

# OHIO CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

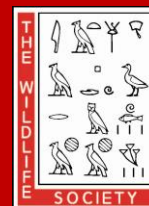
## SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2023



Lake Erie Gulls – Page 7

### INSIDE:

- President's Message
- Upcoming Events
- Annual Meeting Re-Cap
- New Board Member Introduction
- TWS Supported Events
- News From Our Members
- Helpful Resources



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## WHAT IS TWS?

The Ohio Chapter is a recognized state unit of its parent, international organization, The Wildlife Society. Although an independent unit, the Chapter adheres to the purposes and guidelines of TWS. The Chapter's programs, activities, and positions dealing with the broad range of wildlife species, their habitats, and especially their various interactions with people, are developed and approved by the Chapter's membership and/or its Governing Board. The welfare of wildlife resources, in keeping with adopted principles and acceptable actions of those charged with their responsibilities, is the main purpose of the Chapter's membership. Membership is open to anyone of adult age who complies with the above and is in good standing with regard to payment of annual dues or other approved obligations.

Objectives:

- To develop and promote sound stewardship of wildlife resources and of the environments upon which wildlife and people depend.
- To undertake an active role in preventing human-induced environmental degradation.
- To increase awareness and appreciation of wildlife values.
- To seek the highest standards in all activities of the wildlife professions.



**Interested in learning more about TWS?**

**Check out <https://wildlife.org/>**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear OCTWS members,

I am honored to be your President of OCTWS for the next two years and am grateful for the dedication of our current and previous Board members. Support for wildlife conservation is strong in Ohio due in part to professionals such as yourselves. THANK YOU for supporting OCTWS. We understand your time is valuable. In the coming years, the OCTWS Board will be focusing on bringing quality, in-demand training opportunities to our members. We'll also explore on new ways to engage with the next generation of wildlife conservation professionals to build the continuum of conservation for Ohio. We welcome your candid feedback about how OCTWS can be a resource and partner—contact any of the OCTWS Board members at any time to share your ideas and thoughts!



President – Erin Hazelton

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Fall Student Workshop – Introduction to Wildlife Rehabilitation**

Brukner Nature Center, Troy, Ohio

Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup> 9AM-4PM

Free for members or \$5 to become a student member

Registration to come via email

### **Fall Professional Workshop – Prescribed Fire** Info to come!

### **The Wildlife Society's 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference**

November 5-9, 2023 Louisville, Kentucky

Registration opens around June 2023.

Students - register to complete in Quiz Bowl by Sept. 5.

<https://twconference.org/>

Travel Grants: <https://wildlife.org/travel-grants/>



### **Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference**

January 28-31, 2024 Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Registration opens in October 2023.

<https://www.midwestfw.org/>

# OCTWS 2023 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Ohio Chapter of The Wildlife Society  
2023 Annual Business Meeting  
March 31, 2023 11-3pm  
Deer Creek Lodge and Conference Center

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## Welcome – 16 members plus 4 officers

**Transition of Officers** – Thank you Grace Dietsch for serving on the Ohio TWS board as Past-President, President, and President-elect! We appreciate your continued support for TWS. Erin Hazelton will now take the role as President, Renee Buck as Past-President, and Becky Crow as President-elect. Catherine Dennison was also elected a 2<sup>nd</sup> term as Treasurer.

## Intro to Ohio TWS – Erin Hazelton, President-Elect

### Update from TWS Organization and North Central Section – Dr. Jason Riddle, TWS Council Member

- North Central Section (NCS) of TWS:
  - The NCS hosts monthly calls with state chapter presidents, including Ohio
  - NCS can help represent state chapters to the parent organization and vice versa
  - NCS can advocate for states regardless of employment for wildlife issues that may be political
  - Builds connections between states as wildlife don't know state boundaries
- TWS Council:
  - Most TWS Council work happens through a variety of TWS committees
  - Reminder to nominate individuals for TWS fellows for awards

## TWS working groups – Jon Cepek, Cleveland Metroparks

- Overview of TWS Working Groups: there are 27 working groups <https://wildlife.org/working-groups/>
- Many host their own conferences, like the wildlife damage management working group held a Wildlife Damage Management Conference 4/17-20<sup>th</sup> in Logan, Utah
- Working groups help TWS with input related to position statements – for example the Hunting, Trapping, and Conservation working group gave input on TWS position statements related to firearms
- June 4-7<sup>th</sup> is TWS Urban ecology working group conference
- You can attend some working group meetings prior to becoming a member, many have student representatives too

## Officer Reports

### President and President-Elect Report:

- Vinton furnace student workshop was successful this past November. Matt Shumar held a bird banding demo in morning and OCTWS Board members hosted a resume workshop the afternoon.

### Treasurer Report:

- Starting Balance (1/20/2022): \$22,679.22
- Income Total \$2,116.39:
  - Dues/Student workshop registrations: \$1,209.88
  - Merch Sales: \$906.51
- Expenses Total \$4,547.38:
  - Student workshop and Annual meeting: \$1,484.11
  - Merch Order: \$1,457.75
  - Misc. expenses: \$87.67
  - Supported events:
    - OWMA Conference 1/2022: \$250
    - Five Rivers MetroParks 3MT competition 12/2022: \$467.85
    - OSU SENR Student Research Symposium 3/2023: \$350

- Environmental Education Council of Ohio Student Research Symposium 4/2023: \$450

- Ending Balance (3/29/2023): \$20,248.23

#### Secretary Report:

- Spring Newsletter – Seeking updates from student chapters and news from our members
- Reminder to email [ohiowildlife@hotmail.com](mailto:ohiowildlife@hotmail.com) to advertise related events or jobs

#### Legislation and Government Affairs Report:

- Letters were sent for RAWA Support – Senate and House of Rep.

#### Graduate Student Report:

- Hosted a successful OSU SENR Research Symposium

#### **New Business**

- Updates on Bylaws
  - Seek vote to approve the change of bylaws to state the annual meeting should be held in winter
  - Decision was made to post-pone this vote until further discussions are made about partnering with other organizations to host a conference.
- Dues (remain at \$10/\$5) – vote approved to keep membership cost the same
- Elections

#### Adjourn

#### **Discussion Meeting Re-cap:**

- Overview of recent workshops and conference activities and obstacles
- Plan to further the discussion with OWMA and OCTWS about collaboration
- Discussed historic background about OCTWS Board
- Recognized the ample amount of wildlife conferences and related meetings in Ohio and the confusion it may have for members. Also, members needing to prioritize between activities.
- Indicated a need to establish a better contact list for Ohio universities.
- Interest in building further connections with AFS, OWMA, and other organizations
- Interest in having activities (workshops) rotate in other sections of the state to reach more members
- Interest in reaching out to universities that may not have TWS student chapters
- Suggest survey for members to provide input on planning discussions and to seek folks wanting to become involved with TWS

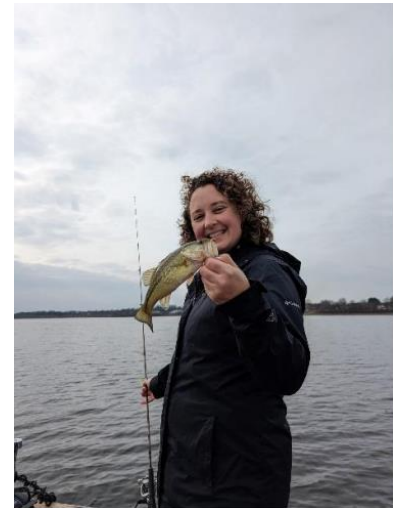
#### **Optional Field Trip – Laura Kearns, Ohio Division of Wildlife**

- Laura presented about Motus towers throughout the state of Ohio
- Motus started with projects in Ohio in 2012 and has expanded greatly in recent years
- To learn more check out <https://motus.org/>

# NEW BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTION

Becky Crow – President-Elect

Becky Crow joined the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife in 2021 as the Customer Care Supervisor. Prior to her start with the DOW, Becky focused 16-years of her career in wildlife conservation by working with non-profit organizations that included Brukner Nature Center and the Ohio Wildlife Rehabilitators Association. Seeing a need to bring natural resource opportunities to the next generation, Becky developed and implemented an Introduction to Wildlife Rehabilitation course for high schoolers attending vocational schools in SW Ohio as part of her Master’s degree from Miami University in 2018. Today, she continues to teach this course to nearly 70 students on an annual basis. Additionally, Becky currently serves on the Ohio Bat Working Group’s Education and Outreach committee and stays engaged with field work through her bird banding efforts at her M.A.P.S. station. Her passion for wildlife conservation is rooted in providing education and developing professionalism as a way to build a more informed community. Becky is looking forward to sharing her expertise with OCTWS.



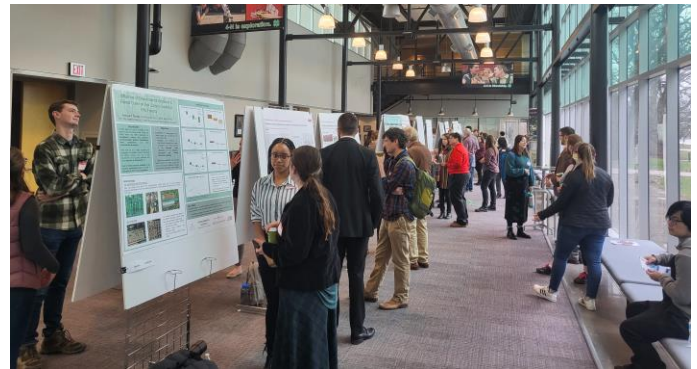
## STUDENT CHAPTER UPDATES

None at this time.

## TWS SUPPORTED EVENTS

### School of Environment and Natural Resources Student Research Symposium –

On March 27th, graduate students from the Ohio State University hosted their first School of Environment and Natural Resources Student Research Symposium. This included 10 oral presentations and 26 poster presentations. Ohio TWS supported \$350 towards this event and officers attended with a booth.



### Ohio Student Wildlife Research Symposium –

On April 13<sup>th</sup> a research symposium was held during the Annual Environmental Education Council of Ohio Conference. This conference invites any middle or high school-aged student to present a poster or presentation on their Ohio wildlife research projects. Ohio TWS supported \$450 towards this event.

## NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

### Report Banded Lake Erie Herring Gulls

Since 1980 Bruce has been conducting research on our Lake Erie Herring gulls that nest in the Sandusky Bay area. The research started out to map their migration routes and wintering areas but as time went on data started to show other important trends such as site fidelity, emigration and subadult movements. These gulls were banded with just metal USGS bands. In 2015 I used color leg bands with different unique codes. With a binocular or spotting scope the code can be read easily without having the gull in your hand.

If anyone happens to see a color banded gull Bruce would greatly appreciate if they contact him at [bbuckingham@roadrunner.com](mailto:bbuckingham@roadrunner.com) or the Bird Banding Lab at [reportband.gov](http://reportband.gov) Each report adds so much data to this research project.



### New Statewide Contractor Database

Historically, potential vendor lists were typically housed locally through Soil and Water Conservation Districts. However, cross the line to another county and landowners may not see that same vendor on that county's list. However, most vendors will service a large area well beyond a single county. Through a collaborative effort between The Division of Wildlife, Division of Forestry, Ohio Society of American Foresters, and The Nature Conservancy there is a new resource available for looking for contractors who can do both forestry and wildlife habitat practices for landowners as a way to create a larger inventory of habitat vendors in Ohio. Visit [www.ohioresourceconnection.com](http://www.ohioresourceconnection.com) to learn more about this new resource.

Through it, land managers can search for vendors by practice type and the area they service. While it can be a helpful resource for private landowners, it was designed to also provide potential vendors for government and non-governmental organizations as well. It also has links to Division of Wildlife and Division of Forestry professionals as well to help create a one-stop shop for land managers in Ohio. Anyone can register as a vendor.

## OHIO PUBLICATIONS AND HELPFUL RESOURCES

### Contacts for local wildlife rehabilitators:

<https://ohiodnr.gov/static/documents/wildlife/permits/Ohio%20DOW%20Wildlife%20Rehabilitators.pdf>

**The Wildlife Society Job Board:** <https://careers.wildlife.org/jobseeker/search/results/>

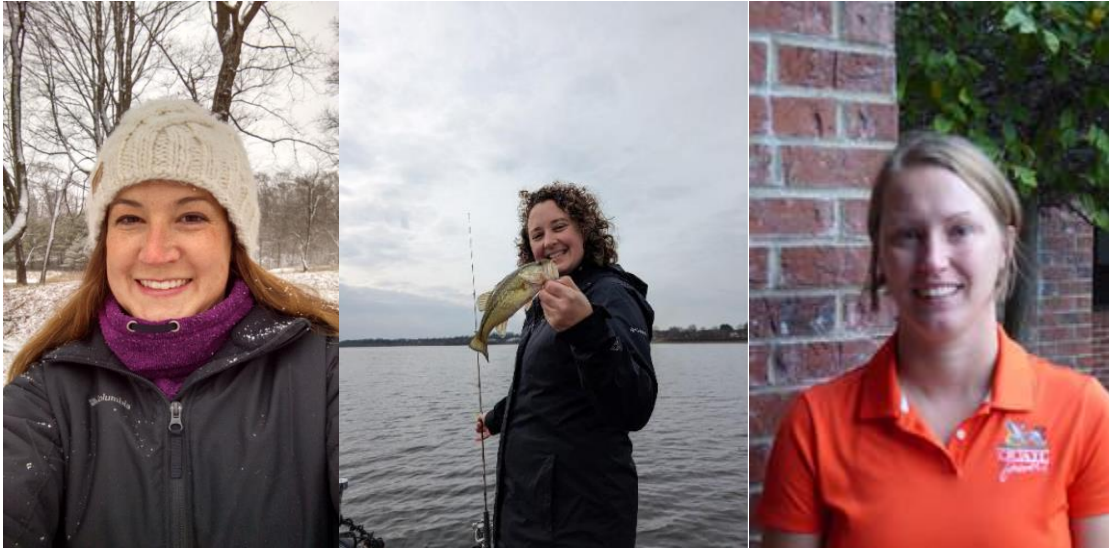
**TWS Book Store (discounted for Parent society members):** <https://wildlife.org/books/>

## CONTACT US:

Erin Hazelton  
President

Becky Crow  
President-Elect

Renee Buck  
Past-President



Catherine Dennison  
Treasurer

Lisa Zoromski  
Secretary



**Do you have interesting research or events you'd like to share  
with Ohio TWS Members?**

Email us at [ohiowildlife@hotmail.com](mailto:ohiowildlife@hotmail.com)