North Central Section

**Illinois – Indiana – Iowa – Michigan – Minnesota – Missouri – Ohio - Wisconsin**

**NORTH CENTRAL SECTION OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY**

**STUDENT CHAPTER ANNUAL REPORT**

**AND STUDENT CHAPTER OF THE YEAR AWARD APPLICATION**

**Award Year**

**Student Chapter Name** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**Date Established** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Submitted by** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** ( )\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Were all Student Chapter Officers current members of TWS (Parent Society)? Yes No

1. **Membership in Year**

 Number of student chapter members \_\_\_\_\_

 Number of TWS members in student chapter \_\_\_\_\_

 Number of Section members in chapter \_\_\_\_\_

 Number of wildlife students enrolled at your college/university \_\_\_\_\_

 Number of student chapter members involved in state chapter \_\_\_\_\_

 Number of student chapter members involved in section \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Student Chapter Meetings in Year**

 Number of student chapter meetings \_\_\_\_\_

 Average number of attendees \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Executive Board**

 Number of members on Executive Board \_\_\_\_\_

 Number of meetings \_\_\_\_\_

 Average attendance at meetings \_\_\_\_\_

***Please provide information on activities from only the most recent fall and spring semesters.***

**Application Deadline: April 30**

**GOAL 1: PROMOTE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR WILDLIFE RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND MANAGEMENT**

**Efforts to educate wildlife students and wildlife educators about TWS’s certification program. Describe activities, purposes, and results.**

**Efforts to educate wildlife students on professionalism, job qualifications, and ethical conduct. Describe activities, purposes, and results.**

**Efforts to involve wildlife students in professional activities or otherwise introduce students to the wildlife profession.**

**GOAL 2: ENHANCE KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES OF WILDLIFE STUDENTS**

**Conduct and/or participation in workshops, symposia, conferences, and conclaves. Describe purpose, program/agenda, and participation for each. Agendas or other materials may be attached.**

**Publication of newsletters and development or maintenance of listserves and Web sites to provide communications with and among members. Describe purpose, content, and frequency of publication or use of each. Samples may be attached.**

**GOAL 3: ENCOURAGE AND RECOGNIZE PROFESSIONAL STEWARDSHIP OF WILDLIFE AND PROMOTION OF TWS GOALS**

**Participation in habitat management and resource conservation projects. Describe activities, purposes, and impacts on members/profession/resources.**

**Sponsorship of annual awards program to recognize excellence in wildlife stewardship and service to the student chapter or profession. List award(s), purpose, and recipient.**

**GOAL 4: ADVOCATE USE OF SOUND BIOLOGICAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC INFORMATION FOR WILDLIFE POLICY DECISIONS**

**Development of technical review papers and position statements on wildlife policy issues. Communication of chapter positions to the public, media, legislators, agency heads, and judicial proceedings. Describe activities, purposes, and impacts.**

**Cooperative efforts with other professional societies, conservation groups, and natural resource agencies to achieve mutual goals. Describe activities, purposes, and results.**

**GOAL 5: INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND APPRECIATION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AND THE WILDLIFE PROFESSION**

**Development and/or presentation of information on wildlife science, management, and policy to the public. Describe activities, purposes, and results. Samples may be attached where appropriate.**

**Efforts to enhance relationships between wildlife students and landowners, interest groups, and local governments. Describe activities, purposes, and results.**

**Efforts to document and communicate the history and development of the wildlife management profession. Describe activities, purposes, and results.**

**GOAL 6: ENSURE FINANCIAL STABILITY AND FUTURE GROWTH OF THE CHAPTER**

**Efforts to promote membership in the chapter, your section, and TWS (international organization). Describe activities, purposes, and results.**

**Efforts to involve wildlife students in chapter activities. Describe activities, purposes, and results.**

**Efforts to diversify the ethnic and gender composition of the chapter and/or profession.**

**APPEND ANY SUPPORTING OR SUPPLIMENTAL DOCUMENTS FOLLOWING THIS PAGE**

**(As an Appendix, these documents support but do not replace the application above)**

**STUDENT CHAPTER ANNUAL REPORT AND STUDENT CHAPTER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**NORTH CENTRAL SECTION OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY**

**Overview and Goals**

The NCS presents the Student Chapter of the Year award to an outstanding student chapter each year. The goal of the award is to encourage and recognize exceptional achievements by Section student chapters. Active and effective student chapters are needed to achieve The Wildlife Society’s goals, many of which are best addressed at the state/provincial or local level. Student chapters also strengthen the Society’s membership recruitment and retention efforts by providing opportunities for member involvement in Society activities. The Student Chapter of the Year award pays tribute to this important unit of The Wildlife Society.

**Application Guidelines and Procedures**

The Student Chapter of the Year award is presented annually to one student chapter of the section for exemplary contributions to the Society’s mission and goals. The winning student chapter receives recognition at the Section’s annual meeting award ceremony and their name is added to the Section’s permanent records.

Student chapters are asked to report their annual activities to the Section on the form provided. The completed form will also serve as the Chapter’s nomination for the award. The annual report/nomination form should be sent by the Section Secretary to each Student Chapter by 1 February and returned to the President of the North Central Section, attn: Chapter Awards Committee, by April 30 (tws.ncs@gmail.com). The chapter receiving the award is not eligible for recognition in the following year but is still encouraged to submit an annual report.

Recipients of the Student Chapter of the Year award may excel in one or several areas. The Section’s Selection Committee considers the Society’s goals and criteria in making their selection. Applicants should provide a complete and concise description of their student chapter’s activity in each of the areas described. Applicants must document the level of member participation in the various activities/initiatives, actual accomplishments, and their impacts on members, the profession, and resource management. Supplemental information, documentation, select photos, or other information may be appended to the application. A single electronic document is preferred. Information provided should cover only the previous year’s activities. In areas where there has been no student chapter activity or where information is not available, write “does not apply.”

**Student Chapter of the Year Travel Grant**

A travel grant of up to $1,000 will be awarded to the student chapter that is named the Section’s Student Chapter of the Year. The travel grant must be used to send a student delegation to the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, The Wildlife Society’s annual meeting, or both in the year the award is made. The Student Chapter of the Year must further qualify for the grant by meeting the following criteria: (1) a minimum of three members of the student chapter must attend the conference and (2) the three individuals must be members of The Wildlife Society and cannot be recipients of other TWS travel grants that year. Grant monies are to be used by the student chapter for any travel expenses (transportation, lodging, meals, and registration) associated with sending a student chapter delegation to the annual conference. The conference is an excellent opportunity for students to learn about a wide range of research and management programs and to meet other students and wildlife professionals throughout the Midwest.