

# The Northeast Section of the Wildlife Society NOR'EASTER NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2025



## President's Message

NORTHEAST SECTION PRESIDENT - BUDD VEVERKA, CWB®

Hello Members,

As I write my final message as Section president, I recall my thoughts from last spring about expanding our community and engaging wildlife colleagues in non-traditional organizations. With uncertainty in our field, not only at the federal level but also at state and university levels with the cascading effect of funding shortages that has everyone scared for our future, both for our careers and the natural world we protect, it is more important than ever to expand our community and bring as many people together to bear the responsibility of protecting our profession. Let me tell you about my friend Dan.

Dan works for my local county government as the wildlife specialist for the parks division. Dan had not previously been involved in The Wildlife Society until we became friends. I encouraged him to get involved, and helped push him along with my free 6-month membership. In 2023, he participated in his first state chapter meeting, absorbing research works and management updates, and he began the socializing and networking we all love to do at our conferences. He not only expanded his already excellent knowledge base, but he built relations with federal, state, and university personnel, leading him into collaborative research and management efforts that would never have occurred without those TWS relationships. Dan is now active in the chapter and section, and he has encouraged his own staff and technician to join TWS.

As we may become more reliant on wildlife professionals in the private sectors to accomplish research, monitoring, and management efforts that had previously been led by their federal, state, and university counterparts, we must do everything we can to connect these professionals to our society so we can “empower” these “wildlife professionals to advance conservation through science, community, and professional excellence”. I truly appreciate all of officers I worked with over the past two years, and I wish Val Titus all my best as your incoming president. Thank you.

Good Night and Good Luck

--- Budd

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# Join the Northeast Section at



## Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference

The 80th annual Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference will be held in Bretton, NH, on the northern edge of the White Mountain National Forest, directly west of Mount Washington. Graciously hosted by NH Fish and Game, the conference features various symposia, professional development events, and presentations spanning the niches of the wildlife field. Committee meetings begin on Monday, the conference officially kicking off that evening at a Welcome Dinner and Networking Event. The next three days are filled with conference sessions. The conference wraps up on Thursday at noon for everyone to begin travels home ahead of traffic, or stay to enjoy 'The Whites.'

**Attend the Northeast Members' Meeting, April 22st, 5-6pm**



**[Register here.](#)**

**[Check out the schedule here.](#)**

### **Dates and Location**

April 21 – April 24, 2025  
Omni Mt Washington Resort  
Bretton, New Hampshire

**[Conference Website](#)**



# TWS Policy Updates

In light of the recent mass firings of federal workers, TWS has joined with the American Fisheries Society, Society for Rangeland Management, and Society of American Foresters to issue a statement on the federal workforce.

## **JOINT PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY STATEMENT**

### **Our Federal Workforce and the Conservation of America's Natural Resources**

Our professional societies represent tens of thousands of professionals and students that have dedicated their careers – their lives – to researching, conserving, and educating about America's incredible natural resources that have fueled the success of our country and its quality of life.

These professionals are managers of our oceans, forests, waterways, rangelands, grasslands, and lakes, fish and wildlife populations, and the waters, habitats, and ecosystems all species and people depend on. They are field specialists that restore degraded habitats, improve water quality, and assist ranchers, forest owners, and farmers with conservation efforts, scientists working to understand the natural world to inform management decisions; and educators for the public, decision-makers, and future generations.

The recent and continued termination of federal employees in the U.S. deeply concerns us and should be alarming to all Americans. These professionals are our neighbors, friends, and community members, and serve as stewards of public trust resources across the nation....

[Read the rest here.](#)

# TWS Policy Updates

In light of the mass firings of federal workers, TWS has been providing resources to those affected and for those wanting to get involved in policy efforts.

## Policy Involvement:

**From the Memo sent February 19th, from TWS President Art Rogers and TWS CEO Ed Arnett:**

“TWS already has begun working with other professional societies and partner organizations, and we are conducting outreach to Administration and Congressional officials highlighting the importance of our federal workforce to the system of conservation that wildlife and all citizens benefit from. We will continue to advocate for our professionals through policy actions in coordination with partners and TWS’ Conservation Affairs Network. Communicating individual stories to members, political leaders and the public will be put into action as well.”

[Here's a tutorial](#) on how to call congressional offices. Here is a [call script](#) that you can use or adapt to make calls as easy as possible. Members interested in policy engagement can access more resources via the [Conservation Affairs Network](#).

The Northeast Section Conservation Affairs Committee is chaired by Jessica Brown, Ph.D. She can be reached at [jessica.brown@ct.gov](mailto:jessica.brown@ct.gov).

Check out the [Policy Toolkit](#) for more resources on policy work.

# TWS Policy Updates

In light of the mass firings of federal workers, TWS has been providing resources to those affected and for those wanting to get involved in policy efforts.

## Resources:

**From the Memo sent February 19th, from TWS President Art Rogers and TWS CEO Ed Arnett:**

We realize this situation has created undue economic stress and uncertainty for our members subjected to these terminations. As a seemingly small yet sincere gesture, if you are a federal employee that lost your job as part of recent administrative actions, TWS will be happy to extend your current membership by six months, free of charge. If you know other wildlifers in federal service that were impacted but are not current TWS members, we will offer them a free six-month membership as well. Those wishing to take advantage of this offer can email [membership@wildlife.org](mailto:membership@wildlife.org) for more information.

Many of you will be seeking new employment opportunities, and we want to do all we can to help keep you in the profession and achieve success. We encourage folks to watch our [Job Board](#) and sign up for notices of new positions. We also plan to highlight opportunities available from our partner organizations like the [National Wildlife Turkey Federation](#), [Pheasants Forever](#), the [National Association of University Fisheries and Wildlife Programs](#) and others in *TWS Weekly*.

# 2025-26 NORTHEAST OFFICER ELECTION RESULTS

The Northeast Section voted on officers for two positions: treasurer and member-at-large. The votes picked...

**Joe Roy, AWB®**



Treasurer



CONGRATULATIONS

**Hannah Pryor**



Member-  
at-Large



Thank you Kyle Patterson, AWB® and Erika Schwoyer, AWB® for running! Keep an eye out for more involvement opportunities!

# Call for Nominations

It's that time of year! TWS is accepting nominations for its various awards. Nominations for all the awards listed here are due May 1st.

[Click here to read more and nominate a peer.](#)

## **Professional Achievement Awards**

- Caesar Kleberg Award for Excellence in Applied Wildlife Research
- Diversity Award
- Group Achievement Award
- Jay N. "Ding" Darling Memorial Award for Wildlife Stewardship Through Art
- Jim McDonough Award
- Special Recognition Service Award
- The Wildlife Professional Best Contributed Article Award
- Wildlife Restoration Award



## **Service Awards**

- Chapter of the Year Award
- Distinguished Service Awards
- Honorary Membership
- Student Chapter Advisor of the Year
- Student Chapter of the Year Award
- W.L. McAtee and G.V. Burger Award for Outstanding Service as an Associate Editor



# Call for Nominations

**Nominations for all the awards listed in this newsletter are due May 1st. Some awards are looking to increase their nominations. Check these out below. [Click here to nominate a peer.](#)**



## Jay N. “Ding” Darling Memorial Award for Wildlife Stewardship Through Art

The Jay N. “Ding” Darling Memorial Award for Wildlife Stewardship Through Art was created in 2015 by The Wildlife Society and Sam Koltinsky, nationally recognized Darling expert continuing to champion the family interests of Darling’s grandson, Christopher “Kip” Koss, and his wife, Andrea. This award is intended to be a lasting recognition of the heritage established by Jay N. “Ding” Darling to promote wildlife and habitat conservation through art. His legacy of artwork and associated conservation messages were instrumental in achieving significant wildlife conservation measures. Among them were the creation of the Federal Duck Stamp Program, National Wildlife Federation, Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit Program, the groundwork for today’s system of National Wildlife Refuges, and many broadly recognized cartoons advocating land and water conservation.

This award encompasses and recognizes any type of “artistic” item or accomplishment that promotes, achieves, or benefits wildlife stewardship. It could be an actual artwork piece(s), an endeavor, such as organizing the greatest number of applicants in a wildlife art effort (e.g., the Junior Duck Stamp Program), a photograph or image (e.g., digital, film), an artistic conservation information delivery structure or process, or another medium that can be effectively described as an artistic way of promoting collaboration to support wildlife stewardship.

[Find out more here.](#)

## Distinguished Service Awards

The Wildlife Society (TWS) Distinguished Service Award recognizes TWS members who have made a long-term commitment to the Society based on at least 20 years of membership and their actions to further the mission of the Society. The member is someone who is/was “always there” and could be counted on to serve the chapter, section, or international organization. Since recipients are selected by the Sections, the Distinguished Service Award provides an opportunity to recognize dedicated individuals who have provided exceptional service primarily to Chapters and/or Sections.

Nominees must have been a member of The Wildlife Society (main, international organization) for at least 20 years. If membership is not continuous, evidence of membership longevity must be provided. The intent is to recognize candidates while they are still active TWS members.

[Find more information here.](#)







This 3-credit course is taught by professionals in the field and students will learn first hand what goes on in the day-to-day lives of a wildlife professional. This course will provide hands-on experience in a variety of skills including:

- Trapping of small mammals
- Telemetry
- Use of chemical immobilization equipment
- Map and compass use
- GPS use
- Wildlife education tools (e.g. Project WILD, Hunter's Education)
- Habitat mapping, bird and herptile surveys
- Discussions on careers, current wildlife conservation and management issues with professional biologists
- Identification of common trees and plants



# Northeast Section TWS Field Course



May 18 – May 31, 2025  
Paul Smith's College, Paul Smiths, NY

- ▶ Tuition is \$1200 and includes 3 course credits and room and board.
- ▶ This field course is open to all students, with preference given to members of The Wildlife Society or a student chapter. Recent graduates (either undergrads or graduate students) or returning students are also welcome to apply.
- ▶ Please contact [Nefieldcourse@gmail.com](mailto:Nefieldcourse@gmail.com) for details if you are interested.
- ▶ <https://wildlife.org/ne-section/about/student-field-course/>

# Energy Webinars

**The Renewable Energy Wildlife Institute (REWI)**, is hosting several recently announced webinars on wind energy (both offshore and on land), solar energy, and wildlife interactions over the next several months. **Registration is free.**

## Wind-Wildlife Webinars

- Advancing Aerodynamic Whistle-Based Ultrasonic Bat Deterrence Technology to Enable Ultra-Large Wind Turbines (July 30)
- BOEM Environmental Studies Program – Birds, Bats, and Beyond: Networked Wildlife Tracking in the Southern California Bight (Aug. 27)
- Hoary Bat MOTUS Tracking Project (August 28)

## Solar-Wildlife Webinars

- Biodiversity in PV Solar Facilities – A United States and Australian Perspective (May 14)
- A Race to the Finish – Discussing the Intersections Between Desert Tortoise and Solar Development (July 24)
- Wildlife Movement In and Around Solar Facilities (August 26)



**Register and find more information here.**  
**Past webinars are also available via the link.**



# Atlantic Marine Bird Cooperative



**The Atlantic Marine Bird Cooperative is seeking to grow their numbers. From Mark Pokras, Ph.D.:**

The AMBC is an open, collaborative forum for resource managers, research scientists, and other professionals working to conserve marine birds in coastal and offshore ecosystems of Eastern North America. We apply scientific principles to identify and address research needs and management issues in an effort to promote long-term viability of our unique avian community. A major focus is to further our understanding of these unique species.

AMBC participants partner with other stakeholders to minimize threats to critical coastal and marine habitats on which marine birds depend, and we welcome anyone with shared interests.

AMBC has an annual virtual meeting each December as well as participating in other professional meetings. Working Groups regularly schedule additional, focused virtual meetings and you can contact the WG chairs listed on the website for further information.

Photo: Jillian Hosjak holds a loon chick. Credit: Caroline Hughes, LPC, NH.  
Chick handled with proper training, permitting, IACUC approval.

## Active Working Groups

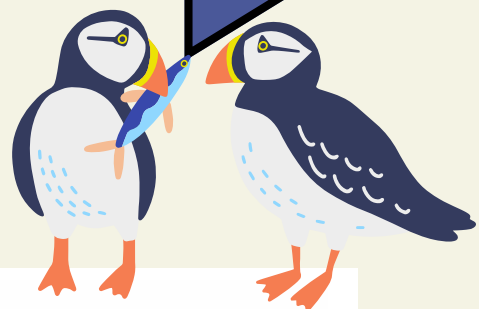
Bycatch  
Community Science & Marine Bird  
Health  
Forage Fish  
Marine Spatial Planning  
Seabird Colonies & Adjacent Waters

With more being developed, covering  
funding to climate change

To join a working group, find [contacts](#)  
[here](#).

Contact AMBC Coordinator to  
get involved:

Caleb Spiegel  
US Fish and Wildlife Service  
300 Westgate Center Dr.  
Hadley, MA 01035  
(413) 253-8490  
[caleb\\_spiegel@fws.gov](mailto:caleb_spiegel@fws.gov)



ATLANTIC MARINE BIRD  
COOPERATIVE



# Bioacoustics Class

Curious about bioacoustics? Tyne Baker, of Penn State Dubois, is running an in-person three-day course in April. See the following flyer for details. Below is a rough schedule (subject to change, or adjust as participants prefer):

## Day 1- Planning, Purchasing, Maintenance, Programming

Time Allotted	Subject
10:00 - 10:15	Introduction
10:15 - 10:30	Acoustic Principals
10:30 - 10:55	Animal Behavior & Types of Surveys
10:55 - 11:05	<b>BREAK</b>
11:05 - 11:15	Privacy and Regulations
11:15 - 12:00	Field Planning
12:00 - 13:00	<b>LUNCH</b>
13:00 - 13:20	Device Types and Selection
13:20 - 14:00	Equipment Maintenance
14:00 - 14:15	Equipment Maintenance Practice
14:15 - 14:25	<b>BREAK</b>
14:25 - 15:25	Settings
15:25 - 15:55	Schedules
15:55 - 16:25	Setting/Schedule Programming Practice
16:25 - 16:55	Environmental Factors Affecting Detection
16:55 - 17:00	Daily Summary, Questions, Day 2 Preview



## Day 2 - Field Deployment, Data Management, Basic Analysis

Time Allotted	Subject
09:00 - 09:10	Day1 Recap
09:10 - 09:30	Animal Factors Affecting Detection
09:30 - 09:35	Device Factors Affecting Detection
09:35 - 10:05	Best Practices for Field Deployment
10:05 - 10:35	Deploy device practice
10:35 - 10:45	<b>BREAK</b>
10:45 - 11:05	Physical Data Management
11:05 - 11:55	Data Checking
11:55 - 12:55	<b>LUNCH</b>
12:55 - 13:15	Data Download practice
13:15 - 13:30	Software Types and Selection
13:30 - 13:50	Reference Materials + Focal Recording
13:50 - 14:00	<b>BREAK</b>
14:00 - 14:15	Visualizing Sound
14:15 - 15:45	Basic Analysis
15:45 - 16:15	Basic Analysis Practice
16:15 - 16:55	Advanced Functions
16:55 - 17:00	Daily Summary, Questions, Day 3 Preview

## Day 3 - Advanced Acoustics

Time Allotted	Subject
09:00 - 09:10	Day 2 Recap
09:10 - 09:55	Evaluation and Validation of Machine ID Programs
09:55 - 10:05	<b>BREAK</b>
10:05 - 11:05	Cluster Analysis with <del>KPro</del>
11:05 - 12:05	<b>LUNCH</b>
12:05 - 12:35	Cluster Analysis Practice
12:35 - 12:55	Web-based Analysis Platforms
12:55 - 14:00	Machine-learned Models ( <del>BirdNET</del> )
14:00 - 14:15	<del>BirdNET</del> Workflow Demo
14:15 - 14:25	<b>BREAK</b>
14:25 - 15:25	Bat Analysis
15:25 - 15:55	Bat Analysis Practice
15:55 - 16:00	Wrap up and Question Review





# HANDS-ON INTRODUCTION TO TERRESTRIAL BIOACOUSTICS

**APR 3-5**  
**2025**

Avian  
Eco

## Course Description

Bioacoustic monitoring is the process of using automated audio recording devices to remotely capture behavior and population information about wildlife species. Many biologists are attracted to acoustic technology to lower cost and time to capture large datasets, reduce observer effect on animal behavior, increase surveyor safety at night or in remote locations, and capture raw field data libraries that can be shared or revisited.

First-time bioacoustics surveys can seem intimidating with high initial cost of equipment purchase, large-scale data management, steep learning curve for software, and potential for recording failure. The main goal of this course is to provide attendees with hands-on knowledge of equipment preparation, field placement, acoustic data management, and basic to advanced analysis techniques so they can confidently implement acoustic monitoring for terrestrial wildlife (e.g., birds, anurans, insects, and mammals including bats).

This is a hands-on course where participants will learn the acoustic physics and animal behavior basics, plan surveys, prepare and deploy equipment, review field data for errors, build dataset management, and practice analysis techniques. Students will interact with a variety of devices and analysis software types with expert support.



## MEET THE INSTRUCTOR



**Tyne Baker,**  
M.Sc. P.Biol, R.P.Bio  
Wildlife Biologist,  
Bioacoustician

Tyne Baker has been digitally eavesdropping on animals since 2009. Her Masters is from the University of Windsor focused on Animal Communication and Behavioral Ecology. Through her career Tyne has developed acoustic monitoring programs for academics, NGOs and industry with projects ranging from local to international. Tyne teaches others to use remote detection tools through public, and internal course offerings, and academic or practical program support.

**REGISTER ONLINE TODAY AT [DUBOIS.PSU.EDU/CCE](https://dubois.psu.edu/cce)**

## REGISTER:

*Registration for this course will include three catered lunches and light refreshments.*

**Registration fee:** \$ 450  
**Registration deadline:** March 21, 2025

*Discounted room rate at the Best Western - DuBois, call (814) 371-6200 to reserve. Please note, rooms are subject to availability.*

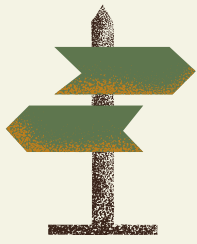
UBR DSO 25-2010 Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce.



**PennState**  
DuBois

**Continuing & Community  
Education**

1 College Place, DuBois, PA 15801  
[dubois.psu.edu/cce](https://dubois.psu.edu/cce)  
[duboisoutreach@psu.edu](mailto:duboisoutreach@psu.edu)  
(814) 375-4715



# Northeast Jobs Spotlight

FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY FEDERAL MASS FIRINGS, AND FOR THOSE SEEKING SEASONAL POSITIONS, KEEP AN EYE ON **CAREERS.WILDLIFE.ORG** IN ADDITION TO OUR PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS AND TWS WEEKLY.

**HERE ARE A RANDOM COUPLE LOCATED/AVAILABLE TO WILDLIFERS IN THE NORTHEAST POSTED ON WILDLIFE CAREERS.**



**Job:** Biological Diversity Intern

**Organization:** Solom

**Description Here**



**Job:** Biological Field Technician

**Organization:** Western EcoSystems Technology, Inc. (NY)

**Description Here**

Job Boards from our Partners

National Wildlife Turkey Federation

Pheasants Forever

National Association of University Fisheries and Wildlife Programs

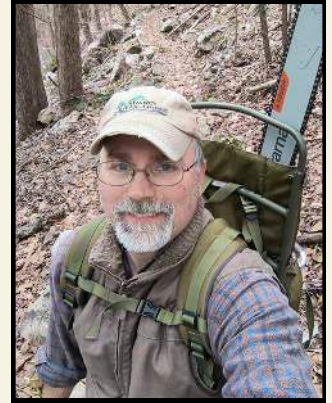


# 2025-26 Section Officers & Chairs

**President:** Val Titus

**Email:** [president@tw-s-northeast.org](mailto:president@tw-s-northeast.org)

**Email:** [vtitus@paulsmiths.edu](mailto:vtitus@paulsmiths.edu)



**Past President:** Budd Veverka, CWB®

**Email:** [budd@mianus.org](mailto:budd@mianus.org)

**Treasurer:** Joe Roy, AWB®

**Email:** [treasurer@tw-s-northeast.org](mailto:treasurer@tw-s-northeast.org)



**Secretary:** Samantha DiLorenzo, CWB®

**Email:** [secretary@tw-s-northeast.org](mailto:secretary@tw-s-northeast.org)

**Member-at-Large:** Emily Thomas, CWB®



**Member-at-Large:** Hannah Pryor

**NE Rep. to Council:** Angela Fuller, CWB®

**Email:** [angela.fuller@cornell.edu](mailto:angela.fuller@cornell.edu)



**Newsletter Editor:** Jenna O'del, AWB®

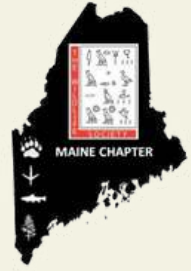
**Email:** [netwsnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:netwsnewsletter@gmail.com)

# State Chapter Officers

## Maine Chapter

**President:** Kelby Leary

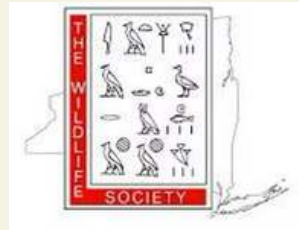
**Email:** kelby.leary@gmail.com



## Maryland-Delaware Chapter

**President:** Jennifer Mullinax

**Email:** mddechapter@gmail.com



## New England Chapter

**President:** David Cowell

**Email:** dcowell@hancockassociates.com



## New Jersey Chapter

**President:** Sharon Petzinger

**Email:** NewJerseyTWS@gmail.com



## New York Chapter

**President:** Stephan Beffre, CWB®

**Email:** nytws.president@gmail.com



## Pennsylvania Chapter

**President:** Christina Voohees

**Email:** pachaptertws@gmail.com



## West Virginia Chapter

**President:** Colin Carpenter

**Email:** wvtwschapter@gmail.com







# Content Submissions

Interested in advertising through the Northeast Newsletter? Sharing research updates or wildlife photography?

The TWS Nor'easter Newsletter is published on a quarterly basis. Although a request for content goes out shortly before production time to TWS Northeast members, members are always welcome to submit content ahead of time. Content can include, but not limited to:

- Research updates
- Research collaboration requests
- Chapter updates
- Job openings/Internship opportunities
- Webinars/courses (must be available to entire section)
- Photography/research narratives/short writings (with appropriate credit)

Send content to [netwsnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:netwsnewsletter@gmail.com) by June 1 for Summer Newsletter, October 1 for Fall Newsletter

Look deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better  
-Albert Einstein