

TWS Council Candidate Biographic Sketch Vice President Position – 2021

Arthur R. Rodgers

I. Education

Ph. D. (Biology), York University, 1984
B. Sc. (Biology), York University, 1977

II. Professional Background

Current position – (Include major duties and major accomplishments.)

Research Scientist, Centre for Northern Forest Ecosystem Research, Science and Research Branch, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, 1991-Present

Primary research has been on the effects of forest management and other forms of anthropogenic disturbance on moose and caribou in Ontario. Major accomplishments include;

- Development and deployment of the world's first commercial GPS collars in 1994.
- Development and deployment of the world's first commercial video camera GPS collars in 2011.
- Research results have been published in 58 peer-reviewed journal articles, 9 published government reports, and 76 unpublished government reports and yielded 80 conference presentations, 30 workshop presentations, 22 invited seminars/webinars and lectures, and 28 public presentations.
- Research results have been incorporated in revisions to Ontario's *Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales*, *Forest Management Guide for Boreal Landscapes*, and *Forest Management Guide for Great Lakes - St. Lawrence Forests*.
- Research results have contributed to development/revision of the following Ontario government policies/legislation;
 - Crown Forest Sustainability Act
 - Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act
 - Endangered Species Act
 - Far North Act
 - Cervid Ecological Framework
 - Moose Management Policy
 - Ontario's Woodland Caribou Conservation Plan

- Standard protocols and guidelines developed in conjunction with primary research;
 - Moose population objectives setting guidelines
 - Standards and guidelines for moose population inventory
 - Moose harvest management guidelines
 - Capturing and handling free-ranging moose
 - Capturing and handling free-ranging caribou
 - Capturing and handling free-ranging elk
 - Evaluations of moose use of wetland feeding areas

Additional major duties include participation in government advisory committees;

- Ontario
 - Moose Management Review - Quota Setting Task Team
 - Integrated Monitoring Framework – Moose Monitoring Task Team (Science Lead)
 - Integrated Monitoring Framework - Wildlife Task Team
 - Integrated Monitoring Framework - Hunter-Harvest Reporting Task Team
 - Provincial Moose Technical Committee
 - Provincial Caribou Technical Committee
 - Provincial Elk Technical Committee
- Federal
 - National Boreal Caribou Knowledge Consortium
 - Monitoring Working Group
 - Habitat Restoration Working Group
 - Population Management Working Group
 - Cape Breton Highlands moose population ecology research study
 - Pukaskwa predator-prey process project
 - Black Sturgeon boreal mixedwood research technical committee

Additional positions pertinent to TWS president position (Include major duties and major accomplishments.)

Academic Appointments

- Ex-officio PhD Committee Member, University of Alberta, Department of Biological Sciences, January 2018-Present
- Ex-officio PhD Committee Member, University of Nebraska, School of Natural Resources, January 2018-2020
- Adjunct Professor, Lakehead University, Faculty of Natural Resources Management, July 1993-June 2018
- Special Graduate Faculty, University of Guelph, Department of Integrative Biology, May 2012-2016

- Adjunct Professor, Lakehead University, Department of Biology, July 1993-June 2016
- External Scholar, Dalhousie University, School for Resource and Environmental Studies, July 2008-July 2014
- Adjunct Assistant Professor, University of Waterloo, Department of Biology, January 1996-December 2003
- Sessional Lecturer, University of British Columbia, Department of Zoology, 1984-1991
- Research Associate, University of British Columbia, Department of Zoology/Institute for Animal Resource Ecology, 1986-1991
- Postdoctoral Fellow, University of British Columbia, Department of Zoology/Institute for Animal Resource Ecology, 1984-1986

Training of Highly Qualified Personnel

Graduate students

- Principal Supervisor – 4 M.Sc.F, 5 M.Sc.
- Member of Supervisory Committee – 3 Ph.D., 7 M.Sc.F, 6 M.Sc.
- External Examiner – 2 Ph.D., 1 M.Sc., 1 M.Sc.F.

Undergraduate students

- Major Advisor & Reader – 8 B.Sc.F, 2 B.E.M., 2 B.Sc.
- Co-op Placement Supervisor – 7 students

Visitor training and development

- 1 Employee – Macaulay Land Use Research Institute, Aberdeen, Scotland
- 1 Employee – New Zealand Landcare Research Limited, Lincoln, New Zealand

Summer employment/training programs

- 88 summer students

- III. ***Memberships and involvement with TWS at the Chapter, Section, and National levels***
Involvement (include major contributions, officer or chair positions held, and committee involvement at each level.)

National

Membership – 1996 – present

Officer/chair positions;

- Canadian Section Representative to Council, October 2012 – 2018
- Chair, Bylaws Subcommittee of Council, October 2015 – 2018
- Chair, Awards Subcommittee of Council, October 2015 – 2018
- Chair, Wildlife Restoration Award Committee, October 2018 – 2020

Council committees;

- Bylaws Subcommittee, 2012-2018
- Publications Subcommittee (TWP EAB Liaison), 2012-2018
- Fellows Award Subcommittee, 2012-2018
- Group Achievement Award Subcommittee, 2012-2018
- Position Statement Subcommittee, 2012-2013
- Diversity Subcommittee, 2014-2018
- TWS Awards Subcommittee, 2015-2018
- Use of Prescribed Fire as a Wildlife Management Tool Technical Review Subcommittee, 2015-2016
- Wildlife Restoration Award Committee, 2018 – 2020

- TWS Certification Liaison Ad Hoc Committee, 2017-2018
- TWS Organization Integration Ad Hoc Committee, 2016-2018
- AFWA Ad Hoc Committee, 2015-2018
- TWS Council Ethics Policy Ad hoc Subcommittee, 2014-2015
- Future of TWS Journals Ad Hoc Committee, 2014-2016
- Improvement of Agency Biologist/Membership Survey Ad Hoc Committee, 2014-2015
- 2015 (Winnipeg) Annual Conference Ad Hoc Committee, 2012-2015
- Membership Ad Hoc Committee, 2012-2013
- Ad Hoc Committee to Increase Impact of Government Affairs Activities, 2012-2013
- Ad Hoc Committee on the Deer Breeding Issue, 2012-2013
- TWP Editorial Advisory Board Ad Hoc Committee, 2012-2013
- International and Virtual Chapter Ad Hoc Committee, 2012-2013

Editorial positions;

- Associate Editor of the *Wildlife Society Bulletin*, July 2010 – present
- Editorial Advisory Board of *The Wildlife Professional*, May 2010 – 2014

Conference positions;

- Chair, contributed posters subcommittee, AFS & TWS Joint Conference, September 29-October 3, 2019, Reno, Nevada, USA
- Chair, contributed symposia subcommittee, TWS 22nd Annual Conference, October 17-21, 2015, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
- Chair, contributed workshops and panel discussions, TWS 22nd Annual Conference, October 17-21, 2015, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
- Conference symposium co-organizer, "Research and Management of Declining Moose Populations in the Upper Midwest", TWS 20th Annual Conference, October 5-10, 2013, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA

- Conference workshop organizer and instructor, "HRT: Home Range Tools for Analysis of Location Data", TWS 17th Annual Conference, October 2, 2010, Snowbird, Utah, USA
- Conference symposium organizer and chair, "Kernel Methods in Space Use Analyses", TWS 12th Annual Conference, September 25-29, 2005, Madison, Wisconsin, USA

Awards;

- TWS Fellows Award – October 2019
- Certificate of Accomplishment, Spatial Ecology & Telemetry Working Group – July 2016
- TWS Publication Award (Article Category) – September 1998

Working Groups;

- Biometrics Working Group
- Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Awareness Working Group
- Forestry & Wildlife Working Group
- Hunting, Trapping & Conservation Working Group
- Spatial Ecology & Telemetry Working Group

Canadian Section

Membership (Charter Member) – 2007 – present

Officer/chair positions;

- Board of Directors, July 2019 – present
- Treasurer, July 2019 – present
- Past President, September 2011 – 2013
- President, July 2010 – September 2011
- President-Elect, June 2009 – July 2010
- Chair, Finance Committee, September 2020 – present
- Chair, Education Committee, September 2010 – 2013
- Chair, Nominations Committee September 2012 – 2013
- Chair, Awards Committee, September 2011 – 2012

Section committees;

- CSTWS Finance Committee, September 2020 – present
- CSTWS Audit Committee, March 2018 – 2019
- CSTWS Education Committee, November 2010 – present
- CSTWS Conservation Affairs Committee, December 2012 – present
- Awards Committee, September 2011 – present
- CSTWS Financial and Investment Policies Ad Hoc Committee, October 2018 – present

- TWS Certification Ad Hoc Committee, May 2017 – present
- Ad Hoc Committee on Joint Section/Chapter/Student Chapter Conferences/Meetings, December 2018 – present
- Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee, March – April 2018

Conference positions;

- Conference organizing committee and Program Chair, Joint Ontario Chapter and Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society Annual General Meeting, March 12-14, 2021, Virtual Meeting
- Conference organizing committee, Joint Ontario Chapter and Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society Annual General Meeting, March 27-29, 2020, Peterborough, Ontario
- Conference organizing committee, Joint Alberta Chapter and Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society Annual General Meeting, March 22-24, 2019, Canmore, Alberta, Canada
- Conference organizing committee, Joint Manitoba Chapter and Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society Annual General Meeting, March 15-17, 2018, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
- Conference organizing committee, Joint Saskatchewan Chapter and Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society Annual General Meeting, March 13-15, 2015, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada
- Conference workshop organizer and instructor, "Home Range Tools for ArcGIS", Joint Saskatchewan Chapter and Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society Annual General Meeting, March 13-15, 2015, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada
- Conference organizing committee, Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society Annual General Meeting, March 28-30, 2014, Quebec City, Quebec, Canada
- Conference organizing committee, Joint Alberta Chapter and Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society Annual General Meeting, March 8-10, 2013, Canmore, Alberta, Canada
- Conference organizing committee, Joint Ontario Chapter and Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society Annual General Meeting, September 24-26, 2011, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada

Chapter Memberships;

- Alberta
- British Columbia
- Manitoba
- Newfoundland & Labrador
- Ontario
- Saskatchewan

Ontario Chapter

Membership (Charter Member) – 2010 – present

Officer/chair positions;

- Past President, April 2010 – September 2012
- Chair, Bylaws Committee, October 2008 – 2015

Chapter committees;

- Bylaws Committee, October 2015 – 2017

Conference positions;

- Conference organizing committee and Program Chair, Joint Ontario Chapter and Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society Annual General Meeting, March 12-14, 2021, Virtual Meeting
- Chair, program committee, Joint Ontario Chapter and Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society Annual General Meeting, March 27-29, 2020, Peterborough, Ontario
- Conference organizing committee, Joint Ontario Chapter and Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society Annual General Meeting, September 24-26, 2011, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada

IV. ***Membership with other professional organizations*** (Include major contributions, officer or chair positions held, and committee involvement.)

- Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution – 2007 to present
- Canadian Society of Zoologists – 1984 to present
- American Society of Mammalogists – 1984 to present

North American Moose Group – an unincorporated organization that has held annual meetings since 1963. Contributions to this organization include;

- Business Editor of *Alces*, June 2007 – present
- Co-editor of *Alces* Volumes 39-43, May 2001 – June 2007
- Editor of *Alces* Volume 38, May 2000 – May 2001
- Co-editor of *Alces* Volumes 34-38, May 1997 – May 2000
- Chair, Distinguished Moose Biologist Selection Committee, June 2006 – present
- Chair, Albert W. Franzmann and Distinguished Colleagues Memorial Award Committee, June 2009 – present
- Chair, North American Moose Group and *Alces* Business Meeting at Annual North American Moose Conference and Workshop, May 2003 – present

V. **Please provide an 300-word (Limit) answer to the following question: Why are you interested in running for the office of TWS Vice President and what is your vision for The Wildlife Society?**

For more than 80 years, The Wildlife Society has been the preeminent organization for wildlife professionals across North America. Why? Because of people from all walks of life who are inspired by the beauty of the natural landscapes that surround us, curiosity about the wonders of the natural world and a desire to conserve our wildlife heritage. These are challenging times but TWS stands out as a beacon of hope, not just for conserving what we have but restoring what we have lost. Our members are on the front lines of conservation and management every day and they do everything they can to make the world a better place for all its inhabitants – humans and wildlife alike.

Having been actively involved with TWS at all levels, I have been inspired by our members and heard about their research interests and concerns. I have also heard their advice on how to better serve our membership and strengthen our professional organization. Following two terms on Council, I have gained a strong understanding of the administrative and financial accountability of those who serve, as well as TWS headquarters staff – they are all passionate, incredibly motivated and skilled. They provide the foundation that allows TWS to be the primary source of science-based information for management of our wildlife resources. They make it possible for TWS to ensure students and early career professionals have communication and networking opportunities that will provision them to conserve our wildlife heritage and strengthen our future membership.

To ensure our future, TWS needs to support our members and grow our membership, nationally and internationally, by providing leadership for science-based wildlife management, increasing communication and networking through our publications and conferences and by providing an inclusive environment for all who share our desire to make the world a better place.

VI. **Other Information**

The main reason I became a member and supporter of TWS is the emphasis that TWS places on students. I know of no other professional organization that does so much to consider the needs of students, provide opportunities to present their research and get constructive feedback on their work, to network with their peers and leaders in wildlife management and research, to be mentored by the most dedicated people in their field, to have assistance in setting up their own Student Chapters with support for student activities, and to have a meaningful voice in the decisions and direction of their professional society. Some have said that in their professional careers they have given a voice to wildlife. I want to ensure TWS continues to give a voice to students.

In addition to the emphasis on students, TWS provides more member benefits than most professional societies. Over and above online access to TWS journals and reduced conference registration fees, TWS gives its members weekly updates through the eWildlifer and the bi-monthly Wildlife Professional magazine, the opportunity to

network at the annual conference and in more than 20 Working Groups, to influence government policy through a Conservation Affairs Network and the possibility of professional accreditation through a professional certification program leading to a designation of Certified Wildlife Biologist or Associate Wildlife Biologist. Few other professional organizations come close to providing their members with so much for so little. It is these programs and opportunities that have made TWS the preeminent organization for wildlife professionals across North America. I want to ensure TWS continues to provide and expand these member benefits.

The reason that TWS has sustained its leadership position in wildlife conservation for so long is people. People from all walks of life who are inspired by the beauty of our natural landscapes, curiosity about the wonders of the natural world and a desire to conserve our wildlife heritage. People who have stepped forward to provide leadership and visions for the future of TWS. People who want to give back to the profession that has supported their life's work. People who serve on Council or Officers of Chapters and Working Groups provide the foundation that allows TWS to be the primary source of science-based information for management of our wildlife resources. People that work at TWS headquarters that make it possible for TWS to ensure members, especially students and early career professionals, have communication and networking opportunities that will provision them to conserve our wildlife heritage and strengthen our future membership. In short, people who care.

During my two terms on Council, in Executive positions at the Section and Chapter level and having attended more than 20 TWS Annual Conferences, I have met hundreds of people who care. When I entered Council, TWS was faced with a serious financial challenge but understanding the administrative and financial accountability of those who serve, the members of Council cared so much about TWS that they made the tough decisions needed to ensure the sustainability of the organization. I am proud to say that when I left Council, we had put TWS back on a sound financial footing and we had begun to offer members increased benefits such as free online access to TWS publications and increased support for students and new professionals. While I was on Council, I served on more than 20 Subcommittees. These Subcommittees worked tirelessly to better serve our membership and strengthen our professional organization. However, there is still much to be done and not all of the recommendations from these and other Subcommittees were acted upon. I want to revisit and implement those recommendations that may still be pertinent and provide and expand member benefits.

As a government research scientist, I have been successful in getting my science into policy and legislation by working within the organization. By working within TWS I would again strive to ensure the organization remains financially sound, encourage diversity and inclusion, and expand communication and networking opportunities. Our annual conference continues to grow year-after-year and I hear time-and-again that it is because of the learning and networking opportunities that exceed those offered by other professional societies. I would continue to work with our members and TWS staff

to increase and improve these opportunities for students, new professionals and those in mid-career because learning is a lifelong experience that should be available to all. In addition to networking within TWS, I would also encourage strengthening our ties with other national and international organizations such as AFWA, the Native American Fish & Wildlife Society, the National Wildlife Federation, and provide support to form a Mexican Chapter of TWS. I would continue to move our TWS publications toward open access to ensure our science is available and used for science-based wildlife management by governments, NGOs and industry. Although we all recognize the importance of ethnic and gender diversity in our profession, I would like to move TWS even further to become inclusive to all persons regardless of their physical disposition, age, economic status or educational background. We need to recognize and embrace the notion that we are not alone in our love for nature.