 2014 - please take a few moments to review these:

1. The article or work was published in any of the 2014 WYTWS Newsletters (Winter or Spring/Summer)
2. The article or work was written by a WYTWS member in good standing
3. The article or work displays excellent readability and flow; it is enjoyable to read and captivating
4. The article or work employs appropriate and creative use of grammar and punctuation
5. The article or work is relevant to current wildlife and/or habitat issues in Wyoming
6. The article or work displays literary seriousness or humor; it makes you laugh, think, or affects your mood
7. The article or work displays a unique or possibly innovative writing style

We will send out announcement along with the link to the ballot by June 30. Please take a few moments to review the 2014 Newsletters and find your top pick!





May 22, 2014

Dear Prospective Sponsor:

The Wyoming Chapter of The Wildlife Society (WYTWS) is a non-profit organization with the primary goals of promoting unbiased exchange of ideas and information among wildlife professionals through intra-disciplinary communication and training. Ultimately, this is to facilitate continued awareness, improvement, and strength in wildlife management, science, and public outreach in Wyoming.

This year will be the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of WYTWS, and we are thrilled to announce that we will also be celebrating the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Central Mountains and Plains Section of the Wildlife Society (CMPS) as we host a joint conference of WYTWS/CMPS. Our conference is planned for August 26 – 28, 2014 at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in historic Sheridan, Wyoming and will provide a venue for interactive learning among wildlife professionals, researchers, and students from seven regional states (Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota) and two Canadian provinces (Manitoba, Saskatchewan).

At this year's conference, we are planning eight workshops on applied topics in wildlife management, including GIS, statistics and study design, capture and immobilization, necropsy, marketing and media, partnerships and funding, leadership principles, and radio-transmitter fabrication. We will host oral and poster presentations on myriad topics and also provide opportunity to network with and mentor young professionals. Lastly, we have a number of other events to enhance the experience of our attendees including past *Wyoming Wildlife* editor and keynote speaker Chris Madson; good times via a fabulous banquet, feisty live auction, and local live music of the Teka Brock Band; and field trips for bird watchers, habitat connoisseurs, and necropsy enthusiasts.



We kindly ask you to partner with WYTWS to enhance wildlife management in Wyoming by becoming a sponsor of our 2014 conference. We encourage you to donate raffle or auction items or make a monetary contribution to sponsor a break, keynote speaker, musician, or any portion of the conference that you like. As WYTWS is a 501(c)3 entity, your donation may be tax deductible. If you elect to donate, we will gladly provide you a simple donation form for tax reporting purposes. Additionally in return for your donation, we are pleased to offer progressive levels of advertising for you and/or your organization ranging from a simple label on your donated item to verbal recognition at our conference banquet.

Donor/Sponsor Level	Advertising Offered per Donor/Sponsor Level			
	Item Label	Program	Banner	Announcement at Banquet
Quartz: <\$100	X	X		
Garnet: \$100-249	X	X		
Emerald: \$250-449	X	X	X	
Ruby: \$500-999	X	X	X	X
Diamond: >\$1000	X	X	X	X

This event will benefit greatly from your contributions, and we encourage you to attend the conference and reserve rooms at the Holiday Inn by visiting:

<http://www.holidayinn.com/sheridanwy> and entering the group code "WIL" (GSA rates apply).

Registration for conference activities is being developed, so please stay tuned by visiting our WYTWS website at <http://wildlife.org/wyoming/>. In the meantime, start planning your trip to Sheridan this August to come learn about cutting-edge wildlife management in Wyoming and help WYTWS and CMPS celebrate our respective 40th and 60th anniversaries. We appreciate your consideration of supporting this important event and hope to see you there.

Sincerely,

Eric J. Maichak  
WYTWS President-Elect  
and Conference Co-Chair  
PO Box 850  
Pinedale, WY 82941  
307-231-1334  
[Eric.Maichak@wyo.gov](mailto:Eric.Maichak@wyo.gov)

And

Andrea Orabona  
CMPS Board Member At-Large  
and Conference Co-Chair  
260 Buena Vista  
Lander, WY 82520  
307-332-2688  
[Andrea.Orabona@wyo.gov](mailto:Andrea.Orabona@wyo.gov)





- The -  
**WILDLIFE SOCIETY**  
 Wyoming Chapter



**Receipt for Donation**

NAME/BUSINESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ WYTWS REPRESENTATIVE: \_\_\_\_\_

I am in receipt of your donation for \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., auction item, sponsorship)  
 at the fair market value of \_\_\_\_\_ \$ to the Wyoming Chapter of The Wildlife Society.  
 (Payment type if monetary donation/sponsor: Cash  Check  Credit Card  Other )

The Wildlife Society, Inc. is designated a non-profit corporation under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code. The IRS has determined that its subordinate units are also designated non-profit under a group exemption.

The Wyoming Chapter of The Wildlife Society (EIN 23-7380606) is a subordinate unit, and is included in the group exemption. As such, your donation may be tax deductible. Please consult your tax advisor for additional information.

Thank you for your generous donation to the Wyoming Chapter of the Wildlife Society.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Therese Hartman*

Therese Hartman,  
 Treasurer, WYTWS  
 PO Box 850  
 Pinedale, Wyoming 82941  
 (307) 367-5364



**WY Chapter and Central Mountains & Plains Section of the Wildlife Society**  
**DRAFT10, 2014 CONFERENCE AGENDA**

**“MANIFESTING THE DESTINY OF WILDLIFE & HABITAT  
SCIENCE, STEWARDSHIP, & SOLVENCY”**

**AUGUST 25**

**WYTWS Board & Committee Meeting, 3:00-6:00pm, Stripmine Meeting Room**

**Tentative Agenda Items:**

1. Meet & Greet with Board & Committee Chairs, Review WebEx – All
2. Budget – Hartman
3. Fellowship: 2014 Marketing, Selection, & Budget; 2014/15 Presentations – Edmunds
4. Conservation Affairs Committee: Status and Plans for 2014/15 – Grenier, Maichak
5. 2015 WLCI-WYTWS Dual Conference – Grenier
6. Mentor Program: 2013/14 Accomplishments, 2014/15 Teams & Goals – Mong
7. Committee Updates
8. Set Date & Venue (WebEx or In-Person) for Next Board Meeting – All

**AUGUST 26**

**Early-Bird Birding Trip, 5:00-6:30am**

**Welcome Speech, 7:45-8:00am**

**Student Talks, 8:00-10:00am**

**Break, 10:00-10:15am**

**Student Talks, 10:00am-12:00pm**

**Mentor/Mentee Program Lunch OR Lunch on Your Own, 12:00-1:00pm**

**Student Talks, 1:00-3:00pm**

**Break, 3:00-3:15pm**

**Student Talks, 3:15-5:00pm**

**Dinner on Your Own, 5:00-6:00pm**

**Student/Professional Mixer and Poster Session, 6:00-8:00pm**

**Inter-Chapter Student/Professional Mixed Team Quiz Bowl, 8:00-10:00pm**

## AUGUST 27

Early-Bird Birding Trip, 5:00-6:30am

President's Breakfast, 7:00- 8:00am – Past & Current Parent, CMPS, and WYTWS Presidents

Concurrent Professional Talks, Two Sessions, 8:00-9:45am

Break, 9:45-10:00am

Concurrent Professional Talks, Two Sessions, 10:00-11:45am

Lunch on Your Own, 11:45am-12:45pm

MINI-WORKSHOPS, 1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION, 12:45-2:45pm

Introduction to GIS with Management Applications, Part I – Matt Hayes, Univ. of WY

Introduction to Population Sampling – Dr. Mary Connor, UT State Univ.

Wildlife Chemical Immobilization – Dr. Mary Wood, WGFD

Habitat: Harness the Power of Partnerships – Jill Randall, WGFD

Break, 2:45-3:00pm

MINI-WORKSHOPS, 2<sup>ND</sup> SESSION, 3:00-5:00pm

Introduction to GIS with Management Applications, Part II – Matt Hayes, Univ. of WY

Wildlife Diseases & Necropsy – Dr. Todd Cornish, Univ. of WY

Wyoming Chapter, TWS: 2014 Leadership Institute – Tom Ryder, Retired WGFD

Media: Connecting People with Science – Mark Gocke, WGFD

HAPPY HALF-HOUR, 6:00-6:30 pm

Tom Easterly Memorial Fund Gun Raffle

Start Silent Auction & Raffle, 6:00pm

BANQUET & MORE, 6:30-9:00pm

History of CMPS – Jerry Kobriger, 7:15-7:30

Keynote Speech – Chris Madson, 7:30-7:45

Awards – WYTWS Service, People's Choice Writing, Best Student Poster, Best Student Presentation, Best Photo, Professional of Year, Citizen of Year, 7:45-8:30

End Silent Auction & Raffle (winners to be posted), 8:30

Live Auction? 8:30-9:00

Live Music & Dancing: Teka Brock Band, 9:00pm-12:00am

## AUGUST 28

### FIELD TRIPS, 7:00-11:00am

1. Field Necropsy Techniques, WGFD Sheridan Office: Jeremy Brown & Todd Cornish
2. Habitat Projects & More, U-Cross Ranch: Ben Wise

### Workshop, 8:00-11:30am

Designing & Constructing Radio-Transmitters: Bryan Bedrosian, Beringia South

### CMPS Board Meeting, 11:30am-1:00pm

### SPECIAL SESSION: BIG GAME NUTRITION, 1:00-4:00pm

(Sponsored by UW Biodiversity Institute and Natural Diversity Database)

Introduction & Overview: Dr. Gary Beauvais, Univ. of WY's WY Natural Diversity Database

Seasonal & Regional Ungulate Body Condition: Drs. John & Rachel Cook, NCASI

Nutrition & Population Ecology: Dr. Tom Stephenson, California DFW

Body Condition, Ecology of Fear: Drs. C. Martinez del Rio & Arthur Middleton, UW Bio. Inst.

Seasonal Fat & Protein Reserves: Dr. Kevin Monteith, Univ. of WY

### Break, 3:30-3:45

Manager's Perspective: Daryl Lutz, WY GFD

Public Perception & Education: Gary Fralick, WY GFD

Summary – Past & Future Directions: Dr. Matt Kauffmann, Univ. of WY

Panel Discussion: ALL

### Closing Remarks, 4:15-4:30

# Workshops: Brief Descriptions

## INTRODUCTION TO GIS, PART I AND PART II

This 2-part GIS workshop will explore basic methods to interact with, explore and analyze spatial data. The workshop will focus on foundational knowledge necessary to: use spatial data, extract information, overlay features, convert between data types (points, lines, polygons, rasters), conduct analyses and make maps. Course material will be prepared but course participants will be able to give input into what they would like to learn more about. This workshop will use ArcGIS, however, theory learned in the course is applicable to open-source GIS software (QGIS, GRASS, Program R). **Participants should bring a laptop with ArcGIS 10.x installed.** For questions about course specifics, please contact Matthew Hayes (mhayes1@uwyo.edu).

## INTRODUCTION TO POPULATION SAMPLING

Workshop will focus on a couple different sampling methods such as quadrat and distance, how to generate meaningful population estimates from these, and incorporation of basic statistical analyses.

## WILDLIFE CHEMICAL IMMOBILIZATION

This workshop will cover a brief introduction to wildlife handling and chemical immobilization. There will be a short lecture on common drug classes used for wildlife immobilizations and a brief review of handling and anesthetic monitoring. The remainder of the workshop will be focused on hands-on practice with immobilization equipment including blow guns, dart guns, pole syringes and hand syringes. We will set up targets outdoors for darting practice so **please wear closed-toed shoes and appropriate clothing to be outside.**

## HARNESS THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIPS

In our current world of “Do more with less!” who doesn’t want to maximize their impact on the landscape we manage? Hear examples of how relationships and communication have increased effectiveness and productivity. By working with partners we can multiply our impact and gain public support for management actions of project implementation. We will discuss the steps of wildlife habitat project implementation and where to emphasize the human side of wildlife management in order to maximize results. Also, we will discuss a variety of funding opportunities that make project work feasible in our world of tighter budgets and greater time demands. Private and public land examples will be discussed by a variety of wildlife professionals. This session will include discussion from the audience regarding success stories and ideas for other professionals to take home in order to improve partnerships at a local level.

# Workshops: Brief Descriptions

## WILDLIFE DISEASES AND NECROPSY

Workshop will focus on primary diseases and sampling techniques of wildlife. This lecture will be the precursor to the field trip the following morning where participants will have the opportunity for hands-on necropsies of wolf, cougar, deer, trumpeter swans, and possibly other species.

## WYOMING CHAPTER, TWS: 2014 LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Initiated in 2006, The Wildlife Society's Leadership Institute (TWSLI) has become a valuable tool for training tomorrow's generation of TWS leaders and Wyoming is proud to have 5 graduates of this prestigious training. Graduates include Nick Kaczor and Sarah Bucklin in 2009, Martin Grenier in 2010, and Nicole Cudworth and Tony Mong in 2011. Instructors of this 2-hour workshop will present a condensed version of TWSLI, divided into 4, 30-minute segments. The first segment will discuss why strong leaders are necessary in the natural resources profession and outline success characteristics of previous conservation leaders. Segment two will delve into the basic principles of leadership. Participants will then be provided with techniques to develop a vision and personal leadership goals in segment three. The workshop will conclude with a discussion of why utilizing a team leadership approach is the most successful way to accomplish goals.

**Attendance will be restricted to 20 individuals and can include undergraduate and graduate students and early-career professionals (i.e., 5-7 years of experience).**

## CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH SCIENCE

Ever wonder why some people's research or management project makes front page news and is shared over and over again through social media while other equally fascinating research remains in relative obscurity? This panel of local experts will share their unique perspective and years of experience on this all-important topic of effectively publicizing your work, not only for educating the public, but also generating political support and of course funding. Each panelist will have an opportunity to share their insightful thoughts on the matter with a short presentation before settling in for a lively panel discussion with the audience, which should prove enlightening for everyone in attendance. This one is not to be missed! Panel will include: Chris Madson, Outdoor Writer & former editor of Wyoming Wildlife magazine; Hall Sawyer, Wildlife Researcher, WEST, Inc.; Joe Riis, National Geographic Photographer; Christine Peterson, Outdoor Writer, Casper Star Tribune; Ray Hageman/Lindsay Simpson, Video Specialists, WY Game & Fish Dept.

## DESIGNING AND CONSTRUCTING RADIO-TRANSMITTERS

Participants will learn the fundamentals of radio-transmitter components, design, function, and assembly. Participants may have the opportunity to build a live radio-transmitter.

# WY TWS Membership Form

**Change of Address**

**New Member**

**Membership Renewal**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

AFFILIATION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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Please also complete and send this form to Therese Hartman**

Therese Hartman P.O. Box 850 Pinedale, WY 82941

Email: [Therese.Hartman@wyo.gov](mailto:Therese.Hartman@wyo.gov)

Fax: 307-367-4403

**Please support your WY-TWS Chapter by paying your membership dues!**

## Note from the Editor...

A winter of bountiful snowfall and the mountains continue to glisten in the late May sun. Ambient temperatures rise, and what was stored as frozen potential is quickly transformed to liquid action. The physical manifestation of energy transformation is unleashed before our very eyes as soil, roots, and rock struggle to withstand, contain, and perhaps guide the resource that so many depend upon. From trickle to torrent, what could be perceived as a thoughtless, destructive annual flow also provides new paths and redistribution of nutrients upon the floodplains. How true it is that matter is neither created nor destroyed, it simply changes form. And not only are we lucky enough to witness this change, sometimes we have, recognize, and ultimately seize or even enhance the opportunity to enact a change that is beneficial to us all.

Since last November, layers of planning and coordination have been building upon the mountain that is our chapter. As we approach August, those states and provinces within the Central Mountains & Plains Section are anticipating a record run-off of knowledge, experience, and networking as we host the joint WYTWS/CMPS conference. We're excited to be hosting this event, and with the large number of activities we want all of you to get excited as well. Step up and contribute to this year's conference: sponsor an event, prepare an abstract, assist with an activity. WYTWS and CMPS have only one chance to celebrate our 40th and 60th anniversaries. Let's have some fun...

*E. Maichak*

More formally and specifically, we accept appropriate articles and information related to wildlife management and conservation activities in Wyoming from our board, members, governmental agencies, and non-profit organizations. Articles, photos, and other submissions can be sent to:

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### Newsletter deadlines for 2014:

February 15 (Winter Edition)

May 15 (Spring/Summer Edition)

September 15 (Autumn Edition)

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