

**Biometrics Working Group Annual Meeting
13 September 2000
Nashville, TN**

50 in attendance

A. Announcements:

1. Acknowledge Doug Johnson for receiving the TWS publication award for his paper on the limitations of hypothesis testing.
2. BWG contributed \$200 for the Distance Sampling Workshop to be held in St. Andrews, Scotland.
3. Election Results (D. Johnson)
Chair elect: Chris Ribic
Secretary: Dave Otis
Treasurer: Glen Sargeant
Board: Bill Gould, Alan Franklin, Julie Yee
4. Workshop update (S. Sheriff)

Thanks to David Anderson and Ken for teaching the model selection workshop. The workshop was sponsored by BWG, Colorado Coop Unit, and BRD. 98 people attended out of a possible 100. TWS was supportive of holding a 'for profit' workshop; special thanks to Sandra Staples-Bortner and Lorraine Shank. BWG should get \$4000-\$4500 the workshop.

B. Committee Reports

1. Minutes of the 1999 meeting presented and approved (G. Pendleton). Lyman McDonald (chair) assigned G. Pendleton to put together a traveling file of BWG material (minutes, agendas, reports, etc.).
2. The treasurer's report indicated that BWG started the year with \$1541 and ended the year with \$1860 (M. Udevitz). An audit was completed. Lyman McDonald assigned Glen Sargeant and Bill Kendall to look into other investments for BWG accounts.
3. Draft changes to the charter that would allow internet voting were handed out (D. Diefenbach). A vote of the membership is required to implement this change. Move (G. White) to change charter in accordance with the revisions presented; second (A. Franklin). Approved unanimously. Written ballot will be sent out with next years election ballots.
4. 128 current members in BWG (G. Sargeant). There was a 15-20% turnover in membership, but the total remained about the same from the previous year. Suggestions to improve membership service include sending a welcome letter to new members that

join during the year and inviting them to volunteer for committees. G. Sargeant, D. Otis, and G. Pendleton assigned to come up with a procedure for contacting new members. Also, contact will be made individually via e-mail with all current and former of BWG.

5. Symposium and Workshop proposals for the coming TWS (2001) meeting (C. Ribic).

Symposia:

a) Sampling and Monitoring Vertebrates in National Parks (1/2 day; J. Sauer and S. Fancy)

b) Bayesian Analysis in wildlife science (1/2 day; S. Sheriff)

Workshops:

c) Resource Selection (full day; L. McDonald)

d) Adaptive Resource Management (full day; B. Kendall)

Discussion of the general interest in (b) (too narrow a focus?).

How to decide how many to forward? Is there a disadvantage to submitting too many to the program committee, especially for workshops, which are longer and have an associated fee. Both symposia proposals were approved. A move was made to forward both workshops (S. Winterstein; second B. Clark). Glen Sargeant moved to vote on each workshop separately. Original motion (Winterstein/Clark) withdrawn. Move (D. Johnson) to submit only 1 workshop (second B. Gould); passed on voice vote. Majority voted to forward Adaptive Resource Management proposal.

C. Other Business

1. BWG web site (D. Johnson). The BWG web site is hosted and supported by Northern Prairie WRC; is it worth keeping links to related software? There have been maintenance problems resulting in dead links, etc. A discussion followed and the links will be kept for the time being. J. Sauer suggested additional material for the web page, including Doug Johnson's paper on the limitations of hypothesis testing. We also need to establish a link on the TWS web page to the BWG page. Chris Bunck asked about TWS maintenance of the BWG page; Doug Johnson thought it wouldn't be practical. A report will be made next year on how things have gone with the web page during the year.
2. Book from BWG sponsored Modeling Symposium (1998) is at Island Press.
3. Encouragement for publishing the Statistics in Wildlife Education Symposium (2000).
4. MN DNR has biometrician positions available (see S. Sheriff if interested).

Adjourn: 4:30 pm