

# NATIVE STUDENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

## The Wildlife Society Announces a Professional Development Program for Indigenous Students Interested in the Wildlife Profession

The Wildlife Society (TWS) recognizes that diverse lived experiences and cultural perspectives strengthen the wildlife profession and support more holistic approaches to conservation. Indigenous communities bring valuable knowledge systems, relationships to the land, and stewardship practices that can advance conservation outcomes and professional practice.

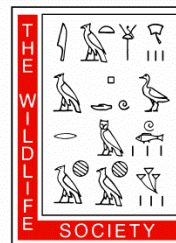
The TWS Native People's Wildlife Management Working Group (NPWMWG) membership, composed of wildlife professionals and students, tribal and non-tribal, recognizes native peoples' cultural, spiritual, and biological connections to the land. TWS and the NPWMWG support the development of Indigenous wildlife professionals.

TWS believes that one of the most effective ways to support Indigenous wildlife students is through mentorship and the opportunity to attend TWS's annual conference. Therefore, TWS and NPWMWG announce the 2025 Native Student Professional Development (NSPD) Program.

### How the NSPD Program Works:

Individuals will be selected to attend the TWS national conference. This year's conference is being held in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada October 5-9<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Components of this year's program include complimentary conference registration, specialized workshops, conference mentorship, one-year TWS & NPWMWG membership, wildlife career panel discussion, networking events, and engagement with TWS leadership.

As TWS members, NSPD participants will receive the bi-monthly magazine *The Wildlife Professional*, weekly electronic newsletter *The eWildlifer*, free online access to TWS' journals, access to TWS' Member Directory, and more!



The TWS annual conference is the largest gathering of wildlife professionals in North America. There, you can learn about cutting-edge research in wildlife biology, management, and conservation. The conference offers hundreds of presentations, workshops, panels and networking opportunities.



Find out more about the 32<sup>nd</sup> annual conference here:  
<https://twconference.org>

Find out more about the NPWMWG here:  
<https://wildlife.org/npwmwg/>

*TWS and the NPWMWG thank our sponsors for supporting contributions to the 2025 NSPD Program.*

***If you would like to support this program, please contact Cameron Kovach  
[ckovach@wildlife.org](mailto:ckovach@wildlife.org)***

### Eligibility:

- Member of a Native American, First Nations, Métis, Inuit, or Indigenous Tribe with political or legal recognition, or individuals who are actively engaged with Indigenous-led organizations (e.g., Native Hawaiian Organizations or Alaska Native Corporations)
- Currently enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program in a relevant academic discipline.
- Display a record of academic excellence and a strong interest in pursuing a career in wildlife management or conservation.
- Students within 6 months of graduation are eligible.

### Applications must include:

- Name, address, email, phone number, tribal affiliation, name of college or university
- Current level of study (undergraduate or graduate) and field of study
- Most recent transcripts (Unofficial are fine)
- Essay (500-750 words) explaining why you would like to participate and how this program might benefit your career development.

### Travel considerations

- Requirements for entering Canada can be found here: [Travel and identification documents for entering Canada](#)
- Information about Applying for a U.S. Passport, including processing times can be found here: [Travel State Gov](#)

**Email all application materials or questions to Remington Bracher at [tw.npwg@gmail.com](mailto:tw.npwg@gmail.com)**

**To apply please fill out this google form [2025 NSPD Application](#)**

**Deadline: August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025**