

# South Dakota Chapter The Wildlife Society



## *A Prairie Voice*



### *What's Inside...*

- President's Message
- Notes From Casey Heimerl
- Board Meeting Minutes



# *A Message From the President*

As we turn the page on summer and transition into fall, the evidence is just beginning to become apparent. Cooler, crisp mornings, the slight hue change in leaf coloration, and birds congregating preparing for their treks south. I wish I could say the same about the ravenous fall mosquitos that are at least 5 times the size of summer mosquitos. Its been another season for the record books in terms of weather and I am sure many of us are ready for a change in hopes of drier, more stable times. Fortunately, in South Dakota, we don't have to wait long for the next season. For many of us, fall is the time of year where we can take a breath and enjoy what this state has to offer; magnificent fall camping and hiking, migratory bird watching, and bountiful hunting and fishing opportunities.

Our board has had a busy and productive summer from brainstorming ideas in which we can further our mission and conservation efforts (more to come on this), to planning for the next annual meeting, to submitting letters of support on relevant issues important in the wildlife and conservation arena. The most recent letter that was formulated was a request of support for Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA) sent to Representative Johnson asking for his backing of this bill. RAWA identifies stable, long-term funding from existing revenues without raising or creating new taxes to address wildlife challenges using state-based priorities and strong partnerships that reach across all facets of life in South Dakota. Many thanks to the committees and individuals involved with drafting this support letter.



Casey Heimerl has been hard at work developing and planning our annual meeting to be held on February 26-28<sup>th</sup> at Arrowwood Resort and Conference Center at Cedar Shores in Oacoma. I am excited to announce this year's theme entitled 'Biodiversity'. This theme and upcoming agenda are sure to capture everyone's interest as we are all intrigued by all the different flora and fauna of our great state and curious to hear what new findings and information this theme will furnish us with. As Casey continues to finalize the agenda, if you are interested in presenting please contact Casey ([casey.heimerl@state.sd.us](mailto:casey.heimerl@state.sd.us)) or be on the lookout for the official call for abstracts in the future.



## A Message From the President (cont'd)

I am excited to announce a new opportunity being launched by SDTWS that is available for both professionals and aspiring professionals alike. The SDTWS Mentoring Program will act as a support system to provide those who currently work and desire to work in the conservation field. This program is designed to connect professionals with nonprofessionals as well as professionals with professionals who desire guidance and constructive feedback to aid in the aspects of career direction and opportunities, professional and academic advice, and fostering networking relationships. We encourage all that are interested in becoming a mentor or mentee to please email the board at [sdwildlife@gmail.com](mailto:sdwildlife@gmail.com). The SDTWS board with assistance from committees will then connect mentors with mentees.



Casey Heimerl represented the SDTWS chapter at the Annual TWS Conference in Reno Nevada. Our attendance and representation are important in networking with other resource professionals and learn about what other chapters are doing in other sections and states and potentially bring back these opportunities and invaluable information to our chapter and members to implement. The board encourages everyone to become more involved in SDTWS. I invite the membership to consider stepping up to fill committee vacancies. Undoubtedly, these are great opportunities to network with great people who share a common interest and be a part of a group that represents South Dakota's natural resources' voice. Please visit our website for a description of each committee to see if it sparks your interest. <http://wildlife.org/south-dakota-chapter/leadership-governance/>

I hope that you all can take some time to embrace what fall in South Dakota has to offer. We certainly are fortunate to live in a state that has such a wide array of opportunities and activities from one end of the state to the other for all to enjoy.

Eric Magedanz - President  
SD Chapter of The Wildlife Society



# AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY & THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY 2019 JOINT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Notes from Casey Heimerl...

I was fortunate enough to represent SDTWS at the 2019 American Fisheries Society & The Wildlife Society annual joint conference in Reno, Nevada from September 29th -October 3rd. This was the first time these two organizations held a joint conference and with approximately 4,500 people in attendance, it was estimated to be the largest gathering of fish and wildlife professionals.



The conference offered an excellent opportunity to collaborate and network with wildlife professionals throughout the United States and other countries and provided learning opportunities through a multitude of symposia, presentations and workshops.

While at the conference, I attended the annual Conservation Affairs Network Meeting where updates were provided and discussed regarding CANS involvement in several TWS Policy priorities including Recovering Americas Wildlife Act, Invasive Species, Cooperative Research Unit funding, and changes to the Endangered Species Act. You can view a copy of the meeting minutes [here](#).

I also attended the annual TWS Sections and Chapter Collaboration Meeting where attendees from approximately 20 other states exchanged a variety of information and ideas regarding membership, annual meetings, fund raising, committee chairs and educational opportunities.



# The Wildlife Society News

## Popular Articles on the TWS website

- [Wildlife Subcommittee discusses conservation bills](#)
- [Could past mistakes guide future reintroductions?](#)
- [Glass patterns deter birds from deadly building crashes](#)

For the latest TWS News

<http://wildlife.org/learn/news-center/>



## Check it out...

- Renew your membership [online](#) at SDTWS website
- SDTWS is on Facebook!

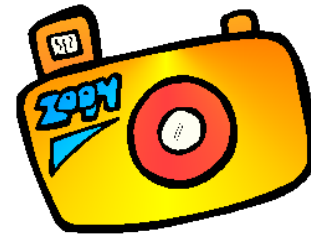
Click [here](#) to join the group! Facebook is a great way to share information, post events, to stimulate discussions on environmental issues or other topics of interest.



Contact Chuck Pyle at [goosemansd@hotmail.com](mailto:goosemansd@hotmail.com) if you have events, pictures, or topics you would like posted to the site.



## PHOTO CONTEST



We know our members have great pictures from their outside adventures including landscapes, hunting, outdoor recreation, and flora/fauna. We would like to showcase your pictures during a photo contest at this year's annual meeting.

**Entry fee:** \$5 per photo—no limit on number of entries

**Size:** 8x10 attached to 10x12 black cardboard / foam board mat

- Photos can be submitted prior to the meeting to any board member or can be brought to the annual meeting
- Winner will be chosen by popular vote at 2018 Annual Meeting & receive 50% of the entry fees.
- The winning photo will be displayed on the SDTWS website and will be made into a canvas to be auctioned off at 2019 annual meeting.



## Wildlife Diversity Committee Report

Eileen Dowd Stukel

26 September 2019



**Recovering America's Wildlife Act:** Our Chapter sent a letter to Representative Dusty Johnson on July 29 describing the need for passage of this bill to provide stable, long-term funding to state and tribal wildlife agencies and asking that he cosponsor and support passage of House of Representatives (HR) 3742. As of today, we have received no response from him.

The recent South Dakota Wildlife Federation convention in Aberdeen featured presentations by SD Game, Fish and Parks and the National Wildlife Federation to encourage grass-roots support for this effort. The following Monday, a group of known and potential supporters were invited to a gathering in Pierre to learn more about the crises facing fish and wildlife and habitats and how RAWA funding will help states implement state wildlife action plans and help tribes address similar needs in addition to providing funds for more outdoor education and wildlife-associated recreation.

The bill has not yet been introduced in the U.S. Senate. When that happens, we will ask for your help in reaching out to Senators Rounds and Thune, although contacts at any time are important to raise their awareness about this effort. As of today, HR 3742 has 123 cosponsors. South Dakota's natural resources have tremendous potential to gain from this effort, and it's important that we show broad support for it. Here is how you can help:

Contact Rep. Johnson asking that he cosponsor HR 3742 and facilitate passage of the bill in the U.S. House. His website: <https://dustyjohnson.house.gov/> Link to his email form: <https://dustyjohnson.house.gov/zip-code-lookup?form=/contact/email-me>

Sign the scientist sign-on letter: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSesBQkbSab3B05dt03OHLRRkkYg8oH\\_81kAxBV6vbmWe6D4PQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSesBQkbSab3B05dt03OHLRRkkYg8oH_81kAxBV6vbmWe6D4PQ/viewform) If your employer prohibits your involvement in lobbying, you could sign with your professional certification (Certified Wildlife Biologist) or identify yourself as a member of The Wildlife Society or the SD Chapter of The Wildlife Society.

Encourage businesses to sign the RAWA business sign-on letter: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScvMgnygWgk\\_nLeygYJ4tTVpX4bCDpFG\\_cbbZ\\_tOPA\\_JRwUlg/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScvMgnygWgk_nLeygYJ4tTVpX4bCDpFG_cbbZ_tOPA_JRwUlg/viewform)

Encourage other organizations to join this coalition by signing on to the Alliance for America's Fish and Wildlife (<https://www.fishwildlife.org/afwa-acts/alliance-americas-fish-and-wildlife>) and/or NWF's support letter ([https://www.fishwildlife.org/application/files/1715/3805/6942/NWF\\_Recovering-Americas-Wildlife-Act\\_Sign-On-Letter--9.24.18.pdf](https://www.fishwildlife.org/application/files/1715/3805/6942/NWF_Recovering-Americas-Wildlife-Act_Sign-On-Letter--9.24.18.pdf))

Please take action today to make your voice heard for South Dakota's wildlife and natural places. Feel free to contact me with any questions ([eileen.dowdstukel@state.sd.us](mailto:eileen.dowdstukel@state.sd.us))





# THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

## South Dakota Chapter

6760 482<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Revillo, SD, (605) 880-2651

**Executive Board Meeting, June 12th, 2019**

**9:00 AM – 11:00 AM (CST)**

*Magedanz Call to Order at 9:02 am. Meeting started as conference call with Magedanz, Solem, Heimerl, Carlson, Markl and Toay present.*

- Secretary/Treasurer's Report
  - Approval of minutes from last executive board meeting (3/28/19)
    - ✦ *Group reviewed draft minutes from last March board meeting*
    - ✦ *Motion to approve by Solem; second by Markl*  
*No discussion, all in favor, minutes approved*
  - Approval of Treasurer's report
    - ✦ *Toay reviewed Treasurer's report (3/29/19 – 6/12/19)*
    - ✦ *Motion to approve by Solem; second by Heimerl*  
*No discussion, all in favor, Treasurer's report approved*
- Old Business
  - 2020 Annual Meeting Date and Location
    - ✦ *Group discussion on date/location for 2020 Annual Meeting*
    - ✦ *Oacoma/Cedar Shores likely the best location at this time*
    - ✦ *February 26-28 likely the best date*  
*Occurs after the AFS annual meeting and before GFP Commission Meeting*
  - Membership survey results—What, if any, inferences can be drawn?
  - *Group discussion on preliminary results from online membership survey sent out with the last newsletter*
    - ✦ *Questionnaire had six questions regarding meeting location and content, with opportunity for comments*
    - ✦ *Only had 14 responses - tough to engage membership during field season*
    - ✦ *Solem will close online survey until January newsletter*
    - ✦ *How will this affect planning for future annual meetings?*
  - *Plan to re-engage membership during January newsletter with online survey*
  - *Allot time during the annual business meeting for discussion and final survey*  
*Group discussed the need to reach out to the ND TWS chapter and Dakota AFS chapter to gauge their interest in a joint annual meeting*
  - 2020 Annual Meeting Planning (Update from Casey)
    - ✦ *Theme—"Biodiversity"*
    - ⇒ *Casey has started preliminary search for potential speakers*
  - Speaker ideas



- *The group discussed potential keynote speakers and associated budget*
- Venue
  - *Items of importance to bring to the forefront with venue*
  - ◊ *Will request hotel staff address issues that we've had at previous Annual Meetings*
- Funding requests
  - *NWF - America's Grasslands Conference*
    - *\$250 contribution sent, August 20-22, Bismarck, ND*
  - *Friends of Maga Ta Hohpi*
    - *Multiple events including Prairie Fest, \$200 contribution sent, Huron SD*
  - *Letters of Support*
    - ◊ *State and Tribal Wildlife Grants letters*
      - \* *Dear Colleague Letters sent to Sen. Thune and Rep. Johnson*
      - \* *Thank You Letter sent to Sen. Round*
      - \* *Drafted by Eric Magedanz, Eileen Dowd Stukel, and Mark Norton*  
*Posted on SDTWS webpag*  
*Received response from Thune*
- New Business
  - ◊ Working with TWS SDSU student chapter
    - \* *Collaborating with student chapter*
    - \* *The group discussed ways to more actively engage the Student TWS chapter*
  - ◊ Professional development
    - \* *Board will develop ideas for collaboration and development and reach out to the Student Chapter President as classes resume in the fall*
- TWS National Annual Conference
  - *2019 National Conference in Reno, NV, Sept 29 – Oct 3*
  - Discussion on SDTWS chapter representation
    - *Typically, the President represents the Chapter at the National Conference*  
*Magedanz has a scheduling conflict, may defer to President-elect or other board members if schedules allow*
- Upcoming July Newsletter
  - ✦ *Ideas for content*
  - *Annual Meeting location, Student travel grant details, Student chapter update, Pictures or summaries of projects across South Dakota*

*Motion to adjourn by Solem; second by Heimerl*

*Meeting adjourned at 10:09 am*

# SDTWS Executive Board 2019

## President

[Eric Magedanz](#)

Pheasants Forever  
1720 4th St. NE Suite 3  
Watertown, SD 57201  
(605) 880-2651

## Secretary-Treasurer

[Bruce Toay](#)

Ducks Unlimited  
PO Box 427  
Ipswich, SD 57451  
(605) 380-0684

## Past-President

[Alex Solem](#)

SD Game, Fish & Parks  
895 3rd Street SW  
Huron, SD 57350  
(605) 353-7319

## Board Member

[Chad Carlson](#)

US Fish & Wildlife Service  
39650 Sand Lake Drive  
Columbia, SD 57433  
(605)

## President-Elect

[Casey Heimerl](#)

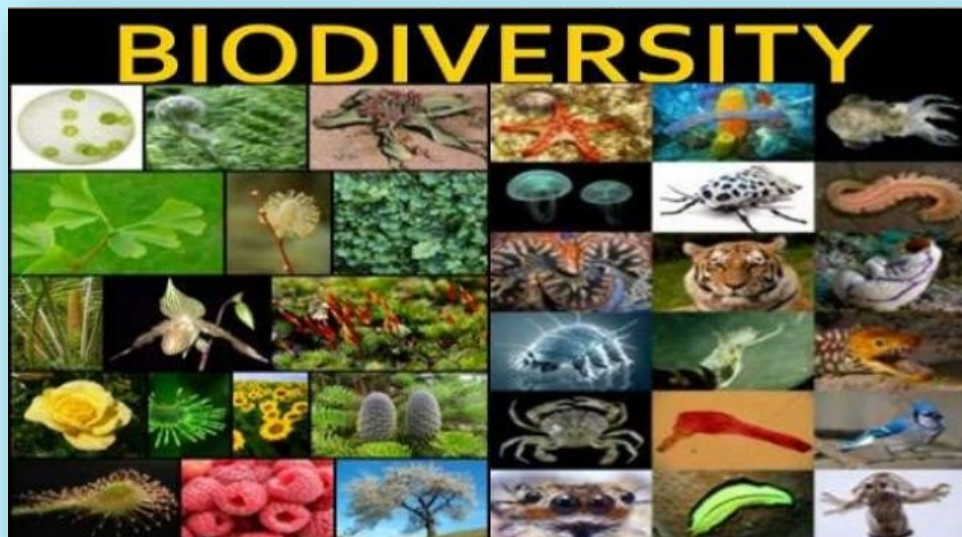
SD Game, Fish & Parks  
523 E. Capitol  
Pierre, SD 57501  
(605) 773-4345

## Board Member

[Nick Markl](#)

SD Game, Fish & Parks  
12869 140th St.  
Roslyn, SD 57261  
(605) 345-3381

**2020 SDTWS Annual Meeting  
February 26-28th, 2020  
Cedar Shores—Oacoma, SD**



# SDTWS Life Members

Doug Alvine	Rolf Kraft	Dave Steffen
Galen Burgett	Thomas Kuck	Eileen Stukel
Eddie Childers	Scott Larson	Joel Tigner
Mary Clawson	Thomas LeFaive	Tom Tornow
Charles Dieter	Tony Leif	Ralph Town
Lester Flake	John Leisner	Spencer Vaa
Kurt Forman	Jesse Lisburg	William Walker
Andy Gabbert	Kevin Luebke	Dave Azure
Dave Gilbert	Carl Madsen	James Headley
Steve Griffin	Will Morlock	Paul Mammenga
Troy Grovenburg	Glenn Moravek	Silka Kempema
Bob Hodorff	Jay Peterson	Julie DeJong
Harris Hoistad	Erling Podoll	Larry Gigliotti
Earl Hyink	Chuck Pyle	
Warren Jackson	Greg Schenbeck	
Jonathan Jenks	Boyd Schulz	
John Kelley	Steve Spawn	
Colleen Kolbeck	Cara Staab	

Life Membership dues are prorated by age as follows:

Age 20 to 35:  $25 \times \text{annual dues}$  ( $\$10 \times 25 = \$250$ )

Age 36 to 45:  $20 \times \text{annual dues}$  ( $\$10 \times 20 = \$200$ )

Age 46 to 65:  $17.5 \times \text{annual dues}$  ( $\$10 \times 17.5 = \$175$ )

Age 66 to 75:  $12.5 \times \text{annual dues}$  ( $\$10 \times 12.5 = \$125$ )

Age 76 and over: Free

For More Information, Contact Chuck Pyle (605) 353-5753.

## SOUTH DAKOTA CHAPTER OF TWS COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### REPRESENTATIVES:

Northern Great Plains Working Group, Representative: Rocco Murano\_ (605) 688-4786

### STANDING COMMITTEES

Audit Past-President, Joshua Stafford (605) 688-5759

Awards Nathan Baker (605) 223-7709

Conservation Review Mark Norton (605) 773-3096

Education and Information **VACANT**

Membership Chuck Pyle (605) 353-5753

Nominations and Elections President, Eric Magadenz (605) 880-2651

Program President Elect, Casey Heimerl\_(605) 773-4345

Resolutions and Public Statements **VACANT**

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### SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Arrangements Past-President, Alex Solem (605) 353.7319

Certification: **VACANT**

Chapter History Corey Huxoll (605) 773-4195

Energy Committee Kent (KC) Jensen\_(605) 688-4781

Fee Hunting and Ownership of Wildlife Andy Lindbloom (605) 394-1751

Fundraising Ben Lardy (605) 461-8249

Grasslands Issues: **VACANT**

Missouri River Issues: Nathan Baker (605) 223-7709

Newsletter Jennifer Briggs (605) 256-2974

Public Lands Management Eddie Childers (605)433-5203 and Chuck Berdan (605)210-0099

Tribal Fish and Wildlife: Mike Gutzmer (402) 562-9155

Wetlands Randy Meidinger\_(605) 380-0380

Wildlife Diseases Steve Griffin\_(605) 394-6786

Wildlife Diversity Eileen Dowd Stukel (605) 773-4229 / Silka Kempema\_(605) 773-2742

## **The South Dakota Chapter TWS Objectives are:**

- To develop and promote sound stewardship of wildlife resources and of the environment upon which wildlife and humans depend.
- To undertake an active role in preventing human-induced environmental degradation.
- To increase awareness and appreciation of wildlife values.
- To seek the highest standards in all activities of the wildlife profession.

### **To aid in the achievement of these objectives, the South Dakota Chapter proposes to:**

- Provide opportunities for better liaison among individual members, their Section, and The Society.
- Evaluate and respond to the principles involved in proposed or enacted societal actions that could affect wildlife or its habitats.
- Recognize and commend outstanding professional achievements in maintenance, restoration and enhancement of habitats for wildlife.
- Focus the aims and objectives of The Society and the Central Mountains and Plains Section upon professional wildlife needs, problems, and events in local situations.
- Encourage communication between members and nonmembers to facilitate understanding and effectiveness of research and management of wildlife resources.
- Evaluate the principles involved in proposed or enacted public or private actions that could affect wildlife and to make these evaluations known to the public and public officials.

# SOUTH DAKOTA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Application for Membership/Renewal

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (indicate home or work) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address (for newsletter delivery) \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

## Please note:

SDTWS's newsletter, A Prairie Voice, is all electronic. Therefore, an email address must be provided above in order to receive it (paper copies will be provided only to individuals who do not have a computer, internet access, or an email address). Email is also the typical mode of communication concerning other SDTWS news.

**Please check one:** \_\_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_\_\_ Renewing Member

\*If you did not renew your dues in 2018, you will be considered a new member in 2019 as per the SDTWS Bylaws.

## Please check box:

**By becoming a member of SD TWS, I support the Chapter's bylaws and objectives:**

- To develop and promote sound stewardship of wildlife resources and of the environment upon which wildlife and humans depend.
- To undertake an active role in preventing human-induced environmental degradation.
- To increase awareness and appreciation of wildlife values.
- To seek the highest standards in all activities of the wildlife profession.

Send the completed application/renewal form and a check for \$10.00 (regular), \$6.00 (student) to:

Bruce Toay  
PO BOX 427  
Ipswich, SD 57451  
605-380-0684

Regular Dues: \$10.00

Student Dues: \$6.00

Life Membership dues are prorated by age as follows:

Age 20 to 35: 25 x annual dues = \$250

Age 36 to 45: 20 x annual dues = \$200

Age 46 to 65: 17.5 x annual dues = \$175

Age 66 to 75: 12.5 x annual dues = \$125

Age 76 and over: Free

For more information on becoming a life member, contact Chuck Pyle (605) 353-5753.