



# The Mississippi Chapter of The Wildlife Society

## 2009 Annual Meeting



### Opening Session and Workshops – Thursday, October 1

- 9:00 Registration – Coffee/Refreshments
- 9:30 Welcome and Introduction - Kathy Shelton, MS TWS President
- 9:45 **Keynote Speaker – Dr. Michael Hutchins, Executive Director/CEO of TWS**
- 10:15 Break - Refreshments
- Invited Group Talks** – Learn about Mississippi’s wide array of conservation organizations
- 10:30 *Mississippi Bat Working Group* - Chester O. Martin, Chair
- 10:45 *BEaR Group of Mississippi* – Kevin Nelms, President
- 11:00 *Bobwhite Working Group* – Rick Hamrick, MDWFP Small Game Program Leader
- 11:15 *4-H Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program* – Leslie Burger, Coordinator
- 11:30 Lunch – on your own (voting closes and posters can be set up)
- 1:00 – 2:00 **Business Meeting**
- 1:00 – 4:30 **TWS Certification Booth** opens - Interested in becoming a certified wildlife biologist? Visit our certification table where you can find out about the process and begin or complete your application.
- Workshops**
- 2:00 – 4:30 **Prescribed Burning** – Russ Walsh, MDWFP Private Lands Habitat Biologist (break 3:00-3:15)  
Learn the basics of MS burning laws (e.g., permits, liability) and general burn information (seasons, reasons, etc.) along with a presentation on upland oak savannah restoration and growing season burning. (*Small Classroom downstairs*)
- 2:00 – 3:00 **Death by PowerPoint: Communicating Effectively with Technology**– Dr. Ben West, MSU  
Learn about the principles of effective communication that nobody talks about, including how PowerPoint can be used in ways that do not put people to sleep. (*Theater*)
- 3:00 Break - Refreshments
- 3:15 – 4:30 **Online Mapping** – Charlie Welch, MDWFP GIS Specialist  
A basic explanation of GIS, understanding online Mapping Applications (e.g., Google earth) and using ArcGIS Explorer to display maps, calculate acreage and interact with current GIS databases. This workshop is for the novice or expert mapper. (*Large Classroom downstairs*)
- 3:15 – 4:30 **Professional Development – “What do you really do?”**  
A panel of wildlife professionals representing a variety of organizations will discuss their organization’s mission and individual position responsibilities and be available for questions asked by audience members. This workshop is a must for graduates/students looking for employment. (*Theater*)
- 4:30 Meeting adjourns
- 6:00 Social at Cabot Lodge – Happy hour and heavy hors d’oeuvres provided  
“How is The Wildlife Society serving today’s wildlife professional??” an interactive discussion with Dr. Michael Hutchins, TWS CEO/Executive Director; Jim Miller, TWS Past President; Bruce Leopold, TWS President; & Darren Miller, TWS SE Section Leader. Moderated by Dr. Ben West.



Thank you to our sponsors!

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## Student and Professional Presentations – Friday, October 2

*Moderated by students from Delta State University and Mississippi State University*

- 8:00 Registration – Coffee/Refreshments
- 8:10 Announcements – Shauna Ginger, MS TWS President
- 8:20 **Mississippi's Conservation Reserve Program, CP33 – Habitat Buffers for Upland Birds**  
*Lindsey C. Singleton<sup>1</sup>, Kristine Evans<sup>1</sup>, Wes Burger<sup>1</sup>, Rick Hamrick<sup>2</sup>, and Dave Godwin<sup>2</sup>*  
<sup>1</sup> Mississippi State University  
<sup>2</sup> Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks
- 8:40 **Precision Conservation: Using Technology to Optimize Conservation and Profitability in Agricultural Landscapes.\***  
*Mark McConnell and Wes Burger*  
Mississippi State University
- 9:00 **Effects of Burning and Disking on Imported Fire Ants in Native Grass Field Buffers.\***  
*Sarah Hale, Samuel Riffell, Wes Burger, Kristina Baker, and Heidi Puckett*  
Mississippi State University
- 9:20 Poster Session (see additional handout for list of participants) – Refreshments
- 10:00 **Effects of Hunter Density on Male White-tailed Deer Movements in South-central Oklahoma.\***  
*Andrew Little<sup>1</sup>, Stephen Demarais<sup>1</sup>, Kenneth Gee<sup>2</sup>, Samuel Riffell<sup>1</sup>, Stephen Webb<sup>1</sup>, Joshua Gaskamp<sup>2</sup>,*  
<sup>1</sup> Mississippi State University  
<sup>2</sup> Samuel Roberts Nobel Foundation
- 10:20 **Effect of Weekly Hunting Frequency on Duck Harvest, Abundance, and Hunting Quality in Mississippi.\***  
*Elizabeth St. James<sup>1</sup>, Michael Schummer<sup>1</sup>, Richard Kaminski<sup>1</sup>, Edward Penny<sup>2</sup>, Kevin Brunke<sup>2</sup>, and Houston Havens<sup>2</sup>*  
<sup>1</sup> Mississippi State University  
<sup>2</sup> Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks
- 10:40 **Fostering a Love for Science and Natural Resources Through an After School Science Club in Mississippi.\***  
*Jessica Tegt and Heidi Puckett*  
Mississippi State University
- 11:00 Break – Refreshments
- 11:20 **Habitat Changes by an Overabundant Suburban Deer Population**  
*Jeffrey Duguay<sup>1</sup> and Cheryl Farfaras<sup>2</sup>*  
<sup>1</sup> Delta State University  
<sup>2</sup> Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks, Columbia, MD
- 11:40 **Efficacy of Wild Turkey Restoration in the Mississippi Delta**  
*Adam Butler<sup>1</sup>, Guiming Wang<sup>2</sup>, Jerrold Belant<sup>2</sup>, Dave Godwin<sup>1</sup>, & Kyle Marable<sup>2</sup>*  
<sup>1</sup> Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks  
<sup>2</sup> Mississippi State University
- 12:00 Closing comments and awards

\* Student Presentation

