

Photo by Melanie Magdalena on Unsplash



# WILDLIFE TRACKS

## Newsletter Contents

President's column

Executive board members

Chairs and committees

CCTWS 2024 annual meeting announcement

TWS annual conference

Call for travel grant applications

Call for member input

Board meeting minutes

Membership application

## A letter from the president

Hello CCTWS Members! I hope our summer newsletter finds you happy, healthy, and enjoying the warm weather. This July heat is a welcome change from what was by most accounts a long, cold, wet spring stacked on a winter with record snowpack and high winds. So unusual was our winter weather that it resulted in big game die-off levels not seen in four decades. Elk, mule deer, and pronghorn herds in the northwest of the state were especially hard hit. The silver lining is that the heavy snows have caused drought conditions to abate, which should aid big game populations.

In stark contrast to last winter's cold is the concerning news that between July 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, our planet experienced its three hottest days on record. In addition, the last eight years have all been the hottest on record. As we know, the common thread here is climate change. Weather extremes, of all kinds, will become more prevalent as earth's climate shifts.

The CCTWS Executive Board was recently looking back at themes from past annual meetings. Climate change was last our theme in 2013! Over the last ten years, the planet has changed substantially but what humans have done to solve the climate crisis has not kept pace. Climate denialism remains and political inaction continues. Biodiversity across the globe is declining and extreme weather events are impacting wildlife populations in devastating ways.

Despite the challenges, there are positives. Renewable energy generation is booming, electric vehicles are becoming more commonplace, and conservation is becoming a higher priority. While the changes to our planet may be irreversible, the actions we take today will affect the quality of life for our children and grandchildren. We owe it to them to experience the thrill of catching a trout from a clear mountain stream, watching a grouse strut on a lek, and hearing an elk's bugle echo through the mountains.

I strongly believe it takes a collaborative effort to achieve positive change. For inspiration I look to the CCTWS Executive Board. Our board members are composed of professionals from CPW, BLM, NPS, USFWS, NGOs, academia, industry, and consulting! This diversity is incredibly unique for state TWS chapters and I think it makes us stronger and more productive. So I encourage you to reach across the aisles, across the borders, and across the agencies to work together for all of us and future generations. Keep up the good fight, it's worth it!

Nate Jones, Chapter President





# THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY COLORADO CHAPTER EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS 2023

## **Officers**

President: Nate Jones

Past-President: Nathan Galloway

President-Elect: Robin Russell

Treasurer: Adam Behney

Secretary: Mark Fletcher

## **Executive Board: Regional**

NE Representative: Sara Kramer

NW Representative: Kathy Griffin

SE Representative: Mary Hiney

SW Representative: Marcella Tarantino

## **Executive Board: At-Large**

Andrew Don Carlos

Emily Latta

Erin Bailey

Courtney King

## **Email contact**

nathan.jones@hdrinc.com

nathanlgalloway@gmail.com

robilrssl@gmail.com

abehney@state.co.us

fletcher@pinyon-env.com

## **Executive Board: Regional**

sara.kramer1626@gmail.com

kathy.griffin@state.co.us

mary.k.hiney@gmail.com

marcella.tarantino@usda.gov

## **Executive Board: At-Large**

andwildon@gmail.com

elatta@blm.gov

erin.bailey@hdrinc.com

courtney.king@western.edu



# THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY COLORADO CHAPTER COMMITTEES AND CHAIRS 2023

## **Standing Committees**

Program/Annual Meeting

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Legislation and Conservation Affairs

Newsletter

Nominations/Elections; Policy/Resolutions

Professional Awards

Student Awards

Membership

Conservation Review

Small Grants and Travel Grants

Web Page, Social Media (Marketing)

Professional Development Programs

Student Affairs and Mentoring

## **Liasons**

Historian

Jim Olterman/Candace Taylor Investment Fund

## **CMPS**

CMPS President

CMPS Representative to TWS

CCTWS Representative to CMPS

CCTWS Board

Patrick Magee

Katie Bradfish

Becky Burink

Robin Russell

Korby Mintken

Jeff Henderson

Courtney King

Cassandra Holman

Emily Latta

Aleshia Rummel

*vacant*

Katie Gray

Danguole Bockus

Patrick Magee

Stephanie Ferrero

Andrea Orabona

Mindy Rice





# SAVE THE DATE

## **Mark your calendars for February 7-9, 2024!**

The Colorado Chapter of the Wildlife Society will be hosting our 2024 Annual Meeting in-person in Pueblo, Colorado. The meeting will take place Wednesday, February 7th to Friday, February 9th.

More information regarding registration, posters and talks, venue, and hotel booking will be posted on <https://wildlife.org/colorado/>.

### **Date**

February 7-9 2024

### **Location**

Pueblo, CO



# TWS ANNUAL MEETING

## **Registration is now open for the 2023 Annual Wildlife Society Conference**

This year, The Wildlife Society will be hosting its 30th annual conference November 5–9, 2023 in Louisville, Kentucky.

Join other wildlife professionals from across the country to learn about some of the field's most recent advancements, network with other wildlife professionals, and engage with the community as a whole.

Registration is open now and can be found on The Wildlife Society's website at <https://twconference.org/>. Register by July 31 for an early bird price of \$550. Discounts are offered for early-career professionals, students, and retired wildlife professionals. Non-member registration is available for an additional cost.

Block travel discounts are available through Southwest Airlines and the Galt House. See The Wildlife Society's website for more information.

### **Date**

November 5–9, 2023

### **Location**

Louisville, KY

### **Early bird registration cost**

\$550 Professional  
\$300 New professional  
\$275 Student  
\$300 Retired

# TRAVEL GRANT

## **CCTWS Travel Grant/Virtual Conference Registration Grant Announcement**

The Colorado Chapter of the Wildlife Society is now accepting applications for its Fall Travel Grant Program. The purpose of the CCTWS Travel Grants Program is to assist with travel costs for CCTWS members attending meetings or workshops that further their professional knowledge and benefit management and conservation of wildlife in Colorado. CCTWS will award travel grants ranging from \$250- \$750 to assist with the travel costs associated with attending a conference or attending a virtual conference. CCTWS has a budget of \$750 for fall travel grants and awards will be considered in amounts between \$250 to \$750. Therefore, one or several grants may be awarded not to exceed a total of \$750. **Only current members of the Colorado Chapter of the Wildlife Society are eligible for these grants.**

The applications guidelines are as follows:

- Identify the training opportunity, meeting, conference, or virtual conference that would be helpful for your occupation or education as a wildlife professional or student CCTWS member.
- Type up a ½ to 1-page description of the meeting, telling the CCTWS Board the goals of the conference or training and describing how you would like to use this experience for your occupation or education. Be sure to explain how this meeting would be a valuable contribution to your employment or education as a Wildlife Professional.
- Include a brief breakdown of costs associated with the meeting, conference or virtual conference and discuss any additional funding or grants.
- Include your name and contact information (phone number and email).
- Include the registration, travel, and any other anticipated costs for the conference.

### **Submit applications to**

Emily Latta  
Awards Coordinator  
elatta@blm.gov

### **Acceptable formats**

Microsoft Word document  
PDF

### **Application deadline**

August 15

### **Winners will be notified**

August 31





# HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE WITH THE CLASS?

**Have you attended an event put on by The Wildlife Society, done exciting work or research, or want to share something with the chapter?**

The Newsletter Committee is looking to add a section to the quarterly newsletter focused on updating the chapter on its members work, research, and any upcoming opportunities (including position openings!).

If you have exciting or newsworthy research, fieldwork, or experiences relating to wildlife, or have a job opportunity that you would like to share with the Colorado Chapter of the Wildlife Society, reach out to Newsletter Chair Becky Burink! We hope to include this section to increase member engagement and networking opportunities outside of our in-person events.

Please include a description of your experiences or opportunities, an email address if you'd like to be contacted by other members, and don't forget to include any photos you may have!

## **Reach out to**

Becky Burink  
[burink@pinyon-env.com](mailto:burink@pinyon-env.com)

## **Please include**

A short (6-8 sentence) description  
Your contact info (optional)  
Any photos you want to include

## **Deadline for inclusion in the Fall 2023 newsletter**

September 1, 2023

## CCTWS MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

# APRIL

Board Members Present: Nate Jones, Nate Galloway, Adam Behney, Kathy Griffin, Mary Hiney, Marcella Tarantino, Emily Latta, Sara Kramer, Robin Russel, Erin Bailly, Mark Fletcher

Guests: Mindy Rice (CCTWS/CMPS Liaison), Andrea Orabona (TWS/CMPS Representative), Stephanie Ferraro (CMPS President), Barbara Sugarman (UTTWS President), Shelly Deisch (CMPS Past President)

### 1. Treasurer's Report

#### a. Expenses

- i. Incurred a \$20/month bank fee from Bank of the West for our business account
- ii. Incurred a \$50/month MemberPlanet fee
- iii. \$1,807.96 awards at annual meeting
- iv. \$250 speaker travel reimbursement
- v. \$399.15 supplies for annual meeting (books, stickers)

#### b. Income

- i. \$1,771 transfer from Square
- ii. Annual meeting t-shirt & silent auction sales
- iii. \$291 cash deposit – leftover change, t-shirt, and silent auction sales
- iv. \$1,000 deposit from Edward Jones investments for Olterman Award
- v. \$11,613.03 deposit from Utah Chapter of TWS for annual meeting registrations

#### c. Balances as of April 5, 2023

- i. Checking account: \$27,026.14
- ii. Reserve Fund Money Market: \$33,238.32
- iii. Savings Account: \$505.83
- iv. PayPal Account: \$136.02
- v. CCTWS Target Reserve for 2023: \$38,706.11 (Reserve Fund)

### 2. Meeting Recap and Lessons Learned

- a. Andrea has a Women in Wildlife presentation but wasn't able to present at the annual meeting. She would like to find a different time to hold this.
- b. Feedback Survey
  - i. Andrew Don Carlos has developed a feedback survey. There were only 50 responses, so we will send it out again.
- c. Stephanie (and essentially the entire board of all chapters/sections) would like to thank Kathy for all of her hard work that made the meeting possible and run smoothly.
  - i. Also, Adam deserves a big thanks for sorting out money related issues.
- d. Mindy received a lot of negative feedback regarding the beer situation. Each person received only one drink ticket and after that the only option was very expensive beer.
  - i. Kathy – The tap fees and regulations made our beer sponsor back out.
  - ii. Mindy – The chapter should have just pitched in and paid for more drink tickets. The social networking events are a very important part of any conference.
  - iii. Barbera – There were also concerns with spending a lot on alcohol because a significant portion of the UTTWS membership does not drink.



## CCTWS MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

# APRIL

continued

- e. Shelly mostly heard good feedback except for the business meetings. The setup kept the majority of people on the other side of the room and there were AV issues.
  - f. Barbara – NM and AZ regularly hold joint meetings and they are interested in joining next time we are in Grand Junction.
  - g. Mindy – It was not good to have the sponsors isolated out in the hall. They should be where the food is.
  - h. Kathy – We should put together a meeting BMPs document as a guide for future meetings.
  - i. Mindy – There was good profit from this meeting. The chapter should use the extra money to give back to the membership.
    - i. Jones seconds this and this could be the challenge for next year's meeting. We are also working hard to recover from COVID and some of the profit will go to fix the deficit of the last few years.
    - ii. Sara – We should use some of the excess to hold some professional events.
3. 2023-2024 Proposed Budget
- a. We had a large revenue from the meeting and Adam has prepared the annual budget with this in mind. Some highlights include:
    - i. Bumping up scholarships and grants.
    - ii. Reaching our target reserve.
    - iii. Paying \$8000 back to the Jim Olterman Scholarship.
  - b. There is discussion among the board including:
    - i. \$5000 to the Jim Olterman Scholarship as this was planned to be paid back over several years.
    - ii. Lower the sponsor goal to \$2,500.
    - iii. Change expected meeting expenses from \$28,000 to \$30,000.
  - c. **Galloway motions to accept the budget with the proposed changes. Jones seconds the motion. The motion passes (11-0-0).**
4. Wolf Symposium
- a. Matt Barnes and Gary Skiba have proposed that CCTWS sponsor a wolf symposium.
  - b. Mindy – Traditionally, the chapter doesn't sponsor symposiums outside of the annual meeting. The chapter tried this for sage grouse with less than favorable results.
  - c. There is some discussion among the board and there is general consensus that we have our hands full every year planning the annual meeting.
  - d. Jones will politely decline the proposal.
5. Committee Chair Update
- a. Liz Peterson (Professional Development Chair) is moving out of state and we need to find someone to fill her position.

# CCTWS MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

# MAY

Board Members Present: Nate Jones, Nate Galloway, Adam Behney, Kathy Griffin, Mary Hiney, Marcella Tarantino, Sara Kramer, Robin Russel, Erin Baily, Courtney King, Mark Fletcher

Guests: Mindy Rice (CCTWS/CMPS Liaison)

1. Treasurer's Report
  - a. Expenses
    - i. Incurred a \$20/month bank fee from Bank of the West for our business account.
    - ii. Paid CMPS \$224 for silent auction payments received at annual meeting for their items.
  - b. Income
    - i. \$120 from CMPS for contribution to student-professional mixer at annual meeting
    - ii. \$500 Robin Olterman scholarship contribution
    - iii. \$1,120 Wildlife Society Membership Dues
    - iv. \$136.02 Transfer from Paypal – membership dues
    - v. \$0.31 interest payment
  - c. Balances as of May 3, 2023
    - i. Checking account: \$23,090.37
    - ii. Reserve Fund Money Market: \$38,706.42
    - iii. Savings Account: \$505.83
    - iv. PayPal Account: \$43.71
    - v. CCTWS Target Reserve for 2023: \$38,706.11 (Reserve Fund)
2. MemberPlanet
  - a. This service does not have the features that the chapter needs.
  - b. Jones – We should look into what other chapters use.
  - c. Courtney will check with TWS to see if they have a service we can use.
3. Student Chapter Funding
  - a. Last year, we received funding requests from CSU and WCU, but the chapter has not paid out funding.
4. Committee Updates
  - a. Professional Development
    - i. Courtney has been recruited to help on the committee.
    - ii. Liz Peterson will be leaving at the end of the summer and we will need a new chair for the committee.
    - iii. The committee would like funding to hold some events.
      1. Galloway – There is a great bighorn sheep disease video that would make a good viewing event.
      2. Jones – The committee should plan some events and bring them to the board for funding approval.

# CCTWS MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

# MAY

continued

5. Summer Newsletter
  - a. This is due in June. Please coordinate with Becky Burink if you would like something included.
  - b. The newsletters have been short lately. This is a good venue for research topics etc.
6. Website
  - a. The website has been updated by TWS, but not everything transferred well and the site needs a thorough vetting.
  - b. Kathy will look into this and has suggested that we form a website subcommittee.
7. 2024 Meeting Planning
  - a. Galloway, Jones, and Robin met to start conversations on the next annual meeting.
  - b. 2023 Survey
    - i. The late agenda was in issue and probably led to some late registrants.
    - ii. We should get everything going earlier this year.
    - iii. The meeting was held during CPW officer training and may have led to low CPW attendance.
8. Wolf Symposium
  - a. The proponents are still pushing for this symposium.
  - b. We could compromise with a ½ day symposium at the next annual meeting.
    - i. Kathy – We could hold this as a workshop and let the proponents run it.
    - ii. Mindy – The proposed agenda has no one from CPW and seems one sided (in favor of reintroduction). CCTWS needs to take some control of the symposium or opt out. Otherwise we are not neutral.
    - iii. Kathy – The Society of Rangeland Managers was a part of the symposium and pulled out. We should probably find out why.
9. TWS Petition
  - a. There is a petition circulating relating to the recent TWS elections. Mindy would like to draft a neutral email that makes out membership aware of the situation without taking sides.
    - i. **Jones motions to move forward with the email with two reviewers (Robin and Kathy). Kathy seconds the motion. The motion passes (10-0-0).**

**Next Meeting – 2pm, Thursday, June 1, 2023  
Conference Call (Teams Meeting)**



# CCTWS MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

# JUNE

Board Members Present: Nate Jones, Adam Behney, Mary Hiney, Marcella Tarantino, Sara Kramer, Robin Russel, Erin Bailly, Mark Fletcher

Guests: Mindy Rice (CCTWS/CMPS Liaison)

## 1. Treasurer's Report

- a. Expenses
  - i. \$16.89 for stamps and envelopes
  - ii. \$1,200 for Western Colorado University student chapter support (FY 22-23)
  - iii. \$1,605 for Colorado State University student chapter support (FY 22-23)
  - iv. \$20 bank fee
- b. Income
  - i. No income
- c. Balances as of May 31, 2023
  - i. Checking account: \$20,248.48
  - ii. Reserve Fund Money Market: \$38,706.42
  - iii. Savings Account: \$505.83
  - iv. PayPal Account: \$43.71
- d. CCTWS Target Reserve for 2023: \$38,706.11 (Reserve Fund)
- e. Our money market account does not have a great interest rate. With Bank of the West, the money must be moved to a promotional account every year or so to maintain a higher interest rate.
  - i. Adam would like to move the money to a promotional account so that the chapter's money can collect interest. The board can reevaluate this strategy if it becomes a pain.
  - ii. The board is generally in agreement with this strategy.

## 2. Newsletter

- a. The summer newsletter should go out in the next couple weeks.
- b. Jones will ask Katie Grey for student chapter updates.
- c. Mindy will ask CMPS for a section update.
- d. CMPS is asking Mindy to share the newsletter with them and with the presidents of other chapters in CMPS.
- e. Jones is looking for ideas for newsletter topics.
  - i. Mary suggested a member spotlight.

## 3. Website

- a. Kathy is working on going through the website to gather a list of needed updates.
- b. Mark noticed that meeting minutes have disappeared back to October 2021.

## 4. 2024 Annual Meeting

- a. Robin has a preliminary estimate for the Pueblo Convention Center.
  - i. This includes 5 – 50 person rooms for workshops.

## CCTWS MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

# JUNE

continued

- ii. Donated alcohol will need a 501c form completed and must be delivered by a distributor.
  - iii. We will assume approximately 200-person attendance.
  - iv. We should plan for HEAVY appetizers for the Wednesday night social.
  - v. Anticipate 150 people for the student breakfast.
  - vi. We will plan to use the convention center's AV equipment.
  - vii. We will plan to put the presenters where the food is during social events.
  - viii. Right now the estimate is at \$35,000. We expect the actual costs to be closer to \$40,000.
  - ix. The venue is reserved for February 7-9.
    - 1. Marcella has suggested that we try to avoid the RiversEdge West conference. She will try to find out when that will be.
  - b. Wolves
    - i. Jones replied to Matt and Gary to suggest that they hold a workshop and/or symposium at the conference and communicated that CCTWS will reserve final approval on speakers and content.
  - c. **Please be thinking about a theme for the meeting that you can present at the July in-person meeting.**
5. Travel Grant
- a. Daniel Rice would like to request a travel grant to attend the TWS annual meeting in Kentucky.
  - b. Adam – In past years, the grant has been \$500.
  - c. Daniel would like to start a conclave for the CMPS states. A conclave is a rally of student organizations where the focus is team building and competition. He would like CCTWS to consider helping with funding.

**Next Meeting – 9am to 4pm, Thursday, July 7, 2023**

**In-person at the Silverthorne USFS Office!**



# THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY COLORADO CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Become a TWS member: **wildlife.org**

Become a CCTWS member **wildlife.org/colorado**

1 Year Student Membership: \$10

1 Year Regular Membership: \$20

2 Year Regular Membership: \$35

3 Year Regular Membership: \$45

## **Colorado Chapter of the Wildlife Society—Membership Application**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP code: \_\_\_\_\_

Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Personal phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Today's date: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in committee work? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you a TWS Certified Biologist? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Area of expertise/interest: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership (circle one):    1 year (student)                      1 year                      2 year                      3 year

Credit card number (MasterCard or VISA): \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Scan and email to: **adam.behney@state.co.us**