

# Southwest Section Newsletter

Fall 2015 - Vol. 5 Issue #2



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## President's Message

**Mark Wallace - 2015 President Southwest Section of The Wildlife**

While our profession still works with traditional meetings and published materials, communication in today's world has moved away from these traditional means. We are only starting to embrace the ideas of social networking, crowd sourcing, and electronic meetings, while the 'next generation', those we hope to attract to our profession, are already abandoning email, Facebook, and others. Costs alone are making professional meetings more difficult, and our own communication needs to continue to increase exponentially. We have to find ways to take advantage of new technologies, to move forward, share information, and create solutions to problems on regional and ecosystem scales. To that end the Southwest Section sees perhaps the biggest roles we can effectively play are those which enhance communication among our constituent members.

We have sponsored webinars: **Immediate post-wildfire effects on bats in the Southwest; Climate Projection Data and Its Application: From Comparisons and Code to Transformations and Tools; and, Do's and Don'ts of Submitting Your Paper to be Published**, and have plans scheduled to offer more throughout 2015-2016.

We have been perhaps as frustrated as you about enhancing our web presence. It looks as if TWS Headquarters has finally settled upon how subunits access and update their webs. We are now working to migrate our new website and to start offering electronic meeting capabilities to our Southwest membership.

We support actions of the Conservation Affairs Committees (CACs) with our own at the Section level, Jim Ramakka, chair. We invite officers and CAC chairs from the state chapters to attend & participate in our Executive Board meetings, and are looking for ways to synergistically address problems facing all of us in the Southwest.

The Southwest Section helped sponsor 2 events for women at the Joint Annual Meeting of the Arizona and New Mexico Chapters of The Wildlife Society and the Texas Chapter TWS meeting. We are forming a WOW committee to bring connections started at the annual conferences to local levels. Please see reports on the WOW meetings in Winnipeg, elsewhere in this newsletter.



*Mark and Janet Wallace*

*Photo credit Carol Chambers*



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## President's Message ...



### Mark Wallace - 2015 President Southwest Section of The Wildlife

With increased focus on issues extending across multiple political boundaries, managers of our wildlife resources have to work collaboratively, often across the entire region, to design solutions. With the proliferation of new constructs like LCCs and regional climate science centers, and issues like chronic wasting disease, energy development, and invasive species, agencies are looking for input and involvement across ours and adjacent regions. We decided that we needed to address issues of scale and what roles there may be for the Southwest Section to assist in information exchange. Realizing that enhanced communication abilities are not available to everyone, we decided to create an electronic meeting site freely available to our membership. We see this as an opportunity to enhance communication across state and agency and potentially international lines, to engage professionals and share ideas and experiences for the betterment of the wildlife resource.



Dr. Carol Chambers, Professor, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff.

### Changing of the Guard

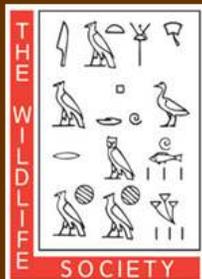
We wish to express our most sincere gratitude for all that Carol Chambers has done for the Southwest Section during her tenure as the Southwest Section Representative to Council. The Southwest Section has truly appreciated the leadership role she has played for our region and for the Section. Carol was responsible for starting the Section's biannual



Dr. Fidel Hernandez, Professor, Texas A&M University, Kingsville.

newsletter (now on volume 5), for developing a Facebook presence for the Section, and for her role as a major player in WOW activities, awards, and our website. Carol was always a regular presence at state meetings and a strong voice representing our interests on Council. Carol's continuing efforts over the past 5 years have been key to revitalizing the section. Carol's energy, commitment, and willingness to talk with anyone about TWS, the roles we can play for our professional society, and what our Society is doing for us. Carol will continue to work for TWS after her position ends at the TWS annual meeting this October in Winnipeg. Each of you should take the time to thank her and commend her on a job well done.

We wish also to welcome our new Southwest Section, representative to Council. Dr. Fidel Hernandez, Professor and Alfred C. Glassell, Jr. Endowed Professor in Quail Research, in the Department of Animal, Rangeland, and Wildlife Sciences at Texas A&M, Kingsville. While I have known Dr. Hernandez since his graduate school days, many in the section will get their chance to meet him over the next few years. He has been an active member in the Texas Chapter for years, serving in several executive officer positions between 2005-2009. Carol has certainly left you some big shoes to fill.



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# Southwest Section News



## What's Happening with TWS

### Carol Chambers; Southwest Section Rep to Council

(Written September 2015)

This one's about change, all of it great. Fall is on our doorstep, especially in northern Arizona where the temperatures are dropping to the 40s at night. We have some exciting changes coming to the Section with the election of Fidel Hernandez (TX) as the new Southwest Section Representative to TWS Council. I step down in October at the TWS annual meeting in Winnipeg and Fidel will be installed as the new Rep during the meeting. I've enjoyed serving the past 6 years and will look forward to continuing working with Women of Wildlife (WOW) and developing webinars for our Southwest Section series.



In more election news, John McDonald is the new Vice-president for TWS. John has served on Council for 6 years representing the Northeast Section. We thank Selma Glasscock (TX) who ran for TWS Vice-president and Kathy Granillo (NM) who ran for Southwest Section TWS Rep. We expect they will continue their many TWS contributions into the future.

We welcome 2 new student chapters. In Yuma, Arizona, Dr. Megan E. Lahti will serve as campus advisor for the Yuma Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society with support from wildlife biologist Lin Piest (Arizona Game and Fish Department). In Fort Worth, Texas, Dr. Victoria (Tory) V. Bennett will serve as campus advisor for the Texas Christian University Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society. These new chapters received interim status effective September 4, 2015. We congratulate both and ask that state chapters support these new student groups by providing hands-on field, lab, and classroom opportunities. TWS has partnered with Wildlife Services, and student chapters now have the opportunity to have a Wildlife Services professional speak during one of their meetings. Mariah Simmons ([msimmons@wildlife.org](mailto:msimmons@wildlife.org)) can provide a list of these representatives to student chapters on request.

More change – the Southwest Section has started a Webinar series. We are partnering with the Southwest Fire Science Consortium for our first webinar which will focus on wildfire effects on bats in the southwest (Sep 22). A list of webinars includes:

- September 22: Immediate Post-Wildfire Effects on Bats in the Southwest, led by Erin Saunders (AZ) & Carol Chambers (AZ)
- October: SW Section Geospatial Advisory Committee webinar, led by Leland Pierce (NM) & Ginny Seamster (NM)
- November: Do's and don'ts of submitting your paper to be published, led by Janet Wallace (TX), WSB Managing Editor
- December 16: Impacts of Thinning and Burning in Spotted Owl Habitat, led by Quentin Hays (NM)



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## What's Happening with TWS

### Carol Chambers; Southwest Section Rep to Council

On the TWS Headquarters front, there are also changes. Laura Bies has officially stepped down as Government Affairs and Partnerships (GAP) Director and now manages TWS's Leadership Institute. Keith Norris who was Assistant Director has been hired as the new GAP Director. Keith recently discussed hunting and poaching for a radio show. His interview focused primarily on the benefits that hunting has for North American wildlife conservation. GAP staff also partnered the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) and the American Fisheries Society (AFS) to draft a web page focused on providing scientific information to agencies administrators regarding the impacts of lead on fish and wildlife management. GAP staff provided much of the background information, researching articles and developing the layout of the document. In addition, GAP staff researched, wrote, and produced 7 news articles on the website related to wildlife policy and TWS activities:

- Horse and Burro Numbers Released in Tense Political Climate
- Congressional Efforts to Modify the Endangered Species Act
- Habitat Conservation and Sportsmen's Bill Introduced in House
- Efforts Renewed for Rare Cats and Canids Conservation Fund
- Land and Water Conservation Fund Expiration Nears
- Federal Court Overturns FWS's 30-year Eagle Take Rule
- Fish and Wildlife Service Expands Hunting and Fishing on Refuges



*Polar bears will be featured on a post-TWS Winnipeg 2015 conference tour.*

*Photo credit Carol Chambers*

On the publishing front, we have changes in the positions for Editor-in-Chief (EIC) for the Journal of Wildlife Management (JWM) and Wildlife Society Bulletin (WSB). Paul Krausman takes over from Evelyn Merrill for JWM and David Haukos becomes EIC of WSB in January 2016 after Christine Ribic steps down. The Wildlife Professional (TWP) will be published as 6 issues per year in 2016 (up from 4). The first issue of 2016 marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of TWP and will feature a story on the next generation of wildlife biologists. You'll also see a change in the look of TWP in 2016.

On the financial front, TWS ended the fiscal year on a strong note, finishing the year within 0.04% of the projected expense budget and essentially doubling the operational surplus that was projected in the 2014-2015 budget. Early indications thus far are that we are continuing the positive trends from last year.

Mariah Simmons has been working with the U.S. Forest Service on the USFS/TWS Native American Professional Development Research Assistantship Program for 2016. The application period is now open through October 26, 2015.

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# Southwest Section News



## What's Happening with TWS

### Carol Chambers; Southwest Section Rep to Council



Photo credit Erin Saunders Considine

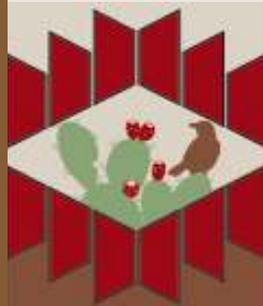
The annual conference is in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada this year (October 17-21; <http://wildlife.org/2015conference/>). The current participants are from the U.S. (74%), Canada (24%), and international locations (2%). In addition, The Native Peoples Wildlife Management Working Group selected seven students for the Native American Student Travel

Grants program. Funding provided to these students makes it possible for them to attend the Annual Conference. WOW will host a panel discussion (WOW! Women of Wildlife at Work) and mixer this year on Monday, October 19. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> year we have sponsored an event. Last year we did not offer a WOW event and were asked by so many women and men about the event that this year we're on again. This panel discussion is intended to build discussion and networking opportunities for women and men working in the wildlife profession. Panelists will address past, present, and future challenges and opportunities they experienced or expect to experience that affect career development. And then get ready for 2016. The annual conference for 2016 will be held in Raleigh North Carolina and **2017 is Albuquerque, September 23-27!** TWS is currently scouting sites for 2018.

For fun, check out these web articles from August, with lots of Facebook likes: *Using High-Res GPS to Study Thailand's Flying Foxes* (<http://wildlife.org/using-high-res-gps-to-study-thailands-flying-foxes/>) had over 1600 likes. It is based on a paper published in JWM. Closer to home, read *Recovery of Arizona Black-tailed Prairie Dog* (<http://wildlife.org/spa-day-aids-recovery-of-arizona-black-tailed-prairie-dog/>) and *Texas Chapter President provides testimony on CWD* (<http://wildlife.org/texas-chapter-president-provides-testimony-on-cwd/>), featuring President Roel Lopez.

The Wildlife Society Southwest Section Chapters Hub continues to steadily climb in 'likes.' We increased from 392 to 418 since June. Please visit the site on Facebook. The TWS Women of Wildlife (WOW) Facebook page also continues to grow steadily. We hit 1000 and are now at 1134 likes, up from 1089 in June. You can also see lots of great features at the TWS Facebook page with currently over 34,000 likes.

Thanks again for your support of TWS and the Section over the years. Continue to be involved – we need your help at the student, state, and section level. Contact me at [Carol.Chambers@nau.edu](mailto:Carol.Chambers@nau.edu) or 928-523-0014 (office) with any comments or questions.



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## What's Happening with TWS

### Fidel Hernandez, Southwest Section Rep to Council

Hello Fellow SW Section Members,

This is my inaugural newsletter article as your Southwest Section Representative. I recently assumed this role at the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society (TWS) in Winnipeg, Manitoba last month. As you know, Carol Chambers was our representative for the past 6 years and did an outstanding job.



I was able to attend the Council meetings prior to the beginning of the conference, and it was a great experience to shadow Carol during these few days and learn gems of wisdom from her 6-year tenure as the SW Section representative. She has been a tremendous help getting me up-to-speed on the workings of the Section and TWS Council. Her wealth of experience has been invaluable during this transition, and I sincerely appreciate her willingness to help. Thank you, Carol.

I look forward to serving as your TWS Council representative for the next 3 years. My goal is to build on Carol's success over the past 2 terms and cultivate the energy, enthusiasm, and excitement that surround the Section and our parent Society.

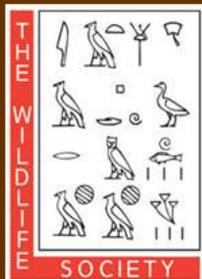
### In a Nutshell

Below is a concise synopsis of the latest happenings at the national level based on our recent TWS Council meetings in Winnipeg. You may find additional information in the respective sections following these bulleted highlights.

- After a recent decline in TWS membership, this member loss rate has been curbed and efforts now are focused on growing the numbers through recruitment and retention. Current membership is about 9,400 members.

Financially, 2013 was the turn-around year for TWS. TWS currently is exhibiting financial growth and is experiencing accelerated progress in financial equity.

- The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of TWS in Winnipeg, Manitoba was a tremendous success. It met or exceeded all performance indicators, with more than 1,500 attendees.
- Many exciting new changes have been or will be implemented during the coming months to better serve TWS membership and increase the value of membership. For example, The Wildlife Professional (TWP) has increased its offering from 4 to 6 issues per year. In addition, a new partnership with American Public University allows TWS members to enroll in courses at a reduced tuition cost. This is an important new change given that the American Public University has restructured its curriculum and now offers courses that apply towards wildlife certification should members be lacking in particular courses.



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# Southwest Section News



## What's Happening with TWS

### Fidel Hernandez, Southwest Section Rep to Council

- Our new President, Gary Potts, has outlined his presidency goals and is focusing his sights on increasing and facilitating TWS engagement of state, provincial, and federal agencies. He is working closely with the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) to strengthening these ties.

### Membership

TWS membership has stabilized after a recent decline. Current membership is at 9,403. This is only 84 members down from last year, and TWS membership shows evidence that the steep downward trend has been arrested. Part of the reason for this stabilizing trend reflects focused work on improving benefits to members such as a new website, conference enhancements, and service to Sections and Chapters. The current member composition is 55% regular members, 26% students, 9% new professionals, and 9% retirees. The greatest gains in membership were in the student category; the greatest losses were in the professional category. A recent analysis of TWS membership indicated that the greatest loss occurred during the first year of membership and that improvements in retention of first-year members needed to involve better communication of membership benefits. TWS also noted upcoming changes to increase benefits to current members including greater frequency of The Wildlife Professional, updating the Member Directory, launching a conference presentation archive and a policy database, and offering a 5% discount on courses taken from American Public University (APU).

### Finances

The financial status and outlook for TWS greatly improved in recent years. In reviewing the operational budget for July 2014 – June 2015, actual revenues (\$2,446,079) were higher than expected revenues (\$2,329,912), and actual expenses (\$2,255,900) were lower than expected expenses (\$2,282,477). This resulted in a surplus (\$237,888) that was nearly twice the anticipated surplus (\$122,435) in the budget. In addition, the total equity position for TWS increased dramatically over the year, with a growth in equity of \$190,368 or 21%.

This represented a remarkable improvement in the financial situation of TWS. One reason for this improvement was significant growth in the Contributions category. TWS has invested in development positions and has experienced subsequent success in attracting outside financial support. One of its new initiatives was *The 1,000*, a program started in June 2014 by TWS Chief Operating Officer Ed Thompson and former President Bruce Leopold. The goal of the initiative is to unify 1,000 members through annual donations ranging from \$100 to \$1,000 in support of TWS Strategic Plan Initiatives. *The 1,000* exceeded expectations (~\$50,000) and generated \$104,000 in its first year.



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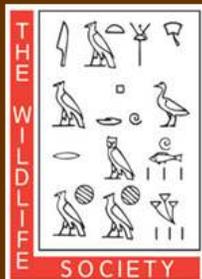
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## What's Happening with TWS

### Fidel Hernandez, Southwest Section Rep to Council

#### Annual Conference



The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference in Winnipeg, Manitoba was a tremendous success. Conference registration exceeded 1,500 attendees and placed Winnipeg in the top 3 of the last 9 conferences. The conference revenue goal of \$220,000 was exceeded, and there was evidence of increased member engagement including sold-out fieldtrips and increased workshop registration. Student participation was high, comprising 46% of registrants. The Southwest Section shined at the annual conference, with several Chapter members of the Section winning national awards:

- Excellence in Wildlife Education:** Nova J. Silvy, Texas A&M University
- Ethnic and Gender Diversity Award:** Diana Crider, Texas A&M University
- TWS Outstanding Book:** Wildlife Science: Connecting Research and Management by Joseph P. Sands, Stephen J. DeMaso, Matthew J. Schnupp, and Leonard A. Brennan, Texas A&M University-Kingsville
- Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society:** Texas A&M University-Kingsville
- TWS Fellow:** David G. Hewitt (Texas A&M University-Kingsville) and Jim Ramakka (NM, Retired)

In addition, TWS approved interim status for two new student chapters: Student Chapter of TWS at University of Arizona- Yuma and the Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society at Texas Christian University. We look forward to supporting and engaging with these new student chapters as they work towards achieving permanent status.

Please mark your calendar for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference, which will be held in Raleigh, North Carolina during October 15–19, 2016. Also, note that the annual conference will come home to where it all started: the Southwest. **The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico during September 23-27, 2017.** Quentin Hays, President of the New Mexico Chapter of TWS, is chairing the Local Arrangements committee and leading the charge for the conference. The NM Chapter has begun the planning process for the 2017 annual conference. Quentin will be identifying the strategic needs of the planning process in the coming months, so stay tuned for future details. As the details unfold, we look forward to helping Quentin and the NM Chapter of TWS making the conference a success.

#### Presidential Agenda for Incoming TWS President Gary Potts

President Potts announced his theme for his TWS presidency: Expanding the Partnership. President Potts will use the recent survey on TWS members as a foundation for strengthening linkages with state, provincial, and federal agencies. His personal attention will focus on AFWA and strengthening the TWS/AFWA partnership. President Potts has noted that AFWA and its constituent agencies depend on societies like TWS for the latest science, continuing education, certification, and innovative thinking.

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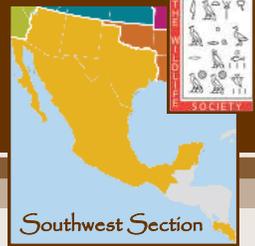
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## What's Happening with TWS

### Fidel Hernandez, Southwest Section Rep to Council



He shared examples including online access to state and provincial agencies of TWS journals and a forum for addressing science and issues concerning lead (Pb) in the environment, the latter of which resulted in a new Lead Science Website for AFWA members. President Potts also noted progress in communicating work of the state and provincial wildlife agencies through *The Wildlife Professional*. He identified ongoing science needs including pre-listing species conservation; landscape-scale habitat analysis; drought, fire, and climate analyses; and data information and management. He noted that new and emerging technologies, training, certification, and continuing education are another area where TWS could be of great service to states and provinces. States highly value certification, with about 15-20 states identifying certification as important in recruitment. President Potts also challenged Section Representatives to outreach to State and Student Chapters to increase local involvement. President Potts will have an article featured in *The Wildlife Professional* describing his goal of expanding the partnership and next year's annual conference in Raleigh will have an opening plenary on this theme.

In closing, there are numerous exciting changes occurring at the national level. I encourage you to remain involved. Thank you for this wonderful opportunity to represent our SW Section. If I can be of any help, please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail ([fidel.hernandez@tamuk.edu](mailto:fidel.hernandez@tamuk.edu)) or phone (361-593-3926).

Until next time,  
Fidel Hernández



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## Director's Corner

**Alexa Sandoval, Director of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish**



Here at the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish we never get tired of reminding hunters, anglers and wildlife watchers how much their support benefits wildlife and the different habitats across the state that are so critical to maintaining and fostering wildlife populations.

We are indebted to our license-buyers for their contributions to wildlife management through their license fees, habitat stamps and taxes paid on sporting equipment, and we recognize our non-consumptive users of the resources for their support of our Share with Wildlife Program, which focuses on conservation of many nongame species.

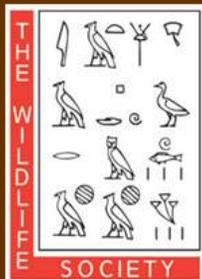
As everyone involved in wildlife conservation discovers, conversations about wildlife conservation often become discussions about habitat, and challenges such as fragmentation, invasive species and destructive wildfires. To address these issues, our agency, like many others around the country, has begun looking at the big picture and tackling the challenges on larger, landscape scales.

Over the next five years, our department has earmarked more than \$25 million in support of landscape improvement and restoration efforts that will benefit multiple wildlife species. We wouldn't think of trying to accomplish this alone. Habitat projects need a community of support, and we work with partners including the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, New Mexico State Forestry, the New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts, sporting groups, livestock permittees, private landowners, and many others.

There is a new urgency and commitment to improve habitat over large acreages in order to have a truly meaningful impact on wildlife and watershed health.



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## Director's Corner (cont.)

### Alexa Sandoval, Director of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

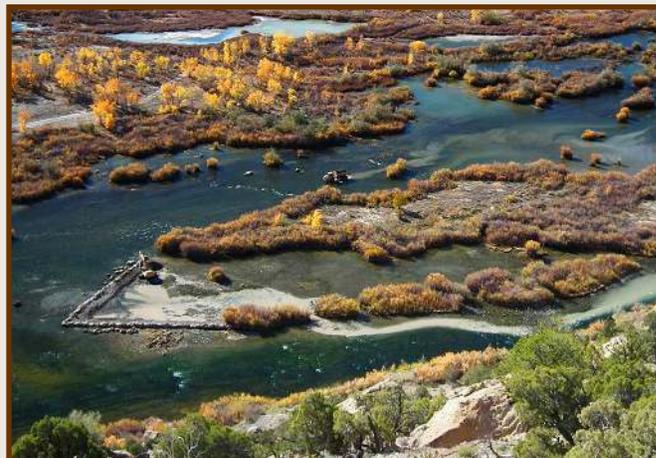
We are restoring native grasslands by thinning invading junipers, removing encroaching shrubs, and eliminating noxious weeds. We are bringing low-intensity prescribed fires to forests to lessen the threat of catastrophic wildfire and foster the growth of grasses, flowers and shrubs important to deer, elk, wild turkey, quail, and other wildlife. Stream edges are being planted with native willows and cottonwoods. Water availability to wildlife is being improved through the construction of supplemental water sources and the restoration of wetlands and springs.

In the southwestern part of our state, the department is working with the Wild Turkey Federation, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and other partners to restore tens of thousands of acres of forest and grassland critical to elk, mule deer, pronghorns and wild turkeys.

In northern New Mexico, the department is spending millions of dollars to thin forests, restore grasslands and improve water availability. And in the Sacramento Mountains of the southeast, the department is working with the City of Alamogordo, livestock producers and others to thin forests, restore grasslands, and improve water availability for the benefit of wildlife, sportsmen and sportswomen, livestock, and municipal water supplies.

We plan to continue making the best use of funds acquired from several sources and to strengthen our partnerships with agencies, conservation groups, landowners and others to manage and restore New Mexico's wildlife habitat. Our wildlife, and the people who enjoy it, deserve nothing less.

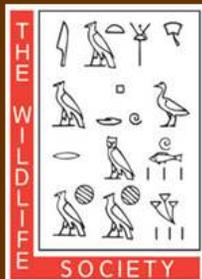
— Alexandra.Sandoval@state.nm.us



*Rock structure installed in San Juan River tailwater section to improve fish habitat (left). NMGF biologist directing operator to install large boulders to improve trout habitat (below). Photos courtesy NMGF.*



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## Social Media Update

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**Website.** The Southwest Section has a new web page. Can't find what you are looking for? Want to see if someone in the Southwest is already working on your problem? Looking for data or analysis tools? These are things that we are starting to gather at your new [www.swsectiontw.org](http://www.swsectiontw.org) website.



**Facebook.** The Wildlife Society Southwest Section Chapters Hub has jumped in 'likes' from 418 to 488 since September. Check out our page at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Wildlife-Society-Southwest-Section-Chapters-Hub/205755042835210>. TWS Women of Wildlife (WOW) (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/TWS-Women-of-Wildlife/234411723382592>) is now at 1273 likes. Find the latest news from the TWS headquarters at the TWS Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/thewildlifesociety/?fref=ts>) with currently over 43,000 likes.



**Twitter.** The SW Section is starting to tweet. You can find the latest at <https://twitter.com/SWSTWS>.

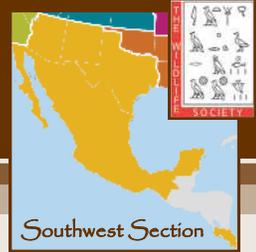


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## Webinars and Workshops

### Southwest Section Webinars 2015

September 22: Immediate Post-Wildfire Effects on Bats in the Southwest, led by Erin Saunders (AZ) & Carol Chambers (AZ), Archived at [https://youtu.be/\\_OjKef\\_U0n8](https://youtu.be/_OjKef_U0n8)

October: SW Section Geospatial Advisory Committee webinar, led by Leland Pierce (NM) & Ginny Seamster (NM), Archived at <https://youtu.be/22SMjKU3yoM>

November: Do's and don'ts of submitting your paper to be published, led by Janet Wallace (TX), WSB Managing Editor, Archived at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rZVaMOseSy4>

December 16: Impacts of Thinning and Burning in Spotted Owl Habitat, led by Quentin Hays (NM), Archive site to be posted soon

Links to these and other webinars of interest to SW Section members can be found at our new website at <http://www.swsectiontws.org/webinars>

### Program MARK Workshop 2016

Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD) is offering an in depth training course in Program MARK software. This program analyzes mark-recapture data common in wildlife and fisheries research and management. The workshop will be taught by Gary White, developer of the software.

AGFD offered extra seats to Southwest Section members which were quickly filled. If you are interested in attending a future workshop, please indicate your interest to Mark Wallace ([MARK.WALLACE@ttu.edu](mailto:MARK.WALLACE@ttu.edu)), current president of SW Section TWS.

#### AZGFD Program MARK Workshop

We are planning to offer an in depth training course in program MARK software in February 2016. Program MARK is a powerful software program developed by Gary C. White to analyze mark-recapture data common in wildlife and fisheries research and management. This workshop is designed to allow substantial interaction among attendees and to lay the groundwork for the use of Program MARK for a variety of applications. The sessions attempt to motivate questions and get attendees interested and excited. Because the advanced application requires some insights into the deeper theory, the workshop attempts to provide links between the theory needed and the application without making statisticians out of everyone. The focus of these interactive sessions will be on the effective use of MARK to model population densities, survival and recapture probabilities. Some of the material to be illustrated and discussed includes but not limited to:

- Capture history (Data set up in MARK)
- Population sampling
- Building Models in MARK using model naming conventions
- Live recapture models including recoveries only and known fate data
- Likelihood and log-likelihood theory
- Design Matrix and model structure
- Model selection theory
- Displaying and interpreting output from MARK

**Title:** AZ Game and Fish Department Program MARK Workshop

**Dates:** February 8-12, 2016

**Times:** 8:00am – 5:00pm each day

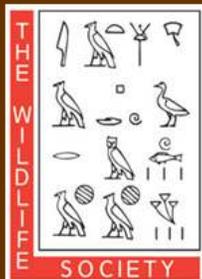
**Location:** Arizona Game and Fish Department, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086 (room TBD)

**Instructor:** Gary C. White PHD, Colorado State University

**Cost:** At 20 students, the cost per-student should be \$750.00 and we'd like to keep the number close to 20 students

We hope to get 20 students to commit, as the number of students will determine the per-student cost. At 20 students the cost per-student should be \$750.00 and we'd like to keep the number close to 20.

Anyone with questions or interested in attending this course should e-mail Tom McCall [tmccall@azgfd.gov](mailto:tmccall@azgfd.gov) (Arizona Game and Fish Department, 3500 S. Lake Mary Rd., Flagstaff, AZ 86001; work phone: 928-214-1248; cell phone: 928-606-0493; FAX 928-779-1825).



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# Southwest Section News



## Available now! Order your copy

### **Amphibians and Reptiles of the US–Mexico Border States/Anfibios y reptiles de los estados de la frontera México–Estados Unidos**

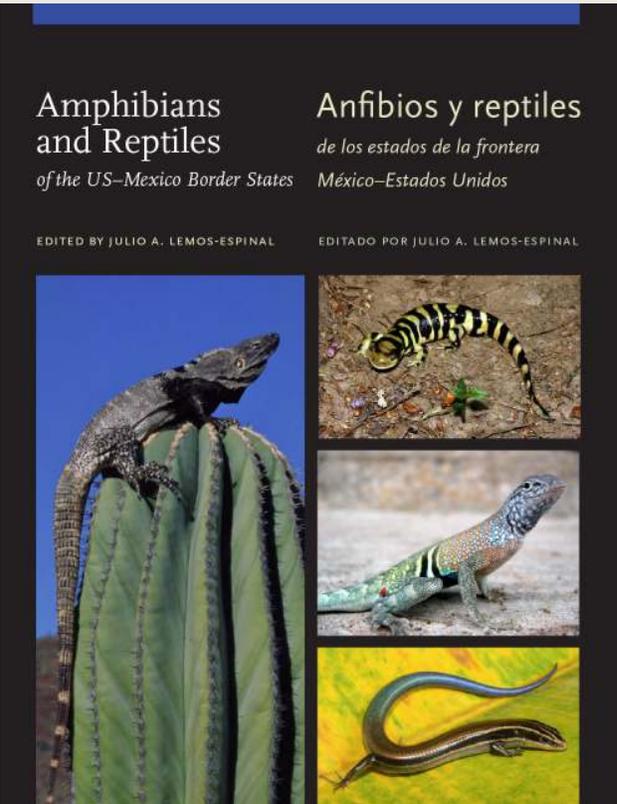
Edited by Julio A. Lemos-Espinal

*The Southwest Section supported the publication of this book with a financial contribution. We are pleased to report that it is now published.*

In the first bilingual work on the reptiles and amphibians of the US–Mexico border, top herpetologists come together to describe the herpetofauna of the states of this region, which includes more than 600 species of toads, frogs, salamanders, turtles, sea turtles, alligators, lizards, snakes, and sea snakes that are found along the almost 2,000-mile border between the two countries.

Each chapter is devoted to one state—four in the US (California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas) and six in Mexico (Baja California, Sonora, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Nuevo León, and Tamaulipas)—with text in both English and Spanish.

The chapters contain an introduction to the area, a review of the research, a sketch of the state’s physiography, and a description of the species present as well as the pertinent conservation issues they face. A color photo gallery includes images of nearly all species.



Almost 40 percent of the featured native species are shared between the US and Mexico, reminding us that animals depend on the integrity of natural landscapes and proving the need for a comprehensive, bilingual reference to help lead a shared effort in the management and conservation of the borderlands.

JULIO A. LEMOS-ESPINAL is profesor titular of biology at the Facultad de Estudios Superiores Iztacala of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) in Mexico City. Widely published in both English and Spanish, Lemos-Espinal has three taxa of amphibians and reptiles named in his honor.

<http://www.tamupress.com/product/Amphibians-and-Reptiles-of-the-USMexico-Border-St,8370.aspx>



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## Candidates for SW Section Board

### Candidates for the Office of President-Elect and Secretary of the Southwest Section of TWS for 2016



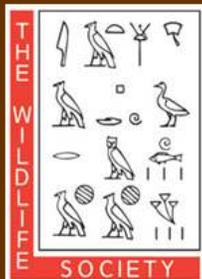
In accordance with Southwest Section Bylaws, the Nominations Committee has identified two candidates each to run for the offices of President-Elect and Secretary. The Bylaws require that the slate of officers be submitted to the membership at least 30 days before the election. In addition to candidates nominated by the Section Nominating Committee, others may be nominated for the same offices by a written petition to the Secretary signed by at least 30 active members no later than 1 July in the year of the elections (2015). Prior approval shall be obtained from all candidates before nomination and all nominees shall be full members of the Section and voting members of the Society. **Balloting will be carried out by electronic vote. Each member will receive an electronic Survey Monkey ballot in 3 to 5 days and at least 30 days before the election is closed by the annual meeting, this year in Texas 18 Feb 2016.** Candidates and biographies are included on the following pages.

From the Bylaws, here are the descriptions of duties for:

**PRESIDENT** - The President shall have general supervision of the Section officers, shall appoint, with the advice of the Executive Board, Chairs of all regular and special committees, shall preside as Chair at meetings of the Executive Board, and shall be an ex officio member of all committees, except the Nominating and Elections Committee. The President may represent the Section or appoint alternate representatives to other Chapter, Section, or Society boards, committees, or meetings including the Executive Board of the Section.

**PRESIDENT-ELECT** - The President-Elect shall assume the duties of the President in the absence or upon the inability of the President to serve, and shall perform any duties assigned by the President. In the event the President-Elect cannot serve in the President's absence, the Executive Board shall appoint a President, pro tempore.

**SECRETARY** - The Secretary shall be responsible for the files, recording of the minutes of all meetings, the maintenance of the membership rolls, correspondence, and the issuance of meeting minutes. The Secretary shall conduct Section correspondence and perform other duties as may be requested by The Wildlife Society.



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## Candidates for SW Section Board **PRESIDENT ELECT**

**The two candidates for the office of President Elect are (in alphabetical order) Warren Conway and Sarah Fritts. Their biographies follow. <http://www.swsectiontws.org/Candidates-pres>**

### **Warren C. Conway. Ph.D.**

Warren Conway is currently the Bricker Chair in Wildlife Management in the Department of Natural Resources Management at Texas Tech University. Previously, he was a Professor of Wildlife Management at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas, and received his B.S. in wildlife management from the University of Rhode Island, and his M.S. and Ph.D. in wildlife science from Texas Tech. He is a past President of the Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society, has been a faculty advisor for Student Chapters of The Wildlife Society at SFA and TTU, and remains involved in The Wildlife Society, and received the Educator of The Year Award from the Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society in 2005. He has taught a variety of wildlife management courses ranging from Wildlife Techniques to Wetland Wildlife Ecology and Management. His graduate students pursue a wide variety of wildlife-related research topics typically focused upon ecologically relevant and applied wildlife population, conservation, and management issues, including both game and nongame species inhabiting Texas coastal marshes and prairies, inland playas and saline lakes of the Southern Great Plains, and more recent work with western big game species, such as pronghorn and elk ecology in eastern New Mexico, and mule deer movements and habitat use in the Texas Panhandle.



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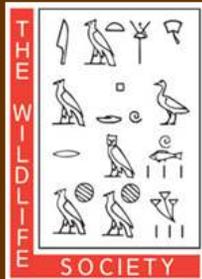
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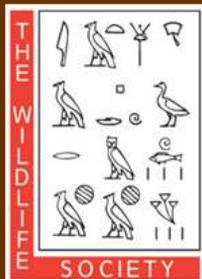
## Candidates for SW Section Board

### **PRESIDENT ELECT**

#### **Sarah Fritts, PhD**

After nearly a year of researching lesser prairie-chickens as a post-doctoral research associate at Texas Tech University, I will be starting a research professor position at the same university in December. My main research focus is wildlife response to global change, particularly climate change and energy development. I received my Ph.D. from North Carolina State University where I studied amphibian, reptile, and small mammal response to woody biomass harvests for use as a renewable energy feedstock; my M.S. from the University of Illinois where I researched drivers of fish population assemblage shifts in response to agricultural ditch maintenance; and my B.S.F.R. from the University of Georgia.

Participating in The Wildlife Society 2015 Leadership Institute inspired me to take on a larger role within the society, which is why I am running for President-elect of the Southwest Section. Two specific interests for the chapter are increasing enrollment in TWS and Women of Wildlife (WOW). I would like to help ensure that young professionals and students recognize the importance of their role in their professional society. I would also like to work towards increasing participation in WOW, particularly for young men. Please check out my website at [sarahfritts.wordpress.com](http://sarahfritts.wordpress.com).



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## Candidates for SW Section Board

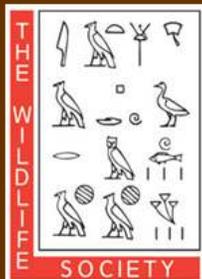
### SECRETARY

The two candidates for the office of Secretary are (in alphabetical order) **Heather Bateman and Jon Hanna**. Their biographies follow. <http://www.swsectiontws.org/Candidates-secty>

#### Heather Bateman, PhD

The Wildlife Society is an organization that provides "excellence in wildlife stewardship through science and education." I am proud to contribute to the society through my research and student mentoring. My membership with the Wildlife Society began when I was a graduate student studying ecological restoration along the Middle Rio Grande and the effects on herpetofauna. I continue to expand this research by focusing on wildlife and habitat along southwestern streams. Presenting this work annually at our chapter and national meetings has allowed me to engage with other researchers and managers in the southwest. Additionally, these meetings have provided me the opportunity to include students and introduce them to the society. From Chapter meetings to the National annual meeting, the Wildlife Society provides diverse experiences for students to interact with wildlife professionals, natural resource managers, and academics. One of my goals is to increase student involvement in wildlife research and experiences so we can promote today's students to future professionals. I have led the effort to organize student Quiz Bowl competitions at the 2014 and 2015 Joint Annual Meeting (JAM) of the AZ, NM chapters of The Wildlife Society and American Fisheries Society.

I have served as Secretary for the Southwest Section for the past year. If re-elected Secretary, I will continue to serve the Southwest Section to organize and archive meeting notes and minutes. I enjoy working with the very active chapters in the Southwest section to promote events held for professional development and student involvement. Thank you for your consideration.

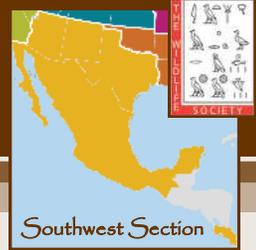


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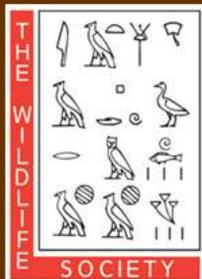
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## Candidates for SW Section Board

### SECRETARY

#### **Jon Hanna. Wildlife Biologist, retired Arizona Game and Fish Department**

I received my Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Wyoming in 1984. I worked on a variety of wildlife research and management projects afterwards with species such as mule deer, black-footed ferrets, bald eagles, mountain goats, moose, and grizzly bears. I moved to Arizona in 1992 for an opportunity to work for the Arizona Game and Fish Department as the Nongame Wildlife Program Manager. In 1995 I was promoted to Regional Game Specialist and retired in 2011. I have been active in the state chapters of the Wildlife Society my entire career and served as president of the Arizona Chapter in 2013. I am currently the Arizona Chapter Conservation Affairs Committee Chairman. In my retirement years my focus has been on conservation issues relating to feral horses, burros, the Public Trust Doctrine, and hunting.



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## AWARDS

### Striving to Recognize Our Members for Excellence in Wildlife Conservation and Beyond

As the Southwest Section consists of strong chapters who award a plethora of awards to their own members, the Southwest Section awards are not necessary awarded every year. These awards were created in 2013 to recognize extra special efforts made by Southwest Section members. These are meant to be additive and in no way take away from Chapter Awards.

#### The Southwest Section's **ROGER BUMSTEAD LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

To be awarded to a SOUTHWEST SECTION OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY member:

- Who is/was a natural resource professional
- Who has committed their time and their career to conservation
- Who serves as a role model for ALL professionals
- Who has had a long term commitment to The Wildlife Society and The Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society

Awardees:

2014 Roger Bumstead (New Mexico)    2015 H. Reed Sanderson (Arizona)



Photo by Lane Sumner

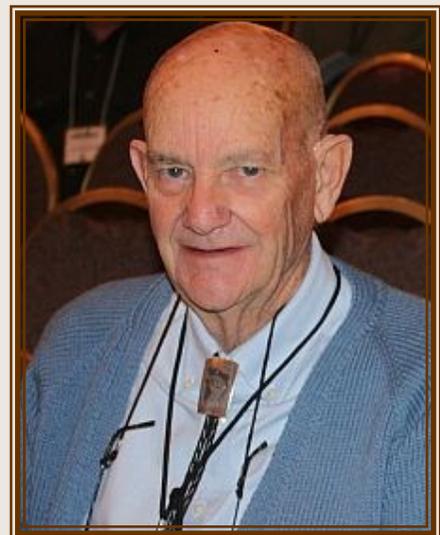


Photo by Carol Chambers

Roger Bumstead was unwilling to leave his ailing wife behind and travel to the Southwest Section Meeting in Texas in 2014 to receive his award. Misty Sumner (left) presented Roger's award to him at his home in Albuquerque New Mexico.

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## AWARDS

### Striving to Recognize Our Members for Excellence in Wildlife Conservation and Beyond

#### The Southwest Section's **OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD**

To be awarded to a SOUTHWEST SECTION OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY member:

Who goes above and beyond

Someone who promotes professional development

Someone who promotes conservation to professionals and the public alike

Someone who promotes The Wildlife Society at all levels (Chapter/Section/National)

Awardees:

2014 Selma Glasscock (Texas)

2015 Nova Silvy (Texas)



*Photo by Carol Chambers*



*Photo by Linda Causey*



Please nominate a deserving SW Section member for one of these awards.

**Award nominations should be sent to the current Section president (Mark.Wallace@ttu.edu) by January 22, 2016.**

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## Mexico

Jorge G. Villarreal, and Oscar Garcia, accepting recognition plaques presented by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission to Cuenca Palo Blanco Wildlife Restoration Program from Nuevo Leon, Mexico for **outstanding natural resources stewardship and cross-border collaboration in wildlife conservation.**



Above, left to right: Texas Parks & Wildlife Commissioner Dan Allen Hughes, Jr., Jorge G. Villarreal, Texas Parks & Wildlife Commissioner Roberto De Hoyos, Oscar Garcia, and Texas Parks & Wildlife Executive Director Carter Smith.



Armando J. Garcia, president of Consejo Estatal de Flora y Fauna de Nuevo León, presents a recognition plaque to Maria I. Araujo, Texas Parks & Wildlife's International Affairs Director, for 23 years of work in cross border and international relations.

"I proudly share this recognition with our Mexican partners and with my Texas Parks and Wildlife colleagues, the technical experts in our projects with Mexico," said Maria.



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## In Memoriam

### Roger Stanley Bumstead

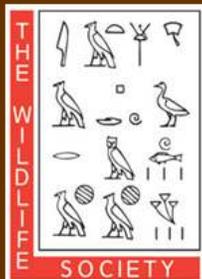
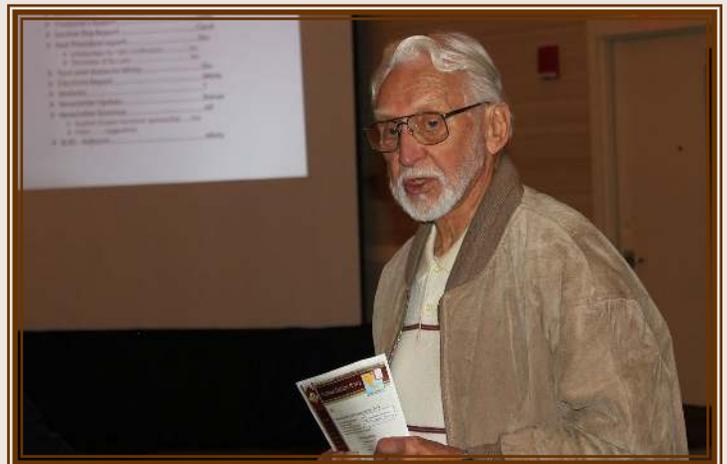


It is with great sadness that we announce the peaceful passing of **Roger Stanley Bumstead**, age 89 of Albuquerque, New Mexico on September 17, 2015. Roger was born in Oak Park, Illinois, the oldest of two sons born to Stanley and Lillian Bumstead and is survived by his brother Earl. After his service in the Army Air Corps, Roger married his high school sweetheart, Vivienne Rose Clark in Chicago in June 1948. The newlyweds moved to Urbana-Champaign, Illinois where Roger completed his degree in Wildlife Management at the University of Illinois. Shortly after graduation, Roger and Vivienne moved to Scottsdale, Arizona where he started his career with the Arizona Game and Fish Department and found his calling. In Arizona, Roger and Vivienne welcomed their three children into the family, Susan, Thomas, and Richard. In 1961 Roger accepted a position with the U.S. Forest Service as a Wildlife Biologist. Subsequent moves to Flagstaff, Arizona, Taos, New Mexico, Missoula, Montana, and Albuquerque, New Mexico saw Roger promoted to working in the Forest Service Regional Offices where his expertise in both Elk and Grizzly Bear management earned him the trust and respect of both academicians and his fellow conservationists.

Roger was an environmentalist before the term was coined, and was instrumental in founding the **Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society (which honored him in 2014 with a Lifetime Achievement Award)** and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. He passed that love and respect of nature to his three children during the many outings they took as a family. An avid waterfowl and upland game bird hunter, his trips to Freezeout Lake in Montana were an autumnal ritual in his life.

*Roger Bumstead, founding member of the SW Section, addresses the audience at the 2013 SW Section meeting in Albuquerque NM.*

*Photo by Carol Chambers*



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## In memoriam

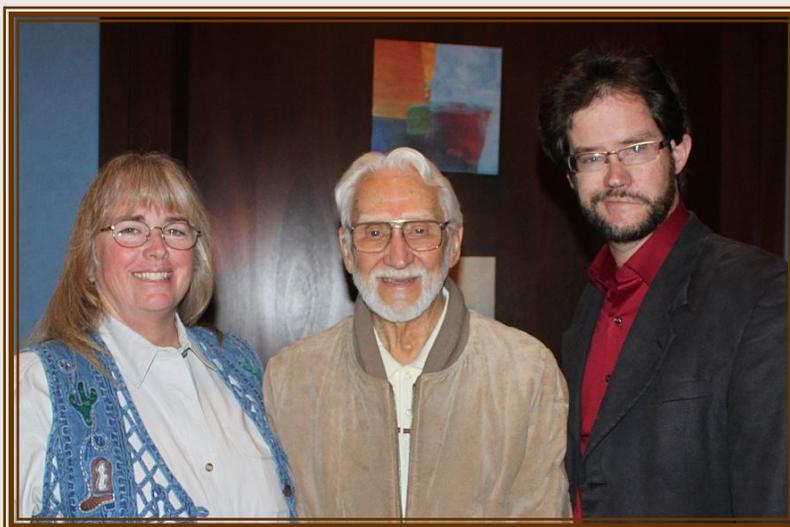
### Roger Stanley Bumstead

Roger lost Vivienne to cancer after a brief battle in June 1984. In August 1985, Roger married Rose Louise Miller and retired from the Forest Service in 1986. During his retirement, he became an avid golfer and in his 80th year, he shot an 80 for 18 holes, and swam most mornings before the sun rose, heeding the advice of his doctors after a heart attack in the late 1980s. He became the model patient for how to take care of oneself in retirement, and was in excellent health until a diagnosis of cancer earlier this year. He passed away at home with loved ones nearby.

Roger is survived by his wife Louise; children Susan, Thomas (Consetta Helmick) and Richard, three grandchildren (Nicole, Ryan, and Lizbeth) and one great-grandchild (Dylan); and step-children Brenda, Michelle (Rick Yates), and Stephanie; four step-grandchildren (Jennifer, Leslie, Jacoa, and Anastasia); and three step-great-grandchildren (Caiden, Jackson and Makenna). He was preceded in death by one step-grandchild, Joseph Yates.

A private graveside service will be held and memorials can be sent to either the Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society ([swsectiontws.org](http://www.swsectiontws.org/)) or the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation ([www.rmef.org](http://www.rmef.org)).

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/abqjournal/obituary.aspx?n=roger-stanley-bumstead&pid=176146664&fhid=7152#sthash.OLZltpLG.itARu8QU.dpuf>



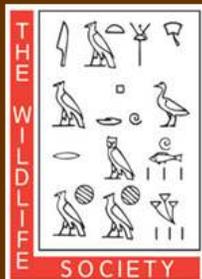
*Misty Sumner (L, President Elect SW Section), Roger Bumstead (center; founding member SW Section), and Leland Pierce (R, President, SW Section) at the 2013 Joint Annual Meeting of the Arizona and New Mexico Chapters of TWS, Albuquerque.*

*Photo by Carol Chambers*

**In his memory, please share outdoor time with those you love.**

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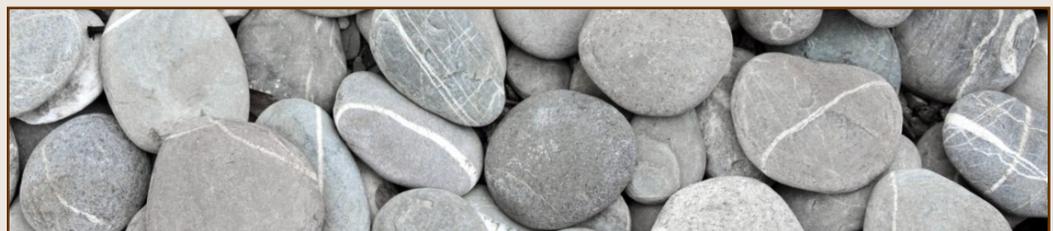
## SW Section Board and Committee Chairs

### Current Board

- President: **Mark Wallace**, [mark.wallace@ttu.edu](mailto:mark.wallace@ttu.edu) 806-834-6979
- President Elect: **Dan Collins**, [dan\\_collins@fws.gov](mailto:dan_collins@fws.gov) 505-248-6881
- Past President: **Leland Pierce**, [leland.pierce@state.nm.us](mailto:leland.pierce@state.nm.us) 505-476-8094
- Secretary: **Heather Bateman**, [heather.l.bateman@asu.edu](mailto:heather.l.bateman@asu.edu) 480-727-1131
- Treasurer: **Annaliese Scoggin**, [annaliesescoggin@hotmail.com](mailto:annaliesescoggin@hotmail.com) 325-428-8179
- Southwest Section Representative to TWS Council: **Fidel Hernández**, [Fidel.Hernandez@tamuk.edu](mailto:Fidel.Hernandez@tamuk.edu) 361-593-3926

### Committees

- Archives: **Selma Glasscock** [sglasscock@welderwildlife.org](mailto:sglasscock@welderwildlife.org) 361-364-2643
- Audit: **Terry Blankenship** [tblankenship@welderwildlife.org](mailto:tblankenship@welderwildlife.org) 361-364-2643
- Conservation Review: **James Ramakka** [jramakka@aol.com](mailto:jramakka@aol.com) 505-334-6140
- Diversity: **Joe Beach** [joe.beach@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:joe.beach@tpwd.state.tx.us) 512-538-4059
- Education Committee: **Needed!**
- Electronic Communications: **Mark Wallace** [Mark.Wallace@ttu.edu](mailto:Mark.Wallace@ttu.edu) 806-834-6979
- Finance Committee: **Needed!**
- Geospacial Advisory Committee: **Leland Pierce** [leland.pierce@state.nm.us](mailto:leland.pierce@state.nm.us) 505-476-8094
- Membership Committee: **Needed!**
- Newsletter: **Misty Sumner** [mmisssttyy@aol.com](mailto:mmisssttyy@aol.com) 432-283-2934
- Nominations Committee: **Dan Collins** [dan.collins@fws.gov](mailto:dan.collins@fws.gov) 505-248-6881
- Women of Wildlife Committee: **Carol Chambers** [carol.chambers@nau.edu](mailto:carol.chambers@nau.edu) 928-523-0014



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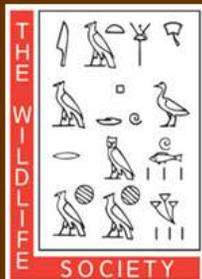
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## Membership Application

Membership Fee \$5.00

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Name                                      Middle Name                                      Last Name                                      Suffix

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City                                      State                                      Zip Code                                      Country

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail address                                      Work Phone

Member Type (Please circle one): Student                      Regular                      Retired

Please include this form with your payment and mail to: Annaliese Scoggin, Treasurer, Southwest Section of TWS, Private 13555 CR 224, Abilene, TX 79602

## Membership benefits for the Southwest Section TWS

- SWS TWS Newsletter
- Scholarship opportunities
- Section-level meetings, conferences, webinars, and workshops
- Strengthen your connections to TWS
- Peer connections through listserv, [website](#), and [Facebook](#)



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