

IA26 — Session Schedule

Oct 31 – Nov 5, 2026

Saturday, October 31, 2026

- 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM ■ **TWS Council Meeting**
Meeting • Room 302
- 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM ■ **Leadership Institute Welcome Event**
Leadership Institute • Room 302

Sunday, November 1, 2026

- 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM ■ **Urban Wildlife and Green Space in the Des Moines Metro: A Field Trip Exploring Multi-Agency Conservation Landscapes**
Workshop • Offsite
- 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM ■ **Incorporating private lands into your conservation strategy**
Workshop • Offsite 2
- 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM ■ **Listening to Biodiversity: The Theory and Practice of Passive Acoustic Monitoring**
Workshop • 303-304
- 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM ■ **Fundamentals of Structured Decision Making**
Workshop • Room 320
- 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM ■ **Using Humor as a Tool in Conservation Science: Communicating Serious Science Without Being a Buzzkill**
Workshop • Room 311
- 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM ■ **Geospatial Analysis in R**
Workshop • 308-309
- 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM ■ **Introduction to continuous-time movement modeling for animal tracking data**
Workshop • 306-307
- 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM ■ **Using High-Performance Computing for Large Dataset Analysis in Conservation: Applications for Genomics Population Satellite Imagery and Camera Trap Data**
Workshop • Room 305
- 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM ■ **TWS Council Meeting**
Meeting • Room 302
- 5:15 PM – 6:30 PM ■ **Out in The Field Downtown Walk**
Networking Event • Hilton Lobby
- 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM ■ **Cheers to 90 Years in the Field - Happy Birthday TWS**
Networking Event • Ballroom

Monday, November 2, 2026

- 6:45 AM – 7:45 AM ■ **Fellowship of Christian Conservationists**
General • Room 301
- 7:00 AM – 8:15 AM ■ **Wildlife Damage Management Working Group Networking and Planning Meeting**
Working Group • Room 311
- 7:30 AM – 9:00 AM ■ **Student Chapter Leaders Breakfast (Invite only)**
Business Meeting • Hyvee Rooms 101-102
- 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Fighting Wildlife Crime with Forensics**
Workshop • Room 302
- 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Advances and applications in automated radio telemetry systems**
Symposium • 306-307
- 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Fertility Control to Mitigate Human-Wildlife Conflicts**
Symposium • 312-313
- 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM ■ **Carnivores - I**
Contributed Oral • 314-315
- 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM ■ **Conservation and Ecology of Wildlife Communities I**
Contributed Oral • 318-319
- 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM ■ **Habitat Conservation and Selection**
Contributed Oral • Room 310
- 8:30 AM – 10:15 AM ■ **Mammal Disease and Toxicology**
Contributed Oral • Room 305
- 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM ■ **Raptors and Owls**
Contributed Oral • 303-304
- 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM ■ **Conservation and Management of Communities and Habitats**
Contributed Oral • 308-309
- 8:45 AM – 10:00 AM ■ **Conservation and Ecology of Birds I**
Contributed Oral • 316-317
- 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Leadership Institute**
Leadership Institute • Hyvee Room 105
- 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM ■ **Tour Iowa State Capitol (Registration required)**
Special Event • Offsite
- 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Bats and Invasive Species**
Contributed Oral • 308-309
- 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Conservation and Ecology of Birds II**
Contributed Oral • 316-317

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	■ Conservation and Ecology of Mammals I Contributed Oral • 318-319
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	■ New Technology and Applications Contributed Oral • Room 310
10:30 AM – 12:15 PM	■ Planning and Policy Contributed Oral • 303-304
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	■ Ungulates I Contributed Oral • 314-315
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	■ Wildlife Health and Surveillance Contributed Oral • Room 305
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	■ Meet the Biological Diversity Working Group Working Group • Hyvee Room 106
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	■ Meet the Native Peoples' Wildlife Management Working Group Working Group • Hyvee Room 104
1:30 PM – 3:20 PM	■ The Role of the Arts in Conservation Plenary • Grand Ballroom B
3:20 PM – 4:30 PM	■ TWS Awards and Aldo Leopold Address General • Grand Ballroom B
4:30 PM – 5:30 PM	■ State and Federal Agency Leaders Forum on the Future of Conservation General • Grand Ballroom B
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM	■ Posters and Networking Event including Student Research in Progress Posters Posters • Exhibit Hall
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	■ Leadership Institute Reception Leadership Institute • Iowa Tap Room (Ken's Speakeasy)
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	■ President's Reception (Invite Only) Networking Event • Offsite -Iowa Tap Room
7:30 PM – 9:30 PM	■ Meet the Director and Film Screening Screening with Ben Masters Film Screening • Hyvee Rooms 101-102
8:00 PM – 10:00 PM	■ A Wild Night of Comedy (Ticket Required) General • Stoner Theater

Tuesday, November 3, 2026

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	■ Meet the Biometrics Working Group Working Group • Hyvee Room 106
7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	■ Meet the Hunting Trapping and Conservation Working Group

Working Group • Hyvee Room 107

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Deer Population Modeling 101: How to use a pragmatic accounting-type population model for big game management**

Workshop • Room 301

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Real-Time Wildlife Movement Analysis Workshop Streaming GPS Collar Data into Esri Velocity for Operational Decision-Making**

Workshop • Room 302

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Certification Review Board 1**

General • Boardroom 4

8:00 AM – 6:00 PM ■ **Quiz Bowl**

Special Event • Grand Ballroom B

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM ■ **Leadership Institute Alumni Meeting**

Leadership Institute • Hyvee Room 105

8:30 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Ask a Climate Data Expert**

Ask an Expert • Exhibit Hall

8:30 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Anthropogenic Nutrition and Wildlife: Behavioral Physiological and Ecological Responses**

Symposium • 303-304

8:30 AM – 10:15 AM ■ **Conservation and Ecology of Reptiles and Amphibians - I**

Contributed Oral • 318-319

8:30 AM – 9:45 AM ■ **Ungulates II**

Contributed Oral • 314-315

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM ■ **Waterbirds - I**

Contributed Oral • Room 305

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM ■ **Wild Turkeys I**

Contributed Oral • 316-317

8:30 AM – 10:15 AM ■ **Wildlife Education and Engagement**

Contributed Oral • 308-309

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM ■ **Using Transportation Ecology Knowledge to Implement Connectivity Solutions**

Symposium • Room 310

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM ■ **NGO Leader's Forum on the Future of Wildlife Conservation.**

Panel Discussion • Hyvee Rooms 101-102

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM ■ **Cabela Family Foundation: From building a global outdoor brand to making a meaningful difference globally through real conservation**

Sponsor Session • Room 320

9:15 AM – 10:00 AM ■ **Wildlife Ecotoxicology**

Symposium • 306-307

10:15 AM – 11:00 AM ■ **Careers in Conservation**

AM

Sponsor Session • Hyvee Room 104

- 10:30 AM – 5:00 PM ■ **Fulfilling the Legacy: >90 years of the Cooperative Research Units Program**
Symposium • Room 320
- 10:30 AM – 5:00 PM ■ **Restoring Heterogeneity to Rangelands to Promote Biodiversity Conservation**
Symposium • 308-309
- 10:30 AM – 4:00 PM ■ **Undergraduate research experiences from the classroom to the field: the importance of providing students with opportunities for undergraduate research from CUREs to REUs**
Symposium • 306-307
- 10:30 AM – 12:15 PM ■ **Biometrics and population modeling - I**
Contributed Oral • Room 310
- 10:30 AM – 12:15 PM ■ **Carnivores - II**
Contributed Oral • 314-315
- 10:30 AM – 12:15 PM ■ **Conservation and Ecology of Reptiles and Amphibians - II**
Contributed Oral • 318-319
- 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Waterbirds - II**
Contributed Oral • Room 305
- 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Wild Turkeys II**
Contributed Oral • 316-317
- 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Conservation and Ecology of Mammals II**
Contributed Oral • 312-313
- 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM ■ **State of the Field: TWS Members Forum**
General • Hyvee Rooms 101-102
- 11:30 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Harmonizing Voices as we Build a Cohesive conservation movement over the next 90 years**
General • Hyvee Rooms 101-102
- 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM ■ **Conexiones: Connecting Wildlife Professionals Across the Americas with the Latin American & Caribbean Working Group**
Working Group • Room 305
- 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM ■ **ERTEC Wildlife Exclusion Fence Training and Lunch (Registration Required)**
Sponsor Session • Hyvee Room 104
- 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM ■ **USDA APHIS Screwworm Update**
Sponsor Session • 312-313
- 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM ■ **Ecological Applications of NASA Earth Observations with the Applied Remote Sensing Program (ARSET): A Case Study at Malheur Wildlife Refuge**

Workshop • Room 301

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM ■ **Breaking the Fourth Wall: Empowering Biologists to Lead the Media Narrative**

Workshop • Room 302

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM ■ **Leadership Institute**

Leadership Institute • Hyvee Room 105

1:30 PM – 5:00 PM ■ **Digital Horizons: Advancements and Ethical Challenges of Emerging Technologies in Wildlife Research and Hunting**

Symposium • 314-315

1:30 PM – 5:00 PM ■ **Integrating Art and Storytelling into Wildlife Science and Conservation**

Symposium • 303-304

1:30 PM – 5:00 PM ■ **Next-Generation State Wildlife Action Plans: New Science New Tools New Opportunities**

Symposium • 312-313

1:30 PM – 5:00 PM ■ **Ask a Decision Analyst**

Ask an Expert • Exhibit Hall

1:30 PM – 3:15 PM ■ **Biometrics and population modeling - II**

Contributed Oral • Room 310

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM ■ **Conservation and Ecology of Birds III**

Contributed Oral • 316-317

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM ■ **Conservation and Ecology of Mammals III**

Contributed Oral • 318-319

1:30 PM – 2:45 PM ■ **Wildlife Conflict Management**

Contributed Oral • Room 305

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM ■ **Conservation Connections: A speed networking event for students with the Student Development Working Group**

Working Group • Hyvee Rooms 101-102

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM ■ **Women Hunt/WSF**

Sponsor Session • Hyvee Room 104

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM ■ **Your Guide to Publishing in TWS Journals from Submission to Citation**

Symposium • Room 305

3:30 PM – 4:30 PM ■ **Conservation and ecology of Birds IV**

Contributed Oral • 316-317

3:30 PM – 5:15 PM ■ **Human Dimensions - I**

Contributed Oral • 318-319

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM ■ **Spatial Ecology and Connectivity**

Contributed Oral • Room 310

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM ■ **Meet the Nutritional Ecology Working Group**

Working Group • Hyvee Room 106

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM ■ **Music by Emily and World Premiere of Finding America's Darling**

Film Screening • Stoner Theater

- 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM ■ **Meet the Transportation Ecology Working Group**
Working Group • Hyvee Room 107
- 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM ■ **Student Professional Networking Event**
Networking Event • Science Center (Off-site)
- 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM ■ **Canadian Section Reception**
Networking Event • Science Center (Off-site)
- 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM ■ **Urban Wildlife & Wildlife Health Working Group Joint Social**
Working Group • Offsite -Iowa Tap Room
- 7:00 PM – 9:30 PM ■ **Field of Dreams - Student and Professional Networking Event**
Networking Event • Science Center (Off-site)

Wednesday, November 4, 2026

- 7:30 AM – 8:30 AM ■ **Meet the College and University Education Working Group**
Working Group • Hyvee Room 106-108
- 7:30 AM – 8:30 AM ■ **Meet the Wetlands Working Group**
Working Group • Room 320
- 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **multiScaleR: approachable and generalizable multiscale ecological modeling in R**
Workshop • Room 301
- 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Human Dimensions 101: An Introduction to Conservation Social Science for Wildlife Biologists**
Workshop • Room 302
- 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Certification Review Board 2**
General • Boardroom 4
- 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Ask a Geneticist: One-on-one consultation sessions with a molecular ecologist**
Ask an Expert • Exhibit Hall
- 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Ask an Editor or Publishing Professional**
Ask an Expert • Exhibit Hall
- 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM ■ **UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration: What it is and How You Can be a Part**
Panel Discussion • Room 310
- 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Applications of Drones in Wildlife Ecology**
Symposium • 312-313
- 8:30 AM – 12:15 PM ■ **From Arctic to Himalaya to Antarctica: Wildlife and Climate Change Across the Three Poles**
Symposium • 314-315
- 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM ■ **Methods to increase the usefulness of data from long-term wildlife monitoring programs**
Symposium • 308-309

8:30 AM – 3:00 PM	■ Wild Harvest in a Changing World: Food Value and the Future of Sustainable Use Symposium • 303-304
8:30 AM – 10:15 AM	■ Black bears Contributed Oral • Room 305
8:30 AM – 10:00 AM	■ Gamebirds Contributed Oral • 316-317
8:30 AM – 10:15 AM	■ Human Dimensions - II Contributed Oral • 318-319
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM	■ Leadership Institute Leadership Institute • Hyvee Room 105
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM	■ The Extraordinary Caterpillar Film Screening • Hyvee Rooms 101-102
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	■ Strengthening Quantitative Training in Wildlife Science Curricula Panel Discussion • Room 310
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	■ Forest birds Contributed Oral • 316-317
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	■ Prairie Grouse Contributed Oral • 318-319
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	■ Urban Wildlife Ecology and Management I Contributed Oral • Room 305
11:10 AM – 11:20 AM	■ Coming Home Film Screening • Hyvee Rooms 101-102
11:30 AM – 12:45 PM	■ Picture a Scientist Film Screening • Hyvee Rooms 101-102
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	■ The Wildlife Profession We Want to Build DNAWG Working Group • 306-307
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM	■ AI Tools for Teaching Wildlife Courses: Practical Strategies for Educators Workshop • Room 302
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM	■ flexiSDM: A flexible integrated species distribution model framework for making use of all available data Workshop • Room 301
1:00 PM – 2:35 PM	■ Observer Film Screening • Hyvee Rooms 101-102

- 1:30 PM – 5:00 PM ■ **Ask a Biometrician**
Ask an Expert • Exhibit Hall
- 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM ■ **Skills Training for Private Lands Biologists: Closing the Gap Between Education and Work Readiness.**
Symposium • Room 310
- 1:30 PM – 5:00 PM ■ **WomenX at Work: Stories of Wildlife Research and Management**
Symposium • 312-313
- 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM ■ **Conservation and Ecology of Mammals IV**
Contributed Oral • 318-319
- 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM ■ **Habitat Restoration and Management**
Contributed Oral • 314-315
- 1:30 PM – 3:15 PM ■ **Spatial Ecology and Modeling - I**
Contributed Oral • 316-317
- 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM ■ **Urban Wildlife Ecology and Management II**
Contributed Oral • Room 305
- 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM ■ **The National Cooperators' Coalition (NCC) Meeting**
General • Boardroom 4
- 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM ■ **Resume Review**
General • Exhibit Hall
- 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM ■ **Certification Workshop**
General • Hyvee Room 104
- 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM ■ **Meet the Invasive Species Working Group**
Working Group • Room 311
- 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM ■ **University of Montana: Breaking Into the Wildlife Profession: What I Wish Someone Had Told Me as an Undergraduate Student**
Sponsor Session • 306-307
- 2:45 PM – 2:55 PM ■ **Coming Home Second Showing**
Film Screening • Hyvee Rooms 101-102
- 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM ■ **The Extraordinary Caterpillar Second Showing**
Film Screening • Hyvee Rooms 101-102
- 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM ■ **Heritage Committee and Retirees Gathering**
Networking Event • Room 320
- 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM ■ **Helping Students Prepare to Use Fire in Wildlife Related Careers**
Symposium • 303-304
- 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM ■ **New solutions for managing high-consequence pathogens in wildlife**
Symposium • 306-307
- 3:30 PM – 5:15 PM ■ **Ecology and Management of CWD**
Contributed Oral • 314-315
- 3:30 PM – 5:15 PM ■ **International Wildlife Management**

Contributed Oral • 318-319

3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

■ **Mustelids**

Contributed Oral • Room 310

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

■ **Spatial Ecology and Modeling - II**

Contributed Oral • 316-317

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

■ **Wildlife Damage Management**

Contributed Oral • Room 305

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

■ **Meet the Private Lands Working Group**

Working Group • Room 311

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

■ **CKWRI Reception**

Networking Event • Hyvee Room 106-108

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

■ **Biometrics Working Group Social**

Working Group • Offsite - Buzzard Billy's

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

■ **Common Field: Celebrating TWS Working Groups and Communities**

Networking Event • West End Salvage

Thursday, November 5, 2026

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

■ **Wildlife Leadership 101: Skills for Managing Conflict**

Workshop • Room 302

8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

■ **Field-based Courses in Wildlife Science- Strategies and Challenges**

Symposium • 303-304

8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

■ **Current and Novel Efforts to Prevent Wildlife Invasions**

Symposium • 306-307

8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

■ **Interdisciplinary Biodiversity Conservation: Building a Socio-ecological Future**

Symposium • Room 310

8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

■ **Sandhill Cranes from Canada to Mexico and Emerging Conservation Challenges**

Symposium • 312-313

8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

■ **Science to support adaptation and decision making in a changing climate**

Symposium • 308-309

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM

■ **Urban Biodiversity and Equity: Justice-Centered Wildlife Management in Cities**

Symposium • 318-319

8:30 AM – 3:00 PM

■ **Common Threads in Changing Landscapes: Unifying Wildlife Disturbance Ecology**

Symposium • 314-315

8:30 AM – 9:45 AM

■ **Community engaged conservation**

Contributed Oral • Room 305

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM

■ **Endangered Species Conservation - I**

Contributed Oral • 316-317

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Leadership Institute**

Leadership Institute • Hyvee Room 105

9:30 AM – 11:30 AM ■ **Paint a Bird (Registration Required)**

General • Room 301

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Mammal Communities**

Contributed Oral • 318-319

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM ■ **Molecular Ecology - I**

Contributed Oral • 316-317

10:30 AM – 12:15 PM ■ **Population Monitoring Methods**

Contributed Oral • Room 305

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM ■ **Standardized Habitat Assessments for Monarch Monitoring**

Workshop • Room 301

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM ■ **Using meta-analysis in wildlife management: a quantitative approach to describe the utility of interventions and methodologies**

Workshop • Room 302

1:30 PM – 5:00 PM ■ **From Datasheet to Impact: Data Management and Collaboration Across Research Projects**

Symposium • Room 310

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM ■ **Participatory Science Across Scales for Wildlife Research**

Symposium • 306-307

1:30 PM – 5:00 PM ■ **Wildlife Restoration Through Landscape Connectivity**

Symposium • 312-313

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM ■ **Avian disease and toxicology**

Contributed Oral • 303-304

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM ■ **Conservation and Ecology of Wildlife Communities II**

Contributed Oral • 318-319

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM ■ **Endangered Species Conservation - II**

Contributed Oral • 316-317

1:30 PM – 3:15 PM ■ **Movement ecology**

Contributed Oral • Room 305

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM ■ **TWS Council Meeting**

Meeting • Hyvee Room 104

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM ■ **Conservation and Ecology of Mammals V**

Contributed Oral • 318-319

3:30 PM – 4:30 PM ■ **Habitat Management**

Contributed Oral • 314-315

3:30 PM – 4:30 PM ■ **Molecular Ecology - II**

Contributed Oral • 316-317

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM ■ **Population Dynamics**

Contributed Oral • Room 305

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM ■ **Wildlife Distribution and Habitat Use**

Contributed Oral • 303-304

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM ■ **Conservation and Ecology of Birds V**

Contributed Oral • 306-307