

2018 ICTWS Business Meeting

March 7, 2018

The Annual Business Meeting for the Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society began at 1214 PM MST, March 7, 2018, in Fort Hall, Idaho.

Anna Owsiak, President; Ross Winton, President-Elect; Andrew Mackey, Vice-President; Aren Eddingsaas, Past-President; Becky Abel, Treasurer; and Bruce Schoeberl, Secretary, were present for the meeting.

Award Recipients (Grants, Scholarships, Special Recognition) – Anna Owsiak

Special Award, Wildlifer Award, and Young Professional Award, along with the Poster and Presentation Award Winners will be announced at the Banquet this evening

Management, Conservation, & Education Grant 2018 Recipients – 3 recipients for \$3000; checks and award winner will mailed

1. Andrea Kristof - \$1,500
Project: *Investigating Inbreeding Depression as a Possible Cause for Low Resilience of Idaho's Trumpeter Swan Population*
Objectives: To investigate genetic diversity between mated trumpeter swans that breed in the Bear Lake, Camas, and Grays Lake National Wildlife Refuges and how genetic diversity of the source population at Red Rock Lakes NWR is represented within Idaho breeding population. Having come from a low of 57 individuals in the Red Rock Lakes NWR in 1935, trumpeter swans used for restoration efforts experienced a bottleneck.
2. Steve Alsup - \$750
Project: *Long Term Ferruginous Hawk Monitoring.*
Objectives: To establish and maintain a long-term monitoring program, centered around the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey Natural Area to inform sound, science-based management decisions. Basic demographic and population data for ferruginous hawks are lacking in Idaho and this study will provide opportunities for students and interns to participate and has a public outreach component.
3. Heidi Ware – \$500
Project: *Window Strike Citizen Science Survey Prevention*
Objectives: Unfortunately, this award was declined because the amount awarded was insufficient to initiate the project.

Scholarships

Undergraduate – Kassandra Townsend – \$1,500

Bio: Kassandra is a transfer student from the College of Western Idaho where she received her Associates in Biology with a Natural Resource emphasis. She is continuing her education at the University of Idaho where she will be majoring in Wildlife Science and Forestry. She has been able to work with environmental issues that affect Tribal members, monarch butterfly conservation and monitoring, ecosystem services provided by mollusks in various rivers in Idaho, and breeding ecology and habitat suitability of Ferruginous hawks.

Graduate student – Amanda Goldberg (accepted by Courtney Conway since Amanda could not attend) - \$2,000

Bio: Amanda received her B.S. from the University of Massachusetts and her M. S. from Kansas State University. She has conducted research on population dynamics and disease of small mammal populations throughout the western continental U.S. She is currently a Phd candidate at the University of Idaho working on questions addressing northern Idaho ground squirrel management.

Thank you to two retiring members of the ICTWS Executive Committee; Becky Abel who has been the Treasurer for two years and Aren Eddingsaas who has completed his term as Past President.

2017 Business Meeting Notes - Bruce Schoeberl

The Secretary’s Report of the 2017 Business Meeting notes from March 2, 2017 were read.

MOTION: A motion to approve the Secretary’s Report of the 2017 Business Meeting minutes was made. It was seconded. **THE MOTION PASSED AND THE REPORT WAS APPROVED.**

Treasurer’s Report – Becky Abel

The 2016 audit is currently in progress; Chuck Blair is currently working on it and should be finished in a few days.

2017 was a good year due to the joint meeting with the ICAFS ; most of the money came from registrations and \$7,000 was received in sponsorships. There was \$1,000 spent on auction items with \$8,000 generated at the banquet fundraising event. Additionally, there was \$2,300 made from the Fidelity account. The cost of the 2017 annual meeting was slightly less than \$50,000.

2017 beginning balance - \$54,941; ending balance \$57,702; +\$2,761.

2017 Detailed Income		
2017 Annual Meeting Registration	\$51,389	70%
2017 Annual Meeting Sponsorship	\$7,000	10%
2018 Annual Meeting Sponsorship (in 2017)	\$1,000	1%
Auction Proceeds	\$8,785	12%
Membership Dues	\$2,995	4%
Fidelity Change in Investment Value	\$2,317	3%
Basic Business Checking Interest	\$2.00	0.003%
Total Income	\$73,488	

2017 Detailed Expenses		
Annual Meeting Expenses	\$49,703	70%

Annual Meeting Prizes, Awards, and Gifts	\$1,061	2%
Grants	\$3,000	4%
Student Scholarships (\$1,500 and \$2,000)	\$3,500	5%
ICTWS Website Maintenance - Handmade Design	\$1,362	2%
Miscellaneous – PayPal fees (2.49%)	\$1,602	2%
ICTWS Sponsorships (Deer & Elk; Climate Summit)	\$10,500	15%
Total Expenses	\$70,728	

MOTION: A motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report was made. It was seconded. **THE MOTION PASSED AND THE REPORT WAS APPROVED.**

President Report – Anna Owsiak

Anna expressed a thank you to everyone who helped put on this year’s meeting, including the Executive Board, the committees, Bryan Stevens as the Volunteer Coordinator, Martha Wackenhut as chair of the Student Affairs Committee, student chapter leads, fundraising donors, and sponsors. We are always looking for volunteers for our committees.

- There was a discussion with Helen Neville of the Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society to hammer out possible dates about the next joint meeting between ICTWS and ICAFS to facilitate a higher frequency than every 10 years. It was determined that 2024 will be the soonest it will line up in Boise.
- The financial audit cycle is changing to the federal fiscal year, October 1 to September 30, to better suit our organization.

Committee Reports

- **Conservation Affairs Committee (Anna Owsiak)**
 - The position statement on federal land transfer to state management/ownership was completed and posted to the ICTWS website; it was forwarded to the NW Section of TWS, who was also working on a similar statement
 - Robert Magill and Bill Dell’Isola are currently working on developing an Chapter position statement on “Promoting Educational and Outreach Efforts Regarding the Impacts of Lead in Hunting and Fishing Gear”, and a communications plan for how to go about working with other organizations to increase educational efforts on lead impacts and promote the use of lead alternatives in hunting and fishing.
 - Committee is looking for additional members; please see Anna after the meeting
- **Fundraising Committee (Jason Beck)**
 - Three people (Jason Beck, Tara Ball, and Deniz Aygen) shared the load this year in preparation for the annual meeting so it was much easier than in the past
 - For next year’s meeting in Boise, the committee will need help from people living in Boise; ideas for soliciting items include Cabelas, Sportsmans Warehouse, airlines, and other Boise-specific businesses
 - For this 2018 meeting, over \$8,000 of merchandise was acquired with only about \$800 spent; return during banquet should be very good this year
- **Education Committee (Anna Owsiak for Alana Jensen)**

- Alana Jensen did not have anything to report but she is a committee of one and would like help
- **Scholarships Committee Report (Anna Owsiak for Jon Dudley)**
 - December 6, 2017 – application announcement went out; went out to BSU, U of I, ISU, College of Idaho, NNU, BYU Idaho, Lewis-Clark State College, as well as posting to the website; will increase distribution of the announcement to community colleges during the next announcement in 2018
 - This is the 6th year of the program and so far have given out 8 scholarships totaling \$10,000
 - 2018 meeting awards were \$1,500 for undergraduate and \$2,000 for graduate categories
 - Revised eligibility criteria to promote more undergraduate applicants.
 - Modified the deadline to apply to better fit student schedules.
 - We received 14 applications this year, 9 for graduate scholarship and 5 for undergraduate scholarship. Applicants were from the College of Western Idaho, Idaho State University, University of Idaho, and Boise State University. All were great applicants.
 - Committee awarded 1 graduate and 1 undergraduate scholarship, to be presented during the business meeting.
 - If you are not receiving the call for applications and would like to, contact Jon Dudley.
 - The committee could use additional members, please see Anna after the meeting.
- **Grant Review Committee Report (Toni Holthuijzen, chair)**
 - Several applicants, recipients announced earlier
 - In the future, want to change the format of the applications; currently application on the website is very short but would like to change it to a longer, more formal version; will work on this revision for next year's application
 - Student advisors should advocate students to apply next year
- **Awards Committee Report (Ryan Long, chair)**
 - Consists of Ryan, Paul Makela, and Jim White
 - Evaluates nominations for Special Recognition, Charles Harris, and Randy Smith awards on a two-year rotation review of applications, meaning current year applications and prior year applications are considered in any given year
 - Considered multiple nominations for the Special Recognition and Charles Harris awards this year but did not receive any for the Randy Smith award
- **Student Affairs Committee (Martha Wackenhut, chair)**
 - Centered around student activities associated with annual meetings; several this year that students organized including:
 - ISU Biology Club, led by John Dudko (President), BYU students, led by Daniel Whittle (President), U of I, led by Tifani Watson (President)
 - Special thanks to Janet Rachlow for helping to organize the events
 - This year, students organized their own meeting during the meeting to discuss how to get more out of the meeting
- **Membership Committee (Lisa Nutt, committee member)**
 - Had a get-together during this meeting and discussed what we should look at in the future
 - Don't have a lot of diversity and interest in participating in the committees and running for the Executive Board

- We plan to look at a 2014 member survey that was taken of members where a question was posed about what it would take to get folks more involved with ICTWS and identify some items to facilitate more participation in the future
- Even if you don't have a desire to be on the committee, feel free to contact any of the members with ideas you might have to improve member participation
- **Election/Nominations Committee** (Curtis Hendricks, chair)
 - Having problems even getting folks to send suggestions of folks that would be good to run for an Executive Board position
 - Encouraged membership to feel free to suggest ways to improve membership interest in serving in Executive Board positions
 - Federal partners, especially, have problems attending and/or participating in meetings, as well as on the Executive Board
 - Nate Yorgenson (Caribou-Targhee NF) has paid internships available soon doing wildlife and timber inventories
- **Paper/Poster Judging Committee** (Kevin Warner, chair)
 - Thank you to all folks that volunteered to judge but did not have as many as would have liked
 - Presentations – 44 talks, 2 judges for each so 88 slots to fill; many judges took 8 presentations; would be best to have judges take 4/each
 - Posters – 6 poster judges that judged 8 posters each since each is judged twice
- **Sponsorship Committee** (Pam Bond, chair)
 - Needs someone to take Pam's place next year and Pam has all of the information to hand off to make it easy
 - Sponsorship amounts this year: \$1,150 from NGOs, \$2,000 from corporate, and \$2,700 from government entities; federal agencies had a difficult time contributing this year so may want to contact them earlier next year for more in-kind sponsorship as an alternative avenue to straight out sponsorship contribution
- **Committee Volunteer Solicitation**
 - Fundraising - Josh Rydalch
 - Sponsorship – Aren Eddingsaas, Josh White (signed up post Business Meeting)
 - Membership – Sandy Amdor
 - Awards – Diane Evans-Mack
 - Education – Morgan Pfander and Maria Pacioretty
 - Scholarship – Laura Wolf and Ben Wishnek
 - Grant Review – no additional
 - Student Affairs – Quinn Shurtliff, Ryan Walker (signed up post Business Meeting)
 - Elections/Nominations – Brian Bybee
 - Paper and Poster Judging – Janet Rachlow
 - Conservation Affairs – Chuck Peterson and Michael Young

Climate Summit - Greg Servheen

Presentation on November 2017 Climate Summit this afternoon so will just give highlights for now; 2016, ICTWS membership committed to supporting the summit; highlights include:

- 575 participants, multiple venues (Boise, Pocatello, Moscow, and Ashton), 53 sponsors, 92 presenters, 27 exhibitors, 48 facilitators, 34 volunteers
- Breakout sessions focusing on forest and wildfire, health and quality of life, wildlife/fish and recreation, agriculture and rangeland, and infrastructure in the built environment

- Divided breakout session output into the following focus areas: changing mindsets and communication, need for economics and metrics to focus efforts, focus more on local conditions to facilitate more sympathy for the effects of climate change
- Focus was on Idaho business and quality of life vs on the pure science aspects
- Identified four steps forward (e.g. omit discussion of polarizing cause of climate change but instead focus on what does it mean to the economy and business and the people that live in Idaho); Climate Summit has website with 1-page summary of the conference, as well as a 13-page more detailed information report and a most-comprehensive 100+ page version
- Steering committee created at the beginning of the process, who are now discussing steps forward; committee is changing with Gregg no longer needed or participating; if interested, folks can go to the Climate Summit website to sign up for a working group

Northwest Section TWS Update (Anna Owsiak for Michelle Kemner)

- **Annual Meeting 2018:** Hosted by AK Chapter TWS March 26-29 at Alaska Pacific University, Anchorage. Theme is “Wildlife, Conservation, and Management in a Changing Environment”
- **Membership:** 357 Members as of February 2018 – this is down about 65 members since dues were increased 2 years ago from \$5.00 to \$10.00.
- **Finances:** Checking account balance is ~\$17,000.00. Between \$2,500-\$4,000.00 will be used to support joint meeting in AK, \$1,500.00 of which is direct payment to Alaska Chapter TWS for sponsoring the section.
- **CAN Representative** – Rebecca (Becca) Much is CAN Representative to NW Section. She’s already worked closely with both Idaho Chapter and Montana Chapter CAN Reps. Robert Magill may have further information regarding CAN Activities within the Idaho Chapter and NW Section.
- **Strategic Plan:** The Section is currently considering the development of a strategic plan. Many Sections and Chapters either have one or are developing one. The Sections biggest concern is lack of finances to develop a plan. Sections that currently have a plan have much larger budgets and paid staff to accomplish tasks. The NW Section is committed to developing a plan, regardless, and is looking for unique opportunities to create a document without having to delve too far into Section finances.
- **Elections:** Looking for candidates for President-Elect (1-year term that moves into President for 1-year term) and Secretary/Treasurer (2-year term). Michelle Kemner is currently the Secretary/Treasurer and is willing to run for a second term, but would appreciate running against someone. She spends no more than 20 hours total per year on Section duties – much less time than chapter level involvement. If you are interested in running for either President-Elect or Secretary/Treasurer, please contact Scott Brainerd at scott.brainerd@alaska.gov.
- **Newsletter:** The latest Newsletter was sent to membership in late January 2018. It can be found on the NW Section TWS Website.

NEW BUSINESS

2019 ICTWS Annual Meeting - will be held in Boise, Idaho; no venue or dates yet but will occur last week of February or first week of March

Election Result Winners

- Vice President – Duston Cureton
- Treasurer – Kara Campbell

Grant and Scholarship Issues to Bring to Membership

- Is there a desire to increase scholarship amounts? Currently, scholarship amounts are set at \$1,500 for undergraduate and \$2,000 for graduate and grants typically capped at \$3,000 total, brought up during 2017 Business Meeting but nothing determined. Since it would vary annually, it would be beneficial to know how much the Executive Board deems available in a given year before the Scholarship committee makes their awards so that they could be adjusted based on worthy nominations. Question was posed as to what the criteria would be for determining the amounts available? Answer from Anna was that the Board would look at how much was in reserve, how much was made in fundraising, how much was obligated, etc. Although a formal motion was not deemed necessary to forward this action of leaving it to the Executive Board to award larger amounts than we typically award, general consent of membership was acknowledged and no one opposed this path forward when Anna asked if anyone objected.
- Should we offer travel grants to students attending meetings? Toni Holthuijzen is willing to draft a travel grant application if membership deemed it worthy. Rita Dixon thought we should and recalled having done this in the past. How much and the criteria are what are especially in question, possibly this could be identified by the universities. Toni H. advocated having two types of travel grants, one to attend the ICTWS meeting and one to attend the National TWS meeting if the individual is presenting at the conference. University of Idaho students agree that additional funds would be welcome even though they have fundraising events to help with travel. If we decide to go forward, the Grants committee would need to do some research on reasonable, meaningful amounts. Quinn S. advocated that student might consolidate more on carpooling, grouped lodging, etc as a way to reduce costs since ICTWS has provided subsidized registration, which does put a strain on chapter finances. As with the other grants and scholarships, would likely need to assess available funds and obligations to determine how much we would make available for travel grants. Another idea would be to have local hosts for students attending the meeting.
- Do we want to have a member of the Executive Board attend the National TWS Meeting annually? Do we want to provide a grant for them to attend the meeting if they couldn't get it done through their employment and would it provide benefit to the chapter? It would likely be the president or someone named in their place. Sandy advocated this occur since she thinks we are disconnected from National TWS. Lisa Nutt advocated that the Grants committee do more research to get details about amounts available to make a more informed decision. Consequently, it was determined that once this information was collected and compiled, membership would discuss.

Student Subsidized Registration Issue– This was the first year we budgeted based on past student attendance where we far underestimated (by roughly half) the actual student attendance. There was a concern that full registrations would not cover the large number of student attendees receiving the subsidized registration. Do we need to limit or prioritize (e.g. presenters, then attendee-only) given increased participation in subsidized registration and recent reduced federal participation and sponsorships? Chuck Peterson advocated prioritizing presenters and charging some amount to students if enough subsidy funds were not available, possibly \$25 for students. There was a concern that funds provided for travel grants would detract from the subsidized registration so might reduce student participation. It was especially hard this year also because students were registering up until the last minute. Maybe we should look at other societies to see how they deal with subsidizing students; Ross indicated that some societies have a set number of subsidized slots, filled on a first-come, first-serve basis. Some undergrads thought that a \$10-\$20 registration fee would be acceptable with a higher level for graduate students since they likely have avenues to access more funds through their projects. Rita Dixon advocated getting students involved in committees, other than just the Student Affairs committee. There was also discussion by the Executive Board about having a deadline for student registration, possibly a week before the

meeting, to compile an accurate head count for meals and coordinate volunteer activities and assignments; this issue will be included in the proposal.

MOTION: A motion was made for the Executive Committee to draft a proposal for how to resolve the issue of sustainably subsidizing student registration in the future and to bring it back to membership for discussion and a vote. It was seconded. **THE MOTION PASSED.**

Chapter Strategic Plan– The NW Section chapter is pursuing a strategic plan and we may want to pursue as well since currently, an annual meeting is the only objective we set forth each year. Do we want 3-5 goals for achieving over the next five years? Rita Dixon advocated choosing a conservation issue in Idaho that we can work on as a chapter, which might not necessarily need a strategic plan. There was support voiced for developing a strategic plan, developed by the Executive Committee. Another individual thought we should address issues as they arise instead of compiling a strategic plan. Ann thought there should be more internal discussion before deciding. It was also advocated that all of the committees determine what was important to them and report upward to the Executive Committee as to what might be included in a strategic plan. Since the group was divided, it was decided that the Executive Committee should internally discuss how to approach the various suggestions made today and discuss with membership in the future.

Chapter of the Year Award– Do we want to participate in this competition? Winners of these awards are active in many different activities. Since time ran out, it was decided that membership should peruse the criteria Anna provided on tables and discuss whether we wanted to pursue competing for this award at the next Business Meeting.

Future Executive Committee Correspondence – will be a solicitation for input as to why there are obstacles for folks in participating in committees.

Adjourn

MOTION TO ADJOURN: A motion to adjourn the meeting occurred. A 2nd motion was made. **THE MOTION PASSED AND THE MEETING ADJOURNED.**

The Business Meeting ended at 1359 MST, March 7, 2018 in Fort Hall, Idaho.

/S/ Bruce Schoeberl

Secretary

Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society

Summary of Motions Passed at the March 7, 2018 ICTWS Business Meeting

1. A motion to approve the Secretary's Report of the 2017 Business Meeting minutes was made. It was seconded. The motion passed and the report was approved.
2. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made. It was seconded. The motion was seconded and passed and the report was approved.
3. A motion was made for the Executive Committee to draft a proposal for how to resolve the issue of sustainably subsidizing student registration in the future and to bring it back to membership for discussion and a vote. The motion was seconded and passed.
4. Meeting was adjourned via motion, seconded and the motion passed.