



# WILDLIFE TRACKS

The Quarterly Newsletter of the  
Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Vol. 43, Issue 3: August-October 2014



## Chapter Officers

### President:

Ryan Monello

### Past President:

Mindy Rice

### President-Elect:

Tony Gurzick

### Treasurer:

Nathan Seward

### Secretary:

Chase Taylor

## President's Column



The latest from the CO Chapter of TWS....

Did you know the Colorado Chapter of TWS comments on issues of concern within the state? For example, over the last three years the chapter has written letters that range from support for the Colorado Highway 9 wildlife improvement project to critical reviews of environmental and economic analyses associated with backcountry grazing plans that could affect bighorn sheep. We want to hear your thoughts on this topic and welcome any input on issues you think deserve our attention. For example, we are considering posting summaries of our comments - but not the actual letters - on the website. We are also discussing whether or not there should be certain requirements for the submission of issues, and if there are issues that we should not consider (e.g., pending legislation). Please contact: [ColoradoTWS@gmail.com](mailto:ColoradoTWS@gmail.com) with any comments or if you want to bring any actions to our attention that could affect wildlife within Colorado.

Although summer just ended, the board is already focused on winter. **In particular, we have started planning our winter 2015 meeting, which will be held from February 4 -6, 2015 in Grand Junction, Colorado. Please save the date!** We are currently identifying and inviting speakers and workshop leaders, and are working hard to bring you a high-quality conference that is also a lot of fun. Please be on the lookout for more details and the agenda by our next newsletter in early December, and remember that you can always check our website for the latest news: [wildlife.org/colorado](http://wildlife.org/colorado).

We are also starting our annual call for new board members to serve in 2015. Most of the board members are coming back next year, but we will have a few key positions that need volunteers, including a new President-Elect and Southwestern Representative. It is a great time to learn, interact, and have fun with a lot of dedicated wildlife professionals within Colorado. Please contact our current President-Elect with any questions at: [tony.gurzick@state.co.us](mailto:tony.gurzick@state.co.us).

Have a great Fall.

Ryan

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**SAVE THE DATE!**

**February 4-6 in Grand Junction, Colorado**  
**2015 Colorado Chapter of TWS Annual Meeting**

**Wed., Feb. 4:** Workshops

**Thur., Feb. 5:** Plenary Sessions

**Fri., Feb. 6:** Submitted Talks

*Look for details on registration, program, and talk  
Submission in October and November!*



# Colorado Chapter Board Meeting Minutes

**CCTWS Board Meeting**

**July 29, 2014**

**Summit County Library/ Frisco, CO**

**In attendance:** Ryan Monello, Tony Gurzick, Nate Seward, Stacy Lischka, Stephanie Ferraro, Brett Walker, Brad Milley, Cary Aloia, Chase Taylor

**Meeting called to order: 12:13 PM**

**Checking Account Balance: \$1,028.70**

**Savings Account Balance: \$43,500.00**

- Approx. \$50 in outstanding checks still to clear
- Loan for the Moose meeting is still out as well
- Concerned with Wells Fargo bank account fees being high and numerous. Considering shopping around for institution with fewer fees.

## **Old Business**

### **Strategy for comments on EIS/EA's:**

- Ryan and Tony – the chapter member that brings forth an EIS or EA to consider should provide accurate details and a cursory summary of the proposed project. The board will need a majority consensus to accept the project and implement comments. During consideration of changes and comments one or more appropriate professionals will be consulted on the issue. Preferably local to the geographic location being reviewed.
- Ryan – going to check with TWS parent chapter to determine if non-government agency emails are available for this process.
- Ryan – avoid commenting on projects where legislative action is a key factor. Also going to ask TWS national what is considered lobbying.
- Brett – determine if the board wants to work on a letter before writing it, also putting finished letters on the CCTWS website.
- Ryan –determine at next meeting if whole EIS/EA goes on the website or a summary only.

## **New Business**

### **Travel Award Grant Decisions:**

- Ryan – can have two National TWS Grants.
- Brad and Stacy – a series of motions added a 2nd national TWS travel grant. With \$1,000 coming from the presidents allotted travel fund and \$600 coming from the general fund.
- We will have \$1,250 for fall travel grants
- Nate – suggested next round of grants we consider having one student and one professional grant.

# Colorado Chapter Board Meeting Minutes

## Continued....

### **Annual Meeting:**

- The Board – will either be in Glenwood Springs or Grand Junction.
- Dates set at Feb 4th -6th. Board members need to be there evening of Feb 3rd.

### **Hotel Contact:**

- Brad – check with hotels to negotiate price on decide on where to host meeting. He will report back with findings.

### **Budget for Annual Meeting:**

- Ryan - we don't need to necessarily focus on only key speakers from Colorado. Some Colorado and some other state professionals would be a good mix.
- Ryan – we should try and start inviting paid speakers by late August to early September.
- Tony – consider looking into cost of going paperless for meeting agendas.

### **Workshop Ideas:**

- Ryan – Keep a hands on and an analytical workshop for the meeting
- Stacy – recreation and wildlife interactions
- Stacy – plenary session idea “Science and Communication”
- Cary – current state water plan actions and effects on recreation and habitat
- Brett – spatial mark recapture
- Tony – wildlife forensics
- Ryan – try and find space for RMBO to host workshop on avian database use
- Cary – How tamarisk control is tied to wildlife

### **Roundtable:**

- Tony – can now get the Journal of Wildlife Management on computer tablets.
- Brett – website merchandising section needs updated.
- Nate – budget details on Allen Anderson Memorial Award budget resolved.
- Tony – Keep the Jim McDonough award in mind.
- Tony – reminder to try and go through TWS biologist certification program and he is going to look into possible college course substitutions.

### **Adjourn:**

- Brett – Move to adjourn.
- Tony – 2nd

# Announcements

## **THE CO CHAPTER NEEDS BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2015!**

Although most of our board is returning next year, we have a few key spots we must fill on the board. This is a great chance to work with a dedicated group of fun individuals while learning about how The Wildlife Society operates. The chapter cannot operate without you!

Please contact [tony.gurzick@state.co.us](mailto:tony.gurzick@state.co.us) if you are interested.  
Thank you!

### **The Wildlife Society Annual Conference**

Pittsburgh, PA • October 25-30, 2014

[wildlifesociety.org](http://wildlifesociety.org)

### **Tamarisk Coalition's Annual Conference**

Albuquerque, NM • February 10-12, 2015

[www.tamariskcoalition.org/about-us/events/2015-conference](http://www.tamariskcoalition.org/about-us/events/2015-conference)

# Award Winner



## Colorado TWS Travel Grant – Sarah Garza

Wildlife Disease Association International  
Conference – Tamaya, New Mexico

I arrived in at the International Wildlife Disease Association Conference in Tamaya, New Mexico via a carpooling group. I considered the 7-hour drive to be much more economical compared to flying in and, lo and behold, I think I learned more as well since I was able to discuss current wildlife disease management projects with my fellow riders. After registering myself the first day of the conference, I attended the WDA/WVS Session on Field Techniques to Improve Animal Welfare, moderated by Sonia Hernandez and Anne Justice-Allen. From using drugs to reduce stress in captured animals to evaluating the effectiveness of anesthetics, these lectures provided insights into animal welfare issues in the wildlife disease study disciplines. But even though this first session was fascinating, the jewel of the conference was to be the next day when I attended concurrent sessions on diseases of wild ungulates and marine species. Learning about these fascinating projects from all over the world was an amazing and magical education experience. Right from the start, I was especially interested in methodologies to aid in future wildlife management. For example, I made a special note of new ideas such as targeting the feces of bats from cave floors instead of wall substrates when screening for the destructive White Nose Syndrome fungus.

I also learned a great deal of what exactly entails a career in wildlife disease ecology. For example, a great deal of protocol goes into each project and the logistics of these are of the utmost importance. When discussing epidemiology with Dr. Melissa Miller of the University of California-Davis, she described public outreach as being a very important aspect of any wildlife disease project. When you project involves the public audience, the efficiency of the project increases dramatically, especially if there is a vested interest in the outcome. Armed with this new knowledge, I am more aware of my intended career, both the scientific and communications aspect of it.

The conference also provided an especially unique networking opportunity for me. I met and discussed future projects with so many scientists it was hard to keep track of everyone but I made it a special mission to meet and greet scientists from Massey University in Palmerston North, New Zealand, an educational institute I am considering for a PhD project. I meet a current PhD student and asked her many questions about the university, the locations, the benefits of the programs, and people to contact should I decided to pursue the project. The way we met could not have been better even if I had been planned...we were both stranded under the same umbrella in the rain at a banquet event on the last night of the conference! I think I made my first New Zealand friend at the Wildlife Disease Association Conference and I hope to continue our contact when I do eventually move out there. I am extremely grateful to The Wildlife Society for providing the travel grant which enabled me to attend and allowed all of this to happen.

# Student Chapter Updates

## Colorado State University Student Chapter of TWS Update

Although students have been away for summer, members have still been active in TWS activities. In coordination with Colorado Parks and Wildlife, the Chapter established raptor monitoring protocols at Boyd Lake State Park. Since April, students have been going out twice a month to observe birds of prey, their use of the habitat and established nests. Students monitored two successful Great Horned Owl nests, a successful Swanson's nest and made countless sightings of other impressive raptors. The program provides critical data for the Park and opportunities for students to develop their birding skills and proper data collection techniques.



## Western State Colorado University Student Chapter of TWS Fall Activities

The semester has just begun and the student chapter is gearing up for a Colorado 14ers Initiative service project on El Diente Peak Sept 6-7. You can also look for our members at the International Wildlife Management Congress Sept 7-12 in Estes Park.



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COLORADO WILDLIFE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please note! You can now renew your membership online at [www.wildlife.org/colorado](http://www.wildlife.org/colorado)

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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



## 2014 Committee Chairs and Liaisons

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chair 2014</b>	<b>Liaison 2013</b>
awards	Eric Bergman	Chris Mettenbrink
Certification (pending, budget for it)	Rob Schorr	Ryan Monello
conservation review	Randy Ghormley	Evan Phillips
education	Cary Aloia	Cary Aloia
fundraising and auction	Cary Aloia	Nate Seward
historian	Dangoule Bockus	Stephanie Ferrero
land use	Kelli Stone	Cary Aloia
membership	Mindy Rice	Ryan Monello
newsletter	Greg Davidson	Ryan Monello
nomination/election	Tony Gurzick	Tony Gurzick
policy/resolutions	Ryan Monello	Ryan Monello
scholarships	Teresa Childers	Chris Mettenbrink
small grants	Chris Mettenbrink	Chris Mettenbrink
student chapter-CSU	Breanna Dodge	Stacy
student chapter- WSCU	Heather Miller	Christina Santana
website	Brett Walker	Ryan Monello
annual meeting (and hotel)	TBD – summer	TBD – summer
workshops	TBD - summer	TBD – summer
travel grant	Stephanie Ferrero	Stephanie Ferrero

## DIRECTORY OF BOARD AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

### Officers

**President:** Ryan Monello [Ryan\\_Monello@nps.gov](mailto:Ryan_Monello@nps.gov)  
**Past President:** Mindy Rice [mindy.rice@state.co.us](mailto:mindy.rice@state.co.us)  
**President-Elect:** Tony Gurzick [tony.gurzick@state.co.us](mailto:tony.gurzick@state.co.us)  
**Treasurer:** Nathan Seward [nathan.seward@state.co.us](mailto:nathan.seward@state.co.us)  
**Secretary:** Chase Taylor [chase.taylor@co.usda.gov](mailto:chase.taylor@co.usda.gov)

### Email

### Executive Board : Regional

**NE Rep.:** Stacy Lischka [stacy.lischka@state.co.us](mailto:stacy.lischka@state.co.us)  
**NW Rep.:** Brett Walker [brett.walker@state.co.us](mailto:brett.walker@state.co.us)  
**SE Rep.:** Mike Smith [mikez.smith@state.co.us](mailto:mikez.smith@state.co.us)  
**SW Rep.:** Cary Aloia [Cary\\_Aloia@msn.com](mailto:Cary_Aloia@msn.com)

### Executive Board : At Large

Chris Mettenbrink [chris.mettenbrink@state.co.us](mailto:chris.mettenbrink@state.co.us)  
Brad Milley [bmilley@usgs.gov](mailto:bmilley@usgs.gov)  
Evan Phillips [evan.phillips@state.co.us](mailto:evan.phillips@state.co.us)  
Stephanie Ferrero [stephanie.ferrero@state.co.us](mailto:stephanie.ferrero@state.co.us)

### Wildlife Society Affiliates:

**CSU Student Chapter President:**  
Breanna Dodge [breanna.dodge@hotmail.com](mailto:breanna.dodge@hotmail.com)  
**WSC Student Chapter President**  
Krystal Brown [krystal.brown@western.edu](mailto:krystal.brown@western.edu)  
**CMPS:** Bill Vodehnal [bill.vodehnal@nebraska.gov](mailto:bill.vodehnal@nebraska.gov)  
**The Wildlife Society:** Gary White [gwhite@cnr.colostate.edu](mailto:gwhite@cnr.colostate.edu)

### Committees

### Chairs

### Email

**Awards:** Eric Bergman [eric.bergman@state.co.us](mailto:eric.bergman@state.co.us)  
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**Fundraising and Auction:** Cary Aloia  
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**Newsletter:** Greg Davidson [greg@finditdetectiondogs.com](mailto:greg@finditdetectiondogs.com)  
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Tony Gurzick [tony.gurzick@state.co.us](mailto:tony.gurzick@state.co.us)  
**Policy/Res.** Ryan Monello [Ryan\\_Monello@nps.gov](mailto:Ryan_Monello@nps.gov)  
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Krystal Brown [krystal.brown@western.edu](mailto:krystal.brown@western.edu)  
**Travel Grant:** Stephanie Ferrero [Stephanie.Ferrero@state.co.us](mailto:Stephanie.Ferrero@state.co.us)  
**Website:** Brett Walker [brett.walker@state.co.us](mailto:brett.walker@state.co.us)  
**Winter Meeting/Workshops**  
TBD in Summer 2014