

The Wildlife Society

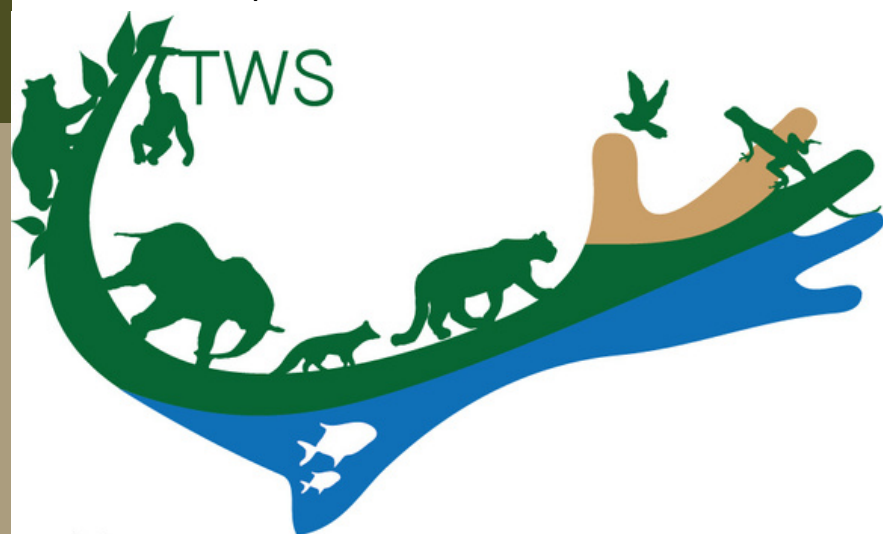
# BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY WORKING GROUP

October Newsletter 2022

The Mission of the Biological Diversity Working Group is to improve conservation of biological diversity as an integral part of ecosystem management and sustainable development and use of natural resources. This is accomplished by facilitating study and transfer of information within and outside of The Wildlife Society relative to maintenance and enhancement of the variety and variability of native living organisms, and the ecological complexes in which they occur. Of necessity, the Working Group's scope encompasses genetic, species, community, and ecosystem/landscape scales.

## 2022 29th Annual TWS Conference

This year's TWS Conference will be held at Spokane, Washington from November 6-10, 2022. It has been three years since the Conference was held in-person due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Whether a Wildlife Professional or Student, come and enjoy the Conference with BDWG. We hope to see you at the BDWG Meeting on November 7th at Meeting Room 1 from 12:00 to 13:30. We have selected 3 winners for this year's travel grants. Check them out along with our member's photos!



**Biological Diversity**  
Working Group

### Officers:

Chair - Angie Larsen-Gray

Past Chair - Annika Keeley

Chair-elect - Greg Smith

Secretary - Mary Hiney

Treasurer - Joe Drake

Board Members - Mark Nelson & Eric Stitt

### Connect with us!

<https://www.facebook.com/BiodiversityWG/>

[https://twitter.com/TWS\\_BDWG](https://twitter.com/TWS_BDWG)

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



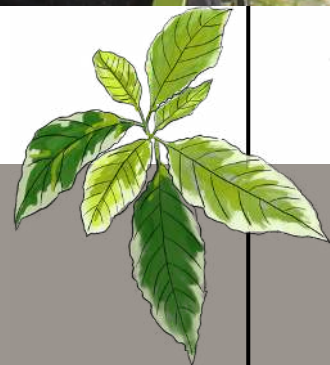
## Travel Grant Winner

I am a master's student in the Fish & Wildlife Conservation Department at Virginia Tech studying American Black Bear (*Ursus americanus*) behavior and feeding ecology in Virginia's Appalachian Mountains. I am in Dr. Marcella Kelly's Wildlife Habitat & Population Analysis (WHAPA) Lab working on the Virginia Appalachian Carnivore Study. I enjoy mentoring undergraduates on research opportunities and being an active member of our department's graduate student association. I want to thank the Biological Diversity Working Group for helping support my conference travel so that I can attend the national conference in Spokane, WA, this year!

## TWS Conference Presentation

Using Camera Collars to Uncover Mating Interactions of Male and Female American Black Bears (*Ursus americanus*) in the Appalachian Mountains of Virginia.

November 10, 2022  
14:45 in SCC Conference Theater in the Carnivore III section



**Brogan  
Holcombe**

Photos courtesy of Brogan Holcombe and canva.com.



# Travel Grant Winner

## Stephanie Landry

I am a Ph.D. student in Ecology at Utah State University in Dr. David Dahlgren's Extension Rangeland-Wildlife Habitat Lab where I study Dusky Grouse population ecology and landscape thermal ecology in the Great Basin region of east-central Nevada. I am interested in applied research where managers and policy-makers can use results to make informed decisions for wildlife management and conservation. I am greatly appreciative of the funding support that the Biological Diversity Working Group has provided for my attendance at the 2022 TWS National Conference.

### TWS Conference Presentation

Finding an Oasis: Identifying Thermal Refugia in the Arid Great Basin Ecosystem

November 09, 2022

09:15 to 09:30 in SCC - 206D

All photos courtesy of Stephanie Landry.





# Travel Grant Winner Edgar (TJ) Francisco

TJ would like send a special shout-out to his advisor, Dr. Rodolfo Dirzo, and his Costa Rican co-workers in the field, Hansel Herrera and Albin Ortíz García for providing support in his research. TJ advised that the dual panel photo shows a polyculture experimental oil palm farm (left) contrasted with its matched-pair monoculture palm farm (right). The rest of his photos are of reptiles and amphibians he encountered during field surveys. His Twitter and Instagram: @eco\_teej

## TWS Conference Presentation

Oil Palm Polycultures Support More Forest-Dependent Herpetofauna Compared to Paired Monocultures, Which Favor Disturbance or Open-Habitat Specialists

November 08, 2022

16:30 to 16:45 in SCC - 102AB

All photos courtesy of TJ Francisco.





# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Dr. Doug Smith (Wolf Biologist - Yellowstone National Park) and Lu Carbyn (CWS Retired Research Scientist) took a trip to North America's largest National Park, the Wood Buffalo National Park.

All photos are courtesy of Ludwig Carbyn.



# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



**Top left photo** - Seth and Mike Gutzmer conducting least tern, piping rover, and rufa red knot surveys.

**Top right photo** - Dr. Gutzmer catching a green-winged teal "resting".

**Middle photo** - Snowy owl by Dr. Gutzmer in Platte County, Nebraska, 2021.

**Bottom left photo** - May crow counts for ring-necked pheasant trend utilization studies in Standing Rock Indian Reservation.

**Bottom right photo** - Photo of the first black footed ferret in Standing Rock Indian Reservation in North and South Dakota.

Jordan Knot and Seth Gutzmer conducting range studies in western Nebraska, "Heading out for the day".

All photos are courtesy of Dr. Mike Gutzmer.



# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



All photos taken during summer field work in Southeastern Arizona.

Photos are courtesy of Dr. Joe Drake, BDWG Treasurer.



# Upcoming Activity in TWS BDWG

The BDWG is sponsoring two symposia, one field trip, and one workshop at the TWS Conference:

November 6 at 10:00 to 16:00  
First-Hand Experience of Forest  
Management in Practice: A Visit to Mt.  
Spokane

November 7 at 12:00 to 13:30 BDWG  
Annual Meeting at Meeting Rm #1

November 8 at 08:30 to 10:00  
Global Habitat Restoration and  
Conservation – UN Decade on  
Ecosystem Restoration

November 8 at 13:30 to 17:00  
Conservation of Native Pollinators in  
Managed Forested Ecosystems

November 9 at 13:00 to 17:00  
Habitat Restoration and Conservation  
with a RAD New View



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[https://twitter.com/TWS\\_BDWG](https://twitter.com/TWS_BDWG)

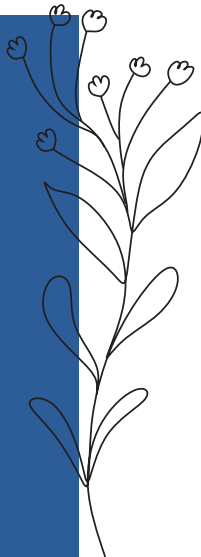
## BDWG SWAG

The BDWG has an online shop dedicated to raising funds for the student travel grants. We have a baseball shirt, t-shirt, colorblock hoodie, drawstring bag, sticker, and baseball cap for sale.



TWS BDWG logo – Organic Baseball Cap  
\$20.99

To get your swag, please  
visit:  
[https://tws-  
bdwg.myspreadshop.com/](https://tws-bdwg.myspreadshop.com/)







Camille Brooks (Wildlife Biologist, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs) was able to capture this photo at the Pine Creek Conservation Area in Central Oregon. Just look at that view, thanks Camille!



We would like to thank all our members for contributing to this newsletter. If you wish to see your own material in the next newsletter, please contact Mary Hiney, BDWG Secretary at [mary.k.hiney@gmail.com](mailto:mary.k.hiney@gmail.com).