



NORTHWEST WILDLIFER

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IDAHO
MONTANA
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
OREGON
WASHINGTON
YUKON

Northwest Section

August 1994

President's Message

The Wildlife Society's First Annual Conference is fast approaching. The program for the September conference in Albuquerque embraces a wide array of papers that I would like to hear, but unfortunately, I am unable to attend. This renders me dependent on the suggestions of others attending from the Northwest Section for developing an appropriate Section contribution to the Second Annual Conference. The Section committed itself to sponsor a symposium in Portland in conjunction with the Second Annual Conference during September 1995.

Greg Green, Section vice-president, would appreciate your input in developing a symposium for the 1995 meeting. Although there is no shortage of potential topics for

a symposium, I recommend choosing topics that have relevancy to other Pacific Rim nations. Countries around the Pacific Rim face problems in managing wildlife that we commonly deal with in North America. However, those nations usually have less political, technical, legal, and financial support than we do.

It is now less fashionable to hold the U.S. and Canada up as models for the world in environmental issues, but the forces putting pressure on wildlife around the Pacific Rim are definitely using the worst U.S. examples of thoughtless destruction of natural resources in the name of short term economic gain as models for their activities. Biologists in North America have had plenty of experience in dealing with

conflicts between unrestrained development and natural resources. Sometimes we win and sometimes we lose; but, (at risk of being immodest) we have a better track record, more expertise, and more strategies for dealing with problems than are available in any other area of the world.

I would like to share our knowledge with biologists from other Pacific Rim countries. I would also like to hear them tell us how they handle wildlife management problems and how they would need to modify our approaches to make them fit their cultures. This two-way exchange of information will undoubtedly benefit North American biologists as much as those from other Pacific Rim countries.

Mackie Receives 1994 Einarson Award

The Northwest Section honored Dr. Richard Mackie with the Einarson Award at its annual meeting in Kalispell during March 1994. The Section presents this award in memory of Dr. Arthur Einarson, former leader of the Oregon Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit. Dr. Robert Eng, a colleague and personal friend of Dr. Mackie, made the presentation.

The award highlights Dick Mackie's many outstanding achievements and contributions to our profession over his 33-year career. His service to the profession through The Wildlife Society has included serving as president of Montana Chapter, the Northwest Section, and most recently as President of the parent society in 1990-92. He also represented the Northwest section two terms on TWS Council.

Upon completion of a master of science from Washington State University in 1960, Dick began his professional career as a research biologist for the Montana Department of Fish and Game. Investigation of range relationships of big game and livestock in the Missouri River Breaks of central Montana provided the basis for this doctoral thesis. After completing his doctorate at Montana State University in 1965, he briefly served as research coordinator for the Montana Department of Fish and Game. He served a professor of wildlife management at the University of Minnesota from 1966-70 before returning to Montana. He held a faculty staff position in the Fish and Wildlife Program at Montana State University from 1970 until his retirement in June 1994. While at MSU, Dick has served in numerous capacities includ-

ing teaching undergraduate and graduate level courses, supervising graduate field studies, and coordinating research projects and other assignments for Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. Although his research has addressed local or statewide issues, these efforts also have taken on both national and international significance.

Dick supervised preparation of numerous graduate theses, authored or coauthored many professional journal articles and monographs, and was a contributing author of several books on topics dealing with population ecology and interspecific relations of ungulates. Dick has been an inspiration to his students and co-workers challenging them to examine their findings beyond what is immediately obvious.
— Gary Dusek

Governor's Advisory Council on Private Lands/Public Wildlife (Montana)

Editor's note: Facilitated meetings involving citizens groups have become an increasingly used forum to address resource issues and to resolve conflicts between opposing interests. The following article cites one example of this process. If you are aware of or are involved in a similar effort, please send the details for inclusion in future issues of the NORTHWEST WILDLIFER.

Several groups with a vested interest in wildlife on private lands – private landowners, outfitters, and sportsmen – besieged the 1993 session of the Montana Legislature. Much of their proposed legislation addressing this issue was, as one might expect, controversial and vigorously resisted by opposing interest groups.

This political exchange resulted in passage of House Joint Resolution (HJR) 24 that requested the Governor to appoint a citizens' advisory council composed of landowners, outfitting interests and sportsmen. The Governor charged the Advisory Council to address five relevant issues, achieve some consensus among interests and provide the Governor with some recommendations. These issues include:

- 1) Achieving optimum hunter access
- 2) Protecting wildlife habitat
- 3) Minimizing impacts and inconvenience on landowners who currently provide hunting access
- 4) Encouraging the continuance of a viable hunting outfitting industry
- 5) Providing additional tangible benefits to landowners who allow hunter access

The Governor directed Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) to provide staff assistance; FWP assigned Dwight Guynn to assist the Council. The Governor also selected 18 citizens with landowner, sportsmen and outfitting backgrounds to serve on the Council. Additionally, ex-officio, representatives were appointed from USDA Forest Service, USDI Bureau of Land Management and Montana Department of State Lands.

The Advisory Council initiated its work in

August 1993 and has met monthly in meetings that were open to the public. At the Governor's request, the Council appointed and met with eight local groups around Montana to gather input.

Over the past year, the Council and its eight local groups have produced a draft document with 19 recommendations to help resolve the relevant private lands/public wildlife issues. This document was released for public review on June 22; public meetings were held at seven locations around Montana to solicit public reaction. Some of the recommendations included a volunteer course in hunter ethics for an Advanced Hunter Certification, expanding the current Block Management (hunter access) program, a variable priced license for the outfitter set-aside pool of licenses, and an opportunity for landowners to receive tangible benefits, such as transferrable licenses for deer and elk, for providing free access for public hunting.

As one might expect, the Council's recommendations received a mixed review from the public. Overall, the opportunity to

discuss options with the public has been described by the Council as "very beneficial". Council members have expressed the idea that many of the private lands/public wildlife issues have been around for a long time and they realize that no "panacea" exists. However, they hope that by working together with the various interest groups, and building trust, opposing interests may arrive at some consensus on issues involving wildlife on private lands.

Following the first round of public comment on the draft recommendations that ends August 22, 1994, the Council will prepare and submit a revised draft of its recommendations for public review in September and October of this year. After public review of the second draft, the Council intends to finalize their recommendations and submit them to the Governor by Thanksgiving.

Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the Council's recommendations and/or wish to comment on draft recommendations may do so by contacting: Nina Baucus, Box 1683, Helena, MT 59624.

– Dwight Guynn

Meetings of Interest

Aug. 29-31, **Sustaining Rangeland Ecosystems**, La Grande, OR. Society for Range Management and Oregon Chapter TWS; contact John Tanaka (503-963-7122).

Sep. 21-25, **The Wildlife Society First Annual Conference**, Albuquerque, NM; contact Harry Hodgdon (301-897-9770).

Oct. 22-26, **National Symposium on Urban Wildlife**, Seattle-Bellevue; contact Lowell Adams (301-596-3311).

Nov. 2-6, **Annual Raptor Research Foundation Meeting**, Flagstaff, AZ; contact Patricia A. Hall, 436 E. David Dr., Flagstaff, AZ 86001 (602-774-0041).

Dec. 8-9, **Northwest Regional Riparian Symposium: Diverse Values Seeking Common Ground**, Idaho Riparian Cooperative; for information call (208-885-6431).

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Chapter Activities

ALBERTA CHAPTER: Another successful annual meeting was held in Calgary, March 25-26. This year's meeting focused on forestry and forest management and included 21 oral and 7 poster presentations. Turnout was excellent with 78 regular and 38 student members in attendance. A silent auction yielded just over \$1000 for the Chapter's scholarship fund; the first scholarships will be awarded this year. Ed Telfer, Research Scientist with the Canadian Wildlife Service in Edmonton, was honored with the William Rowan Distinguished Service Award.

A new executive board was elected and includes: Brad Stelfox, President (403-632-8379); Margo Pybus, President-elect (403-427-3462); Mike Dorrance, Secretary-Treasurer (403-427-1057); Ken Crutchfield, Director (403-422-3055); Jan Edmonds, Director (403-723-8244); Dave Poll, Director (403-292-4404); and Jan Edmonds and Dave Hobson, Newsletter Editors.

The Chapter's agenda for the year includes organizing the 1995 annual meeting and producing an information pamphlet about TWS-Alberta Chapter for recruitment of new members. – *Jan Edmonds*

IDAHO CHAPTER: The Idaho Chapter, TWS, expressed concern about the proposed expansion of the military bombing range in Owyhee County, Idaho. We are pleased that both the Northwest Section and parent Society went on record in opposition of this project and also identified weaknesses in the Draft EIS. Hopefully, our concern, along with that of the Idaho Fish and Game Commission will result in more careful evaluation of negative impacts of military training exercises on wildlife.

The Idaho Chapter also was represented at a recent meeting that focused on the status and management of the Rocky Mountain population of the trumpeter swan. This complex issue involves both wildlife and fisheries interests. The Chapter had earlier requested that this population be listed as threatened; the USDI Fish and Wildlife Service denied the request. At present, we intend to carefully assess both the biological situation and management direction for this population.

The Chapter also contributed \$100 to the parent Society for support of student travel to the first annual TWS technical meeting in Albuquerque. – *Ernie Ables*

MONTANA CHAPTER: The Montana chapter, TWS, and the Montana Academy of Sciences have agreed to co-publish a regional outlet called the *Intermountain Journal of Science*. The co-publishers intend to provide scientists, educators, and students, involved in various scientific disciplines, a peer review for their research, observations or professional opinions and concerns that are applicable to the northern Rocky Mountains and Great Plains region.

The organizational staff is voluntary and consists of a managing editor, associate editors, a panel of referees, business manager and an editorial board. John Weigand, chief of wildlife research for Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (retired) and active member of The Wildlife Society, has agreed to serve as managing editor. Associate editors will include section vice presidents of the Montana Academy of Sciences with each representing a separate scientific discipline. Terry Lonner, Jay Rotella, and Gary Dusek represent the Montana Chapter on the editorial board.

This journal will replace printed proceedings of the respective annual meetings of the co-sponsoring organizations. Participation and submission of manuscripts from individuals outside these organizations are welcomed and encouraged. Those that presented papers at the Montana Chapter/Northwest Section, TWS, meeting in March 1994 will soon be contacted and encouraged to submit manuscripts. Anticipated distribution of the first issues is April 1995 – *Dennis Flath*

WASHINGTON CHAPTER: During the past three months, the Washington Chapter has been working on some new programs and continuing progress on existing projects. This includes developing guidelines for a Professional Mentor program that we intend to institute this coming fall. The program will be developed in coordination with student chapters at Washington State University and University of Washington. The program goal is to help students gain further experience and insight into the wildlife profession. We also have initiated an *ad hoc* committee to assess feasibility of developing and maintaining a formal peer review program extending beyond a review of agency documents that we have conducted in the past.

Hanford's Arid Lands Ecology Reserve (ALE) was officially renamed on July 8, 1994 in honor of Richard Fitzner and Lester Eberhardt. The two men died in a plane crash near Yakima in 1992 while conducting a wildlife survey. Congress approved renaming the facility to the Fitzner/Eberhardt Arid Lands Ecology Reserve (FEALE) on November 30, 1993. Richard and Les were highly respected for their contributions to wildlife research. Richard was a past president of the Washington Chapter.

Battelle Pacific Northwest Laboratories donated \$1,000 to the Fitzner Scholarship Fund in July. We appreciate Battelle's contribution to this very notable cause. The Chapter awarded its first scholarship this past spring to M. Cathy Nowak, a senior at Central Washington University.

The Washington Chapter will sponsor a small mammal biology and survey technique workshop in Olympia this fall. You may contact Marilyn Stoll for further information (206-534-9330). – *Greg Schroer*

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