



WILDLIFE TRACKS

*The Quarterly Newsletter of the
Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society*
Vol. 43, Issue 9: Fall 2016



Chapter Officers

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Tony Gurzick

Past President:

Ryan Monello

President Elect:

Pat Magee

Treasurer:

Nathan Seward

Secretary:

Chase Taylor

President's Column

"Autumn...the year's last, loveliest smile."

William Cullen Bryant



Autumn has always been and remains my favorite season of the year. Autumn is truly a symphony for the senses. The landscape trades in some of its green in order to lie resplendent in golds, oranges and reds.

Elk call to each other and call within us a feeling of wildness. The feel of a crisp fall morning and a warm afternoon sun heralds the coming winter while paying tribute to the recent summer days. The smells of falling leaves, roasting chilies and fresh apples call to mind the very soil we are so dependent upon. The taste of hot coffee around elk camp calls to mind great friends and great memories.

Fall is also a time for looking back and being thankful. With Thanksgiving around the corner, I wanted to take a moment and let you know that I am truly thankful for The Wildlife Society and for each one of you for choosing to be a member. There are so many needs, causes and priorities tugging at us daily; yet, you have chosen to make The Wildlife Society a priority. You have chosen to grow professionally and help others do the same. You have chosen to represent wildlife in an ethical and professional manner. And through that choice, you help the wildlife profession become more than the sum of its parts. Thank you!

I also wanted to thank the current Board of Directors. These individuals have stepped forward to help the Colorado Chapter provide members with benefits and meetings. They are a dedicated group of wildlife professionals and they each make the Colorado Chapter an amazing organization. My personal thanks goes out to each member of our board.

SAVE THE DATE

Speaking of meetings, I am excited to announce the dates and location for the 2017 annual meeting. Our meeting will be held at the Hilton in Fort Collins, CO on February 15-17. We have an exciting agenda planned out. On February 15, we will hold a necropsy workshop as well as a symposium on wolf management and conservation. The symposium is being cosponsored by the Turner Endangered Species Fund (TESF). Through TESF's donations and contacts, we will have a full day of nationally recognized wolf biologists speaking on array of subject related to wolf ecology. Please check our website in the next couple of weeks for the agenda.

Thursday morning's plenary session will focus on carnivore management. Once again, we will have some great speakers including our key note speaker, Michael Soule. Thursday afternoon and Friday morning will feature contributed papers and posters. If you are interested in presenting, please submit your abstract. See this newsletter for additional information.

GRANTS

Finally, CCTWS is accepting proposals for small grants and travel grants. These grants are designed to help members conduct research and attend professional meetings. Please see this newsletter for details and deadlines.

From all of us on the CCTWS Board, we would like to wish you all a very happy Thanksgiving.

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Board Meeting

CCTWS Meeting Notes

Annual CCTWS Board Meeting September 13, 2016, 9:00-10:00

Members Present: Chase Taylor, Tony Gurzick, Evan Phillips, Aran Johnson, Brett Walker , Pat McGee, Joel Humphries

Welcome and Intros-

- Evan has decided to step away from his position on the board. Bringing Marcella Fremgen in as a Board Member at Large.
- Joel has taken a new position in Denver. Pat moves to accept Joel Humphries resignation as the southwest representative and move Aran Johnson into that position, and move Joel Humphries into the Board member at Large Position, based in Denver. Brett Walker 2nd's the motion. Motion carries.

Newsletter-

- Newsletter will announce small grants in October. Aran is coordinating with Ryan on these items.

Annual Meeting-

- Still waiting on a few confirmations for the wolf symposium speakers.
- Tony is working with Wildlife Services for continued speakers.
- 450-650 people capacity at the motel.
- If anyone has any suggestions on specific necropsy topics, get with Chris.
- Turner Endangered Species Fund is providing funding for speaker's during the wolf symposium, rooms, and travel necessities, and a break with snacks.

Keynote Speaker-

- Charge \$10 for students and retirees and \$20 for members for the wolf symposium.

RoundTable-

- Aran is excited for meetings.
- Brett will be stepping down as the NW Representative after this year. Contacting other potential board member nominees.
- Joel Humphries may need a mailing address to ship donations to while in transition.

Board Meeting

CCTWS Meeting Notes

Annual CCTWS Board Meeting October 12, 2016, 2:00-3:40

Members Present: Chase Taylor, Tony Gurzick, Aran Johnson, Ryan Monello, Stacy Lischka, Nate Seward, Marcella Fremgen, Brett Walker, Chris Mettenbrink

Welcome and Intros-

- Roundtable introductions for Marcella.
- Tony and Joel had a conversation with Defenders of Wildlife about involvement in supporting habitat connectivity issues with the state of New Mexico.
- Board members discussed whether to get involved and the benefits to Colorado wildlife. Tony and Joel will follow up on details.
- Land & Water Conservation Fund asked for another signature. The board signed it last year. Same information as last year, just needing to re-up signature.

Account Balance-

- Nate will send Aran account balances for newsletter.
- **Newsletter-**
- Newsletter will announce small grants in October. Aran is coordinating with Ryan on these items.
- Basic save-the-date announcement will go out in the newsletter.
- Call for papers will be announced as well.

Annual Meeting-

- Update on winter meeting necropsy workshop. Instructor is not going to charge for the workshop.
- Board discusses using a local business in Fort Collins for lunches during the workshop. **\$50** Student and **\$75** Professional attendance price.
- Wolf Symposium being underwritten by the Turner Endangered Species Fund. Board discusses and decides to charge \$25 per person for the symposium.
- Stacey updated that we are not able to use Odell's facility for the social.
- Board discusses that the social is still only for registered members of the meeting.
- Hilton Hotel only allows 2 donated kegs per meeting.
- Tony will send out catering menu to board members.
- Approximately 650 people capacity at the motel.
- Stacey will look for a meeting space for the social. Capacity of approximately 200.

RoundTable-

- Stacey clarified we will look for both offsite and onsite locations for the meeting social.
- Brett is ready to update the website with newer information. Stephanie Derno will be interested in joining the board as the northwest representative.
- Tony will follow up on a variety of items listed above.

Bank Account Balances-

- Checking: \$16,212.24
Savings: \$20,003.18
Total = **\$36,215.42**

Travel Grants

CCTWS Travel Grant Announcement

The Colorado Chapter of the Wildlife Society is now accepting applications for its winter/spring Travel Grants Program. The purpose of the CCTWS Travel Grants Program is to assist with travel costs for CCTWS members attending meetings or workshops that further their professional knowledge and benefit management and conservation of wildlife in Colorado. CCTWS will award two travel grants in the amount of \$500 each. The Awards Coordinator and CCTWS Board will select and announce the winners by the end of November. The applications guidelines are as follows:

Identify the training opportunity, meeting, or conference that would be helpful for your occupation or education as a wildlife professional or student CCTWS member.

Type up a ½ to 1-page description of the meeting, telling the CCTWS Board the goals of the conference or training and describing how you would like to use this experience for your occupation or education. Be sure to explain how this meeting would be a valuable contribution to your employment or education as a Wildlife Professional.

Include your name and contact information (phone number and email).

Applications for Winter/Spring travel grants are due by November 15th. Winners will be notified by the end of November. Please email applications to Awards Coordinator Chris Mettenbrink as a Word or PDF document to Chris.Mettenbrink@state.co.us. Or mail them to:

Chris Mettenbrink
Colorado Parks and Wildlife
4207 W. CR16E
Loveland, CO 80537

Student Chapter Update

Western State Colorado University Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society Fall 2016



Western's student chapter started our first project of the year volunteering with The Nature Conservancy building one rock dam structure up Ohio Creek in the Gunnison basin. These structures are built with a single layer of rock which overtime captures sediment and recruits vegetation to restore essential sage-grouse rearing habitat! Introducing these structures to an area allows for an increase of riparian vegetation as well as trapping sediment which allows for a greater diversity of insects (a main food source for young grouse).



On September 16, several student chapter members gathered for a Blue Mesa Reservoir Play Day where the club rented paddle boards and enjoyed a BBQ.

Student Chapter Update



A few members of Western's Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society and Tri Beta Biology Club attended the Guild of Rocky Mountain Ecologists and Evolutionary Biologists (GREEBs) conference from 16-18 September 2016 hosted by the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory in beautiful Gothic, CO. One of our member's presented her Western State Thornton Biology Undergraduate Research Program project on parasitoidism of Douglas-fir bark beetles and interactions with the thickness of the trees' bark. The conference included several talks on climate change, phenology and pollination biology, along with visual ecology and the evolution of animal and plant defense strategies. Long-time RMBL researcher David Inouye (past president of the Ecological Society of America) is pictured at the base of Gothic Peak with students Amy Harmon and Sarah Keith and Western faculty member Robin Bingham.

Three members from Western's student chapter headed to the Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge in North Park, CO where they collaborated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and CSU's Student Chapters of the Wildlife Society and Society for Conservation Biology to put up high visibility fencing! The purpose for this high visibility fencing is to help wildlife better navigate through fenced areas. Having this type of fencing in areas heavily used by wildlife is important as it can prevent animals from being tangled in fencing.



The Western State Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society seen here with the CSU Student Chapters of the Wildlife Society and Society for Conservation Biology. The clubs are assisting US Fish and Wildlife Service at the Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge on a fencing project.

Student Chapter Update, Cont..

Western's Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society engaged in many events this fall in addition to the events described above. We hosted a plant propagation night in collaboration with Tri Beta to prepare for our semester plant sale! We also invited two of our student members to present their Thornton undergraduate research projects. Sarah Keith presented on parasitoidism of Douglas-fir bark beetles and interactions with the thickness of the trees' bark, and Marcel Such presented on the effect of patch size and Douglas-fir beetle kill on avian occupancy and abundance in Douglas-fir forests. The Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society and Tri Beta collaborated with the Gunnison Sockeyes and Backcountry Hunters and Anglers student chapters for the homecoming parade. The theme of this year's homecoming was Elevation Celebration; Western students from the Wildlife Society and Tri Beta dressed up as high alpine animals. The Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society and Tri Beta also hosted a documentary film night on bioluminescence featuring David Attenborough's *Life that Glows*. Most recently the Student Chapter participated in our annual US Hwy 50 clean-up. This year Western's student chapter added a recruitment officer position to the club. We value this officer position highly as we strive towards higher attendance at meetings and club events. Which we have seen a great impact on attendance to meetings and events since adding this officer position!



Erin and Anna working in the greenhouse to propagate plants for upcoming plant sale



The Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society collaborated with other biology related clubs to show Western Pride during homecoming. Here the float travels down Main Street during the parade.



Western student Amy Harmon participating in the annual service project: U.S. Highway 50 Adopt-a-Highway Clean-up.

Student Chapter Update, Cont..

Colorado State University Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society (CSU TWS)

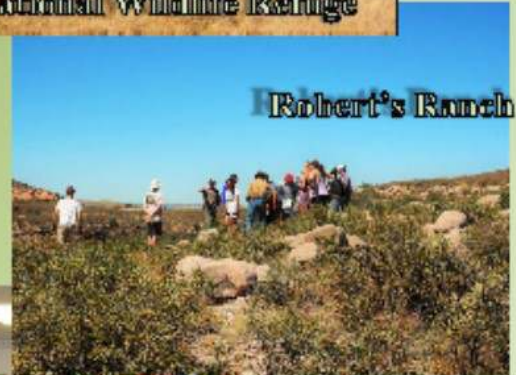
The fall semester is up and running for CSU TWS, and has started off with some awesome opportunities for our undergraduate students here at Colorado State University. To kick things off, we partnered with our fellow CSU Student Chapter of The Society for Conservation Biology (CSU SCB), for a hands-on water reclamation "work-day" at Robert's Ranch Conservation Easement. Then, we turned right around for another amazing work-day and our annual fall camping trip. This year we were at the Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge, where our volunteers partnered with other students from the Western State TWS chapter, to string up some high visibility wildlife fencing. In addition, we have been holding our traditional joint bi-weekly meetings with CSU TWS members and CSU SCB members. This year we are featuring several guest lectures from wildlife professionals on different scales, all the way from the university setting to the national standpoint. And if that wasn't enough, we also have our most popular projects in full swing: the Raptor Monitoring Project and the Camera Project, which are highlighted below.

The Raptor Monitoring Project

Every-other weekend CSU TWS students head down to Boyd Lake in Loveland, CO to survey for raptors. Boyd Lake is one of a couple sites chosen by Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) for a "citizen science" style raptor monitoring program. All data collect is entered into a data-base managed by CPW.

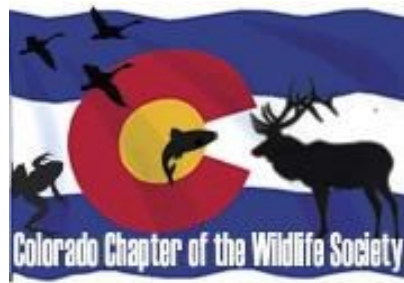
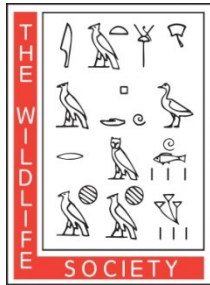
The Camera Project

The camera project has remote wildlife cameras at two locations this year: Poudre Trail and Pineridge Natural Area, Fort Collins, CO. The cameras along the Poudre Trail have been set-up as a partnership with CSU graduate students working on a National Urban Wildlife Monitoring Program, and the cameras at Pineridge are being used as a tool for educational outreach at Boltz Middle school and Shepardson Elementary school.



Call For Presentations and Posters

Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society Annual Meeting February 15-17 2017, Hilton, Fort Collins, 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 2017 annual meeting of the Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society.

Abstract Submission Deadline: Monday, December 19, 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:
Aran Johnson at ajohnson@southernute-nsn.gov

- Provide all required information in one Word document
- Provide the presentation title, author name(s), affiliation(s), and presenter address and email
- Abstract text cannot exceed 250 words
- Authors will be notified of acceptance via email by: **Friday, January 6, 2017**

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

DIRECTORY OF BOARD

Officers

President: Tony Gurzick
Past President: Ryan Monello
President-Elect: Pat Magee
Treasurer: Nathan Seward
Secretary: Chase Taylor

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