

# NORTHWEST WILDLIFER

ALASKA  
IDAHO  
MONTANA  
OREGON  
WASHINGTON

May 2009

NORTHWEST SECTION

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## NORTHWEST SECTION REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

I attended the spring Council meeting in conjunction with the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in DC this past March. We covered a wide range of topics, but postponed further discussion on some tough issues until a Council retreat scheduled for the Chicago area in July. As anticipated, the "lead in ammunition and fishing tackle" draft position statement garnered lots of comments and widely divergent suggestions. The position statement committee, of which I am a member, will review the comments and redraft the statement.

Several other position statements are up for review in 2009. Council took several actions related to bylaws revisions. The report of the ad hoc Ethics Committee prompted us to approve the addition of text on ethical behavior and TWS actions in response

to ethics violations. Council also approved a draft bylaws revision that requires membership in TWS at the national level in order to maintain certification as an Associate or Certified Wildlife Biologist. (This is a significant change from prior policy, and will likely generate discussion). These bylaws revisions, and some others, will be presented for member review and vote. In connection with this topic, each chapter should remember to review and revise chapter bylaws as necessary if they tier to the national bylaws.

Council approved an MOU with Johns Hopkins University Press that will result in a new edition of the Techniques Manual, and a future wildlife management and conservation book series (edited by Paul Krausman).

In light of our economic situation, Council agreed to keep conference registration fees at the 2008 level for the up-coming Monterey Conference. TWS staff is doing all they can to keep costs as low as possible, at an expensive site. Great news is that the 2012 TWS conference will be in Portland! The Oregon chapter did a fantastic job last time, and put in an excellent proposal for 2012. It's great that the conference will be in a location where

many from our section should be able to attend.

Due to travel conflicts and budget restrictions, I was unable to attend the recent Section meeting in Fairbanks. I'm sorry that I missed it, and missed seeing many friends from Alaska. I hope to see many TWS members at future chapter and Section meetings!

**Ellen Campbell,**  
Northwest Section Representative

## ALASKA CHAPTER NEWS

We had a very successful annual meeting with the Northwest Section in Fairbanks on April 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. I want to thank the organizing committee for all their hard work and motivation in putting together an outstanding program. Kris Hundertmark chaired the organizing committee, Scott Brainerd ramrodded the conference program and keynote speaker arrangements, Tom Paragi and Kimberlee Beckmen orchestrated the plenary session, Tricia Wurtz and Tom Paragi coordinated the special session on invasive plants, and the Student Chapter of Alaska TWS provided logistic, front desk, and AV support. Thanks also to all the presenters who gave oral or poster papers. Great job by everyone!

Some highlights of the meeting were:

- Plenary session on "Emerging diseases and climate change impacts on Alaskan wildlife"
- Special session on the extent and potential effects of invasive plants in Alaska

- Sessions on large carnivore and moose management
- A varied mix of papers and posters on ungulates, small mammals, parasites, DNA-based population modeling, habitat modeling, and more
- A timely and captivating banquet keynote address by Shane Mahoney on "Conservation in the 21<sup>st</sup> century: relevance and challenge for the North American model"

This was also the first meeting in a very long time where we had a joint meeting with the Northwest Section. This presented a great opportunity for the Chapter and Section to share information and issues important to both groups. President Sanjay Pyare passed leadership over to Terry Bowyer, who is now the President of the Northwest Section.

If you were unable to attend this year's meeting, please be sure to take a look at the program posted on the Alaska Chapter website:

<http://joomla.wildlife.org/alaska/index.php?C=FID=13949447&CFTOKEN=80028520>

### **Joint Resolution Regarding TWS Member Contact Information and Privacy**

At the business meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup>, the Alaska Chapter and Northwest Section members passed a resolution for the executive boards of each group to draft a joint letter to TWS Council to address

member concerns about the privacy of member contact information and the dissemination of that information to outside organizations. We hope to convince Council that members should be asked at the time they renew their membership or become members for the first time if they would be willing to have their contact information available to other TWS members and to have this information sold to outside organizations approved by TWS. We also hope to have Council clarify who the potential outside organizations are who may be contacting members in the future.

**Howard Golden,**  
Alaska Chapter President

## **WASHINGTON CHAPTER NEWS**

The Washington Chapter of TWS held a joint annual meeting with The Society for Northwestern Vertebrate Biology in February 2009 in Stevenson, Washington. SNVB and Washington TWS have successfully partnered as annual meeting co-hosts in the past 12 years. The meeting theme, "*Temporal Issues in Ecological Science: Implications for Research, Management, and Conservation in the Pacific Northwest*" drew 185 participants. Prior to the regular meeting three symposia were held: Long-term Ecological Research, Amphibians and Forest Management, and Invasive Species. The chapter intends to publish a non-technical publication from the amphibian and forest symposium. A key component to this year's meeting being fiscally successful was the generous sponsorship of businesses, agencies, and organizations. Special thanks to NCASI, National Council for Air and Stream Improvement, Inc. for their donation and to

Past President AJ Kroll for his effort in securing these sponsors.

### **Grant Committee**

Each year Washington TWS awards \$1,000 to a research project in Washington State. We are pleased to announce that Jen Watkins from Conservation Northwest will receive funding for the Citizen's Monitoring Program in the Cascades, Snoqualmie Pass I-90 corridor, and in the Kettle Range.

### **Richard E. Fitzner Memorial Scholarship Fund**

In honor of Dick Fitzner, wildlife biologist, educator, artist, sportsman, and Past President of TWS Washington, a memorial scholarship fund was established to help encourage and inspire future wildlife biologists. The fund provides \$1,000 toward tuition to a wildlife-oriented biology student who will have junior or senior standing at a Washington college or university during the

fall. Applications are due by May 31, 2009. More information may be found at the Chapter website: [www.washingtonwildlifesoc.org](http://www.washingtonwildlifesoc.org).

### **Chapter Elections**

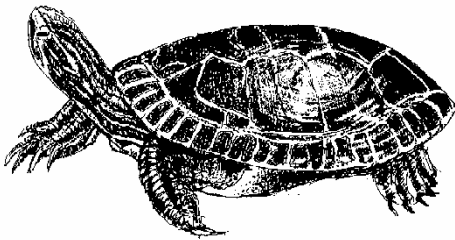
Five positions for Washington TWS Board were recently filled. Congratulations to Wendy Arjo, President-Elect; Mike Hall,

Secretary; Bill Vogel, Board Position 1; Danielle Munzing, Board Position 2, and Lori Salzer, Board Positions 3 .

### **Newsletter**

Starting this summer the chapter will move to an electronic newsletter in effort to reduce costs and paper.

**Susan Piper,**  
Washington Chapter President



**Painted turtle,**  
Robert Savannah, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

## **MONTANA CHAPTER NEWS**

The Montana Chapter 2009 annual meeting was held February 9 to 13, 2009 in Kalispell, Montana at the Red Lion Hotel. It was a joint meeting of the Montana Chapter of the Wildlife Society and the Montana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. This year's theme, "*Adapting Fish and Wildlife Management to Human Demographic Change in Montana*", built upon the themes of previous three conferences that have captured some of the biggest challenges fish and wildlife managers currently face: the essence of wildlife as a public trust, energy development, climate change, and human population growth. Complicating the picture for sustaining wildlife life over the long term is the changing human face in Montana.

As has become the tradition of the annual meeting, the conference began with a variety of working groups and workshops. The plenary session encompassed a full day of topics directly addressing the conference theme and Brian Kahn, Artemis Common Ground, expertly guided the participants and speakers through a constructive and enlightening discussion of fish, wildlife and human management challenges. The concurrent sessions saw a splendid mix of fisheries and wildlife papers presented in addition to an unprecedented number that were cross-disciplinary, 75 papers were presented in all. Despite the distance from the far reaches of Montana, approximately 360 registered for the meeting. Those present at the banquet enjoyed music and humor from John

Dunnigan, local talent from the Flathead Valley. Treasurer Mike McGrath reported a very positive financial outcome from the meeting.

### **Chapter Elections**

At the close of the 2009 conference, Ryan Rauscher began his tenure as Past-President; a tenure that he began while watching his son win a State Wrestling Championship title! Julie Cunningham was selected as President-Elect. Sarah Lamar handed the "secretarial reigns" to Jay Kolbe. Mike McGrath continued his two-year tour of duty as Treasurer. The Chapter thanks those individuals that have given so much of themselves by serving as officers.

### **Board Business**

Individually and collectively, the Montana Chapter Executive Board has been busy with their duties. We are blessed to have such dedicated professionals volunteering their time. Past-President Ryan Rauscher has provided historical guidance and lessons learned as we continue to improve and move forward. He has helped keep us on track as well. President-Elect Julie Cunningham has been busy planning our next conference and giving her presidential goals some thought. Knowing Julie's talents and energy, the 2010 meeting will be as highly regarded as any other. Treasurer Mike McGrath has completed a financial report and a budget for remaining 2009 as well as working with the financial committee for next year's budget. Secretary Jay Kolbe is busy learning the ropes from past-secretary Sarah Lamarr. With the new ability to update our own website, we can expect great things from Jay. Please take a moment and visit the new website at: <http://joomla.wildlife.org/Montana/>.

### **Counter Assault, Inc. Grant**

The Chapter is very pleased to announce that a new opportunity and partnership has arisen from the tradeshow and awards ceremony held during the 2009 Annual Meeting. Pride Johnson, Counter Assault Inc., would like to offer one \$500 grant each

of the next five years to qualified Montana college students. Pending successful award of these grants and favorable project outcomes, it may be sustained into the future. The selection criteria for successful applicants are being developed. The first grant will be awarded prior to the beginning of Fall Semester, 2009. Please submit letters of interest via email to Grant Program Chair Vanna Boccadori ([vboccadorri@mt.gov](mailto:vboccadorri@mt.gov)) or Joe Weigand ([joweigand@mt.gov](mailto:joweigand@mt.gov)). Interested individuals will be sent application materials once they have been developed and finalized.

### **Effects of Recreation Committee: Looking for a Few Good Members!**

Once again the Effects of Recreation Ad Hoc Committee is active and working on an update to the highly acclaimed report and online bibliography entitled *Effects of Recreation on Rocky Mountain Wildlife: A Review for Montana*, originally published in 1999. Past co-chairs, Gayle Joslin and Heidi Youmans, and the numerous committee members and authors who contributed to the original report produced a well-written document that has been in high demand. The Effects of Recreation report provides a thorough review of the literature regarding the complex issue of how increasing recreation demands affect wildlife in our region. The Effects of Recreation committee received the Touchstone Award from the Wildlife Management Institute in 2001 for their outstanding accomplishment. Ten years later, it is time to update the report and bibliography to ensure its continued usefulness to wildlife professionals.

Joanne Steward, Committee Chair, is looking for additional members of the Montana TWS Chapter to join in this worthwhile effort. This is a temporary committee with the purpose of coordinating the effort to update the original Effect of Recreation report and online bibliography. The effort to update the online bibliography is already underway and a plan for updating the report was accepted by the Executive Board. However, more committee members

are needed to assist in coordinating and writing the report update. If you were a contributing author for the original report, please consider volunteering again to update your chapter of the report.

If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact Joanne at [jostewart@mt.gov](mailto:jostewart@mt.gov) or 406-228-3720. Any level of assistance is appreciated whether you have a few hours to spare each week or only a couple of hours a month. The final product will be well worth the time spent.

### **TWS Leadership Institute**

The Montana Chapter congratulates President-Elect Julie Cunningham for successfully completing the 2008 TWS Leadership Institute program.

Candidates in the program participated in a variety of distance learning and hands-on projects, which culminated in intensive mentoring activities and leadership workshops at the 2008 TWS Annual Conference in Miami, Florida in November. The goal of the Institute is to facilitate the development of new leaders within The Wildlife Society and the wildlife profession

as a whole. As professionals, these future leaders will face some difficult challenges in the years to come," stated Michael Hutchins, Ph.D., executive director/CEO of TWS. "The Leadership Institute was designed to groom them to face the many and varying conservation and management issues that lie ahead."

### **2010 Montana Chapter Meeting Information**

The 2010 Annual Meeting dates, venue, and first call for papers will be announced in the next newsletter. If you have ideas for the conference, need to schedule a working group meeting, or would like to help with conference planning please contact Julie Cunningham ([jcunningham@mt.gov](mailto:jcunningham@mt.gov)). Volunteers, AV support, and moderators are much needed!

**Ryan Rauscher,**  
Montana Chapter President



**Bobcat,**  
Robert Savannah, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

## OREGON CHAPTER NEWS

The 2009 meeting was held February 11-13 at Salishan Spa and Golf Resort in Gleneden Beach, OR. Don Whitaker is the new President Elect and will become President in February 2010. Despite the gloomy economy, over 200 people registered and attended the meeting. The

Off-Shore Wave Energy workshop on February 10<sup>th</sup> was also well attended.

The Oregon Chapter will host the 2012 International Wildlife Society Annual Meeting in Portland, OR on October 14-18<sup>th</sup>. Dave Kennedy and Don Whittaker are the Arrangement Committee co-chairs.

**Matt Hane,**  
Oregon Chapter President

## IDAHO CHAPTER NEWS

The Idaho Section is working on the planning stages of the annual meetings which will be held next year in Boise during the second week of March. Monitor the Section web page for details and updates: [www.ictws.org](http://www.ictws.org)

**Dave Stricklan,**  
Idaho Chapter President

## CHAPTER WEBSITES

Alaska: [joomla.wildlife.org/alaska/](http://joomla.wildlife.org/alaska/)  
Idaho: [www.ictws.org](http://www.ictws.org)  
Montana: [www.montanatws.org](http://www.montanatws.org)  
Oregon: [joomla.wildlife.org/oregon](http://joomla.wildlife.org/oregon)  
Washington: [www.washingtonwildlifesoc.org](http://www.washingtonwildlifesoc.org)

## NORTHWEST SECTION EXECUTIVE BOARD

**Terry Bowyer, President**

Idaho State University  
921 South 8<sup>th</sup> Ave, Stop 8007  
Pocatello, ID 83209  
Voice: 208.282.2272  
[bowyterr@isu.edu](mailto:bowyterr@isu.edu)

**Sanjay Pyare, Past President**

University of Alaska Southeast  
11120 Glacier Hwy  
Juneau, AK 99801  
Voice: 907.796.6007  
[sanjay.pyare@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:sanjay.pyare@uas.alaska.edu)

**Ellen Campbell, NW Section Representative**

62715 Mt. Glen Rd  
LaGrande, OR  
Voice: 541.963.6317  
[dalellenc@hotmail.com](mailto:dalellenc@hotmail.com)

**Ryan Rauscher, Montana**

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
Route 1 – 4210  
Glasgow, MT 59230  
Voice: 406-228-3725  
[rtauscher@mt.gov](mailto:rtauscher@mt.gov)

**Howard Golden, Alaska**

ADF&G  
333 Raspberry Road  
Anchorage, AK 99518  
Voice: 907.267.2177  
[howard.golden@alaska.gov](mailto:howard.golden@alaska.gov)

**Susan Piper, Washington**

Olympic National Forest  
1835 Black Lake Blvd, SW  
Olympia, WA 98512  
360-956-2435  
[spiper@fs.fed.us](mailto:spiper@fs.fed.us)

**Kristin Hasselblad,  
Secretary-Treasurer**

1472 E. Spinnaker Ct.  
Boise, ID 83706  
[kwoodchuck@gmail.com](mailto:kwoodchuck@gmail.com)

**Dave Stricklan, Idaho**

Biology Faculty  
Brigham Young University  
BEN 214  
Voice: 208.496.2008  
[strickland@byui.edu](mailto:strickland@byui.edu)

**Matt Hane, Oregon**

Weyerhaeuser Company  
PO Box 275 Springfield, OR  
97477  
Voice: 541.988.7522  
[Matt.Hane@weyerhaeuser.com](mailto:Matt.Hane@weyerhaeuser.com)

Colin Shanley  
Newsletter Editor  
P.O. Box 210676  
Auke Bay, AK 99821  
[colin.shanley@uaf.edu](mailto:colin.shanley@uaf.edu)