



Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Volume 43, Issue III

December 2015

Inside this issue:

President's Message	I
Annual Workshop	3
Awards Nominations	8
Board Member Nominations	14
Regional Reports	22
Student Chapter Reports	30
COWCH Update	31
Voices from the Swamp	32
Treasurer's Report	36
Other Items	37
2015 Governing Board	42

President's Message

There is an old saying, "many hands makes light work" and how true that mantra is as I look back on what our chapter has accomplished during the last 7 months or so. And Wildlife Society Chapters need members like you, and especially active members to continue activities that are highlighted below. If making a difference and shaping the future in the conservation of our natural resources is important to you, then get involved with your chapter and continue the tradition.

Stephen Winter, President Elect, is currently planning our Annual Meeting in Mankato, February 9-11, 2016. It is during our Annual Meeting when we elect our next group of MN Chapter of Wildlife Society leaders. If you haven't served, please think about it. If you are thinking about it, then act. If you have served with the chapter, we thank you.

Caesar Kleberg is acknowledged as "the father of wildlife conservation in Texas". Since 2008, The *Wildlife Society* has awarded the *Caesar Kleberg Award for Excellence in Applied Wildlife Research* to "those who have distinguished themselves in applied wildlife research" and is focused on those whose body of work, in both inquiry and discovery, has resulted in application of management and conservation "on the ground". Rocky Gutierrez, with the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Conservation Biology at the University of Minnesota was recognized and honored as the 2015 Caesar Kleberg winner at the Wildlife Society's Annual Conference in Winnipeg Canada.

John Loegering, Associate Professor in the Agriculture and Natural Resources Department at the University of Minnesota-Crookston also was recognized by his peers at the Wildlife Society's Annual Conference in Winnipeg Canada for the Jim McDonough Award. This award was created to recognize Certified Wildlife Biologists who are members of The Wildlife Society at the Chapter, Section, and parent Society levels. Award winners are biologists recognized by fellow workers as solid contributors to wildlife management, but who so far may have eluded receipt of major awards, citations, or prominent recognition. Past award winners from Minnesota also include John Moriarty (2010) and Bill Berg (1993). As many may already know, current Past-President Steve Windels, wildlife biologist at Voyageurs National Park, has received the 2014 National Park Service's Director's Award for Natural Resource Research. The Director's Natural Resource Awards recognize the outstanding contributions of individuals in understanding,



President's Message (continued)

protecting, and managing park natural resources. Award winners were chosen from an elite pool of regional submissions for their remarkable achievements. Dr. Windels has been at Voyageurs since 2003. The award is in recognition of the contributions he has made in managing a complex and comprehensive wildlife management and research program at Voyageurs that is recognized as one of the most dynamic, science-based programs in the Midwest Region. Congratulations Steve.

Our Chapter has provided input and comment to the Minnesota State Wildlife Action Plan, Minnesota DNR Forestry Certification Audit, and CRP Grassland Initiative. Several members continue to actively serve and provide input to the Minnesota State Technical Committee that serves in an advisory capacity to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) on the implementation of the natural resources conservation provisions of Farm Bill legislation.

The Chapter helped support the North Central Student conclave held March 27-28 in Sandstone Minnesota and attracted 107 students from 11 universities.

Our chapter helped to support the Copper Roundtable held in Big Lake, MN. Chapter involvement with copper bullets or perhaps more appropriately, non-toxic shot, grew out of the plenary session from our 2014 annual meeting and has led to copper bullet demonstration and education of non-toxic shot through shooting clinics. The MN Chapter's use of shooting clinics to encourage hunters to try copper ammo for deer hunting is setting an example that is spreading to other states and provinces.

Our Chapter sent a Letter to Governor Dayton expressing concerns about the implications of Executive Order 15-10 to the management of Minnesota's public trust wildlife resources, and that science-based information is essential to making credible, fact-driven decisions for wildlife populations managed in public trust. Executive order 15-10 directed a cessation of capture and collaring of moose in Minnesota. Subsequently, Chapter representatives had a meeting with Governor Dayton's Senior Policy Advisor to

directly express our views and to introduce the Chapter as experts regarding wildlife and natural resource conservation.

Everyone needs support, and you, and our organization cannot do much on our own: this is a group endeavor. Be one of those many hands that make light work. Don't be afraid to ask for help. Get involved with the organization (The Wildlife Society!) that gives you a voice. In the end you will be better off both professionally and personally. Don't look back on your life and be disappointed in what you did not do or did not try. As Miss Frizzle of The Magic School Bus fame is fond of saying "Take chances, make mistakes, get messy" – get out and learn. Get involved with your Chapter and make a difference today.

To quote Samuel Langhorne Clemens, American author and humorist and better known as Mark Twain, "Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do, so throw off the bowlines, sail away from safe harbor, catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."

Richard Olsen
President – MN Chapter of The Wildlife Society

mn2015duluth@gmail.com

Ph: 320/634-7340

H: 320/634-4750



2016 Annual Meeting February 9–11, 2016 Mankato, MN

Plan to Attend. The Annual Meeting of the MN Chapter of TWS will be held at the Mankato City Center Hotel (<http://www.mankatomnhotel.com/>) in Mankato, Minnesota, February 9–11, 2016. The event is expected to bring together more than 250 wildlife professionals, educators, students, and conservationists from state, federal, non-profit, academic, and tribal organizations within Minnesota and the Midwest. Highlights will include a plenary session and special technical session on fire ecology. With more than 50 technical talks, poster displays, networking opportunities, student events, and an awards banquet, there will be many opportunities to learn and reconnect with colleagues in Minnesota.

Registration

Registration is now open by mail and details are available on the meeting registration form. Registration is due by January 18th and registration after this date will incur a \$10 late fee. On-site registration will be available at 10:00 am on Tuesday but will also incur a \$10 late fee. Meals are not included with the registration and banquet tickets may not be available for late and on-site registrants.

Accommodations

Our host, the Mankato City Center Hotel, is offering participants a room rate of \$81/night plus tax (go to www.mankatomnhotel.com and use the group code WID; call 507-345-1234 or 877-345-5577 and mention MN Wildlife Society 2016). An additional block of rooms is available at the Hilton Garden Inn (one city block from the meeting, connected by a skywalk) with a rate of \$94/night plus tax (go to www.mankatodowntown.stayhgi.com and use the group code WID; call 507-344-1111 or 800-445-8667 and mention MN Wildlife Society 2016). Room reservations must be made by January 18, 2016 to guarantee the discounted rates.

Special Events

The annual meeting will start Tuesday, February 9th, at the Mankato City Center Hotel with a **Plenary Session** focused on fire ecology. This plenary session will feature four fire ecologists who will talk about fire in four of the broad habitat types found in Minnesota: prairies and grasslands (Sam Fuhlendorf and Dwayne Elmore from Oklahoma State University); oak savannas and woodlands (Greg Nowacki from the U. S. Forest Service); and northern/boreal forests (Lee Frelich from the University of Minnesota).

Tuesday evening's **Welcome Reception & Fundraiser** will be the perfect time to catch up with colleagues and friends while enjoying appetizers and drinks. A silent auction and raffle will offer the chance to bid on or win wildlife art, homemade crafts, and other great items. Tickets cost only \$15.

Wednesday evening will feature our annual **Awards Banquet**. The banquet will feature a buffet and will be followed by the opportunity to honor and celebrate the accomplishments of our award winners during a special ceremony. Tickets for the awards banquet cost \$33.

Students will enjoy a number of special events geared towards their professional development, including a student professional mixer, student leaders' breakfast, quiz bowl, and a paper and poster competition.

Annual Meeting (continued)

Tentative Schedule at a Glance	
Tuesday, 9 February 2016	
9:00a-12:00p	DNR-USFWS Coordination Meeting
9:00a-12:00p	MN Chapter Executive Board Meeting
1:00p-5:00p	Plenary Session on Fire Ecology
5:00p-6:30p	Student/Professional Mixer
6:30p-9:30p	Welcome Reception & Fundraiser
Wednesday, 10 February 2016	
8:00a-12:00p	Special Session on Fire Ecology
8:00a-12:00p	Concurrent Paper Sessions
1:00p-3:30p	MN TWS Chapter Membership Meeting
3:30p-5:30p	Student Quiz Bowl
5:30p-7:00p	Social Mixer and Poster Session
7:00p-10:00p	Awards Banquet
Thursday, 11 February 2016	
6:30a-8:00a	Student Leaders Breakfast
8:00a-12:00p	Concurrent Paper Sessions
1:00p-3:00p	Workshop

Sponsors of the 2016 MN TWS Annual Meeting Include



The Wildlife Society's
Forestry and Wildlife Working Group





**2016 ANNUAL MEETING, FEB. 9-11,
MANKATO CITY CENTER HOTEL, MANKATO, MN**

MEETING PRE-REGISTRATION (DUE BY JAN. 18, 2016)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Organization: _____

Title: _____

Annual Meeting:

	Amount	
Registration – Regular/Retiree.....	\$55	_____
Registration – Student.....	\$20	_____
Late fee (if post-marked after Jan 18).....	\$10	_____
Tues Mixer & Auction.....	\$15	_____
Wed Awards Banquet.....	\$33	_____

Membership:

Regular Membership.....	\$15/year	_____
Student Membership.....	\$5/year	_____
Retiree Membership.....	\$7.50/year	_____
Life Membership.....	\$375	_____

(Cash or Checks Only Payable to MN TWS) check # _____ **Total Due:** _____

Have you been a Chapter member in the past? YES NO

Send form & payment to: Lindsey Shartell, 33988 Wabana Road, Grand Rapids, MN 55744
(lmshartell@gmail.com for questions about registration)



2016 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MINNESOTA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

CALL FOR PAPER AND POSTER ABSTRACTS

The Annual Meeting of MN TWS will be held at the Mankato City Center Hotel in Mankato February 9–11, 2016. See <http://www.mankatomnhotel.com/> for more information about the meeting facilities. Additional information about registration, accommodations, and conference events will be provided soon. Watch for announcements in MN TWS emails or on MN TWS websites (<http://drupal.wildlife.org/minnesota/>, <https://www.facebook.com/mntws>).

The annual meeting will feature a plenary session on fire ecology, multiple special and general sessions encompassing a variety of topics, and a poster session will provide further opportunity to showcase your work. Presentations will highlight proposed research, research results, non-research projects, or thought-provoking ideas about wildlife conservation.

Please consider submitting an abstract for an oral presentation, a poster presentation, or abstracts for both! Students are particularly encouraged to submit abstracts. All quality submittals will be considered. Please send inquiries or submit abstracts by December 18th to Stephen Winter at stephen.winter@okstate.edu.



Call for Paper and Poster Abstracts (Continued)

Abstract Instructions

1. Designate as ORAL or POSTER.
2. Designate as PROFESSIONAL or STUDENT presentation.
3. Give presentation title in **BOLD**.
4. Put each author on a separate line followed by organization and contact info (mailing address, email, phone).
5. Keep the abstract to 250 words or less; use Arial 12 point font.
6. Email your abstract **by December 18th, 2016** to Stephen Winter (stephen.winter@okstate.edu). Put "**MN TWS 2016 ABSTRACT**" in the subject line. Presenters will be notified by January 15th of acceptance.
7. Contact Stephen Winter (402-310-5460; stephen.winter@okstate.edu) with any questions.

Abstract Example

ORAL PRESENTATION PROFESSIONAL

Double-crested Cormorant Survival, Movements, and Habitat Use in Northern Minnesota

John P. Johnson, Center for Bird Studies, 3713 Junco Lane, Splenda, MN 54282, jjohnson@gmail.com, 218-293-2210

John D. Johannsen, Department of Wildlife Conservation, 271823 5th St. SE, Duluth, MN 48382, jjojannsen@gmail.com, 218-300-1029

Since the 1970s, double-crested cormorants have increased dramatically throughout the Great Lakes region, including the Border Lakes area. Concerns about impacts of expanding cormorant populations to disease transmission and recreational fishing spurred investigations in 2008 to study movements and habitat use of adult cormorants in Kabetogama Lake and other area lakes. Backpack style radio transmitters were affixed to 7 adult cormorants in 2008 and 18 in 2009. Cormorants were located 2-3 times a week from early summer and continued until birds left the area. Adults provisioning chicks foraged relatively close to the nesting colony, with all locations <8km distant. Feeding locations of nonbreeding adults or post-breeding adults were concentrated in the western half of Kabetogama Lake where depths were generally <20 feet. Cormorants resident to Kabetogama Lake were rarely detected in Rainy Lake. However, there was some movement between lakes in the area by non-breeding adults, perhaps in relation to disturbance at the colony where they were initially captured.

DEADLINE January 1, 2016!

Award Nominations Requested

We have been here on the southeast edge of the Coteau in south central North Dakota since September 2006. Each year the first sandhill cranes of the fall have passed the first week of September. A Tradition? Thinking of it, treating it, honoring it so, gives me life, gladdens my heart, and fills me with melancholy. Few landscapes are defined so dramatically so beautifully so poignantly by migrations.

"When the departing plovers set wing for the Argentine, all the bluestems waved farewell with tall new tassels." – Aldo Leopold

Earlier this year I re-read Hochbaum's Travels and Traditions of Waterfowl. What a gift, given so eloquently, both verbally and pictorially, one I hope students and practitioners young and old have availed themselves of or soon will. Of special mention is Hochbaum's art, his prose and Part III- Traditions of Waterfowl consisting of three chapters; Biological Traditions, Building New Traditions and Broken Traditions.

There are a number of outstanding waterfowl artists - Peter Scott, Bob Hines, Maynard Reece and David Maas, to name a few - but none of them has captured waterfowl on the prairies as well as Hochbaum has in his paintings and pen and ink drawings.

His prose speaks for itself.

"Listen! ... No its only the wind. "But listen! Quiet Tim, you fool hound-dog." No, it is only the children at their game. "Listen! ... No it is nothing at all." A heavy black cloud hangs in the west; through a rift, the sun bathes the marsh in gold. The evening flight has begun; small parties of ducks lift from the bay, flying into the northwest. The tall poplar by the channel is dark with a thousand blackbirds creaking and tinkling."

"Listen, listen! ... Yes, it is the swan! The Whistling Swans are back!"

Part III- Traditions of Waterfowl is prefaced with the following quote.

*"It is by means of a sort of **tradition** that the migratory birds transmit to each other from generation to generation the knowledge of the airy paths they follow."* G. Reynaud.

Googling "**tradition**", please forgive me, I find:

*"A **tradition** is a belief or behavior passed down within a group or society with symbolic meaning or special significance with origins in the past."*

- **Traditions** have helped in binding a society together serving as a fabric running across the social spectrum. Traditions help individuals in a society to know how to act and behave when interacting with others.

Awards (continued)

In school, I learned of these “traditions” as genetic memory or simply innate or instinctive behaviors. There is none stronger than the ancient waterfowl and Caribou “traditions” of North America or the Serengeti that hosts the largest terrestrial mammal migration in the world. Ancestral people refer to this as “Blood memory”. *“Blood memory is described as our ancestral (genetic) connection to our language, songs, spirituality, and teachings. “ Blood memory has been crucial to the survival of our culture. It is the good feeling that we experience when we are near these things.”*

Doesn't this describe our Annual Meeting and more specifically our Awards Ceremony? Many of us will make a migration of sorts in February to Mankato for the Chapter's Annual Meeting Awards Ceremony Tradition. Perhaps not “blood memory” but I would argue one seminal to the survival and well-being of the Chapter, one that binds all of us together thru time in common understanding and purpose.

This is one time each year we publicly declare those who best represent our conservation values and in so doing we are all united, representing the mission and spirit of our Society. Member recognition increases the Chapters reputation; helps ensure a positive, productive, innovative organizational climate that members are proud of want to contribute to and one that will be more attractive to non-members. The Chapter's greatest asset is its members, their institutional, resource knowledge, talent, and their connections in the various communities within which they live and work. . By making a nomination, you make a small but important contribution to the Chapter. When you nominate candidates for these Awards, you help legitimize and ensure the Chapters character, reputation and legacy.

Take a moment and review the Chapter Awards.

The Minnesota Award has been given to Minnesota's top conservationist annually since 1958. It is the Chapter's highest Award presented to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to Minnesota's wildlife and natural resources.

The Conservation Award, first presented in 1985, goes to an organization or institution that has shown an outstanding commitment to Minnesota's natural resources.

The Law Enforcement Award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated dedication and service to the protection of Minnesota's natural resources.

The Student Conservationist Award, also given since 1992, is presented to wildlife major at a Minnesota college who has shown high scholastic achievement, and who shows promise as a future wildlife professional.

The Bob Fedeler Memorial Award is presented to one undergraduate and one graduate student who have a 3.0 or better GPA, a strong interest in a career in wildlife biology, be active in

Awards (continued)

extracurricular activities, have a strong sense of public service and have demonstrated good communication skills. A complete application is due in the same timeframe as other TWS awards.

The Janet S. Boe Memorial Award recognizes a professional woman or outstanding female graduate or undergraduate student who exemplifies the consummate natural resource scientist. The award was first presented in 2009.

We are fortunate in this state to have many dedicated and active individuals devoted to the care and stewardship of wildlife and their habitats. Take a few moments from your workdays to think about a deserving individual you work with, and submitting a nomination to recognize their contributions.

If your nominee last year was not selected, please re-submit the nomination for consideration.

Nominations must be submitted by January 1 2016.

A nomination form is included with this newsletter and can also be found on the Chapter website <http://drupal.wildlife.org/minnesota/awards>. You may find it helpful to look over the list of previous recipients and their history. Both are also available on the Chapter website

The nomination process is easy: Send me an e-mail (souletp@bektel.com) with the nomination form explaining why the person or organization you are nominating should receive the Award.

Include their name, address, phone number, e-mail address, and the name of their hometown newspaper (if known), so we can publicly recognize the recipients. If needed add more pages of background information and/or supporting information to help the Awards Committee understand why your nominee is deserving of the award. Letters of support from friends and colleagues are encouraged.

OTHER AWARDS

If you know of MN TWS members who received an award during the past year from another organization, please let me know. We will also recognize these individuals during the awards ceremony at the annual meeting.



2015 MNTWS AWARD NOMINATION

Date: _____

Award: (Circle or underline one):

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1) Minnesota | 4) Law Enforcement |
| 2) Conservation | 5) Dr. Janet S. Boe Memorial |
| 3) Student Conservationist | 6) Bob Fedeler Memorial |
-
-

Nominee information:

Name: _____
Address: _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone number: _____ Email address: _____
Affiliation: _____
Hometown newspaper: _____

Nominator information:

Name: _____
Affiliation: _____
Phone: _____ Email address: _____

Please explain why you are nominating this person for a MNTWS award in a short biography and brief write up his/her character, qualities, and accomplishments. Letters of support from friends and colleagues are encouraged. (Attach extra sheets if necessary.)

Submit Nominations to:
Thom Soule, Chair MNTWS Awards Committee
14351 40th St NE Driscoll, ND 58532
(701) 387-4420

MNTWS 2015 Bob Fedeler Memorial Award

The Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society (TWS) has established this Award in honor of Bob Fedeler. Bob was a popular and longtime biology and natural resources instructor at Staples Technical College and in the Natural Resources Department at Central Lakes College in Brainerd, MN. He served as Chapter President in 1997 and Membership Chair in 1998. Bob died of cancer in March 1999 after teaching for nearly two decades.

This Award consists of two full memberships (one undergraduate student, one graduate student) in The Wildlife Society (TWS) including all publications. The Fedeler Awards will help beginning wildlife professionals get started with membership in TWS providing them with high quality peer reviewed research, issues and discussions through the Society's various publications and access to TWS's regional and local networks of professional wildlife managers, researchers, conservation practitioners, policy makers, academics, other students and opportunities to participate or attend Conferences and Meetings

Students applying for the Fedeler Awards should be undergraduates in their junior or senior year or graduate students in a masters or doctorate program at a Minnesota college or university.

Applicants should:

- Have a 3.0 or better GPA.
- Have a strong interest in a career in wildlife biology.
- Be active in extracurricular activities.
- Have a strong sense of public service.
- Demonstrated good communication skills.

How to apply:

1. Send a letter of interest by **January 1, 2016** to the MNTWS Awards Committee indicating interest and explain how you meet the requirements. Include your address, phone number, and email address, and the name of your academic advisor.

Ask your academic or research advisor to send a letter of recommendation to the MNTWS Awards Committee.

Recipients will be notified prior to the Annual Meeting, that will be held February 9-11, 2016 in Mankato MN.

Submit Applications to:
Thom Soule, Chair MNTWS Awards Committee
14351 40th St NE Driscoll, ND 58532
(701) 387-4420
souletp@bektel.com

We Need Everyone's Help

By Ray Norrgard

Each year Thom Soule requests information for our Chapter's award program. In addition to our awards, Thom rightfully does the best job he can to also announce other award presentations to Chapter members and associates during the previous year. But he needs our help. There simply isn't a magic directory that provides that information. Please take the time to think back over the last year and let Thom know about special awards that may be slipping away without any recognition from our Chapter. A quick email or phone call will suffice.

Now, here is the tough one. I am making a special plea to those of you who have received an award to contact Thom. I have heard all the excuses about being embarrassed, humble, undeserving, shy, etc. Listen, this is about more than you, as important as you are. It is about illuminating a path of excellence for young professionals. It is about creating a list of contacts of those who have "been there" and are willing to help others in their journey, and it is a source of pride for everyone in our profession to have wildlife professionals publicly recognized for excellence. Just do it and move on.

Finally, for all the reasons above, consider taking the time to nominate someone specifically for our Chapter Awards. We will all benefit from that investment.

Nominations for MN TWS Board

President-Elect

Tony Hewitt

Education

B.A. in Biology, Concordia College-Moorhead, MN (2010); Masters of Natural Resource Management, North Dakota State University (2012)

Present Position

Wildlife Biologist, USFWS, Sherburne, Rice Lake, Mille Lacs, and Crane Meadows National Wildlife Refuge Complex out of the Sherburne office in Zimmerman, MN. (2012-present)

**Previous Positions**

Cellular Biology Lab Instructor at Concordia College- Moorhead, MN; SCEP Litchfield Wetland Management District, US Fish and Wildlife Service- Litchfield, MN; STEP Rice Lake National Wildlife Refuge, US Fish and Wildlife Service- McGregor, MN; Harvester for Prairie Restorations, Bluestem Farm in Hawley, MN; Bander for the Institute for Bird Populations- Crane Naval Base near Bloomfield, IN; Biological Technician Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge, US Fish and Wildlife Service and the University of MN-Crookston

Personal Statement

Growing up in Grand Rapids, MN, I always enjoyed a large variety of outdoor activities and rarely spent much time inside but it wasn't until the summer after my sophomore year in college when I actually came to the realization that I could spend my career life doing what I really loved to do. That summer was my first internship on a collaborative GWWA project at Tam-

arac NWR with Greg Hoch, Wayne Brininger, and John Loegering. Working with three of Minnesota's top biologists, their passion for the resource made me realize that there actually was job potential in wildlife. After a sense of relief from coming to the conclusion that I would never have to take another pre-med class again, I threw myself at my new goal of becoming the best wildlife biologist I could be. With Greg Hoch as a mentor, I was funneled into the MNTWS chapter that next semester and at the annual meeting found my first job with the USFWS at Rice Lake NWR as a STEP Biological Technician. After graduating with my bachelor's degree, I was accepted into the SCEP as a bio tech at Litchfield WMD. Days after finishing my masters, I began my career appointment at the Sherburne NWR Complex.

Nominations for MN TWS Board

President- Elect

Laurie Fairchild

Education

B.S.in Animal Science, University of Wyoming
M.S. Water Resources Science, University of
Minnesota

Present Position

Fish and Wildlife Biologist, stationed at Rydell
and Glacial Ridge NWR's. Before that, I worked
for USFWS in the Twin Cities and in Alaska. I'm
in my 25th year with FWS.

MNTWS Chapter Activities

Wetland Committee Chair approximately 2
years now

Personal and Professional Interests

Habitat restoration, wetland function and water-
shed connections, prairie management strate-
gies, environmental education

Horses and trail riding; travel (just about any-
where)

Personal Statement

I began working for the Fish and Wildlife Service
in Alaska after the Exxon Valdez oil spill and
spent most of my first few years after the spill
doing seabird population and productivity stud-
ies in the Pribilof Islands. I moved to Minnesota,
and worked in Ecological Services working on
projects spanning everything from windpower
to ethanol plants, wetland mitigation to endan-
gered species. My Dad was a geologist with the
Bureau of Reclamation so I grew up moving
around the U.S. rock and fossil hunting wherev-
er we went. Seeing the outdoors through such
a wide lens has shown me how important it is to
have trusted resources that can provide sound



scientific input on issues affecting the environ-
ment. Organizations that can help people un-
derstand how they live in and are responsible
for a natural system that can be overloaded, and
what we need to do about it. I look forward to
a TWS that continues to develop and support a
cohesive message regarding wildlife and habitat
issues, and which increases our active member-
ship and creates new partnerships.

Nominations for MN TWS Board

Treasurer

Lindsey Shartell

Education

PhD in Forest Science (2012) and MS in Forest Ecology & Management (2007) from Michigan Technological University, BA in Biology and Environmental Science (2005) from Adrian College

Present Position

Forest Habitat Biologist for the Minnesota DNR Section of Wildlife

MNTWS Chapter Activities

Current Treasurer (since 2014) and Webmaster

Personal and Professional Interests

I hope to steer my research to focus on understanding and creating healthy and sustainable forest ecosystems in Minnesota that will support a high diversity of wildlife and plant species. I spend much of my free time in the woods and on the water with my dogs, all the more reason to protect our natural resources for future enjoyment.

Personal Statement

Minnesota TWS brings together a passionate group of natural resource managers, together we can have a strong voice and a significant impact on wildlife and their habitats. I am honored to serve as Treasurer for the MN Chapter and hope I can help to strengthen our organization.



Nominations for MN TWS Board

Treasurer

Kyle Daly

Education

B.A. Biology, 2009, Capital University
M.S. Natural Resources Science and Management – Wildlife Ecology and Management, 2014, University of Minnesota – Twin Cities

Present Position

Fish and Wildlife Biologist, USFWS, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program, Bloomington, MN (2013 – present)

MNTWS Chapter Activities

Member since 2011

Personal and Professional Interests

My past professional focus was on migratory bird conservation and landscape scale habitat management. More specifically, how habitat management affects survival and reproductive success, and assessments of wildlife survey methods. Most of my professional interests are wildlife research related, however, recently these interests have expanded to varying aspects of wildlife conservation, including large scale wildlife habitat restoration and management, conservation focused government regulations, and public perceptions of wildlife. I spend much of my personal time outdoors hunting, fishing, hiking, and doing my best to train a young hunting dog. I also am a volunteer hunter education instructor in Minnesota.

Personal Statement

The Minnesota Chapter of TWS has offered me a professional and personal outlet that was diffi-



cult to find elsewhere. We are a group of deeply caring and highly motivated students and professionals that use our diverse talents to better wildlife conservation throughout the state and beyond. My experiences have revealed the need for strong partnerships, and diversity of knowledge and talents in successful wildlife conservation. I believe we all do our part to make this group successful and I would be proud to serve the Minnesota Chapter as Treasurer this upcoming year.

Nominations for MN TWS Board

Secretary

Matt Stasica

Education

B.A. in Environmental Studies, Saint John's University (2010)
M.S. in Natural Resource Management, North Dakota State University (2012)

Present Position

Minnesota Waterfowl Association Biologist

MNTWS Chapter Activities

Attended 2015 Duluth MNTWS and WITWS;
Past member of the ND TWS chapter.

Personal and Professional Interests

Wetland Ecology and Management, Botany, Prairie Ecology, Waterfowl Hunting, Small and Big Game Hunting, Fly Fishing, Hiking, Music.

Personal Statement

I have been an active member of Wildlife Society Chapters in North Dakota and Minnesota, I see a need for myself to become more actively engaged in The Wildlife Society chapter and this position will help in doing so.



Nominations for MN TWS Board Region 1 Representative

Kyle Arola

Education

B.S. Ecology and Field Biology (Wildlife Emphasis) and GIS minor, St. Cloud State University
M.S. Ecology and Natural Resources, St. Cloud State University

Present Position

Assistant Wildlife Area Manager- Thief Lake WMA (August 2013- present)

MNTWS Chapter Activities

Region 1 Representative (2014-present); Parent TWS Chapter member; MN TWS member since 2009

Personal and Professional Interests

As a relatively new professional I have been exposed to a lot in the past couple years. Working at Thief Lake WMA has allowed me to become immersed in both waterfowl and elk management. In my free time during September-December you can usually find me in the woods hunting something. Outside of those months I enjoy camping, spearing northern pike, woodworking, and contemplating running a half marathon.

Personal Statement

Since becoming a member of the Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society I have had the opportunity to coordinate at both the university and professional level. I believe that working with people from a variety of backgrounds and experiences greatly facilitates achieving a common goal. I have always been intrigued by the natural world and am fortunate to be part of an organization that is concerned with protecting it. I would be honored to continue to represent Region 1.



Nominations for MN TWS Board Region 3 Representative

John Riens

Education

B.S. Natural Resource Management from University of Nebraska-Kearney, 2007. M.S. Biology from the University of Nebraska-Kearney, 2009.

Present Position

I am currently working as a Wildlife Biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program. My position involves the restoration of any degraded native Minnesota habitat type within my region located on private lands. I have had the opportunity to conduct this type of restoration work in Nebraska, Wisconsin, New York, Oregon, and Minnesota.

MNTWS Chapter Activities

I have been a member of The Wildlife Society since my undergraduate college days and have continued my interest in the Society throughout the other states I have worked in. I have enjoyed attending the varying activities brought about by the Society and attending the state meetings where we have the opportunity to network with fellow biologists. Furthermore, I appreciate the fact that these events provide the opportunity for our future biologists to talk to current professionals in their discipline of interest.

Personal and Professional Interests

Spending time with family, waterfowl hunting, ice fishing, and backyard birding.

Personal Statement

Growing up in the farming and ranching communities of western Nebraska I developed an early passion for the outdoors. I grew, and continue to grow my understanding of what it truly



means to be a land steward. A land steward is something that must be labeled on all of us in which we do our part to ensure the actions we are conducting are sustainable for the future, and that wildlife can continue to be a part of the lives of our future generations. I believe The Wildlife Society plays a crucial role in the success of our future by fostering the inspiration and education of future professionals that will take our place to continue the Societies' work in years to come. As a representative of Region 3 I would work to continue the great partnerships already created and represent the region with passion and integrity. I would be honored to serve as the Region 3 Representative.

Nominations for MN TWS Board

Region 3 Representative

Mandy Uhrich

Education

B.S. in Natural Resource Management & Agricultural Management, University of Minnesota

Present Position

Wildlife Damage Extension Specialist - MN DNR

MNTWS Chapter Activities

Membership coordinator 2015-present

Personal and Professional Interests

Be it fins, feathers, antlers or fur, my “off/ vacation” time is consumed with over 30 tournaments for three Bass circuits, hunting multiple states and Canada, ice fishing, and Guest speaking at seminars on fishing and outdoor education.

Personal Statement

Growing up in North Dakota, a passion and respect for the outdoors was inspired at an early age. My father instilled in me that we are ALL stewards; we have a personal responsibility to respect and conserve. Our actions directly influence the landscape and its wildlife inhabitants. That passion led me to an education and career path that involves both agriculture and natural resources intertwined to help mitigate and balance the human to wildlife/habitat interface. I believe this same passion is held by the members of the TWS and I would be honored to serve as your representative.



Regional Reports - News from the Field



Region I— Kyle Arola

News from the Northwest

Youth Waterfowl Day

Youth Waterfowl Day on Thief Lake saw mostly sunny skies but the birds were moving. Youth experienced an average of 3 ducks per hunter and a couple geese were taken. It was a mixed bag with ringers, redheads and mallards being the most common. Migrant geese started arriving September 9 and one group stated 7 separate flocks came right into their decoys. Lake access was good, with the lake just about target level.

Elk Plan Meetings

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is interested in communicating with stakeholders about the elk herds of Minnesota as well as management considerations and recreational opportunities.

Over the past year, DNR worked on an update to the current elk management plan. A draft Strategic Management Plan for Elk for the years 2016-2020 is ready for public review. The planning process included several meetings with local elk work groups

made up of a broad spectrum of stakeholders in northwestern Minnesota, including producers, land owners, community members and elk enthusiasts. Public meetings to share the draft plan are scheduled:

- **New Brighton Community Center**, 6:30-9 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 3, 400 10th St. NW, New Brighton.
- **Lancaster Community Center**, 6:30-9 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 15, 95 2nd St. W., Lancaster.
- **Grygla Community Center**, 6:30-9 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 16, 127 S. Main Ave., Grygla.

These meetings will be an opportunity to learn more about elk, elk management and plans for research while reviewing the draft plan. They will include an open house from 6:30pm-8:30pm with a presentation at 7:00pm. DNR staff will be on hand to answer questions and attendees will be able to complete a survey about the final draft plan.

Copies of the plan will be provided at the meeting. The plan and online questionnaire are at www.mndnr.gov/elk.

Please share this invitation with those who you feel would be interested in learning more about Minnesota elk and the updated Elk Management Plan.

Rydell and Glacial Ridge NWRs- Gregg Knutsen

We will be housing an employee of MN Audubon at Rydell NWR beginning in early December. This individual will have responsibilities that include easement acquisition and habitat restoration in the Tallgrass Aspen Parklands.

A 20th Annual Accessible Deer Hunt was held at in early October at Rydell NWR. Twenty hunters with disabilities harvested nine deer. Less than two weeks later, a Mentored Youth Deer Hunt was held on Rydell NWR. Ten youth participated, but none killed a deer.

Regional Reports (continued)

Norris Camp

Northern Minnesota has thousands of acres of red pine plantations. They are typically managed to maximize economic output, which means that they are monotypic plantations with a single age class. Canopy closure is nearly complete, which prevents the development of natural understories. The ground cover is almost bare, the sites are not representative of natural pine communities, and they provide little benefit for wildlife. The pine stands, while economical, are akin to row-crop agriculture with a longer rotation period between harvests. Red Lake WMA has begun to thin these plantations to encourage natural regeneration in the understory. This allows more sunlight to reach the litter layer and creates an environment that some of Minnesota's shade-intolerant trees, such as jack pine and red pine, require to mature. It also allows more natural herbaceous communities to develop and will ultimately lead to multi-aged forest stands that are more representative of forest communities native to northern Minnesota.

USFWS and MNDNR - Comings and Goings

US Fish and Wildlife Staff in Northwestern Minnesota Rebounding!

Five new employees have been hired in Northwestern Minnesota in the past 6 months. A number of these positions had been held vacant during the past year or two while regional level workforce planning efforts took place. The new employees will allow the Service to increase our effectiveness with regard to numerous species and habitat objectives in Northwestern Minnesota.

Steve Becker was hired as the Maintenance Mechanic at Detroit Lakes WMD. Steve brings a wealth of experience having grown up on a dairy farm, worked in Fergus Falls, Litchfield, Huron and Charles M Russell NWR as a Fire Technician as well as Wildlife Refuge Specialist. Steve is a huge asset to the team at the Detroit Lakes WMD Complex.

Gregg Knutsen moved from Agassiz NWR to Glacial Ridge and Rydell National Wildlife Refuges to be the new Refuge Manager. Gregg comes with high regard

as one of the superior biologists in USFWS's Region 3. He brings a wealth of experience from his work in the Dakotas and Agassiz as a station biologist. We are super excited to bring another of the Service's Biologists to management and leadership positions in northwestern Minnesota!

One of Gregg's first tasks as manager at Glacial/ Rydell was to fill the station / zone Inventory and Monitoring Biologist at Glacial and Rydell. Ben Walker, currently the station Biologist at Big Muddy National Wildlife Refuge, will be relocating to Glacial / Rydell NWRs. Ben will join us in late September for a month, return to Big Muddy for three weeks and permanently relocate to Glacial / Rydell NWR in November. Ben will have work responsibilities not only for the two refuges, but also will have inventory and monitoring coordination responsibilities for other USFWS stations within the Region 3 Prairie Zone.

Seth Grimm was recently hired as the new Minnesota Zone Fire Management Officer and will relocate to this new position at the Detroit Lakes WMD Complex office late in 2015. Seth will be another huge asset to the northwest Minnesota team as he has fire experience from Fergus Falls WMD, Morris WMD and Sherburne NWR in addition to work time with Minnesota Conservation Corp and NRCS. Seth will bring credibility and experience to the zone position as he has worked with fire folks in all MN offices and well beyond.

Last but not least, Alisha Haken was selected as the new Deputy Project Leader at Tamarac NWR. Alisha has worked for numerous offices in Region 3 outside of Minnesota as well as Detroit Lakes WMD and Minnesota Valley WMD in Minnesota. We are excited to have Alisha join our USFWS team in northwestern Minnesota.

All of these folks will continue to elevate the Service presence in northwestern Minnesota and will be assets to the work of MPCS and TWS. Please welcome our new folks!! We are super excited to be able to bring superior employees to work on natural resource issues in northwestern Minnesota!

Regional Reports (continued)

Region 2 – Bruce D. Anderson

Elk Update

The proposal by the University of Minnesota, the Fond du Lac Band and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation to study the feasibility of restoring elk to northeastern Minnesota was recommended for \$300,000 in funding by the Legislative-Citizens Commission on Minnesota Resources. LCCMR recommendations have to be passed by the Legislature in an appropriations bill and signed by the Governor next. If all goes smoothly, money to start work will be available next July.

Our proposal is to study both the habitat suitability and the level of public acceptance for elk in the region of southern St. Louis, Carlton and northern Pine Counties. These are the necessary first steps to take to be sure there is sufficient suitable habitat for elk and local publics support the idea before moving forward with any other steps. The 3 year research project will be led by Dr James Forester and Dr. David Fulton at the University of Minnesota with support and matching funds from the Fond du Lac Band and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

In addition to the Fond du Lac Band and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the application to LCCMR was supported by Pine, Carlton and St. Louis Counties, the Minnesota DNR, Minnesota Conservation Federation, Minnesota Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, Minnesota Deer Hunters Association, the Carlton County Chapter of MDHA, United Northern Sportsmen and the Duluth Chapter of the Izaak Walton League.

Region 3— Tony Hewitt

Sentinel Landscape Program

Camp Ripley's 53,000 acres of state owned land is one of the most culturally and biologically rich environments in the state of Minnesota and for all that matters the Midwest. To protect these natural resources and the mission of Camp Ripley, a program

MN Chapter TWS Regions



known as the Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) program was established in 2004. Camp Ripley has been extremely successful with the program with over 16,000 acres already enrolled. Due to its success, Camp Ripley worked with partners to become part of the Sentinel Landscape Program and is currently working establish a

coordinating committee to designate certain lands in the vicinity of Camp Ripley as part of this sentinel landscape. Within the next couple of months, executives from the MNBWSR, MNDNR, Minnesota Department of Military Affairs, and Minnesota Department of Agriculture will be appointed to the coordinating committee to determine the footprint of the Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape. The Sentinel Landscape Program secures working lands while promoting conservation practices and protecting the military mission. Sentinel Landscapes can be defined as preserving the working and rural character of our private lands, which is important for both national defense and conservation priorities.

Savanna Restoration Project

Sherburne NWR is excited to announce that Great River Greening has begun restoration efforts on approximately 968 acres of pine stands and forested land back into its pre-European settlement conditions! After conducting a thorough evaluation of cultural resources, the harvest of pine plantations and oak forest to restore historic tree composition proceeded. This winter, the harvest of the area will be completed. During this process the stumps of non-desirable tree species that regenerate will be chemical treated, while leaving native plant species to thrive. The next step, post-harvest, will be seed into the area to increase native plant diversity over the next two years. The refuge will also establish fire breaks to allow staff to continue to maintain

Regional Reports (continued)

this area with natural processes, both safely and efficiently.

EagleCam

The DNR Nongame Wildlife program's EagleCam is back for the fourth season, streaming live video from a Bald Eagle nest. The pair of eagles has started to visit the nest after a few months absence. Last year the first egg was laid on the 19th or 20th of January, with all three being laid by the 25th of January. The EagleCam has been popular with people from all 50 states and over 100 countries around the world. In addition to being an entertaining experience for the viewer, biologists and researchers are learning more about urban eagle ecology, and the Nongame Wildlife Program, which is funded largely (approx. 80%) by donations, has been successful in generating much needed donations from Minnesotans and beyond. The cam is live and can be viewed at: mndnr.gov/eaglecam

Monarch Joint Venture Meeting

The Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge recently hosted the [Monarch Joint Venture](#) (MJV) meeting. MN DNR Nongame Wildlife Program staff joined a total of 37 partners from around the country to discuss and plan monarch habitat conservation, research, and education work. The re-launch of monarchnet.org was also highlighted which includes a library with all peer-reviewed articles on monarch biology.

Sand Dunes State Forest Restoration

A cooperative effort among DNR's Divisions of Ecological and Water Resources, Forestry, Parks and Trails, and Fish and Wildlife is underway to restore and maintain portions of Sand Dunes State Forest as prairie, oak savanna, and oak woodland to better protect rare species and habitats. The Nongame Wildlife Program in collaboration with the University of Minnesota has received State Wildlife Grant dollars to better understand and mitigate impacts of land-management restoration practices on six focal Species in Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) that are perceived to span a spectrum of sensitivity to land management (from tolerant to intolerant). To learn more, contact Erica Hoaglund, Regional Nongame

Wildlife Specialist, at Erica.Hoaglund@state.mn.us

Oak Savanna Learning Center: The Oak Savanna Learning Center at Sherburne NWR is in its final stages with much of the exterior and interior work completed. If you have the patience to sit through a short advertisement, you can see a [St. Cloud Times video](#) about the new Oak Savanna Learning Center which features both interior and exterior shots of the building. Michelle Bengson, visitor services manager at the refuge, anticipates the number of student visitors could double or triple once the building opens. (That date has not been set.) In 2015, nearly 1,000 students visited the refuge on field trips. The refuge is working with schools to develop programming beyond once-a-year field trips, and aims to have students in the building every day.

Sandhill Crane Populations

Sherburne NWR counted a record high number of staging sandhill cranes- 11,331! This conservation success story featured on several local news outlets and even some major ones including the [St. Cloud Times](#), [Kare 11](#), and [WCCO](#). Congratulations to the many folks from many agencies that have contributed to rebounding populations of wildlife!

Seed Collecting and Cleaning

About eighteen Sherburne NWR volunteers cleaned 145lb and 8oz seed collected from 52 species of native! While all seed collecting and cleaning volunteers are valued and appreciated, the refuge would especially like to recognize our volunteer team leaders, Robin DeLong, April St. Aoro, Cathy Hegg, and Diane Onerheim. As team leaders, they donated countless hours a week from May through November coordinating and managing the seed collecting program and because of their efforts our refuge program is greatly enhanced. These efforts are only compounded through their use as match on grant projects.

The Partners for Fish and Wildlife program

In fiscal year 2015, the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program restored approximately 4700 acres of upland, 1300 acres of wetland, and over five miles of stream habitat on private land in Minnesota. The Partners for Fish and Wildlife program in Minnesota will be updating its five year Strategic Plan for

Regional Reports (continued)

private land wildlife habitat restoration. A draft update will be distributed to various stakeholders for review and comment in the coming months.

Coming and goings

Jacob Hernandez has joined the staff at the MN Private Lands Office in October as a Private Lands Wildlife Biologist. Jacob is from Wisconsin and recently graduated from Stevens Point with a MS in Land Use Planning and Natural Resource Management.

Seth Grimm, our former Fire Management Officer at Sherburne NWR, had his last day at Sherburne on November 23, 2015. He departed for what he calls a “dream opportunity”, where he will be the Zone Fire Management Officer stationed at Detroit Lakes, MN

Kris Larson will be our new Fire Management Officer and is transferring from Litchfield Wetland Management District. We plan to welcome him to Sherburne in January.

Region 4—No Report

Region 5 – No Report

Region 6– Bill Severud

From Sue Galatowitsch

This month we bid farewell to FWCB Professor Rocky Gutiérrez, the first faculty member to hold the Endowed Chair in Forest Wildlife. For nearly 50 years, Dr. Gutiérrez researched game bird ecology, endangered species conservation, habitat ecology, and sustainable wildlife management strategies. He has published over 140 papers, co-authored several books, and has received numerous honors for his distinguished research and service to wildlife biology. In 2014, he was recognized as a Fellow of The Wildlife Society.

Dr Donald Siniff has been awarded 2015 Distinguished Alumnus by the University of Minnesota Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology Department. A 1967 graduate of the Wildlife Biology program, Dr. Siniff's pioneering re-

search on wildlife movement greatly advanced the knowledge of both the ecology and conservation of a wide range of animals. Much of his research focused on Antarctic marine mammals -- Weddell, leopard, and crab-eating seals. The Weddell Seal project, initiated in 1968, continues to yield important insights into the population dynamics of these long-lived marine mammals. Dr. Siniff's scientific advances have been central to marine mammal conservation as evidenced by the long list of technical panels and committees on which Don has served including Commissioner, Marine Mammal Commission; National Research Council Committee to review the Bering Sea Ecosystem; Consultant for the State of Alaska and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Damage; Member, National Research Council, Committee on Polar Research; Member, California Sea Otter Recovery Team; and Convenor, the Scientific Committee of Antarctic Research Group on seals.

The Plight of the Monarch

Challenging the Conservation Status Quo

You may have heard that the monarch butterfly and other pollinators are in trouble. Monarch butterfly habitat including milkweed and native wildflowers has drastically declined throughout most of the United States. Monarchs take part in one of the most phenomenal migrations on earth and need this habitat to successfully complete the journey. Each fall, monarchs travel from their summer breeding grounds in Canada and the Midwest to Mexico where they spend the winter. In the spring, monarchs migrate back to their summer breeding grounds where they find milkweed and lay their eggs.

Monarch populations observed at the overwintering grounds have exhibited a long-term downward trend over the last 10 years, suggesting a strong relationship between habitat loss and monarch population declines.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is taking a lead role in monarch and pollinator conservation. So much so that U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar and Ser-

Regional Reports (continued)



vice Director Dan Ashe joined forces in August to show their support for monarch butterflies, announcing that the Service will dedicate \$4 million in funding for monarch conservation in the next year.

To do this, we are leveraging resources and engaging partners and the public to build and enhance habitat for monarchs and other pollinators. Our work is in support of the [National Pollinator Health Strategy](#) to conserve pollinators and increase their viable habitat across the country.

"This funding will allow us to work with partners to conserve monarch breeding and migration habitat in priority areas throughout the country," said Ashe. "We will also focus on increasing the availability of seed for native milkweeds and nectar plants, education programs and other large-scale efforts across the range of the monarch."

U.S. Geological Survey led research tells us we need a conservation strategy that includes all land types – from agriculture to rural to urban areas – to stabilize monarch populations. With over 80% of people living in urban areas, we believe urban monarch conservation presents a unique opportunity to connect people with nature. We need all hands on deck to help monarchs.

We are doing just that. This year we have stood by side by side with other elected officials including U.S. Rep. Betty McCollum, Mayor Francis Slay of St. Louis, MO and key partners including the Monarch Joint

Venture, the University of Minnesota, state conservation agencies, other federal agencies and NGOs to support monarch butterflies. Working with others, Service efforts this coming year will focus on first-generation spring breeding areas in Texas and Oklahoma, summer breeding habitat in Minnesota and other Midwest states, and areas west of the Rocky Mountains important for the western monarch population. As much of the monarch flyway is located in the Midwest, our ability to provide on-the-ground habitat for monarchs throughout the Upper Midwest is key to conserving this unique migratory species.

As an example of our efforts in urban areas, we are currently working through The Field Museum of Chicago to develop an urban conservation plan. The plan will identify the best

opportunities for pollinator habitat creation - focusing on major cities along the monarch's migratory path. The initial design will analyze greater Chicago and provide the city with a plan and associated guidance to create a pollinator friendly metropolitan area. Additional cities will complement the Chicago effort to create urban refuges for pollinators along the migration pathway.

By increasing milkweeds and nectar plants, our goal is to restore the monarch population to 225 million butterflies by 2020. The Service looks forward to working with others to achieve this important goal. For more information on monarch conservation, please visit <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/monarch>.



TWS North Central Section Update

North Central Section Representative to TWS Council - David E. Andersen

Report to the North Central Section, October 2015

The Wildlife Society (TWS) Council met in conjunction with the 2015 TWS Annual Conference in Winnipeg, Manitoba in mid-October, and there are several updates of Council activities to pass along to North Central Section, state chapter, and student chapter members. First, TWS' financial position continues to improve, with a net operating surplus from the last fiscal year and a projected surplus for the current fiscal year. Second, the recent decline in membership at the national level appears to have ended, and TWS is working to grow membership by making the value proposition of being a member even more attractive than it is now. If you haven't looked at what TWS has to offer at the national level recently, I encourage you to review the current member benefits and consider renewing your participation in our parent society. Third, with all the uncertainties of hosting the 2015 Annual Conference in Canada, it turned out that the Winnipeg meeting was a resounding success. Attendance exceeded 1,500, with a high proportion of students as part of the total. There were a number of highly relevant workshops, 11 concurrent paper sessions and symposia, engaging plenary presentations, and great opportunities to network with other professionals and students. If you haven't been to a TWS Annual Conference lately, you may want to consider making plans to attend an upcoming conference in Raleigh, North Carolina (2016) or Albuquerque, New Mexico (2017). Also note that it is likely that as future meetings are planned, the preferred period for those meetings will be mid-September, which may result in fewer conflicts for those of us in the North Central Section who prize the fleeting month of October. Preliminary discussions are also in the works for a joint meeting with the American Fisheries Society and an International Wildlife Management Congress in Chile.

Some other positive developments include working to continue the strong leadership of TWS journals; continuing roll-out of a new TWS website ([Wildlife.org](http://wildlife.org)); reformatting and new delivery of wildlife policy news, and revision and streamlining of TWS position statements; and continued growth of the Conservation Affairs Network:

TWS publications:—Paul Krausman has assumed the duties of Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Wildlife Management*, taking over from Evie Merrill, whose term ended in June 2015. Dave Haukos will assume the duties of Editor-in-Chief of the *Wildlife Society Bulletin* at the end of Chris Ribic's term in December of this year. Both Evie and Chris contributed mightily to continuing the high quality of TWS publications and deserve much credit for taking on and performing these critical services to our Society. Other issues facing TWS journals that the Publications subcommittee has identified and is working on include transitioning to open access and developing a policy for archiving published data. In addition, Paul, Dave, and others are working on once again providing guidance about what manuscripts are most appropriate for which journal—a task that requires periodic attention. Finally, *The Wildlife Professional* will be produced six times a year, up from the current four. *The Wildlife Professional* has been a highly valued member benefit—take a look if you haven't seen an issue recently.

TWS website:—TWS rolled out a new website in conjunction with the 21st Annual Conference in Pittsburgh in October 2014. The new website has now been operational for a year, and is undergoing constant updating and revision. If you haven't visited the website recently, I would encourage you to view the new website (<http://wildlife.org>), as I think you will find it informative and engaging.

Section Update (continued)

TWS policy news and position statements:—Over the last several years, a subcommittee of TWS Council worked on revising TWS position statements. The subcommittee recommended revising how position statements are currently structured into (1) standing position statements that broadly address topics core to TWS and that require little revision through time, (2) position statements that address specific, important areas of ongoing interest, and (3) fact sheets that provide summaries of science related to specific topics. A document describing how each of these are developed, approved, and used was presented to Council, and a number of position statements have been combined, revised, or temporarily extended for use in the policy arena, and this subcommittee is expected to have a complete revision to policy statements completed in advance of the March 2016 Council meeting.

TWS Conservation Affairs Network:—The Conservation Affairs Network continues to grow, and the North Central Section has taken several important steps to become more integrated into this national and international network. The idea of the Conservation Affairs Network is to allow more efficient engagement in issues important to TWS membership across all levels of the organization (parent society, Sections, state and student chapters) and the profession. The North Central Section has engaged the Conservation Affairs Network and is working toward implementation at the Section and state Chapter levels, with several chapters and the Section having designated individuals to represent them in this effort. If you are not familiar with the Conservation Affairs Network, please take a few minutes and find out more on the TWS website.

Communication with TWS membership:—As a member of TWS at the national level, you have noticed an increase in communication, including the weekly *eWildlifer* and access to video of presentations made at annual conferences. If you are not a member of the parent society, you are missing out on some great information, and once again I encourage you to consider renewing your membership or becoming a new member of TWS at the national level.

Overall, the discussions and information conveyed at the Council meeting in Winnipeg this October were quite positive. TWS has regained a stable financial footing, is working on continuing to improve the value proposition of membership and increase membership at the parent-society level, and is working to engage sections and chapters to more fully integrate across the entire Society. If you are not a member at the parent-society level or let your membership lapse, I encourage you to take another look at TWS at the national level—I think you will be excited by what you see.



Student Chapter Reports

Central Lakes College Natural Resources Club

The Natural Resources Club at Central Lakes College had a busy start to this fall semester. Staying true to tradition, this year's students will be putting in many hours of volunteer service, attending natural resource-related meetings, and aiding local agencies in their efforts to conserve Minnesota's natural resources. Early this semester, a group of students visited Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory in Duluth for a fun day of birding. This has been an annual trip for NR students, as it allows them to enhance their bird identification abilities and meet other ornithology experts. We once again cleaned our Adopt-a-Highway stretch along two miles of old Hwy. 371 south of Brainerd. The Club cleans this stretch of highway every fall and spring. The Natural Resources Club did provide numerous student volunteers to help the DNR run the Camp Ripley archery hunts. There, students helped process hunters with checking in and out, weigh, register, and age deer. Students were present all four days of the two separate hunts. In addition to the archery hunts at Camp Ripley, CLC natural resources students aided Morrison County Pheasants Forever run a youth pheasant hunt, their local chapter banquet, and a trap shoot. The hunt and trap shoot took place at LeBlanc's Game Farm in Little Falls. At the pheasant hunt, students guided and mentored youth on their pheasant hunt while also helping the staff facilitate a safe and successful event. At the banquet the students operated games and passed out prizes. On the following weekend students once again facilitated a similar event at the Morrison County MDHA (MN Deer Hunters Association) banquet. Students also volunteered to assist MN DNR in waterfowl swab sampling opening weekend of waterfowl season, and the reason is for surveillance of a highly pathogenic avian influenza. The past few weeks students have helped clean and salt deer hides for the MDHA hides for habitat. In the coming months students will attend professional meetings. The joint SAF/AFS (Society of American Foresters, American Fisheries Society) meeting is coming in early February and students are excited to attend. Along with that the annual MN Chapter of The Wildlife Society meeting in Mankato. Crane Meadows Wildlife Refuge is having their annual Candle-light ski event and students are ready to get outdoors and enjoy the snow.

Students seem to be very optimistic for the upcoming BAELN (Brainerd Area Environmental Learning Network) and BLAAS (Brainerd Lakes Area Audubon Society) meetings. The agenda's for these organizations this year are fantastic and students will be utilizing the talks and displays to benefit them in the field of natural resources. The remainder of this semester and next promise to keep the Natural Resources Club busy. There are potential opportunities for more volunteer service moving forward and the students are excited for the rest of the year's activities.

COWCH Update

Celebrating Our Wildlife Conservation Heritage: There's room for all on the COWCH

This past year, I had the distinct pleasure of serving in The Wildlife Society's 2015 Leadership Institute. Members of the institute conduct interviews for the Celebrating Our Wildlife Conservation Heritage (COWCH) program with professionals that have made contributions to the profession and the society. The COWCH program provides us one way to document oral histories of those that came before us. This program dovetails nicely with Bill Berg's call for historical documentation in the last newsletter. In the past, conducting a COWCH interview has been difficult because of poor logistical support, no standardized format, and a general misunderstanding of the program. I am trying to resolve these challenges by working with partners in the region. In the coming year, I'll be working with members within the student chapters, state, section, and collaborators across the parent chapter to innervate this program once again. Check out a few of these videos when you get time (<https://vimeo.com/tag:COWCH>). There are great stories and nuggets of wisdom throughout.

If you are at all interested in helping resurrect the COWCH program, please find me at the state meeting this spring or call/send me an email!

Andrew Tri
COWCH Chair
Andrew.n.tri@gmail.com
218-327-4133 (office)



Voices from the Swamp

Voices from the Swamp 8 - The Battles Within by Ray Norrgard

As I was beginning my career I came across a book in the public library that should have made me a cynic. The Conservation Fraud by Charles Zurhorst (1970) chronicled the battles between major national conservation organizations for members and funding. It wasn't a pretty picture. Later I experienced the ugly side of conservation competition firsthand. I survived those experiences by accepting that conservation is a business as well as a calling. Success begins with survival and survival depends on success. Mid-career, the sharp criticism of "traditional" wildlife management by eager conservation biologists stung those of us who had spent years in the trenches battling what seemed at times to be insurmountable odds.



However, with the fight for passage of the Reinvest in Minnesota Program in 1986 that competition and conflict seemed to mellow as collaboration and partnerships became more common. Certainly the April, 2005 *Ducks, Wetlands and Clean Water Rally* that brought 5,000 plus people to the state capitol lawn demonstrated a coming together of diverse conservation interests that could only have been dreamed of 30 years before. It was that unity that led to the eventual passage of the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Constitutional Amendment, perhaps the greatest single conservation accomplishment in the history of Minnesota. When I first read the report below I set it aside both intellectually and emotionally. However, when I recently reread it, I found it worthwhile to share for both the issues it raises and the hope for future collaboration. I hope you find it of interest. Google Peter Kareiva and/or Michael Soulé if you want additional information.

Conservationists go to war over whether humans are the measure of nature's value

Gayathri Vaidyanathan, Energy & Environment Publishing, LLC

Published: Monday, November 10, 2014

Students in classrooms with windows that open out to nature in all its glory may perform better on tests. This is not fully established science, but Heather Tallis, an ecologist at the Nature Conservancy, is testing the idea in California and other states. She is using satellite data to image the sweeping California landscapes -- mountains to deserts to inner cities -- in the backyards of randomly chosen schools. And she is correlating the presence of nature to standardized test results. Her hypothesis, which may be disproved, is that students do well when they are surrounded by nature.

The study would be of great interest to parents, of course. And it also highlights a key debate raging through the conservation community: Does nature (biodiversity) have value even when it does not contribute to human well-being? If Tallis finds that seeing nature from school rooms does not help students, is nature still worth having around the school for its own sake?

The question is important in the era of global warming, which scientists say has already caused many species to shift their ranges and migration patterns. For instance, it could mean extinction for the pied flycatcher, a

Voices from the Swamp (continued)

tiny black-and-white bird found in Europe. It has declined by 90 percent in the Netherlands because spring is coming earlier each year and the flycatcher chicks are missing the peak season of their basic food: caterpillars. Climate change could eliminate a quarter of all species if global temperatures rise by 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit) above preindustrial levels.

A new breed of scientists do not see value in preserving all such threatened species. Last week, some of these "New Conservationists" presented their philosophy at a Washington, D.C., think tank. They spoke of a future where nature and humans co-prosper, aiding things that would enrage traditional eco-activists: desalination, industrialized agriculture, nuclear power. The fixes would allow humans to prosper in cities using fewer natural resources. Our civilizations would, in effect, be "decoupled" from nature, and the wilds would creep back into abandoned countrysides.

"Decoupling will be the biggest driver that will determine how much nature we leave to nonhumans over the next century," said Ted Nordhaus, chairman of the Breakthrough Institute.

The New Conservation stance has enraged dozens of conservation biologists, who view all nonhuman life as sacred, extinction as a "great moral wrong" and species as best protected by curtailing human growth. Their anger has been voiced in ecology journals, on the sidelines of conferences, in classrooms and even in the Kenyan wilderness. The debate has had widespread implications, with funding organizations hesitant to support conservation projects and students reluctant to enter the field for the wrong reasons.

The fallout led Tallis; Jane Lubchenco, an ecologist at Oregon State University and former administrator at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and 238 other scientists to call for a truce this week in a commentary in the journal *Nature*.

"Unfortunately, what began as a healthy debate has, in our opinion, descended into vitriolic, personal battles in universities, academic conferences, research stations, conservation organizations and even the media," the scientists wrote.

Bumping heads over the bumphead parrotfish

A case study in the middle of this fight involves the bumphead parrotfish.

A squat reef-dweller with a cartoonish bump reminiscent of a permanent head wound, the parrotfish is found off the Palmyra Atoll south of Hawaii and other places. The species is threatened, but scientists have found that, if allowed to increase in numbers unchecked (sharks that feed on the parrotfish have been overfished by humans), it would harm coral reefs, habitats for fish on which people depend for food and livelihoods.

The coral ecosystem is of great value to humans; but is the parrotfish? The biologist Michael Soulé, who established the tenets of conservation biology in 1985, would say it is. In a landmark article that year, he declared a conservation philosophy that biodiversity is good, the extinction of organisms is bad, and nature has intrinsic value beyond what it can afford humans.

Conservationists following in Soulé's footsteps have focused on leaving nature pristine within protected areas such as Yellowstone National Park, where, theoretically far from human interference, biodiversity could flourish. But despite 6.2 million square miles under protection today, species loss has accelerated, particularly in the tropics. Meanwhile, the human footprint has grown, and humans now use half the planet's ice-free land. The rest remains unused simply because it is unusable.

Voices from the Swamp (continued)

Since 2011, Soulé's tenets have been vociferously challenged by New Conservationists led by Peter Kareiva, chief scientist at the Nature Conservancy (Greenwire, April 3, 2012). Kareiva argued that declaring "good" and "bad" values does not help nature and conservation must instead focus on "practical statements on what conservation should do in order to succeed."

"Only by seeking to jointly maximize conservation and economic objectives is conservation likely to succeed," Kareiva wrote. He christened this focus conservation science rather than conservation biology.

It could involve managing ecosystems directly important for human welfare and paying local people to protect them. And it could preserve altered ecosystems where some species are incredibly important, such as coral reefs. Others, such as the bumphead parrotfish, would be left to oblivion.

Kareiva's article provoked a firestorm led by Soulé, who has called New Conservation's inclusion of human welfare and acceptance of some extinctions a "great moral wrong."

The road to 're-wilding'

New Conservationists argue such trade-offs are necessary in this human-dominated epoch. And they support "re-wilding," a concept originally proposed by Soulé where people curtail economic growth and withdraw from landscapes, which then return to nature.

New Conservationists believe the withdrawal could happen together with economic growth. The California-based Breakthrough Institute believes in a future where most people live in cities and rely less on natural resources for economic growth.

They would get food from industrial agriculture, including genetically modified foods, desalination, intensified meat production and aquaculture, all of which have a smaller land footprint. And they would get their energy from renewables and natural gas.

Driving these profound shifts would be greater efficiency of production, where more products could be manufactured from fewer inputs. And some unsustainable commodities would be replaced in the market by other, greener ones -- natural gas for coal, for instance, explained Michael Shellenberger, president of the Breakthrough Institute. Nature would, in essence, be decoupled from the economy.

And then he added a caveat: "We are not suggesting decoupling as the paradigm to save the world, or that it solves all the problems or eliminates all the trade-offs."

Cynics may say all this sounds too utopian, but Breakthrough maintains the world is already on this path toward decoupling. Nowhere is this more evident than in the United States, according to Iddo Wernick, a research scholar at the Rockefeller University, who has examined the nation's use of 100 main commodities.

Wernick and his colleagues pored over data from the U.S. Geological Survey National Minerals Information Center, which keeps a record of commodities used from 1900 through the present day. They found that the use of 36 commodities (sand, iron ore, cotton, etc.) in the U.S. economy had peaked.

Another 53 commodities (nitrogen, timber, beef, etc.) are being used more efficiently per dollar value of

Voices from the Swamp (continued)

gross domestic product than in the pre-1970s era. Their use would peak soon, Wernick said.

Only 11 commodities (industrial diamond, indium, chicken, etc.) are increasing in use (Greenwire, Nov. 6), and most of these are employed by industries in small quantities to improve systems processes. Chicken use is rising because people are eating less beef, a desirable development since poultry cultivation has a smaller environmental footprint.

The numbers show the United States has not intensified resource consumption since the 1970s even while increasing its GDP and population, said Jesse Ausubel of the Rockefeller University.

"It seems like the 20th-century expectation we had, we were always assuming the future entailed greater consumption of resources," Ausubel said. "But what we are seeing in the developed countries is, of course, peaks."

The developing economies of China and India would follow in two to three decades, Ausubel said.

Calls for a truce

Wernick and Ausubel's report challenges the traditional belief that economic growth hinges on unchecked natural resource consumption. It provides hope that human prosperity could coexist with conservation goals.

Traditional conservation biologists would not fully agree with this statement. While human welfare is important, nature too has its intrinsic value and ought to be protected, they argue. For instance, in the case of the coral reef ecosystem, biologists would support cutting greenhouse gas emissions from factories because that leads to climate change, which in turn harms corals.

The back-and-forth has left many other conservationists deeply shaken and some funding organizations apprehensive about supporting conservation initiatives. Tallis of the Nature Conservancy said students have expressed concerns over joining a fractious field.

"I've been literally in the bush in Kenya and heard a few people debating really aggressively about this issue in the middle of the bush," she said.

So, in a commentary, Tallis and 239 conservationists called for scientists from the two opposing camps to make nice and accept that all conservation approaches could coexist in different contexts. Why an individual should care about nature is a very value-laden issue, Tallis said. It is not necessary to choose one set of values over others, she said.

"We call for an end to the fighting," Tallis and her co-authors wrote. "We call for a conservation ethic that is diverse in its acceptance of genders, cultures, ages and values."



Q3 Treasurer's Report

Quarterly Treasurer's Report, Minnesota TWS

Q3 - 25 August 2015 - 29 November 2015

Checking

Date	Description	Details	Credits	Debits	Balance
25-Aug	Beginning Balance				\$16,717.40
26-Aug	Petty Cash	For workshop		\$50.00	\$16,667.40
31-Aug	Workshop Expense	Ch 1253 Marketplace Banquet Center		\$1,039.15	\$15,628.25
31-Aug	Dividend		\$1.41		\$15,629.66
8-Sep	Workshop Registration		\$385.00		\$16,014.66
9-Sep	Petty Cash	Re-deposit petty cash	\$50.00		\$16,064.66
	Workshop Registration	Walk-In	\$40.00		\$16,104.66
10-Sep	Workshop Expense	Ch 1252 Workshop Speaker		\$76.94	\$16,027.72
10-Sep	Copper Roundtable	Ch 1254 Copper Roundtable Speaker		\$525.78	\$15,501.94
14-Sep	Copper Roundtable	Three Rivers contribution	\$26.00		\$15,527.94
30-Sep	Dividend		\$1.28		\$15,529.22
27-Oct	Travel	Ch 1255 Huschle Moose Mtg		\$68.00	\$15,461.22
28-Oct	Membership Dues	Membership through PayPal (less fees)	\$121.69		\$15,582.91
31-Oct	Dividend		\$1.32		\$15,584.23
4-Nov	Membership Dues	Membership through TWS	\$195.00		\$15,779.23
27-Nov	AM2016 Sponsor	TWS FWWG	\$250.00		\$16,029.23
	Closing Balance				\$16,029.23

Savings

25-Aug	Beginning Balance				\$2,001.42
31-Aug	Dividend		\$0.55		
30-Sep	Dividend		\$0.53		
31-Oct	Dividend		\$0.55		
	Closing Balance				\$2,003.05

Investments

60 Month Step-Up CD (Lifetime Membership Funds)

25-Aug					\$4,069.35
31-Aug	Dividend		\$5.40		
30-Sep	Dividend		\$8.51		
31-Oct	Dividend		\$8.82		
	Closing Balance				\$4,092.08

60 Month CD (Midwest Steering Committee Funds)

25-Aug	Beginning Balance				\$21,579.57
31-Aug	Dividend		\$40.82		
30-Sep	Dividend		\$39.57		
31-Oct	Dividend		\$40.97		
	Closing Balance				\$21,700.93

Total Chapter Assets

25-Aug	Beginning Total				\$44,367.74
	Closing Total				\$43,825.29

Report Submitted by Lindsey Shartell, Treasurer, Minnesota TWS

Other Items...

TWS Member Receives National Park Service Award

By Dana Kobilinsky

Posted on November 23, 2015



National Park Service Director Johnathon Jarvis (left) and associate director for Natural Resource Stewardship Raymond Sauvajot (right) present wildlife biologist Steve Windels with a bronze bison sculpture in October for winning the National Park Service's Director's Award for Natural Resource Research.

Image Courtesy: Steve Windels

Steve Windels, a wildlife biologist at Voyageurs National Park in Minnesota and a member of The Wildlife Society, recently received the 2014 National Park Service's Director's Award for Natural Resource Research, an award that recognized his contributions to understanding, protecting and managing natural resources.

"I am proud to consider myself a public servant," Windels said. "And I feel like my professional life is dedicated to trying to make a difference for conservation."

Windels, who has supervised the wildlife management and research program at Voyageurs since 2003, was presented with a certificate and bronze bison sculpture in Washington, D.C. last month.

"It is always nice to be recognized by your peers for your accomplishments, but it is still humbling all the same," he said. "It is really special to receive this award considering that the National Park Service has a lot of really talented, dedicated people all over the country who are doing great things to protect wildlife and natural resources within the system." Windels continued, "The award also reflects the support I get from my

family, my supervisors and the great people I get to work with in my job every day.”

As a wildlife biologist for NPS, Windels’ job is to keep wildlife healthy and handle issues that might threaten wildlife populations. Windels also conducts research on different species including beavers. He and lead author Carol Johnston recently published their study on the declining number of beaver colonies in Minnesota’s National Voyageurs Park in the *The Journal of Wildlife Management*.

The National Park Service, which celebrates its 100-year anniversary next year, employs leaders such as Windels to manage wildlife and resources using the best available science. “I love what I do and the people I get to work with in my job and profession,” Windels said. “I think that makes it easy to want to continue to work hard to address new challenges.”



Dana Kobilinsky is an associate science writer at The Wildlife Society. Contact her at dkobilinsky@wildlife.org with any questions or comments about her article.

Other Items... (continued)

MN Chapter Meets with Governor's Office Regarding Moose

By Caroline E. Murphy

Posted on November 20, 2015



Image Credit: USFWS, licensed by cc 2.0

In the spring of 2015, Governor of Minnesota Mark Dayton made the controversial decision to halt the use of GPS radio collars on moose (*Alces alces*) populations by state agencies and university researchers. Governor Dayton made this decision after questions arose over the potential for radio collars to cause an increased risk of moose mortality. This action directly impacted a three-year study by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, which was exploring causes of a decline in the state's moose population.

The governor's decision concerned many within the wildlife profession, including the Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society (MNTWS), as the action has the potential to impact science-based management of moose populations in the state.

The MNTWS wrote a letter to the Governor's office and representatives from MNTWS recently held a meeting with Governor Dayton's Policy Advisor Molly Pederson to offer the governor assistance on current and future wildlife policy decisions.

Governor Dayton felt strongly about the need to save the moose population and believed the best way to do so was to remove any potential human causes.

"You can study, you can study, you can study and that information is good. But when you're damaging the breed that you're trying to study it's just not right," said Dayton.

Many wildlife biologists are concerned the governor did not adequately evaluate the scientific merits of his decision. Other factors such as disease and predation were being examined as possible causes of population decline, and recent modifications to the way in which radio collars were being placed on moose had yet to be given time to show positive results.

John P. Loegering, CWB® and Gary Huschle, CWB® of MNTWS discussed with Pederson ways in which these issues could be managed that would ensure sound science plays a key role. This included a suggestion to create an independent panel to evaluate the moose project, which the governor's office may consider in the future to review research findings and make suggestions as to the direction of moose research and management.

As a result of the meeting, the governor's office is now aware that MNTWS is available to assist on other projects and reviews of draft policy. This could include assistance in determining research needs for other species in the state.

The hope of MNTWS is that this meeting provides a solid foundation for a relationship to form between the state chapter and the governor's office.

According to Loegering, "The governor's staff seemed receptive to the science-based technical expertise and information that MNTWS could provide. We look forward to our next steps in continuing to build a strong relationship with the governor and his team."

Additional Sources: Minnesota Public Radio Article (April 28, 2015)

Caroline Murphy is a policy intern at The Wildlife Society as part of the Government Affairs & Partnership program.

Other Items... (continued)



The Minnesota DNR – Shallow Lakes Program is planning to hire student interns for the 2016 field season to assist with surveying shallow lakes and assessing waterfowl habitat throughout Minnesota. The complete announcement and application instructions will be posted in early January on the State of Minnesota jobs website (<https://statejobs.doer.state.mn.us/JobPosting>). For more information, contact Kati Miller (kati.miller@state.mn.us).

Where's the Board Meeting Minutes??

Check out the minutes from the latest board meeting on the TWS website at:

<http://drupal.wildlife.org/minnesota/minutes>

2015 Chapter Governing Board

Officers

President: Rich Olsen Richard.olsen@state.mn.us

President-Elect: Stephen Winter Stephen.winter@okstate.edu

Past President: Steve Windels mntws2014@gmail.com

Secretary: Maria Fosado maria_fosado@fws.gov

Treasurer: Lindsey Shartell lmshartell@gmail.com

Regional Representatives

Region 1: Kyle Arola kyle.arola@state.mn.us

Region 2: Bruce Anderson bruce.d.anderson@state.mn.us

Region 3: Tony Hewitt anothony_hewitt@fws.gov

Region 4: Lisa Gelvin-Innvaer lagwild@hotmail.com

Region 5: Gretchen Miller gretchen.miller@state.mn.us

Region 6: Bill Severud seve0135@umn.edu

Committee Chairs

Audit: Gretchen Mehmel gmehmel@wiktel.com

Awards: Thom Soule souletp@bektel.com

COWCH: Andrew Tri andrew.n.tri@gmail.com

Fundraising: Sheldon Myerchin sheldon_myerchin@fws.gov &
Dawn Plattner plattner12@hotmail.com

Forest Issues: Norm Moody snmoody@tds.net

Historian/Archivist: John Moriarty john.moriarty@co.ramsey.mn.us

Membership: Mandy Uhrich mandyuhrich@hotmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Bailey Petersen baileypetersen@gmail.com

Prairie/Farmland Issues: Jillian Fejszes jfejszes@pheasantsforever.org

Statewide Issues: Bill Faber wfaber@clcmn.edu

Student Relations: Lori Schmidt l.schmidt@vcc.edu

Wetland Issues: Laurie Fairchild laurie_fairchild@fws.gov

Representatives

Minnesota Conservation Federation: Bill Faber wfaber@clcmn.edu

NRCS State Technical Committee: Jodie Provost Jodie.provost@yahoo.com

BWSR Drainage Workgroup: Ray Norrgard Ray.norrgard@state.mn.us

Beltrami Island LUP Citizen Input Panel: Margaret Anderson petrel@mncable.net

2015 Student Chapters

School

Bemidji State University

Chapter Advisor: Brian Hiller BHiller@bemidjistate.edu

Chapter President: Lynda LaFond

Minnesota State University—Moorhead

Chapter Advisor: Donna Stockram stockram@mnstate.edu

Chapter President: James Kawlewski

University of Minnesota—Crookston

Chapter Advisor: John Loegering jloegeri@umn.edu

Chapter President: Alisha Moslof

University of Minnesota—Twin Cities

Chapter Advisor: James Forrester jdforest@umn.edu

Chapter President: Beth Rasmussen

Central Lakes College

Chapter Advisor: William Faber wfaber@clcmn.edu

Chapter President: Eli Ploof

Vermillion Community College

Chapter Advisor: Lori Schmidt l.schmidt@vcc.edu

Chapter President: Timothy Gray

The Minnesota Wildlifer is an electronic publication published quarterly by The Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society. Newsletter items to be considered for publication should be sent to the Newsletter Editor by the following dates: March 01, June 01, September 01, and December 01. If you would like to contribute to the next newsletter please send an email to Bailey Petersen, Newsletter Editor at baileyjpetersen@gmail.com and write in the subject line "MN TWS newsletter submission". Previous editions of The Minnesota Wildlifer are available on our website.



Visit our website! <http://drupal.wildlife.org/minnesota/>