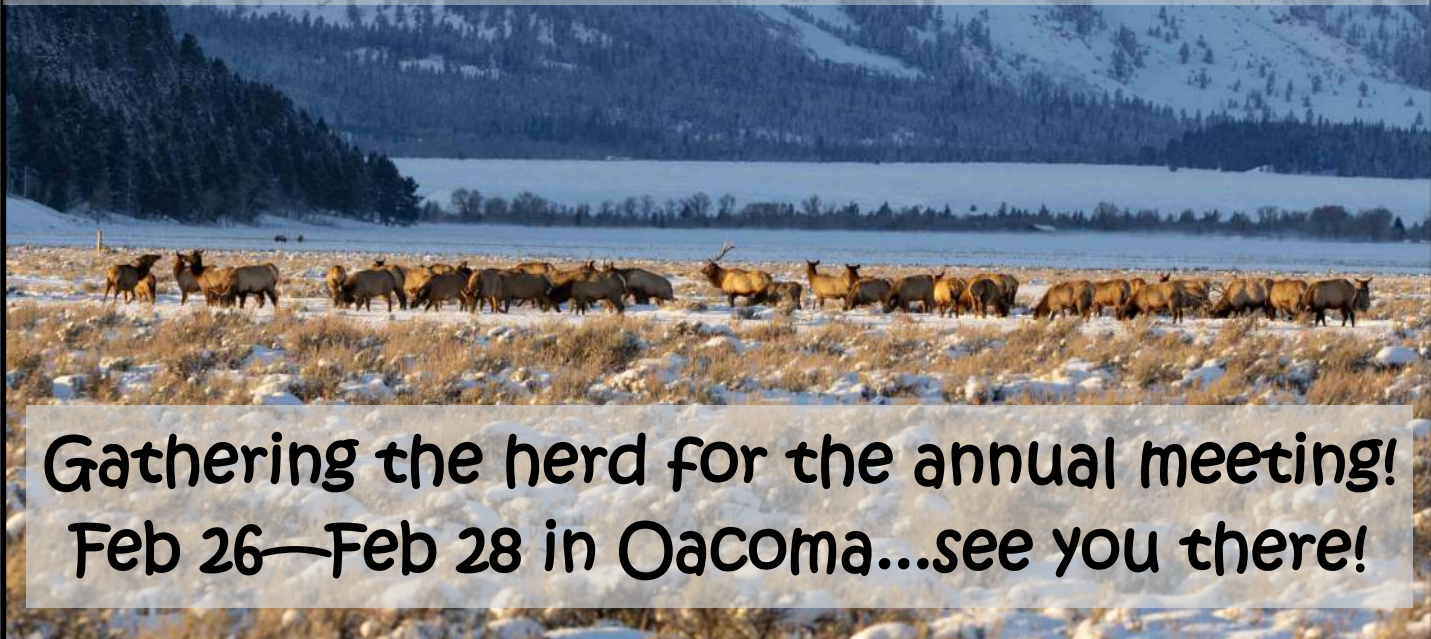


South Dakota Chapter The Wildlife Society



A Prairie Voice



Gathering the herd for the annual meeting!
Feb 26—Feb 28 in OaComa...see you there!

What's Inside...

- 2020 Annual Meeting Agenda
- President's Message
- Notes From Dennie Mann
- Board Meeting Minutes
- 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes



A Message From the President

With the new year upon us, it's common to look forward to what's to come in 2020 but as I contemplate the introduction of my final president's message, I am reminded of the past years' accomplishments and high notes this chapter has achieved. From submitting letters to state representatives requesting support for crucial legislation like RAWA and the State and Tribal Wildlife Grants to sponsoring wildlife student's attendance to national and state TWS events to fostering and supporting new partnerships by donating to the Society for Range Management's annual meeting. Professional development and a SDTWS R3 membership effort have been and will continue to be made through membership surveys to assess membership attitudes and our very own Mentoring Program. All this is just the tip of the iceberg. There is no doubt that these efforts could not have been accomplished without the executive board and committees. I believe that recognizing the work of the people behind the scenes is the best way to start this message and close out my term as president.

2020 Annual Meeting

Wednesday, Feb. 26 - Friday, Feb. 28

We are fast approaching the one month mark until the annual meeting. I hope everyone is excited to convene again in Oacoma for networking with colleagues and enjoying informative and intriguing presentations. This year's theme of "Biodiversity" should certainly strike a chord with our collective interests. As our landscape, environment, and socio-political atmosphere continues to evolve and change, elevating awareness on how these influencers affect our resources have never been more pivotal. Casey Heimerl has put together an impressive agenda full of topics that are as diverse as the theme. Central to the theme is the keynote speaker who we are excited to have is Mike Phillips. Casey has highlighted Mike's background later in this newsletter. Mike's background and experience exemplifies this year's theme precisely.

In prior years we have held a successful and enjoyable game/networking night that everyone enjoys. We are planning to keep this format for this annual meeting as well affording everyone the opportunity to kick back and have a good time catching up with others. We will continue to have the normal silent and live auction items. One item I am particularly excited to announce is our raffle item. This year we decided to think outside the box a bit and try something different. The main meeting raffle item will be a kayak that will be set up to do everything from enjoying a leisurely paddle to pursuing your favorite game fish species.



A Message From the President (cont'd)

Registration for the meeting is now open and can be completed online through our website at: <http://wildlife.org/south-dakota-chapter/annual-meeting/>. If you would prefer to register in person, we will continue to offer registration to attendees on-site at the meeting.



One of my personal favorite features of the annual meeting is the photo contest. Every year we receive remarkable photos of our state's flora and faunal species. I urge everyone to take a look through their photos and submit a favorite photo that can be displayed at the meeting. We will again feature last year's winning photograph printed on a canvas during our silent auction for our members to bid on. We plan on doing the same thing next year with the winner from this year's group of photos! Details of this contest are featured later in this newsletter. One change to note is that for those who submit a photo if you could also send us a digital copy as well. We will compile these digital photos into a slide show to play during breaks.

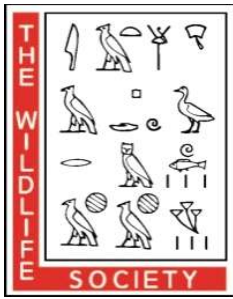
I would like to remind and encourage everyone to sign up to become a professional mentor through SDTWS. It is our collective responsibility to develop and promote other up and coming conservationists into the profession. There are no standards to become a mentor or mentee. This program applies to all regardless of tenure or experience. Please contact a board member for more information and to be connected with a mentor.

I would also to announce that the executive board has reopened the membership survey that was available a few months ago. We received some great feedback and would like to continue our efforts to assess the desires and garner ideas for future annual meetings from our membership. Please, please follow the link and fill out the survey. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BFYFWNN>

In closing, I would to extend my gratitude and appreciation to you all for allowing me to serve as your president in 2019-2020. It was certainly an amazing experience working alongside many talented individuals. Being a part of this board has greatly expanded my knowledge of the challenges and opportunities that exists in the natural resources field and has been illuminating to the behind the scenes accomplishments that wouldn't occur without the SDTWS board, committees, and membership for our great state. For all of this, I thank you. Please consider candidacy for any of the board positions. The work involved in SDTWS is a team effort. I look forward to seeing you all in a month.

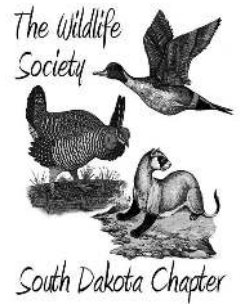
Eric Magedanz
SDTWS President





2020 SDTWS Annual Meeting
Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center at Cedar Shore
Oacoma, South Dakota
February 26 - 28, 2020

Tentative Agenda- Times may be subject to change



WEDNESDAY, 26 FEBRUARY

- 11:00 1:00 **Registration and Lunch (Free lunch sponsored by Truax)**
- 1:00 1:15 **Welcome and Introductions**
- Special Session: *Celebrating Biodiversity***
- 1:15 1:45 **A preliminary survey of selected aquatic insects in Northeast South Dakota lakes and streams** – Dennis Skadsen, Day County Conservation District
- 1:45 2:15 **Pollinator Faunal Perspectives: Diversity and habitats** – Paul Johnson, South Dakota State University
- 2:15 2:45 **Reexamining the impact of native woody plants on biodiversity in the Northern Great Plains** – Jacob Dyer, SD Dept. of Game, Fish and Parks
- 2:45 3:05 **BREAK**
- 3:05 3:35 **Dakota skipper captive breeding program** – Cale Nordmeyer, Minnesota Zoo
- 3:35 3:55 **Results of plant, wildlife, and habitat surveys on twelve Black Hills Game Production Areas** – Daryl Mergen
- 3:55 4:25 **Bryophyte and lichens, important contributors to ecosystem function and biodiversity in the Black Hills** – Mary Zimmerman
- 4:25 4:55 **Ferruginous Hawk movements in North America** – Dan Svingen, USDA Forest Service, Fort Pierre National Grasslands
- 5:00 6:00 **Social**
- 6:00 7:00 **Supper (Free with registration)**
- 6:45 **Start of Fundraising Event**
- 8:00 10:00 **Social**

THURSDAY, 27 FEBRUARY

- 8:00 9:00 **Committee meetings** (This is scheduled time to allow for standing and special committees to meet if desired.)
- 9:00 12:00 **Annual Chapter Business Meeting** (*Rolls and coffee provided*)
- 12:00 1:00 **Luncheon**
- Special Session Continued**
- 1:00 1:30 **So many lists – so few biologists** – Eileen Dowd Stukel, SD Dept. of Game, Fish and Parks
- 1:30 1:50 **Calcareous fen location and awareness in South Dakota** Joe Blastick, The Nature Conservancy

1:50	2:10	Modeling the implications of future bioenergy sources on bird diversity and abundance in the upper Missouri River basin – AP Baltensperger, MD Dixon, and David Swanson*
2:10	2:30	Age, succession planning, and wildlife values of landowners from three upper Midwest states – Larry Gigliotti* and Lily Sweikert
2:30	2:50	Assessing the use of camera traps to detect river otters in South Dakota – Randy Johnson, SD Dept. of Game, Fish and Parks
2:50	3:10	
3:10	3:30	BREAK
3:30	3:50	Evaluation of bobcat (<i>Lynx rufus</i>) survival, abundance and reproduction in the Black Hills region of South Dakota – Brady Neiles, SD Dept. of Game, Fish and Parks
3:50	4:10	Bird use of early successional sandbar vegetation for nesting: What do we lose by managing sandbars for plovers and terns? - Stephanie Nefas*, Mark Dixon, and David Swanson
4:10	4:30	False map turtle (<i>Graptemys pseudogeographica</i>) distribution and abundance in a modified river habitat in South Dakota – Anna Kase* and Jacob Kerby
4:30	4:50	
5:00	6:00	Social
6:00	7:00	Supper
7:00	8:00	Keynote Speaker – Mike Phillips, Turner Endangered Species Fund <i>Politics, Science, and the Biodiversity Crisis</i>
8:00	8:30	Award Presentations



FRIDAY, 28 FEBRUARY

8:00	8:20	Bioaccumulations and trophic transfer of selenium in South Dakota tile wetland species – Kaitlyn Campbell* and Jacob Kerby
8:20	8:40	Good birds and potentially bad habitat: nest survival in habitats with invasive trees in Missouri River riparian forests – Amanda Hegg*, Mark Dixon, and David Swanson
8:40	9:00	Stopover biology of grassland birds at restored tallgrass prairies – Amy West* and David Swanson
9:00	9:20	Grassland bird use of high and low diversity prairie plantings in Eastern South Dakota – Jackie Krakow*, K.K. Baker, K.W. Kelsey, K.C. Jensen, and R.C. Lonsinger
9:20	9:40	BREAK
9:40	10:00	Cover crop diversity encourages insect diversity in annual cropland: A citizen science project – Alex Michels*, and Jonathan Lundgren
10:00	10:20	Evaluating fall-seeded cover crops for nesting waterfowl in eastern South Dakota – Will Gallman* and Joshua Stafford
10:20	10:40	Habitat selection by post-fledging mallards in the Dakotas – Cynthia Anchor*, Aaron Pearse, Rocco Murano, Michael Szymanski, and Joshua Stafford
10:40	11:00	Survey of native lepidoptera on the Prairie Coteau of Northeastern South Dakota – Kendal Davis* and Paul Johnson
11:00	12:00	Present Student and Open Presentation Awards Gun Raffle Drawing Closing Comments and Adjourn Meeting

2020 SDTWS Annual Meeting

February 26-28th, 2020

Cedar Shores—Oacoma, SD

- Room reservations - There is a block of rooms reserved at Cedar Shores for the conference. Attendees can visit the booking link to make reservations.
- Click [HERE](#) or call 1-888-697-6363
- The state rates do not come up on the booking link but can be change to the rate during check in
- The reservation deadline for the reserved rooms is February 7th

Register for the Annual Meeting ONLINE!!

Click [Here](#) to register
(credit cards accepted)

Please note: After selecting each registration item and selecting "Add to Cart", the PayPal page shows what is in your cart. You will need to select "Continue Shopping" in the upper right hand corner to add the next registration item, i.e. Tuesday lunch, Tuesday banquet, and Membership Dues. There is a dropdown menu for registration fees - there are discounts if you are a student, retiree, or only staying one day.



If you have any questions or issues, please contact [Bruce Toay](#) at (605) 380-0684

South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society Annual Meeting

Registration and Receipt
Arrowwood Resort, Oacoma SD
February 26- February 28, 2020

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Agency/Organization: _____

Meeting Registration (*pick one*)

General	\$100	_____
General 1-Day	\$ 50	_____
Student/Retiree	\$ 35	_____
Student/Retiree 1-Day	\$ 25	_____

Meal Options

Wednesday Luncheon (paid for by sponsors)	\$	<u>FREE</u>
Thursday Luncheon	\$ 11	_____
Thursday Awards Banquet	\$ 15	_____

Annual Dues - South Dakota Chapter Membership

Regular	\$ 10	_____
Student (<u>FREE</u> if attending SD college/university)	\$ 0	_____
Life	\$	_____

Please check one: _____ New Member _____ Renewing Member

*If you did not renew your dues in 2019, you will be considered a new member in 2020 as per the SDTWS Bylaws.

Central Mountains and Plains Section Membership \$ FREE (SDTWS Pays \$1/Member)

Total Paid \$ _____

☐ (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.

Please make check payable to: SD TWS

Form of payment (circle one): CHECK CASH CREDIT CARD

To preregister, send form and check to: Bruce Toay, PO Box 427, Ipswich, SD 57451

Politics, Science, and the Biodiversity Crisis

Keynote Speaker—Mike Philips

Director of the Turner Endangered Species Fund

Mike has served as the Director of the Turner Endangered Species Fund (TESF) and an advisor to Turner Biodiversity Divisions (TBD) since he established both with Ted Turner and his family in 1997.

Mike has played a key role in wolf conservation and recovery. From 1986-1994, he was the Field Coordinator for the Red Wolf Recovery Program. He was also instrumental in the return of gray wolves to the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, serving as Project Leader for the wolf restoration effort from its inception in 1994 until 1997 when he left the National Park Service to establish TESF and TBD.

Mike received his B.Sc. in Ecology, Ethology, and Evolution from the University of Illinois in 1980, and his M.Sc. in Wildlife Ecology from the University of Alaska in 1986. He has conducted wildlife research, with an emphasis on large carnivores, throughout the United States and Australia. Mike's career focuses on imperiled species recovery, integrating private land and conservation, and the socio-political aspects of conservation biology.

Mike is an experienced writer and public speaker. He has authored or co-authored hundreds of reports and over 65 publications, including peer-reviewed articles, book chapters, conference proceedings, government reports, and popular articles. Mike has delivered over 200 public presentations to conservation organizations and professional conferences, including invited plenary, keynote, and banquet presentations.

As an endeavor separate and apart from his leadership of TESF and TBD, in 2006 Mike entered the political arena through election to the Montana legislature as the representative for House District 66, Bozeman. Shortly thereafter, Mike founded the Montana Legislative Climate Change Caucus. In 2009, Mike was elected as the Chairman of the House Democratic Caucus. During this legislative session, Mike played a critical role in crafting and passing the nation's most comprehensive law for sequestering CO₂ in geological formations.

Mike was re-elected to the state House in 2010 and to the state Senate in 2012. He will serve there at least through 2020. In addition to representing House and Senate districts, Mike served as a co-chair of Montana Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee during 2007 and 2008. In the fall of 2009 Mike was recruited by the White House to join a coalition of state legislative leaders to work with the Obama administration and the U.S. Senate in an effort to pass clean energy jobs and climate change legislation.

By design, Mike's career in conservation biology and politics is an atypical amalgamation of timely innovations based on strategic thinking, risk taking, and decisive and effective action to redress the extinction crisis. By leading some of the world's most significant public and private efforts to restore imperiled species, directing important publications that advance the science and policies of restoration ecology, and serving in elected office to advance the usefulness of science and conservation to legislative matters, Mike's work has been a determined response to an important challenge leveled years ago by Dr. E. O. Wilson: *reweave the wondrous diversity of life that still surrounds us.*



SDTWS Board Elections

Executive Board Candidate Biography

Robert Lonsinger is a wildlife ecologist that works with a wide range of terrestrial vertebrates, but tends to focus on mammalian carnivores and their prey. Rob's research often employs conservation genetic approaches, capture-recapture modeling, and/or occupancy modeling. Rob aims to inform and improve wildlife management; to this end, he works closely with resource managers and private landowners. Rob earned a B.S. in Biology (Gannon University), a M.S. in Wildlife Science and Experimental Statistics (New Mexico State University), and a Ph.D. in Natural Resources (University of Idaho). Rob was previously employed as a Regional Biologist for Idaho Department of Fish & Game, a Postdoctoral Research Scientist with the USGS Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, and an Assistant Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Rob joined the Department of Natural Resource Management at South Dakota State University as an Assistant Professor in fall of 2018. Rob is an active member of The Wildlife Society, American Society of Mammalogists, Ecological Society of America, and the National Military Fish and Wildlife Association.

Award Nominations

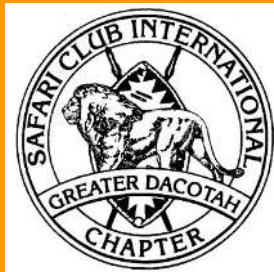
**** Accepted until January 31, 2020 ****

- Wildlife Professional of the Year
 - Citizens Wildlife Award
- M.S. Graduate Student Award

If you have any questions regarding the nomination process or the formulation of nomination letters, please contact Nathan Baker.

2020 Meeting Sponsors

We Greatly Appreciate Your Continued Support!!!



Wednesday—February 26th

**An evening of Fun & Fellowship
Live & Silent Auction / Game Night
Fundraiser**

**** If you have any items you would like to donate, please bring them with you.**

Items of interest...



Your choice of 2 SDSU Football or Basketball tickets in 2020.

-Go Jacks! Thanks Millborn Seeds



RAFFLE ITEM



Kayak—set up to do everything from enjoying a leisurely paddle to pursuing your favorite game / fish species



THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Founded in 1937 as The Society of Wildlife Specialists, The Wildlife Society has evolved into an international nonprofit organization of professional wildlife ecologists and managers. Members number over 10,000 from 40 different countries, and include administrators, biologists, conservation officers, educators, managers and researchers.

The objectives of TWS are to:

1. Promote sound stewardship of wildlife resources and the environments upon which wildlife and humans depend;
2. Undertake an active role in preventing human-induced environmental degradation;
3. Increase awareness and appreciation of wildlife values; and
4. To seek the highest standards in all activities of the wildlife profession.



SOUTH DAKOTA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

The South Dakota Chapter of TWS (SDTWS) was initiated on February 19, 1966 with 56 charter members. SDTWS is affiliated with the Central Mountains and Plains Section, one of eight subdivisions of TWS. The full membership of SDTWS meets annually in the spring to exchange scientific information through presented papers, debate current issues in wildlife management and land use, and conduct chapter business. The chapter's Executive Board of Directors, consisting of President, Past-President, President-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, and two standing board members meet at least 4 times each year to discuss issues that do not require full chapter approval. The chapter also communicates with its members through a newsletter, *The Prairie Voice*, published within 30 days of Executive Board meetings. SDTWS has a current membership of 171 people interested in the welfare of South Dakota wildlife.

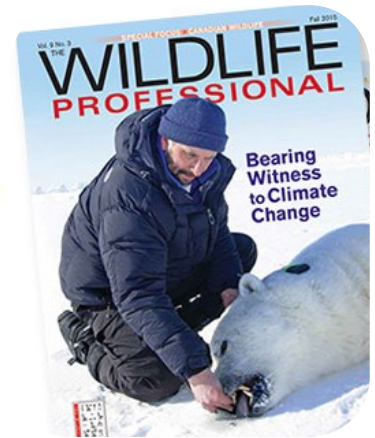
The Wildlife Society News

Popular Articles on the TWS website

- [Fish and Wildlife Services updates wetlands easements policy](#)
- [Same species, different habitats](#)
- [Survey shows U.S. citizens increasingly humanize animals](#)

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!**

South Dakota Chapter



[Chapter Home](#) [About](#) [Membership](#) [Annual Meeting](#) [News](#) [Contact](#)

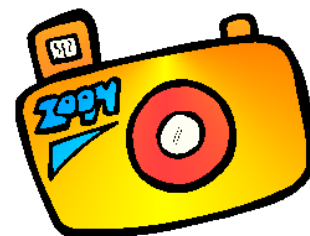
Click [here](#) to join the group! Facebook is a great way to share information, post events, to stimulate discussions on environmental issues or other topics of interest.

Contact Chuck Pyle at goosemansd@hotmail.com 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 2020 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 2021 annual meeting.



Notes from Dennie

This has been a busy year, we moved in June so summer and fall were tied up with building a room in the shop for reloading and a vault for firearm storage, but after completing the moving projects Mary Ann and I spent the week before Christmas in Jackson Wyoming.

We did get out in November and December photographing bighorns in the Badlands. We did photograph the 10 year old ram that we have been shooting for the last 5 years, he is an old warrior and for sure my favorite subject in the Badlands. We had not seen him in 2019 until December (thought he was gone), but during the rut he made himself available to photographers and park visitors.



The other images are of younger rams with some great potential to take over the top spot.



During the Jackson trip we photographed moose near the Gros Ventre River on the sage brush flats, which is the divide between the National Elk Refuge and Grand Teton National Park. We did find two bulls in a wetland area near Wilson feeding on under water vegetation at only 10 degrees, they are one tough species. There were about 2000 elk on the refuge and we did photograph migrating elk one evening, the refuge was still open for hunting, with some hunters harvesting cows. I included photos of a cow and calf we photographed at a -14 degrees, nice frosty muzzle.



We left Jackson one morning and headed to Alpine to photograph mountain goats, on the way down there we stopped at one of Wyoming Fish and Game feed grounds, with about 200 head of elk on the area.



The goats were on the road licking salt and every time a vehicle would pass by they would run up the hill, so we took a few photos of nanny's and kids, but not much to photograph.

If you go to Jackson make sure you take the sleigh ride on the refuge, the best time is the end of February with about 8000 elk on the refuge.



See everyone at the February conference, have a great winter!

These two photos are of the same bull with antlers and without!!



Tribal Wildlife Liaison

Dr. Michael P. Gutzmer, CWB, New Century Environmental LLC

Standing Rock Indian Reservation (North and South Dakota)

NCE biologists Jordan Kort and Gutzmer conducted spotlight and ground count surveys during the fall of 2019. Big game numbers were good to excellent with ample legal deer and antelope observed during the surveys. Spotlight deer survey numbers in southwest Corson County were over 4 deer/mile, which is the highest numbers we have seen in our surveys since sampling south of Morristown. Deer were 4.31 per mile at Wakpala and 2.87 deer/mile in Sioux County on the PKC transect. The lowest number per mile were at Porcupine (1.0 deer/mile). Large numbers of antelope does were observed in the survey counts.

November surveys were conducted and revealed good numbers of mule deer across the reservation. Spotlight surveys were comparable to October survey numbers with stable whitetail, and mule deer both in all our surveys. Sharptail grouse are being observed in larger flocks as the season goes on. Ring necked pheasants are at all-time lows during our 8 year tenure. In Fall 2019, we continued a 4 point minimum on a side or better size restriction on both white tail deer and mule deer bucks taken on the reservation. Our size restriction on mule deer a few years ago really paid off with some really nice mule deer taken. The size and number of points increased according to hunter harvest reports during those years. This will benefit our white tail and mule deer populations for more progressive deer management going forward.

The reservation grass composition is changing with many new invasive flora species being noted. Tribal biologists are working to find grant monies to find ways to inventory, monitor and control the current flora observed. Screening is a strategy for detecting undesirable change prior to manifestation of symptoms or adverse effects. Vegetation transitions (regime shifts) can have undesirable ecological and economic consequences, and the ability to spatially target transitions before they cause damage contributes to proactive land management. No small challenge to say the least.

Santee Sioux Indian Reservation (Nebraska) near Springfield SD

We are conducting small mammal studies for the USFWS (TWG grant) and just completed Year 1. Our Tribal Wildlife Grant is entitled "Representative Small Mammals in Minimally Disturbed Habitats Of the Santee Sioux Indian Reservation, Nebraska". Small mammal trapping started with snap traps that were deployed from the beginning of the study (December 2018) through December 2019. Deer mice, northern short tailed shrew, meadow jumping mouse, meadow vole, hispid pocket mouse and least shrew were sampled and 54 individuals comprised the total catch for a catch rate of 4.05 % in Year 1.

Eleven species of bats were documented in 2019. Townsend's Big-Eared Bat: *Corynorhinus townsendii*, (not likely), Big Brown Bat: *Eptesicus fuscus*, Eastern Red Bat: *Lasiurus borealis*, Hoary Bat: *Lasiurus cinereus*, Silver-Haired Bat: *Lasionycteris noctivagans*, Little Brown Bat: *Myotis lucifugus*, Western Small-Footed Myotis: *Myotis ciliolabrum*, Long-legged Myotis: *Myotis Volans*, Evening Bat: *Nycticeius humeralis*, and Tri-Colored Bat: *Perimyotis subflavus* are all considered likely on the reservation. The Townsends Big-Eared bat is not likely. Two potential significant findings are the northern long-eared bat, *Myotis septentrionalis* and the Mexican Free-tailed Bat, *Tadarida brasiliensis*. Initial acoustic analysis was evaluated through kaleidoscope and used as the primary analysis tool. Further analysis through Sonobat will assist in confirming our confidence in the presence of these species. We are anxious to announce the discovery and documentation of these species.

We are also assisting the tribe with an invasive species grant to evaluate all invasive species groups: plants, fish, insects, etc. on the reservation. This is being funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. We have documented numerous invasive flora and almost 100 new flora distribution records in Knox County alone. We will pay close attention to floodways impacts from March 2019 and compile changes in re-establishment in 2020.

THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

South Dakota Chapter

16760 482nd Ave, Revillo, SD, (605) 880-2651



Executive Board Meeting, December 6th, 2019

Magedanz call to order at 10:04 AM. Meeting started as conference call with Magedanz, Heimerl, Solem, Carlson, Markl, and Toay present.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Approval of minutes from last executive board meeting (9/11/19), Toay motion to approve minutes; second Carlson, No discussion, all in favor, Minutes approved

Approval of Treasurer's report

Toay reviewed Treasurer's report, New memberships; reimbursement for annual conference, Solem motion to approve; second Heimerl, No discussion, all in favor, Treasurer's Report approved

Old Business

* 2020 Annual Meeting Planning: Biodiversity

Heimerl reviewed general meeting planning and needs, Update on agenda and speakers, Potential speakers, Heimerl reviewed list of potential speakers thus far

- Keynote speaker

Mike Phillips, ED of Turner Endangered Species Fund and State Senator of MT, has agreed to deliver keynote address

- Reserve rooms for guest speakers? Heimerl will reserve four extra rooms for speakers, sponsors, and student attendees in addition to the usual block of 70 rooms

- Awards

Contacted Nathan Baker requesting call for award nominations, Email has been sent to chapter members for nominations

- Attendance/Recruitment

Continue to remind supervisors or others that oversee work of employees to encourage staff to go, Keynote speaker could be a big draw for attendance

- Photo Contest

Reminder in upcoming winter newsletter, Group reviewed required supplies for photo contest

- Contact potential meeting sponsors

PF, DU, Truax, Millborn, Nutrien, Safari Club International have donated in the past. Magedanz to contact PF and Millborn for sponsorships, Toay to contact DU, Truax, Nutrien and Safari Club for sponsorships

- Fundraising – Ben Lardy

Ben Lardy joined the conference call to discuss fundraising opportunities as the conference, Group reviewed ideas for fundraising events; raffle and games; successes in the past, Group discussed a kayak for the "big ticket" raffle item

- Board members to solicit donations from vendors throughout the state before next

Meeting, Lardy to forward a draft letter that has been used for solicitations in the past. Board will review all prizes and games at the January meeting

Review checklist (all)

- Board to review checklist periodically and at January meeting

Student membership

- Reminder: waive annual SD Chapter membership fee if attend annual meeting (open of online registration to completion of the annual meeting), Toay will coordinate with Mariah Simmons to ensure online student fees will be waived prior to and during the conference

Student Travel Grant/Membership Sponsor Grant

- Board reviewed a funding request from SDSU chapter to provide \$500 in travel costs for 7 members to attend the CMP conclave in Utah, March 2020, Following the board meeting the board approved the travel grant via email, Motion by Solem, second by Toay, all in favor, Discussion on differences between annual meeting travel grant requests and membership sponsor grants

New Business

Annual Conference report to board – Casey Heimerl reviewed her trip to Reno, NV, for the National Joint TWS/AFS meeting, High attendance (~5,000) but good opportunity for networking and comparisons to other state chapters

Send out call for abstracts, Heimerl will send out a call for abstracts by mid-December to SDTWS membership to fill out remaining speaker schedule at the conference

Menu and accommodations

Schedule meeting—The group discussed the need for all board members to physically attend meeting in Chamberlain to discuss meal options, Board will plan on meeting in more central location (Huron GFP office) in January for conference planning

Gay Simpson print—Who has and who can get it for annual meeting, Dave Azure last recipient, Carlson will ensure travel from Sand Lake NWR to annual meeting

Executive Board Candidates—Everyone be thinking of prospective candidates, The board discussed potential candidates to nominate for President-elect and Board Member elections

Next TWS Newsletter ideas

TWS Conference review, Highlight Keynote and Special Session for 2020 annual meeting, Photo contest submissions, Highlight fundraising format; list of prizes for Game night, Call for donations for game night, Candidate Biographies (President elect, Board), Call for abstracts, Online Grant application opportunity, Minutes from 2019 Annual Business Meeting, Copy of Registration Form, Copy of tentative Annual Meeting Agenda

Begin thinking about membership survey development to be distributed at annual meeting - Board discussed lack of participation in previous online survey and whether to re-open online opportunity or use hard copy forms during the annual conference business meeting, Group agreed to utilize both options to allow members unable to attend the conference an opinion on attendance growth opportunities

Mentoring Program update—Promote at annual meeting, Have had little participation thus far, Seek opportunities to develop mentorship during annual meeting,

Annual Meeting attendance

Carlson will miss upcoming meeting due to work scheduling conflict, Magedanz likely to miss part of meeting, Board will solicit volunteers to help cover responsibilities

Motion to adjourn by Solem; second by Markl

Meeting/call adjourned at 11:40 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

Grant Opportunities



The South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society offers a Student Travel Grant to help pay for attending a national or state TWS Annual Conference. The Chapter also offers a Student Membership Sponsorship Grant which will cover student annual dues for membership into TWS if you are a student board member of a Student Chapter of TWS in South Dakota. For more information of how to apply for either grant, click [here](#).



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**

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.

SOUTH DAKOTA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Annual Business Meeting Agenda & Minutes

28February, 2019

Cedar Shore Resort, Oacoma, SD

- ♦ 9:10 am Call to order – President Alex Solem
- ♦ Recognize a quorum; recognized Parliamentarian – Paul Coughlin
- ♦ Minutes from 2018 Annual Meeting – Jacquie Ermer
- ♦ Moved to approve by Jay Peterson; Second by Corey Huxoll; All in favor
- ♦ Annual Treasurer's Report – Jacquie Ermer
Moved to approve by Joshua Stafford; Second by Julie DeJong; All in favor

Old Business

Standing Committee Reports:

Nominations and Elections – Alex Solem

*Comments from the Candidates

-Board member candidate- Chad Carlson, Randy Johnson

-President-elect candidate- Casey Heimerl

-Secretary/Treasurer- Bruce Toay

*Casting of the Ballots

Audit – Josh Stafford

reviewed bank accounts after 2/26/19 executive board meeting; found to be in good standing

Awards – Nathan Baker

One nomination was received for the Wildlife Professional Year Award and one nomination was received for the Citizens Wildlife Award. We also received a nomination for the M.S. student of the year award. The Ph.D. student award is offered every other year, and was offered this year, however no nominations were received. Awards will be presented tonight during the Awards Banquet. Student and open presentation award plaques were again procured, as was one for our outgoing chapter president.

We also have two new SDTWS Life Members

#46 Silka Kempema; #47 Julie DeJong

NEW: The Wildlife Society Wildlife Restoration Awards

<http://wildlife.org/wildlife-restoration-awards/>

The Wildlife Society's Wildlife Restoration Awards recognize outstanding projects supported by Wildlife Restoration funds (also known as Pittman-Robertson funds) and associated non-federal matching funds. Established in 2018, the annual awards highlight the importance and effectiveness of the United States' Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration program and recognize excellence in wildlife management and research.

Two Wildlife Restoration Awards will be given each year, one in each of the following categories:

Wildlife Management (restore, conserve, manage, and enhance wild bird and mammal populations)

Wildlife Research and Surveys

Nomination process and criteria for this award: Completed projects or current projects with defined completion dates are eligible.

Nominations must be submitted by May 1, 2019 at 11:59 PM EST.

WILDLIFE RESTORATION AWARDS RECIPIENTS: The recipients of these awards will be recognized at the TWS Annual Conference. Funds for travel to the conference will not be provided.

Conservation Review – Report submitted by Mark Norton

Also Liaison to Conservation Affairs Network

As described in the SDTWS Chapter bylaws, the Conservation Review Committee is charged with reviewing legislative proposals, administrative regulations, and NEPA related documents affecting wildlife or wildlife habitat in South Dakota, and making recommendations to the Executive Board regarding possible action by the Board or Chapter. Current members of the committee include Paul Coughlin, Matt Morlock, Bob Hodorff, and Mark Norton.

Conservation Affairs Network:

In 2014, the Chapter's Executive Board tasked the Conservation Review Committee to serve as the Chapter's representative to parent chapter's Conservation Affairs Network (CAN). The CAN was launched in early 2014 and serves to engage and unify efforts by chapters, sections, and the parent Chapter in wildlife conservation policy issues at the national, regional, and local levels. The CAN is a venue for streamlined communication, collaboration, and cooperation on policy matters important to wildlife professionals.

2018 Conservation Review Committee Activities:

In 2018, the conservation review committee worked with wildlife diversity committee to draft a letter of support for the Recovering America's Wildlife Act that the board sent to Senator Rounds, Senator Thune, and Congresswoman Noem in August. The conservation review committee also continues to participate in the Conservation Affairs Network.

Topics on the Conservation Affairs Network's radar over the past year include:

Recovering America's Wildlife Act - The Conservation Affairs network, along with numerous other TWS chapter and section units, has become fully engaged in support and advocacy for the Recovering America's Wildlife Act. This remains a high priority for TWS at all levels.

The US Department of Interior's interpretation of the words "take" and "kill" in the Migratory Bird Treaty Act that only intentional taking or killing is unlawful instead of the longstanding interpretation that incidental taking or killing was unlawful.

Passage of the 2018 Farm Bill

Federal budgets and appropriations, including the Department of Interior reorganization plan.

The American Prairie Conservation Act - a sign on letter was distributed in of support of this legislation that would adopt a nation-wide "sodsaver" program

State and Tribal Wildlife Grants - a "Dear Colleague Letter" was circulated to express support for these grant programs

The 2015 "Waters of the United States" rule, which would have clarified the definition of the types of water bodies covered under the Clean Water Act

Endangered Species Act reform attempts.

Land and Water Conservation Fund permanent reauthorization

P-R Modernization – the “Modernizing the Pittman-Robertson Fund for Tomorrow’s Needs Act” The bill allows states to use Wildlife Restoration Account funds to build and maintain shooting ranges, and for communications and marketing efforts aimed at recruiting and retaining hunters and recreational shooters.

The Executive Board and Chapter membership are encouraged to engage and utilize the Committee as a resource for addressing legislative, policy, and environmental issues affecting South Dakota wildlife and their habitats, and take full advantage of resources available through the Conservation Affairs Network, accessible on the TWS website.

Education and Information – **Vacant-**

please consider chairing this committee

Membership – Chuck Pyle-

2 new life members- Silka Kempema and Julie DeJong

Program – Alex Solem/Eric Magedanz

gave update on agenda and how speakers on first day especially tied together and partner in the field

Resolutions and Public Statements – **Vacant-**

please considering chairing this committee

Special Committee Reports:

Arrangements – Eric Magedanz

accommodations and facilities have been sufficient at Cedar Shores

Certification – **Vacant**

Eileen Dowd Stukel volunteered to chair

Chapter History – Corey Huxoll

No report

Energy –KC Jensen

no report; Chapter did submit comment letter regarding wind farm project in Clark County

Fee Hunting and Ownership of Wildlife – Andy Lindbloom

no report

Fundraising – Ben Lardy

game night, silent auction, live auction; no objections to format

Grassland Issues –Boyd Schulz/Jim Madsen/Joel Murano/Pete Bauman

-no report

Missouri River Issues – Nathan Baker

There will be a Missouri River Natural Resources Committee Conference on March 5th – 7th at the Ramkota Conference Center in Pierre. <http://mrnrc2019.com/index.html>

Potential Sessions at this meeting are:

Restoration Opportunities

Floodplain Flora and Fauna

Riverine Flora and Fauna

Reservoir Flora and Fauna

Historical Natural Resource Perspectives
Riverine and Floodplain Ecological Processes
Invasive Species
Species of Greatest Conservation Need
Endangered Species
Missouri River Recovery Program

Newsletter – Jennifer Briggs

-please send Jennifer pictures, news, stories, etc to be included in newsletters to share with membership

Public Lands – Chuck Berdan / Eddie Childers

-no report; Eddie needs to step down as co-chair; if you are interested in being part of this committee, please consider co-chairing

Tribal Fish & Wildlife – Mike Gutzmer

-no report

Wetlands – Randy Meidinger

-no report

Wildlife Diseases – report submitted by Steve Griffin

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD): Surveillance for chronic wasting disease (CWD) in South Dakota during the period of July 1, 2018 through March 1, 2019 resulted in the testing of 217 elk, 52 mule deer and 438 white-tailed deer, for a total of 707 samples. Most of the elk sampling involved collection of heads at drop off locations from hunter-killed animals from the Black Hills. A total of 325 white-tailed deer samples were collected through city deer reduction programs in Rapid City, Custer, Sturgis, and Whitewood. Additional samples were collected from Sioux Falls, but data is not analyzed yet and is not included in these figures. Overall, the majority of samples were obtained from the Black Hills and extreme southwestern part of the state, with sick surveillance testing occurring statewide. South Dakota GFP asked hunters to voluntarily submit all elk heads for sampling, and offered to sample deer heads for anyone submitting samples to the Game, Fish, and Parks Regional Office in Rapid City, SD.

Testing of deer was also extended to hunters from anywhere in the state who wanted to submit samples to SDSU ADRDL with South Dakota Game, fish and Parks paying for the sampling cost.

Test results received on 707 samples indicate 22 white-tailed deer, 11 mule deer, and 8 elk were CWD positive. Hunter harvest accounted for 19 of the CWD positive cervids (5 elk, 14 deer), and sick surveillance accounted for 12 of the CWD positive cervids (3 elk, 9 deer). Additionally, 10 CWD positive deer were collected during the deer reduction programs within the city limits of Rapid City (1) and Custer (9). The total number of CWD positive animals discovered in SD since the first free ranging white-tailed deer was found in the fall of 2001 is now 438, including 202 elk, 90 mule deer and 146 white-tailed deer. Wind Cave National Park (WICA) has reported 10 deer and 131 elk as positive for CWD since 2002 and Custer State Park has reported 7 deer and 28 elk as part of these totals.

SDGFP continues to collect all voluntary hunter harvested elk samples as we have in the past, and sample deer heads from CWD units that are submitted to the Rapid City Regional Office or deer heads from anywhere in the state from hunters who

submit heads to a regional office or to the lab at SDSU. We continue to test any suspect animals from across the state.

In June of 2018, South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks created an internal working group to work on a CWD Action Plan to be developed within the next year. For more information on CWD in South Dakota visit: <https://gfp.sd.gov/chronic-wasting-disease/>

Hemorrhagic Disease: The State of South Dakota experienced no reported or documented mortality from Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) and/or Blue Tongue (BT). South Dakota Department of Game, Fish, and Parks (SDGFP) monitored for hemorrhagic disease starting in early summer and no reports were received. For more information on hemorrhagic disease in South Dakota visit:

<https://gfp.sd.gov/epizootic-hemorrhagic-disease/>

Rabies in South Dakota: Rabies is an enzootic fatal, but preventable, viral disease and a public health concern in South Dakota. In 2018, 538 animals were tested for rabies, and 15 animals tested positive for the disease. This is a slight decrease from the 22 positive animals in 2017. The 15 rabid animals included 14 wild animals (8 skunks, 6 bats) and 1 domestic cow. There were 523 animals that tested negative for rabies in 2018. The majority of these included 176 bats, 135 cats, 86 dogs, 57 cows, 29 raccoon, 11 skunk, 6 horses, and 23 other. No human rabies was reported. Skunks (*Mephitis mephitis*) are the primary rabies reservoir in South Dakota.

Brucellosis Testing in Elk: In conjunction with a radio-collaring effort of female elk from Custer County in the central Black Hills of South Dakota in February 2019, 50 adult or yearling elk were tested for brucellosis. Serum samples were sent to NVSL in Ames, IA for testing of brucellosis at the request of the South Dakota Animal Industry Board. All results showed no brucellosis in the elk.

Wildlife Diversity – Eileen Dowd Stukel and Silka Kempema

Committee members: Casey Heimerl, Laura Hubers, Tom LeFaivre, Mike Gutzmer
Eileen Stukel gave report to membership

Recovering America's Wildlife Act: Work continues to identify and secure a dedicated source of federal match dollars to assist state wildlife agencies in implementing state wildlife action plans. Each state, territory and the District of Columbia developed and revised comprehensive plans to provide for the needs of all fish and wildlife species and associated habitats. The legislative effort is called the Alliance for America's Fish and Wildlife, which resulted in the 2018 introduction of a U.S. House bill titled Recovering America's Wildlife Act. This legislation will redirect \$1.3 billion annually in existing royalties from energy and mineral development on federal lands and waters and renewable energy revenues on federal lands or the outer continental shelf to the Wildlife Conservation Restoration Program to support state-led efforts for the full array of fish and wildlife. A bill introduced in the U.S. Senate in 2018 proposed annual rather than dedicated funding for this purpose. Our chapter sent letters to Senators Rounds and Thune in 2018 asking for their support for this effort but emphasizing the importance of dedicated funding. We expect to see the 2019 House bill introduced soon. South Dakota would receive \$16 million per year if the bill is fully funded.

Bald Eagle Awareness Days: Our chapter continues its support for this educational event. The 2018 event was held in late February with the total audience estimated at more than 600 people. The event featured birds of prey programs in Sioux Falls and Pierre by staff from The Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota. The SDGFP Outdoor Campus West in Rapid City again held a companion

event with a live birds of prey presentation by the Black Hills Raptor Center. The 2019 event was held last week and again included events in Sioux Falls, Pierre and Rapid City.

South Dakota Breeding Bird Atlas2 book and website: Results of the second South Dakota Breeding Bird Atlas are available online on the SDGFP website and in book form. We are hosting a special book signing at this meeting. Copies can be purchased for \$30 each, saving \$8 in shipping.

New TWS Award: I am representing our Section on a new national award committee called the Wildlife Restoration Awards Committee. These awards are intended to highlight the impact of the Wildlife Restoration Program, known as the Pittman-Robertson Program, which provides apportionments to state wildlife agencies from a portion of manufacturer excise taxes on guns, ammo, and archery equipment for projects on wild birds and mammals. Two awards will be given each year, one for Wildlife Management and one for Wildlife Research and Surveys. Nominations are due by May 1 of this year. If anyone has an idea for a nomination that I can assist with, let me know.

Recent endangered species activities in South Dakota:

The FWS will make a determination on the potential listing of the monarch butterfly by June 2019. The Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (MAFWA) continues to provide a framework for federal, state, tribal and private partners to benefit monarchs in the Midwest. MAFWA completed the "Mid-America Monarch Conservation Strategy" during 2018. You can view this plan on MAFWA's website. Nearly all states in the Midwest have also completed monarch or native pollinator plans. South Dakota's Monarch Plan, finalized in November 2018, is available on the SDGFP website. The state strategic plan was developed with a variety of partners and built on the results of the South Dakota Monarch Summit, held in October 2017. Matt Morlock of Pheasants Forever recently submitted a grant proposal for NRCS funding for a 3-year Native Pollinator Coordinator in South Dakota. We are awaiting word on that opportunity.

Last year we reported that the FWS announced an initial positive finding for potential listing for tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), which was formerly the eastern pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus subflavus*). This species has been affected by white-nose syndrome, which was confirmed in South Dakota during the summer of 2018. South Dakota's confirmations to date include Custer and Jackson counties. White-nose syndrome is caused by a fungus called Pd for short. The fungus often causes a white fuzz on the bat's nose and wings. It's thought that the fungus damages a bat's skin, causing the animal to rouse more easily during the winter and waste valuable energy. White-nose syndrome is the disease caused by Pd.

Last year we reported on a SDGFP Wildlife Diversity Program accomplishment in which staff drafted status reviews of all state listed species and delisting and downlisting criteria for species with sufficient information. The full draft document was made available through the Game, Fish and Parks' Commission process, and the document was finalized and is available on the SDGFP website. This document will be updated in 2020 with any new information.

Other Reports:

SDSU Fish and Wildlife Conservation Club Student Report- Nick Peterson

Thanked chapter for providing student travel grants and TWS membership

Worked with Dr. Jensen on bird banding

Madison WMD- assisted with purple prairie coneflower seed harvest from WPAs

MN Sharp-tail Grouse Society- helped them with brush cutting at end of March

Annual buffalo banquet- 70th annual in 2018; no banquet in 2019

Election Results – Alex Solem and Joshua Stafford

Casey Heimerl- President elect

Chad Carlson- Board member

Bruce Toay- Secretary/Treasurer

Other Old Business

SDTWS growing account balance

Pay (reimburse) SDSU student officer national dues

Increase PhD and Master's award

\$250 to \$500 and \$200 to \$400, respectively

Student Travel Grant

Application can be found online

\$200 grant to attend national or state annual TWS meeting

5 requests were approved

Other states offer similar grants

Should we have a cap on grant totals? e.g. offer \$1500 in grants

Suggestion to just pay registration fee especially at national TWS rather than have a grant total

Why send students to national? Networking! Expose to research around the nation, encourage to present posters

Membership

Reminder that SDTWS member is not automatically TWS member

SDSU Club member not automatically a SDTWS member

Increase student involvement in SDTWS

Chapter waived student chapter membership fee if attended annual meeting

Travel grant opportunity

Need to reach out to other universities/colleges- biology club?

Invited other conservation entities in SD to annual meeting

How can we increase or recruit new regular members?

Can we set up automatic recurring membership payment on our website?

Letters/Statements

Recovering America's Wildlife Act

Senate and House

US COOP Unit funding support

Introduction of SDTWS to the SD GFP Commission

Crocker Wind Farm Environmental Assessment

Various comment letters on projects throughout the state

Donation received from "Fight for the Cause"- Mitchell Senior High English II donation

\$358 donation to SDTWS for making our world a better place

New Business

Approval of New Members

No new member applicants at annual business meeting

Meeting site/dates for the 2020 Annual Meeting

2019 meeting was Wed-Fri instead of Mon-Wed due to conflicts with other organizational meetings

consider joint meeting with AFS next time they meet in SD; contact AFS president about next meeting

ever consider weekend meeting instead of during week?

Corey Huxoll motion to allow board to decide next year's meeting location; second by Jay Peterson; all in favor; motion passed

Other New Business

None

Transfer of Gavel to President-Elect Eric Magedanz

Presentation of Past-President Plaque- Alex Solem

Motion to Adjourn by Joshua Stafford; second by Mark Norton

Meeting adjourned 10:41am

Respectfully submitted by: Jacquie Ermer