



2024 ANNUAL MEETING *DRAFT* AGENDA

Collaborative Conservation: Partners, Planning, & Policy for the Future

Tuesday February 27th – Thursday February 29th, 2024
 Holiday Inn & Convention Center – 110 2nd Ave, Kearney, NE 68847

Tuesday, February 27th *DRAFT*

Time	Item
10:30 – 11:30 am	Late Registration and Check-In
	Lunch (included)
11:30 – 1:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presidents Welcome ▪ NETWS Members Meeting ▪ Student Chapter Presentations
1:30 – 2:00 pm	Break
2:00 – 4:30 pm	Plenary <i>Collaborative Conservation: Partners, Planning, & Policy for the Future</i> Ed Arnett – The Wildlife Society, CEO Mark Brohman – Wachiska Audubon Society, Executive Director Phillip Dobesh – US Forest Service, Wildlife Program Manager
4:30 – 6:30 pm	Dinner (on your own or make a new friend!)
7:00 – 9:00 pm	Social & Team Trivia (Offsite location announced later)

Wednesday, February 28th *DRAFT*

Time	Item
7:45 – 8:00 am	Late Registration and Check-In
8:00 – 8:15 am	Good Morning & Plan for the Day!
8:15 – 9:55 am	Session 1 Contributed Talks
8:15 – 8:40 am	The Nebraska Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Act (NESCA) – Past, Present, Future? Melissa Marinovich, Ruby Rolland, and Amelia Baker (Nebraska Game and Parks Commission)
8:40 – 9:05 am	Programmatic Consultation for the American Burying Beetle for Nebraska Department of Transportation Projects Jessica Jurzenski (Felsburg Holt & Ullevig), Jeff Hartman (Nebraska Department of Transportation), Justin Luther, Brian Yanchik, and Charlotte Kucera (Federal Highway Administration), Melissa Marinovich (Nebraska Game and Parks Commission), and Brooke Stansberry (US Fish and Wildlife Service)
9:05 – 9:30 am	Black-footed Ferrets in the Wild – A Reintroduction Success Story Brooke Moore and Ashley Merkel (US Forest Service)
9:30 – 9:55 am	Nebraska Natural Legacy Project: 2023–2024 Revision Process and Progress Jon Soper (Nebraska Game and Parks Commission)
9:55 – 10:15 am	Break

10:15 – 11:15 am	Student In-Progress Presentations
10:15 – 10:27 am	Mortalities of Grassland Vertebrates in Warm-Season Prescribed Fires Mackenzie Smith, Joseph Paysen, Keith Geluso (University of Nebraska at Kearney), and Carter Kruse (Turner Institute of Ecoagriculture)
10:27 – 10:39 am	Non-traditional Antler Metrics to Evaluate Fluctuating Asymmetry in White-tailed Deer Bryce Sutton and Brian Peterson (University of Nebraska at Kearney)
10:39 – 10:51 am	The Flying Squirrel Squad: Linking Urban Wildlife and At-Risk Schools Isabella Villanueva, Lindsey Chizinski, Doug Golick, and John Carroll (University of Nebraska Lincoln)
10:51 – 11:03 am	Use of Autonomous Recording Units to Monitor Ring-necked Pheasants in Agricultural Landscapes Allison Barg (University of Nebraska Lincoln)
11:03 – 11:15 am	Monitoring Wildlife Communities in the Nebraska Sandhills Kaitlyn Dozler (University of Nebraska Lincoln)
11:15 – 11:30 am	Break
11:30 am – 1:30 pm	Student Professional Lunch (provided with pre-registration)
1:30 – 2:45 pm	Session 2 Contributed Talks
1:30 – 1:55 pm	Vertebrate use of Muskrat (<i>Ondatra zibethicus</i>) Structures in Wetlands of the Nebraska Sandhills Nicole Mittman, Keith Geluso*, Mary Harner (University of Nebraska at Kearney), and Carter Kruse (Turner Institute of Ecoagriculture)
1:55 – 2:20 pm	“Working Together and Getting Along for Better Results” - Saline Wetlands Conservation Partnership Tom Malmstrom (City of Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department)
2:20 – 2:45 pm	A Novel Approach to Landscape-scale Habitat Restoration Using a Non-traditional Federal Program Will Inselman (Lower Platte South Natural Resources District), and Gordon Coke (The Flatwater Group)

2:45 – 3:05 pm	Break
3:05 – 4:20 pm	Session 3 Contributed Talks
3:05 – 3:30 pm	Factor Influence on Satisfaction with Upland-game Hunting in Nebraska Matthew Gruntorad, Christopher Chizinski (University of Nebraska Lincoln), and Jeffery Lusk (Nebraska Game and Parks Commission)
3:30 – 3:55 pm	Where the Butterflies Roam: A Prairie Restoration Project in North-central Nebraska Jennifer Corman (Northern Prairies Land Trust), and Allyson Frank (Rancher and Community Scientist)
3:55 – 4:20 pm	The Next Green (Deciduous) Wave Chris Helzer (The Nature Conservancy)
4:20 – 5:30 pm	Social & Photo Contest Voting
6:00 – 10:00 pm	Evening Banquet, Awards, & Auction Guest Speaker: Ed Arnett – The Wildlife Society, CEO

Thursday, February 29th *DRAFT*

Time	Item
	Optional Field Trips & Workshops
9:00 am – 12:00 pm (approximate)	Option 1: Mountain Lion Necropsy with Teresa Frink (Chadron State College), at Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, 1617 1 st Ave, Kearney, NE 68847 Option 2: TBD