



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings, fellow North Central Section (NCS) Wildlifers! I hope spring has shown itself in your part of the Midwest. It has been a moderate, but long winter here in Aitkin, Minnesota. Spring tasks of grouse surveys, prescribed burning, and assisting and coordinating with private landowners and partners with spring fever are welcome and refreshing. Welcome also is my role as NCS President. Thank you for the opportunity to serve, work and play alongside skilled, passionate professionals, and grow.



*Jodie Provost
2018 NCS President*

Over the next year, my main objective is to help our Section increase membership. We have had up to 900 members in the past. It currently sits at about 300. In light of this decrease and the concern it brings, we have revived our NCS membership committee/team. Our team currently consists of Gary Potts (Past President and Fellow of TWS), Katy Reeder (NCS Past President), Kali Rush (NCS Graduate Student Representative), Craig Miller and me. Our goal is "To increase membership of qualified persons residing in the North Central Section of TWS; by inviting and welcoming them, sharing information, listening to their needs, and involving them; to build a robust budget, meet membership needs and increase services to them, increase our collective influence, and more efficiently and effectively meet TWS core strategic areas."

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Our NCS membership team is considering barriers to the desire and ability to become a member, strategies to address them, and resources such as recently published membership survey results¹. We also plan to learn from the Northeast Section's success in significantly increasing their membership ([see article](#)). Our team has brainstormed a list of strategies that includes ideas such as an NCS display booth for state chapter meetings, student conclave, and the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference; making Midwest presentations available (similar to those from the Annual TWS Conference); improving communications with students; personalizing our messages more; and continuing and increasing support of professional development opportunities.

Feel free to share your thoughts with our membership team. Our eyes and ears are open. Feel free also to contact me anytime about NCS activities at 218-838-3553 or tw.s.ncs@gmail.com. As Gary Potts coined, "We are The Wildlife Society". Together, we can make a difference for our wildlife resources and fellow professionals. I wish you well in your spring and summer professional endeavors. Remember to find personal time to relax and keep yourself, family and friends connected to our wildlife resources and outdoors!

¹Urbanek, R.E., A.L. Carrozzino-Lyon, and G.E. Potts. 2018. Shifting demographic and attitudinal changes of TWS members (1991-2014). *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 42(1): 4-12.

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION REPRESENTATIVE



*John Moriarty
Section Representative
to TWS Council*

The Council of TWS recently held their spring meeting in association with the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in Norfolk, VA at the end of March. The meeting set the budget and

annual work plan FY 2019. TWS has been improving its finances over the last 6 years and has recovered from the effects of the last recession. Membership continues to grow and TWS is again over 10,000 members.

The council approved the revision of the position statement on Incorporating Wildlife Needs in Land Management Plans. This is a consolidation of several previous

position statements that addressed a specific land use. The new position statement will allow TWS to be more effective in addressing land use issues as they arise.

The staff has been arranging their schedules so that they can attend more section and state chapter meetings. The council voted to have the state and student chapter leadership rosters shared between the chapter officers to improve communications for planning conclaves and joint meetings. Mariah Simmons has been actively engaging chapters to make sure rosters are up to date. Mariah is very responsive to student and state chapter questions. Feel free to contact her with any questions.

The 2018 conference will be held in Cleveland Ohio from October 7 -11. The planning committee has lined up a wide range of symposia, workshops, and events. Additional information on the conference is

available at the TWS [website](#). All presentations at this year's conference will be recorded and will be made available at a fee as a virtual conference for those who cannot attend in person.

TWS publications continue to improve and expand. The impact factors of all journals have increased. The turnaround time for submitted articles has been reduced. One change for next year is the cost of print copies of JWM and monographs will be increasing to \$110.00 per year. Online versions of TWS journals are part of memberships.

The Give Back program that allows TWS members to give a free 6-month

membership to a non-member has been expanded to student renewals. The program has been working well with most nominated wildlifera accepting the new membership.

TWS continues to work and partner with a number of other national conservation organizations on policy issues and legislation. While we strive to be on the same page, there are certain positions where we do deviate. TWS staff regularly meetings with AFWA, AFS, SAF, and others to promote wildlife issues.

WHO WE ARE!

The North Central Section of The Wildlife Society represents 8 states and (as of 2017) is affiliated with 26 student chapters in the Region, at any time serving between 200 – 400 members. We serve as liaison between our parent organization and the state chapters, as each Section has a representative on TWS Council. Additionally, we support professional development of our members, often hosting symposia and workshops at conferences and meetings. Another role of the Section is to facilitate action on conservation issues in our region, ranging from writing letters to developing issue or policy statements. The North Central Section also supports student travel to wildlife conferences and offers multiple student and professional awards each year. If you are not a member of your TWS Section, join today! North Central Section membership is only \$20 and can be added to your current TWS membership through your secure TWS [portal](#).

| State Chapters | Student Chapters | |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Illinois | Ball State University | Northern Michigan University |
| Indiana | Bemidji State University | Northland College |
| Iowa | Central Michigan University* | Purdue University |
| Michigan | Eastern Illinois University | Southeast Missouri State University |
| Minnesota | Finger Lakes Community College | Southern Illinois University |
| Missouri | Iowa State University | University of Central Missouri* |
| Ohio | Lake Superior State University | University of Illinois* |
| Wisconsin | Michigan State University* | University of Minnesota – Crookston* |
| | Michigan Technological University | University of Minnesota |
| | Minnesota State University – Moorhead | University of Missouri |
| | Missouri State University | University of Wisconsin – Madison* |
| | Missouri Western State University* | University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point* |
| | Northern Michigan University | University of Rio Grande |

* Outstanding Student Chapter Award Winners (1999 – 2017)

TREASURER'S REPORT (AS OF APRIL 20, 2018)

GENERAL FUND (Checking and Savings)

General Fund Balance as of January 30, 2018 **\$6,048.04**

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Checking Starting Balance | \$4,453.85 |
| Checking Income | |
| Transfer from Professional Development Acct. for Leadership Workshop | \$725.24 |
| Subtotal | \$725.24 |
| Checking Expenses | |
| Midwest FWC plaques | \$ 234.40 |
| 2018 Student Chapter of the Year award | \$ 979.91 |
| Executive Board MWFWC travel support | \$ 194.51 |
| MWFWC Leadership Workshop Books | \$ 725.24 |
| Student Chapter Conclave Grant | \$1,000.00 |
| 2018 TWS Conference Support | \$ 500.00 |
| Subtotal | \$ 3,635.06 |
| CHECKING TOTAL as of April 20, 2018 | \$1,544.03 |

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Savings Starting Balance | \$1,594.19 |
| Savings Income | |
| Interest (Jan, Feb, March 2018) | \$ 0.40 |
| Subtotal | \$ 0.40 |
| Savings Expenses | |
| None | \$ 0.00 |
| Subtotal | \$ 0.00 |
| SAVINGS TOTAL as of April 20, 2018 | \$1,594.59 |

General Fund Balance as of April 20, 2018 **\$3,138.62**

PROFESIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Balance as of January 30, 2018 **\$43,746.71**

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| CE-PD Income | |
| Interest (Jan, Feb, March 2018) | \$ 9.28 |
| Subtotal | \$ 9.28 |
| CE-PD Expenses | |
| Transfer to Checking | \$ 725.24 |
| Subtotal | \$ 725.24 |

Balance as of April 20, 2018 **\$43,051.86**

TOTAL FUNDS as of April 20, 2018..... \$46,190.48

Respectfully submitted by the Treasurer of the North Central Section:



Jim Schneider
Department of Fisheries and Wildlife
Michigan State University

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES (JANUARY 30, 2018 - Milwaukee, WI)

Approximately 20 members in attendance, including Katy Reeder (President), Jodie Provost (President-elect), Chris Newbold (Past President), Gary Roloff (Secretary), Jim Schneider (Treasurer), John Moriarty (Section Representative). Committee Chairs Gary Potts (Nominations and Election Committee) and Tyler Harms (Awards Committee) were also in attendance.

NCS = North Central Section (of The Wildlife Society)

Action items are underlined

Call to Order – Meeting was called to order at approximately 4:00 PM by Reeder.

- Quorum – (defined as 10 members in good standing): Quorum was established.

Agenda review – Agenda accepted as presented.

Officer Reports

- Secretary (Gary Roloff [MI]) – Roloff reviewed the 2017 Annual Members Meeting minutes, highlighting action items that included the annual audit of the NCS's financials and revision of the Section's bylaws and operations manual. Lederle commented on the status of both, agreeing to conduct the audit shortly after the meeting and working with Reeder to finalize revisions on the bylaws and operations manual. Roloff also highlighted a request by Potts to have the NCS think more strategically about workshops, symposia, training, or other activities that the NCS would sponsor or endorse. Lastly, Roloff drew attention to the process for electing undergraduate and graduate student representatives to the NCS Executive Board and suggested that this process be documented as part of the bylaws revision. Items highlighted from the 2017 Member's meeting should form the basis for Executive Board activities in 2018. Schneider motioned to accept the 2017 Annual Members Meeting minutes; Torgerson second; motion passed.
- Audit (Pat Lederle, [MI]) – Behind on conducting the NCS annual audit. Lederle and Schneider will conduct an audit following the annual members meeting.
- Treasurer (Jim Schneider [MI]) – Schneider distributed copies of a Treasurer's Report (dated Jan 30, 2018) and the tax report form for year 2017 that was submitted to National and reviewed each. Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report by Loegering; second by Moriarty; passed unanimously.
- Section Representative to Council (John Moriarty [MN]) – Moriarty reported that TWS Council meeting conflicted with the 2018 Student Conclave. He also noted that TWS National is looking to write a position statement on predator control, and that anyone interested in being involved contact Moriarty. Moriarty is also leading development of a fact sheet on the effects of insecticides on wildlife and anyone interested in helping with this effort should contact him. Moriarty further noted that TWS National was satisfied with the "Give Back Program". More individuals are maintaining their memberships after the free membership period ends. Council is also working on establishing more consistent relationships among the different levels of the TWS organization (i.e., State

Chapters, Sections, and National). This is an evolving topic that is being discussed by Council. Moriarty asked if any Section representatives would be at the Student Conclave in Iowa and Reeder indicated that she could represent the Section. Lastly, Moriarty reminded those in attendance that nominations are open until tomorrow for TWS Fellows, with due dates for other award nominations later this spring. He encouraged those in attendance to check the TWS web page for more information.

- *Anderson recommended that the NCS work with State Chapters on developing a list of potential recipients for the Give Back Program. There was general agreement among those in attendance that this is a good idea. A comparison of State membership lists to National membership lists and targeting those individuals that are State members but not National members might be particularly effective.*
- *Potts advocated for having a table (with appropriate information) at the Student-Professional Mixer as another means to identify potential recipients of "Give Back Program". This information could also be used at State Chapter meetings. National should coordinate development of the advertising materials and distribute to Sections and Chapters.*

Standing Committee Reports

- Conservation Affairs (Colleen Hartel [OH]): *Hartel could not attend.*
- Nominating & Elections (Gary Potts [IL]): *Potts worked with John Schulz to generate a list of nominees for the 2017 officer elections. Potts presented the results of the 2017 election: Gary Roloff [MI] was elected for President-Elect; John Cepek [OH] was elected as Secretary; Kali Rush [UWSP] was elected as graduate student representative. The Executive Board also thanked Travis DeVault, Kyle Daly, and James Hansen for their willingness to run for office.*
- Newsletter (Jodie Provost [MN]): *Provost produced two newsletters for the NCS in 2017 (Spring and Fall). She noted that we should keep promoting TWS awards in the newsletters.*
- Awards Committee (Tyler Harms [IA]): *Harms provided an update on section awards. We awarded 4 in 2017: Student Chapter of the Year was awarded to University of Wisconsin - Madison; Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award to Aya Pickett from Michigan State University; Outstanding Graduate student Award to Clayton Delancey from Ball State University, and the Professional Award of Merit to Patricia Heglund. Harms advocated for including criteria for selecting student awards in the revised Operations Manual.*
- Leadership Workshop (Pat Lederle [MI]): *Leadership workshop was on Sunday, Jan 28 (3rd year) and was hosted in collaboration with MAFWA. The workshop had 28 participants, with a good mix of agency and students (~60-40%). Lederle received 24 evaluations and the evaluations were overly positive. Lederle noted that there were repeat attendees from previous years. Torgerson noted that MAFWA is highly satisfied with the workshop and that MAFWA's support to the future of the workshop will persist.*

Old Business & General Orders

- *Spending plan (Gary Roloff, Jim Schneider) – Roloff handed out a copy of the draft NCS spending planning document and reviewed the draft. Potts noted that we may need to*

get the fiscal year articulated in the bylaws (that's a change) that would likely need approval from National (Mariah Simmons). Roloff will follow up with Mariah. It was noted that the fiscal year referenced in the spending plan would not influence NCS reporting to National but rather, it was a means to internally organize our spending plan. This should be finalized at our next Board Meeting.

- Reeder noted that NCS had a current request for support of the 2018 TWS Annual Conference in Cleveland. Our spending plan indicates that this request could be addressed after July 1 so this decision was tabled until then.
- Overview and history of Continuing Education Fund (Gary Potts) – Potts reviewed the history of the Continuing Education Fund. He noted that an effective fund raising strategy was to write letters to organizations (like Ducks Unlimited, National Wild Turkey Federation, companies with wildlife interests) to solicit funding for the program. Potts suggested that we sponsor at least 1 symposium each year (may be at no cost) and that we develop a listing of potential topics that are particularly timely. He advocated for formation of a Symposium and Workshop Committee at the Section level to facilitate Section involvement on this topic, and encouraged us to solicit ideas in the newsletter. He also noted that we should get MAFWA Directors and agency Department Heads to recognize the value of the NCS. Potts noted that support for the Student Conclave could come out of Professional Development Fund if approved by the Executive Board.
- Conservation Affairs Network survey results – Reeder (for Hartel) briefly reviewed results from the Conservation Affairs Network survey. Hartel compiled a report that will eventually be available to membership. Top-ranking items from the survey were funding wildlife conservation, and that the membership would be supportive of NCS sending letters on behalf of wildlife conservation. Potts recommended that NCS letters and position statements should be reviewed by Keith Norris to ensure that there is not a conflict with TWS policy/positions statements.
- Bylaws and operations manual review and update: Lederle provided an update on this effort. Generally agreed to keep the bylaws and the operations manual separate. Mariah Simmons would be the contact for a template for bylaws. Bylaws (legal document that defines structure); operations manual describes how we function.
 - Lederle and Reeder agreed to work on this update and finalize it by [no date was assigned].
- President's parting words (Katy Reeder, IA) – Reeder passed the Presidential responsibilities to Provost.
- Installing new officers: New officers were installed.

New Business

- Additions to New Business
 - Torgerson – Informally asked if NCS had an interest in taking on a program that would help distribute travel funding awards for students to attend the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. He stressed that this was an informal request and that he was not instructed by the Directors to approach our organization, but he wanted to gauge our interests. MAFWA Directors are contemplating taking on oversight of the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, but do not want to get involved with how the meeting runs. The proposal is to potentially use profit from the conferences for student travel scholarships. The NCS would need to

develop a process for soliciting nominations, but Potts noted that National already had a process that we could adopt. The membership in attendance was supportive of NCS providing this service. Craig Miller and John Loegering agreed to serve on this committee if the request becomes formal.

- *Section membership trends – NCS needs to take a historic look at section membership numbers and reconcile the numbers. Roloff will compile these numbers for the Spring newsletter.*
 - *Follow-up: 275 was confirmed as the correct number. Membership is declining. Provost encouraged the Section to re-form the Membership Committee. Potts, Craig Miller, Reeder, and Provost agreed to serve on it.*
- *State and Student Chapter brief updates – IL, MN, OH provided brief updates. Please provide additional updates for the Spring newsletter to Gary Roloff (Roloff@msu.edu).*
- *Adjournment: Provost called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:20. Loegering motioned; second by Miller.*



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Wildlife Refuge Manager (New Jersey)

If you or someone you know is interested in rewarding and challenging service to wildlife in New Jersey, please send the following by E-mail only, to Nedim C. Buyukmihci, president, ned.trustee@unexpectedwildliferefuge.org: 1) letter explaining why you would be the ideal candidate; 2) full curriculum vitae (an expanded résumé); and 3) at least three references, one of whom must provide a critical assessment of your abilities. You can find a full job description at the following Web address:

[http://unexpectedwildliferefuge.org/temp/Unexpected Wildlife Refuge manager job.pdf](http://unexpectedwildliferefuge.org/temp/Unexpected_Wildlife_Refuge_manager_job.pdf)

STUDENT CHAPTER REPORTS

Eastern Illinois University

(Submitted by Ash Cable)

The Fish and Wildlife Ecology Club at Eastern Illinois University (EIU) is a joint club with The Wildlife Society (TWS) and American Fisheries Society (AFS) student subunits. This year the club has invited several speakers from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, University of Illinois and the Illinois Natural History Survey to present research and job opportunities. In addition, the club has participated in field trips to Snake Road in Southern Illinois to view migrating herpetofauna, assisted with invasive honeysuckle removal at nearby natural areas, and conducted an electroshocking fish survey at a neighborhood pond. Several students within the club have presented research at the AFS national and state chapter meetings and there will be a club presence at the upcoming Illinois TWS meeting in Champaign, Illinois.



Michigan State University

(Submitted by Audrey Boike, Student Chapter Secretary)

The Michigan State University Fisheries and Wildlife club has had a busy spring semester. In January, members of club attended the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This

past month, 9 of our members had a valuable experience at the North Central student conclave in Iowa. These two events allowed for our students interact and learn from peers and professionals in our region.

Along with this, the MSU FW club holds weekly meetings every Thursday, and have had many exciting events. We welcomed Jay Hesse, a fisheries biologist from Idaho, to speak to club about his experiences in the field, and what it is like to work for a tribe. We just successfully held our annual Professional Speed Dating Event, where we invite faculty, graduate students, and fisheries and wildlife professionals to speak to small groups of students. Another professional development meeting we hold is a graduate student panel, where we

coordinate with MSU's Fisheries and Wildlife Graduate Student Organization to learn about their experiences and get advice about our futures.

Our biggest club event is coming up at the end of April, the Red Cedar River Clean-Up. This is a biannual event is where our club pulls the community together to cleaning our university's iconic river. It is our hope that the public learns about the importance of our river, as well as aquatic ecosystems as a whole, and fosters a desire to protect our environment.

Northern Michigan University

(Submitted by Abby Blanchard, Student Chapter President)



The Northern Michigan University Fisheries and Wildlife Association has been quite busy since the fall. We kicked the semester off in September with our annual small mammal trapping and electrofishing field work trips. Students learned to set traplines for small mammals, and then checked their traplines the next morning. Students were led through a workshop where they removed parasites from their mammals and stuffed them for the museum. Our electrofishing trip took place in Munising in Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore. Students learned to assist with electrofishing, and identify and take data on fish. Throughout the fall field season, members participated in our yearly waterfowl surveys. To round up the fall field work season,

members attended a deer aging workshop led by Caleb Eckloff, a former FWA member who now works for the DNR. Members then had the opportunity to volunteer for the deer check station at the Marquette DNR customer service center, where they assisted hunters in weighing, aging, and recording data for harvested deer. Members also took a tour of the Marquette fish hatchery. Workshops included a radio telemetry workshop, a workshop on applying to jobs, and a workshop on how to construct a CV. During the fall we also participated in the Haunted Hayride fundraiser where our members raised \$1,800 to assist with the registration fee for the Midwest Fish & Wildlife conference. We also participated in Make A Difference Day, and did a beach clean up through the Alliance for the Great Lakes.

The winter semester kicked off in January with 29 members attending the Midwest Fish & Wildlife conference in Milwaukee. Attendees had great opportunities to network, as well as participate in workshops, and hear talks about recent and ongoing research in their field. Throughout the winter semester we had speakers in our weekly meetings, many of whom were requested by members during the previous semester. Speakers of interest included Officer DeLonge, who is a local conservation officer, Matt Symbal from the sea lamprey control program, Jerry Belant from Mississippi State University who conducts research on lions, and Katie Koch, who is the Midwest Bird Monitoring Coordinator for U.S. Fish and Wildlife. Several students presented on wildlife at the Jacobetti Veterans home. Members also attended a workshop on the graduate school process, and put together our annual Birds of Prey event that took place April 6. We had record attendance for our event with a total of 500 attendees combined for the three presentations. Presentations were conducted by Northwoods Wildlife Center and Chocolay Raptor Center.

As the end of the winter semester approaches, we are already gearing up for next fall. We are beginning to brainstorm ideas for workshops, research opportunities, and guest speakers. We feel that our growth was strong this year and that it will continue in the coming years. We strive to provide a multitude of opportunities for our members and we feel like this year especially, we were quite successful in our pursuits.



University of Central Missouri
(Submitted by Savannah Penney, Student Chapter Vice President)



Taken by Savannah Penney on September 30th during the 14th annual BioBlitz

The UCM Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society has had a great start to the spring semester. Our first meeting was January 18th, and we've totaled 60+ members so far. This semester our members participated in major educational outreach events and spent many days in the field assisting the graduate students of biology at UCM. Members also focused a lot of their time on preparing themselves for searching for summer jobs by attending informational meetings, workshops, guest speaker presentations, and the Missouri Natural Resource Conference.



Taken by Savannah Penney, Pictured: Chris Edmondson and Savannah Penney

Involvement Fair

The involvement fair is an annual event at the University of Central Missouri that involves student organizations setting up booths inside the recreation center to interact with students and hopefully bring in many new members. This fair is a great way to reach out to not only wildlife majors, but also other students that are passionate about getting involved and working with nature. At the fair members tell others about their experiences within our club and hand out small flyers of the semester meeting dates.

Steam Night



A public outreach and education event held at a local elementary school open to all students and their families. TWS hosted a couple of stations in one area. Members enjoyed coming up with ideas and planning the booths as well as gaining valuable experience with the public and encouraging kids to be enthusiastic about wildlife.



Photos taken by Savannah Penney, Pictured Left: Marissa Ginger and Emily Dunlap, Right: Chris Edmondson

College for a Day

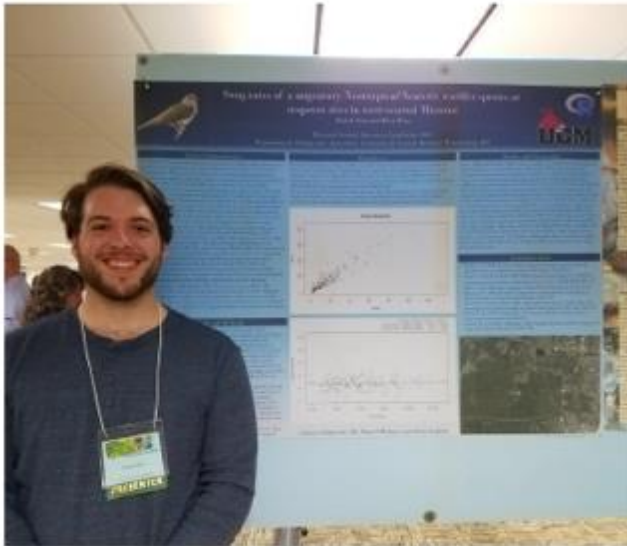
College for a Day is an amazing event where middle school students from various schools in the area come to UCM and learn cool things. This event is hosted by TriBeta Biological Honor Society and involves different departments and organizations participation. This year TWS hosted a class on Radio Telemetry.

Science Olympiad

Science Olympiad is a science and math tournament that occurs every year. Students from middle school and high school divisions compete as individuals and teams. Members may assist in proctoring exams, grading, and/or judging.

Missouri Natural Resource Conference

The Missouri Natural Resources Conference (MNRC) is an annual meeting organized and sponsored by the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, The Missouri Chapter of the Society of American Foresters, Missouri Chapter of the Wildlife Society and the Show-Me Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society. This event features speakers, presentations, and workshops to promote a blend of everything going on with Missouri wildlife management and resource use. Members gain priceless experience in attending this conference and all it has to offer and get a chance to create connections with other attendees. Students can also take advantage of the career fair to secure a job in the near future. This conference also gives students a chance at presenting their own work among peers.



Photos taken by Savannah Penney, Pictured Left: Daniel Akin, Right: (Left to Right) Marissa Ginger, Savannah Penney, and Chris Edmondson

Pertle Springs Nature Hike



TWS members led an interpretive hike through Pertle Springs. These hikes were open to UCM students, faculty, and the community. Members led attendees through the park and discussed the history and wildlife of the local park.

Photo taken by Savannah Penney

Pictured: Savannah Penney and Topher Hockaday

Website

Our chapter now has it's own website: <https://sites.google.com/ucmo.edu/tws/> made by Chris Edmondson. This website contains information about our chapter, upcoming meeting dates, minutes from previous meetings, event summaries with photos, a calendar of the year's events, and a section dedicated to outside resources recommended for our members, such as job boards and internship opportunities.



The UCM Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society
Fall 2017 Newsletter

University of Minnesota – Crookston



Students John West, Austin Tatter, Noah Roseen, Carlee Wersal, Tessa Coster, Maddy Witt, Hunter Simonson, Abigail Ritman, Shane Boehne and Hannah Cordes pose with the coveted Golden Saw at the MSGS Brush Cut at Larix WMA. Photo by Jodi Provost.

The University of Minnesota Crookston Student Chapter has had a busy year! Six of our members attended the Minnesota State Chapter Meeting in St. Cloud and enjoyed competing in the quiz bowl and receiving advice from professionals at the student-professional mixer. We have taken part in several volunteer opportunities including: assisting with the Justin Knebel Memorial Ice Fishing Tournament at Lake of the Woods; working alongside other students and professionals on the Larix WMA to clear 9 acres of habitat at the annual MSGS Brush Cut; and braving the cold weather for



Students Carlee Wersal, Beth Boos, Kris Oja, Wayne Clark, Noah Roseen, Hannah Cordes, Melissa Schilling, Abigail Ritman and Shane Boehne at Norris Camp in Beltrami Island State Forest, where they stayed while performing rare owl and Northern Goshawk surveys. Photo by Maddy Witt.

rare owl and Northern Goshawk surveys in Beltrami Island State Forest. It is a privilege to participate in these experiences year after year, reuniting with familiar faces and making new connections as the events grow. Before the academic year finishes, we look forward to volunteering more with Polk County 4-H and the Agassiz Audubon Society, and celebrating with an end of the year cookout.

University of Minnesota – Twin Cities

(Submitted by Jeff Tillery)

The University of Minnesota-Twin Cities TWS Student Chapter has been very active over this past year. Field experience and networking are the top priorities for our student chapter, and officers made sure students had a plethora of opportunities to work in the field and network with wildlife professionals. Here are some of the events we've taken a crack at this past year:

- 8 members assisted with raptor banding in Northern Minnesota where we were lucky enough to trap and band a sharp shinned hawk.
- 10 members assisted with saw-whet owl banding in Southeastern Minnesota and learned the basics of mist-netting for owls and protocol for handling this species.
- Over 15 members worked with the MNDNR to test for CWD in white-tailed deer across the state.
- 22 members helped the USFS in conducting track surveys for Canada Lynx in Superior National Forest for two weeks in January. Collaboration between the USFS and the club was successful, and resulted in over 50 fecal samples being collected for genetic analysis.
- 12 members attended the Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society meeting in February 2018 and enjoyed participating in quiz bowl and learning about various research currently taking place around the state.
- 6 members assisted with an annual winter wildlife tracking survey at the Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve conducted by the Minnesota Tracking Project.
- 4 members received their S130/S190 red card certification for

fire training through the MNDNR this March.

- 11 members traveled down to the Illinois and Iowa border to help out with duck banding operations on the Mississippi River. Over 600 Lesser Scaup, Canvasback, Goldeneye, and hybrids were banded over the three weekends that students participated.
- 30 members engaged in a graduate student panel discussion where graduate students provided guidance, advice, and stories about their undergraduate and graduate experiences and how to navigate and take full advantage of both times in your life.

- 8 members went ice fishing with a previous graduate student who taught many newbies the ropes!
- Dr. Lou Cornicelli put on a deer aging workshop in April to help students prepare for CWD monitoring this upcoming fall.
- Over 20 members will enjoy a day of canoeing on the Saint Croix River and learning about the flora and fauna of the region in early May.
- The club secured over \$16,000 in club funding through grants that were never accessed by previous officers, which has allowed for a substantial growth in opportunities for the club to partake in and develop ourselves.

University of Wisconsin – Madison

(Submitted by Valerie Knurr, Student Chapter President)



The UW Madison Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society has had a busy spring semester. We started out with Conservation Warden Jake Donar, a UW Wildlife Ecology alum, speaking about his

job and what it is like to work for the DNR. We had a lot of events including a tour of the CWD testing station in Black Earth, a Snap-a-thon in partnership with Snapshot Wisconsin where teams competed to

classify as many trail cam photos as possible, a trip to the UW Arboretum for Madison Reads Leopold and a hike, and an ice skating social with the Forestry Club. We also had former WDNR herpetologist and current director of Turtles for Tomorrow, Bob Hay, speak about Wood Turtle conservation. In April we had a Crafts for Conservation event in partnership with the Henry Vilas Zoo where our members created crafts out of snares from South East Asia that were being used to illegally trap Saolas. These crafts are sold to make money for Saola conservation efforts. We are also taking a trip to a Maple syrup festival at the Mackenzie Center and participating in Science Expeditions for an outreach event. We plan on attending a naturalist lead hike in Owen Conservation Park and cleaning up a highway segment on Earth Day. We will also be participating in the DNR citizen science Frog and Toad Survey and the Great Wisconsin Birdathon like we've done for many years.

This semester we have been focusing on getting as many people involved as possible, especially undergrads. We did a member survey to see how we can improve our club. We followed that up with an officer shadow meeting where members who were thinking about running for an officer position could experience an officer meeting and get a better understanding of the organization's leadership. We have also tried to increase the number of events we



offer to so more people can participate and members have more options. We hope these efforts will have a lasting impact on the club and keep members invested for years to come.



University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point
(Submitted by Katherine Rexroad, Student Chapter President)



Students of the Stevens Point Wildlife Society chapter started 2018 with a bang! Over 50 Pointers, both faculty and students, attended the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference this year in Milwaukee, WI. We had 5 poster presentations with multiple student authors, and multiple students took home awards. Organization member Emily Masterson won best undergrad presentation and UWSP graduate student Kali Rush won the best graduate presentation. Alumni Rachel Konkle received the Aldo Leopold Award from the Wisconsin State Chapter of the Wildlife Society and graduate student Jordan Meyer received the Janice Lee Fenske Award! We would also like to congratulate Dr. Scott Hygnstrom and Dr. Shawn Crimmins for getting elected to serve on the Wisconsin State chapter board.

Along with conferences, participating in the Adopt a Wildlife Area project with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources keeps our members busy! During the month of February, 30 Pointers became chainsaw certified through the program. We also had multiple work days on the area to allow our members to practice their new skills. Additional research projects that took volunteers out this semester include the woodpecker project, ruffed grouse project, lagomorph project, waterfowl project, and whitetail deer project. The saw whet owl project presented data from their fall season at both the Midwest conference and the Izaak Walton League local chapter.

Unrelated to research, McKenna Hammons, our chapter treasurer, initiated the showing



of the Aldo Leopold film "Green Fire" in early March. Finally, elections for our 2018-2019 student officer team will be held on April 17th. Our organization has lots of goals for the future and a dedicated group of students to pursue them!

SECTION AWARDS

Student Chapter of the Year Award

Deadline May 15

The North Central Section of The Wildlife Society is seeking reports from student chapters to be considered for the annual Student Chapter of the Year Award. The goal of this award is to encourage and recognize exceptional achievements by Section student chapters, and recognizes a single chapter each year for its exemplary contributions to the Society's mission and goals. Student chapters are asked to report their annual activities on the attached form which will also serve as the Chapter's nomination for the award. A travel grant of up to \$1,000 is awarded to the selected chapter for travel to the annual Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference.



The attached form should be submitted by email to North Central Section President Jodie Provost (Jodie.Provost@state.mn.us) and copied to North Central Section Awards Committee Chair Tyler Harms (Tyler.Harms@dnr.iowa.gov). The deadline for submitting this form is **15 May 2018**. Student Chapters - we want to recognize you for your outstanding achievements, so submit your nomination form today!

Outstanding Graduate Student Award

Deadline Nov 30

We are accepting applications for the Outstanding Wildlife Graduate Student Award. The North Central Section (NCS) of The Wildlife Society has a long history of working on student activities and we have developed an award recognizing outstanding students and potential future wildlife professionals. Graduate students who are pursuing a degree in wildlife ecology, wildlife management, zoology or a closely related discipline who plan to attend the Conference are encouraged to apply. Student finalists will be selected based on academic ability, scholarly achievement, work experience, letters of reference and extra-curricular activities in The Wildlife Society.

Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award

Deadline Nov 30

We are accepting applications for the Outstanding Wildlife Undergraduate Student Award. The North Central Section (NCS) of The Wildlife Society has a long history of working on student activities and we have developed an award recognizing outstanding students and potential future wildlife professionals. Undergraduate students who are pursuing a degree in wildlife ecology, wildlife management, zoology or a closely related discipline who plan to attend the

Conference are encouraged to apply. Student finalists will be selected based on academic ability, scholarly achievement, work experience, letters of reference and extra-curricular activities in The Wildlife Society.

Professional Award of Merit **Continuous Nominations**

The Professional Award of Merit is bestowed by the North Central Section to Society members living in the North Central Section for outstanding professional accomplishments in wildlife conservation. The award is restricted to living conservationists who are or have recently been active within the geographic boundaries of the Section. The award is given only in those years in which a truly deserving candidate is available. No more than one such award is made annually.

Criteria for judging the professional accomplishments of nominees include:

- (1) contribution to knowledge
- (2) single outstanding acts, and/or
- (3) leadership over a period of several years in any area of wildlife work — for example, research, wildlife law enforcement, management, administration or education — as evidenced by publications, skillful development and/or application of effective management or educational programs or methods.

NATIONAL AWARDS



April 3, 2018

There's less than one month left to submit nominations for the remaining 2018 TWS Awards!

The deadline is Tuesday, May 1, at 11:59 p.m. EDT. Our Awards Program annually honors professional excellence, recognizes outstanding achievement, and highlights contributions to wildlife science and management. We encourage members to recognize the contributions of their peers by participating in the nomination process.

Visit wildlife.org/awards to see the complete list of TWS Awards and find out how you can nominate deserving peers and colleagues.

For questions, please contact lmatheson@wildlife.org.

TWS PUBLICATIONS

WILEY



Read the most talked about papers from The Wildlife Society publications

Altmetrics are metrics and qualitative data that are complementary to traditional, citation-based metrics. They can include (but are not limited to) discussions on research blogs, mainstream media coverage, and mentions on social networks such as Twitter. The **Altmetric Attention Score** for a research output indicates the amount of attention it has received.

Most Talked About Research



Polar bear attacks on humans: Implications of a changing climate
Wildlife Society Bulletin



The true cost of partial fencing: Evaluating strategies to reduce reptile road mortality
Wildlife Society Bulletin



How publishing in open access journals threatens science and what we can do about it
Journal of Wildlife Management



Investigating impacts of oil and gas development on greater sage-grouse
Journal of Wildlife Management



Free-roaming cat interactions with wildlife admitted to a wildlife hospital
Journal of Wildlife Management



Demography of an increasing caribou herd with restricted wolf control
Journal of Wildlife Management



Evaluating population expansion of black bears using spatial capture-recapture
Journal of Wildlife Management



Online hunting forums identify achievement as prominent among multiple satisfactions
Wildlife Society Bulletin

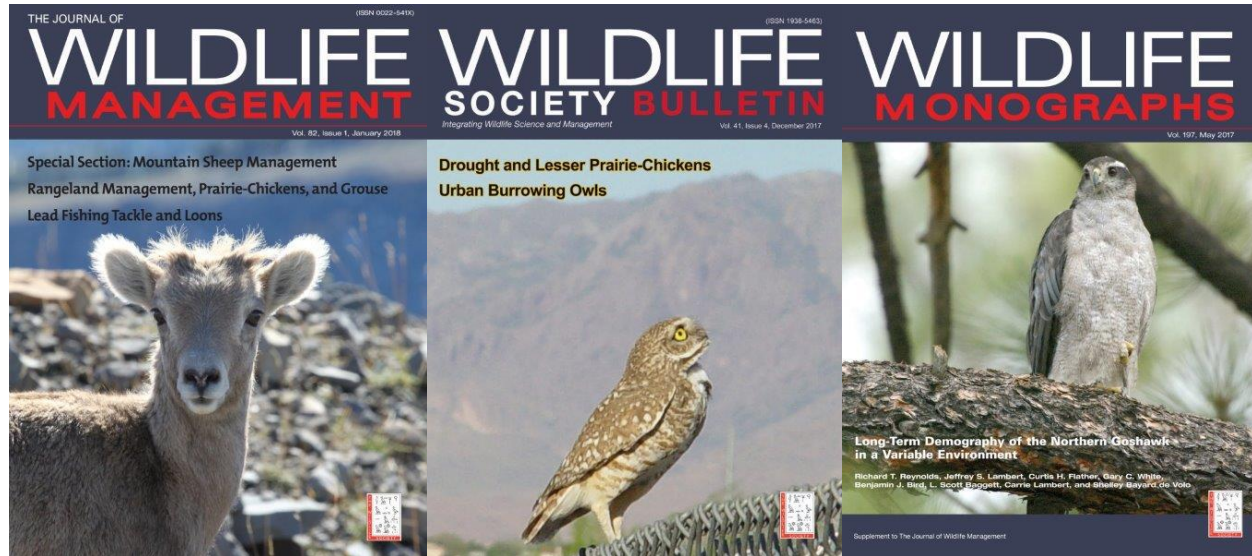


Population-level effects of lead fishing tackle on common loons
Journal of Wildlife Management



Persistence of greater sage-grouse in agricultural landscapes
Journal of Wildlife Management

*Altmetric score based on current standings as of November 9th 2017



Make TWS Journals Your Publishing Choice in 2018

By Nancy Sasavage (TWS Director of Publications and Communications and Editor-in-Chief of *The Wildlife Professional*).

Many factors go into choosing where to publish your wildlife research findings. TWS wants to make our journals your first choice in 2018. Here's what we are doing to encourage members to publish in one of the Society's three scholarly journals: *The Journal of Wildlife Management*, *Wildlife Society Bulletin* and *Wildlife Monographs*.

Reduced page charges for members

As a TWS member, you are eligible for **40 percent off** the standard page charges. In 2018, we have also eliminated all color page charges.

The following page charges and publication fees apply to all manuscripts, except Letters to the Editor, Invited Papers, and Book Reviews, that go into production after Jan. 1, 2018.

Journal of Wildlife Management

If any author is a member of The Wildlife Society:

- \$90 per published page for the first 8 pages
- \$150 for every page thereafter

If none of the authors are a member of The Wildlife Society:

- \$150 per page

Authors also may choose to publish the manuscript under TWS' and Wiley's open-access option; the fee for publication will be \$3,000 in lieu of page charges.

Wildlife Society Bulletin

If any author is a member of The Wildlife Society:

- \$50 per published page for the first 10 pages
- \$80 for every page thereafter

If none of the authors is a member of The Wildlife Society:

- \$80 per page for the first 10 pages
- \$130 for every page thereafter

Authors may choose to publish the manuscript under TWS' and Wiley's open-access option; the fee for publication is \$3,000 in lieu of page charges.

Wildlife Monographs

Beginning Jan. 1, The Wildlife Society **reduced the publication fees for *Wildlife Monographs* from \$10,000 to \$7,500 and eliminated color page charges** to encourage authors to publish their work in this highly regarded journal. The journal's 2016 Impact Factor was 5.75 and it ranked number one of 162 publications in the zoology category and 12 of 153 in ecology. And for the first time, we have created **an open-access option for *Wildlife Monographs***, which allows anyone to read the published paper in the Wiley Online Library. The publication fee for this option is \$10,000.

Streamlined guidelines for authors

We know author guidelines are no fun to read, so that's why the journal editors and editorial staff have [revised the guidelines](#) and put all information you need for quick-reference at the very beginning of the guidelines.

High visibility

Your published work can be seen by 10,000 of your peers because all TWS members have online access to TWS journals. Plus Wiley offers tips for how to get more publicity for your published work. Check out this [free promotional toolkit](#). TWS also works with Wiley to promote newly published papers to world-wide media outlets.

And did you know that over 4,200 institutions subscribe to the *Journal of Wildlife Management/Wildlife Monographs* and more than 1,500 to the *Wildlife Society Bulletin*? This means that virtually the entire wildlife community can access your published work.

Supporting TWS' Strategic Plan

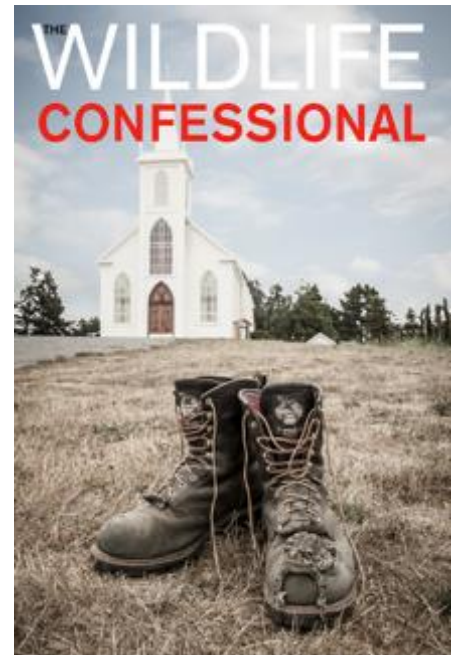
There's one more important reason to publish in TWS journals that members may not think of often. One of TWS' strategic themes is being a recognized and trusted organization for expertise on science-based wildlife management and conservation. When you publish with your Society, you are lending your support to our strategic plan.

With your help, we can grow the impact of TWS journals on achieving a positive impact on the sustainability of wildlife populations for future generations.

New Books

The Wildlife Society – Western Section is excited to announce that [*The Wildlife Confessional*](#) anthology, a collection of short stories by dyed-in-the-wool wildlife biologists that endeavors to show the humor and poignancy in our day-to-day adventures that sometimes define and enlighten the profession or that, sometimes, we'd rather forget, is now live.

The anthology is a collection of fifteen stories by thirteen biologists, including Western Section members Brian Cypher, Ivan Parr, Matthew Bettelheim, and the late Thomas A. Roberts. It also includes contributions by published authors Marcy Cottrell Houle (*Wings for my Flight, One City's Wilderness, The Prairie Keepers*) and J. Drew Lanham (*The Home Place: Memoirs of a Colored Man's Love Affair with Nature*), and a memoir of the late Dr. Charles Jonkel, co-founder of the Great Bear Foundation.



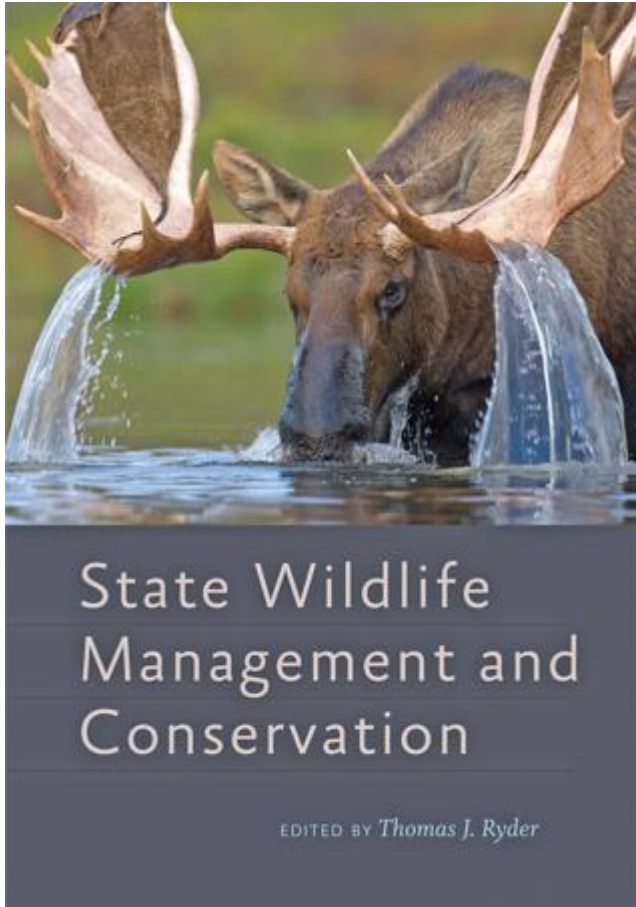
The authors whose stories have been collected here represent men and women from all walks of wildlife biology – State and Federal biologists, consultants, students, professors, interns – and take place across North and Central America, from the Gulf of Alaska to San Ignacio, Belize, from the tropics of the Hawaiian Islands to the deserts of Arizona, and in the desert springs, coastal bluffs, national parks, stock ponds, pick-up trucks, traplines, doctor's offices, roof tops, outhouses, and bombing ranges scattered everywhere in between.

At a cover price of \$20 paperback / \$10 ebook, our intermediate goal is to sell 250 copies by February 28th, so we are counting on members to help spread the word.

This anthology is a labor of love. One of the primary reasons the authors and editors behind *The Wildlife Confessional* have undertaken this project is to educate and attract students to enter the field of wildlife biology and to apply money raised through book sales to support student involvement in The Wildlife Society by funding scholarships, grants, and training opportunities. Your support will help us realize those goals.

You can also follow the project on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/The-Wildlife-Confessional-1070767069681846/>



State Wildlife Management and Conservation **Edited by Thomas J. Ryder**

By Nancy Sasavage (TWS Director of Publications and Communications)

Are you thinking about a career with a state wildlife agency or already a seasoned professional working for one? Either way, this newest book in TWS' Wildlife Conservation and Management series, "State Wildlife Management and Conservation," is a must have.

TWS Past President Tom Ryder, now retired after a long career with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, brings together wildlife leaders from practical, policy, and academic backgrounds to tell the story of state wildlife agencies, chronicling their efforts to restore and protect our nation's natural resources.

With more than 40 contributors, the book provides a comprehensive, nationwide account of state management efforts. It will aid

professors training the next generation of wildlife professionals, students hoping to enter the profession, and anyone working with wildlife to develop a more sophisticated understanding of what it means to be a state wildlife biologist.

[Order your copy now.](#) TWS members receive a 30 percent discount off the cover price of \$75.

TWS Facts

Did you know?

[The Wildlife Society](#) endorses professional development and career advancement at various stages through its professional certification programs. The Certified Wildlife Biologist® and Associate Wildlife Biologist® designations validate a professional's completion of rigorous academic standards, educational background and demonstrated expertise in the art and science of applying the principles of ecology to the conservation and management of wildlife. Learn more about The Wildlife Society's professional certification programs at wildlife.org/certification-programs.

Did you know?

The new TWS Network Online Directory has revolutionized networking opportunities for all members of the Society. The directory is an incredible tool featuring a robust search engine that helps members connect with each other based on location, area of focus, employer type and other relevant factors. Its versatility can help you make valuable connections for

collaboration, explore job opportunities, find mentors and more! [Click here](#) to learn more about this great TWS asset, or visit wildlife.org to see the complete list of membership benefits.

Did you know?

The Wildlife Society's diverse membership represents professionals from all across the wildlife science, management and conservation community, and from every organization type, including federal, state agency, private and corporate industry, nonprofit, academia and more! The Society provides a common platform for cross-organizational employees to network, communicate, share ideas, and collaborate on policy and conservation issues. To learn more about who we are, visit wildlife.org/about.

Did you know?

Between conference discounts, free magazines and journals, tuition savings through American Public University, and book discounts, TWS members can save hundreds of dollars each year, all for a price of just \$81! [Click here](#) to see a complete list of TWS membership benefits, or [join today](#).

Did you know?

The Wildlife Society membership now includes free, online access to *The Journal of Wildlife Management*, *Wildlife Monographs*, and *Wildlife Society Bulletin*. Learn more about TWS' journals by [clicking here](#), or visit wildlife.org to see the complete list of membership benefits.

Did you know?

Tired of paying an arm and a leg for the latest wildlife science and management textbooks and manuals? In cooperation with Wiley publishing and Johns Hopkins University Press, [The Wildlife Society](#) offers select titles to our members at a significant discount of 25-30 percent off. Check out a few of the titles at the [TWS book store](#).

Did you know?

Members of The Wildlife Society receive an e-newsletter, the eWildlifer, each week. The newsletter contains additional wildlife science, management, conservation and policy news, fun and educational information such as Quiz Bowl questions, two TWS Talks per week from our archive of Annual Conference presentation recordings, and important TWS news and notes in the announcements section!

Did you know?

[The Wildlife Society's](#) Annual Conference features over 14 concurrent sessions, 900 educational opportunities, more than 40 networking opportunities, and nearly 100 sponsors and exhibitors. Attendees also get online access to recorded presentations following the conference. TWS members can get all this at a \$200-discounted registration rate. Learn more about our conference at twsconference.org.

Did you know?

There are 27 Working Groups active within The Wildlife Society, encompassing nearly all facets of the complex wildlife profession. Working groups are forums where TWS members with

common professional interests can network, exchange information and promote science-based decision-making and management of wildlife and its habitats. [Click here](#) to see a complete list of TWS Working Groups and find out how you can join at wildlife.org/join/.

Did you know?

Members of [The Wildlife Society](#) enjoy six issues of our award-winning magazine, [The Wildlife Professional](#), each year. Featuring news and analysis on wildlife science, conservation, management, policy and education, it's a favorite membership benefit. TWS staff and contributing authors profile outstanding wildlife professionals, cover contemporary issues, summarize relevant scientific papers, highlight new field techniques, and more in this bimonthly publication.

UPCOMING MEETINGS








Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Jan 26 – 30, 2019

Cleveland, OH

[Watch for details](#)



North Central Section Officers

| | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
|  | Jodie Provost President Minnesota DNR 1200 Minnesota Ave. S. Aitkin, MN 56431 (218) 838-3553 tws.ncs@gmail.com |  | Jim Schneider Treasurer Michigan State University East Lansing, Michigan 48824 (517) 353-2979 |
|  | Gary Roloff President-elect Michigan State University 480 Wilson Road, Room 13 East Lansing, MI 48824 (517) 432-5236 (Office) |  | John Moriarty Section Representative Three Rivers Park District 12615 Rockford Rd. Plymouth, MN 55441-1248 (763) 694-7842 |
|  | Katy Reeder Past President Iowa DNR Wildlife Bureau 502 East 9th Street Des Moines, IA 50319 (515) 494-6136 |  | Kali Rush Graduate Student Rep University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point Stevens Point, WI |
|  | Jon Cepek Secretary Cleveland Metro Parks 4101 Fulton Parkway Cleveland, OH 44144 (216) 635-3200 |  | Collin Stratton Undergraduate Student Rep Iowa State University |

State Chapter Presidents (Also Members of Executive Board)

| | | | |
|----------|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| Illinois | Scott Beckerman | Minnesota | Kyle Arola |
| Indiana | Sam Whiteleather | Missouri | Charles Anderson |
| Iowa | Pete Hildreth | Ohio | Geoff Westerfield |
| Michigan | Matt Ihnken | Wisconsin | Jeremy Holtz |

Please send corrections to Gary Roloff (roloff@msu.edu) and Mariah Simmons (MSimmons@wildlife.org). If you know of NCS members that have trouble accessing the electronic newsletter, please contact Gary so they can be mailed a hard copy.

Visit us online at www.wildlife.org/NCS/