

President's Message

Predictability!!! The ability to see the future. A pattern of behavior leading to a pre-determined outcome. Some examples include: The changing of the seasons and wildlife migrations; completing college and getting that dream job; rising oil prices resulting in increased calls for oil exploration; an election year, political campaigns and the accompanying mass media blitz. Thus, predictability can be something we seek as well as avoid. It can add a measure of stability to our lives as we allow ourselves to settle into comfortable routines in familiar surroundings. But, predictability also can lead to complacency. Instead of acting to change things we do not like, we may be more willing to be acted upon. Rather than taking risks to try a new approach to our relationships, careers, lives, and profession, we also may be more willing to accept the status quo. The problem with this approach is that it fails to recognize that status quo is also dynamic.

After trying this past month to resurrect my personal and professional life since I returned from a 15-month military deployment, I have quickly learned about the fickle nature of predictability and status quo dynamics. Rather than picking up where I left off, I am learning how to wade; letting the changes slowly immerse me. In time, I will achieve a new equilibrium that hopefully embraces the changes in and personal growth of those around me as well as my own. Already, fate has dealt my family and I another challenge as we welcomed home our son for 2 weeks leave. His unit is being sent to Iraq in August. This I could not have predicted and I cannot do anything to change it.

However, there are things I have control over. I can and will spend as much time with him as possible while he is home. I will share with him what I learned during my deployment and hope and pray the lessons-learned will make the difference.

Almost on a daily basis, we as wildlife professionals face equal challenges. By spending time with and sharing these challenges with other professionals we gain information from other lessons-learned. As much as we would like to think our challenge unique, history does repeat itself. Thus, past lessons-learned when viewed within the context of current status quo can and do provide us with important insights that will make us better biologists, wildlife managers, and persons.

This will be my last "predictable" column. In August, Steve Riley will take over as CMPS president during the Annual Meeting in Utah. This newsletter also contains a slate of 6 candidates who are running for 3 positions. This year Jim Hayes, Bruce Morrison, and Jim Ringelman also retire from the Board. Todd Black and Nevelyn Headrick step down as CMPS Secretary-Treasurer and Newsletter editor. On behalf of CMPS I personally want to thank each of them. I have had to rely heavily on all of them this past year. They always came through for CMPS and you. Their hard work has made the organization better and stronger. They and their families are the true heroes. I have no doubt that Steve and his crew will make it even stronger.

Lastly, CMPS is your organization. Our annual meeting is your forum to share your lessons-learned and to benefit from those of others. An organization is only as strong as its membership. So, if you haven't sent in your registration for the CMPS Annual Meeting, there is still time. It is the right thing to do. Hope to see you and your family at the summer meeting. Thanks for all you do to conserve this nation's natural resources.

Terry Messmer
CMPS President

Contents

President's Message.....1

Call For Professional and Citizen Award Nominations2

2004 CMPS Call For Posters.....2

Other Meetings of Interest.....2

2004 CMPS Conference

Registration3

2004 CMPS Conference

Agenda.....4-5

CMPS Student Travel Grant

Application.....5-6

Professional and Citizen Award Nomination Form 7

2004 CMPS Election - Meet the Candidates8-9

2004 CMPS Election Ballot9

CMPS Membership

Application.....10

CMPS State Chapter

Contacts.....11

CMPS Officers.....12

Mission Statement of the Wildlife Society

The Wildlife Society exists to enhance the ability of wildlife professionals to conserve diversity, sustain productivity, and ensure the responsible use of wildlife resources for the benefit of society.

Professional and Citizen Award Nominations

Each year CMPS provides an opportunity for recognition of wildlife achievements in the form of a professional award and a citizen's conservation achievement award. The CMPS awards were established by Section founders to provide an important way to recognize fellow wildlifers and involved citizens. The Professional Award is made to a group or an individual, within the profession, who has made outstanding contributions to wildlife within the Section. The Citizen's Award goes to a lay individual or group for outstanding contributions to wildlife within the Section. This year's award presentations will be made at the annual meeting to be held this summer in Utah.

Now is the time to be thinking of worthy nominees for each of these awards. Individuals or groups previously nominated may be re-submitted and winners of state chapter awards are also prime candidates for the CMPS awards. Please take some time to consider making a nomination for either or both awards. Honor one of your peers by nominating them for a CMPS award. You will find the nomination form on page 7 of this newsletter. The deadline for receipt of nominations is July 23, 2004. Please submit nominations to Nevelyn Headrick by July 23.

Call for Posters - CMPS Summer Meeting

The CMPS poster session will take place from 10:00 am to 10:00 pm on Thursday, August 5th at the annual summer meeting. Topics related to wildlife conservation in riverine/aquatic systems will be considered, although most wildlife conservation topics are acceptable. Presenters should submit a short, 200 words or less, abstract to:

Todd Black
5230 Old Main Hill
Utah State University
Logan, UT 84322-52

Phone: 435-797-8876
Email: tblack@cc.usu.edu

Other Meetings of Interest

11th Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society

September 18-22, 2004
Calgary, ALB, Canada

Carnivores 2004: Expanding Partnerships in Carnivore Conservation
November 14-17, 2004
Santa Fe, NM

Watchable Wildlife Conference

October 5-7, 2004
Dubuque, IA

The Western Agencies Sage and Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse Conference

June 29-July 1, 2004
Wenatchee, WA

Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Summer Meeting

July 24-29, 2004
Sun Valley, ID

Central Mountains and
Plains Section Newsletter
Editor

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The Central Mountains and Plains Section Newsletter is published three times a year by the Central Mountains and Plains Section of The Wildlife Society, UMC 5230, Utah State University, Logan, Utah, 84322-5230. This publication is distributed to members of the CMPS and is dedicated to the distribution of information consistent with objectives of The Wildlife Society in the Central Mountains and Plains of North America.

Visit the CMPS website at:
www.cmpswildlife.org

Remember to bring your donations for the
CMPS auction!



Wildlife Society



Central Mountains and Plains Section

Kansas Colorado Nebraska South Dakota Wyoming
North Dakota Utah Saskatchewan Manitoba

***“Putting Communities Back Into Conservation:
Utah’s Sagebrush Steppe Saga”***
August 5- 7, 2004

Logan, Utah, University Inn and Conference Center

Topics will include: community-based conservation, private lands and public’s wildlife, sage grouse, endangered lifestyles and wildlife.

Registration Form

	US \$		Total # Persons		Total Cost
Pre-Registration Fee (Before July 5, 2004):	\$65.00	X	_____	=	_____
Late Registration Fee (After July 5, 2004):	\$70.00	X	_____	=	_____
Student Rate	\$35.00	X	_____	=	_____
Central Mountains and Plains Section Membership	\$ 5.00	X	_____	=	_____
Spouse (Thursday trout dinner)	\$15.00	X	_____	=	_____
Youth, 18 and under (Thursday trout dinner)	\$ 5.00	X	_____	=	_____
Spouse (Friday dutch oven dinner)	\$15.00	X	_____	=	_____
Youth, 18 and under (Friday dutch oven dinner)	\$ 5.00	X	_____	=	_____
Total Enclosed:				\$	_____

Please make checks payable to CMPS:

Registration Fee Includes: Thursday night dinner and social, Friday Bear River Refuge field trip with invited speakers (this includes transportation, continental breakfast, sack lunch, evening dutch oven dinner and entertainment), and Saturday morning technical sessions and break. (Saturday morning breakfast is on your own, but all other meals are covered. The registration fee DOES NOT include lodging.)

Lodging: Rates vary from \$51.00 to \$69.00 depending on location and occupancy. These special group rates have been established for those attending the CMPS meeting at the University Inn and the Comfort Inn. To receive this special rate you must reserve your room on or before July 22, 2004. **(Please make your own lodging arrangements,** mention you are with the CMPS Wildlife Society Meeting. If you plan on attending, please make your reservations early because there are several festivals in town that week and all of the hotels in the area will be completely booked!!!!
The phone numbers for the hotels are:

University Inn (on USU campus): 1-800-231-5634
Comfort Inn: 1-435-752-9141

Name: _____ Organization: _____

Title: _____ Work Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Work Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please mail registration payment and completed registration form to:
Todd Black
5230 Old Main Hill
Utah State University
Logan, UT 84322-5230

For more information contact:
Nevelyn Headrick Phone: 435-797-8876
Email: nevelyn@muledeernet.org
Todd Black Phone: 435-797-8876
Email: tblack@cc.usu.edu
Or visit the CMPS website:(www.cmpswildlife.org)

Wildlife Society



Central Mountains and Plains Section

Kansas Colorado Nebraska South Dakota Wyoming
North Dakota Utah Saskatchewan Manitoba

**The Central Mountains and Plains Section
and
Utah Chapter of
The Wildlife Society
Present Their
2004 Annual Meeting
"Putting Communities Back Into Conservation:
Utah's Sagebrush Steppe Saga"
August 5- 7, 2004**

Logan, Utah, University Inn and Conference Center

Topics will include: community-based conservation, private lands and public's wildlife, sage grouse, endangered lifestyles and wildlife.

Preliminary Conference Agenda

Thursday, August 5th, 2004

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM Registration

2:00 PM - 5:00 PM CMPS Business Meeting

10:00 AM- 10:00 PM Posters - can be placed up anytime during this period and will remain up for the entire conference.

6:00 PM - "Welcome to Utah" by Terry Messmer, CMPS President

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM **Social and Dinner - White's Trout of Paradise**

Friday, August 6th, 2004

6:00 AM-7:00AM Continental Breakfast

7:00 AM - Vans Leave for Refuge Tour

8:00 AM - 10:30 AM - **Bear River Refuge Tour**

10:30 AM - Leave for ranch tour

11:30 AM - Tour ranches

- Ron Greer discusses grouse habitat

12:30 PM - Sack lunch at Golden Spike

1:30 PM - **Leave for Grouse Creek**

- BLM treatments - fuel load reduction program

- Private lands treatments

5:00 PM - 9:00PM - **Social/Auction/Dinner/Entertainment at Tanner's Guest Ranch**

9:00 PM - Return to Logan

Saturday, August 7th, 2004

Technical Sessions

8:00AM-8:10 AM **Turning Challenges in Opportunities**

Terry Messmer, CMPS President, Professor of Forest, Range and Wildlife Sciences, Utah State University

8:10 AM *The Changing Face of Utah*

Fee Busy, Dean, College of Natural Resources, Utah State University

8:40 AM *Status of Sagebrush Ecosystems in Utah*

Jim Davis, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Habitat

9:00 AM *Utah Sagebrush Steppe Recovery*

Rory Reynolds, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources,

9:20 AM *Status of Sage Grouse*

Dean Mitchell, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Upland Game Coordinator

9:40 AM *Pygmy Rabbits*

Adam Kozlowski, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, NR Sensitive Species Biologist

10:00 AM Break

10:30 AM *Wildlife Habitat Authorization*

Alan Clark, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Big Game Chief

10:50 AM *Sportsmen's Role in Habitat Restoration*

Don Peay, Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife, CEO

11:10 AM *Total Quality Management*

Rick Danvir, Deseret Land and Livestock, Wildlife Manager

11:30 AM *The Faces and Places of Community-Based Conservation in Utah*

Multi-media presentation

11:50 AM Closing Comments

12:00 PM Adjourn

Central Mountains and Plains Student Travel Grant Application

The Central Mountains and Plains Section (CMPS) of The Wildlife Society (TWS) announces the availability of travel grants for TWS student members attending the Society's Annual Conference. Travel grants of up to \$500 will be awarded to a limited number of students. Students may apply as individuals or as a student chapter of TWS.

To be eligible, the applicant must meet the following criteria:

1. A member of the Central Mountains and Plains Section;
2. A member of The Wildlife Society;
3. Enrolled at least half time in a program leading to a degree in wildlife biology or closely related field at a college or university within the CMPS, however, recent graduates will be considered;
4. **Not** a previous recipient of a CMPS Student Travel Grant.

Applicants must submit the following:

1. Completed application form (signed by student, or student chapter officer, and advisor);
2. A one-paragraph narrative describing your involvement in Society activities (student chapter, state chapter, section or parent);
3. An optional one-paragraph narrative of information explaining why you should receive a CMPS Travel Grant.

Failure to provide all requested material would disqualify the application. Successful recipients will be notified prior to the annual meeting and payment will be made once a copy of the meeting registration paid receipt is mailed to the Section Treasurer. Application and all requested material must be submitted to:

Terry Messmer

Berryman Institute for Wildlife Damage Management

UMC 5230

Logan, Utah 84322-5230

(435) 797-3975 work (435) 797-3796 fax

The deadline for receipt of applications by CMPS is July 1. Fax or email submissions are not acceptable.

CENTRAL MOUNTAINS AND PLAINS SECTION
NOMINATION FOR AWARD

Type of Award (please check one): Professional Award_____Citizen Award_____

Full Name of Nominee:_____

Address:_____

Telephone Number:_____

Present Position:_____

Academic Career:_____

Professional Career:_____

NOMINATIONS STATEMENT: Attach a typed statement explaining why this nominee is deserving of an award. Please explain fully the accomplishments that place this nominee above his or her peers. Include information on other awards and honors received, TWS offices held, etc. Pertinent news clippings, letters and other documents that support this nominations also may be attached.



Nomination Submitted By:_____

Address:_____

Phone and Fax:_____

Submit nomination to Nevelyn Headrick, Utah State University, UMC 5230, Logan, UT 84322-5230 by July 23, 2004.

CMPS 2004 Elections – Meet the Candidates

In 2004, the Central Mountains and Plains Section will be electing a Vice-President and two Board Member positions. The Vice-President and Board Member positions are for a two-year term (August 2004 - August 2006). Six professionals have volunteered to help meet the needs of the section and run for office. As voting members, we are very fortunate to have six highly qualified candidates to choose from. Please take the time to read the information about each candidate, and consider whom you think will best serve in the offices under consideration and cast your ballot. Thank you!

VICE-PRESIDENT (vote for ONE)**Bob Lanka, Wyoming**

Bob Lanka has been the wildlife management coordinator for the Laramie Region of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department since 1996. In this position he is the supervisor of a two-biologist work-unit and oversees terrestrial wildlife management in southeast Wyoming. Prior to his current position he spent time with Wyoming Game and Fish as a wildlife biologist, an environmental biologist and a data control specialist. Bob was born in Oak Park Illinois, has BS degrees in Range and Wildlife Management from Humboldt State University and an MS in Zoology and Physiology (fisheries) from the University of Wyoming. He has been a member of CMPS since 1995 and has served in various capacities for the section, including being a board member at large and serving as chair and co-chair of several nominations committees. Bob has also been an active member of both the Wyoming chapter and national TWS organization since 1986. He has served as state chapter liaison to the University of Wyoming student chapter and as President of the Wyoming chapter and has served on committees for the national organization. Bob feels that active participation in The Wildlife Society is important and is particularly interested in issues involving student recruitment and participation in the section and the Society as a whole. He states that “getting students from the section more involved in our annual meeting seems to be a simple thing we should work on. Getting them in the door is one thing. Keeping them coming back is the real trick.” He feels that CMPS must be viewed as important or most won't be willing to allocate their limited time to it. Consequently, Bob is interested in working through the board with each and every person and taking advantage of each person's expertise so that the Section becomes a stronger voice for wildlife policy decisions of regional importance. Bob has enjoyed working with and meeting various people in the section during his career and would be honored to serve as CMPS vice-president. He looks forward to seeing everyone in Logan this August.

Tammy VerCauteren, Colorado

Tammy VerCauteren is the Prairie Partners Program Coordinator for the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory in Colorado. Prairie Partners works in cooperation with state, federal and other non-governmental partners and private landowners for prairie conservation. The program and its cooperators are working from Montana to Texas to build a coalition of landowners and land managers throughout the Great Plains who are actively involved in the conservation of lands important to prairie birds. Prior to her current position, Tammy has served as the Wyoming Prairie Partners Program Coordinator and GIS Specialist with RMBO and did work for Nebraska Game and Fish and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Tammy received her BS in Wildlife from Michigan State University and her MS from University of Nebraska-Lincoln where she studied Sandhill Cranes and their use of lowland grasslands along the Platte River during the staging season. She serves on the Playa Lakes Joint Venture Education and Outreach Team and is also the chair for the Prairie and Wetlands Focus Area in Colorado. She has been active with the Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society including helping to put on a GIS workshop and a member of the Land Use Committee. Tammy is also a member of the national chapter and is an associate biologist. Tammy resides in Colorado with her husband and their two Labrador retrievers. She enjoys hunting, fishing and hiking and is dedicated to conserving the natural resources of the region. Tammy is excited about the opportunity to serve as the Vice-President of CMPS and appreciates your consideration of her for this position.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS (vote for TWO)**Rich Etchberger, Utah**

Rich Etchberger is an Associate Professor at Utah State University - Uintah Basin where he is starting his tenth year. His research focuses on habitat use and population dynamics of elk in the Uintah Mountains and the effects of habitat fragmentation from oil and gas production on white-tailed prairie dogs and ferruginous hawks. Rich has a BS in Ecology from Unity College in Maine and MS and Ph.D. degrees in Wildlife Ecology from the University of Arizona. He has been a member of the Wildlife Society since 1983 and a certified wildlife biologist since 1997. In addition, he has been a member of the Utah Chapter and CMPS since 1995. Rich served for two years on the Executive Board for the Utah Chapter and is the Student Chapter Advisor for the USU-Uintah Basin students.

Brandon Houck, Kansas

Brandon Houck is a Regional Wildlife Biologist for the National Wild Turkey Federation in Kansas. His primary responsibilities include coordinating habitat projects, acting as field coordinator for the Southern Great Plains Riparian Initiative, and implementing other regional habitat initiatives. Prior to his current position, Brandon was a wildlife specialist with USDA-Wildlife Services in Missouri and held several

other positions in Utah, Oklahoma and Nebraska. Brandon has a BS in Wildlife Biology from Kansas State University and an MS in Wildlife Ecology from Mississippi State University. He is a certified wildlife biologist and has been a member of TWS since the mid-1990s. He is also a member of the Kansas Chapter and CMPS. Brandon's professional interests include habitat management in rangelands and agricultural settings. In his professional work he has tried to emphasize improving the economics of farms and ranches while benefiting wildlife habitat. Brandon's personal interests include fishing, camping, and hunting. His spare time is spent doing habitat work on his family's ranch where he was raised and now lives.

Art Smith, South Dakota

Art Smith is the Program Administrator for the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks' Wildlife Damage Management Program and has been with Game, Fish and Parks since January 2001. Prior to that he worked as a wildlife statistics consultant for 2 Canadian Provinces, 4 states, the National Wildlife Health Center, and the Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit in Madison, WI. Art has a BS in Ecology and Systematic Biology from California Polytechnic State University, and a MS in Wildlife Ecology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is a certified wildlife biologist, and has been active in wildlife damage issues at the national level for the past decade. He is Past-President of the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society, President of the National Animal Damage Control Association, Executive Board member of The Wildlife Society's Wildlife Damage Management Working Group, and Past-President of the Organization of Fish and Wildlife Information Managers. His personal interests are hunting, off-trail outdoors exploration, canoeing, camping, working on his fixer-upper house, raising his 2 boys, and volleyball. His professional interests are integrating sound sampling/surveying techniques into wildlife management, integrating

Shelley Stoley, Nebraska

Shelley Stoley is currently a Farm Bill Habitat Biologist in the Northeast Region of Nebraska. Her position is a joint position between Nebraska Parks and Game Commission and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Shelley's focus is working with landowners interested in maintaining or restoring wildlife habitat on their property. Prior to her current position, Shelley has worked as a field technician with avian species in Nebraska and also as a lab technician. She is a Nebraska native of Norfolk and received her BS in Biology from Fort Hays State University in Hays, KS. She also has an MS in Biology from Tarleton State University in Stephenville, TX. Shelley spends most of her free time outdoors with her family and is an avid birdwatcher who enjoys hiking and fishing.

CMPS ELECTION BALLOT 2004

VICE-PRESIDENT (vote for one)

Bob Lanka

Tammy Vercauteren

EXECUTIVE BOARD (vote for two)

Rich Etchberger

Brandon Houck

Art Smith

Shelley Stoley

Voting Options:

Mail To: Nevelyn Headrick, Utah State University, Dept. FRWS, 5230 Old Main Hill, Logan, UT 84322-5230. Ballots must be received by August 5.

Email To: nevelyn@muledeernet.org

OR: Vote at the Annual Meeting in Utah August 5-7, 2004.

OR: Vote on-line on the CMPS website (www.cmpswildlife.org).

APPLICATION FOR CMPS SECTION ANNUAL DUES

please print

Name: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

(Students, please use most permanent mailing address.)

State: _____ Zip: _____ Wk. Phone: (_____) _____ - _____ Year: _____

(for listing in the Membership Directory)

Email: _____

Institution or Organization: _____

Please check one of the following:

- TWS/CMPS Membership (professional).....\$64.00
- CMPS Membership only (professional).....\$5.00
- TWS/CMPS Membership (student).....\$35.00
- CMPS Membership only (student).....\$5.00

Annual basic membership dues are \$59.00 of which 15% pays for the bimonthly newsletter, *The Wildlifer*. Dues for full-time students are \$30.00. CMPS annual membership is \$5.00 for professional and students. Payment to CMPS may be made by check, cash, or money order.

**Note CMPS cannot collect state chapter membership dues.

Mail Check or Money Order to:

Todd A. Black

Dept. FRWS

Sec./Tres CMPS

5230 Old Main Hill USU

Logan, UT 84322-5240

CMPS membership applications are also available on-line at the CMPS website

www.cmpswildlife.org

Central Mountains and Plains State and Student Chapter Contacts

Utah Chapter Contacts

Name	Position	Phone	Email	Website
Steve Flinders	Utah State President	801-491-5652	steveflinders@utah.gov	
Tennille Flint	USU Student Chapter President	435-750-8998	tfflint@cc.usu.edu	
Scott B. Allee	USU Uintah Basin Branch	435-781-0185		
Dylan Tucker	BYU Student Chapter President		dwt8@email.byu.edu	

Colorado Chapter Contacts

Chad Bishop	Colorado State President	970-252-6018	chad.bishop@state.co.us	http://www.cws.cnchost.com/
Noe Marymor	CSU Student Chapter President		nmarymore@holly.colostate.edu	http://lamar.colostate.edu/~csutws/

Nebraska Chapter Contacts

Chris Helzer	Nebraska State President	402-694-4191	chelzer@tnc.org	http://www.wildlifeconsult.com/netws/
Betty Wieck	UN at Kearney Chapter President	402-843-5658	wieckebj@unk.edu	http://www.unk.edu/acad/biology/TWS/TWS.html

Wyoming Chapter Contacts

Vicki Herren	Wyoming State President	307-775-6120	Vicki_Herren@blm.gov	http://www.wyotws.org/
Mandy Scott	UW Student Chapter President		mscott@uwyo.edu	

Manitoba Chapter Contacts

Rick Riewe	Manitoba Providence President		riewerr@ms.umanitoba.ca	http://twsmb.tripod.com/
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Kansas Chapter Contacts

Mark Sexson	Kansas State President	620-227-8609	marks@wp.state.ks.us	http://www.fhsu.edu/biology/kctws/kctws.htm
Jessica L. Campbell	KSU Student Chapter President	785-532-9912	j_campbell@hotmail.com	http://www.ksu.edu/wildlife/

North Dakota Chapter Contacts

Randy Renner	North Dakota State President	701-355-3526	rrenner@ducks.org	http://www.ndctws.homestead.com/ndctws_home.html
Jeffrey D. Sell	NDSU Student Chapter President		jsell@badland.nodak.edu	
Sara A. Milne	UND Student Chapter Secretary	218-773-2272	sara.milne@und.nodak.edu	

South Dakota Chapter Contacts

Steve Griffin	South Dakota State President	605-394-2391		http://www.sdwildlife.org/
Jeremy Thury	SDSU Student Chapter President			

We have not received officer updates from many of the states. Also, we are added a place for websites, so send your url if your chapter has a website. Please send your updates to Nevelyn Headrick at Nevelyn@muledeernet.org
Also, presidents please send your updated officer information!

Central Mountains and Plains Section of The Wildlife Society

c/o Nevelyn E. Headrick
Utah State University
Department of Forest, Range and Wildlife Sciences
5270 Old Main Hill
Logan, UT 84322-5270

**Non-Profit Org.
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Permit Number 1
Logan, UT**

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Board Members at Large

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Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
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Lincoln, NE 68503
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E-mail: morrison@ngpc.state.ne.us

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Representative to TWS Council (2002-2005)

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