

**Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society**  
**June Board Meeting**  
**15 July 2020**  
**Conference Call**

Present: Nathan Galloway, Nate Bickford, Jesse McCarty, Marcella Tarantino, John Hughes, Kathy Griffin, Cassidy English, Sara Kramer, Emily Latta, Matt Rustand, Andrew Don Carlos, Casey Setash, Mark Fletcher

1. Jim Olterman Memorial – Kathy
  - a. Kathy is working with a new company to get the Jim Olterman Memorial built. The company is called Mile High Memorials. The company is based out of Denver. Kathy is working on getting more information to bring to the board regarding the final product and costs.
2. MBTA Rule Revision – John
  - a. John is working with Nate Jones to finalize comments from CCTWS regarding the MBTA rule revisions.
  - b. Our comments are very important because the proposed rule changes are likely to be held up in court, and this type of input is what courts will use in the decision-making process.
  - c. **Nate – We should send this and other letters that we have prepared to our membership so they can see the time and effort that we spend on advocacy.**
3. Investments
  - a. The board is ready for an update on the status of CCTWS investments.
  - b. **This should be an item that makes it into the annual calendar. The board would like Pat Magee to give a quarterly update on the investments.**
  - c. Matt – Our investments have fared relatively well considering the current state of the economy. The investments are up slightly from the last update in April.
4. Student Chapters
  - a. We did not receive Student Chapter updates for the newsletter. Someone should reach out to the student chapters to make sure we get submissions for the next newsletter.
  - b. Kathy is working with students at Colorado Mesa University to get a chapter contract put together.
5. Social Media – Sara
  - a. CCTWS is not very active on social media. Our Facebook page could use some activity.
  - b. **Nathan – We should also have a presence on Twitters and Instagram to connect with younger generations.**
  - c. Jesse will reach out to Katie Grey and ask her to find someone with the CSU chapter that can help with social media activity.
  - d. **Cassidy will provide oversight for our social media activity.**
6. Elections
  - a. Nate is going to reach out to the board to see who is interested in continuing to serve on the board.
7. CCTWS Annual Meeting
  - a. Virtual vs in-person meeting
    - i. There is still a lot of uncertainty regarding when large gatherings will be possible/safe. The board would like to offer an in-person meeting, but that may not be possible.

1. Jesse – We should remember that we increased membership dues this year. The annual meeting is a large part of CCTWS membership. If we are unable to hold an annual meeting should find some way to compensate for the increase in dues (e.g. discounted membership, no fees for virtual meeting, more engagement of members).
2. Nathan – We will need to work hard this year to involve our members despite COVID. Nathan asks all board members to think of ways to achieve this goal.
- ii. CCTWS Bylaws
  1. The CCTWS bylaws require some sort of annual meeting.
  2. The meeting must include 50% of the membership or 30 people, whichever is less.
  3. We are required to hold a business meeting.
- iii. There needs to be a deadline for deciding between a virtual or in-person meeting.
  1. The board has decided that October 1<sup>st</sup> will be the deadline for deciding between a virtual vs in-person meeting.
- iv. The hotel at Colorado Mesa University may not be an option. Kathy will look into other options that are close to the university.
- v. Survey
  1. **Sara and Andrew are going to develop a survey to ask the membership how they feel about this issue.**
    - a. **We should plan to have this survey out by September 7<sup>th</sup>.**
    - b. **This survey should include a question about the membership's interest in each of the proposed workshops.**
- vi. RiversEdge West has said that their membership would not be very interested in a virtual meeting. They will likely not participate in a virtual meeting.
- vii. When arranging speakers, we should make sure that they are prepared for the possibility of a virtual meeting.
- viii. The TWS annual meeting will be in September. We may be able to get some ideas and recommendations from what happens at this meeting.
- ix. CMPS conducted a membership survey regarding their annual meeting and COVID concerns/restrictions. They may have good feedback and recommendations. Nathan will reach out to TWS and CMPS for advice or suggestions.
- b. Virtual Meeting
  - i. What would a virtual meeting look like?
    1. The meeting would likely be abbreviated.
    2. May not have a registration fee for presentations.
    3. We should still offer workshops. We will likely charge a fee for workshops.
    4. We could space the meeting out over several weeks. May have one presentation and one workshop every week for a month.
- c. In-person Meeting
  - i. Schedule
    1. The CCTWS/RiversEdge West collaborative meeting would be held on February 16-19, 2021.
    2. Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup> would be reserved for CCTWS workshops.

3. Wednesday the 17<sup>th</sup> and Thursday the 18<sup>th</sup> would be reserved for presentations.
  4. Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> would be reserved for RiversEdge West workshops.
- ii. Location
1. The meeting will be held at Colorado Mesa University.
  2. There are three large conference rooms. One room will be used for CCTWS talks/presentations/workshops. One room will be used for RiversEdge West talks/presentations/workshops. One room will be used for collaborative talks/presentations/workshops.
- iii. Session Ideas – From meetings with RiversEdge West

<b>Wednesday and Thursday 9 am - 5 pm</b>			
<b>Proposed Agenda Topics</b>	<b>REW Concurrent Session</b>	<b>Combined Session</b>	<b>TWS Concurrent Session</b>
<b>Climate Change - Fire, floods, and effects of climate</b>		x	
Funding Riparian Restoration		x	
<b>Wildlife and Invasive Plant Interactions</b>		x	
Soil/Mychroyzae (get a couple of talks but not it's own session)	x		
<b>On the ground successes and failures</b>	x		
<b>Priorities facing our rivers</b>	x		
Habitat connectivity			
Habitat in agriculture/opportunities for restoration (farmer/landowner presenter)			
Research in riparian areas			
Habitat restoration post-fire or post-flood			
Monitoring and remote sensing			
Native plant revegetation – genetics of effective cultivars/native genetics			
Biological control of invasive species			
<b>Fish/In-stream aquatic habitat (a couple of talks, not an entire session)</b>		x	
<b>River restoration's impacts on wildlife - Can restoration connect habitat?</b>		x	

iv. Session Ideas – From July CCTWS Meeting

1. Nathan

- a. Grizzly bear connectivity along river corridors in Montana.
- b. The Nature Conservancy and River Restoration on private lands.
- c. Connectivity along river corridors in agricultural landscapes - Gary Bentrup.
- d. Yellow-billed cuckoos - Jenny Neering.
- e. Wetland Dynamics in San Luis valley.
- f. CSU remote sensing of migration - Kyle Horton.

2. Marcella
    - b. Dolores River restoration and IMBCR (bird) monitoring post-restoration
  3. Casey
    - a. IWJV Water4 Initiative - Dave Smith or Joy Morris.
    - b. COVID related topic (e.g. COVID transmission to bats/whitetail)
  4. John
    - a. Wildlife overpasses (e.g., Banff NP, several in CA).
    - b. Wildlife overpasses and monitoring in NW CO - Michelle Cowardin.
    - c. Possible wild reservoirs of COVID.
  5. Andrew
    - a. Loss of habitat connectivity on Front Range farms due to "Buy and Dry" of water rights by growing municipalities.
  6. Sara
    - a. Riparian ecology - Paul Meiman.
  7. Kathy
    - a. Spadefoot toad (e.g. eDNA in local waters).
- v. Workshop Ideas

Tuesday - February 16th - WORKSHOP IDEAS					
Possible Workshop Topics	Combined Workshop	TWS Workshop	REW Workshop	Virtual possible	
Camera data		x		x	Nate Seward, <b>Jake Ivan</b> , Katie Grey, Kevin Blecha
R coding- data analysis Intro		x		x	TBD (Cassey and Nathan)
R coding spartial analysis		x		x	TBD (Cassidy, Cassey, Nate, and Nathan)
R coding system ecology		x		x	TBD (Cassidy, Cassey, Nate, and Nathan)
Bio engineering habitat - on the ground habitat improvement	x			x - can do but will be shorter	Marcella
Beaver restoration	x				Jessica Doran
Telemetry - Nate - trapping, collaring		x		x - can do but will be shorter	Nate Bickford
Grant writing, fundraising, collaboration	x			x	Andrew -
How to Develop a Framework for Climate-smart Restoration with Marion Vernon			x		
Communicating with Landowners					Cassidy - Marcella

Mental Health in Conservation		x		x	Sara
Diversity and Inclusion		x		x	Nathan

#### 8. Action Items

- a. Someone should reach out to the student chapters to make sure we get submissions for the next newsletter (item 4a).
- b. Nate is going to reach out to the board to see who is interested in continuing to serve on the board (item 6a).
- c. We will need to work hard this year to involve our members despite COVID. Nathan asks all board members to think of ways to achieve this goal (item 7a-i).
- d. Kathy will look into other options that are close to the university (item 7a-iv).
- e. Sara and Andrew are going to develop a survey to ask the membership how they feel about a virtual meeting (item 7a-v).
  - i. We should plan to have this survey out by September 7th.
  - ii. This survey should include a question about the membership's interest in each of the proposed workshops.
- f. Nathan will reach out to TWS and CMPS for advice or suggestions regarding our annual meeting (item 7a-ix).
- g. Workshops – Please review the workshop list and start working on the workshops for which you volunteered (item 7c-v).

**Next Meeting – 9am, Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Conference Call (Zoom Meeting)**