



WILDLIFE TRACKS

*The bimonthly Newsletter of the
Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society*

Vol. 42, Issue 1: January/February, 2013



Chapter Officers

President:

Mindy Rice

Past President:

President-Elect:

Ryan Monello

Treasurer:

Chris Mettenbrink

Secretary:

Raquel Wertsbaugh

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President's Column

After four years on the Board of which two were as President of the Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society, I figured I would spend my last President's column reflecting on the Chapter at this point. I will try to contain my glee at finally being replaced as President and I'm sure there are some of you out there celebrating with me now that the dictatorship has ended 😊. I have enjoyed my time on the Board mostly because I have been able to interact and get to know the membership so much better. Our membership is so diverse that it's nice to meet people that don't work for the same agency or have the same job. I think conserving our natural resources in this state requires an organization such as CCTWS because the communication among agencies and people is critical.

Looking back on some of my prouder accomplishments as President (and please keep in mind that without the Board, these would not have occurred), I find that I'm most proud of providing more opportunities for funding for both students and members. We have made a huge push for this type of thing my entire tenure on the Board and as of this year we have 3 research/teaching grants (up from 2), 2 travel grants per year (up from 1), and have increased the funding to the student Chapters. In addition, we are offering cash rewards to student posters and presentations at our annual meeting this year which has resulted in an astounding number of student talks and posters. In fact, for the first time in many years, we will have a concurrent session on Friday morning. I fully acknowledge the unbelievable efforts of Stacy Lischka and Raquel Wertsbaugh with both student Chapters in our state. One of the other achievements that I am happy about is the fact that the Chapter is financially stable and following the budget guidelines that were updated 3 years ago. Our Chapter is very healthy and the result has been the ability to bring in fabulous out of town and out of state speakers. In addition, we have been able to offer our members some incredible workshops that would normally cost a trip out of state and higher registration costs. I'm very proud of these accomplishments because I think members are benefiting from our decisions and our attendance at the annual meeting has increased without increasing the costs of the meetings.

I am very happy to be a part of CCTWS and I will continue to be a part of this membership. I encourage all members to think about joining the Board or volunteering to help on committees as I can personally attest to the fact that the Board is in constant need for people to run for elections. It is a rewarding experience and I have gained so much over the last few years. And I'm sure that I will be back on the Board in the future....the far future 😊.

Mindy Rice, President

Colorado Chapter Board Meeting Minutes

Teleconference, November 26, 2012

In attendance: Mindy Rice, Kacie Miller, Raquel Wertsbaugh, Stephanie Steinhoff, Chuck Anderson, Ryan Monello, Chris Mettenbrink, Ruth Lewis, Stacy Lischka

Called to order by Mindy at 9:08 am

Secretary's Report (Raquel): Chuck made motion to accept, Chris seconded

Treasurer's Report (Chris):

- Checking account= \$4,318.63, Savings account= \$41,511.55
 - Income since last Board meeting: \$132 (membership dues + 1 t-shirt sale)
 - Expenses since last Board meeting: \$500 student travel \$ to WCSU Chapter, \$500 travel grant to Kirk Navo, \$1231.67 for President's travel reimbursement to national meeting
 - We are still trying to get 2011 taxes completed due to accountant having "issues"; deadline was Nov. 15, however the accountant will pay for any penalties
- Chuck made motion to accept, Ryan seconded

Old Business:

- Plenary session (Ryan)
 - * Agenda is almost completed, waiting on 2 speakers to confirm
- Technical & poster session (Raquel)
 - * Abstract deadline was set for Dec. 1, only 1 abstract has been received so far from a student (update: 10 abstracts have been submitted and accepted)
 - * Stacy volunteered to help with ranking guidelines for judging student talks and posters
- Workshops (Ryan & Chuck)
 - * Ryan working with Dr. Oz Garton on # participants, workshop will be capped at 30
 - * Large carnivore workshop participant cap will be flexible, likely 40-50 participants
 - Chuck working on finding CPW person to help with workshop
- Registration form
 - * Test form set up on website by Chris and Gary (a big thanks to them!)
 - * ½ price for students on banquet tickets, agreed on by Board
 - * Annual meeting registration price will be same as last year, includes Wed social food
 - * Large carnivore workshop will be \$25, Animal movements workshops will be \$75
- Auction donation updates
 - * Chuck, Mindy, Chris, and Kacie helping with various auction donation requests
- Beer donations
 - * Donations must have zero cost invoice and be dropped off by distributor
 - * Mindy and Nathan working on donations
- Board obligations at annual meeting
 - * Board members encouraged to get there on Tuesday night if possible
 - * Ryan will be running Board meeting on Thursday

Continued >>>

Colorado Chapter Board Meeting Minutes ...Continued

- Elections (Ryan)
 - * Ryan still looking for a pres-elect and at-large rep
 - * Ryan to get biographies from those running for Board

New Business:

- Stacy: received email Del Benson requesting monetary and/or planning support from CCTWS for upcoming conference on wildlife partnerships on private and tribal lands, Sept. 2014 in Estes Park
 - * Pathways conference likely being held in conjunction, usually gets good participation from state and fed members
 - * Mindy suggested that we get more information from Del including draft agenda before Board makes decision
 - * Board discussed possibly combining this with our summer meeting and or summer workshop in 2014
- Duck prints issue: Board agreed we would like to keep getting duck prints if possible
- Mindy set next annual meeting planning teleconference on Jan. 14th at 2 pm
- Need all abstracts for presentations and posters for annual meeting by Jan. 15

Roundtable:

Stephanie: suggested getting student volunteers to help with COWCH interviews, will work with Raquel and Stacy to coordinate

Meeting adjourned at 10:23am, Stephanie motion to adjourn, Chuck second

We desperately need someone to run for the President Elect position!

We do not want to keep running into the problem of having the same President for 2 years as it's violating our Chapter rules. The job is not difficult especially if we have the full President elect, President, and past President trio every year. If you are interested, please contact Ryan Monello or Mindy Rice.



2013 Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society Annual Winter Meeting

Ecological Disturbances: Are they too hot to handle?

Doubletree Hotel, Colorado Springs

February 6-8, 2013

Tentative Agenda

Wednesday, February 6

8:00 Registration opens

9:00- 4:00 **Workshops**

Large Carnivore Conflict Management Workshop

Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Large Carnivore Conflict Program

Brian DeBolt, Large Carnivore Conflict Coordinator

10am – 4pm, lunch provided

Synoptic Modeling of Animal Location Data Combining Animal Movements, Home Range and Resource Selection Workshop

Dr. Edward O. Garton, University of Idaho

9am- 4pm, lunch provided

5:30 **Welcome Social**

Refreshments and food provided

Thursday, February 7

7:00 Registration opens

8:30- 8:00 Posters displayed

Plenary Session: “Ecological Disturbances: Are they too hot to handle?”

8:30 **Welcome address**, 2012 CCTWS President

8:40 **Keynote Address, The Drought of 2012: What is the climate trying to tell us?**

Nolan Doesken, State Climatologist, Colorado State University

9:30 **Long-term demography of a white-tailed ptarmigan population in Colorado**

Greg Wann, Colorado State University

10:00 **Can Colorado contribute towards conservation of wolverine in the face of climate change?: Biological, Social and Political considerations**

Eric Odell, Colorado Parks and Wildlife

10:30 **Break**, refreshments provided

10:45 **Unwieldy uncertainty about fire, climate, and drought: managing and restoring forests and shrub lands for the decades ahead.**

Dr. Merrill Kaufman, USFS-Rocky Mtn. Research Station (retired)

11:15 **Forest fire and restoration: implications for wildlife**

Dr. Dan Binkley, Colorado State University

11:45 **Ungulates and climate change: an examination of the potential impacts**

Dr. Matt Kaufman, University of Wyoming

12:15 **Lunch** - CCTWS annual business meeting, lunch provided

Thursday, February 7, continued...

- 1:30 **Changing Landscapes and Grassland Birds: Effects and Conservation Strategies**
Dr. Dave Haukos, Kansas State University
- 2:00 **Implications of climate change for breeding birds of the shortgrass prairie**
Susan Skagen, USGS
- 2:30 **Grassland bird conservation in the face of climate change: the importance of sustaining multiple, interacting disturbance processes**
Dr. David Augustine, USDA-Agricultural Resource Service
- 3:00 **Break**, refreshments provided
- 3:15 **National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy: What it means to Colorado**
David Olson, USFWS
- 3:45 **Tying it Together/Panel Discussion- Gunnison Basin Climate Change Working Group**
Betsy Neely- The Nature Conservancy
Jim Cochran- Gunnison County
Brett Redden- Landowner
Nathan Seward- Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Bill Zeedyk- Zeedyk Ecological Consulting
Dr. Pat Magee- Western State Colorado University
Andrew Breibart- Bureau of Land Management
Matt Vasquez- United States Forest Service
- 5:00 **Wrap-up**
- 5:30 **Student- Professional Mixer**
- 6:30 **Banquet and Auction**
Dinner served at 6:30pm
Silent auction & live auction
Awards presentation following dinner
-

Friday, February 8

8:00-12:00 Posters displayed

Technical Session- Concurrent Sessions

8:30 Announcements, 2013 CCTWS President

Session 1: (times/order subject to change)

- 8:40 **Avian community response to a recent mountain pine beetle epidemic**
Brittany A. Mosher, Colorado State University
- 9:00 **Predicting the Effects of Climate Change: Phenotypic Plasticity in Developmental Rate Insufficient to Offset High Tadpole Mortality in Rapidly Drying Ponds**
Staci Amburgey, Colorado State University
- 9:20 **Anthropogenic Noise Assessment around Gunnison Sage Grouse**
Daniel Piquette, Western State Colorado University
- 9:40 **Practical guidance for robust resource selection function analysis**
Joe Northrup, Colorado State University
- 10:00 **Break**, refreshments provided
- 10:20 **Factors Influencing Survival and Mark Retention in Postmetamorphic Boreal Chorus Frogs** Jennifer E. Swanson, Colorado State University
- 10:40 **Measuring Glucocorticoids in Feathers Using an Enzyme Immunoassay** Gemara Gifford, Colorado State University
- 11:00 **Investigating the Potential Effects of Greenback Cutthroat Trout on Boreal Toad Recruitment**
Wendy E. Lanier, Colorado State University
- 11:20 **Preble's meadow jumping mouse population change at the U.S. Air Force Academy: loss of riparian habitat may be driving population decline**
Rob Schorr, Colorado Natural Heritage Program
- 11:40 **Acoustic Monitoring of Gunnison Sage-grouse Leks**
Jenny Nehring, Poncha Pass Gunnison Sage-grouse Working Group

Friday, February 8, continued...

Session 2: (times/order subject to change)

- 8:40 **Grazing on Riparian Vegetation throughout South Central and Southwest Colorado**
Rick Schnaderbeck, USFWS- Partners for Fish & Wildlife (retired) and
Corey Kanuckel, USFWS- Partners for Fish & Wildlife
- 9:00 **Understanding the social context of human-wildlife conflict: results from a multi-state investigation**
Alia M. Dietsch, Colorado State University
- 9:20 **Understanding beliefs, attitudes, and risk perceptions regarding free-ranging domestic cats in Colorado**
Ashley Gramza, Colorado State University
- 9:40 **Front Range Cougar Predation Study: A Preliminary Summary**
Kevin Blecha, Colorado State University
- 10:00 **Break**, refreshments provided
- 10:20 **Spatially-Explicit Modeling of Lesser Prairie-Chicken Lek Density in Texas**
Jennifer M. Timmer, Texas Tech University
- 10:40 TBD
- 11:00 TBD
- 11:20 TBD
- 11:40 TBD
- 12:00 **Closing remarks and best student poster and technical presentation awards**
- 12:30 **CCTWS Board meeting**
-

Call for Award Nominations

The following awards will be made at the upcoming Annual Meeting in Colorado Springs. Please take a moment to consider nominating one or more of your fellow professionals for these prestigious awards:

Douglas L. Gilbert Award for Outstanding Achievements in Wildlife Sciences

Professional Achievement Awards for Wildlife Administration, Wildlife Research, and Habitat Management

Honorary Chapter Membership

Allen E. Anderson Award for Outstanding Wildlife Undergraduate Student

Chapter Service Award

Meritorious Service Award

Blown Blunderbuss Award

For more information, please contact Awards Committee Chair Eric Bergman at eric.bergman1@state.co.us,
or visit

http://joomla.wildlife.org/Colorado/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=189&Itemid=302

WORKSHOP INFORMATION

Synoptic modeling of animal location data combining animal movements, home range, and resource selection

Dr. Edward O. Garton, Professor, Department of Fish and Wildlife Science, University of Idaho

The goals of this workshop are to expose participants to a new approach to analysis of animal location data that combines animal movements, home range and resource selection analyses into a synoptic model of space use and to provide them with experience using analytical software to perform the statistical analyses required. Participants will learn the details of the following steps to develop a synoptic model: 1) State research question clearly with details of why location data are required to answer it. 2) Define animal population of interest and sampling approach providing inference to it. 3) Identify potentially important strata (e.g. age-sex-behavior classes, temporal seasons). 4) Select either to delineate a sharp boundary (polygon) or a smooth boundary or density estimator (kernel) or continue to model movement or space use (synoptic model of movement or home range and resource selection). 5) List potential ecological factors/processes/drivers to evaluate for models (e.g., food resources, inter-specific and intra-specific competitors, predators, security or thermal cover, water or salt sources, energetic demands, hazards). 6) Formulate set of competing synoptic models. 7) Assemble potentially predictive covariate maps. 8) Fit multiple competing synoptic models for each stratum. 9) Re-evaluate original strata by evaluating/testing differences and collapsing strata where feasible. 10) Refit models. 11) Write it up, present it, use it for adaptive management and start validating and improving it. Instructors will present numerous examples of synoptic models including space use of white rhino males in Matobo National Park, Zimbabwe, mountain goats in Cascade Mountains, Washington, USA, golden eagles migrating from Idaho, USA to British Columbia, Canada and Alaska, USA, wood thrush in Costa Rica and Ocelot in Texas, USA. Instructors will compare results and estimates obtained from synoptic models to alternative approaches. Each participant bringing a laptop computer will be guided through analysis of synoptic models from software and data provided to workshop participants and instructions on obtaining all required software free from internet web sites (R and R packages, University of Idaho web sites maintained by workshop authors, etc.). For more information: http://www.cnr.uidaho.edu/population_ecology/

Large Carnivore Conflict/Game Damage Management Workshop

Brian DeBolt, Large Carnivore Conflict Coordinator, WY Game and Fish Department, Lander
Mark Caddy, Game Damage Management Coordinator, CO Parks and Wildlife, Montrose

Wildlife conflict management experts from Wyoming Game and Fish Department and Colorado Parks and Wildlife will present their experience addressing large carnivore – human conflicts and game damage management. Brian DeBolt, Wyoming Carnivore Conflict Coordinator, and Mark Caddy, Colorado Game Damage Management Coordinator, will discuss their experiences addressing wildlife-human conflicts. This workshop should prove informative given recent increases in human-wildlife interactions and the potential increasing interactions in the future.

Tentative Agenda

10:00 – 11:00 WGF Conflict Management Program Structure
11:00 – 12:00 WGF Predator Attack Team and Protocols
12:00 – 1:00 Lunch, provided
1:00 – 2:00 Carnivore Trapping Techniques and Tools
2:00 – 3:30 Addressing sociopolitical issues
3:30 – 4:30 Addressing game damage and CPW policy issues

REGISTRATION FORM
2013 CCTWS Annual Winter Conference
Ecological disturbances: are they too hot to handle?
February 6-8, 2013
Doubletree hotel, Colorado Springs, CO

The doubletree hotel is located at 1775 East Cheyenne Mountain Blvd. They will be offering nightly rates of \$83 per night for both singles and doubles. Please mention the Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society (CCTWS) when you call (719)-576-8900 for reservations. You must reserve your room by **January 7th** to receive the discounted rate.

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Affiliation: _____

Email address: _____ Phone #: _____

Registration Fees (POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN JANUARY 21, 2013):

	<u>COST</u>	<u># PEOPLE</u>	<u>TOTAL COST</u>
ALL SESSIONS			
Includes Wednesday welcoming social and Thursday lunch			
MEMBERS	\$125.00	x _____	= \$ _____
NON-MEMBERS *	\$140.00	x _____	= \$ _____
STUDENT & RETIRED MEMBERS	\$ 75.00	x _____	= \$ _____

WORKSHOP (includes Wednesday lunch) (Please Mark Below which workshop)

*if you are NOT registering for the annual meeting and are a non-member, add 1-year membership renewal to the price

LARGE CARNIVORE CONFLICT MANAGEMENT	\$ 25.00	x _____	= \$ _____
SYNOPTIC MODELING OF ANIMAL LOCATION DATA	\$ 75.00	x _____	= \$ _____
STUDENT/RETIREE REGISTRATION EITHER WORKSHOP	\$ 25.00	x _____	= \$ _____

*includes 1-year membership

Wednesday evening welcoming social (FREE)	check if attending	_____
Student/Professional Mixer on Thursday February 7 at 5:30pm (FREE)	check if attending	_____
BANQUET on Thursday February 7 at 6:30pm	\$ 30.00	x _____ = \$ _____
LATE REGISTRATION FEES (Postmarked after January 21, 2013):	\$ 15.00	x _____ = \$ _____
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL: 1 yr/\$15, 2 yr/\$27, 3 yr/\$35		= \$ _____
GRAND TOTAL:		= \$ _____

REGISTRATION IS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE SO THAT YOU CAN GET AN AUTOMATIC RECEIPT UPON PAYMENT (if paid by check or at meeting, we cannot get a receipt to you until the meeting). Please go to http://joomla.wildlife.org/Colorado/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=174&Itemid=276 for the link to register! Otherwise you can mail your registration form and a check to the address below.

Method of Payment:
 Check (payable to Colorado Wildlife Society) Check# _____

Mail form & payment to: CWS, C/O Chris Mettenbrink 5222 Longs Peak St., Brighton, CO 80601 or chris.mettenbrink@state.co.us.

Do you have any disabilities or special needs? If so please explain: _____

Small Grants Program Information:

The Colorado Chapter of the Wildlife Society is pleased to announce its Small Grants Program for 2013. The purpose of the program is to encourage and support those projects that have a direct impact on the management and conservation of wildlife and promote wildlife education. For 2013, the chapter is offering three grants; two projects will be selected that focus on research and management and one project that focuses on wildlife education. The chapter is accepting applications from both members and student members of the chapter. For more details regarding application requirements, please visit our website at http://joomla.wildlife.org/Colorado/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=193&Itemid=308

The deadline for applications is January 31st, 2013. Applications can be emailed to Chris.Mettenbrink@state.co.us or can be submitted by mailed to:

Chris Mettenbrink
5222 Longs Peak St.
Brighton, CO 80601

We encourage the winners of these grants to present their projects at the winter meetings.

Wildland Awareness and Educational Institute (WAEI)

An Introduction from Lyn Stevens

Hi! I'd like to invite you all to find out more about a non-profit I'm currently the Board Chair for, Wildland Awareness and Educational Institute (WAEI). We're working to expand our mailing list and awareness of the organization among natural resource professionals. Our website is www.waei.org and I hope you'll check it out, sign up for our email list and think about supporting WAEI in whatever way you can.

WAEI's goal is to re-connect young people, women and families to the outdoors. The main thrust at present is college-aged youth (the parents of the future!). In 2009, WAEI founded Colorado's first outdoor field skills course for college students. The course is now offered for one elective credit towards graduation at Colorado State University (CSU) four times annually. UNC just held its first course in November of 2012. We are currently talking with Adams State, Trinidad Jr College, and CU (Boulder) to ensure this class offering is available for their students. And there are plans to expand further in Colorado as we can grow the program.

The course encompasses two lecture/discussion series on campus and a weekend off-campus at local guest ranches where the hands-on portion of the course takes place. Over 24 outdoor skills are offered during four, 4-hour instructional blocks. The skills range from kayaking to medicinal and edible plants; wildlife tracking to survival; fishing to shooting sports; horseback riding to fish hatchery operation and more. Instructors are natural resource professionals, conservation professionals, outdoor guides and educators. This enables students the opportunity to learn from those in the field and often leads to internships, seasonal employment and careers.

No experience is necessary, all equipment is provided and each skill is taught at an introductory level. A course fee is charged directly to the student's tuition. Evaluations show this course has unprecedented results from exceeding student expectations, to engaging young adults in the outdoor world, to providing necessary workforce training. Over 97% of student participants to date have continued outdoor pursuits as a result of the course, nearly 20% of program participants are from ethnically diverse backgrounds, and over 72% of the students report they will now support their wildlife agency through license purchases. The course opens a new world to its participants.

Some of you may be interested in volunteering as instructors and passing along your amazing knowledge and your love of the outdoors and our wildlife resources. Thanks for checking WAEI out! Lyn

K-12 educational outreach: remote camera wildlife surveys



Remote camera surveys can be an effective education and outreach tool for wildlife scientists and managers. Each photograph tells a story and a series of photographs from an area can reveal novel and captivating insight into wildlife and the natural world in which they live.

The CCTWS administers a small grants program to encourage research, management, and education projects that promote the wise management and conservation of Colorado's wildlife. In 2012, an education research grant of \$1000 was awarded to help develop a K-12 outreach effort to conduct wildlife camera surveys in local Fort Collins natural areas. This is a collaborative project led by Dr. Kevin Crooks in the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology at Colorado State University (CSU), in partnership with the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Program, The Rocky Mountain Cat Conservancy (RMCC), and The National Parks Service Natural Sounds Lab.

To launch this long-term outreach project, in Fall 2012 the 6th grade science classes at Boltz Middle School in Fort Collins initiated camera surveys at Pineridge Natural Area in the western foothills of the city.

CCTWS funds were used to purchase Cuddeback Attack remote cameras for the effort. With the assistance of Boltz students, 6 cameras deployed in strategic locations throughout Pineridge are now recording hundreds of images and videos of wildlife (and humans) using the reserve. Dr. Crooks, along with CSU graduate and undergraduate students, will continue mentoring the Boltz science class on scientific analyses of the remote camera data, ultimately culminating in research presentations and photo exhibits delivered by the Boltz students.



COLORADO WILDLIFE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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: Chris Mettenbrink, 5222 Longs Peak St., Brighton, CO 80601

Candidates for the 2013 Chapter Board Elections:

To vote, please go to: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FKVX9FC>

TREASURER: 1 candidate



Colleen Cunningham (new): I have worked as an environmental consultant since 2001. I have a B.A. in biology from St. Andrews Presbyterian College (now) University in Laurinburg, NC and master's degrees in environmental science and public affairs from Indiana University. I interned with the USFWS in Cheyenne, WY for a summer prior to finishing grad school and was fortunate to get to work with Wyoming toads at the Sybille captive breeding center. As an environmental consultant, I have had the opportunity to work on wildlife and wetlands issues across the U.S. and in Panama and the Dominican Republic for private and governmental clients, including the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). When I am not working, I enjoy traveling, hiking, reading, horseback riding, and mixed martial arts. I'm fairly new to Colorado, having just moved out here from Florida in the spring of 2011. I enjoy continuing to learn about what the state has to offer and I have found that I much prefer the dry heat over the humidity of the southern U.S.

SECRETARY: 1 candidate

Christina Santana (new): I received a degree in wildlife biology with a minor in fishery biology in 2003 from Colorado State University. Upon graduating, I moved to the western slope of Colorado and worked seasonally in a variety of wildlife and natural resource jobs. In June 2011, I accepted my current position as a Private Lands Wildlife Biologist for Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory/Natural Resource Conservation Service/Colorado Parks and Wildlife located in Gunnison. I enjoy planning and implementing resource conservation as well as collaborating with various entities, agencies, and landowners to improve and maintain resources for various wildlife species, including Gunnison Sage - grouse. When I am not at work, you can find me with my husband and two children, travelling, hiking, skiing, camping, rafting, fishing, running, and enjoying the great outdoors.



REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES: 1 candidate per region



SOUTHEAST REPRESENTATIVE: 1 candidate



Nathan Schmitz (returning): I am a Private Lands Wildlife Biologist for Natural Resource Conservation Service/Colorado Parks and Wildlife/Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory. My work focuses on using Farm Bill Programs in conjunction with state wildlife programs to put quality habitat on the landscape in Southeast Colorado. I was born in Denver but was raised in Iowa. I graduated from Iowa State University in 2007 then moved to North Dakota to work on a refuge doing waterfowl and predator work. I have also worked in South Central Wyoming and North West Colorado working on sage grouse research projects through the University of Wyoming and Colorado Parks and Wildlife. I have been the SE Representative since August 2011 and would enjoy the opportunity to continue to serve in this capacity.

NORTHWEST REPRESENTATIVE: 1 candidate

Brett Walker (new): I am currently an avian researcher with Colorado Parks and Wildlife based out of Grand Junction. My research interests include conservation, management, behavioral ecology, and population monitoring of birds in terrestrial systems, with a recent focus on sagebrush - steppe ecosystems and issues related to energy development. I've worked on research projects across the U.S. as well as in Canada and Cuba since 1990. I completed my M.S. in organismal biology and ecology in 2000 and my Ph.D. in fish and wildlife biology in 2008 at the University of Montana. I was hired by Colorado Parks and Wildlife since 2007 to initiate two major cooperative research projects with landowners and energy companies to map sage - grouse habitats, evaluate the effectiveness of proposed mitigation strategies, and test the reliability of current lek - based monitoring and management strategies for greater sage - grouse in oil and gas fields in NW Colorado. I've been a TWS member for a decade. I look forward to getting more involved and further advancing the interests of CCTWS and its members by serving as the NW regional representative. My personal interests include spending time outdoors with my wife and two kids, fishing, hunting, kayaking, mountain - biking, and wildlife photography.



REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES: 1 candidate per region

SOUTHWEST REPRESENTATIVE: 1 candidate



Cary Aloia (new): I am originally from Michigan but moved to Colorado to complete my graduate research in 1999. I attended Michigan State University for my B.S. and the University of Missouri - Columbia for my M.S. (2002), both in fisheries and wildlife. My graduate research centered on management strategies to control tall whitetop (*Lepidium latifolium*), related to abiotic conditions throughout the Intermountain West.

After receiving my degree, I worked for the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory for almost two years as a Wetland Monitoring and Evaluation Project Biologist in their Science Division. From 2006 - 2011, I was a co-owner of a private wetland consulting business located in the SLV. Primarily, I worked on three Colorado Parks and Wildlife state wildlife areas as a wetland manager and provided technical assistance to area staff concerning wetland issues and projects. During this time I also helped write and administer a block grant to restore and enhance wetlands on the Monte Vista and Alamosa National Wildlife Refuges. Other duties included leading educational field trips for kids, K - college, administering and participating in workshops on federal, state, and private lands, developing ArcGIS databases for monitoring and management efforts, conducting southwestern willow flycatcher surveys, and banding ducks and geese.

Currently I am the sole owner of a wetland consulting business, Wetland Dynamics. Over the last year and a half I have continued to perform many of the duties that I was previously involved with including educational activities, workshops, technical assistance to various agencies and organizations, and baseline reports for conservation easements. I have had the opportunity to work with new organizations such as the Intermountain West Joint Venture to provide landscape level habitat characteristics, conservation value, and partnership assessments for their 20 priority areas included in their new Implementation Plan. As well, I am an active member in the SLV Weed Association and the SLV Wetlands Focus Area Committee. Presently I am working with Greenbrier Wetland Services on U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wildlife Refuges in the SLV and across the country to provide Hydrogeomorphic assessments of refuges and offer future recommendations for management and monitoring strategies.

Owning my own business has given me the chance to work with a wide range of agencies, organizations, and private landowners in a variety of landscapes to address continental, regional, and local conservation, management, and monitoring issues from planning to implementation.

NORTHEAST REPRESENTATIVE: 1 candidate

Stacey Lishka (returning) is the Human Dimensions Specialist at Colorado Parks and Wildlife, where she studies how stakeholders in Colorado are affected by CPW wildlife management. She was an at - large board member for the chapter in 2012. In her position, she has provided information to guide changes to duck hunting zones in eastern Colorado, evaluated several hunting access programs in the state, and worked on understanding citizens' motivations to reduce negative interactions with black bears. During her time in Colorado, she has been impressed by the opportunities to pair biological and social science information to make sound wildlife management decisions. She looks forward to continuing to contribute to those efforts through her position at CPW and involvement with the state chapter of The Wildlife Society.

Before moving to Colorado, Stacy worked as a Human Dimensions Researcher with the Illinois Natural History Survey, where she applied social data to challenges in the management of waterfowl hunting, white - tailed deer populations, wildlife disease and grassland conservation. Stacy was raised in Wisconsin, and spent her youth turkey hunting, fishing and camping with her family around the Midwest and western states. She earned a B.S. in wildlife ecology and zoology at the University of Wisconsin, and an M.S. in the human dimensions of wildlife management at Michigan State University, where she studied acceptance capacity for white-tailed deer and developed a framework for the Michigan DNR to integrate social and biological data to guide harvest quotas. Stacy enjoys turkey hunting, hiking, and backpacking with husband, Andy, and their 7 month old son, Finn.



AT-LARGE: 5 candidates (ONLY VOTE FOR 4)

Chris Mettenbrink (returning): My name is Chris Mettenbrink and I am a District Wildlife Manager for Colorado Parks and Wildlife. I am currently stationed in the Fort Lupton District which comprises of most of southern Weld County on the eastern plains. My primary duties include grassland and wetland habitat management, wildlife management, enforcing Colorado wildlife laws and regulations, and hunter/angler recruitment and retention. I grew up along the S. Platte River in the rainwater basin of south central Nebraska. I am an avid hunter and fisherman and also enjoy camping and boating. I received my B.S. in wildlife biology from the University of Nebraska at Kearney (UNK) and worked on various avian research projects in Nebraska before moving to Colorado in 2000. I have been a member of The Wildlife Society since college and served on the UNK student chapter board. I have been a member of the Colorado Chapter for many years now and I am looking forward to continuing my involvement with The Wildlife Society. I was an at - large board member in 2012 and also filled in as Treasurer for most of the year. I am running for the at - large position again and hope to continue to bring new ideas to the CCTWS. I look forward to continuing to serve the CCTWS and its members in the future.



Brad Milley (new): I am a social scientist with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Policy Analysis and Science Assistance Branch (PASA) in Fort Collins, Colorado. Among other things, I am currently developing a human dimensions training course for the Bureau of Land Management, assisting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with their human dimensions - related planning needs, and I am putting together proposals to do human dimensions research on Gunnison Sage Grouse, elk hunter movement patterns, and playa conservation in the Great Plains. After getting a B.S. in environmental science from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, I moved to Fort Collins and realized I found 'home'. I graduated with an M.S. in human dimensions of natural resource management from Colorado State University in 2008, where I conducted social science research on human - wildlife conflict. My professional interests include human - wildlife interactions, human dimensions training development, the use of geographic information systems (GIS) in human dimensions research, and private land conservation. When not stuck in front of a computer I enjoy spending time with my wife and our chocolate lab, Willow, hiking, hunting, and fishing in Northern Colorado. Having grown up in a non - hunting family and not taking up hunting until my twenties you could safely say that I'm making up for lost time. I am running for an at - large board member position with the CCTWS and, if elected, I look forward to serving the organization and the important work they do for wildlife professionals across the state of Colorado.



Evan Phillips (new): I am a wildlife biologist for Colorado Parks and Wildlife in Montrose, CO. I have been in this position since January of 2012. My current work involves a variety of species in western Colorado including Gunnison sage - grouse, bats, raptors, bears, and mountain lions. Although I have not been in my current position very long, I have spent several years working as a technician for Colorado Parks and Wildlife on various greater sage - grouse and mountain lion projects. I received a M. S. degree in wildlife and fisheries sciences at South Dakota State University in 2011 where I worked on elk population estimation in the Black Hills of South Dakota. I received a B. S. degree in wildlife biology from Colorado State University in 2006. I have been a member of TWS since graduating college, and more recently a member of the Colorado Chapter. I would enjoy increasing my involvement by working as an at-large representative.



AT-LARGE: 5 candidates (ONLY VOTE FOR 4)

Mike Smith (new): Not being a “native” of Colorado, my first experiences in the Rockies were with my family on our annual fall pilgrimages to the Glenwood Springs area. Thereafter, I began counting down the days until my high school graduation when I could make the move to Colorado. Not knowing a soul and two weeks after graduation, I settled in on a ranch near Kremmling for a couple of years before eventually attending Colorado State University where I graduated with a B.S. in wildlife biology. While finishing up my time at CSU, I worked as a research assistant at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Today I am a conservation biologist with Colorado Parks and Wildlife based in the southeast region of the state. Primarily I work non - game, species of concern, and T & E species projects. I am married, live in Lamar, and like to mountain bike, hike, and travel as often as time permits. I realize it is a sentiment often expressed in our field, but I absolutely love what I do and who I work with. I can't imagine doing anything else.



Stephanie Steinhoff (returning): Serving on the Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society (CCTWS) board has been a fun and exciting time. We have been working hard to enhance the opportunities for professional development available to our members. We want our members to be able to attend workshops and conferences that will further develop their knowledge and skill sets. Through the travel grant, we are helping wildlifers expand their capabilities. Not only are we promoting learning the latest wildlife research and management, we also are building on the foundation laid by retired TWS professionals. We have been interviewing instrumental wildlifers who have been there and done that to learn from their perspectives. During this past year, it's been very rewarding to build friendships with other board members. The board is an energetic, hard-working group. Everyone has spent lots of time preparing for our upcoming winter meeting, yet it's more like leisure time because we enjoy it. It would be a blast to continue contributing to the team effort of the CCTWS board as we promote wise conservation and management of all wildlife resources in Colorado. Hope we all get to go out and enjoy those resources like my buddy and me who harvested our share of ducks in the fall.



Calling all painters, sculptors, woodworkers, and crafters!

For those creative souls in our membership, we are looking for auction items for this year's annual meeting. We love having handmade stuff at the auction because we have so many talented people in our membership. So we're giving you a long heads up to start thinking about maybe putting together a project to donate to the auction in February. Some of our best sellers at auction are those made with members hands so please think about donating. If you have an idea or would like to donate, contact our auction chairperson Nate Schmitz at nathan.schmitz@co.usda.gov.

DIRECTORY OF BOARD AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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President: Mindy Rice

Past President:

President-Elect: Ryan Monello

Treasurer: Chris Mettenbrink

Secretary: Raquel Wertsbaugh

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NW Rep.: Chuck Anderson

SE Rep.: Nathan Schmitz

SW Rep.: Ruth Lewis

Executive Board - At Large

Tabbi Kinion

Chris Mettenbrink

Stacy Lischka

Stephanie Steinhoff

Wildlife Society Affiliates:

CSU Student Representative:

Ashley Wurth

WSC Student Chapter President

Trevor Franke

CMPS: Michelle Cowardin

The Wildlife Society: Gary White

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Committees

Audit:

Awards: Bob Davies/Eric Bergman

Certification: Rob Schorr

Conserv. Rev.:

Educ. & Info.: Ruth Lewis

Finance/Auction: Mindy Rice

Historian: Danguole Bockus

Land Use: Trent Verquer

Leg. Review: Dave Chadwick

Membership: Jon Kindler

National Mtg. Bid: Rick Hoffman

Newsletter: Jon Kindler

Nominations & Elections:

Policy/Res.

Raffle: Jerry Powell

Scholarships: Chad Bishop

Small Grants: Jerry Powell

Student Chapter: Mindy Rice &

Trent Verquer (CSU)

Raquel Wertsbaugh (Western)

Summer Meeting: Dan Walsh/

Amy Seglund

Travel Grant: Rob Schorr

Website: Noe Marymor

Winter Meeting: Rob Magill/

Chuck Anderson

Workshops: Heather Johnson

Chairs

Marty Stratman

Bob Davies/Eric Bergman

Rob Schorr

Ruth Lewis

Mindy Rice

Danguole Bockus

Trent Verquer

Dave Chadwick

Jon Kindler

Rick Hoffman

Jon Kindler

Mindy Rice

Jerry Powell

Chad Bishop

Jerry Powell

Mindy Rice &

Trent Verquer (CSU)

Raquel Wertsbaugh (Western)

Dan Walsh/

Amy Seglund

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