



# Wetlands Working Group

The Wildlife Society

**Annual Meeting Minutes - FINAL**  
**Tuesday, 26 September 2017**  
**12-1:30pm**  
**ACC 23/25 (Navaho/Nambe)**

## **Attendees (7 members, 3 non-members)**

Cary Aloia, Drew Fowler, Kenen Goodwin, Adonia Henry (out-going Past Chair), Adam Janke, Katherine Lewis, Kelly Reiss, Jane Rowan, Paul Taillie, Camille Warbington. *Other members providing input via email:* Robert Newman.

1. Welcome and Introductions
  - a. Adonia Henry, out-going past chair, called the meeting to order at 12:10pm.
  - b. Attendees included experience and wetland interest in introductions
2. Membership Update
  - a. Increase of 26% from 108 during 2015 to 132 during 2017.
  - b. Total Membership 132
    - i. Regular 83 (US 81; International 2)
    - ii. New Professional (Recently Graduated) 27
    - iii. Student 18 (US 17; International 1)
    - iv. Retired 4
3. Student Travel Award
  - a. Six applicants
  - b. Ranked by TWS board members, two tied for top place, board voted to award both top applications to Paul Taillie and Drew Fowler.
4. Activities & Accomplishments During Past Year
  - a. Symposium at TWS Annual Conference: *Wetlands, Water, and Wildlife: Finding Common Ground among Diverse Stakeholders*, Wednesday, 27 September 2017 in ACC Room 240; Organized by Adam Janke, Sammy King, & Adonia Henry.
  - b. All Working Group Booth at TWS conference
    - i. WWG and 2 other working groups submitted request to council for an “All Working Group” information table at TWS 2017 conference
    - ii. TWS Council approved the requests

- iii. Table was organized by Kristi Confortin with various working group officers volunteering at the table during conference
  - c. Newsletter
    - i. Volume 7, Issue 1, published during July 2017
    - ii. Volume 7, Issue 2, scheduled for December 2017
  - d. Partnering with SWS Wildlife Group for 2018 Arid Wetlands Symposium
    - i. TWS WWG co-sponsor of symposium
    - ii. Lead organizers Sammy King, Auriel Fournier (both are also members of SWS Wildlife Group), Drew Fowler, and Adonia Henry
    - iii. Goal is to have a diverse range of US and International speakers presenting on a broad range of issues related to arid wetlands.
  - e. Support the WWG: Reusable Chico tote bags for sale!
    - i. See newsletter for photos
    - ii. Bags will be available for sale at the symposium (\$10) on Wednesday
- 5. Treasurer's Report
  - a. Current checking account balance \$1384.82
  - b. Revenue sources for 2016-2017 included
    - i. Sales of chico bags
    - ii. Membership dues
  - c. Current expenses
    - i. \$600 student awards (2 awards of \$300 each)
    - ii. Approximately \$60 printing and photocopies of newsletter for information table, meeting agendas, etc.
- 6. Election of Vice Chair and Secretary/Treasurer
  - a. Candidate bios distributed to attendees on back of meeting agenda
  - b. Voting will be conducted on-line during October
- 7. Opportunities for Upcoming Year – Open Discussion
  - a. Good discussion among meeting attendees, including WWG members and non-members, with suggestions for 2018 activities.
    - i. Increase outreach to TWS state and regional chapters to diversify focus of chapter meetings, increase wetland and associated upland habitat ecology and restoration emphasis within chapter meetings. This will also increase visibility of Wetlands Working Group among TWS chapters.
    - ii. Continue and strengthen partnership with SWS.
      - 1. Invite CO speaker to 2018 Arid Wetlands Symposium.
      - 2. Explore potential for MOA between SWS and TWS.
    - iii. Distribute multi-professional society letter re: Clean Water Act to WWG members. If member agree with letter, draft a letter to TWS to inquire why TWS was not a signatory.
    - iv. Field Trips (Cary Aloia volunteered to help coordinate)

1. Up front non-refundable deposit (\$1,000) was too cost prohibitive for 2017 conference, and members wanted symposium focused on water in wetland restoration & management, so board focused on symposium.
  2. Explore field trip options for 2018 conference in Cleveland, OH
    - a. Outreach to Cleveland Metro Parks or Ottawa NWR friends group to partner with and fund field trip.
  - v. Workshops
    1. Conference workshops could provide revenue for WWG. This has been done by other working groups.
    2. Potential topics for WWG sponsored workshops:
      - a. Hydrological modeling in ArcMap for wetland restoration
      - b. Technical tools available for wetland restoration, enhancement, and/or management planning.
        - i. LiDAR analyses
        - ii. Map it Fast, see <http://www.agterra.com/mapitfast-easy-mobile-cloud-data-collection-for-gis-professionals/>
        - iii. Other GIS resources
      - c. Wetland ecology & restoration
      - d. Rapid assessment methods
      - e. Wetland delineation
      - f. Flood pulsing
  - vi. Partner with American Fisheries Society on wetland/floodplain habitat symposium for 2019 conference.
  - vii. Webinars - WWG member Kelly Reiss has access to Adobe Connect that could be used to host webinars with up to 100 attendees. Webinars also available for viewing after scheduled webinar time.
  - viii. Increase social media presence. Continue to solicit social media liaison.
  - ix. Collaborate with Climate Change Working Group, particularly the challenges of wetland management and ecology on working lands in a changing climate (contact WWG and Climate Change Group member Robert Newman for follow-up).
  - b. Continue newsletters. Adonia volunteered to continue editing and formatting the newsletter for 2018.
8. Next Board Meeting – late October or early November (date TBD)
9. Meeting adjourned at 1:10pm

Minutes prepared by Adonia Henry