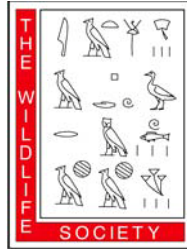


FINAL CALL FOR PAPERS & REGISTRATION



ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ALASKA CHAPTER and NORTHWEST SECTION OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

**WILLIAM RANSOM WOOD CAMPUS CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA
APRIL 7 – 9, 2009**

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 27 MARCH 2009

You are invited to join fellow wildlife researchers, managers, educators, students, and administrators for a joint meeting of the Alaska Chapter and Northwest Section of The Wildlife Society.

The meeting will be held at the Wood Center on the campus of University of Alaska Fairbanks, which is an entirely non-smoking facility. It is a short drive from the airport and from numerous hotels. Lodging information is provided below.

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

Tuesday, April 7:

- Registration: 7:30 am – 8:00 am
- Opening Remarks: 8:00 am – 8:15 am
- Plenary Session: 8:15 am – 12:00 pm
- Technical Sessions: 1:30 pm – 5:00 pm
- Poster Reception/Social, Wood Center Pub: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Wednesday, April 8:

- Technical Sessions: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
- Business Meeting: 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
- Banquet & Keynote Address: 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Thursday, April 9:

- Workshop: Practical Moose Population Modeling

The deadline for submission of abstracts for papers or posters is March 27, 2009.

Information on formatting and submitting abstracts, oral presentations, and posters can be found on the Alaska Chapter TWS website:

http://joomla.wildlife.org/alaska/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=197&Itemid=282.

We hope you will make a presentation at the conference, and that you will encourage your colleagues to do so as well. For more information contact Scott Brainerd at scott.brainerd@alaska.gov or 907-459-7261

PLENARY SESSION — APRIL 7

Coordinator: Kimberlee Beckman, ADF&G-DWC, Fairbanks

Presentations: Tues. 7 April in the morning

Presenters will discuss threats to wildlife from diseases and parasites, particularly those that were previously unknown in Alaska, and management strategies.

SPECIAL SESSION — APRIL 7

Impacts of invasive plants on wildlife: a growing threat in Alaska

Coordinator: Tricia Wurtz, US Forest Service, Fairbanks

Date & Time: Tues., 7 April in the afternoon

Sponsor: US Forest Service, Forest Health Protection

Three specialists from the lower 48 will speak on the spread of invasive plants in their regions, and the associated impacts to wildlife. Tom Toman, Director of Conservation for the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, will describe the long-term impacts of invasive plants on elk habitat at a landscape scale. Shawna Bautista, a wildlife biologist with the US Forest Service, will describe impacts of invasive

plants in riparian and coastal areas of the Pacific Northwest, considering purple loosestrife, reed canary grass and Japanese knotweed, all species that are spreading in Alaska. Steve Link, Washington State Extension Ecologist and editor of the *Natural Areas Journal*, will discuss the ecological effects of cheatgrass. Cheatgrass seed is routinely and inadvertently imported to Alaska in bales of straw, and widely dispersed as sled dog bedding. Three cheatgrass infestations have been documented in Alaska to date. The session will include information on an early-detection, rapid-response system for reporting new infestations in Alaska, and new research on the potential effects of white sweetclover on moose.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS — APRIL 7 & 8

Attendees are encouraged to give oral presentations or present posters regarding wildlife-related research, management, education, recreation, and biometrics.

We seek presentations on a wide range of topics, including wildlife and habitat management projects, research findings, data analysis and study design, new field techniques, conservation issues, land-use and wildlife planning, marine wildlife, human dimensions, education, wildlife recreation, wildlife economics, and non-game programs.

POSTER SESSION — APRIL 7

The poster session will be held Tuesday evening, April 7 at 6:00–8:00 pm during a reception/social in the UAF Pub on the ground floor of the Wood Center. There will be a variety of hors d'oeuvres along with a cash bar (beer and wine). The reception/social is included with full registration. Conference attendees registering by the day or who would like to bring a guest are welcome to purchase additional reception/social tickets for \$10 per person.

TWS BUSINESS MEETING — APRIL 8

The Alaska Chapter and Northwest Section business meeting will be held during lunch (11:30 am – 1:30 pm) on Wednesday, April 8. All members are encouraged to participate in this special joint meeting. Lunch will be provided.

BANQUET & KEYNOTE ADDRESS — APRIL 8

The banquet will be held in conference room A of the Wood Center on Wednesday evening, April 8, beginning at 6:30 pm, preceded by a cash bar starting at 6:00 pm. Dinner will be a buffet with two entrees, a variety of salads, and dessert. The banquet is included with full registration. Conference attendees registering by the day or who would like to bring a guest are welcome to purchase additional banquet tickets for \$40 per person.

Shane Mahoney, Executive Director, Newfoundland Department of Environmental Conservation, will be the featured speaker. Shane is a passionate advocate for wildlife conservation and recently was named International Conservationist of the Year by Safari Club International. He currently is engaged in a comprehensive predator-prey study on Newfoundland.

POST-Conference Workshop — April 9

Practical Moose Population Modeling

Location: Wood Center

Coordinator: Kalin Kellie, ADF&G-DWC, Fairbanks

Presentations: Wed., 8 April in the afternoon (part of the annual meeting)

Hands-On Modeling Workshop for Common Moose Survey Data: Thurs April 09, 08:30 am – 4:00 pm

Cost for hands-on workshop: \$30 per person; limited to 30 participants

This workshop reviews basic population modeling and teaches participants to build spreadsheet models for moose population trends. The session on Wednesday afternoon will showcase applied population modeling in Alaska. The hands-on session on Thursday will introduce a basic modeling framework that uses common survey data, then advance to more complex modeling that uses age- and sex-specific vital rate information. All models will be developed in Microsoft Excel. Participants are required to bring a laptop computer with Microsoft Excel installed.

STUDENT TRAVEL & PRESENTATION AWARDS

The Alaska Chapter and the Northwest Section strongly encourage student participation at the annual meeting and is providing travel reimbursement and presentation awards to wildlife students. Travel scholarships will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis with preference given to students presenting papers that meet the March 27 deadline for abstracts. After March 27 the travel scholarships are available to any wildlife or biology student on a first-come, first-served basis. Students should contact Sanjay Pyare in Juneau (sanjay.pyare@uas.alaska.edu) to apply for student travel awards.

The Alaska Chapter is also offering first place (\$50) and second place (\$25) prizes for “best oral presentation” and “best poster presentation” by students. At least 3 students per category will be needed for the contest, which is open to students from any Alaska campus. Students wishing to participate should check the box for student presenter on the registration form at:

<https://secure.alaskamade.com/aktws/>

TRAVEL & LODGING

The following hotels are offering special conference rates, available on a first-come, first-served basis. Be sure to book your reservation early and mention the conference for these rates. All hotels are within 5 miles of campus and offer free shuttle service to and from the airport.

Wedgewood Resort Suites (212 Wedgewood Drive, off of College Road) has a block of 1- and 2-bedroom suites for participants for April 6-9 and is providing a special rate until 1 April. For reservations contact: <http://www.fountainheadhotels.com/wedgewood/wedgewood.htm> or (800) 528-4916.

Sophie Station Hotel (1717 University Avenue) offers traditional hotel accommodations and is offering a similar meeting discount until 1 April. For reservations contact: <http://www.fountainheadhotels.com/sophie/sophie.htm> or (800) 528-4916.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

You may register online at <https://secure.alaskamade.com/aktws/> or by using the mail-in registration form included in this announcement. **Please note that registration cost increases after March 27.** Full conference registration fees cover facilities costs, conference catering, poster reception/social, banquet, and meeting materials. Daily registration is also available. Fees for workshops and extra reception/social and banquet tickets may also be paid with this form. Once payment is made, you will receive a confirmation and receipt by e-mail or regular mail. Registration materials will be available at the conference beginning April 7, and will include abstracts, name tag, reception/social and banquet tickets, and Anchorage visitor information.

THE ALASKA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

For more information about involvement in the Alaska Chapter of The Wildlife Society, contact Howard Golden, Alaska Chapter President, at howard.golden@alaska.gov or (907) 267-2177.

Annual Meeting of the Alaska Chapter and Northwest Section of The Wildlife Society

University of Alaska Fairbanks

Fairbanks, Alaska

April 7-9, 2009

Registration Form

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

Phone

Number: _____ EMail: _____

Please fill in all that apply (all costs are per person):

Fee Payment

Full Meeting (includes poster reception/social & banquet)

Regular.....\$150 _____

Late Regular (after March 27).....\$200 _____

Retired.....\$75 _____

Student.....\$10 _____

Daily Attendance (does not include poster reception/social or banquet)

Regular.....\$80 _____

Retired.....\$40 _____

Student.....\$5 _____

Poster Social (daily attendees or guests only).....\$10 _____

Banquet (daily attendees or guests only).....\$40 _____

Workshops (you must be registered for the conference to attend workshops)

Practical Moose Modeling (limited to 30 participants)*.....\$30 _____

*Contact Kalin Kellie at kalin.kellie@alaska.gov or (907) 459-7238 for availability.

Total _____

Full-time Students

_____ I request a travel award to attend this conference

_____ I will be making an oral or poster presentation

On-line registration is preferred and is available at: <https://secure.alaskamade.com/aktws/>.

Otherwise, please make checks out to the Alaska Chapter of The Wildlife Society and send checks and registration to Karyn Rode at: US fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammals Management, 1011 E Tudor rd., Anchorage, AK 99503; E-mail: Karyn_Rode@fws.gov; Fax (907) 786-3816. Direct your questions concerning registration to Karyn at (907) 786-3801.