



INTELLIGENT TINKERING

Wisconsin Chapter of The Wildlife Society Newsletter

To keep every cog and wheel is the first precaution of Intelligent Tinkering. – Aldo Leopold

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2019 Student Professional Workshop Necedah National Wildlife Refuge October 5, 2019

A student professional workshop will be focused on wildlife habitat management on the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge. The workshop will run from 9am – 4pm.

See page [4](#) for more details.

2020 WCTWS Annual Meeting February 25-27, 2020

Regardless of a winter storm, our last Annual Meeting at Kronnenwetter was a huge success with 185 registered participants. That’s over 80% of our membership in attendance!

Plans are being made to hold our upcoming Annual Meeting, tentatively at the Hotel Mead in Wisconsin Rapids in late February 2020. The first day will feature two day-long concurrent **Symposia** on **Nongame Wildlife** and **Ruffed Grouse** and an **Evening Social**. The second day will feature a **Plenary Session on Professionalism and Gender Bias**, our **Annual Business Meeting**, **Committee meetings**, concurrent **Contributed Papers Sessions**, and an **Awards Banquet**. On the third day, we will continue with **Committee meetings**, concurrent **Contributed Papers Sessions**, and a group wrap-up.

The meeting will provide an excellent opportunity to see old friends, network with colleagues, meet new members, and contribute to the WCTWS. So, pull out your calendars and **SAVE THE DATE!**



*A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community.
It is wrong when it tends to do otherwise. – Aldo Leopold*

President's Soapbox

By Scott Hygnstrom

Welcome to the summer edition of IT! I hope you have been able to find a little time to get away from the daily grind to explore the northwoods, view a scenic vista, or sit around a campfire with family and friends. I typically save vacation time for fall, but this summer I was able to escape to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area with an old high school friend for a few days. The chosen route was pretty easy as he was planning to undergo hip replacement surgery in a week and wasn't getting around too well. We selected a single campsite on a large pristine lake and spent most of the time just sitting in camp reminiscing about the old days, solving all of the current world problems, and eating as much food as we could before the bears got into it. The best part of life is creating memories. If you haven't been able to get out there yet, I encourage you to do so.



Our Executive Board has been hard at it trying to meet this spring-summer. The intent was to have a face-to-face meeting in May to work through agenda items, but also to increase connectivity and collegiality among Board members. Unfortunately, the 2-week Doodle poll came up empty. There wasn't a single time at which more than three Board members could meet. I shot out another 3-week poll for June. The results were the same, so only three of us met over the phone to talk about our Chapter Bylaws, which has become a priority issue. We tried yet another Doodle poll for the month of July and most members were able to participate in a meeting at the Hotel Mead in Wisconsin Rapids (a potential site for the upcoming Annual Meeting) on July 22. Unfortunately, storms hit and Wisconsin Rapids was without power for three days, so we had to meet by phone. I appreciate the members of our Executive Board (Bob Holsman, Jeremy Holtz, Becky Brathal, Shawn Crimmins, Lacey Hill-Kastern, Lesa Kardash, and Joe Quehl) for their patience and persistence in getting together to discuss important business of the Chapter.

The Board and a select group of WCTWS members are planning what I feel will be an outstanding Annual Meeting in 2020. We may have to shift the format around a bit, considering the content we wish to deliver. Based on member interest, we want to provide more time for the Annual Business Meeting. In addition, we received a lot of positive feedback regarding the time that was reserved for Issues Committees (Climate Change, Deer, Farm Wildlife, Forestry, Furbearers, Government Affairs, Wildlife Damage Management, and Wolf Management) at the Annual Meeting in 2019, so we plan to build that into the schedule again. In addition, we are kicking around ideas for multiple symposia and plenary sessions in 2020. Stay tuned for updates and please let us know if you have any suggestions or would like to get involved.

Some of our Issues Committees have been busy this year, with the potential change in status of timber wolves and a draft ruffed grouse management plan that was open for public comment. In addition, the Board has been active in filling Standing Committees, such as Membership and Audit that have important charges as directed by the Bylaws. Recall that one of my directives is to increase member engagement through reinvigorating our committee structure and process. I would like for our committees and members to be more active in the day-to-day function of the Chapter. Please let us know if you are interested in serving in any capacity

I mentioned at the last Annual Business meeting that our Chapter Bylaws are outdated and in need of revision. The most notable needs are in the collection of dues, changing of two officer positions, alignment with TWS Bylaws, and a general simplification and editing of the language. The Bylaws have been reviewed twice by Committee, discussed by the Board, and are just one step away from being released to the members for a vote of approval. When you see the request in your email inbox, please review the drafts and vote to approve prescribed changes in the Bylaws. I appreciate the efforts of Alan Crossley, John Olson, and Jeremy Holtz who volunteered to help with the thankless job of reviewing and revising of the Bylaws. I think our next procedural step will be to develop an Operating Guide that can lead our Chapter into the future. It needs to be based on the Bylaws and our member interest survey conducted in 2016. I appreciate Bob Holsman's willingness to take the lead in this effort and Derek Johnson who already has assembled much of the content.

We have a couple of new activities for members to consider as we move into the fall. At the last Annual Meeting, we met with leaders of our Student Chapters to discuss ideas. One that rose to the top is development of Student-Professional Workshops in which professionals and Chapter members assist in developing learning opportunities for student members. We will hold the first at Necedah National Wildlife Refuge this fall, where Brad Strobel and Mark Pfof can discuss or get students involved in a wide range of management activities. These Workshops will provide great opportunities for learning and increasing communication and networking among students and professionals. Stay tuned for details.

While at the last Annual Meeting, I asked several retired Chapter members about the old Summer Socials that WCTWS used to host. Word has it that years ago, members gathered annually on a summer weekend at differing localities across the state to eat, drink, be merry, and discuss a little WCTWS business. In fact, two members came up to me asking why we don't hold them anymore. I didn't have an answer, so I pursued the issue with Scott Craven and John Kubisiak, two of the oldest and most grizzled veterans that I know. I think it is a great idea, so several of us are working to host a retreat for WCTWS members (young and old) at a recreational location and date yet to be determined. Again, stay tuned for details.

The Annual Meeting of TWS will be held this year in conjunction with the American Fisheries Society in Reno, Nevada on September 29 through October 3. Conference organizers anticipate 4000 people in attendance! The UWSP Student Chapter will be sending over a dozen members and I hope students from Northland College and UW-Madison will be able to go as well. I have been able to participate in most of the Annual Meetings since they started about 25 years ago and each of them has provided enriching activities that benefitted my professional career. The networking and learning opportunities are endless. Travel grants typically are available.

At the last Annual Meeting, I pledged to exercise fiscal and financial responsibility through sustainable use of our Berke, Leopold Scholar, and cash funds to enhance member experiences and continue fundraising efforts. The stock market has been favorable to investors lately and the Bjerke Fund is up about \$6500. With the cash inflow from the 2017 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, our checking account looks pretty good too. But we have annual cash outflows with student awards (doubled to \$4000 at the last annual Business Meeting), travel awards, workshops, trainings, and general operations that constantly are a drain on WCTWS funds. The Fundraising and Investments Committee will be taking a close look at different ways to increase funding for the cause.

In closing, I feel the need to inform all of the passing of John Cary, who served as quantitative ecologist, field ecologist, historian, student advisor, and staff specialist at UW-Madison for over 30 years. He was an innovator in computer technology, geographic information systems, data analysis, and applications to wildlife systems. He had an inquiring mind and always kept you thinking as well. I know dozens of graduate students, including myself, who may have not been able to make it through without his generous hand. John, you will be missed.

Holtz Steps Down and Offers a Lesson

By Robert Holsman, WCTWS President-Elect

The WCTWS Board lost a key piece earlier this summer when Jeremy Holtz made the difficult decision to step down to focus on his health. Jeremy had been serving the Board as the Past-President. As many in our wildlife family know, Jeremy has had more than his share of health challenges in recent years ranging from bad ankles to a ruptured ear drum. Things took a more serious turn this summer when Jeremy suffered a heart attack and had to be rushed from his home in Rhinelander to Wausau. Thankfully, the prognosis is good though he has been advised to reduce stress in life. Though he very much struggled with his decision to leave the Board, the rest of us considered it a “no-brainer.”



Jeremy is a true wildlifer—filled with passion and commitment for the profession and for his colleagues. Yet, he can serve as an important reminder for all of us that life-work balance is critical for individual and organizational wellness. In the meantime, Holtz continues to serve in his wildlife biologist position with DNR. He also plans to spend more time with his kids.

We wish him well and look forward to catching up with him down the trail.

PS. Previous President, Jason Riddle (2016-2017) graciously accepted the Executive Board’s request to serve as Interim Past-President for the duration of Jeremy Holtz’s term.

2019 WCTWS Student-Professional Workshop Necedah NWR, October 5, 2019

By Scott Hygnstrom, WCTWS President

One of the most important functions of TWS is providing opportunities for networking among wildlife students and professionals. Evidence the Student-Professional mixers at the TWS Annual Meeting that in recent years have attracted literally thousands of participants. Wall to wall people, young and old, all talking about their interests, passions, and careers in wildlife. The WCTWS also takes pride in educating its members through Technical Trainings, Annual Meetings, and other platforms. ***On Saturday, October 5, we are melding these two interests by providing a Student-Professional Workshop on Wildlife Habitat Management at the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge.***

Brad Strobel and Mark Pfost, USFWS are heading up the effort that will include hands-on experiences and demonstrations on managing habitat for a wide range of wildlife species, including whooping cranes and Karner blue

butterflies. They will address contemporary techniques such as distance sampling, fire monitoring, drones, surveying, and soil classification, that biologists use to inform land owners and managers for sound decisions in managing prairies, pine barrens, sedge meadows, and wetlands. The primary audience for the Workshop includes members of our three Student Chapters at Northland College, UW-Madison, and UW-Stevens Point, but we also need professionals from around the state to participate. Think of it as an opportunity meet with students and get a behind the scenes view of wildlife management at Necedah and the surrounding area.

The Workshop will run from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm on October 5, rain or shine. Refreshments and lunch will be provided by the WCTWS. All you need to do is get there...remember, carpooling is fun and efficient. **Register for the event by sending an email to jsummers@uwsp.edu by October 1.** Please include *Stud-Pro Workshop* in the subject line. We look forward to seeing you there!



WCTWS Executive Board Meeting Conference Call Meeting Minutes 07/22/2019

By Becky Brathal, WCTWS Secretary/Treasurer

Present: Jeremy Holtz, Lacey Hill-Kastern, Becky Brathal, Scott Hygnstrom, Lesa Kardash, Joe Quehl

Started 9:35, ended 12:20pm.

9:30 Call to order

9:31 Agenda repair (all)

1. Native American Fish and Wildlife Society Conference information
2. Travel grant to Reno to travel

9:35 Action item: Minutes approval (all)

- Moved by Jeremy
 - Scott second
- Approved

9:40 Information item: Treasurer's report (Becky)

- Leopold Acct – we will need \$4000/year from now on. Budget for 2019
- Need fundraiser or pull from Bjerke fund, which is up almost \$8,000.
- Travel Grant – I suggest we approve one Travel Grant at \$2,000

Jeremy and Becky have accepted presentations, President elect gets funding to cover registration and lodging (the chapter). President can defer to other board members. Scott is funding himself to go. Jeremy may or may not go depending on Dept approval.

Motion by Lacey, second by Scott: to send Jeremy to go to National TWS: Lacey withdrew motion, Scott withdraws second.

Discussion: Becky would like to go, never been

Travel grant award: see what happens, Becky and Jeremy can apply

Application deadline: July 31st, 2019 to Bob Holsman, Decision made by August 1st.

- In the past we used a print of Leopold and the Shack to pay for Leopold Student Awards
- Anniversary celebration could be used as a fund raiser for the Leopold account/ summer social?
 - o Assignment to fundraiser committee-

9:45 Information item: Newsletter report (Lesa)

Articles due July 31. Scott will get soapbox and others to Lesa

10:00 Information item: Retiree summer social update (Scott)

- Scott spoke with Scott Craven and he approved of the idea and will help. Thinking of a weekend retreat at a resort with cabins and camping in late summer or early fall. Discuss potential sites and dates. John Kubisiak said he'd be willing to help. And Scott Craven. Late summer /early fall. Intergrade program activities. Brainstorming? Start conversation about 50-year anniversary. Scott is willing to help. \$400 food/beverages. Lodging by participants. Weekend Friday/Saturday. Okay on seed money.
- Motion Jeremy: endorse a social \$300 in seed money out of the checking account to help Scott for the event, Not just retirees, Lacey Second. Motion carries.

10:05 Information item: Student-Professional Workshop update (Scott)

- Engaging students and maybe some professionals Working on it with Brad Strobel and Mark Pfost at Necedah NWR this fall. Details to come. Provide social and training. Brad and Mark are willing to help. Board help.

-Approval to do event?

-\$500 for bus and food/beverages

- Mark and Brad lead the workshop
- Jeremy makes a motion to endorse the workshop, as proposed by Scott with \$500 seed money, with charging a registration fee. Seconded by Scott. Amendment, by Bob not having a fall technical training. Jeremy accepts amendments. Approved. Joe will help
- Build a technical training workshop into the winter meeting
- Student chapter take a lead? Geographically focused? Rotating throughout state.
- Membership recruitment/retention student-> adult.

- Tribal fish and wildlife society, annual conference LCO hosting in Hayward Sept 23-26th. Welcome from agencies, legislation, concurrent sessions, 5 topic rooms, vendors/booths, WCTWS booths? Materials to bring to let tribal folks know. Outreach: Lacey can bring stuff as a board on both committees. Information to the intelligent Tinkering. Partnerships with the tribes
- WCTWS has a display board?
- membership committee put stuff together for outreach materials
- outreach at the conference, Jeremy and lacey work together. National TWS has posters?

10:30 Action Item: Vote to advance by-laws revisions to membership for a vote (Scott)

- Bylaws provided for review. I would like to advance this to the membership for approval. We need to work on an Operations Guide that work in tandem with the Bylaws and Strategic Plan.
- Discuss bylaws make changes and Becky can send to approval, 30-day approval.
- Discussion on student chapter rep. was well received from student chapters.
- Position is rotated alphabetically. The student chapter within their term, rep voted on by student chapters.
- Secretary/treasurer split into two positions. Discussion as some folks would be willing to do secretary and not treasurer
- Motion by Bob to split position in bylaws Jeremy second: discussion. Hard to do both. Call to question: motion passes
- Becky and Bob work on some language to add to the bylaws.
- His or/ her change to a gender-neutral verbiage to be changed within the doc.
- Add 'minimum' to committee numbers members. Take out the limit 'at least three' members
- Bob suggestion: put off a vote until Friday and handle by email. Give time for review
- Pause for a 5 min break

10:50 ~~Action Item: Make assignments for Board to recruit/populate committees (Scott)~~

- Table for next time

11:15 Action Item: Vote to authorize \$500 expenditure for Membership Committee operating (Jeremy)

- membership and engagement goal: outreach, bumper stickers, logo wear, resistance for too little time. Budget item, approved.
- envelope, shack logo,
- t-shirt separate issue.
- encouragement to join.
- Bob motions, Becky seconds; no discussion Jeremy calls to question. Motion passes.

11:30 Discussion item: Planning for Winter Meeting (Bob)

- o Dates: February 25-27, 2020
- o Venue: Hotel Mead in Wisconsin Rapids
- o Program
- o Subcommittees: reach out to 1-2 members to help on committees
 - Program
 - Bob
 - Lacey

- Becky (less duties)
- Funding
 - Becky
 - Jeremy
 - Bob
- Logistics- Michele Carlisle?
 - Scott
 - Lesa

-Moving issues committees and business meeting to beginning, as a kick off.

- A large concern: 1. State employees may not have the ability take the whole time 2. More expensive.

-state funding PR violation of requirements to not have a state training meeting?

-Program committee to take on the task of balancing student/professional talks.

-limit number of applicants?

-Bob volunteers providing edits and comments of proposal to Scott. Jeremy willing to brainstorm as well

Program items:

- Inclusivity issue: can we agree to significant portion of convention. concession from board
- Bob will follow-up.

-Non-Game, species-

- list out symposia and have people apply for?

Consider a schedule that looks something like this: DRAFT

1st day

9-12 noon	Concurrent Symposia Nongame wildlife Ruffed grouse or other game species
12-1:30	Lunch
1:30-5 pm	Concurrent Symposia continued Nongame wildlife Ruffed grouse or other game species Committee meetings? Business meeting?
7-10 pm	Social, Fundraiser

2nd day

9-10:30 am	Opening Plenary Session
10:30-10:45 am	Break
10:45-12 noon	WCTWS Issue Committee Meetings
12-1:30	Lunch
1:30-3:30	WCTWS Business Meeting
3:30-3:45	Break

3:45-5 pm	Concurrent Sessions
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- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| | I | (2 or 3 concurrent sessions depending upon room availability) |
| | II | |
| | III | |
| 6-9:00 pm | Social, Banquet, Fundraiser | |
| 3rd day | | |
| 8-12 noon | Concurrent Sessions | (2 or 3 concurrent sessions, depending upon room availability) |

Planning for future: a day of the month? Trouble in the past to get a quorum.
 Tuesdays, and Thursdays
 Mornings are preferred.

***WCTWS Executive Board Meeting
 Conference Call Meeting Minutes
 09/06/19***

By Becky Brathal, WCTWS Secretary/Treasurer

Attendance: Scott Hygnstrom, Bob Holsman, Joe Quehl, Lacey Hill-Kastern, Lesa Kardash, Becky Brathal.
 Started at 1:02pm, ended at 2:28pm.

1. Agenda review (All)
2. Minutes approval (Becky, All) Bob moves, Lacey seconds. Minutes approved.
3. Treasurer's report (Becky)
4. Newsletter report (Lesa)
 - a. Financial report
 - b. Thank you to Jeremy
 - i. And what we are going to do about it
 - c. What are we going to do about Jeremy's position
 - d. Save the date for winter meeting
 - e. Note for bylaw votes

Old Business

1. Bylaws revision (Scott) - Crosley, Olson, Holtz
 - a. Board vote for approval
 - i. Lacey motions to send bylaws to membership
 1. Scott moves to send bylaws, Becky Seconds,
 - a. Bob logistics: how do they vote?
 - i. Secretary:
 1. Survey monkey? Or other tools

- a. some committees don't like survey monkey
 - 2. Motion passes
 - b. Forward to members
 - i. Due 30 days after publication
- 2. 2019 Student-Professional Workshop (Scott) - Strobel, Pfof
 - a. Necedah NWR and private lands, Saturday October 5, 2019
 - i. 9:30am-430pm
 - ii. \$500
 - 1. Lunch and travel
 - b. Management on public and private land (cranes, Karner blues, burning, wetlands)
 - i. Joe and Scott
 - 1. Joe would like to attend
 - 2. Joe could take pictures to use in future publications
 - ii. Goal is 20 people
 - 1. Including professionals
- 3. 2020 Winter Meeting (Bob, Scott)
 - a. Dates – WWA (mid- to late-Feb), WWCOA (Feb 13)
 - i. Preference for mid-week
 - ii. Feb 25-27
 - b. Location – Mead Hotel, WI Rapids; Holiday Inn, Stevens Point, or others
 - i. Decision made by September 27th.
 - ii. Lesa can go with Scott if she is around.
 - c. Plenary session on Professionalism (Van Deelen)
 - i. Jennifer and Tim Van Deelen
 - 1. Gender bias in profession
 - a. Speaker
 - b. Small group interaction/ training
 - c. Second speaker
 - 2. Do they need more time?
 - d. Symposia – Nongame Wildlife (Summers), Ruffed Grouse (Riddle)
 - i. Day 1: 9am-5pm optional symposia for the first day
 - e. Contributed papers – Program chair and committee?
 - i. First call -crickets
 - ii. Second call-bombed
 - iii. Someone else to take on this on- ask non committees members?
 - 1. DNR science services- connection to research projects
 - 2. Bob, Lacey, and Becky
- 4. Summer/Fall Social (Scott) – Tabled for a later time.
 - a. Date, location
 - b. Barbeque, game feed
 - c. Program - 50th anniversary, donations
- 5. Travel grant for TWS Annual Meeting (Bob, Lesa)
 - a. Chapters Collaboration Meeting
 - b. One application that was also with drawn
 - c. Redirect travel funds to student scholarships for 2020
 - i. Bob making motion, Lacey seconds, discussion: agreed good idea, Motion passes
- 6. Operating Guide (Bob, Derek)

- a. Members priorities
 - i. Priorities from membership to guide the operating guide
 - ii. Scott will forward to board members
- b. Conversation to take Derek's doc and work on it
 - i. Revisit the ask of Jeremy to look at it
 - ii. Bob will have progress on this at our next meeting

New Business

1. Letter on WDNR Ruffed Grouse Management Plan (Scott)
 - a. Request review and provide comments
 - i. Sent to Ron head of Forestry Committee
 - ii. Combined members with Green Fire, 5-page letter on plan
 1. Sent with Green Fire
 2. Not enough time for TWS board to review and comment
 - iii. Discussion: What function should our committees provide
 1. Deferring to Green Fire to handle positions to DNR
 2. Do we continue to have committees?
 - a. Example: an email about lack of science in Deer management, wants to have TWS to take up issue?
 - i. Needs to be said: sorry it isn't going to happen.
 - ii. Is it a good position to even have a say?
 - b. Members are professionals we need to be careful about respecting possible political issues.
 - c. What are their roles?
 - d. 1st and 2nd priorities have a voice for sound biological science to be pushed in political policies
 - i. Next highest priority Host annual meeting
 - e. Put to the business meeting at the annual meeting to discuss
2. Past-President – replacement for Jeremy (Scott, Bob)
 - a. Jeremy resigned from past president for health issues
 - b. Interim past present: Derek Johnson has been asked as being a past president.
 - i. Derek has denied the ask
 - ii. Jason Riddle has been contacted, who was before Derek
 - iii. Board member have any suggestions for an interim until Feb 2020, Chair of audit committee, serve on nominating committee,
 1. Going backwards on the list of the next ask
3. Other items not addressed or brought up during agenda repair (All)
 - a. none
4. Membership Committee (Scott, Jeremy)
 - a. Jeremy still would like to continue committee: no answer yet
 - i. Swag as membership benefits
 - ii. Facebook?
5. Next meeting date:
 - a. Monday the 7th 2pm-3:30pm

Financial Report (1/1/19 – 7/21/19)
Submitted by Becky Brathal, Secretary/Treasurer

	01/01/2019	07/21/2019	YTD
CHECKING	\$1,382.03	\$7,327.28	\$5,945.25
SAVINGS 1	\$56,290.97	\$56,318.92	\$27.95
Interest	0		
LEOPOLD ACCOUNT (SAVINGS 2)	\$18,429.98	\$16,438.39	\$-1,991.6
Interest	0		
BJERKE (VANGUARD)	\$61,027	\$68,920.67	\$7,893.67
PAYPAL	\$2,498.84	\$0.22	\$-2,498.6
Total Assets	\$137,129.98	\$149,005.26	\$11,875.3

Truisms - Contributed by Tom Bahti

Shamelessly borrowed, stolen and plagiarized from other sources

If I have any beliefs about immortality, it is that certain dogs I have known will go to heaven, and very few persons.

The fact that there's a highway to hell and only a stairway to heaven says a lot about anticipated traffic numbers.

Trying to reason with my wife when she's angry at me is usually about as successful as baptizing a cat.

God doesn't count the hours you spend afield with friends.

The bond with a dog is as lasting as the ties of this earth can ever be.

Always keep a bottle of wine in the fridge for special occasions. Like Wednesday.

I start each day with a green smoothie. Wait, no, the bartender's saying it's called a "mojito".

I can't believe it's been a whole year since I didn't lose weight or become a better person.

Issue Committee Updates

Forestry Issues Committee: Ron Eckstein, Chair

April 01, 2019 through July 31, 2019

Silviculture Guidance Team (SGT) and ad hoc meetings attended:

- May 14 SGT Oak Rotation & Economics ad hoc team meeting at Stevens Point
 - Dr. Mike Demchik, UW- Stevens Point, gave an update on oak research including information about thinning mature (80 – 90 years) oak stands to improve stand quality and wildlife habitat
- June 25 SGT conference call update on Division of Forestry operations
 - All updates to the Silviculture Handbook are on hold pending court action on the outcome of the legislature's law requiring legislative review of state agency guidelines

Governor's Council on Forestry meetings attended:

- May 08 at Madison
 - Council agreed to send a letter to the state legislature supporting renewal of the Knowles Nelson Stewardship Program
- July 23 at Stevens Point
 - The governor appointed Tom Hittle, Steigerwaldt Land Services, as the new chairperson.
 - \$139,000 in Forest Practices Study funds will be used to conduct a wood product user study and to expand modeling on northern hardwood management (new modeling may have serious implications for managing wildlife habitat in mature northern hardwood stands)

Comments to DNR Division of Forestry:

- Reviewed the draft 2020 Forest Action Plan Assessment and sent a 12-page letter to DNR outlining areas where the assessment should be improved (including threats to forest habitat and forest biodiversity)
 - July 26 at Rhinelander met with DNR Forestry staff and staff from The Nature Conservancy and Wisconsin's Green Fire to review the draft Forest Action Plan Assessment. It was a good meeting and DNR Forestry agreed to update the draft assessment with most of the changes recommended by The Wildlife Society.
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Student Chapter Corner

University of Wisconsin-Madison



By Shelby Weidenkopf, President

Since our last update provided by the previous president of the UW Madison Chapter of the Wildlife Society, we have elected an entirely new board for the upcoming academic year. I, Shelby Weidenkopf, have the privilege of serving as President for the upcoming year. Mace Drumright will serve as Vice President, Blake Cwynar will be serving as Secretary, Bennett Dirksmeyer will serve as Treasurer, and Ethan Plumier will be the club's Outreach Coordinator. We are all super elated at the opportunity to be involved with the club. Here in Madison, we don't typically host club events in the summer because most of us have wildlife ecology related gigs elsewhere. In addition to our elections, we conducted a herpetology survey in Cherokee Marsh in Madison and we have been thinking of exciting new events to host for the next to semesters. In addition to that, we are planning logistics for the Annual Wildlife Society Conference in Reno, NV. All the best!

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point



By Joe Quehl, President



The UWSP student Chapter of The Wildlife Society had a great end to the year! Our spring field season projects had field seasons void of snow, our leadership workshop was a success, and we reached 200 members! To commemorate our year, we had our annual Game Feed and raffle this past May. The event was a relaxing night with great food, prizes, and friends! This past April the College of Natural Resources at UWSP held their annual Jim and Katie Krause Undergraduate Research Symposium, and we had many of our projects and members give poster and oral presentations. At this symposium our previous president, McKenna

Hammons, received highest honors for her oral presentation about butterfly's response to prescribed fire. Ben Tjepkes, who was our Vice President last year, earned highest honors for his poster presentation about bald eagle nest site selection on the Upper Mississippi River. Last but not least, our Canid and Saw Whet owl projects both received an honorable mention for their poster presentations. Our members did a great job of showcasing all of the great work that they have been doing! Apart from conducting research and workshops we also planned many social events for all of our members! Lizzie Melk, last year's social coordinator, was busy organizing painting sessions, a



viewing of “The Lorax,” and many other fun events for our members to enjoy! As with every year, we had many great seniors graduate and fly the nest. So good luck to all of them on their future endeavors and thank you for your time spent with us!

Right now, many of our members are out working summer jobs across the globe with Pointers stretched from Botswana to Greenland to Nevada. Many are attending our Summer Field Experience up at Treehaven and learning about all fields of natural resource management. Others are even going to Europe to learn about natural resource management in Poland, Germany, and the Czech Republic. Our members are very excited to go to Reno, Nevada for the Joint TWS and AFS National Conference! We will be sending 12 students to the conference this year. With multiple members giving poster presentations on a variety of subjects, from swift fox in Kansas to ruffed grouse in northern Wisconsin. Overall we have had a great year conducting research, planning fun events, and are looking forward to everything else that next year brings!



Northland College

By Taylor Pichler and Ella Shively, Co-President

No report.

INTELLIGENT TINKERING

Published by Wisconsin Chapter of The Wildlife Society. TWS is an international nonprofit organization of wildlife professionals. Subscriptions available with Chapter membership. The editor invites comments and articles for possible publication. Email submissions to: skuldt@uwalumni.com

Submission Deadline: Winter Issue: 12/31/19

General Mail: Wisconsin Chapter of TWS,
P.O. Box 104, Woodville, WI 54028

WCTWS Executive Board

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