



**General Meeting**  
**June 17, 2024**  
**1PM PT | 4PM EST**



Latin American  
& Caribbean   
Working Group

**THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY**

Welcome

Allinlla Chayaykamuy

Aski Jutäwi

Byenvini

**Bienvenidos**

Ütz ipetik

Ben-vindo

Ximopanōltih

Tapeğuahēporãite



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# Introductions

Interim Chair



**Carlos Hinojosa**

A Mexican/Guatemalan-American senior at Virginia Tech studying Wildlife Conservation and Animal & Poultry Sciences.

Interim Vice-Chair



**Victoria Aguilar**

A wildlife biologist from Mexico working in Environmental Education at the North Cascades National Park in Washington state.

Interim Secretary



**Elizabeth Painter-Flores**

An American PhD candidate at the University of Montana and specialize in Western white-tailed deer and their predators who lived and worked in Mexico at the Colegio de Postgraduados








# Your Turn

Drop in the Chat Messages:

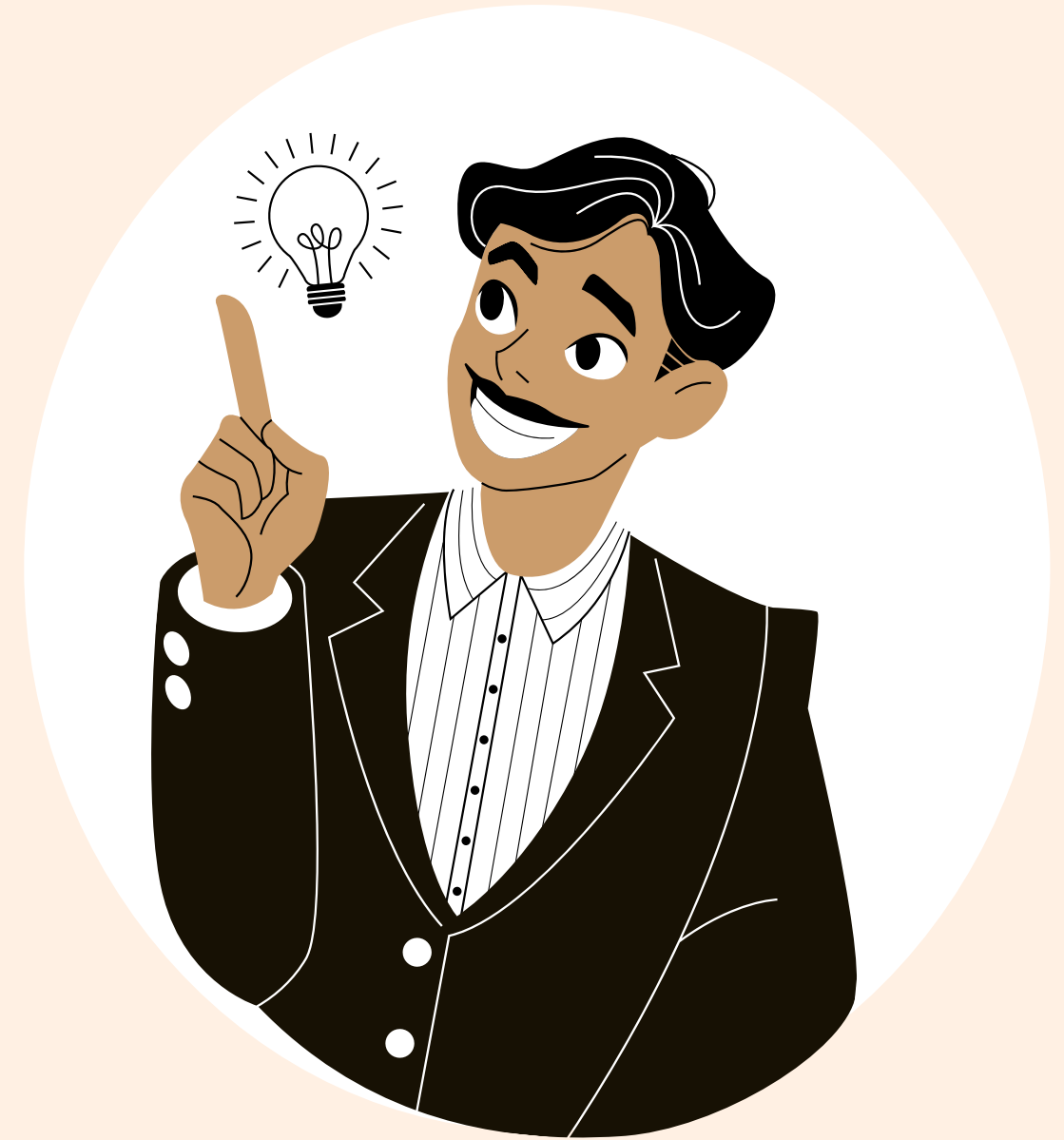
Name -Email- Affiliation  
A quick blub if you want

Ex: Carlos Hinojosa - Carlos12611@vt.edu - Virginia Tech



# What is LACWG?

- The Latin American & Caribbean Working Group was created as a space where individuals related to the region could collaborate and support each other.
- This working group is open to all but we aim to focus on three core demographics:
  - International members from/in Latin America and the Caribbean
  - US/CA members working or conducting research in Latin America and the Caribbean
  - American-born Latinos/Caribbean who aim to meet other professionals from the region



# Current Timeline






# Goals

- Working Group's goals are:
  - Advocate for and represent those from the LAC diaspora in the Society
  - Facilitate the communication and exchange of information among members of the Society interested in, conducting research in, and are from LAC.
  - Diversify the Society membership through identifying and removing barriers to recruitment and member retention of LACs.
  - Increase the visibility of LACs in the Society and the wildlife profession
  - Support and establish chapters of the Society in LAC.

\*Currently in our Charter Draft



# Goals

## Advocacy and Visibility

- Increase representation of Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) professionals, researchers, and students within The Wildlife Society's leadership, committees, and decision-making processes
  - Creating more accessibility, for example, helping mitigate financial and language barriers
  - Support initiatives that promote inclusive education and career development pathways for LAC individuals interested in wildlife conservation.
- Collaborate with other working groups and entities to develop and promote position statements, resolutions, and technical reviews that address conservation challenges specific to LAC regions





# Goals Communication

- How we want to increase communication:
  - Provide regular newsletter updates
  - Schedule open meetings to share updates
  - Use Social Media as a Platform
  - Develop an interactive map for networking
  - Have representatives for regions with heavy Latin and Caribbean Demographics:
    - Mexico, Southwest, Florida, etc
  - Minimize language barriers
  - Foster a supportive network where professionals, researchers, and students can collaborate



# Goals Development

How we want to Develop our community:

- Mentorship and networking between international professionals
- Supporting and Developing Chapters in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Student Development Programs
- Implement feedback tools such as surveys to gather input from our members, we want to know what's working and what can we improve!



# What Chapter Development Could Look Like:



## Member Tracking

Using our network we can determine where there is the most engagement internationally



## Proposal & Formation

If there is enough engagement then we can form a committee to oversee the operation and submit a proposal to TWS

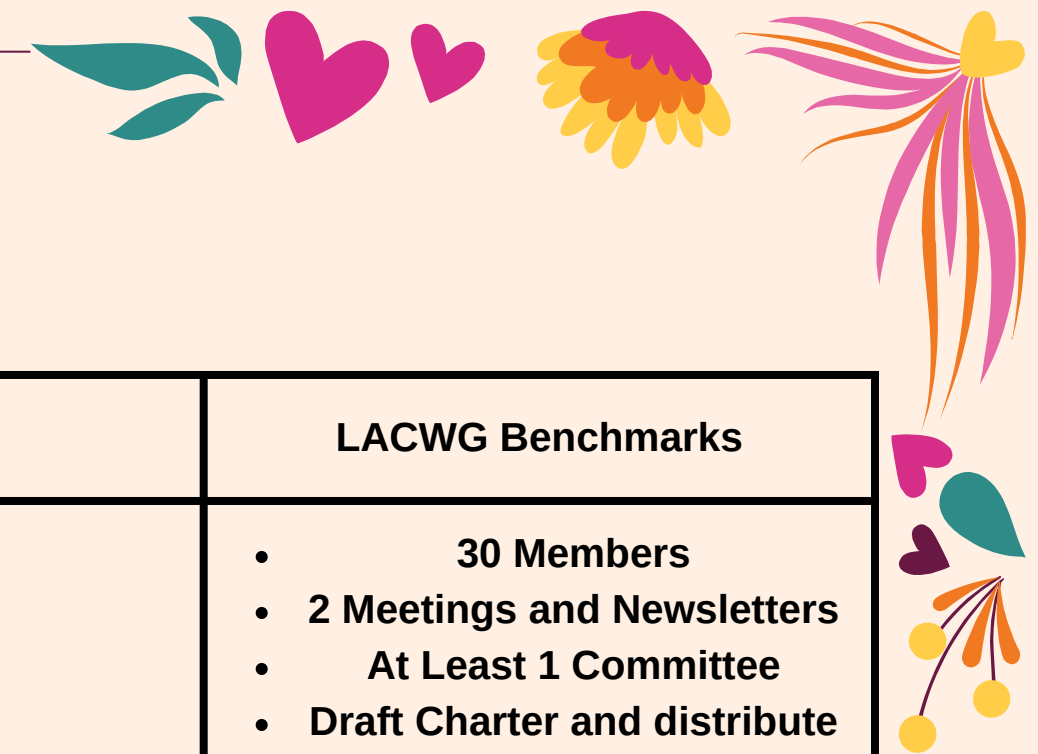


## Execution

The committee would provide regular updates and timelines on the process and once completed would have a representative sit on our board

Information on status would be regularly communicated to working group members and be available on our website

# Whats Next?



	TWS Benchmarks	LACWG Benchmarks
<b>Year 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interim officers appointed</li> <li>• One or more newsletter or other communication with the working group membership</li> <li>• Annual report to TWS Council</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>30 Members</b></li> <li>• <b>2 Meetings and Newsletters</b></li> <li>• <b>At Least 1 Committee</b></li> <li>• <b>Draft Charter and distribute</b></li> </ul>
<b>Year 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interim officers active</li> <li>• Two or more newsletters or other communications with the working group membership</li> <li>• Draft charter distributed to membership for review</li> <li>• 30 members</li> <li>• Annual report to TWS Council</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>50 members</b></li> <li>• <b>Functioning Forum</b></li> <li>• <b>Partnering with TWS Sponsors and WGs</b></li> <li>• <b>Develop Conference Grants</b></li> <li>• <b>Explore creating new chapters</b></li> </ul>
<b>Year 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interim officers active</li> <li>• Election of officers completed with new officers to assume leadership at the start of year four</li> <li>• Two or more newsletters or other communications with the working group membership</li> <li>• Charter approved by the membership and submitted to The Wildlife Society for approval</li> <li>• Demonstrated activity: for example, working group meeting(s), sponsorship of a symposium or workshop, active committee(s), etc.</li> <li>• 50 members</li> <li>• Annual Report to TWS Council requesting official status</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>70 members</b></li> <li>• <b>Explore creating a mentorship or professional development program</b></li> <li>• <b>Host Symposium</b></li> <li>• <b>Election for new officers</b></li> </ul>





# Current Projects Charter


- Information about our Charter





# Current Projects


## Hispanic Heritage Month

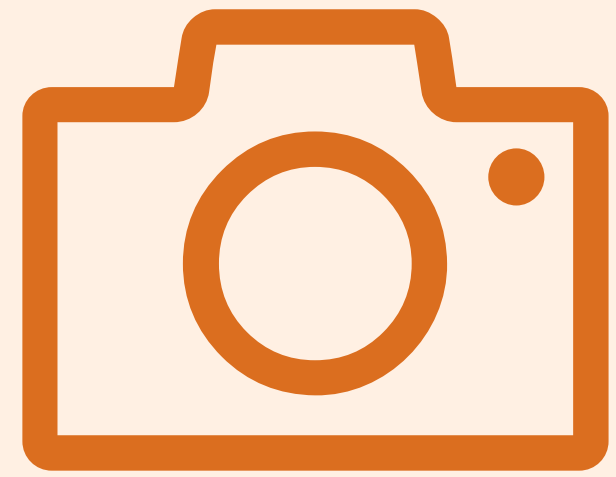
- September 15 - October 15
  - LACWG Specific actions
    - Content on our Instagram page including Infographics, story posts, highlights
    - Donation/fundraising campaign (Funds will go to any cost associated with the Baltimore meeting, advertising, and building for future grants)
  - Collaborative Efforts with National TWS. Potentially could include
    - A spotlight in TWS Weekly on Sept. 16
    - Sharing 3-4 Wildlife Vocalizations stories to [wildlife.org](https://wildlife.org) between Sept. 15 and Oct. 15.
    - Highlighting members via the Member Monday series on Instagram
    - Highlight research via web articles on [wildlife.org](https://wildlife.org)
- 



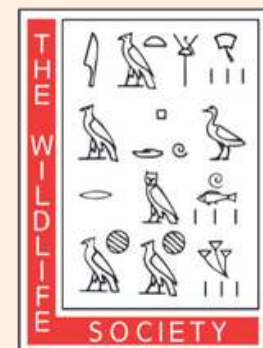
# Current Projects

## Annual Conference in Baltimore

- October 19- 23
    - Working Group Meeting request submitted: June 7, 2023 (Day the form opened)
      - Waiting on confirmation hopeful it's approved/approved for the specified timeslots
    - Not dissimilar to the current meeting, have some of this general info plus:
      - Final draft of Charter will be approved (Will be sent out the week prior)
      - Forum held for group discussion
      - Potential round tables
      - Keynote speaker
      - Hopefully Catered food (Contingent on price)
      - Updates from Mexican Chapter and Southwest Chapter
- 

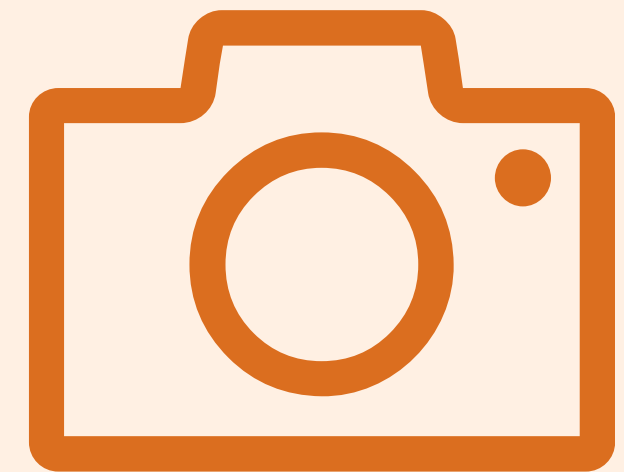


# Pause for a Zoom Picture!



Latin American  
& Caribbean   
Working Group

**THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY**







# Mexican Chapter Updates

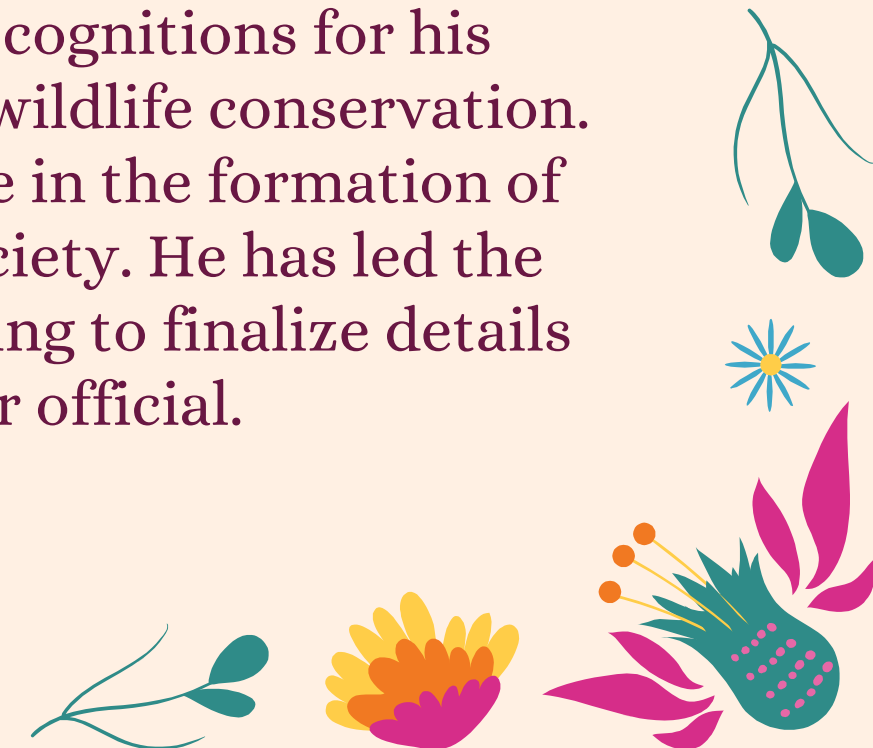
- Southwest section newsletter with latest updates
- Mexico Chapter and LACWG collaborating on initiatives across Latin America
- Mexican chapter **representative**






# Luis Tarango

Dr. Luis Antonio Tarango Arámbula is a wildlife professor and researcher at the Colegio de Postgraduados in San Luis Potosí, Mexico. He has specialized in wildlife management and conservation for 32 years, focusing on vulnerable, threatened, and endangered species that inhabit forest and arid environments. Dr. Tarango holds a Bachelor's degree from Universidad Autónoma de Chapingo, a Master's degree from New Mexico State University, and a Ph.D. from The University of Arizona. He has chaired two National Conferences on Wildlife Management and Conservation and has received multiple national and international recognitions for his contributions to ecological research and wildlife conservation. Dr. Tarango has also played a crucial role in the formation of the Mexican Chapter of The Wildlife Society. He has led the initiative to establish it and is now working to finalize details in making the Mexico Chapter official.





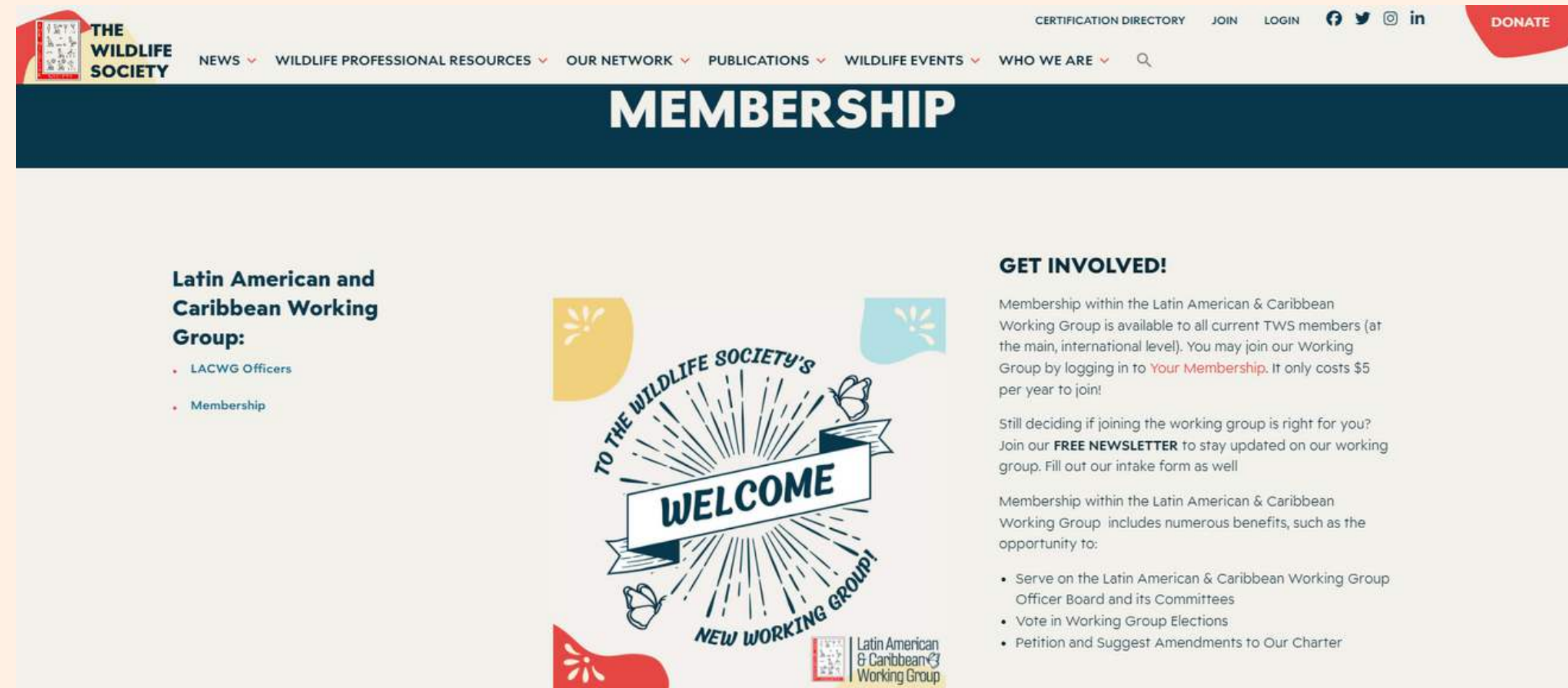
# Summary on Initiatives

- Creating a marketing and outreach plan for Hispanic Heritage Month
  - Planning our Annual Meeting at the TWS Annual Conference
  - Supporting the Mexican Chapter in it's final Developmental Stages
  - Develop an interactive map/ network for our Working Group
  - Explore increasing accesibility for international members like decreased fees
- 



# Membership Logistics

- Not in the working group yet?
- <https://wildlife.org/lacwg/membership/>
- \$5 USD



The screenshot shows the 'MEMBERSHIP' page on The Wildlife Society website. The page features a navigation bar with links for 'NEWS', 'WILDLIFE PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES', 'OUR NETWORK', 'PUBLICATIONS', 'WILDLIFE EVENTS', and 'WHO WE ARE'. A 'DONATE' button is visible in the top right corner. The main content area is divided into three sections: 'Latin American and Caribbean Working Group' with a list of 'LACWG Officers' and 'Membership'; a central graphic with the text 'TO THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY'S WELCOME NEW WORKING GROUP!'; and 'GET INVOLVED!' which explains that membership is available to all current TWS members for \$5 per year and lists benefits such as serving on the Officer Board, voting in elections, and suggesting amendments.

Welcome

# Welcome Form

We want to know about all of you!

Who  
Where  
What  
Why

Welcome





# Newsletter

- Not in the working group? Join the Google Group!  
*Link in the Chat*
- Monthly with additional updates
- A place to connect





# Newsletter

## Content

- Member Spotlights
- Updates on relevant topics to the working group
- Project news
- Upcoming events
- Send us your stories!



# Research Stories Form

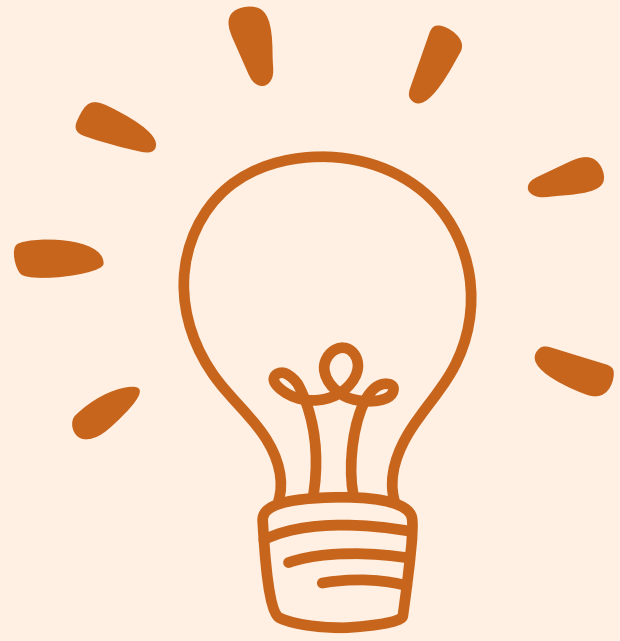
Pictures!

Lab work, field work, work work!

Spanish, English, Portuguese







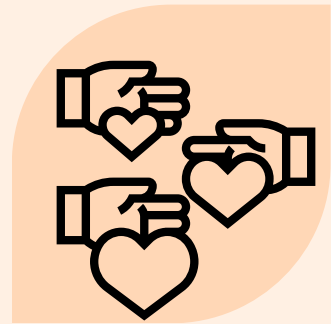
# Suggestions Form

We want to hear from you,  
Look for the links in the emails!



# We want you to join our team!

We are now recruiting



Treasurer and  
Grant Chair



Social Media  
Chair



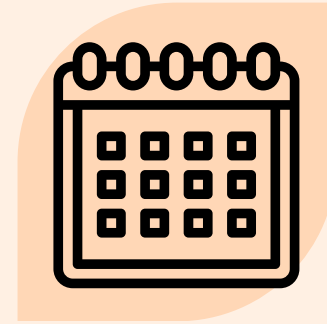
Languages  
Advancement  
Chair



Web Master  
Chair



Mexican Chapter  
Representative



Events  
Committee



Brazilian  
Engagement Chair



Caribbean  
Engagement Chair





# GRACIAS!

**Does anyone have any questions?**

Carlos12611@vt.edu  
LACWG.TWS@gmail.com

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

Follow us on instagram : <https://www.instagram.com/lacwg.tws/>

