



WILDLIFE TRACKS

*The Quarterly Newsletter of the
Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society*
Vol. 43, Issue 7: Winter 2015



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President's Column

2016 Annual Meeting

Tony Gurzick



It's hard to believe that another CCTWS Annual Meeting is around the corner. The CCTWS Board is excited to invite you all to the 2016 CCTWS Annual Meeting in Colorado Springs, February 3-5, 2016. We will host the meeting at the DoubleTree Hotel at I-25 and Lake Ave. The board has been busy putting together a great conference for you. We have kept the registration fee the same as the last few years and this year we were able to lower the workshop registration fees!

To register, go to the CCTWS website at: <http://drupal.wildlife.org/colorado/node/3>. From there, follow the links to the "Annual Meeting."

Also, a block of rooms have been set aside at the DoubleTree. There are two options available for you, an option that includes breakfast and a room option without breakfast. To reserve your hotel room, either visit the following websites by clicking on the room option below or call the DoubleTree at 719-576-8900 and make sure to use the following group code:

[Room option with breakfast \(code WSB\)](#)

[Room option without breakfast \(code WLS\)](#)

There are still opportunities to present a paper at the meeting. If you are interested in presenting, please email Evan Phillips (evan.phillips@state.co.us) or see the call for papers flyer in this newsletter.

We are currently seeking nominations for the following awards: Douglas L. Gilbert Award for Outstanding Achievements in Wildlife Sciences; Professional Achievement in Wildlife Management, Wildlife Education, or Wildlife Law Enforcement; Honorary Chapter Membership; Allen E. Anderson Award for Outstanding Wildlife Undergraduate Student; Chapter Service Award; Meritorious Service Award; and the Blown Blunderbuss Award. For a description and history of awards, see our [Awards page](#). Please send nominations for awards to Eric Bergman (eric.bergman@state.co.us) by January 8, 2016.

Finally, we are looking for members to be part of the Executive Board. We are especially looking for someone to run for an at-large position and for President-elect (three year commitment as President-elect, President and Past-president). As a chapter, we are having problems with finding people to run for this important leadership role. If you are interested in running for the Board or for President-elect, please send me your nomination or call/email me your questions!

Finally, CCTWS in cooperation with Robin Olterman, are requesting applications for the 2016 Jim Olterman Scholarship Award, to honor Jim and his contributions to Colorado's wildlife legacy.

The following pages have flyers to hang up at your office or to send to people who may be interested in attending the conference. There is also the call for papers and call for award nominations.

For more information, please email the CCTWS Board at ColoradoTWS@gmail.com.

I hope to see a record number of people in Colorado Springs! Happy holidays and happy New Year from all of us on the Board!

Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society 2016 ANNUAL MEETING

February 3-5, 2016

DoubleTree Hotel - Colorado Springs



REGISTRATION

Workshops: \$50
Conference: \$160 – Members
\$175 – Non-members

To register, go to:
drupal.wildlife.org/colorado/node/20

Student and retiree discounts available



Hotel Reservations

DoubleTree Hotel in Colorado Springs
719-576-8900

Room w/ breakfast: \$95 (promo code WSB)
Room w/o breakfast: \$85 (promo code WLS)

AGENDA

February 3 – Workshops

- Wildlife Field Forensics
- Known-fate Survival Modeling
- Welcome Reception

February 4 – Plenary Session

- Technology in Wildlife Management and Research
 - Paul Lucas – Computer Applications
 - Brian Richardson – FAA and drones
 - Hank Edwards – Pathogen detection
 - Wendy Figueroa – Use of Lidar technology
 - Cooper Gordon – L3
- Contributed papers | Poster session | Awards banquet | Auction | More

February 5 – Final Day

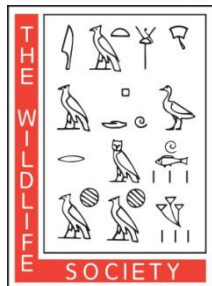
- Contributed papers | Technical session

Question? Email CCTWS at: ColoradoTWS@gmail.com

Call for Contributed Presentations and Posters!

For the

Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society Annual Meeting
February 3rd-5th 2016,
Double Tree Hotel, Colorado Springs, CO



We invite you to present an oral presentation or poster on the topics of wildlife research, ecology, management, conservation, education, or policy at the 2016 annual meeting of the Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Abstract Submission Deadline: January 8th, 2016

Oral presentations:

20 minutes are allotted for each presentation - 15-minute presentation followed by 5 minutes for questions and answers. Oral presentations are limited to Microsoft PowerPoint; no other formats will be accepted.

Poster presentations:

Maximum dimensions are 4 feet by 4 feet in size.

Submit abstracts as a Microsoft Word attachment to:

Evan Phillips at evan.phillips@state.co.us

- Provide all required information in one Word document
- Provide the presentation title, author(s) name, authors' affiliations, and contact author's postal and email addresses
- Abstract text cannot exceed 250 words
- Authors will be notified the status of their submission via email by **January 13th, 2016**
- **ABSTRACTS ARE DUE January 8th, 2016**

Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society Call for Awards



Awards to be presented in 2016 include:

Douglas L. Gilbert Award for Outstanding Achievements in Wildlife Sciences

Professional Achievement in Wildlife Management

Professional Achievement in Wildlife Education

Professional Achievement in Wildlife Law Enforcement

Honorary Chapter Membership

Allen E. Anderson Award for Outstanding Wildlife Undergraduate Student

Chapter Service Award

Meritorious Service Award

Blown Blunderbuss Award

For details, visit our website (<http://drupal.wildlife.org/colorado/awards>)

Nominations due to Eric Bergman (eric.bergman@state.co.us) by January 8th, 2016.



PO Box 27, Ovando, MT 59854

(406) 793-7007

WILDLIFE FIELD FORENSICS ONE-DAY TRAINING PROGRAM

With its first three-day Montana May 2007 seminar, Wildlife Field Forensics (WFF) was founded to provide training in wildlife crime scene investigation techniques for wardens and conservation officers. Since 2007, WFF has conducted an annual May program in Montana, as well as traveled out of region, hosted by various state, federal and tribal agencies including: California Department of Fish and Game, Denali National Park and Preserve, Katmai National Park and Preserve, Mojave National Preserve, US Fish and Wildlife Service National Wildlife Refuge wildlife officer inservice, Inter-Tribal inservice, and through Lethbridge College for Canadian federal and provincial officers.

IN ADDITION TO ITS THREE-DAY SEMINARS, WFF INSTRUCTORS ARE AVAILABLE TO PROVIDE A ONE-DAY PROGRAM SUITABLE FOR INCLUSION WITH AGENCY INSERVICE TRAINING:

Morning session – Carleen Gonder, MIS

0800 – Evidence basics

0830 – Decomposition analysis for time of death estimates

1030 – Forensic entomology training video produced by Gail Anderson, PhD

1100 – Carcasses for hands-on/demo

Afternoon session – Tony Latham

1300 – GPS use for evidentiary purposes

1400 – Firearms evidence lecture

1530 – Firearms evidence practical

1645 – Wrap-up by both instructors



Carleen Gonder, MIS

Founder and executive director of Wildlife Field Forensics

Carleen conducted a wildlife graduate decomposition research project through the University of Montana utilizing numerous wildlife carcasses. The purpose of the project was to develop time of death markers to be used in field investigations by wildlife officers. Her PowerPoint presentation illustrates the various decomposition stages in order to provide time of death estimates, plus seasonal effects on stage durations and an introduction to bone weathering of scavenged carcasses. Included will be descriptions of representative insects for each stage, and a hands-on field component with actual carcasses. Carleen was a law enforcement officer with

US Fish and Wildlife Service/National Wildlife Refuges, Wyoming Game and Fish and National Park Service, and has received numerous awards for investigations. In 2007 she founded the Wildlife Field Forensics training program. Carleen is a registered federal government contractor



Tony Latham

Retired Idaho Fish and Game Regional Investigator; Salmon, ID

Tony's firearms evidence presentation demonstrates how to examine bullet wounds, spent bullets, cartridge cases, and suspected firearms using inexpensive equipment. With field practice, the information presented will enable the officer to understand what the forensic lab will eventually develop—but in an expedited manner while the case is still hot with the focus on tying the evidence to your suspect or quickly eliminating persons of interest. His GPS course is not a “how-to” beginner's course, but rather instructs how to utilize GPS in evidence collection to assist in building a strong court case. Tony retired from Idaho Fish and

*Game in 2009 as a Regional Investigator. His investigative record includes numerous complex high-profile cases focusing on the illegal killing of Idaho's big game animals along with those species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act. In 2009 Tony was awarded the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' Pogue-Elms Officer of the Year award. Tony has written two books, *Trafficking, a Memoir of an Undercover Game Warden* and *Analyzing Ballistic Evidence, On-Scene by the Investigator*.*

Known-Fate Survival Modeling



Known-Fate Survival Modeling workshop, Feb. 3. This 1-day workshop focuses on implementation and interpretation of known-fate survival models for wildlife. It will be presented by Peter J. Mahoney (PhD candidate, Utah State University) and Dr. John F. Benson (University of California, Los Angeles).

As wildlife professionals, we need to understand factors that influence the demographic performance of populations we study. With continual improvements in animal tracking technology, we have increased our capacity to intensively monitor individuals. This in turn allows us to use robust known-fate regression models to identify factors influencing their survival.

The goal of this workshop is to help wildlife professionals develop the necessary skills to conduct rigorous survival analysis and to appropriately interpret the results using data from their own study systems. The presenters will walk attendees through the analytical

steps from data collection and organization to survival modeling and estimation. Researchers who regularly monitor animals with telemetry will find the methods particularly applicable. Attendees will be exposed to non-parametric (Kaplan-Meier), semi-parametric (Cox proportional hazards), and fully parametric known-fate models. We will provide a brief discussion of the underlying theory, application, and relative trade-offs of each type of model. In addition, we will go into detail on the use of semi-parametric models in a competing risks framework.

Attendees will have the opportunity before the workshop to request specific topics of particular interest to cover so the workshop is tailored to attendee's needs. All analyses will be conducted in the free and open source R statistical programming environment (using 'RStudio').

Basic knowledge of R programming is helpful but not required.

Attendees should have a recent version of RStudio installed and will be given a list of R packages to install prior to the workshop.

```
[,1]
[1,] 1.000000e+00
[2,] -2.000000e+00
[3,] -2.220446e-16
> A
      [,1] [,2] [,3]
[1,]    3  2.0  -1
[2,]    2 -2.0   4
[3,]   -1  0.5  -1
> solve(A)
      [,1] [,2]
[1,] 2.220446e-16 -0.500000
[2,] 6.666667e-01  1.333333
[3,] 3.333333e-01  1.166667
      [,3]
[1,] -2.000000
[2,]  4.666667
[3,]  3.333333
> solve(A)
```

$$\begin{aligned} 3x_1 + 2x_2 - 1x_3 &= 1 \\ 2x_1 - 2x_2 + 4x_3 &= -2 \\ -1x_1 + 0.5x_2 - 1x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & -2 & 4 \\ -1 & 0.5 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A * x = b$$

$$A^{-1} * b = x$$

2016 Jim Olterman Scholarship Award – Request for Applications

The Colorado Chapter of the Wildlife Society (CCTWS), in cooperation with Robin Olterman, are requesting applications for the 2016 Jim Olterman Scholarship Award, to honor Jim and his contributions to Colorado's wildlife legacy.

The Jim Olterman Scholarship Award is offered annually to encourage and support an upper-level Colorado college student in the pursuit of a career in wildlife biology and management. The recipient will receive \$500 and a plaque, and will be recognized at the 2016 CCTWS Annual meeting February 3-5, 2016 in Colorado Springs.

Jim Olterman, a Colorado Division of Wildlife Senior Terrestrial Biologist and pilot, died in a plane crash on September 4, 2002, while conducting aerial fish stocking operations in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains in southeastern Colorado. During the crash, Jim's actions saved the life of a CDOW hatchery technician flying with him.

Jim was born and raised in Kingsport, Tennessee where he gained a deep appreciation for the outdoors in general and wildlife in particular while hunting, fishing and exploring the backwoods of his aunt's farm. In 1964, Jim headed west to enroll at Colorado State University where he received his Bachelor's Degree in Wildlife Biology. In 1968, he joined the U.S. Army and later left the service as a decorated Vietnam Veteran. During his early years in the army, Jim learned to fly and flying quickly became one of the great passions of his life. After his time in the service, Jim received a Master's in Wildlife Science from Oregon State University. Jim led a spectacular career of 30 years in the CDOW. Starting out as a District Wildlife Manager in 1972 he successively assumed the positions of Wildlife Biologist in Montrose, Senior Terrestrial Biologist in the Southwest Region, and finally Senior Terrestrial Biologist for the western slope. He was also a fully commissioned peace officer and a Division pilot frequently flying survey, radio tracking, stocking, transport and law enforcement operations for the agency. Jim played an integral role in bringing desert bighorn sheep into Colorado, and moose, lynx and game birds into the southwestern part of the state. He was also an active supporter of the Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society and the parent organization, The Wildlife Society. He served on the CCTWS Executive Board in 1979 and 1980 and encouraged his colleagues and employees to be active members of this and other professional organizations.

Jim's main passions in life were the wildlife resources, fishing, flying and above all, his family: daughters Lara and Sally, son Tandy and his wife Robin. Robin claims that no one "new" rode in Jim's plane without hearing of his family. Shortly after his death, Sally gave birth to a daughter: Abigail James.

Rick Kahn, CDOW Wildlife Management Supervisor, a colleague and close friend of Jim's, once stated so well: "Jim was proud to live in Colorado, proud to be a wildlife biologist in this great state and proud to be part of the wildlife family. He was an inspiration to many who knew him. He was passionate about the resource and the people who appreciate it. Jim Olterman epitomized the professional wildlife biologist; he lost his life while doing the job he truly loved."

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

You must meet the following criteria to be considered for the Jim Olterman Scholarship Award:

You must be a member of either The Wildlife Society or the Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society. (You may submit a membership form with payment to the Colorado Chapter of TWS when submitting your scholarship application if you are not currently a member. Please see attached membership application.)

By December 2015, you must have completed two-thirds of the credits required for graduation with a Bachelors Degree in Wildlife Biology or Management or a related natural resource field.

The application consists of the following materials:

1. A current resumé.
2. A current transcript (unofficial transcripts are acceptable) indicating your current number of credits and grade point average.
3. Two letters of reference. One reference shall be from a professor familiar with your academic capabilities and accomplishments. The second reference shall be from a supervisor whom you worked for in a natural resources-related position (volunteer work is acceptable).
4. A short essay (1-2 pages in length) describing (1) your interests in the biological field, (2) your career goals and how they relate to wildlife management, and (3) how you would use the award to further your professional development.

Please direct questions to Theresa Childers: 970-641-2337 ext 250, Theresa_Childers@nps.gov

Incomplete applications will not be considered. **Applications must be submitted to the Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society electronically no later than January 25th, 2016.**

Please submit applications to:

Theresa Childers

Theresa_Childers@nps.gov (subject line must include Jim Olterman Memorial Scholarship)

COLORADO WILDLIFE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please note! You can now renew your membership online at
www.wildlife.org/colorado

Name:

Address

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Work Phone:

Home Phone:

E-Mail:

Today's Date:

Affiliation:

Interested in Committee Work?

Yes

No

Are You a TWS Certified Biologist?

Yes

No

Areas of Expertise/Interest:

Dues: 1 Year: \$15 2 Years: \$27 3 Years: \$35 Student/Retirees: \$10

MC/Visa:

Expiration Date:

Signature:

Print this Form and Mail to: Nathan Seward, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, 300 W. New York Ave., Gunnison, CO 81230
Or fill it out and email it to: ColoradoTWS@gmail.com

2015 Committee Chairs and Liaisons

<u>Committees</u>	<u>Chairs</u>	<u>Email</u>
Awards:	Eric Bergman	eric.bergman@state.co.us
Certification:	Rob Schorr	rschorr@lamar.colostate.edu
Conserv. Rev.:	Randy Ghormley	rghormley@fs.fed.us
Educ. & Info.:	Joel Humphries	jhumphries@blm.gov
Fundraising and Auction:	Joel Humphries	jhumphries@blm.gov
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Land Use:	Kelli Stone	2birds_1stone@live.com
Membership:	Mindy Rice	mindy.rice@state.co.us
Newsletter:	Greg Davidson	greg@finditdetectiondogs.com
Nominations & Elections:	Ryan Monello	Ryan_Monello@nps.gov
	Tony Gurzick	tony.gurzick@state.co.us
Policy/Res.	Ryan Monello	Ryan_Monello@nps.gov
Scholarships:	Theresa Childers	theresa_childers@nps.gov
Small Grants:	Chris Mettenbrink	Chris.Mettenbrink@state.co.us
Student Chapter Liason:	Stacy Lischka (CSU)	stacy.lischka@state.co.us
	Nathan Seward	nathan.seward@state.co.us
Travel Grant:	Nathan Seward	nathan.seward@state.co.us
Website:	Brett Walker	brett.walker@state.co.us

Winter Meeting/Workshops: TBD

DIRECTORY OF BOARD AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Officers

President:	Tony Gurzick	tony.gurzick@hotmail.com or tony.gurzick@state.co.us
Past President:	Ryan Monello	Ryan_Monello@nps.gov
President-Elect:	OPEN	
Treasurer:	Nathan Seward	nathan.seward@state.co.us
Secretary:	Chase Taylor	chase.taylor@co.usda.gov

Email

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NE Rep.:	Stacy Lischka	stacy.lischka@state.co.us
NW Rep.:	Brett Walker	brett.walker@state.co.us
SE Rep.:	April Estep	april.estep@state.co.us
SW Rep.:	Joel Humphries	jhumphries@blm.gov

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Evan Phillips	evan.phillips@state.co.us
Vacant	

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Bob Lanka	