

Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Volume 47, Issue 2

June 2019

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President's Message

Howdy fellow Wildlifers! The summer arrived with vigor this year and the whole day of spring left behind some substantial flooding in much of the state. I hope that everyone is safe and your homes and properties are doing well as the waters return to normal levels. It can be frustrating but just remember that there are more than just a couple fantastic biologists working to restore wetlands and native habitats across MN to help mitigate future flood events. Let's take this opportunity to make more progress in conservation!

Over the past several months, the board has been very active. We have taken the opportunity to provide a letter of support for a MNDNR land acquisition in Lac qui Parle County, a letter of support for a position on the Minnesota Forest Resource Council, a letter in support of fully funding the DOI and DOA, and commented on the DNR FY2020 Annual Stand Exam List. We have also drafted a joint forest position statement with the Society of American Foresters and the American Fisheries Society and developed a new traveling display and that was used by members attending while attending the MN Wildlife School and the Conservation Partners Private Land Meeting at St. Cloud.

On other fronts, Joey Riley and the Student Relations Committee have been working with Vermillion College to become an official student chapter. The Board passed a 2019 Budget and Annual Work Plan, created a new filing system for the Presidents, submitted an application to the MNDNR Deer Advisory Committee, and an application for the TWS Chapter of the Year. I could not ask for a more eager and enthusiastic Board and I hope that you are all as proud to be associated with these folks as I am.

In between breaths, Bruce Anderson and Lindsey Shartell have been hard at work setting up our summer workshop. This year's workshop will be held on August 29th, 2019 at Cragun's Resort in Brainerd, MN. There is a stellar lineup of speakers including: Bill Berg, Carrol Henderson, Norm Moody, Doug Norris, and Dan Svedarsky. There is something for everybody and we hope that you are able to join us. See the flyer and registration info in this newsletter to get signed up!

Finally, I just want to thank you all for the great work you do for conservation in MN. Take a moment to remember why we all work so relentlessly and go enjoy some of it! Whether you want to paddle the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, camp at Lake Maria State Park, or just hook a big lunker in your secret spot, life is too short not to do what you love.

Take care, Tony Hewitt, President MNTWS arhewitt3@gmail.com 763-276-5799

2019 Summer Workshop Registration

August 29, 2019 | Cragun's Resort | Brainerd, MN

50 Years Ago Today

How Minnesota's Natural Resources Have Changed Over the Last Fifty Years

Perspectives from Long Standing Natural Resource Professionals

Registration (Due by August 20, 2019)

Name: _____ Organization: _____
Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Type (select one, includes lunch and breaks)

_____ Professional Registration – \$40

_____ Student Registration – \$20

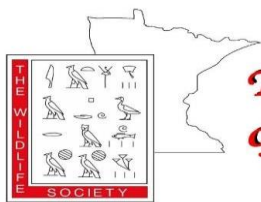
Payment Method (select one)

_____ Check or Cash – Mail your payment (make checks out to MN TWS) with your registration form to: Lindsey Shartell, 33988 Wabana Rd, Grand Rapids, MN 55744

_____ Credit Card – Treasurer Bill Severud will send you an invoice at the E-Mail provided. Payment then can be made with a credit card online via PayPal. **Scan and E-Mail** your registration form to: Lmshartell@gmail.com

Lodging is available at Cragun's Resort for \$129 per night + tax. Visit this link for reservations:

https://craguns.formstack.com/forms/mn_wildlife_society_august_2019



*The Minnesota Chapter
of The Wildlife Society*

2019 Summer Meeting & Workshop

Board Meeting | Wednesday Evening August 28th Cragun's Resort
All Members Welcome

50 Years Ago Today

**How Minnesota's Natural Resources Have
Changed Over the Last Fifty Years**

**Perspectives from Long Standing Natural Resource
Professionals**

Featuring Presentations By:

Bill Berg

Carrol Henderson

Norm Moody

Doug Norris

Dan Svedarsky

August 29, 2019 | Cragun's Resort | Brainerd, MN

Professional Development Updates and Opportunities:

The National Mitigation and Ecosystem Banking Conference was held in Minneapolis May 6-10, bringing over 500 natural resources professionals engaged in wetland, stream and species mitigation from around the country to the Twin Cities. Despite the fact that Minnesota has more wetland banks than any other state, including the largest wetland bank in the country, this was the first time for this annual conference in Minnesota. Plenary sessions included high level officials from USEPA, the Corps of Engineers, USFWS and NMFS attempting to explain Administration policies. Separate forums for state regulators offered opportunities to compare notes among state programs and to discuss proposed federal rules and policies with officials from agency headquarters. Numerous concurrent sessions offered informative presentations on mitigation and restoration research as well as examples of innovative projects. Field trips, led by Minnesota resource professionals offered conferees opportunities to visit a variety of wetland and stream restoration projects and other sites of interest, such as the Savage Fen.

Did you or someone you know in the natural resource world publish a paper? Receive an award? Let me know and I'll get the word out in the next newsletter!!

You might have noticed that **annual membership dues** were not included in the registration fee package this year at the annual meeting....for those who haven't already renewed your membership, please see the next page for an easy way to get your dues paid and off the to-do list!

2019 MN TWS Membership Drive



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Three ways to renew your membership:

- 1) Sign up or renew your National, Section, and State Chapter membership all at once at <https://wildlife.org/join/>
- 2) Fill out, scan, and email this form to Bill Severud: billseverud@gmail.com. Bill will send you a payment link and you can pay online with a credit card via PayPal.
- 3) Fill out and mail this form and payment to Bill Severud: 1503 Saint Albans St N, Saint Paul, MN 55117. Cash or checks payable to MN TWS.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name:

Address:

E-mail:

Organization and Title:

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL

Regular Member	\$25/year	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student Member	\$10/year	<input type="checkbox"/>
Retiree Member	\$15/year	<input type="checkbox"/>
Life Member	\$400	<input type="checkbox"/>

What we've been working on lately:

The MnDNR has completed a 10-year project to update the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) in Minnesota. The just-completed DNR mapping project is the first time the NWI has been updated in Minnesota since the original NWI was completed in the early 1980's. The new maps reflect the latest technology in remote sensing and mapping, including high-resolution aerial imagery and Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) data. The new statewide GIS dataset reveals that there are 12.2 million acres of wetlands in the state and 14.2 million acres of combined lake and wetland area. The new wetland map data are available through an interactive mapping application on the DNR's website (<https://arcgis.dnr.state.mn.us/ewr/wetlandfinder/>) and can also be downloaded, free of charge, for use in geographic information system applications through the Minnesota Geospatial Commons (<https://gisdata.mn.gov/>). The mapped wetlands can be displayed using the Cowardin classification system, Circular 39 and Eggers and Reed's plant community classifications. An added wetland attribute is Ralph Tiner's "Landscape, Landform, Waterbody and Water-flowpath" (LLWW) classifications, which provide information on wetland function. A user guide to the new NWI, which also contains summary statistics on wetlands for each Minnesota county, by classification scheme, is available on the DNR's website at: https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/wetlands/nwi_proj.html. For questions about the new NWI map data, contact Steve Kloiber (steve.kloiber@state.mn.us) or Doug Norris (doug.norris@state.mn.us) at the DNR..

Staff at Red Lake WMA are working on the 10-year Red Lake WMA plan and a 10-year timber stand selection for the state Sustainable Timber Harvest Implementation (STHI). Forest stands on WMAs have been assigned acreage and cord goals to meet a state-wide assignment for Wildlife-administered lands that will be detrimental to older forest wildlife habitat on many WMAs across the state even though the timber harvest model indicated it would be sustainable for the next 10 years.

COMMITTEE WORK:

The Wetlands Committee held a conference call on May 20. We've decided to work on promoting the understanding of and appreciation for **wetland quality** and are discussing ways to fit this idea with educational tools for all ages. We also discussed an on-going effort to get select, quality wetlands in Minnesota listed as RAMSAR sites; these are wetlands that are considered of international importance. The designation carries additional protections and can bring economic benefits to communities, just as national parks and wildlife areas are known to do. If you aren't familiar with RAMSAR wetlands, there are several good sources of background on the internet, but here are a couple to get you started <https://www.fws.gov/international/wildlife-without-borders/ramsar-wetlands-convention.html> and <https://www.ramsar.org>

Coming in our next Issue(s):

We will reinstate the recognition of retirements, new hires and deaths, so please submit those notices to me at fair0053@umn.edu anytime you think to do so and I'll get them into the newsletter as they occur. This is a great opportunity to recognize and remember our colleagues!

Here's one to get us started:

Paul Telander is retiring as MNDNR Wildlife Section Chief. He has been employed with DNR – Wildlife since 1984 when he started at Thief Lake WMA as the Assistant Manager. He later became the Regional Wildlife Manager for the Northwest Region and then the Chief of the Section of Wildlife.

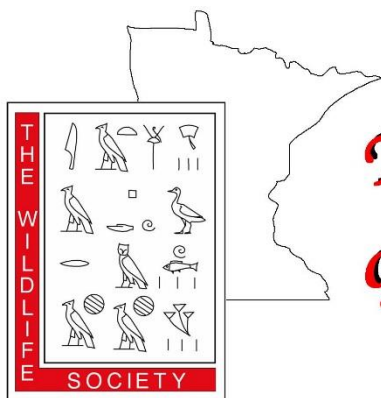


2019 MN TWS Governing Board

President	Anthony Hewitt – Bloomington,, MN
President-Elect	Kyle Daly – Minneapolis, MN
Past President	Kyle Arola – Middle River, MN
Secretary	Matt Stasica – Prior Lake, MN
Treasurer	Bill Severud – Minneapolis, MN
Board Member at Large (2019-2020)	Jessica Piispanen – Plymouth, MN
	Nicole Bernd – Gently, MN
Board Member at Large (2018-2019)	Lindsey Shartell – Grand Rapids, MN
	Bruce D. Anderson – Chisago City, MN

Committee Chairs & Representatives

Audit	Gretchen Mehmel – Roosevelt, MN
Awards	Steve Windels – International Falls
COWCH	Andy Tri – Grand Rapids, MN
Communications	Matt Stasica – Prior Lake, MN
Fundraising	Sheldon Myerchin – Waite Park, MN
Dawn Plattner – Nevis, MN	
Forest Issues	Bruce Anderson – Chisago City, MN
Historian/Archivist	John Moriarty – Plymouth, MN
Webmaster	Matt Stasica- Prior Lake, MN
Membership	Mandy Uhrich – Brainerd, MN
Non-Toxic Workgroup	Anthony Hewitt – Zimmerman, MN
Prairie/Farmland Issues	Jillian Fejszes – Thief River Falls, MN
Statewide Issues	Bill Faber – Cushing, MN
Student Relations	Joey Riley – Brainerd, MN
Wetland Issues	Laurie Fairchild – Gary, MN
Minnesota Conservation Federation	Dr. Bill Faber – Cushing, MN
State Technical Committee	Sabin Adams – Todd, MN
Conservation Affairs Network	Styron Bell – Morris, MN
Newsletter Editor	Laurie Fairchild – Gary, MN



The Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Visit us online at: <http://wildlife.org/minnesota>

OR

Email the MNTWS Board at minnesotatws@gmail.com