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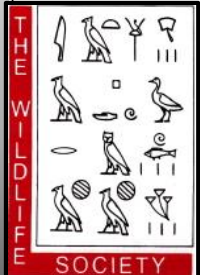
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Vol 11; Issue  
**ONE**



# "Gu-at-see"



## Our Mission

The Native Peoples' Wildlife Management Working Group promotes improved relationships between state/provincial/federal wildlife managers and tribal wildlife managers through improved communications. The Working Group provides a forum for Tribal and agency wildlife professionals to discuss wildlife management on reservations and aboriginal lands and to share viewpoints on proposed policies affecting wildlife management in Indian Country. The Working Group works to enhance wildlife management on and off reservations through joint activities.

## *Farewell letter from outgoing Chair as sent to WG on 12/17/2019*

Native Peoples Wildlife Management WG current and past members,

The winter holiday season provides a great opportunity to reflect on our lives and what we are truly thankful for every day. I am so grateful to have served as your Native Peoples Wildlife Management Working Group chair for the past few years and feel so privileged to work among such a phenomenal group of dedicated wildlife professionals within Indian country. I wanted to thank you all for continuing to support our working group and for making sure the voices of tribal communities are heard within TWS and the wildlife profession.

I'd like to take this opportunity to e-welcome your new Executive Board! In case you missed Paige's email last week here's your new crew:

- *Chair-elect:* Molly O'Grady [mollyyogradaigh@gmail.com](mailto:mollyyogradaigh@gmail.com)
- *Secretary/Treasurer:* Paige Schmidt [paige\\_schmidt@fws.gov](mailto:paige_schmidt@fws.gov)
- Serra Hoagland will become our Past-Chair and **Ashley Archer** ([ashley.archer6@gmail.com](mailto:ashley.archer6@gmail.com)) will take over as **Chair**.
- *Board Members:* Sarah Rinkevich, Janene Lichtenberg, Jonathan Gilbert, Llyodene Hill and Robert Newman.

You are in excellent hands! However, there's much work to be done....

Tribes are being recognized in the media and in publications at an alarming rate. Indigenous communities understand the value of connecting people with the land – taking holistic, and reciprocal human-wildlife relationships into account when conserving wildlife for future generations. Tribes are also asserting their sovereignty in critical ways and may be eligible for significant and equitable funding through RAWA in the near future. Indigenous people are taking leadership positions and advancing in western education – after nearly 5 decades into the American Indian Movement. The topic of wildlife conservation is urgent, and our working group can continue to elevate the goals of TWS by being an inclusive, diverse and welcoming organization.

Story Continues Pg. 2....





## *Letter from the Chair, continued.....*

I'd like to mention two highlights of my experience serving as your chair. Without hesitation, the most honorable and memorable experience I've had with the working group is coordinating and participating in the Native Student Professional Development program. Supporting early-career indigenous scholars and providing them with professional development experiences at TWS has been remarkably rewarding and unbelievably FUN! Thank you for everyone within our working group who continues to support this program! My second experience I'd like to highlight is 8 years of moderating and coordinating symposia focused on topics relevant to tribal wildlife management. I highly encourage all of you to pursue these opportunities, whether that's finding speakers, helping moderate or offering a presentation. The value of sharing these symposia with the broader TWS community has long-lasting benefits and it allows us the opportunity to showcase the great work going on in Indian country!

Lastly, our working group always needs your help. Whether that's through providing feedback on issues, sending out engagements and partnership materials with your network, or participating in our sponsored symposia or conference events, supporting the Native Student Professional Development program or recruiting new members. We always need your help. Please reach out to your NEW e-board with any ideas and comments.

I'm not going anywhere and in fact will serve as the past-chair for two years. I have also been nominated as the Vice President for the Northwest Section of TWS and look forward to serving TWS in a new capacity so you can't get rid of me yet!

Da'wa'eh (thanks!) and a happy holiday season to all of you!

-Serra Hoagland

## **NATIVE STUDENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**



The Native Student Professional Development Program provides Native American students with the opportunity to attend The Wildlife Society's Annual Conference, the largest gathering of wildlife professionals in North America. Now in its 12th year, the program is organized by the Native Peoples' Wildlife Management Working Group of TWS.

Due to the conference going virtual this year, participants chosen for the 2020 conference will now be given the opportunity to attend the 2021 annual conference. The students will receive a travel grant to attend. Candidates must be members of a Native American, First Nations or Indigenous Tribe, or identify as Native Alaskan or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and currently be enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program in a relevant academic discipline.

Visit [wildlife.org/npwmwg/professional-development-program](http://wildlife.org/npwmwg/professional-development-program) for program details. Please contact Ty Werdel, [werdel@ksu.edu](mailto:werdel@ksu.edu), with any questions.

The Native Student Professional Development Program is always looking for funding! If you have any suggestions or would consider funding, please contact Serra Hoagland at [serrahoagland@gmail.com](mailto:serrahoagland@gmail.com)



## The Wildlife Society 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

# TWS VIRTUAL

### THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY 2020 ANNUAL CONFERENCE:

*A Five-Day Virtual Conference Experience*

SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 2, 2020

We're going virtual! TWS has decided to suspend this year's in-person event in favor of a fully virtual experience due to COVID-19. Please stay tuned for more information and details as they become available.

## SAVE THE DATE

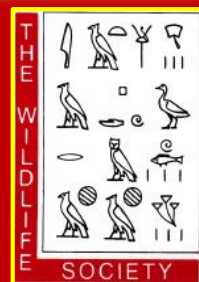
### SEPT. 28 – OCT. 2, 2020

The Wildlife Society will be hosting its 27th Annual Conference entirely virtual. The Wildlife Society (TWS) conference is where wildlife students and professionals meet with their colleagues, present groundbreaking science and enhance their interdisciplinary skills. This conference is your opportunity to LEARN, NETWORK and ENGAGE with other members from across North America and beyond.

**Calling all TWS members!!**

**Register and View the Conference  
Schedule HERE:**

<https://twconference.org/>







## Annual Meeting: Native People's Wildlife Management Working Group



The Native People's Working Group Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday Sept 29th from 4:30-6:00 pm EST.**

Please join us for our virtual Zoom call. All attendees should have access through their Virtual TWS conference dashboard or members can follow the Zoom link below.

Zoom Meeting URL: <https://zoom.us/j/96675375383?pwd=T2NMc0xLV2VYZ1kyc3ZENU1tekhlZDZ09>

# Sessions of the Week

**Relevance of Sustainable Use of Wildlife in a Changing Society:** September 28th (Mon), 2020; panel 2-3pm EST Tuesday  
Sustainable use of wildlife is a core tenant of wildlife management frameworks worldwide and achieving sustainability is a major focus of multiple international conventions. However, changing societal values toward wildlife challenge the acceptability and social license for sustainable use policies. This session will explore how wildlife stakeholders and wildlife conservation professionals perceive sustainable use in its myriad forms; simply assuming we can continue with the current paradigm linking sustainable use and conservation is not tenable. This section will discuss perspectives from agencies, universities, students, young professionals, and international entities.

**The National Fish, Wildlife, and Plants Climate Adaptation Network? Advancing Understanding of Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation:** October 1<sup>st</sup> (Thurs), 2020; panel 3-4pm EST Friday

We introduce the National Fish, Wildlife, and Plants Climate Adaptation Network (NFWPCAN), a recently established, group of federal, state, tribal, and non-governmental scientists and professionals seeking to facilitate climate change adaptation. The group was born from a desire to enhance communication and awareness of climate adaptation efforts underway in agencies and organizations, to promote conservation of fish, wildlife, and plants as necessary objectives in the broader domain of climate adaptation, and to speak with a collective voice to achieve these ends. The presentations in this symposium provide an overview of progress on climate adaptation, a status report on climate change impacts and reflections on experiences in creating and deploying adaptation plans at the state, federal and tribal levels. We close with our vision for how the Network seeks to facilitate continued progress and a discussion of how to maximize the effectiveness of climate adaptation efforts



**TWS OUT IN THE FIELD**  
The Wildlife Society

**Events @ TWS 2020**  
(All times = Eastern Time)

### Out in the Field events

- ▶ Out in the Field general meeting: Monday 9/28 @ 11 a.m.
- ▶ Out in the Field Happy Hour (a social gathering for LGBTQ+ wildlifers): Tuesday 9/29 @ 6-8 p.m.
- ▶ Out in the Field Networking Lounge: all week long!

### Other events of interest

- ▶ Panel Discussions:
  - ◇ Much More Than a First Aid Kit: Keeping Everyone Safe in the Field (Monday 9/28 @ 2:30-4)
  - ◇ Women of Wildlife (WOW) in the Field (Wednesday 9/30 @ 12:30-2)
  - ◇ Dismantling Systemic Racism in the Wildlife Profession (Thursday 10/1 @ 12:30-2:30)
- ▶ Symposium: "Mentoring Across Lived Experiences" (Monday 9/28)
- ▶ Ethnic and Gender Diversity Working Group meeting (Thursday 10/1 @ 4:30-6)



## Research Highlight

### “Incorporating cross-cultural training into a Master of Science degree program”

*By Jonathan Gilbert Ph.D., Director, Biological Services Division, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, June 2019*

The University of Wisconsin – Madison (UW) and the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) are collaborating on a project that is assessing small mammal populations and their relationships with forest types, forest management, and season in northern Wisconsin. This project builds upon more than 25 years of research on the American marten (*Martes americana*) conducted by Jonathan Gilbert, GLIFWC Director of Biological Services, and continues a collaboration with Jonathan Pauli, professor in the Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology at UW. Drs. Gilbert and Pauli are interested in the effects of forest type, forest management, and season on small mammals such as mice (*Peromyscus* spp.) and red-backed voles (*Myodes gapperi*), species that comprise a significant portion of the American marten’s diet. The objectives of the study are (1) to quantify population densities of small mammals in 3 different forest types (hardwood forests, hemlock-cedar forests, and lowland conifer forests) across seasons, (2) to determine the effects of timber harvest on these populations, and (3) to measure seasonal changes in small mammal communities in these forests. The results of this work will contribute to the overall understanding of American marten ecology, an endangered species for the state and tribes in Wisconsin. With these components, the study is typical of a master’s degree project.

Early in the collaborative development of the project, however, Drs. Gilbert and Pauli agreed that the program should incorporate a cross-cultural element. Marten, or Waabesheshi in Ojibwe language, is an important species to the Ojibwe people. It is Doodem, or clan animal, and thus enjoys significant cultural attention. Because the project was developed through collaboration, with funding largely provided by GLIFWC, the co-Primary Investigators agreed that a cultural component of the project would be appropriate in understanding the full significance of the ecology of martens and their prey. This element makes the project unique from a typical master’s degree program in many ways. Ally Scott is the master’s student undertaking this work. She comes to Wisconsin from Virginia and had little to no previous experience working with Native American people. As we developed her program of study, Ally worked to include opportunities to gain experience with the Ojibwe people. She attended meetings of GLIFWC with tribal leaders, she participated in youth camps in which tribal youth learned about Ojibwe cultural activities, and she accompanied tribal spearfishers during their annual spring spearing season, an opportunity that not many people get to enjoy. All this was just in her first year. Ally’s participation in these and other upcoming opportunities will contribute to her cross-cultural education.



*Ally Scott during winter trapping and one of her subjects.*



*Winter small mammal trapping in a hemlock-cedar forest. The culvert shelters developed for this project protect the traps and animals in them from winter exposure.*

***Story Continues on Next Page...***





## Research Highlight, Contd...

Many of us are familiar with the requirement of a thesis, a written document describing the student's learning outcomes during their course of study, for advanced degrees. Most theses take the form of written papers published in peer-reviewed journals. As we were planning this project, we knew the small mammal study would result in a traditional thesis, but grappled with how to present the cross-cultural aspect of Ally's degree. Ally has decided to synthesize these experiences by writing a children's book in collaboration with a tribal grade school class and by interacting with members of the students' community.

The main idea of cross-cultural education is that information should flow in two directions as a reciprocal and equal exchange. Ally will spend time with the students in their classroom and educate them about marten ecology, including food habits. Additionally, Ally will learn from the students about the cultural attitudes regarding martens. Community members will also help Ally learn about the culture surrounding martens to strengthen that component of information flow. Ally and the students, with assistance of the teacher, will craft a story blending traditional and ecological knowledge of martens, and the students will further contribute by making illustrations. The hope and goal is that by interacting with these students and community members, Ally can learn from them about the culture and also teach them some of the ecology surrounding marten prey and their population dynamics.

Finally, Ally will present her results to her peers through her exit seminar and thesis defense, including the results of her cross-cultural project component. In this way, the cycle of information will return to UW as Ally's peers learn about her experiences.

I am not aware of other programs that try to blend science and culture for a master's degree student in a wildlife department; this is certainly our first attempt. Our mission at GLIFWC is to integrate Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) into our science work. If we are to be successful, early training of professionals is essential. I am hopeful that this project can help us accomplish this important goal.



**(Top left)** Snow snake game being taught to young people at the Bad River winter camp, Odanah, WI, 2019.

**(Top Right)** Hemlock-cedar forest type with culvert shelters in place prior to the first snowfall.

**(Bottom Left)** Summer view of lowland conifer forests, one forest type being sampled.





## TWS Current News

## "Saskatchewan reintroduction sees historic bison birth"

--TWS, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020



For the first time since 1876, a wild bison calf has been born on the landscape of what is now Wanuskewin Heritage Park, an Indigenous-run conservation area in Saskatchewan. The female calf represents the latest chapter in the park's effort to restore bison (*Bison bison*) to the area. Last December, 11 bison arrived from nearby Grasslands National Park and Yellowstone National Park to land that was once a bison hunting ground for the Cree, Assiniboine and Blackfoot people, among others.

"To hear the sound of hooves thundering across the prairies, accompanied by the drums that were part of the ceremonial protocols, it was so powerful. It was a once in a lifetime experience," Darlene Brander, Wanuskewin's chief executive, told the Guardian.

About 1,500 wild, genetically pure bison survive in Canada, all descended from roughly 50 individuals. Parks Canada hopes creating new herds will lead to more genetic resiliency.

Read more in the Guardian:  
<https://wildlife.org/saskatchewan-reintroduction-sees-historic-bison-birth/>

## The July/August issue of *The Wildlife Professional*

--TWS, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020



In the July/August issue, *The Wildlife Professional* looks at ways in which Indigenous knowledge and Western science are being interwoven to lead to more successful outcomes in wildlife conservation and management. Sometimes viewed as conflicting, these approaches can actually be complementary, from helping to manage logging operations in British Columbia to protecting endangered wetlands birds in Hawaii. Often called traditional ecological knowledge — or "two-eyed seeing" by some researchers — the approach seeks to integrate approaches to understanding the natural world.

Contributed articles also include novel approaches to research and management. Amid controversies surrounding the conservation of northern goshawks in the Southwest, U.S. Forest Service researchers found that improving conditions for the goshawk also improved forest health. Biologists seeking to detect a cryptic snake in the Northwest turned to eDNA for answers. And in a look into the history of wildlife biology and conservation, we show the important but forgotten roles that pioneering women have played.

Watch for the issue in your mailbox soon, or log in to your member portal.

*The Wildlife Professional is an exclusive benefit of membership in The Wildlife Society. Published six times annually, the magazine presents timely research news and analysis of trends in the wildlife profession.*

*Don't miss another issue! Join today to start receiving *The Wildlife Professional* in your mailbox and all the other great benefits of TWS membership.*



## "Inuit hunting techniques help researchers track narwhal"

--TWS, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020

*Narwhal are difficult to approach without the right experience. Credit: NOAA Fisheries, Kristin Laidre*

Inuit harpooners are helping researchers get close enough to narwhals to record their calls and observe their behavior. Narwhals (*Monodon Monoceros*) are skittish around humans, which makes it difficult for researchers to record their calls or get a closer look at their behavior. But the Inuit in Greenland have highly developed skills for approaching narwhal close enough to hunt them. Researchers recently collaborated with the indigenous people in a successful effort to approach the tusked cetaceans. It helped them discover new details about narwhal calls acoustics, Meredith Fore reports.

Read More at Inside Science : <https://www.insidescience.org/news/inuit-hunters-help-researchers-listen-narwhals-close>





## TWS Current News



### USDA shares science career options with Navajo youth

By David Bergman, CWB®, State Director, USDA Wildlife Services-Arizona, August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Safeguarding Natural Heritage, a summer outreach program supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, helps high school students explore careers in plant and animal science, wildlife management and agribusiness within and outside a tribal community.

Participating students normally live on a college campus, learning about agriculture from university professors, scientists and administrative professionals who work for the U.S. government in various fields. But this year, the program transitioned to a virtual program through Diné College on the Navajo Nation due to COVID-19.

Participants learn about the diverse work of the sponsoring USDA agency, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. They study the life cycles and habits of insects and examine cells and tissues under a microscope to identify diseases, work to conserve and manage wild animals and their habitats, carry out animal health programs, deal with the humane care and treatment of animals, inspect and regulate certain genetically engineered organisms and manage the business aspects of protecting plants and animals.



The Safeguarding Natural Heritage program went online this summer. Credit: USDA Wildlife Services

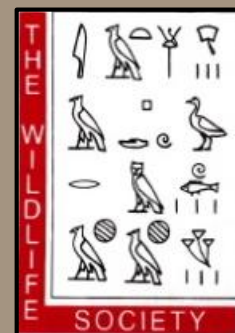
### Story Continues....

The program also introduces ideas of sustainable agriculture and farming with the perspective of preserving their natural heritage and increasing their awareness of the harm invasive species can cause. Additionally, students learn about potential job opportunities for college graduates — not only within their own tribal communities, but possibly at USDA.

In July, Wildlife Services provided a seminar on human-wildlife conflict management, including highlighting the National Rabies Program and the National Feral Swine Program, through a Zoom call. The two-week summer program is designed for students aged 14 to 17. About 40 high school students from the Navajo Nation participated in the call.



Navajo high school students participate in USDA Wildlife Service's Safeguarding Natural Heritage program at Diné College in 2018.  
Credit: USDA Wildlife Services



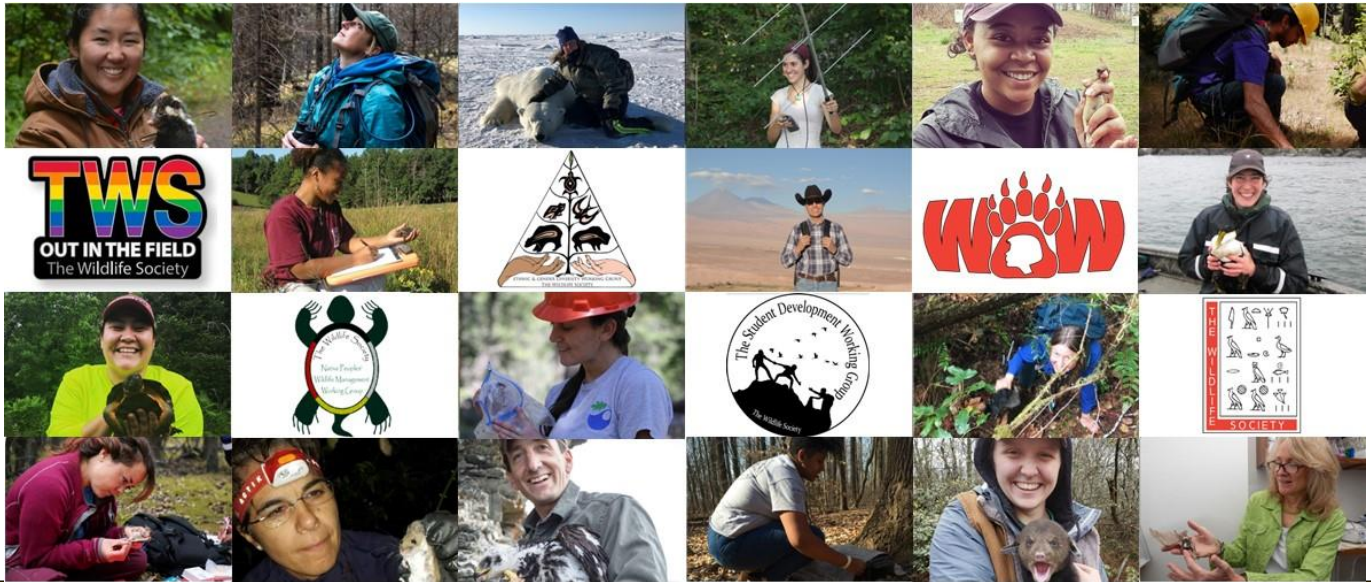




## TWS Current NEWS

### **NEW!! TWS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion webpage**

--TWS, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020



The Wildlife Society is committed to the identification and removal of barriers to recruitment, effective mentoring, retention of a diverse workforce, and to communicating with a diverse array of stakeholders. Through ongoing diversity initiatives, TWS has been working with partner organizations and TWS members to develop recommendations for increasing recruitment and retention of underrepresented groups in the wildlife profession. Society members and staff have developed a number of resources and publications to further engage on diversity and inclusion. Staff and members are dedicated to strengthening and supporting diversity efforts within the Society and throughout the wildlife profession. Diversity, equity, and inclusion is emphasized in The Wildlife Society's guiding documents, including the strategic plan and standing position statement on workforce diversity within the wildlife profession.

See More Here: <https://wildlife.org/dei/>

### **Diversity Award presented to South Carolina DNR outreach program**

-By David Frey, September 23, 2020

The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources Diversity Outreach Program has received the 2020 TWS Diversity Award. The program works to raise awareness about the state's natural resources among Hispanic and African communities.

"We know that the population is changing," said Diversity Outreach Manager Alix Pedraza. "Those kids from minorities and underrepresented audiences are disconnected. Their families as a whole haven't been exposed to all the things that state agencies have to offer."

Pedraza was hired in 2015 after completing a wildlife technician internship with the department. Wildlife officials saw a growing number of Hispanics fishing and recreating, Pedraza said, but managers had a hard time communicating all of the rules and requirements to the new demographics, particularly to those who didn't speak English.

Three years later, Keya Jackson was hired to expand the program to the state's African American population. "I've always had an interest in working with people, connecting people to the natural environment," said Jackson, who has a master's degree in marine biology.



**Read full Article Here:** <https://wildlife.org/diversity-award-presented-to-south-carolina-dnr-outreach-program/>



## In Other News...

### Eagle Retention Policy

--US Fish and Wildlife Service



In response to tribal requests to retain deceased eagles found on their lands, today the FWS announced revised policy and a process to authorize such retention.

The revised policy (<https://www.fws.gov/policy/720fw6.pdf>) has three goals:

1. authorize retention of eagle remains found by a tribal member on that tribe's land;
2. enhance eagle conservation in Indian Country; and
3. avoid unnecessary human health or safety challenges that some deceased eagles pose.

A permit from the Service is required to possess (retain) an eagle found on tribal land in Indian Country. The permit will clearly describe the process to report a deceased eagle to law enforcement, and how your Tribe may receive that eagle after investigation and other requirements. The Service will not charge an application fee for this permit. Information on how to obtain a permit is attached to this email.

For additional information, please refer to the attachments or visit <https://www.fws.gov/nativeamerican/eagle-retention-policy.html> in our National Native American Programs webpage.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Mary Elder, Assistant Regional Director for External Affairs ([mary\\_elder@fws.gov](mailto:mary_elder@fws.gov) 505-248-6285).

What to do if You Find Eagle Remains in \*Indian Country (Your Tribe may be able to keep the eagle)

1. First, the eagle must be reported to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office of Law Enforcement (OLE), contact information is listed below. It may be advisable for you to contact your tribal law enforcement office as well.
2. Reporting is important for eagle conservation because it contributes key information about the causes and extent of eagle mortality.
3. Do not touch the dead eagle; there may be contaminants or disease present.
4. The eagle must not be collected or possessed until specific authorization (verbal or written) is received from an OLE special agent. Collection of a dead eagle without authorization is a violation of federal law.
5. Deceased eagles found in Indian Country may be eligible for transfer to that Tribe after law enforcement or scientific research requirements are met. The eagles(s) must be obtained by the Tribe. Eagles that were killed intentionally, and/or eagles that are suspected of posing a human health and safety risk (i.e., poisoned) will not be transferred to the Tribe.

#### Contact Information:

Headquarters and Regional Office of Law Enforcement

<https://www.fws.gov/le/regional-law-enforcement-offices.html>

Regional Migratory Bird Permit Offices

<https://www.fws.gov/birds/about-us/about-us-regional-offices.php>

Native American Liaisons

<https://www.fws.gov/nativeamerican/contact.html>

\*Indian Country, as defined under 18 U.S.C. 1151







## In Other News...



### **“U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Southwest Region Congratulates 2018 Recovery Champions”**

--Submitted by Sarah Rinkevich

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Southwest Regional Director Amy Lueders presents Cynthia Dale and her team the Recovery Champion Award at the 2019 Native American Fish and Wildlife Society national conference. Credit: Vanessa Burge, USFWS

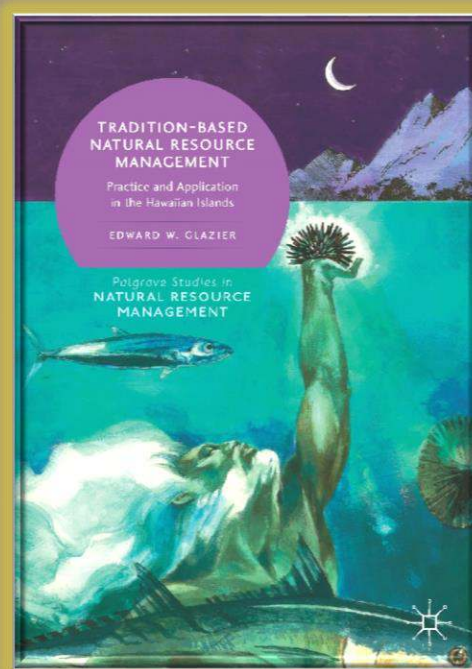
Each year, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Endangered Species Recovery Champion Award honors employees, but also our partners-in-mission, for conserving threatened and endangered species listed under the Endangered Species Act. The award is given to an organization whose work results in milestones in the Recovery Program. Amy was honored to present the 2018 Recovery Champion Award to the staff of the White Mountain Apache Tribe’s Sensitive Species and Mexican Wolf Program. On behalf of the Fish and Wildlife Service, she congratulated the staff members of the Tribe’s Sensitive Species and Mexican Wolf Program: Cynthia Dale, Sara Eno, Deon Hinton, Joseph Perez, Theo Guy, and Manuelita Kessay.

The White Mountain Apache Tribe has been an instrumental partner in the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program by supporting the establishment of a sustainable population of Mexican gray wolves on the Reservation. The staff’s commitment to the conservation of the Mexican wolf has been an inspiration and model for the Service’s Tribal partners in conservation throughout the southwest. The White Mountain Apache Tribe’s work on wolf recovery is emblematic of countless partnerships between tribal, federal and state fish and wildlife management entities nationwide.



### **“Tradition-Based Natural Resource Management: Practice and Application in the Hawaiian Islands by Ed Glazier.”**

--Submitted by Sylvia Spaulding



Palgrave Studies in Natural Resource Management has recently released *Tradition-Based Natural Resource Management: Practice and Application in the Hawaiian Islands* by Ed Glazier. The book offers an overview of bottom-up management of natural resource management that can be applied globally; spotlights Native Hawaiian advocacy for traditional management of the island’s natural resources; and provides a framework for resource managers, scientists and policymakers as well as indigenous populations.

In the Foreword, Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, writes: “From the resurgence of non-instrument navigation and traditional voyaging canoes to familiar activities like baby lua’u and other pa’ina (celebratory feastings), Ed shows that continuing and reclaiming the indigenous culture occurs on many levels and involves both Native Hawaiians and those who have come to call Hawai’i home.”

To order the book, go to <https://www.palgrave.com/us/book/9783030148416>



## In Other News...

### **“Traditional ecological knowledge helps researchers understand the effects of plant harvesting”**

--Submitted by Serra Hoagland



#### Introduction

It is becoming increasingly important for Native American tribes to communicate the sustainability of their wild plant harvesting methods. While conventional wisdom suggests that harvesting wild plants can often be detrimental to populations, researchers are working with Wabanaki sweetgrass gatherers to explore how traditional harvesting techniques can enhance, rather than diminish, plant populations.

#### Summary

Culturally significant plants provide food, medicine, craft material, and spiritual connection for Native American communities. Understanding how traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) can contribute to the sustainability of plant harvesting is important for conservation and management decisions. Sweetgrass, native to wet habitats in northern North America, is esteemed by Wabanaki tribes (Maliseet, Mi'kmaq, Passamaquoddy, and Penobscot) of Maine. Sweetgrass is used for basket making and spiritual purposes. In collaboration with Wabanaki gatherers, scientists from the University of Maine, Acadia National Park, and the Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center embarked on a project that will help guide sustainable harvests based on tribal-led research and observations from test plots in the park. Experimental harvest results demonstrate a significant increase in sweetgrass stems after harvesting.

Unharvested control plots did not demonstrate significant increases, reinforcing Wabanaki TEK that correct harvest techniques enhance sweetgrass populations. This research will contribute to an environmental assessment that will support Wabanaki peoples' requests to gather plants within Acadia National Park boundaries, pending a new agreement to ensure the sustainability of the resource. This type of work is increasingly important as the USDA Forest Service is committed to conducting research with federally-recognized tribes that incorporates TEK and focuses on issues important to Native communities.

*Story continues...*

*Story continued...*

**Find out more here:**

<https://srs.fs.usda.gov/research/2018-research-highlights/highlight.php?id=traditional-knowledge>

**Principal Investigator-** Michelle Baumflek, Research Biologist

**RWU-** 4854 - Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center

**Strategic Program Area-** Resource Management and Use

**External Partners-** Suzanne Greenlaw, Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and University of Maine; Acadia National Park

### **“Indigenous Land Recognition by University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point’s Student Government Association”**

-Submitted by Heather Stricker



I just wanted to pass this along as I thought it was very inspiring! The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Student Governmental Association has passed a formal resolution to recognize Indigenous Lands at the beginning of public and campus events. This is similar to our encouragement of TWS Council to do the same at national conferences and meetings. I thought this was great! :)

I just wanted to make you all aware of an Indigenous Land Recognition that was previously passed by SGA. The students would appreciate it if faculty/staff would read the embedded statement at events, especially those that are “public”. See attachment and what I have pasted below for more information.

**“We recognize the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point occupies lands of the Ho Chunk and Menominee people. Please take a moment to acknowledge and honor the ancestral Ho Chunk and Menominee land and the sacred land of all indigenous peoples.”**

Line 19 Therefore, be it further resolved: The SGA of UWSP strongly recommends the above statement be read or spoken aloud at the beginning of all Common Council meetings, large campus programs, and other gatherings on campus....







## Call for Papers- Potential Volume On Tribal Wildlife Management

Tribes have ownership or jurisdiction over some of the wildest, most wildlife-filled areas of North America. This is no accident: in addition to a deep reverence for the land and strong history of environmental stewardship, tribes have been conducting some of the best fish and wildlife management practices and projects around. This is a story that is largely not told – but it should be.

We believe that the fish, wildlife, and habitat management and research conducted by or occurring on tribal lands would be of interest to the wildlife managers and the general public. We are proposing to compile, curate, and edit a volume of essays written by tribal fish and wildlife managers or researchers about the work they do. Potential topics include:

- Case studies of successful and innovative projects
- Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK)
- Cultural importance of key species
- History of modern fish and wildlife management on tribal lands
- Legal battles for treaty rights, management authority, and funding
- Tribes and the Endangered Species Act
- First foods and food sovereignty (e.g. salmon and northwest fisheries)
- Other fisheries management
- Migratory bird management
- Many others!



All chapters will be well-researched, well-written with many at the level of a peer-reviewed journal article or opinion essay. Others will be short case studies – short summaries of successful, innovative, or instructional projects or episodes. There is also room for first-person or other opinion pieces on topics of interest.

All articles should be written with the express permission of the tribe or tribal land management authority involved. We are still in the early stages of development of topics and authors and have not yet secured a publisher; we hope to finalize an abstract, list of potential authors soon and approach potential publishers.

**Do you have an idea for a chapter or section? We'd love to hear from you!** Or, if you have any questions or want to talk about an essay idea, please feel free to contact the editors.

### Draft Table of Contents

- Introduction to tribal sovereignty and trust responsibility:
  - o History of past and current fish and wildlife management on tribal lands
  - o Legal battles for treaty rights, management authority, and funding
  - o Tribes and the Endangered Species Act
  - o Tribal role in co-management of shared resources
  - o North American Model of Wildlife Conservation – lacking indigenous perspectives
- Case studies of successful and innovative projects
  - o T&E Species Management (Mescalero MSO)
  - o Reintroductions (Beavers at Zuni, Pronghorn at Yakama, etc.)
  - o Grizzly bear management at CSKT
  - o Wolves at Menominee
- Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK)
  - o Cultural importance of key species
  - o Examples of TEK and WS integration
- Migratory bird management
- First Foods and Food Sovereignty Example: Salmon and northwest fisheries
  - o The importance of traditional foods and medicines for tribal communities
  - o Subsistence harvests vs recreational hunting (McCorquodale)
- Tribal programs to monitor and adapt to environmental change
  - o Climate change initiatives
- Achieving parity
  - o Current status of tribal wildlife management programs (staffing, funding, etc.)
  - o Need for equitable tribal access to funding and programs for natural resource management
  - o RAWA
- Native Organizations to support tribal wildlife management
  - o Native Peoples Wildlife Management WG of TWS
  - o NAFWS
  - o GLIFWC/CRITFC/SWTFC



**Please contact the Editors**, Steven Albert ([salbert@birtpop.org](mailto:salbert@birtpop.org)) and Serra Hoagland ([serra.j.hoagland@usda.gov](mailto:serra.j.hoagland@usda.gov)) for more information.



## Meet our New NPWG Newsletter Editor!



### Audrey Boraski

Growing up in the Northeast Audrey's love for all things outdoors was fostered by the dense forests and varying geographical features surrounding her home. She carried this love all the way to her collegiate studies earning a B.S. in Biology and a minor in Environmental Studies from Keene State College and is currently enrolled at Antioch University New England in their Environmental Studies MS program concentrating in Conservation Biology. Audrey Boraski is an aspiring wildlife conservation biologist particularly interested in reintroduction and translocation projects of endangered and at risk species. Her previous work has taken her from the wet, insect filled insides of the Great Dismal Swamp searching for woodpecker cavities to the contrasting sunny, warm dunes of Cape Cod looking for toad eggs. Outside of work and school Audrey can be found making time to read books for The Wildlife Center of Virginia's Online Book Club, volunteering at local organizations, or running around the many trails behind her home. Amidst this all, her down time is taken very seriously by enjoying a warm drink at a local tea/coffee shop and welcomes all to join.

Boraski joined the Native Peoples' Wildlife Management Working Group as the Newsletter Coordinator to aid the working group in consolidating all the great news, opportunities and highlights the group has to offer! Her main goal is to create a newsletter that is packed with information in a very organized flow for the working group as well as other members of The Wildlife Society to read and learn from.

## finalthoughts...

### Interested in Joining our Working Group?



If anyone is interested in joining the NPWM Working Group, please visit your TWS login website (through **wildlife.org**) and select the "Add Subunits/Publications to Active Membership" button. To be eligible for a membership in a working group, interested individuals must be a current member of The Wildlife Society. It is not required to be affiliated with a Tribe to participate. Student dues are waived by the working group. If you have any questions concerning working group dues or how to join, contact the membership coordinator at (301) 897-9770 or by E-mail at [membership@wildlife.org](mailto:membership@wildlife.org).

For more information on our Working Group, Check out our TWS webpage!  
<http://wildlife.org/npwmseg/>

## Submission Requests for Newsletters

### Calling all Working Group members!!

We want to know what is going on where you are! As a national (and now international!) working group, it is difficult to always keep up on what members in other parts of the country and other reaches of the world. Keep members of our group informed on issues and announcements pertinent to wildlife management and conservation in Indian Country.

### Please feel free to submit any of the following for inclusion in the newsletter:

- Job and internship openings
- Scholarship opportunities
- Research and management on indigenous lands
- Policy regarding wildlife management as it pertains to Tribes
- TWS Conference photos or stories
- Any Other Conference Details
- Current News Pertaining to indigenous rights/resources

OR Any other announcement or information you'd like to get out to your colleagues in Tribal wildlife management.

Please submit to Audrey Boraski, NPWM Newsletter Editor, at: [AudreyBoraski@gmail.com](mailto:AudreyBoraski@gmail.com). **Submissions are accepted on a rolling basis.**



## Working Group Officers

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