



NORTHWEST WILDLIFER

ALASKA
ALBERTA
BRITISH COLUMBIA
IDAHO
MONTANA
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
OREGON
WASHINGTON
YUKON

September 1995

NORTHWEST SECTION

President's Message

I have just returned from the Second Annual Convention of The Wildlife Society in Portland, Oregon. Hosted by the Oregon and Washington Chapters, it turned out to be the largest gathering of wildlife professionals held in the world to date, with registration exceeding 2,100 people. The convention was a success by almost any standard – attendance, an excellent and diverse program featuring symposia, contributed papers, plenary sessions, and all complemented by a wide range of social gatherings and field trips.

That much is news – the kind of objective things that get reported. But when I think of the Portland TWS Convention I think of something else – something that I wish all of you receiving this newsletter could have seen for yourselves. I think of meet-

ing old friends, and making new friends – friends bound by a common interest in natural resource management. I think of meetings, where skilled professionals with a wide and diverse range of skills pooled their interests and energies to help move the profession and application of natural resource management in directions that are sustainable over the long-term. I think of these things not only because they were enjoyable and invigorating, but because, during a few days in September in Portland, a small piece of the vast network of professional relationships that form the core of our profession was exposed.

Like many of you, I frequently urge my professional co-workers to join The Wildlife Society, and to become active in state

or provincial chapter and section activities. Some join, but often the response is "What's in it for me?" I only wish all of those who ask that question could have seen the camaraderie, the energy, the effort that was evident at the national convention. There is a vast, multi-talented, diverse group of people that really are the drivers and movers of our profession – people whose contribution exceeds the bare minimum required to obtain a paycheck. Those of you who see this newsletter know that; you have taken the initiative to become national and section members. I am asking you to do more – to continue to get your co-workers involved in The Wildlife Society. Because when we all work together, we can accomplish some pretty amazing things. – Dale Towell

Section Business Meetings

As most of you are aware, the section opted to defer the annual spring meeting until the national conference in Portland. The executive board meeting was held on Thursday evening, September 14, and section's general business meeting on Friday evening, September 15, at the Red Lion Inn/Jantzen Beach.

Items of business which received considerable attention at both the executive board and general business meetings included the 1996 Northwest Section Meeting in Banff, Alberta (*see related article*), student travel to section meetings, and a possible section-sponsored symposium in 1996 on management of wild bison.

The Section will provide \$500 for students

to attend the 1996 annual meeting. Section president Dale Towell appointed Gary Dusek, Jerome Hansen, and Tricia MacLaren to contact student chapters for ideas as to how the money should be apportioned.

The executive board appointed Lynn Irby chairman of a development committee for the Northwest Section to host a bison symposium during summer 1996 at Montana State University, Bozeman. This is currently a hot issue in and around Yellowstone National Park. Sale of the proceedings could potentially raise a large sum of money to support section activities. About 200 bison experts have already been contacted. Hosting the symposium in 1996 is contingent upon availability of conference services at the university dur-

ing the desired time frame. If not, it will probably be delayed a year.

The awards committee decided not to present the Einarson Award this year for various reasons but primarily because the section had no appropriate event at the Portland conference at which to make such a presentation. The award will most likely be presented at the 1996 section meeting in Alberta if a suitable candidate is identified. The committee will retain any nominations previously submitted for consideration along with any additional nominations received prior to the meeting. Nominations should be sent to: **Steve Knick, RRTAC, National Biological Service, 3948 Development Avenue, Boise, ID 83705 (Phone 208-384-3483).**

Highlights of the Portland Conference

"RENDEZVOUS NORTHWEST" – the second annual conference of The Wildlife Society in Portland was an overwhelming success. About 2,000 wildlifers were expected based on the 1,600 that had pre-registered by mid August. By week's end, about 2,200 folks had signed in. That works out to almost one of every four TWS members attending the conference. This undoubtedly represents the largest gathering of wildlife professionals ever. Congratulations to the Oregon and Washington Chapters for an exceptional job of hosting the conference.

The conference was a success by just about any standard that you wish to judge it by – the large attendance notwithstanding. The quality of presentations among the more than 40 symposia, technical sessions, and poster sessions was very impressive indeed. If I had to sum up the conference with one word, that word would be "CHANGE." As noted by Erik Fritzell, outgoing president of TWS, the perception of this professional society has changed "from an organization of gray-haired men to what it really is – young and diverse." The conference reflected a cross-section of our profession, a broad diversity of background and expertise that provides the hands-on, day-to-day stewardship of our wildlife resource. One may not get such a perception of TWS from attending the North American Wildlife and Natural Resource Conference where, for the most part, academicians and upper level administrators "mix it up" with "policy wonks" from inside the Beltway.

Change also is evident in the challenges our profession faces in meeting its various mandates in an increasingly complex arena. Rollin Sparrowe, in-coming TWS president, imparted this message: "The Bad Guys are in office....probably a backlash to what we have done....and we're all in for the fight of our lives." In a keynote address, Jack Berryman, 1995 recipient of the Aldo Leopold Award, encouraged TWS to continue to foster "a meat and potatoes style of wildlife management....utilitarian management that considers the needs of both people and wildlife." Jack also discouraged TWS from becoming an activist organization while emphasizing promotion of the highest ideals in wildlife stewardship through scientific endeavor and education.

The annual conference will be in Cincinnati in 1996. The meeting is slated for October 1-6 and will be hosted by the Ohio Chapter, TWS. The Northwest Section's executive board encourages section involvement in a symposium at the 1996 conference after sponsoring a well-attended symposium on Category 2 Candidate Species in Portland. The Board requests Symposia topics for the 1996 meeting. You may forward ideas to Tricia MacLaren, Section Vice President. The deadline for submission of proposals is October 12, 1995.

Much of the credit for the section-sponsored symposium goes to Greg Greene's organizational skills. However, goodscheduling at a premium location gave our symposium added exposure – the first

morning of the conference in the large ballroom just behind the registration table. Incongruous circumstances also depicted this symposium as a unique event. A policy statement issued in July by Mollie Beattie, Director of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, changes the way that candidate species are treated. Briefly, this means that the more than 4,000 Category 2 species of plants and animals will not be retained as candidate species for listing under the Federal Endangered Species Act. By redefinition, candidate species include only the present Category 1 species – those for which the Service has "sufficient information indicating that listing may be appropriate." A reason cited for the policy change was "limited resources for listing." Additionally, the original policy left the public with the impression, although wrong, that all Category 2 species under the original policy would eventually be listed.

Among the several groups and individuals honored for outstanding achievements by the parent society at the awards banquet, the Oregon Chapter was recognized as Chapter of the Year. Additional highlights of the conference included creation of a Mentor Program that provides a forum for students and new professionals to make personal contacts with experienced wildlife professionals that share a similar area of interest. Some chapters have implemented similar programs and the idea seems to be generating momentum. The conference also provided the Society's many working groups with the opportunity to get together and discuss their respective topics of interest.

Northwest Section Meeting In Banff, Canada March 1996

The Northwest Section of The Wildlife Society Annual Meeting, hosted by the Alberta Chapter, will be held March 29-31 in beautiful Banff, Canada. The plenary session with highlight "Wildlife and Economic Development: Challenges, Lessons and Opportunities". The meeting will consist of paper and poster sessions, field trips, and a workshop on improving communication skills. Students are encouraged to participate – cash awards will be given to the best student paper and poster. Abstracts for contributed papers and posters (4'x8' space provided) are due January 15, 1996. A cover letter should include the title of the abstract, name, address, tele-

phone and FAX numbers of the presenter. Send 4 hard copies of abstracts (250 words or less) and a diskette (Word or Wordperfect preferred) to:

Patricia A. MacLaren
Weyerhaeuser
Environmental Forestry Department
WTC 1A5
Tacoma, WA 98477
Telephone: 206-924-6659
FAX: 206-924-6970

For general conference information contact Ron Bjorge, Alberta CHAPTER Vice President, at 403-340-7699.

Alberta last hosted the section meeting at the same facility in spring 1989 with an excellent program and a large attendance. That time of year provides an excellent opportunity to view wildlife in Banff National Park. We hope to see many of you there.

Rooms are \$69/night (Canadian) plus 5 percent room tax and 7 percent GST. GST can be reclaimed by U.S. citizens when they return home.

The executive board is looking to a meeting in 1997 hosted either by the Washington or Oregon Chapters.

From Our New TWS Council Rep

Editor's note: Wayne Regelin, along with two others were installed as members serving on TWS Council at the annual conference in Portland. Wayne currently serves as Director, Division of Wildlife Conservation, Alaska Department of Fish and Game. He succeeds Jim Peek on Coun-

cil. Good Luck Wayne.

I am pleased and honored to serve on The Wildlife Society Council. Thank you for your support. I will do my best to represent the interests of Northwest section members at The Wildlife Society Council meetings during the next three years. I know I have much to learn about regional and state issues affecting wildlife management. I will attend the Northwest section meetings and do my best to attend chapter meetings to familiarize myself with the concerns and desires of Northwest section members. If you have any suggestions or issues you want to discuss, write me at:

**Alaska Department of Fish and Game,
P.O. Box 25526, Juneau, AK 99802,
ph. 907-465-4190. – Wayne Regelin**



Cincinnati 96

The Wildlife Society Third Annual Conference and Trade Show

October 1-6, 1996
Cincinnati, Ohio

Hosted by the
Ohio Chapter, TWS

*Registration and Program
Information available
May 1996*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

October 1996

1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---

The Wildlife Society
(301) 897-9770
FAX (301) 5230-2471

Meetings of Interest

Oct. 16-18, **Rocky Mountain Symposium on Environmental Issues in Oil and Gas Operations: Practical Solutions for the 90's**, Office of Special Programs and Continuing Education, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO.

Nov. 2, **Workshop on Federal Land Access Issues: Understanding the Procedures**, Greenwood Inn, Beaverton, OR: contact Richard Zabel, Western Forestry and Conservation Association, 4033 Canyon Rd., Portland, OR 97221-2760 (503-226-4562).

Nov. 13-15, **1st Conference on Fire Effects on Threatened and Endangered Species and Habitats**, Coeur d'Alene Resort and Conference Center, Coeur d'Alene, ID; contact International Association of Wildland Fire, P.O. Box 328, Fairfield, WA 99012 (509-283-2397).

1996

Feb 2-3, **West Coast Wood Duck Workshop**, Red Lion Inn at the Quay, Vancouver, WA; contact Paul Fielder, Washington Chapter, TWS, c/o Chelan County P.U.D., P.O. Box 1231, Wenatchee, WA 98801-1231 (509-663-8121, ext. 4299).

Feb. 27-Mar. 1, **5th Mountain Lion Workshop**, Bahia Hotel, San Diego, CA; contact Douglas Padley, S. Cal. Chapter, TWS, P.O. BOX :891225, Temecula, CA 92592 (909-695-2217).

Feb. 26-28, **Sharing Common Ground: Livestock/Big Game Management on Western Rangelands**, John Ascuaga's Nugget Hotel, Sparks, NV; contact Nevada Cattlemen's Association, P.O. box 310, Elko, NV 89803 (702-738-9214; FAX 702-738-5208).

Mar. 29-31, **Northwest Section, TWS, Annual Meeting**, Banff Park Lodge, Banff, Alberta. (See details elsewhere in this newsletter.)

Chapter Activities

ALBERTA: Chapter activities are always slow during the summer. We are developing terms of reference for a Wildlife Technical Scholarship. This will expand our current university student scholarship and give recognition and encouragement to students in the technical fields of wildlife management.

Other activities include preparation for the 1996 annual meeting of the Northwest Section and Alberta Chapter in March 1996.
— Margo Pybus

IDAHO: Activities associated with increasing visibility and input from the Chapter on natural resource issues have occupied much of the president's time. These activities include attending public hearings, organizing member attendance and participation at public hearings, writing letters to congressional delegates and coordinating with natural resource management agencies. Issues addressed by these contacts include: hearings on the Endangered Species Act, reintroduction of grizzly bears, conservation clauses of the 1995 Farm Bill, grazing on public lands and the proposed Fish and Wildlife Funding Initiative (Nongame Wildlife Bill). The greatest effort has been directed toward seeking support for the Funding Initiative. By coordinating with members of the Idaho Fish and Game Department, letters were sent to all members of the Idaho Chapter asking them to express their views in writing to selected outdoor equipment manufacturers and distributors. In addition, the president sent letters to 40 leading companies nationally asking for their support of the Funding Initiative.

The greatest frustrations of the past few months are the luke-warm and sometimes downright cold reception by congressional delegates of communications regarding natural resources issues. At least one of our Idaho delegates has never acknowledged a letter, and others have stated their lack of support. We have an up-hill battle! — Ernie Ables

MONTANA: The Montana Chapter will hold their annual meeting during March 4-7, 1996 at Chico Hotsprings, north of Yellowstone National Park. The meeting theme is "Human Dimensions in Wildlife Management" and will focus on such issue/topics as wildlife/human conflicts, conflict resolution, wildlife diseases, legislative issues, Wildlife Diversity Funding Initiative, protection and several other current topics. A one-day workshop on Wildlife Diseases, featuring experts on the bison/brucellosis issue is tentatively planned for March 4th. A call for papers and additional information will be in the upcoming Chapter newsletter. For information contact: **Gael Bissell, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 490 N. Meridian Road, Kalispell, MT 59901 (406-752-5501; FAX 406-257-0349).** — Gael Bissell

WASHINGTON: The Chapter is sponsoring the West Coast Wood Duck Workshop in early February (*See meetings of interest*) to coordinate information exchange about the biology and management of wood ducks along the west coast. Speakers include wood duck researchers and managers from throughout the Pacific Northwest and California. Frank Bellrose, a name commonly associated with wood duck and waterfowl biology throughout North America, is featured among the speakers. The anticipated registration fee is \$60 (\$25 for students). — Paul Fielder

Vertebrate Group Forms Special Herp Committee

The Society for Northwestern Vertebrate Biology (SNVB) has formed a special committee to serve as an umbrella organization for those interested in native and introduced amphibians and reptiles in the Northwest. Known as the *Pacific Northwest Amphibian and Reptile Consortium* (PNARC), the group's primary functions include a source of information and training for biologists working for agencies and organizations to inventory, research, or manage this group of vertebrates.

Membership in PRNARC accompanies membership in SNVB for an added fee of \$5. A directory is in preparation to provide a networking tool for Northwest herpetologists. Training workshops may be available in 1996. Anyone with knowledge of an

agency or organization willing to sponsor a workshop is encouraged to contact: **Bill Leonard, Washington Natural Heri-**

tage Program, DNR, P.O. BOX 47046, Olympia, WA 98504-7046 (ph. 360-902-1670, FAX 360-902-1787).

Call for Nominations for President-elect

The Northwest Section executive board is soliciting its membership for nominations for the position of president-elect. Election to the office entails a four-year term on the board: one year as president elect; two years as section president; and, one year as past president.

If you are interested in becoming a candidate for this office, please provide the following information on one typed page to: **Greg Schroer, Resources Northwest, P.O. BOX 675, Kirkland, WA 98082 (206-828-3858) by Decem-**

ber 1, 1995. The nominations committee will review nominations in preparation for elections prior to the December newsletter.

Nominee for Northwest Section President-elect:

Full name, personal data, education, current and past work positions, Wildlife Society activities and positions, principal wildlife interests, views regarding the Northwest Section, and reasons for seeking the position.

NORTHWEST SECTION EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dale Toweill, President
Idaho Department of Fish and Game
P.O. Box 25
Boise, ID 83707
(208) 334-2599

Lynn Irby, Past President
Department of Biology
Montana State University
Bozeman, MT 59717
(406) 994-3252

Patricia MacLaren, Vice President
Weyerhaeuser
WTC 145
Tacoma, WA 98477
(360) 802-0304

Jerome Hansen, Secretary-Treasurer
Idaho Department of Fish and Game
P.O. Box 25
Boise, Idaho 83707
(208) 334-2772

Wayne Regelin, NW Section Rep
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
P.O. BOX 25526
Juneau, AK 99802
(907) 465-4190

Gary Dusek, Newsletter Editor
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
FWP Building, MSU Campus
Bozeman, MT 59717-0322
(406) 994-6362

Margo Pybus, Alberta
Wildlife Management Division
Alberta Fish & Wildlife
6909 116th St.
Edmonton, AB T6H 4P2
(403) 427-3462

Lowell Suring, Alaska
Chugach National Forest
3301 C. Street, Suite 300
Anchorage, AK 99503-3998
(907) 271-2836

Ernie Ables, Idaho
Fish and Wildlife Department
University of Idaho
Moscow, ID 83844
(208) 885-7608

Nancy Warren, Montana
Flathead National Forest
1935 3rd Ave. E.
Kalispell, MT 59901
(406) 758-5325

Daniel Edge, Oregon
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR 97330
(503) 737-4531

Bob Naney, Washington
Okanogan National Forest
1240 S. 2nd
Okanogan, WA 98840
(509) 826-3387

Northwest Section
The Wildlife Society
Editor: Gary Dusek
FWP Building, MSU Campus
Bozeman, MT 59717-0322

address correction requested

BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
PAID
Boise, Idaho
Permit No. 679

00002 RA 95
ERNEST D ABLES
FISH & WLDLFE DEPT
COLLEGE OF F
U OF ID
MOSCOW ID 83844-1136