



# THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

## ***Call for Abstracts***

**Deadline: Friday, May 22, 2026 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time**

### **33rd Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society November 1 – 5, 2026**

The Wildlife Society will hold its 33rd Annual Conference in Des Moines, Iowa from November 1-5, 2026. We welcome you to submit your work for an oral or poster presentation related to all aspects of wildlife ecology, management, policy, human dimensions, and conservation are invited and especially those that align with this year's theme centered on "the role of the arts in conservation."

Symposium and Contributed Oral Presentations will be presented live and in-person in Des Moines. Each oral presentation will be allotted 15 minutes, which includes 12 minutes for the presentation and three minutes for questions. Along with preparing a slide deck for their in-person presentation, **presenters will be required to upload a 12-minute video recording of their talk prior to the conference.** Video presentations are due approximately one week before the conference and will be used to create a video archive of presentations at the conference, which will be available both during and following the event. The recorded format enhances accessibility of conference content.

Contributed Posters will be presented live and in-person in Des Moines. Presenters will present a printed version of their poster at the conference. Along with preparing a printed poster for their in-person presentation, **contributed presenters will be required to upload a PDF version of their poster for asynchronous viewing through the mobile app and online.** They will also have the option of uploading a short, recorded video summary of their poster.

Student Research in Progress Posters - All undergraduate, M.S., and Ph.D. students with research in progress can submit an abstract for this session. Abstracts submitted can include 1) research that is in progress; 2) a proposed research project (with a focus on study design); 3) results from completed undergraduate research projects; or 4) student chapter research projects that may not be appropriate for the regular poster sessions (these may include a class or group research project). Along with preparing a printed poster for their live, in-person presentation, **SRIP presenters will be required to upload a PDF version of their poster for asynchronous viewing and have the option of uploading a short, recorded video summary of their poster.**

#### **Instructions for Submitting Abstracts**

The submission site will lead you through the submission steps; guidelines for submissions are summarized below. The submission deadline is Friday, May 22, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time. Abstracts that miss this deadline will not be considered. Please note: **TWS allows only one contributed oral, contributed poster or student work in progress abstract per primary author;** however, you may give more than one presentation if you have been recruited to participate in a symposium session.

Abstracts must be under 250 words, and should include a statement of objectives, brief description of methods, results, and conclusions.

If you have been recruited to participate in a symposium you will be asked to select that symposium session. If your abstract was not invited but is appropriate for a symposium please select that symposium first, then select a contributed topic. If not selected for the symposium, your abstract will still be considered for a contributed topic.

### **Symposium Sessions (descriptions can be found on the submission site)**

- Advances and applications in automated radio telemetry systems
- Anthropogenic Nutrition and Wildlife: Behavioral, Physiological, and Ecological Responses
- Applications of Drones in Wildlife Ecology
- Digital Horizons: Advancements and Ethical Challenges of Emerging Technologies in Wildlife Research and Hunting
- Fertility Control to Mitigate Human-Wildlife Conflicts
- Field-based Courses in Wildlife Science- Strategies and Challenges
- From Arctic to Himalaya to Antarctica: Wildlife and Climate Change Across the Three Poles
- From Datasheet to Impact: Data Management and Collaboration Across Research Projects
- From Iowa to the Nation: How One Congressman Championed Invasive Wildlife Prevention and How We're Building on His Novel Concept
- Fulfilling the Legacy: >90 years of the Cooperative Research Units Program
- Helping Students Prepare to Use Fire in Wildlife Related Careers
- Integrating Art and Storytelling into Wildlife Science and Conservation
- Interdisciplinary Biodiversity Conservation: Building a Socio-ecological Future
- Methods to increase the usefulness of data from long-term wildlife monitoring programs
- New solutions for managing high-consequence pathogens in wildlife
- Next-Generation State Wildlife Action Plans: New Science, New Tools, New Opportunities
- Participatory Science Across Scales for Wildlife Research
- Restoring Heterogeneity to Rangelands to Promote Biodiversity Conservation
- Sandhill Cranes from Canada to Mexico and Emerging Conservation Challenges
- Science to support adaptation and decision making in a changing climate
- Skills Training for Private Lands Biologists: Closing the Gap Between Education and Work Readiness.
- Sustaining the Range: Enhancing Habitat Quality through Invasive Annual Grass Management
- Undergraduate research experiences from the classroom to the field: the importance of providing students with opportunities for undergraduate research from CUREs to REUs
- Urban Biodiversity and Equity: Justice-Centered Wildlife Management in Cities
- Wild Harvest in a Changing World: Food, Value, and the Future of Sustainable Use
- Wildlife ecotoxicology
- Wildlife Restoration Through Landscape Connectivity
- WomenX at Work: Stories of Wildlife Research and Management
- Your Guide to Publishing in TWS Journals from Submission to Citation

### **Contributed Topics**

- Biometrics and Population Modeling
- Climate Change
- Conservation and Ecology of Birds
- Conservation and Ecology of Mammals
- Conservation and Ecology of Reptiles and Amphibians
- Conservation and Ecology of Wildlife Communities
- Cultural Aspects of Wildlife Conservation

- Endangered Species Conservation
- Habitat Ecology and Management
- Human Dimensions
- IDEA -Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Awareness
- International Wildlife Management
- Invasive Species
- Molecular Ecology
- New Technology and Applications
- Physiology and Nutrition
- Planning and Policy
- Public Engagement, Education and Communication
- Spatial Ecology and Modeling
- Urban Wildlife Management
- Wildlife Damage Management
- Wildlife Disease and Toxicology

### **Abstract Evaluation**

Abstracts will be evaluated based on technical merit and contribution to our knowledge of species, populations, communities, ecological processes, management practices, conservation initiatives, education models, communication, or policy issues. Oral presentations and posters should present results from **completed studies** or completed phases of long-term projects. Work in progress is more appropriate for presentation at local or regional meetings.

Student Research-in-Progress abstracts will be evaluated based on technical merit and contribution to our knowledge of species, populations, communities, ecological processes, management practices, conservation initiatives, education models, communication, or policy issues. Work does not need to be completed to be submitted.

### **Notice of Decision**

Due to time/space limitations we may not be able to accept all papers and posters submitted. Notice of decision will be made on or about July 8, 2026 via email.

### **Registration**

**All presenters MUST register and pay the appropriate conference registration fee.** Registration information will be posted on [TWS' conference website](#). We expect registration to open in June 2026. Early Bird registration is strongly encouraged and will be available through at least July 30.

### **Interested in Submitting Artwork?**

We look forward to spotlighting several artists in Des Moines this November, from iconic figures like Ding Darling and Maynard Reese to the work of today's members. Please complete this [art submission form](#) if you're interested in being featured. All skill levels are welcome. Read more about art at TWS2026, [here](#).

**Questions?** Questions about the conference program may be directed to Program Committee Coordinator, Tricia Fry at [tricia@wildlife.org](mailto:tricia@wildlife.org). For all other conference questions, please call (301) 897-9770 or email [membership@wildlife.org](mailto:membership@wildlife.org).