



# NORTHWEST WILDLIFER

ALASKA  
ALBERTA  
BRITISH COLUMBIA  
IDAHO  
MONTANA  
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
OREGON  
WASHINGTON  
YUKON

MAY 2001

NORTHWEST SECTION

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Northwest Section meeting in Alberta was a great success with over 300 people in attendance and 3 days of excellent presentations and discussions. Thanks to our hosts, the Alberta Chapter for doing such a fine job of organizing the meeting in a gorgeous location. Next year's meeting will be held in conjunction with the Washington Chapter at a location and time still to be determined. As usual, we will endeavor to have a regional flair to the meetings so that they will be of interest to all in the Northwest Section. We are interested in any ideas or help that you may be willing to provide towards the meeting.

Committees for the Northwest Section continue to be in good hands. Sandy Kratville has agreed to continue to do her outstanding work on editing the Newsletter. Lowell Suring has agreed to continue to chair the Awards committee. Thanks to both for their continuing efforts.

The Northwest Section of The Wildlife Society is an important level of organization for the overall Society. We will be voting on a new Section representative to Council, and have two excellent candidates for this position. Council selects members to fill various committee positions with representatives from the different sections.

The Northwest Section also strives to provide communication and support for activities and issues that have a regional focus or concern. This is a challenge, given the size of our Section, and the effectiveness of the Chapters in the various states and provinces that serve most of our members' communication and support needs. Our newsletter and our annual meeting are two ways that the Section uses to help accomplish these tasks. We are always looking for new ways or opportunities to be of help to our members. If you have any ideas or suggestions of how we can further the efforts of the Section, please let me know. My email is [Jon\\_Haufler@emri.org](mailto:Jon_Haufler@emri.org), and phone number is (877) 388-7769.

- Jon Haufler



## BIG INTERESTS IN A BIG WORLD: STUDENT INVOLVEMENT IN THE NORTHWEST SECTION

Alaska, British Columbia, Alberta, Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana are all provinces and states with at least one Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society. Our section is fortunate: we have the diversity of thousands of miles of territory, and international involvement with Canada. Paradoxically, the students of our section face problems stemming from what should be advantages. Attendance of students to section meetings depends completely on location. Our departments are generous, but travel costs are such that we just can't make the distant meetings.

The University of Montana hosted the 35<sup>th</sup> annual Western Student conclave this year. While this meeting is usually attended by three Texas schools, only one school made it this year. The drive takes over 30 hours one-way. For those readers too far removed from the collegiate phenomenon known as the "road trip," a 15 person van crammed with 12 students and gear over this distance equals about \$1,500. The prolonged proximity to our fellows breeds companionship... and an interesting smell. Anyway, hosting students from so far away was a great experience. We met and shared information. These conclaves are incredible: students get to reach beyond the familiar, and they learn about the different management regimes across the west. Now imagine Alaska, 2,358 miles and 53 hours from Missoula, Montana. Students in Alaska are fortunate if they are able to attend their own state meetings, let alone a conclave.

There are four levels of activity in The Wildlife Society: connections within our states, our section, and at the national and international levels. Both students and the whole Wildlife Society must begin to think internationally. We have some good starts. The Wildlife Society sponsors several listserves. The student listserve is active

with posts about activities, questions about running a club, and fundraising ideas. The University of Montana is now proudly hosting the listserve for the International Wildlife Management Working Group. But what about our section? Northwestern student involvement at national and section meetings remains low. The University of Montana Student Chapter worked hard to obtain funding to sponsor the attendance of 29 students to the Northwest Section meeting this spring. There were no other U.S. student chapters represented. This predicament is rooted in funding, distance and timing, not lack of interest.

The national meetings are the most exciting of all. The student-professional mixer helped me meet potential graduate advisors and project leaders. The leadership breakfast made me aware of issues other chapters were facing and problems that ours may have to confront in the future. I remember encountering students from Maine and New York to Florida. Their programs were so different, more so than I would have imagined. I became involved with the International Wildlife Management Working Group, and learned about the challenges of exchanging technical journals with developing nations. I heard a plea for journal donations from a professor representing a university in Argentina. While an American student can easily buy her/his own personal journal subscription, the exchange rate can present a difficulty to international institutions. This problem is not as removed from our section as one would think. At the Northwest Section meeting, I met with students from Canadian Universities. They rarely get to attend section meetings, even though distance is relatively short from Lethbridge or Edmonton to Post Falls or Bozeman. Exchange rates and timing of meetings are their biggest barriers.

From attending these meetings, I learned the value of communication. I set out to uncover the e-mail addresses of fellow student chapter leaders. I wanted their input on what to write for this article. The reward was corresponding with counterparts in Alaska, Alberta, and elsewhere. I was surprised: some of our activities, like the wild game feed, we shared in common. Others were new ideas. The Alberta Student Chapter is involved with research projects on urban wetlands and deer management. They have a representative on the Alberta Pacific Forestry Company Task Force to learn about operations. The Alaska chapter works with The Alaska Trappers Association and the USFWS on other wildlife projects. With just one e-mail exchange, I learned about the similarities and differences in our programs, states and provinces.

My motivation in writing all this is two-fold. First, I want to emphasize to the wildlife professionals that students do have an impact. We will be where you are, given

time. Our exposure now greatly influences how we will think in the future. Where will we go to graduate school? What will we study? Will we think internationally? After my contacts with students from across the nation, I thought on a national level. After my connections with the International Wildlife Management Working Group, and even Canadian students, I began to think about how I, an undergraduate student, could make a difference across the world. Secondly, I challenge fellow students in our section to increase our communication. Whether we will ever meet face-to-face (and there is no good substitute for shared ideas over a pizza dinner) is another matter. Let us at least connect with each other via e-mail, and find a way to keep connections rolling through the years. Let's get things started! Please contact me at: [jfuller\\_wbio@hotmail.com](mailto:jfuller_wbio@hotmail.com), or the University of Montana Student Chapter at [wildlife@selway.umt.edu](mailto:wildlife@selway.umt.edu)

**- Julie A. Fuller**  
**University of Montana, Missoula**

## REPORT ON ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN BANFF

The Annual Conference of the Northwest Section of the Wildlife Society in Banff is still quite fresh in my mind. By all accounts the conference was highly successful; it was also a wonderful experience for me to serve as conference coordinator! I deeply appreciate the contributions of all the people that helped to make the conference a success, including all the attendees!

I personally thank all the invited speakers, namely Morley Barrett, John Donihee, Paul Paquet, Jamie Pinkham, Hal Salwasser, and David Schindler. I also thank all the presenters and co-authors of the 46 contributed papers (9 different sessions) and the 20 poster papers. You are too numerous to name individually, here, but I

do want to share with all contributors the following feedback: According to some out-of-province attendees with a truly international perspective, the conference was top of the line, from a professional development point of view. I, and the other conference organizers, express our sincere thanks to all presenters, for the high-quality contributions!

Early indications are that the conference was also a financial success. The very generous grant of \$14,000 from Alberta Environment and a floater loan of \$1,480 (Canadian) from the Northwest Section of the Wildlife Society did a great deal to ease any early financial worries! Additionally,

corporate donations which totaled **\$5,150** were received from **17 other organizations**. It is my pleasure to thank and acknowledge those 17 companies, as follows: AMEC Earth and Environmental Ltd.; Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc.; Alberta Plywood Ltd.; Alpine Helicopters Ltd.; Applied Ecosystem Management Ltd.; Arc Wildlife Services Ltd.; Aurora Wildlife Research; BHP Diamonds Inc.; Diashowa Marubeni International Ltd.; Forem Technologies; Global Tracking Systems Inc.; Golder Associates Ltd.; Great Slave Helicopters Ltd.; LOTEK Wireless; Millar Western Forest Products Ltd.; URSUS Ecosystem Management Ltd.; and Weyerhaeuser Company Ltd.; and Alberta Operations.

I also acknowledge and thank all of the individuals who volunteered and/or supported the conference in some way that I have not yet mentioned (as follows, in alphabetical order, by last names—donors of auction items are listed separately, further below): C. Aldridge, R. Anderson, C. Apps, H. Atkinson, R. Bechtel, R. Bennett, M. Besko, R. Bjorge, M. Boyce, S. Bradbury, E. Bruns, B. Calverley, E. Campbell, L. Cerney, B. Chruszcz, D. Collister, J. Connelly, L. Crowe, K. Crutchfield, M. Degner, C. Detbrenner, M. Dorrance, E. Dzus, D. Farr, B. Fisher, L. Fitch, J. Folinsbee, P. Folinsbee, C. Found, A. Franke, G. Fratton, A. Fulford, C. Garrett, C. Gates, W. Glasgow, C. Gray, K. Gunson, G. Hamilton, S. Hankewich, S. Hanus, M. Hebblewhite, M. Heckbert, D. Hobson, G. Hornbeck, A. Hubbs, S. Hunt, T. Hurd, S. Kowalchuk, K. Kranrod, S. Kratville, M. Jokinen, P. Jones, J. Jorgenson, A. Leach, P. Lee, R. Lewis, S. MacDougall, B. McCallum, D. McInnes, D. McKinnon, E. Merrill, I. Michaud, J. Nicholson, S. Nielsen, C. Nietvelt, J. Nolan, D. Norcross, K. Oldershaw, L. Peleshok, D. Prescott, M. Pybus, R. Quinlan, R. Riddell, B. Rippin, I. Ross, D. Ryerson, W. Samuel, J. Schiek, L. Schrader, C. Skiftun, K. Smith, D. Soppet, T. Sorensen, C. Stambaugh, C.

Stefan, H. Stelfox, G. Stenhouse, A. Stuhl, D. Sturgess, K. Sturgess, K. Talbot, B. Taylor, K. Harrison Todd, B. Treichel, M. Urquhart, K. Vallee, C. White, D. Wig, L. Wilkinson, H. Wollis, R. Wynes, P. Young, and J. Zehnder. If you count, you will realize that this list is more than **one hundred** strong! Many individuals made multiple contributions, and made them cheerfully. If I have overlooked anyone in this listing, I sincerely apologize. Please be assured that all contributions were appreciated!

Special events added breadth and enjoyment to the conference, including the photo contest, auction fundraiser, and the pre-conference field trip. I thank the organizations that donated prizes for the photo contest, namely the Banff Camera Shop, Maptown and Framing Matters, and McBain Camera Ltd. I also thank all the individuals who submitted photos in the contest categories.

We raised \$2,395.00 for the scholarship fund from our auction! Many thanks to the individuals and organizations that donated auction items: Alberta Environment, D. Albright, Bighorn Environmental Design Ltd., M. Boyce, E. Bruns, L. Cerney, T. Clayton, G. Court, K. Crutchfield, M. Dorrance, L. Dube, Ducks Unlimited (Canada), Eco Edge Inc., GeoWorks GIS, Global Tracking Systems Inc., G. Hornbeck, Maptown, R. McFetridge, J. Nolan, Parks Canada, M. Pybus, B. Rippin, W. and D. Samuel, K. Smith, B. Stelfox, L. Takats, B. Treichel, A. Todd and H. Wollis. A special thanks is also extended to all who purchased auction items.

Finally, I thank Parks Canada and the staff members of Banff National Park for the pre-conference field trip which they arranged and delivered (individuals are named in the master list of volunteers). By all accounts, the field trip was highly enjoyable and successful, too!

To be truthful, organizing the annual conference was the largest, most complex endeavor of my career (more than 25 years long)! It was also the most fulfilling thing that I have done in my career! If you have ever dreamed of organizing a large conference, but haven't yet created and seized the opportunity, I sincerely

encourage you to do so. I believe that you would truly find it to be a wonderful experience.

- Arlen Todd  
Alberta Chapter, President

## ANNUAL BUSINESS/BOARD MEETING MINUTES MARCH 3, 2000

Secretary-Treasurer Ellen Campbell summarized minutes from the last Board meeting and presented a Treasurer's report. President Jack Connelly noted that the section bylaws state that three Board members constitute a quorum for the purposes of a Board meeting. However, he did not feel that three was a sufficient number for deciding chapter business. Jack pointed out that the Section can provide some funds for Board members to attend the annual business and Board meeting if travel expenses are a problem. It was suggested that the Board meet twice a year. In-coming President Jon Haufler suggested that the Board meet again at the Reno TWS Conference since it appeared that several Board members would be attending, or by conference call as needed.

After determining that a quorum was not present for the purposes of a Section Annual Business Meeting, President Connelly convened a Section Board meeting. Board members present (and the chapters they represented if applicable) were: Jack Connelly (President), Jon Haufler (President-elect), Ellen Campbell (Secretary-Treasurer), Elston Dzus (AB), Jim Thrailkill (OR), Terry Bowyer (AK), Mike Dorrance (BC), Chuck Harris (ID) and Dan Edge (Section Representative, non-voting).

### **New Business**

Carl Saunders from the University of Montana (UM) Student Chapter of TWS

described the Western Student Conclave which the chapter will host March 19-23. The Conclave includes student presentations, quiz bowl, field trips and banquet. The chapter is short on funds to host the meeting and requested financial assistance from the Section. Discussion included a description of what other organizations had been approached and their contributions, including MT chapter (\$400), parent society (\$400), and MT Dept of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (prizes and in-kind support). The Board approved an \$800 grant to the UM Student Chapter of TWS for the purposes of supporting the Conclave.

Section Representative Dan Edge described the Wildlife Information Network (WIN). The project's objectives are to involve TWS members in grassroots community efforts to promote wildlife conservation using science based decision-making tools. Three test projects were funded in 1998 (MI deer damage, PA conservation reserve, and UT conservation on private lands). TWS is currently evaluating how well these projects met the objectives of WIN and are requesting additional funds to support the program. The Board determined that we are not interested in contributing at this time.

Dan also reviewed other current TWS business including: TWS conference in Reno – expecting good attendance, 300+ abstracts received; CARA – have high

hopes that it will pass this year; Celebrating our Wildlife Heritage – capturing oral history of early years of wildlife profession, some good material is coming in. Chapters should be able to financially support this project but if they cannot, they can talk to the Section; International Wildlife Conference – scheduled for 2003 in Christchurch, NZ; TWS Conference in 2004 – most chapters in the NW have been asked to submit a bid to host the conference. There's interest in having the conference in a smaller town (Snowmass was very popular). Bring any concerns to Dan that you would like carried to Council.

One concern expressed was the need to recognize and describe TWS as an international organization, dropping use of the words "national headquarters" for example or "US and foreign." TWS should address legislation and issues that arise in other countries, such as issues in Canada. A Canadian policy director for TWS would be good if TWS could afford it. Dan was to take to Council the NW Section's perception of this issue and urge TWS to recognize and be sensitive to the international membership of the organization.

A second concern that Dan was to take back to Council was a perception that the TWS conference was becoming increasingly political and less scientific. The North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference has a strongly political orientation, but the TWS conference should not.

There was extended discussion about student travel grants. Concerns expressed include: grant amounts have not changed in several years; it would be good to have student chapter presidents attend the section meetings; it's important for students to get together and also meet with professionals. A motion was passed to

establish a committee charged with developing a policy for allocating funds to student presenters and attendees as the annual Section conference. A report will be due at the September Reno conference. President Connelly established a committee of: Jack Connelly (chair), Julie Fuller, Terry Bowyer, Jon Haufler, and Ellen Campbell. A recommendation was made to the committee to increase to \$2000 the amount of funding available for student grants.

Dan Edge announced that Phil Zwank is accepting nominations for honorary TWS membership and special recognition service awards. Dan is still looking for Group Achievement Award nominees and would also like to see the Chapter of the Year award come back to the NW. Dave McKinnon reported that approximately 315 people registered for the conference, and income will allow the AB chapter to return the \$1000 "seed money" to the Section.

Newsletter Editor Sandy Kratville will look into sending the newsletter electronically in order to save printing and mailing costs.

The Section meeting location for 2002 was the final topic. WA would be the next likely host, with possibly OR or AK as second choices. However, the OR chapter of TWS recently finished a joint meeting with OR chapter of AFS and intends to meet separately in 2002 on the coast. They may consider hosting the Section conference in 2003. AK is skipped every other time its turn comes up because travel costs usually result in low attendance. A conference could be held in BC, but the Section would have to take on much of the work because there is no BC chapter. Jon Haufler will be responsible for finding the next conference location.

**- Ellen Campbell  
NWS Secretary-Treasurer**

**Northwest Section of The Wildlife Society  
Treasurer's Report  
Banff, Alberta**

Previous Balance (March 8, 2000) \$23,176.83

**INCOME**

Membership dues	\$4,525.00
Interest (checking acct)	70.18
(savings acct)	597.00

Total Income \$ 5,192.18

**EXPENSES**

Newsletter	\$4,014.38
Meeting room rent 3/00	80.00
Student travel grants (3/00 ID)	325.00
Support to nat'l TWS conference	500.00
Support to CARA	1,000.00
Postage	13.35
Membership dues refund	5.00
Bank service charge	13.00
Advance to AB chapter	1005.00

Total Expenses \$ 6,955.73

BALANCE (February 26, 2001) \$21,413.28

Checking account	\$4,066.79	as of 2/26/00
Savings account	7,204.71	as of 12/29/00
180 day CD (5.15%)	5,141.78	Matures 8/7/01
365 day CD (6.15%)	5,000.00	Matures 8/11/01
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$21,413.28</b>	

Look for coverage of the **Northwest Section 2001 Award winners** in the August issue of the *Northwest Wildlifer!*



# TWS Reno/Tahoe 2001

8<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society  
Reno/Tahoe, Nevada ♦ September 25–29, 2001

## PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

**Plenary:** The Endangered Species Act -- How do we make it work? Some new approaches.

### Symposia

- Remote Photography in Wildlife Research and Management: Detection, Inventory, and Beyond
- What We Have Here Is a Failure to Communicate! Symptoms and Solutions
- Methods and Applications for Monitoring Wildlife in National Parks – *sponsor: Biometrics Working Group, TWS*
- Avian Interactions with Utility Structures
- Restoration and Maintenance of Sagebrush Steppe Ecosystem Health
- Conservation Management of Bison in Northern Landscapes: Advances in Ecology and Epidemiology – *sponsor: International Wildlife Management Working Group, TWS*
- Using Community-Based Conservation Approaches to Better Manage Human-Wildlife Conflicts in the West – *sponsor: Wildlife Damage Management Working Group and Public Conservation Education and Extension Working Group, TWS*
- Research and Management Concerns for Alpine Ecosystems: Conflicts, Connectivity, and Climate Change
- Understanding and Conserving Black-Tailed Prairie Dogs
- Conservation of Bats and their Habitats: Contemporary Research and Management
- Toxicological Effects of Mining on Wildlife Species – *sponsor: Wildlife Toxicology Working Group, TWS*
- Bayesian Analysis: a New Frontier for Wildlife – *sponsor: Biometrics Working Group, TWS*
- Sage Grouse Management and Habitat Relationships

### Workshops

- Adaptive Wildlife Management: Concepts, Optimization Tools, and Case Studies – *sponsor: Biometrics Working Group, TWS*
- Landscape Level Wildlife Habitat Planning and Management in the Urban Environment – *sponsor: Urban Wildlife Working Group, TWS*
- Developing Tomorrow's Professionals: Teaching the Skills They Will Need – *sponsor: College and University Wildlife Education Working Group, TWS*

### Special Poster Session

- Wildlife Toxicology: Contaminant Issues in the Western U.S. – *sponsor: Wildlife Toxicology Working Group, TWS*

### Contributed Papers & Posters

- Ecology and Conservation of Birds
- Ecology and Conservation of Mammals & Other Wildlife
- Conservation of Communities, Ecosystems & Landscapes
- Wildlife-Habitat Relationships
- Wildlife Population Dynamics, Estimation, & Modeling
- Human Dimensions, Conservation Education, & Conservation Policy
- Wildlife Damage Management
- Environmental Contaminants & Wildlife Diseases

More  
information on  
the web site:

[www.wildlife.org](http://www.wildlife.org)



## CHAPTER NEWS

### Check Out these Web Sites for more details on Chapter Activities!

Alaska: <http://mercury.bio.uaf.edu/~ak-tws.organizations/>

Alberta: <http://albertadirectory.com/actws/>

British Columbia: No web site

Idaho: <http://www.ictws.org/>

Montana: <http://www.montanatws.org>

Northwest Territories: No web site

Oregon: [http://osu.orst.edu/Dept/fish\\_wild/tws/](http://osu.orst.edu/Dept/fish_wild/tws/)

Washington: <http://www.WashingtonWildlifeSoc.org>

Yukon: No web site

### Alaska

The Alaska Chapter held its annual meeting in Anchorage Alaska on March 30, 2000. During this meeting we focused on lots of business including work on a draft strategic plan. This plan will help guide our future activities and expenditures.

In 1987 the Alaska Chapter drafted and approved a position statement on oil exploration and development in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. In 1991 Dr. David Klein presented this position with public testimony before Congress. At about the same time The Wildlife Society adopted the Alaska Chapter's position. Given the renewed interest in drilling in ANWR the Alaska Chapter members approved an ad hoc committee to review this 14 year old document and revise it as necessary. The timeline for a revised position will be in late May.

TWS annual meeting in Anchorage Alaska 2004? We are currently soliciting agency and member support for hosting the annual meeting in Anchorage for September of 2004. September is a wonderful time to come to Alaska. With a thumbs up from our members we will be joining Idaho and Alberta chapters in submitting bids to host this meeting.

### Idaho

The Idaho Chapter held its annual meeting March 7-10 in Boise. The Rare Animal Workshop focused on updating the Idaho Department of Fish and Game's Species of Special Concern list. The day-long predator symposium was a great success, with papers spanning the early history of predator control in Idaho to the present day challenges of predator management and the efficacy of control activities. Ted Trueblood Communications awards were presented to Jennifer Boisvert (University of Idaho) for best student presentation and to Dr. E. O. (Oz) Garton (University of Idaho) for best professional presentation. Oz Garton was also presented with the Chapter's Professional Wildlifer award for his many years of outstanding service to the wildlife resources and to the profession. The Chapter voted to submit a bid to host the 2004 TWS annual conference in Idaho. We are now in the process of soliciting letters of support from key state and federal agencies and private corporations and trying to find "volunteers" be chair, vice chair, and 12 subcommittee chairs.

The Chapter also voted to adopt a resolution on "Sustaining the Terrestrial and Aquatic Wildlife Species and Ecosystems Dependent on Declining Snake River Salmon and Steelhead." The Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society endorses

and supports the Idaho Chapter and the Northwest Section of the American Fisheries Society's resolution: (1) "Based on the best scientific information available, the four lower Snake River dams represent a significant threat to the continued existence of remaining Snake River salmon and steelhead stocks;" (2) "A required action is to eliminate or greatly reduce impacts to salmon and steelhead from the four lower Snake River dams by removing, breaching, or bypassing the dams, or otherwise allowing the lower Snake River to flow freely, without impoundment;" and (3) "In conjunction with actions to allow the lower Snake River to flow freely, without impoundment, actions to address detrimental impacts to habitat, from harvest, or from hatcheries likely will be required to sustain the terrestrial, avian, and aquatic wildlife species and ecosystems dependent on Snake River salmon and steelhead and increase their likelihood of recovery."

### Montana

The Annual Meeting of the Montana Chapter was held in Butte February 28 - March 2, 2001. Approximately 150 members attended. Preliminary meetings included the Common Loon Working Group, Partners in Flight, Montana Bird Conservation Partnership, Bat Working Group and Past Officers Luncheon. The meeting was kicked off with a plenary session on Wildfire Management (or lack thereof) presented by Stephen Arno, Fire Ecologist, George Gruell, Wildlife Ecologist, and Richard Lasko, Assistant Director Fire, Air and Aviation, Northern Region, USDA Forest Service, Missoula, MT. A total of 49 papers were presented in a wide range of topics that reflects the variety of habitats that occur in this state. One popular topic was non-lethal techniques for monitoring wildlife populations using DNA analysis. There were presentations on snowshoe hares, wolves, lynx, deer, bears, mountain lions, burrowing owls, sage grouse, and prairie dogs. A special session on

educational resources for general public presentations and how to give these types of presentations was available. Banquet Speaker was Pat Graham, former Director of Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks. A Silent Auction netted about \$1000 for Chapter Special Projects. Bev Dixon was elected President-elect, Frank Pickett moves to Chapter President, Lewis Young moves to Past President, Marion Cherry remains as Secretary Treasurer and John Vore moves off the Executive Board with the Chapter's thanks for three years of service.

### Oregon

In February 2001, the Oregon Chapter of The Wildlife Society (ORTWS) along with the Oregon Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (ORAFS) hosted one of the largest conferences in recent history. A success by every measure, the conference was attended by nearly 1000 professionals, who listened to five outstanding plenary speakers, over 170 concurrent papers, and saw over 50 posters! This was our first joint meeting with ORAFS in 20 years and judging by the attendance alone, we share many topics of concern and interest to both fish and wildlife biologists. A conference of this size and magnitude cannot just happen without careful planning. Many members from both societies put in countless hours planning for over a year to pull off this event to ensure our success. The ORTWS business meeting was perhaps our most attended meeting in the history of the Chapter, with past-president Jim Thrailkill presenting the business of the Chapter to over 300 members!



The conference was preceded by a highly successful symposium entitled "Conservation of Riparian Areas and Waterways: Consideration for Fish and Wildlife Habitat." The symposium, organized by your newly elected president-elect Cheryl Friesen with assistance from board member Nancy Holzhauser and ORAFS members, hosted over 100 folks through a day and half of 20 presentations! Jim Marten opened the symposium with a thought-provoking talk on measuring the success of conservation efforts at the landscape scale.

This year's conference was also supported by several agencies, organizations, and individuals providing donations and contributions of high quality merchandise for our raffle and auction events. This overwhelming support to both chapters will allow ORTWS added financial security into the next year.

The results of the election were announced at the annual meeting. New board members joining on for the 2001-2003 term are Peg Boulay, Mark Penninger and Richard Schmitz. Warren Aney was re-elected to the board and Kevin Blakely, Nancy Holzhauser and Keith Swindle remain on the board. As mentioned before Cheryl Friesen is our new president-elect, Denise Pengeroth is now the vice-president, Roli Espinosa was elected to be vice president-elect, Kat Beal was re-elected secretary and Kevin Russell is our new treasurer. I want to personally thank Dawn Keegan for her work as vice president and for running for a board position, outgoing treasurer Ed Arnett for years of dedicated service to the Chapter's finances and outgoing board members Dan Rosenberg, Cindy Barkhurst, and Lauri Turner for their hard work and dedication. I also want to thank Tara Wertz, Heather Bernier, Tammi Lesh, Laura Todd, and Raymond Rainbolt for their willingness and enthusiasm to run for positions!

The award winners and scholarship recipients were announced at the 2001 Annual conference business meeting and banquet. The following awards were presented during the business meeting. This year's ORTWS Outstanding Service Award was presented to Cheryl Friesen in recognition of her outstanding contributions in promoting wildlife stewardship and the goals of ORTWS during the past year by her extraordinary effort and success in developing TWS Oregon Chapter workshops. A plaque was presented to Cheryl by in-coming board president, Dave Kennedy.

The ORTWS Private Landowner Award is presented to recognize private landowners who have integrated ongoing, positive wildlife conservation programs or actions into their land management strategies. Dan Edge presented the plaque to Dave and Margee Buchanon who are private landowners in the Willamette Valley that have made significant contributions to conserving Oregon's native fish and wildlife and their habitats. They own and manage approximately 500 acres of land south of Corvallis, for protection of natural diversity, and agricultural commodities, principally grape wines (and wine, "Tyee Winery"), and hazelnuts.

Eric Nelson awarded this year's ORTWS Conservation Award to Russ Pinto to recognize his on-going efforts in positive wildlife conservation, enhancement, and advocacy efforts. A plaque was awarded to Russ who is the Director of Land Conservation of the Oregon office of The Nature Conservancy. Russ will be leaving a legacy of important land conservation in Oregon. Over the last 10 years he has brokered 58 TNC preserve acquisitions totaling over 46,000 acres, the most recent being the Zumwalt Prairie.

At the banquet, Erik Fritzell, presented our most prestigious award, the Oregon TWS

Award, to Bob Jarvis for his outstanding contributions and accomplishments in wildlife research, management, and education. Bob Jarvis retired as Professor of Wildlife Ecology, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, OSU, this past December. Bob has dedicated considerable efforts towards student involvement with the Oregon Chapter during his almost 30 years in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife. For decades he has arranged travel and support for hundreds of OSU wildlife students attending the annual meetings. In addition, he has been the principal investigator on numerous research projects on migratory birds, primarily waterfowl, and has advised over 40 graduate students.

The 2001 scholarship recipients were announced at the business meeting. The Kathy Johnson Outreach Scholarship was presented to Rebecca McCloskey, a wildlife science major at OSU who will be interning at the Cheetah Conservation Fund in Namibia this year.

Eric Johnson was awarded the Outstanding Undergraduate Research Project Scholarship for his work at OSU researching the granary site selection by acorn woodpeckers in Benton County. Melissa York is the Outstanding New Graduate Student. Melissa is a graduate student at OSU studying the relationship between butterfly community composition and prairie condition. The 2001 Outstanding Advanced Graduate Student is Ed Arnett for his work at OSU focusing on bats.

I am pleased to announce that a final review of evaluations of ORTWS paper presentations shows that Donald Lyons has won both the Les Eberhardt Award for the presenter of the best student paper and the Dimick Award for best overall paper given at the 2001 annual meeting of the Oregon Chapter of The Wildlife Society. The title of the paper was *Diet and Bioenergetics of Double-crested Cormorants in the Columbia River Estuary*; Donald E. Lyons (presenter) and Daniel D. Roby, Oregon Cooperative

Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Oregon State University; Ken Collis, Real Time Research Consultants; and David P. Craig, Willamette University. The reviewer scores/comments and comments from other people at the talk confirm that Don gave a presentation that was clearly worthy of the awards.

The Chapter will sponsor Don's attendance at The Wildlife Society 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Reno, Nevada this September. Congratulations Don!

After several years of stationary membership, the Chapter grew a bit this past year, with a total membership of now around 550. We trust this increase is a reflection of the excellence the Chapter offers. The Board recognizes that many of our state's biologists are not yet members of ORTWS and in the coming months a "membership drive" will be initiated. Our web site continues to be popular, highlighting workshops, our newsletters (produced by Sally Olson-Edge), position statements, and other information.

Warren Aney Chaired the Conservation Affairs Committee with assistance from Keith Swindle, Dan Rosenberg and Gary Ivey (as well as many others). This very active group commented on some very controversial issues: i.e., predators on salmonids, sensitive species' list, roadless area and roads rules, PNW Research Station Strategic Plan, OWEB land acquisition rules, ODFW's predator-prey study, and the trap-ban initiative. The Chapter's position statement on the anti-trapping measure was referenced in the *Eugene Register Guard* and *Capitol Press* editorials. Our role of integrating science in the decision-making process continues to be tested.

On the legislative front, the Chapter's Legislative liaisons Stephen Kafoury and Mathew Moritz helped educate our legislators. Warren Aney, Dawn Keegan, and Kat Beal coordinated legislative field trips where local politicians joined biologists

in the field. The goal was to increase the understanding of what biologists do and share ideas on wildlife resource issues. The Chapter greatly appreciates the many agency biologists who participated on the trips. The trips will hopefully pay dividends by promoting positive wildlife policy during the 2001 legislative session.

The Grants Committee, chaired by Cindy Barkhurst, was fortunate to be able to provide grants to several projects. Funds were contributed to an interagency effort monitoring the Yellow-legged frog, a "Birds of Oregon" publication, and the computerization of the University of Oregon wildlife collection. The Chapter is proud to be able to help support important efforts for wildlife conservation in this state.

A new brochure (an Action Item identified in the Strategic Plan) was developed and printed this year by the Information and Education Committee. Through the efforts of Lauri Turner, Nancy Holzhauser, and Dave Kennedy, plus review by many others, the 3-color brochure describes the Chapter and offers information on how to join. This is our first "Chapter Brochure," and it has been a long time in coming!

Our Workshops Committee, chaired by Cheryl Friesen, held 3 events this past year. "The Inventory and Modeling of Coarse Woody Debris" was held on the eastside, coordinated by John Guetterman. Two extremely popular workshops, "Tracking of Rare Carnivores," were held in Bend in January. Dr. Jim Halfpenny and Jon Young wowed the attendees with their skills and knowledge in this field. ORTWS has arranged to repeat the "beginners" workshop next January 2002, and will offer an "advanced tracker" workshop as well. Tavis Forrester and Shane Kamrath did an outstanding job of coordination.

2001 will continue to be a very busy year for ORTWS. We're assisting ODFW in the upcoming Western States Deer and Elk Symposium as well as a Chapter sponsored wildlife diseases workshop in 2002. Next year's annual meeting is already being planned - at Salishan on the Oregon Coast February 11-15, 2002. The 2001 legislative session is currently in full swing and our Chapter will be kept hopping to stay on top of emerging legislation related to wildlife. This is handled by a flurry of testimony writing, the "bending" of state legislators' ears, and multiple trips to the halls of the capitol.

### NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL

Section members now have the choice of receiving their newsletter either electronically via email **or** hardcopy via the US Postal Service! Choosing to receive your newsletter via email will reduce costs associated with printing and mailing the **Northwest Wildlifer**. Please send your name and email address to Sandy Kratville, P.O. Box 7583, Missoula, MT, 59807 (email: [spkratville@fs.fed.us](mailto:spkratville@fs.fed.us)) with a note indicating that you would like to receive future copies of your newsletter by email.

### Volunteer for a Year! (...or two!)

A volunteer is needed to maintain the list of members receiving the newsletter by email. Please contact Sandy via email or call (406) 329-3371 before June 30, 2001. Your assistance would be much appreciated!

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"The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated." --Gandhi  
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