

REPORT TO COUNCIL

DATE: 21 August 2017^[L]_[SEP]

REPORT TO: TWS Council

FROM: Krysten Zummo-Strong, Chair, Early Career Professional Working Group

SUBJECT: Annual Report of the Early Career Professional Working Group

RECOMMENDATION(S) TO COUNCIL:

Please see attached Request to Council

REPORT

Membership

The Early Career Professional Working Group has a membership structure that is different from most other working groups. All New Professional members of TWS become automatic members of the working group as opposed to having annual dues; thus, we have over 900 members. Other TWS members may still join the working group for \$5 if they wish. We would like to reiterate our thanks Ed Thompson and Mariah Simmons for facilitating this new membership structure, as we think it will be a huge benefit to TWS, and particularly to new professional members.

2016 Conference Workshops

Our group organized a workshop on Environmental Conflict Management at the annual meeting in Raleigh, NC. We worked with the Natural Resources Leadership Institute to provide this workshop to interested society members. We provided a \$20 subsidy to the first 10 new professional members to register for the workshop.

We also supported a workshop being organized by Susan Rupp to discuss a mentoring forum, and a symposium on linking science and management being organized by Jerod Merkle.

2017 Conference Workshops

The ECPWG also held an annual meeting during the conference in Raleigh where plans for the upcoming year were discussed.

The ECPWG was asked to take part in the planning of one of the plenary sessions for the 2017 annual TWS conference in Albuquerque, NM. More specifically, we assisted in the organization of the “Paradigm shifts, diversity, and inclusion, and feet in several worlds” Plenary to be held on the Tuesday of the conference.

The ECPWG also be planned a panel discussion and a workshop for the upcoming annual conference in Albuquerque, NM. The panel discussion is entitled “The Generation Gap: Opportunities for five generations to work in harmony” and is set to open up dialogue between 5 generations of wildlife professionals in order to bridge the gap in communication and learn from one another. The workshop is titled: “Managing wildlife conservation and management conflicts through formalized conservation action planning”, and will present the fundamentals of Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation Planning process with emphasis on identifying and addressing differing project pressures in the conceptual phase.

Elections and Charter

2016 was an elections year for our working group. Elections were held from September 26 – October 10, 2016. This was the largest show of interest in the working group’s leadership since our founding in 2011, and we are very excited about the years to come with the new membership structure. The election results are as follows:

- Chair: Krysten Zummo-Strong
- Co-Chair: Mark McConnell
- Secretary: Emily Williams
- Treasurer: Kristin Shaw
- At-Large Board Members: Jennifer Murrow, Lorelle Berkeley, Paul Di Salvo, Rachel Conley, Matthew Moskwik, Michelle Losee, Heather Shaw

We also updated our Charter to reflect the new membership structure. The updates were approved by the membership, tentatively by TWS, and will be submitted to TWS Council for final approval.