



CMPS Newsletter

Excellence in wildlife stewardship through science and education

CMPS Officers

President:

Shelly Deisch

Vice-President:

Stephanie Ferrero

President-Elect:

VACANT

Secretary/Treasurer:

Dani Neumann

TWS Council Representative:

Andrea Orabona

Members At-large:

Andy Little

Embre Hall

Julia Nawrocki

Tara Wertz

Newsletter Editor:

Aleshia Rummel

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CMPS website:

<https://wildlife.org/cmp/>

Message from the President

The birds around me hopped and played,
Their thoughts I cannot measure,
But the least motion which they made
It seemed a thrill of pleasure...
(William Wordsworth: Lines Written in Early Spring)

As I read Wordsworth's whimsical poem quoted here, it made me think of springtime dancing grouse in South Dakota. While we have been taught as scientists, not to project our human beliefs onto wildlife, I am still a human and enjoy watching birds hop and "play". Ah, we know that male grouse are serious about their role in the persistence of their species. But what signals do male sharpies use to engage the least amount of motion on their lek and then suddenly, like old-fashioned wind-up toys, they begin their dancing once again? On South Dakota's Northern Great Plains, we have Greater Sage-Grouse, Greater Prairie Chicken, and Sharp-tailed Grouse. In the aspen clones of the Black Hills, one can almost hear but mostly feel the vibrations of Ruffed Grouse (check out Flake et al. 2010. Grouse of Plains and Mountains: The South Dakota Story). Grouse are sure signs of spring and usually a sure sign that at least one more snow-storm will visit us. We can use that snow because we had about 7 fires in western South Dakota on March 29th.

I hope that spring 2021 finds you well, safe, and ready for new emerging adventures of hopping and playing, new outlooks, and an open mind for new perspectives. Your CMPS Board is ready for spring because we were incredibly busy this winter. Within about a 2 month time span, we attended six out of seven state chapter annual conferences: ND, SD, NE, KS, CO, and UT! Whew! Every state offered excellent virtual platforms in various options for both professionals and students. The speaker line-ups were tremendous, and I learned so much about each chapter by attending their business and organizational meetings. We sincerely appreciate that each state allowed us a few minutes to say hello to conference attendees and to announce CMPS updates and news from TWS headquarters. We hosted our annual conference with UT in March and a huge thank-you to the UT team for accommodating us. CMPS rotates its annual conference each year with one of our seven state chapters. Mark your calendar now for February 2022 in Kansas!

Our newsletter is a bit lighter this quarter which goes with the theme of springtime. The last few moments of rest before emergence and sowing seeds, so to speak. Some of those CMPS seeds include announcements about upcoming deadlines for Board elections and award nominations.

PLEASE think about being part of our team either through a nomination for a Board Member at Large position or the President-Elect. Our CMPS team has not been able to meet in person, of course, due to COVID-19 but we are hoping to once again network and celebrate together next February 2022 at our next annual conference. And we all know someone that is more than deserving of our professional, citizen, or group achievement award.

- Shelly Deisch, CMPS President

Spring 2021 Volume 75



Central Mountains and Plains Section of The Wildlife Society

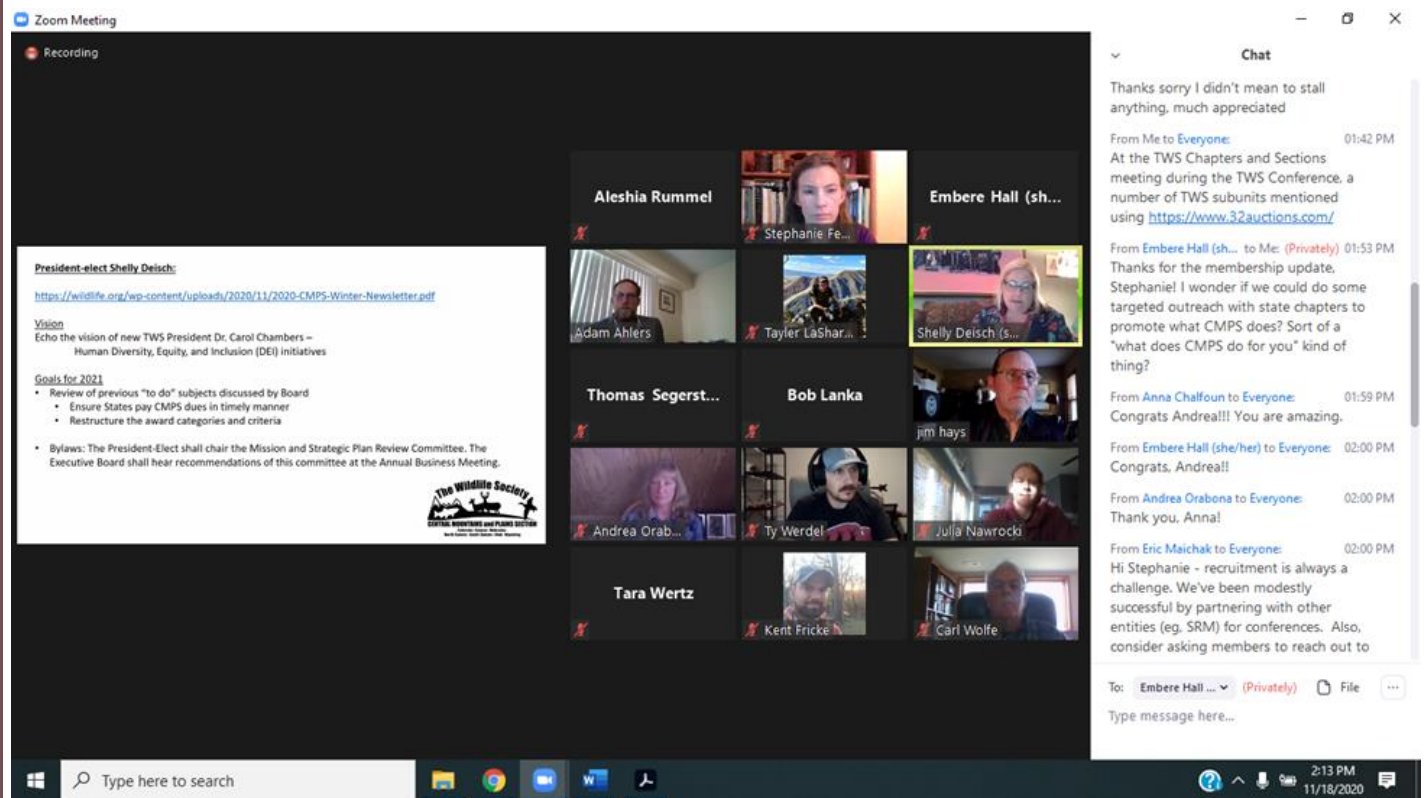
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Section Business

CMPS and Wyoming Chapter of TWS Joint Annual Meeting

CMPS and the Wyoming Chapter held a virtual Joint Annual Meeting on November 18th, 2020. Dr. Wini Kessler and Dr. Selma Glasscock presented the plenary titled “Where were the women? Rethinking our profession’s history”. In addition to the plenary, the Wyoming Chapter held their annual business meeting, hosted by Eric Maichak (WY TWS President), and the CMPS Section held their annual business meeting, hosted by Shelly Deisch (CMPS TWS President).

Screen shot courtesy of Stephanie Ferrero (CMPS TWS Vice-President)



The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting in progress. On the left, a document titled "President-elect Shelly Deisch:" is displayed, containing a link to a newsletter and a list of goals for 2021. The main area shows a grid of 12 participants, including Aleshia Rummel, Stephanie Fe..., Embere Hall (sh...), Adam Ahlers, Tayler LaShar..., Shelly Deisch (s...), Thomas Segerst..., Bob Lanka, jim hays, Andrea Orab..., Ty Werdel, Julia Nawrocki, Tara Wertz, Kent Fricke, and Carl Wolfe. On the right, a chat window is open, showing messages from participants. The bottom of the screen shows the Windows taskbar with the search bar and various application icons.

President-elect Shelly Deisch:
<https://wildlife.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/2020-CMPS-Winter-Newsletter.pdf>

Vision
Echo the vision of new TWS President Dr. Carol Chambers – Human Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives

Goals for 2021

- Review of previous “to do” subjects discussed by Board
 - Ensure States pay CMPS dues in timely manner
 - Restructure the award categories and criteria
- Bylaws: The President-Elect shall chair the Mission and Strategic Plan Review Committee. The Executive Board shall hear recommendations of this committee at the Annual Business Meeting.

Chat

Thanks sorry I didn't mean to stall anything. much appreciated

From Me to Everyone: 01:42 PM
At the TWS Chapters and Sections meeting during the TWS Conference, a number of TWS subunits mentioned using <https://www.32auctions.com/>

From Embere Hall (sh... to Me: (Privately) 01:53 PM
Thanks for the membership update. Stephanie! I wonder if we could do some targeted outreach with state chapters to promote what CMPS does? Sort of a “what does CMPS do for you” kind of thing?

From Anna Chalfoun to Everyone: 01:59 PM
Congrats Andrea!!! You are amazing.

From Embere Hall (she/her) to Everyone: 02:00 PM
Congrats, Andrea!!

From Andrea Orabona to Everyone: 02:00 PM
Thank you, Anna!

From Eric Maichak to Everyone: 02:00 PM
Hi Stephanie - recruitment is always a challenge. We've been modestly successful by partnering with other entities (eg. SRM) for conferences. Also, consider asking members to reach out to

To: Embere Hall ... (Privately) File

Type message here...

CMPS and Utah Chapter of TWS Joint Annual Meeting

The Utah Chapter and CMPS also hosted a joint annual meeting Tuesday March 16, 2021—Wednesday March 17, 2021. The theme was “Integrating Technology into Wildlife Management and Research”, and the virtual conference included presentations, networking opportunities, and annual business meetings for the state chapter and CMPS.

Section Business (continued)

Call for Nominations for CMPS Awards

Nominations for CMPS Awards will be due Friday June 25th, 2021. Additional details about the awards offered and nomination criteria will be forthcoming through the CMPS website, social media, and membership listserv.

Each of us knows people who are doing outstanding work for wildlife, whether they are wildlife professionals or citizen conservationists. To acknowledge and celebrate these achievements, you can nominate the deserving people for an honorary award from the Central Mountains and Plains Section (CMPS) of The Wildlife Society.

The Central Mountains and Plains Section of The Wildlife Society offers awards once a year to honor the accomplishments of worthy groups or individuals. The Professional Award and the Citizen's Conservation Achievement Award are two of these awards. Both awards recognize outstanding contributions towards the enhancement of wildlife endeavors within the Section. Award recipients receive a personalized wooden plaque at the annual CMPS conference, are featured in the CMPS newsletter, and added to our distinguished list of award recipients on the CMPS website.

Last year's nomination criteria for each award can be found on our website and will be updated soon for 2021, with a potential new group achievement award category (<https://wildlife.org/cmp/awards/>). Nominations of unsuccessful candidates remain in the candidate pool for a maximum of three years, unless the individual is re-nominated. Nominations or questions about the awards should be emailed to the CMPS Vice-President, Stephanie Ferrero (sferrero.tws@gmail.com) and must be received by the June 25th, 2021 deadline to be considered. Don't miss this perfect opportunity to thank the people you know who are making a difference for wildlife. Take just a little bit of time now to share what these heroes do and to inspire other people in conserving wildlife. Nominations can be made anytime before the deadline.

Call for Nominations to the CMPS Board

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO THE CMPS BOARD

NEEDED: 2 Board Members-At-Large, 1 President-Elect

DATE: Nominations due by June 1, 2021

FOR MORE INFO: Please contact Andrew Little (alittle6@unl.edu)

<https://wildlife.org/cmp/>

"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members."

— Coretta Scott King

Section Business (continued)

Thank you to Shelly Deisch, CMPS President

Especially since becoming CMPS President in November 2020, Shelly has gone above and beyond for our Section. She has worked tirelessly to build relationships with our state chapters. Shelly intentionally attended each state chapter leadership meeting, often more than one Board meeting per state (over 7 virtual Board meetings). At these meetings, Shelly explained the purpose of CMPS and what CMPS offers to state chapters and members. She shared her vision and goals for CMPS during her Presidency and beyond. Shelly welcomed any feedback and opened the door for interactive communication by listening to state chapter Board discussions. She also presented at every state chapter professional conference (including 6 conferences so far in less than 4 months), letting membership know that CMPS is here for them by making herself readily available for anyone to contact. We wanted to express how much we appreciate Shelly's efforts on behalf of our Section. Thank you, Shelly, for all you are doing for wildlife and wildlife professionals!



David Haukos Appointed to Certification Review Board

Dr. David Haukos (CWB) was recently appointed to the Certification Review Board, effective from December 16, 2020 through October 31, 2023. During this three year term, Haukos will work on the Certification Review Board (CRB), which is a peer-review panel to determine the eligibility of applicants for Certified Wildlife Biologist® (CWB) and Associate Wildlife Biologist® (AWB) certification. The CRB is composed of at least five TWS members who are CWBs® and who volunteer their time to the CRB. Applications are checked for completeness by TWS headquarters and sent to the CRB. The CRB reviews education and experience in comparison to the established requirements, and then makes recommendations to the CRB Chair as to whether or not the applicant is qualified.

For more information on the Certified Wildlife Biologist® and Associate Wildlife Biologist® certifications, including how to apply, please see <https://wildlife.org/learn/professional-development-certification/certification-programs/>.



Aleshia Rummel

Section Business (continued)

Warren D. Snyder Obituary

Warren D. Snyder passed away on 28 November 2020 in Loveland, Colorado after a brief illness. Warren was born in Alma, Nebraska in 1936, and completed his B.S. and M.S. (1965) at Colorado State University with a brief stint in the army in between degrees. His M.S. thesis evaluated the impacts of habitat manipulation on Scaled Quail populations in southeastern Colorado. He was hired by the then Colorado Game and Fish Department in 1967 and assigned to Eastern Colorado where he conducted applied research on Ring-necked Pheasants, Bobwhite Quail, Greater Prairie-Chickens, riparian habitats, and farming practices. His research on pheasant survival and nesting success in dryland wheat systems demonstrated that stubble resulting from semi-dwarf varieties of wheat was an ecological trap for hens, and that traditional windbreaks substantially elevated pheasant mortality following winter storms. His research, and his outstanding relationships with farmers and hunters culminated in the Colorado Division of Wildlife creating the Pheasant Habitat Improvement Program (PHIP) in 1992, a collaborative effort with Pheasants Forever that has changed the landscape in northeastern Colorado and is still successful today. Warren was diligent in publishing both science-based papers and special reports that could be used by land managers. Warren's many awards included the Colorado Wildlife Federation Wildlife Professional of the year in 1987, his selection as the 1994 Outstanding Terrestrial Employee by his peers, and the Douglas L. Gilbert award for Outstanding Achievements in Wildlife Sciences from the Colorado Chapter in 1996.

A consummate professional, Warren joined The Wildlife Society in the early 1960s, and was a Charter Member of the Colorado Chapter. He served as the President of the Central Mountains and Plains Section. Warren retired in 1997 and devoted much of his time to carving exquisite birds and other wildlife and showing them throughout the southeastern U.S. for which he won several ribbons. CEB and TER treasure the exquisite carvings given to them by Warren. His e-mail address started with birdcarver. Warren is survived by many friends, his first wife Judy and their 3 children.

Clait E. Braun and Thomas E. Remington



Shelly Desich

Section Business

Clairon Lowe Huff Obituary

Clairon (Clair) Lowe Huff of Draper, Utah passed away on December 14, 2020 from complications due to Covid-19. Clair was born in Draper on April 29, 1932. Clair married Elizabeth Neil Campbell on February 11, 1952 in the Salt Lake Temple and together they had five children. He served our country in the Air Force during the Korean War. After his honorable discharge he obtained a degree in Range Science from Utah State University. He was hired by Utah Fish and Game, now Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, in 1956 as a Conservation Officer and retired in 1984 as the Division's Assistant Director. After retiring, Clair served as Executive Vice President for the International Hunter Education Association and continued volunteering as a Boone and Crockett official measurer well into his 80s.

Clair was active in the Utah Chapter and Central Mountain and Plains Section (CMPS) in the 1970's and 1980's and was a long-time member of TWS. He served all levels of TWS with distinction. He was President of CMPS in 1977. During his term he dealt with issues such as leg hold traps, student membership, TWS long term planning, affiliate membership and non-voting membership. Clair and Herb Troester were co-chairs of the 1977 Annual CMPS Summer Conference held at Dutch John, Utah. It was a family affair with a variety of activities for all and an excellent professional agenda of wildlife presentations. One highlight was a tour *through* the Flaming Gorge Dam. Clair led Clait Braun and others on a multiday horseback trip into the Uinta Mountains to assess whether a release of White-tailed Ptarmigan (WTP) there was likely to succeed. While the trip, which ended near Gunsight Pass, resulted in some of the participants barely able to walk, it also led to Utah requesting Colorado provide birds for what turned out to be a successful transplant and the WTP hunting season Utah has today.

Clair was a strong advocate of professional wildlifers being active in their chapter, section and TWS and took every opportunity to encourage members to be proud of the wildlife profession. He was a joy to work with because of his infectious smile, good nature, positive attitude and love for wildlife, wildlife management and TWS. Clair was a credit to Utah, to wildlife management and to his profession. He will be missed.

Roger Wilson, Paula Huff Bryant and Bob Lanka



Photos by
Shelly Desich
(left: beaver
dam, center:
northern great
plains cotton-
wood, right:
serviceberry)

TWS Business

Wildlife Restoration Award Nominations Needed

This is the third year for The Wildlife Society's Wildlife Restoration Awards. Two awards are given each year, one for Wildlife Management and a second for Wildlife Research and Surveys. **Nominations are due by May 1, 2021.** There are many worthy candidate projects in states represented by our section, and it would be great to again have one or more recognized.

There were no 2020 award winners due to a lack of nominations.

From the TWS website:

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 1918, 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.

The Wildlife Restoration program, also known as the Pittman-Robertson program after its primary Congressional sponsors, is funded by manufacturer excise taxes collected on pistols, handguns, revolvers, other firearms, ammunition, bows, quivers, broadheads and points, which are apportioned to State fish and wildlife agencies for wildlife conservation and hunter education. It was first created in 1937 and has provided over \$11 billion since its inception. TWS recognizes the critical importance of this program for state wildlife agencies, but also realizes that the program is subject to ongoing scrutiny from the users who pay the excise tax. This annual awards program identifies and showcases outstanding projects from across the continent to generate continued support for the Wildlife Restoration program.

AWARD NOMINATIONS PROCESS AND CRITERIA

Completed projects or current projects with defined completion dates are eligible. To nominate a project [click here](#) to learn about the criteria and the nomination process.

Nominations must be submitted by May 1, 2021 at 11:59 PM EST.

Eileen Dowd Stukel CWB® (eileen.dowdstukel@state.sd.us)

Pierre, SD



Aleshia Rummel

TWS Business

TWS Awards Nominations

TWS Awards Nominations

Nominations are due May 1, 2021

More information can be found at <https://wildlife.org/engage/awards/> and through the following links:

Education Awards

[Conservation Education Award](#)

[Donald H. Rusch Memorial Game Bird Research Scholarship](#)

[Excellence in Wildlife Education Award](#)

Professional Achievement Awards

[Aldo Leopold Memorial Award](#)

[Caesar Kleberg Award For Excellence in Applied Wildlife Research](#)

[Diversity Award](#)

[Jay N. "Ding" Darling Memorial Award for Wildlife Stewardship Through Art](#)

[Jim McDonough Award](#)

[Special Recognition Service Award](#)

[Wildlife Restoration Awards](#)

Service Awards

[Chapter of the Year Award](#)

[Honorary Membership](#)

[Student Chapter Advisor of the Year](#)

[Student Chapter of the Year Award](#)

[W.L. McAtee and G.V. Burger Award for Outstanding Service as an Associate Editor](#)



TWS Business

Urban Wildlife Professional Development Program

Embark on your Journey in the... **Urban Wildlife Professional Development Program**

May 24-28, 2021 | Exclusively part of the 2021
International Urban Wildlife Conference (May 25-27)



Let's Explore Together!

At our first virtual conference, we are offering the unique opportunity to broaden connections between current wildlife professionals, students, and early career professionals in our field.

While embarking on your journey, students and early career professionals (known as Explorers) will gain conference skills and form professional connections in their field. Explorers are uniquely matched with a wildlife professional who is currently in their chosen field (known as Guides).

Guides have the opportunity to shape the future pioneers of the urban wildlife field!

Sign up via the registration form for the 2021 International Urban Wildlife Conference!

To sign-up and register, OR for more details on what this program has to offer both Explorers and Guides, click or scan here.

<https://tinyurl.com/ABOUT-UWWG-Explorer-Program>



Other News of Note

The Prairie Naturalist

We are pleased to announce that, starting in 2021 and volume 53, *The Prairie Naturalist* will be published *fully open access online* through the Eagle Hill Institute – <https://www.eaglehill.us/programs/journals/prna/prairie-naturalist.shtml>.

With this change, you and other readers will be able to access articles as soon as they are published online rather than waiting for a print issue. GPNSS members will be alerted to posting of new articles online via email. We will no longer be printing issues.

We are excited by this move to partner with the team at Eagle Hill to move *The Prairie Naturalist* into the modern publishing world. As the new publisher, the Eagle Hill Institute provides many benefits for GPNSS authors and members:

- over 20 years of experience by the publisher of consistently providing timely, high-quality peer-reviewed research;
- article-by-article online publication for prompt distribution to a global audience;
- an efficient and responsive review process;
- lower page charges and ability to include full color images at no additional cost;
- the expertise to bring proposals to rapid fruition for Special Issues based on a series of invitational articles or conference proceedings;
- the capability to accommodate publication of a wide range of supplemental files in association with journal articles;
- improved indexing in Web of Science (clarivate.com) and by way of author entries in [Google Scholar](https://scholar.google.com) and [Researchgate](https://www.researchgate.net).

The indexing coverage is expected to become comparable to that of the Institute's first 3 journals (*Northeastern Naturalist*, *Southeastern Naturalist*, and *Journal of the North Atlantic*). These 3 journals are included in full-text in BioOne.org and JSTOR.org and are indexed in Web of Science (clarivate.com) and EBSCO.com.

Digital archives of *The Prairie Naturalist* are available at the DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/tpn/>. DigitalCommons is in the process of professionally scanning in volumes before 2008 and will be posted as they are completed.

Please spread the word to students and colleagues that *The Prairie Naturalist* is moving online with improved management, review, and access! We welcome new manuscript submissions and ideas for special issues to share natural history findings and book reviews with researchers, educators, students, and the interested public.

Jane E. Austin
 Editor, *The Prairie Naturalist*



The Nature Conservancy Celebrates Earth Day 2021

This Earth Day, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is celebrating by featuring stories about people speaking up for nature and making positive changes to the environment, using #SpeakUpForNature on social media for their “Change Starts Here” campaign. The Change Starts Here campaign will feature musical appearances and environmental heroes on April 22, 2021 at 10:00 am. To register for the event and to find stories of people that are part of the #SpeakUpForNature campaign, please visit <https://www.nature.org/en-us/get-involved/how-to-help/earth-day/>

State and Student Chapter Reports

Pittsburg State Student Chapter

In April 2020, Pittsburg State University (PSU), Pittsburg, Kansas, became an official student chapter of The Wildlife Society (TWS), joining 17 fellow colleges and universities in the Central Mountains and Plains Section TWS. Pittsburg is approximately 2 hours south of Kansas City in eastern Kansas.

Current officers include Maggie Murray as President, Madeline Gay as Vice-President, Isabelle Villafañe as Secretary, and Talya Crouch as Treasurer. Their Faculty Advisor is Andrew George, Professor of Biology at PSU. TWS Liaison for the PSU student chapter is William Jensen with Emporia State University in Kansas. They have about 15 active members in the PSU Chapter and have accomplished a lot, despite the pandemic. Within just one year of becoming an official chapter, PSU has conducted multiple field projects, shared about their research, and assisted with management of a state park.

PSU's student chapter of TWS has been assisting graduate students with their field work. Many field sites center around mined land habitats southwest of campus. PSU wildlifery also are helping with urban wildlife management by monitoring an endangered gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*) population that roosts within city limits.

PSU students presented at the Kansas Natural Resources Conference, the Kansas Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol, the PSU Research Colloquium, and other professional meetings. A few of the presentations included:

Murray, M. and C. Rega-Brodsky. "Temperature decreases mammalian species richness nationwide."

Durbin, C., M. Whiteacre, and C. Rega-Brodsky. "Mammal communities in Kansas mined lands: Second year of Snapshot USA data collection."

In addition to participating in scientific conferences, the PSU student chapter of TWS has been developing a long-term partnership with Prairie State Park in southwest Missouri. Wildlife students have volunteered and held seasonal employment positions at the park. PSU wildlifery helped with spring and fall monitoring projects. They also removed invasive species that have been encroaching on the park.

For this next year, the PSU student chapter of TWS hopes to increase member participation. PSU is working to become a co-affiliate of The American Fisheries Society. They aim to give all of their members experience



Students from the Pittsburg State University Wildlife and Fisheries Society (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/262227804299466>).

State and Student Chapter Reports

with aquatic and terrestrial projects. They tailor field projects depending on the interests of members. PSU also wants to develop partnerships state agencies and US Fish and Wildlife.

Students with the Pittsburg State University Chapter of The Wildlife Society are developing field skills, scientific proficiencies, and mentor connections, which will serve them well in their careers and will benefit the wildlife profession. The Central Mountains and Plains Section of The Wildlife Society is thrilled to have them as part of our student chapter family.



Pittsburg State University field work on gray bats (*Myotis grisescens*) and other *Myotis* species. Photo courtesy of <https://academics.pittstate.edu/academic-programs/biology/index.html>.



Central Mountains and Plains Section of The Wildlife Society

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Upcoming Events

WAFWA Deer and Elk Workshop

Virtual (hosted by California Department of Fish and Wildlife)

August 3—5, 2021

MORE INFORMATION: <https://wafwa.org/workshops/deer-and-elk-workshop/>

WAFWA 31st Sage & Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse Workshop

Virtual

June 21—24, 2021

MORE INFORMATION: https://www.wafwa.org/workshops/sage_and_columbian_sharp-tailed_grouse/

American Ornithological Society (AOS) and the Society of Canadian Ornithologists (SCO-SOC) Meeting

Virtual

August 9—14, 2021

MORE INFORMATION: <https://americanornithology.org/meetings/annual-meeting/>

Wildlife Disease Association and European Wildlife Disease Association Joint Conference

Cuenca, Spain

August 31-September 2, 2021

MORE INFORMATION: <https://wildlivedisease.org/wda/CONFERENCES/UpcomingInternationalConference.aspx>

The Wildlife Society's 28th Annual Conference

Virtual

November 1—5, 2021

MORE INFORMATION: <https://twconference.org/>

WAFWA Mountain Lion Workshop

Hood River, Oregon

April 2022

VENUE AND LODGING: Best Western Plus, Hood River, Oregon

MORE INFORMATION: <https://wafwa.org/workshops/mountain-lion-workshop/>



Central Mountains and Plains Section of The Wildlife Society

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Executive Board Meeting Minutes—December 11, 2020

Welcome/Call to Order/Roll Call (12:05)

Present: Shelly, Tara Wertz, Andrea Orabona, Stephanie Ferrero, Aleshia Rummel, Ty Werdel, Adam Ahlers, David Haukos, Dani Neumann

Not Present: Embere Hall, Andy Little, Julia Nawrocki

Confirm who is taking minutes (Dani)

President - Learning Curve - Please don't be insulted if something/someone is missed!

Meet & Greet

- Shelly Deisch: New president for a month, served with Andrea when she was president (member at large for 2 years), history with TWS is on & off over career. 1000% in, now! SD Game Fish & Parks, habitat biologist, liaison to USFS in SD.
- Tara Wertz: USFWS Arapaho NWR manager. Almost 20 years with USFWS. Oregon, Iowa prior to USFWS. TWS since 1984. Served as member at large with Oregon chapter & with Alaska state chapter when working at Arctic Refuge.
- Dave Haukos: KSU, previously with USFWS. Migratory Game Bird program for SW US.
- Stephanie Ferrero: Johnson County Community College Environmental Science Faculty, previous with CPW (wildlife bio for 5 years). University of Wisconsin research.
- Dani Neumann: CPW NW region land use specialist. Working on land use consultations, NEPA, energy development, statewide policies, species management plans. First-year with TWS.
- Adam Ahlers: Associated professor at KSU, former CMPS president. Landscape ecologist.
- Aleshia Rummel: Western State for undergrad, lived in Walden & worked remotely for grad school, in Gunnison working for Gunnison Conservation District. NRCS programs.
- Ty Werdel: Ph.D. at KSU. Outgoing treasurer/secretary. Program coordinator for student professional development group.
- Andrea Orabona: Non-game bird bio for WYG&F, entire career. Retiring in 2 years. TWS involvement since undergrad. New section rep to TWS Council. All council requests go through her.

Andrea & Dani will help Shelly compile future agendas. A template would be helpful.

Andrea thinks we have a template, has TWS backups, will look through & update any info she can for Shelly

Old Business (12:17)

Annual Conference 2020—pros, cons, thoughts?

- Another conference in 3 months, feedback is helpful, can look at ideas later.
- Adam: thinks it went off without a hitch, will have Utah reach out to WY regarding how to run a successful 1-day Zoom meeting. WY did a fantastic job.
- Andrea: agreed. UT chapter called recently, Daly Edmunds & Eric Maichak were in charge, UT will reach out to them for assistance & tips.
- Adam: UT could maybe chip in some cash to offset Daly and Eric's time. Huge time investment.

Annual Conference 2021 (12:19)

- Adam & Shelly attended the first virtual UT meeting.
- UT canceled last year's meeting. Still planning a virtual 2 day with poster sessions etc.
- Save the Date was sent out. Now posted on CMPS website. UT just emailed to their members at this time.
- Doesn't seem like UT needs much input from CMPS. Want to have a virtual meeting that resembles an in-person meeting as closely as they can. Primarily UT will accommodate CMPS's business meeting, and that's really it that we know of now.
- Trying to use last year's template for 2021. UT knows what they want!

Awards (12:22)

- Stephanie: Delivery to recipients. Executive Group Achievement Awards.
- Each award recipient gets a framed cert & a letter, expensive to ship, \$15 apiece. Working on dividing up between core refuges. Might just ship to a few places to disperse—but everything is spread out.
- Sending to the regional office likely wouldn't be much faster.
- Ty will have to process receipts, looking to get it wrapped up in the next few weeks.

Informational Items (12:24)

- New Treasurer.
- New CRB Candidate.
- Parliamentary Procedures.
 - Eventually would like to change by-laws to reflect the parliamentary position.
 - Tara updates? Learned through Roberts Rules of Orders. Online guides & cheat sites. Don't foresee a huge amount of problems. Please reach out with questions.

Executive Board Meeting Minutes—December 11, 2020

- In the future, voting on minutes needs to be recorded.
- Voting on notes from the annual meeting needs to be on agenda?
 - Discussed board shifting, voting. 2 people left, 2 voted in.
- Business minutes are in draft form until the next annual business meetings. Regular minutes are with the board... annual official business minutes remain draft until the next business meeting (in March sometime on the 16th or 17th).
 - Provide the cleanest draft we have, post it on the website prior to the business meeting. Approximately February 14th – not 30 days in February. 30 days before, then don't need to read word for word during the business meeting. Better use of time.
 - Zoom links could be shared out too. People can see what went on. Get Zoom link from WY to post.
 - Clean up now while fresh. Get thoughts & edits to Ty by end of December. Edits for Ty:
 - Add page numbers
 - Pg. 2 incoming expenses report. ND not 2019, was for 2020. \$349.
 - Pg. 4 under the destruction of 2020 ballots. Were they destroyed?
 - Andrea checked back on Survey Monkey. Could only find vote for 2017 by-law changes. That can stay on the account, no harm. So 2020 ballots were deleted, it appears.
 - Record 2020 ballots as destroyed
 - Need Survey Monkey log-in name & passwords
 - Adam has more edits
 - Don't need to vote on edits
 - Ty give a clean copy of the annual business meeting minutes to Dani.
 - All minutes posted for 30 days or just the Annual business? Just Annual business.

TWS President discussions (12:33)

Shelly reached out to Carol Chambers with ideas. Shelly has been put in touch with Don (TWS VP) and Gary Potts (past president, still involved). Shelly told Carol she's doing triage, getting her bearings. Will help UT with the annual meeting. Not ready to be thrown into anything else right now.

Treasury & CMPS Dues From States (12:35)

- Hard to track state funds, trying to figure out what various checks sent to Ty are for.
- Ty is trying to get some regularity established. Dani will carry on.
- WY would appreciate a friendly reminder on when dues are due; we do that already, so there is a communication break down. Some people say they've never heard from us (which isn't true, but there is a communication breakdown somewhere).
- Start over with a clean slate. States would like clarity regarding when dues should be turned in. Shelly is collecting responses from member states. Most would like to see reminders at end of the year.
- If someone pays through headquarters TWS, we get a check from headquarters. Members can also sign up through state or student chapter, and we get dues from those avenues, too. Most state treasurers don't know how dues really disperse. Looking at concerns regarding double-dipping from headquarters & member chapters. Chapters surprised to hear they might be over-paying... only one chapter was tracking correctly. Ironing out.
- TWS website is not clear when memberships are purchased. TWS should revamp membership sign up. Bigger problem of knowing who we are reaching out to. Only membership list from TWS is who pays through the TWS website. We don't see actual email addresses from people signed up through state & student chapters.
 - Some state chapters have the option to pay for one year or three years of CMPS with their membership. When signed up through state chapters, individuals are not listed as a member.
 - ND has it figured out--they have a handle on communication members, they pay a fee for automatic reminders using a software: Wild Apricot.
 - Table this for later.
 - Great topic at the state & section meetings if we haven't done it already. Mariah Beyers always organizes state & section meetings at the TWS annual conference.
 - Top-down resolution seems appropriate. Andrea will bring it to the council after we get our ducks in a row.

State Updates (12:41)

- Addendum that Shelly sent out to CMPS board members, detailing Q&A from states.
 - 2 pages, details what Shelly is learning from the states. Adam joined @ UT meeting. That will be our CMPS annual meeting for 2021. Does anyone want to be on any initial state board meetings to say hi? Reach out to Shelly.
 - Andrea will join as she can. SD & NE (Shelly mispoke) next week. E-mail Shelly to confirm. CO is in January. Already met

Executive Board Meeting Minutes—December 11, 2020

with ND & UT. Hasn't heard from KS. Adam suggested that the KS Chapter is supposed to meet in January, but haven't done elections yet. KS swamped, working on it, just a few weeks behind on responses.

Communication/e-mails (12:47)

- Blasts aren't necessarily coming through anymore, maybe a firewall issue with government agencies and universities rejecting mass emails.
- Need a semi-permanent way of communicating. Maybe set up a Gmail account for the chapter.

How To Manuals (12:48)

- There is a TWS resource guide, Shelly is reviewing.
- Would like to customize for CMPS, will especially assist board member transitions.
- Andrea shared out the handbook a few months ago, other board members should have it.
- Worth it to have a CMPS drive set up, where everyone can see docs at once.
- Electronic. Dani offered to set up a Google Site

New Business

Treasurer Discussion (12:50)

- States 2020 dues are coming in.
- Dani getting switched to bank account.
- Deadline January 31, 2021.
 - Ty will help with end of year (2020) before he leaves. Will include everyone on his update.

Membership updates, new board members with states/student chapters (12:50)

- Shelly doesn't understand mailing lists, have an Excel spreadsheet with just the president/president-elects listed for states and universities. Bob Lanka would update when he was section rep. The list that Shelly has right now should have been updated by Andrea.
- Need to Clear up who is the keeper of this document and then add the State treasurer information.
- It would be helpful to have this contact info for the newsletter. This is where a shared drive would come in handy. Cut down on emails back and forth.

CMPS Proposed Conservation Position Statements (12:53)

- Regarding prairie potholes, will visit later in Spring 2021 with Stephanie and Adam.

Treasurer update (12:54)

- Ty will share out.
- 3 checks since business meetings.

Deadlines (12:55)

- Ty included deadlines in the last minutes, don't need to revisit.
- Steph & Aleshia keep the group updated on their deadlines.
- Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference is coming up February 1-4, some good workshops (12:55).
- National TWS 2021 Conference Online (12:55).
 - Decided to go virtual again regarding the funding. The longer they wait, the more they lose with canceling a venue. If staff works on in-person meeting & switches to virtual, it's a huge ask.

Andrea would like the official name of Aleshia's award to update the website (12:57)

- Adam will mail off the award he has as he can. Will email award title to Andrea.

Future meetings (12:58)

- Do we want structure? Every four months, consistency, etc.? Do we meet just as needed?
 - Adam was bad at consistency. Meetings happened when Stephanie called and asked for a meeting.
 - Don't need a monthly meeting. Hard to schedule meetings a year out unless we knew exact deadline for items. Changes occur. Suggested 2-week notice for meetings.
 - Andrea operated the same as Adam. As needed, prior to certain deadlines, or if issues arose.

Board Communication (1:00)

- Certain positions just email amongst themselves about items, then bring topics to the remaining board as needed. Does everyone need to be included in the chains? Do at-large members want to be included?
 - Aleshia comfortable being included on things that they need specific input on, larger topics.
 - Tara: as long as important topics filter down, good with that. Only if it's relevant to the board as a whole. As far as meetings go, generally would be better to have a regular meeting scheduled (quarterly, every four months, etc).

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Would make meetings shorter in the long run.

- Have to revisit by-laws.
- Add purpose of the meeting to agenda next time (1:04)
 - Shelly really wanted us to know what she's tackling right now.
 - Priorities: dues & memberships, end of year reports, taking up a lot of time.
 - Adam: don't feel bad sharing out the workload across the board.
 - Shelly won't be afraid to delegate and has already delegated a few items.

Motion to adjourn (1:06)

- Called by Adam
- Seconded by Stephanie
- No discussion
- All in favor. Adjourned.





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DRAFT Executive Board Meeting Minutes—March 17, 2021

Attendees: Shelly Deisch, Andrea Orabona, Embere Hall, Stephanie Ferrero, Andy Little, Tara Wertz, Adam Ahlers, and Dani Neumann

Start: 3:13 pm

Shelly thank you to all who organized from UT.

CMPS attendees, Introductions provided.

Secretary Report

December 11, 2020 minutes are posted on the CMPS Organizational Website.

Have all read the minutes? Yes.

Changes/discussion? No.

Motion to accept: Tara, Second: Adam, 10 votes passed.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer appointed by the President.

Transition hasn't been very fast, still getting accounts transferred from the previous treasurer to Dani.

2020 financials recap

February 26, 2021 \$9,230.18 balance in the account

Income from national memberships: \$177

Income from state chapter memberships: \$765

Income from Wyoming, two line items totaled: \$604.91

Expense: \$251.61 for awards, reimbursed to Stephanie

Treasurer's report audited by Tara prior to posting on the CMPS Organizational Website, where all details and statements can be viewed.

Motion to accept: Adam, Second: Tara, 10 votes passed.

Awards Committee, Stephanie

1x new awards: Executive Group achievement award which will need criteria developed and added to bylaws.

Personalized framed certificates were sent out and a few more to go on Adam's to do list.

Open to ideas for special awards & suggestions for nominees.

Nominees due June 1 to Stephanie.

CMPS award nomination page posted in chart, add recipients to the list.

Contact Stephanie re: upcoming awards.

Can also nominate for TWS awards.

CMPS Award opportunities 2021: Professional Award, Citizen's Conservation Achievement Award, a potential new Group Achievement award under development (need criteria and to be accepted in bylaws).

Nominations due toward the end of June, submit at any time.

Wayne Sandfort Student Travel Grant (Shelly & Stephanie)

President-elect is in charge of this award and so that was Shelly in 2020.

Funds students going to TWS's Annual Conference whether virtual or in-person.

Applications due in September sometime - watch the CMPS website as we get closer to August.

Student prices of virtual annual conference dropped from \$100 to \$75 by TWS.

2020, still offered scholarships to defer the \$100 registration fee & up to \$50 for a workshop. Will likely do this again 2021.

Andrea: with TWS Annual Conference being a little later, November 1-5 2021, could adjust the deadline according to when the conference is scheduled (and per student need).

New award is a Group Achievement Award (Shelly)

Several prairie pothole specialists & biologists/regional directors in ND & SD received. 28 people received it!

Don't want to leave awards undistributed.

Communications (Shelly)

Worked on and completed contacting all State Chapters, we've been invited to board meetings or conferences since December. We have attended 6 conferences in 2 months time.

Had problems with emails, does anyone else have trouble getting massive emails sent to constituents? Emails get sent back/don't reach the audience due to agency and university firewalls.

Adam set up a Gmail address for us, to help avoid spam filters.

Communications should come from cmps@gmail.com for further communications.

Will put something up on the website so constituents can mark as "safe" in their emails.

Who will monitor it? Adam, Shelly & Stephanie have the password.

Action Item: Next meeting, talk about who will monitor the email address.

To avoid phishers and spammers, the email address will be coded. Andrea heard that one way to mitigate is to spell out "dot", which is how our current emails are already coded on our CMPS website.

DRAFT Executive Board Meeting Minutes—March 17, 2021

Will talk to all 7 states about creating a liaison position, have to discuss as a board & change bylaws.

Action Item: discuss in future meetings.

Working on inclusivity, equality, diversity, awareness (IDEA) and include TWS Working Group

A man named Patrick (no last name) at the CO chapter meeting stated he was starting a DEI working group, will loop Shelly in. We have no way to contact this person at this time.

Past President Adam

No further discussion on communication & Gmail accounts.

Newsletter & Social Media

Aleshia wanted everyone to know April 1 is our next deadline for our newsletter (profile member, interesting announcements, etc.).

Send anything to include to Shelly and Aleshia via email.

Do we have to put today's business meeting minutes in this newsletter?

We usually do, with Treasurer's report. Can mark anything draft as needed.

Will announce awards & elections.

Elections (Andy, Board Member at Large)

Nominations: two BM@L positions & president-elect openings.

Due June 1.

Will get the advertisement sent out with Adam ASAP.

Shelly feels like we aren't utilizing the talents of our BM@L right now, trying to assign duties.

Embere doesn't have specific duties, neither does Julia.

Reference bylaws to provide more engagement.

Shelly wants to revisit job descriptions in bylaws.

Action Item: discuss descriptions & duties at a future meeting to increase engagement/utilize talents.

Since we are on a call with UT right now, we haven't had much presence on the CMPS board from UT. Encouraged UT TWS members to please reach out to current CMPS board members if interested in nominations for upcoming positions with CMPS.

Any questions from the audience? No.

Closing

CMPS always holds our annual business meeting with a state. WY last year, UT this year. In 2022 we will be with KS, Adam is going to be their new president.

Motion to adjourn: Tara moves to adjourn, Stephanie seconds.

Meeting adjourned: 3:45 pm

Extrapolated Action Items

Decide who will monitor the Google email address.

Discuss creating a liaison position for the 7 member states at a future board meeting.

Discuss board member at large descriptions & duties at a future meeting to increase engagement/utilize talents.



Aleshia Rummel

Central Mountains and Plains Section of The Wildlife Society

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CENTRAL MOUNTAINS AND PLAINS SECTION DIRECTORY

Position	Held By				
STATE CHAPTERS					
<u>COLORADO</u>					
President	Nathan Galloway				
President-Elect	Nate Bickford				
<u>KANSAS</u>					
President	Justin Hamilton				
President-Elect	J.R. Glenn				
<u>NEBRASKA</u>					
President	Michelle McPherron				
President-Elect	Will Inselman				
<u>NORTH DAKOTA</u>					
President	Jesse Beckers				
President-Elect	Jessica Johnson				
<u>SOUTH DAKOTA</u>					
President	Casey Heimerl				
President-Elect	Julie DeJong				
<u>UTAH</u>					
President	Dave Cook				
President-Elect	Blair Stringham				
<u>WYOMING</u>					
President	Eric Maichek				
President-Elect	Tayler LaSharr				
STUDENT CHAPTERS					
<u>CO STATE UNIVERSITY</u>					
President	Remi Pattyn				
President-Elect	Grant Pegram				
TWS Liaison	Andrew Don Carlos				
Advisor	Larissa Bailey				
<u>CSU-PUEBLO</u>					
President	Angeline Canney				
President-Elect	Samantha Ulrich				
Advisor	Claire Ramos				
<u>WESTERN COLORADO UNIVERSITY</u>					
President	Alyssa Rawinski				
President-Elect	Kristin Ross				
Advisor	Patrick Magee				
<u>EMPORIA STATE UNIVERSITY, KS</u>					
President	Jera Wolke				
President-Elect	Tucker Eckols				
Advisor	William Jensen				
<u>KS STATE UNIVERSITY</u>					
President	Blair Pfeifer				
President-Elect	Robert Grosdidier				
Advisor	David Haukos				
<u>PITTSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY, KS</u>					
President	Maggie Murray				
TWS Liaison	Madeline Gay				
Advisor	Andrew George				
TWS Liaison	William Jensen				
<u>CHADRON STATE COLLEGE, NE</u>					
President	Justin Gress				
President-Elect	Kristin Van Beek				
Advisor	Teresa Frink				
<u>UNIVERSITY OF NE - KEARNEY</u>					
President	Emma Raders				
President-Elect	Ty Masco				
Advisor	Dustin Ranglack				
<u>UNIVERSITY OF NE - LINCOLN</u>					
President	Carin Mellick				
President-Elect	Jack Carter				
Advisor	Andrew Little				
Co-Advisor	Elyse Watson				
<u>WAYNE STATE COLLEGE, NE</u>					
President	Jewel Kneifl				
President-Elect	Diana Danowski				
Advisor	Mark Hammer				
<u>ND STATE UNIVERSITY</u>					
President	Madison Feulner				
Vice-President	Mallory White				
Advisor	Erin Gillam				
Advisor	Matt Smith				
<u>UNIVERSITY OF ND</u>					
President	Cailey Isaacson				
President-Elect	Seth Owens				
Advisor	Jason Boulanger				
Advisor	Susan Ellis-Felege				
<u>VALLEY CITY STATE UNIVERSITY, ND</u>					
President	Skylar Yarbro				
President-Elect	Noah Kuck				
Advisor	Bob Anderson				
<u>SD STATE UNIVERSITY</u>					
President	Bridget Ragan				
President-Elect	Taysa Hutmacher				
Advisor	Kent Jensen				
Advisor	Mandy Orth				
<u>BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY, UT</u>					
President	Tabitha Hughes				
Advisor	Tom Smith				
Advisor	Steve Petersen				
<u>UT STATE UNIVERSITY</u>					
President	Natalie D'Souza				
President-Elect	Dominique Davis				
Advisor	Dave Dahlgren				
Advisor	Frank Howe				
Advisor	Dan MacNulty				
<u>WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY, UT</u>					
President	Kade Peterson				
Advisor	John Cavitt				
<u>UNIVERSITY OF WY</u>					
President	Jake Marden				
President-Elect	Ashley Umphlett				
Advisor	Merav Ben-David				
TWS Liaison	Sara Locker				