

# NUTRITIONAL ECOLOGY WORKING GROUP

## AUTUMN 2019 NEWSLETTER

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Thank you all for your interest in developing the Nutritional Ecology Working Group (NEWG) within The Wildlife Society. We had a successful first meeting on October 1, 2019 in Reno, NV, with 27 individuals in attendance. So far only 16 individuals are registered for NEWG, so please spread the word and be sure to register so we can reach our benchmark of 30 members by March 2021!

Perhaps the most important discussion at our meeting in Reno pertained to the vision for our working group. The Nutritional Ecology Working Group began as a “forum to facilitate communication and exchange of information related to advancing the science of nutritional ecology as it pertains to conservation and management of wildlife populations.” Although the purpose is defined in that statement, we could use some help developing our vision, so watch for those opportunities soon!

To help garner interest and build our profile, we discussed hosting a symposium and a workshop at future meetings of The Wildlife Society. For the 2020 meeting, there was momentum around hosting a symposium on nutritional ecology in the context of wildlife management, with a focus on five of the top nutritional ecology issues faced by wildlife managers. Perry Barboza, Grant Hilderbrand, Mark Hurley, and Tom Stephenson have offered to help on organize the symposium. As for a workshop, several ideas were suggested, and sampling designs for studies of nutritional ecology was identified as a potential workshop. Rachel Cook will soon be reaching out to individuals who volunteered to develop that workshop and determine the feasibility of hosting it in 2020. Additional volunteers may be needed to assist with the symposium and workshop, so please feel free to reach out to the executive board members at [tws.nutritional.ecology@gmail.com](mailto:tws.nutritional.ecology@gmail.com) or organizers of the symposium or workshop about opportunities to be involved. The call for proposals for workshops and symposia is expected to open in December.

Thanks to combined efforts of Dan Thompson and Mariah Simmons, our website is now up and running at <https://wildlife.org/newg/>. On our website, you'll find a list of officers, meeting minutes, and our charter. If you see something in our meeting minutes that you're interested in, please reach out to us about opportunities to get more involved. Also, if you have any ideas for the website please let us know. One project we're hoping to start soon is to compile a list of labs that run nutritional assays that will be hosted on our website. As we build our website, there will be opportunities to share your photos of nutritional ecology work in action—details coming soon!

On behalf of all NEWG officers, take care and don't forget to spread the word!

Kristin Denryter  
Chair, Nutritional Ecology Working Group

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