



Wetlands Working Group

The Wildlife Society



ANNUAL MEETING AT TWS CONFERENCE, WINNIPEG, MB – MEETING MINUTES

19 October 2015, 1:00 – 2:30

1) Welcome and Introductions

- a. Lisa Webb called the meeting to order
- b. Attendees: Lisa Webb (outgoing chair), Adonia Henry (incoming chair), Jane Austin, Jennifer Kanine, Nick Goodman, Deanna McCullum, Brendan Woodall, Scott Yaich, Bev Gingras, Pascal Badiou, Dale Wrubleski, Drew Fowler, Chris Smith (13 total, 8 members)

2) Membership Update

- a. 108 total members as of 3 September 2015
 - i. 23 student
 - ii. 18 new/early professional
 - iii. 2 retired
 - iv. 65 regular

3) Treasurer's Report (1 January - 19 October 2015)

- a. Received: \$400
- b. Spent: \$333.18
- c. Remaining (Coffer): \$1,622.82

4) Accomplishments from past year

- a. Provided comments for TWS position statement on EPA WOTUS
- b. Co-organized with DU Canada a Special Session for 2015 TWS Meeting
- c. Sponsored student scholarship to attend 2015 TWS meeting
 - i. Student travel award presented to Nick Goodman, Master's of Science student at West Virginia University majoring in wildlife and fisheries resources where he is researching stiff-tailed ducks in Puerto Rico.
- d. WWG Newsletter – July 2015 and on schedule for Dec 2015
 - i. Feature article on Neonicotinods in wetlands
 - ii. Updates on TWS position statement on EPA WOTUS and NAWCA re-authorization
 - iii. Announced WWG logo contest and student travel award contest
 - iv. Call for Officer Elections
 - v. Overview of wetland related activities at TWS annual conference
 - vi. Wetlands in The News
- e. Officer elections closed on 16 October 2015 (20% voter turnout)

5) Ongoing WWG activities

- a. Continue 2x annual newsletter for 2015 (next issue scheduled for Dec 2015)
 - i. Feature article on wetlands (e.g., research, management, policy, etc)

- ii. Updates on current and planned WWG activities
 - iii. Continue Wetlands in the News
- b. Logo contest
 - i. Deadline extended Nov 16th
 - ii. Send to membership for voting, then officers will choose among top 3
- c. Officer Elections
 - i. Vice chair – Jen Chutz
 - ii. Secretary/Treasurer – Auriel Fournier

6) Identify objectives and opportunities for upcoming year

- a. Target 3 newsletter issues for 2016
 - iii. Newsletters with regional themes
 - iv. Special issue focuses on an area of concern (e.g., Canada boreal habitats, Mexico highlands, etc).
 - v. Tentative schedule
 1. April 2016 – Canada and Mexico wetlands (Chris Smith, Dale Wrubleski, Scott Yaich, Eduardo Carerra), Migratory Bird Treaty Act.
 2. August 2016 – North Carolina wetlands (contact Jamie Rader, DU in NC for contacts); TWS annual conference wetland related activities.
 3. December 2016 – TBD.
- b. Membership survey to increase relevancy and identify, needs, niches of interest
- c. Increase Membership and Exposure of WWG
 - i. Increase newsletter from 2x/yr to 3x/yr (see 6a above).
 - ii. Start a facebook page.
 - iii. Winner of Oak Hammock field trip raffle to make an announcement about the Wetlands Working Group at the beginning of the field trip.
 - iv. Mention WWG at future workshop session when we help organize and distribute items with WWG logo.
 - v. Ask TWS about selling items with WWG logo at future annual conferences to increase awareness.
 - vi. Inquire about booth at TWS annual conference to increase awareness.
 - vii. Webinars
- d. Options for gear with new logo
 - i. Tshirts
 - ii. Mugs
 - iii. Coozies
 - iv. Magnets
 - v. USB thumb drive
 - vi. Note: need to be able to sell it at the TWS annual conference
- e. Website
 - i. We are maintaining current website so WWG officers can make changes, rather than waiting for TWS staff
 - ii. Will notify membership when we are forced to transfer to new system and will re-evaluate establishing a independent website.
- d. Other ideas
 - i. TWS position statement on “alterations on stream, riparian, and wetland habitats in the US” expires soon
 1. Need to evaluate if it is still pertinent, needs updating, or should be retired?

2. Is it appropriate for WWG to update?
 3. Officers would draft an update and send to membership for review and input prior to sending to government affairs for approval.
- ii. USACE Nationwide permits open 60 day comment period – Scott Yaich will get us info to include in December newsletter
 - iii.

7) Open Discussion

- a. See #6 above

8) Succession of officers

- a. Lisa Webb – Past Chair
- b. Adonia Henry – Chair
- c. Jen Chutz – Vice Chair
- d. Aurial Fournier – Secretary/Treasurer

9) Raffle for Oak Hammock Marsh Field Trip

- a. Winner – Deanna McCullum, DND (Canada)

10) Next officers meeting

- a. scheduled for 13 November 2015 @ 10:00 am Mountain Time

11) Meeting adjourned

Minutes prepared by: Adonia Henry, 10/29/2015