

The Wildlifer

The Voice of the Arizona Chapter of The Wildlife Society

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P.O. Box 41337, Phoenix, AZ 85080

Winter 2001

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Now that the holidays are over, the February Joint Annual Meeting is rapidly approaching, and with it comes the annual election of Arizona Chapter of The Wildlife Society officers. Please take a moment to look over this year's list of candidates and send in your vote.

My heartfelt thanks to everyone who put their name forward this year. Given how busy everyone is, your willingness to take on extra responsibilities on behalf of the Arizona Chapter is truly laudable. Thank you.

On the national level, efforts to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge from exploration and drilling apparently have been successful. The Senate soundly defeated an attempt to attach riders to several bills that would have made such action possible. In the upcoming months, we now need to turn our attention to the renewal of the Farm Bill and the many programs this bill makes possible. A recent article in the Journal of Wildlife Management by Reynolds et al. demonstrated just how effective parts of this legislation have been. They estimated that from 1992-1997 the bill's Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) added an additional 12 million ducks to the fall flight in North and South Dakota and northeastern Montana. This is clearly a bill that has been extremely beneficial for wildlife and deserves our continued support. You can keep up-to-date on how things stand with this bill by visiting the TWS website.

There is still plenty of opportunity to become locally active as well. For example, our webmaster, MIKE HERDER, has done a great job getting our AZTWS webpage up and running. Now we need someone who is willing to meet the challenge of keeping it updated. Anyone with a little web experience who would be willing to help us on this project, please contact me. Also, the conservation affairs committee is always looking for input on local issues, so if you have an item of interest, contact SHERIDAN STONE or BRIAN DYKSTRA. We'll be looking for volunteers for a number of committees at the joint meeting, so bring your ideas to the business

meeting on Thursday night.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming meetings in February and am always happy to hear from members at any time with your thoughts and comments. Again, please take a moment to vote for the candidates of your choice in this year's election!

Cheers!

– Tad Theimer

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35th JOINT ANNUAL MEETING

ARIZONA AND NEW MEXICO CHAPTERS OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY AND ARIZONA-NEW MEXICO CHAPTER AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

Ramada Inn Hotel and Conference Center Safford, Arizona, February 7-9, 2002

Ramada Inn
\$55 for single or double
928-428-3200 or 1-877-RAMADA8
Located at 420 E. Hwy 70 in Safford
(Across the street from the meeting site)

Days Inn
\$55 for single or double
928-428-5000
Located at 520 E. Hwy 70 in Safford
(Across the street from the meeting site)

continued on page 2

Best Western
\$55 for single or double

928-428-0521 or 1-800-707-2336

Located at 1391 W. Thatcher Blvd. In Safford

When you make your reservations, tell them you will be attending the Fish and Wildlife Conference. Otherwise, you may not get a room because most of the hotel rooms are being held for our use.

Last Call for Papers

**35th Joint Technical Sessions -- Safford, Arizona
February 7-9, 2002**

Abstracts are requested from any interested person concerning management and research applicable to fish and wildlife resources in the Southwest.

The abstract format is:

Title in bold with only the first letter of the first word and proper names in capital letters.

URA SPEAKER, N. Viron Mentalist, Northern Arizona University, Email address, Street address, Flagstaff, AZ 87654, and Ima Biologist, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, P.O. Box 25112, Santa Fe, NM 87504. (Place speaker's name all in capitals.) **For student presentations, precede name line with 3 asterisks in bold *** and indicate whether student is in an undergraduate or graduate program.**

Please include an email address for the primary presenter.

Text of abstract should be no longer than a half of a page, single-spaced in one paragraph giving pertinent information about background, objectives, methods, results, and interpretations. Indicate below abstract whether submission is for a technical session or poster presentation and the targeted technical session if appropriate.

Speakers will be provided a total of 20 minutes for their presentation.

The pre-registration deadline for the annual AFS-TWS meeting in Safford is January 15, 2002!

Registration details and registration form can be found at www.fisheries.org/aznm/registration.htm

There is a discount for early registration, so register as early as possible.

Also, remember that abstracts acceptance for this meeting have been extended to January 15, 2002. Please use the online abstract submission form at

www.fisheries.org/aznm/abstract%20submission.htm.
Thank you.

Notice: Overhead and 35mm projects will be provided. If you chose to use a computer-generated system, you must provide the equipment and operator.

IMPORTANT REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

YOU MUST BE REGISTERED TO ATTEND THE TECHNICAL SESSIONS -- NO EXCEPTIONS! This includes visitors, students, press, everyone!

The registration fee includes the Friday night banquet. A few extra banquet tickets are available for your spouse, friend, or significant other. Make your request on the registration form.

Attention Vendors! All vendors must register for the conference and pay a \$10.00 table fee. Please include the vendor fee with your registration. Table fee will be waived with a contribution for the raffle. Contact Shawn Denny, Arrangements Chair, 505-624-6135 or sdenny@state.nm.us.

Meeting room requests: To reserve a meeting room prior to or during the technical sessions, contact Shawn Denny, Arrangements Chair., 505-624-6135 or sdenny@state.nm.us. Such requests will be honored on a first-come, first-served basis. Except for conference sponsors, the requesting organization may be liable for room costs.

Announcement: The AZ/NM AFS Chapter will reduce the registration fee for a person that demonstrates a financial hardship. Call Casey Harthorn before January 15, 2002 (505-522-8382).

Job Board. Space will be provided for notices of job announcements, graduate assistantships, grants, requests for volunteers, internships, etc., and job seekers may post copies of a one-page vita. We urge potential employers to post a location where interested applicants may contact you during the conference.

SPECIAL REGISTRATION NOTE CONCERNING REGISTRATION FOR AGFD EMPLOYEES:

Because of difficulties in processing registrations for previous Annual Meetings, The AZ-TWS Chapter has established the following ground rules for the use of SPAs (Small Purchase Authorizations) to pay registration fees. First of all, we strongly encourage direct payment by the employee to the Chapter and use the SPA for employee reimbursement. This keeps the Chapter out of the loop, does not require the Chapter Treasurer to match payments to SPAs, and it increases your probability of actually being registered.

If you must use a SPA to pay your registration, it will only be accepted prior to January 15, 2002. A copy of the SPA must be attached to the registration form. MAKE SURE YOUR NAME APPEARS ON THE SPA the same way it appears on the registration form. ATTACH A COPY OF THE SPA (NOT THE ORIGINAL!!) TO YOUR REGISTRATION FORM AND SUBMIT IT PRIOR TO January 15, 2002. The original copy of the SPA should be submitted through your regular accounting path through your regional or branch office. Registration forms without a correct copy of a SPA attached will be returned — as will all registration requests after the 400 limit is reached regardless of the time period! Thank you for your cooperation.

PHOTO CONTEST FOR AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHERS

Cash prizes! Ten dollars for first place photos in the following categories: Wild Mammals, Wild Birds, Wild Herptiles, Wild Fish, and Wildlifers "Caught in the Act" (humorous or not!).

Fifty dollars for Best of Show photo.

Rules: Entries cannot include previous contest winners, nor can photographs of captive animals be used in any of the wildlife categories. Photos must be taken by the participant. Color or black and white photographs 5"x 7" to 16"x 20" will be accepted (photos 11"x 14" or less are preferred). Photographs must be mounted on stiff backing and/or matted and must be clearly labeled on the back with the photographer's name, address, and telephone number. No glass or frames. A professional photographer will judge entries in each category. Conference participants will judge the Best of Show.

On site registration of photo contest entries will be held 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM on Friday.

EXECUTIVE BOARD AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Executive Board

President—Tad Theimer
520-523-8374
tad.theimer@nau.edu

President Elect—Reed Sanderson (Appointed)

Treasurer—Thomas D. Hildebrandt
480-981-9400 ext. 221
thildebrandt@gf.state.az.us

Recording Secretary—Bob Vahle
520-367-4281
bvahle@gf.state.az.us or vahle@wmonline.com

Corresponding Secretary—Brian Dykstra
520-535-4481
bdykstra@fs.fed.us

Board Member—Debbie Lutch
520-774-0095
deborah_lutch@nps.gov

Board Member—Carol Chambers
520-523-0014
carol.chambers@nau.edu

Committee Chairs

Web Master—Mike Herder
435-688-3239
Michael_Herder@blm.gov

Newsletter Editor—Brian Wakeling
602-789-3385
bwakeling@gf.state.az.us

Membership—Frank Baucom (AZTWS)
Frank_Baucom@fws.gov
602- 242-0210 x 204

Conservation Affairs Committee—Sheridan Stone
sheridan.stone@hua.army.mil
520-533-7083

Memorial Garden—Lisa Andersen
landersen@gf.state.az.us
602-789-3302

Continuing Education—Jon Hanna
jhanna@gf.state.az.us
480-981-9400

UPCOMING MEETINGS OF INTEREST

2002

- January 23-26 — **Foundation for North American Wild Sheep Annual Convention**, Reno Hilton, NV. Contact Foundation for North American Wild Sheep at 307-527-6261.
- January 23-27 — **Quail V – Fifth National Quail Symposium**, Omni Bayfront Hotel, Corpus Christi, TX. Contact Steve DeMaso at 512-389-4975 or steve.demaso@tpwd.state.tx.us.
- February 6-7 — **Population growth rate: Determining factors and role in population regulation**, The Royal Society, Carlton House Terrace, London. Contact Jim Hone at hone@aerg.canberra.edu.au.
- February 21-24 — **National Wild Turkey Federation Annual Convention**, Charlotte, NC. Contact the National Wild Turkey Federation at 803-637-3106.
- March 4-6 — **20th Vertebrate Pest Conference**, Silver Legacy Hotel, Reno, NV. Contact Terry Salmon at 530-752-8751.
- March 5-9 — **20th Annual National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association Symposium**, Sheraton St. Louis City Center, St. Louis, Missouri. Contact 320-259-4086.
- March 17-20 — **20th Biennial Pronghorn Antelope Workshop**, Holiday Convention Center, Kearney, NE. Contact Jeff Abegglen at 308-432-4475.
- March 21-24 — **The Desert Tortoise Council 27th Annual Meeting and Symposium**, Ramada Resorts Hotel, Palm Springs, CA. Contact www.deserttortoise.org.
- April 2-3 — **The Wildlife Society Special Council Meeting**, Hyatt Regency Dallas, Dallas, TX. Contact Harry Hogsdon at 301-897-8616.
- April 3-7 — **67th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference**, Hyatt Regency Dallas, Dallas, TX. Contact Richard McCabe at 202-371-1808.
- April 9-12 — **46th Annual Conference of the Desert Bighorn Council**, Palm Springs, CA. Contact Darren Divine at 702-651-4459 or darren_divine@ccsn.nevada.edu.
- April 23-27 — **13th Biennial Symposium of the Northern Wild Sheep and Goat Council**, Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center, Rapid City, SD. Contact Steve Griffin at 605-394-6786.
- May 15-17 — **4th Conference on Research and Resource in the Southwestern Deserts**, Inn Suites Hotel, Tucson, AZ. Contact www.werc.usgs.gov/sdfs/meetings/html.

CANDIDATES FOR THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**President-Elect****DOUG DUNCAN**

I have always wanted to serve The Wildlife Society further, and running for president-elect is a great way to do that! I believe that the TWS Arizona Chapter has been working well and see my role on the board as continuing that tradition. There are a few areas that always need attention in the Chapter: Society membership, member service and involvement, and professionalism and ethics. If elected, I promise to maintain the Chapter's strengths and work to address the areas that need attention.

I have been a TWS member since 1983; also member of American Fisheries Society, Arizona-Nevada Academy of Science, Desert Fishes Council, Desert Tortoise Council (executive board member). I have been officer and committee chair and member of these and other non-professional organizations. Following is my education and employment history:

Education:

B.S. in Wildlife Management, University of Arizona
M.S. in Wildlife Management, University of Arizona; Thesis: Impacts of Human Visitation on Rodents and Vegetation at Saguaro National Monument

Employment history:

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Fisheries Biologist, 1994-2001, Phoenix & Tucson
BLM, Wildlife Biologist, 1990-1994, Las Vegas
AGFD, Wildlife Biologist, 1990, Phoenix
BLM, Wildlife Biologist, 1987-1989, San Pedro & Safford
NPS, Biologist, 1983-1987, Tucson

CHANTAL "CHASA" O'BRIEN

I received my B.S. in Wildlife, Fish, and Conservation Biology in 1996 from the University of California, Davis and am currently completing my M.S. in Wildlife Ecology at the University of Arizona. During my undergraduate studies, I worked on a long-term project studying lamb survival of Peninsular bighorn sheep in southern California. I gained valuable natural history and preservation experience while working in the teaching museum at UC Davis and at the San Diego Natural History Museum. After graduation, I worked as a technician evaluating the effectiveness of a noise-making device for repelling birds. Following completion of that project, I volunteered on a pilot project comparing migratory and resident bird use of mitigation wetlands versus evaporation ponds in central California. I volunteered on a project studying habitat use, density, and population demographics of American black bears in the Mazatzal Mountains, Arizona in 1998. For my M.S. project, I have studied the influence of coyotes on the habitat use of mule deer and collared peccaries in burned and unburned desertscrub and interior chaparral in the Walnut Canyon Enclosure, Arizona. My main interest is desert ecology with

a particular fascination for desert ungulates. I emphasized behavioral ecology in my studies at the undergraduate level and have become especially interested in interspecies relations. I have been a member of TWS and AZ-TWS since 1999.

Like many, I chose the wildlife profession because I believe in the underlying principles of conservation and have a strong desire to contribute. I joined TWS because I am committed to the goals of a high professional standard, continuing education, science-based policy, public education, and professional stewardship of wildlife resources and their habitats. In *Game Management* (1933:xxxii), Leopold wrote, "Few biological arts depend as much on ingenuity and resourcefulness as this one. It is still in the stage where each practitioner must create his own skill rather than absorb that of others." In the nearly 70 years since that statement was first published, the knowledge base of wildlife management has grown in breadth and depth thanks to the contributions of many dedicated biologists and managers. As we forge ahead into new fields of study, we still must be creative problem-solvers, but we also have much to share. TWS is a hub for information exchange with listservers, publications, newsletters, and conferences. TWS not only bridges the gap between student Wildlifers and professional Wildlifers, but also between wildlife professionals and the public. AZ-TWS functions as an important link between Arizona Wildlifers and the national chapter. I would be honored to serve as your President-elect, representing your interests and keeping the lines of communication open.

Recording Secretary

DUANE AUBUCHON

I graduated from the University of Arizona in 1987 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Renewable Natural Resources–Wildlife Management emphasis. I worked for the U.S. Forest Service's Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experimental Station (Old Growth Lab) for two years on a northern spotted owl demography study in Washington. I came back to Arizona in 1989 working for the Arizona Game and Fish Department's Nongame Program, coordinating spotted owl surveys throughout the state. Since then, I have held various positions with the Arizona Game and Fish Department including Wildlife Manager, Regional Habitat Specialist, and Regional Habitat Program Manager. I am currently a Field Supervisor out of the Department's Kingman Regional Office. I have been a member of the Wildlife Society, the Southwest Section, and the Arizona Chapter for over 11 years, and served on the Conservation Affairs committee last year.

JON HANNA

During 1984 to 1992, I worked with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department and University of Wyoming Coop Unit on projects ranging from bald eagle winter roost to aversive conditioning of grizzly bear. From 1992 to 1995, I worked

for the Arizona Game and Fish Department as the Nongame Mammal Field Projects Coordinator. I am currently the big game specialist for the Department in Region VI Mesa.

Activities in The Wildlife Society including Chapter responsibilities:

Hey, I gave a couple of talks at our annual meetings and I did not even get paid. Also, I am currently Chairman of the Continuing Education Committee so I control at least \$1,000.00 of your money each year.

Other professional affiliations and activities:

RangeNet, Editor of the Desert Bighorn Sheep Council Transactions, Member of Antelope, Mule Deer, Bighorn Sheep, and Elk Foundations, East Valley Semi-pro Volleyball Association.

I promise to always use spel check!

Corresponding Secretary

BRYAN DYKSTRA

Bryan works with the U.S. Forest Service on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests and was so confident that he could win that he did not submit a biosketch. Thanks for your willingness to run. –*Editor*

JOHN MORGART

I am the Sonoran Pronghorn Recovery Coordinator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and am stationed on the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge in Ajo, Arizona. I have B.S. and M.S. degrees from Arizona State University in Wildlife Biology and Zoology, respectively, and a Ph.D. from the University of Arizona in Wildlife Ecology, with a Range Ecology minor. I have worked as a wildlife biologist for the Bureau of Land Management on the Arizona Strip and Yuma Districts, and as a biologist for the Bureau of Reclamation in the Arizona Projects Office. I also spent 12 years as the supervisory wildlife biologist on the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska. I am a Certified Wildlife Biologist (1982) and have been a member of The Wildlife Society since 1974. I have also been a committee member and chairperson on the Conservation Education Award Committee for The Wildlife Society, and as a technical session facilitator at TWS's recent Reno conference. In addition, I served as technical paper co-chair and technical session facilitator at an annual meeting of the Arizona-New Mexico Chapters of TWS. I am a member of the Society of Conservation Biologists, Society of Mammalogists, International Association for Bear Research and Management, Desert Bighorn Council, American Ornithologists Union, Cooper Ornithological Society, Wilson Ornithological Society, and Raptor Research Foundation.

Board Member

ANNALaura AVERILL-MURRAY

I am a nongame biologist for the Tucson regional office of the Arizona Game and Fish Department. I received my Bachelors Degree in Biology at Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME and my Masters Degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Science at the University of Arizona. While at the University of Arizona, I studied the impact of cowbird parasitism and cowbird control on nesting success of Neotropical migratory songbirds breeding along the lower Colorado River. I have worked for the Arizona Game and Fish Department, Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program, since 1997, first as the field coordinator for the Arizona Breeding Bird Atlas project and more recently as a nongame biologist for the Tucson field office. I am currently involved in a variety of projects in southeastern Arizona, including a desert tortoise study on Ironwood Forest National Monument and a proposed black-tailed prairie dog management plan. My professional affiliations include the Wildlife Society, American Ornithologists' Union, Cooper Ornithological Society, and Association of Field Ornithologists. I worked with the Arizona Chapter of The Wildlife Society as the Poster Session Chair and as a member of the Program Committee for the 33rd Joint Annual Meeting of the Arizona - New Mexico Chapters of the American Fisheries Society and the Wildlife Society in February 2000.

MELISSA SIDERS

I have been a member of the Arizona Chapter for some time and would like to begin to give something back to the group by serving as a Board Member.

Professionally, I am very involved in Forest Management activities and the implementation of the Goshawk Guidelines.

My research and management interests include:

- Effects of implementation of the Goshawk Guidelines on goshawk and other wildlife species
- Spotted bat foraging strategies and insect prey
- Artificial bat roost structures (Bat Bark) development and monitoring
- Human disturbance effects to raptor breeding success (logging, recreation)
- Effects of fuels reduction activities on wildlife
- Snag and down wood habitat component management and creation
- Environmental education

Following is other relevant information:

Education:

Masters of Science in Wildlife Management, Colorado State University 1995

Bachelor of Arts in Biology, Kenyon College, 1984

Employment History:

District Wildlife Biologist, North Kaibab Ranger District
April 2000-present

Wildlife Biologist, North Kaibab Ranger District 1994-2000

Wildlife Biologist Trainee, Jemez Ranger District & Graduate Student, Department of Fishery and Wildlife Biology, Colorado State University 1991-1994

Seasonal Timber Marker and Wildlife Technician, Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest 1989-1991
Reforestation/Community Development Agent, Peace Corps, Senegal, West Africa 1985-1988

Activities in The Wildlife Society:

Member in The Wildlife Society since 1993

Member of the Arizona Chapter since 1995

Other professional affiliations and activities include:

Arizona Bat Resource Group, Raptor Research Foundation, Society for Conservation Biology, American Ornithologists Union, Ecological Society of America, Bat Conservation International.

BOB VAHLE

Bob works with the Arizona Game and Fish Department in the Pinetop Region and was so confident that he could win that he did not submit a biosketch. Thanks for your willingness to run. *-Editor*

BALLOT

Please rip this out and send it to:
Brian Wakeling
Arizona Game and Fish Department
Game Branch – WMGM
2221 West Greenway Road
Phoenix, AZ 85023

Get it here by February 7, 2002

President-Elect (vote for 1)

- Doug Duncan
- Chantal "Chasa" O'Brien

Recording Secretary (vote for 1)

- Duane Aubuchon
- Jon Hanna

Corresponding Secretary (vote for 1)

- Bryan Dykstra
- John Morgart

Board Member (vote for 1)

- Annalaura Averill-Murray
- Melissa Siders
- Bob Vahle

REGISTRATION FORM

35th Joint Annual Conference

AZ/NM Chapter of the American Fisheries Society and
Arizona and New Mexico Chapters of The Wildlife Society

Registration Fees and Banquet Tickets

	Regular	Student
Pre-registration postmarked by Jan. 15, 2002	\$ 60.00	\$ 30.00
Registration at the door	\$ 105.00	\$ 50.00
<u>Additional Banquet Ticket*</u>	<u>\$ 25.00</u>	

*One banquet ticket is included with the registration fee.

Cancellations will be accepted in writing if post marked no later than January 15, 2002.

YOU MUST BE REGISTERED TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE.

Make payment to: "AZ/NM Chapter - AFS" and mail to: Casey Harthorn, 566 N. Telshor Blvd, Las Cruces, NM, 88011, or fax to: Casey Harthorn at 505-522-8382

Payment information

Method of payment Check Money order P.O. Master Card Visa

Credit card number _____ Expiration date _____

Name (as it appears on card) _____

Signature _____

Please print Clearly	Amount Enclosed
First & Last Name: _____	Registration Fee: _____
Home Address: _____	Additional Banquet Ticket: _____
City/State/Zip: _____	Vendor Fee: _____
Employer: _____	Chapter Dues* if included: _____
Work Address: _____	Total: \$
City/State/Zip: _____	Please indicate if you want a Banquet ticket:
Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____	I will attend the Banquet _____
Preferred email address: _____	I will not attend the Banquet _____
Preferred mailing address: Home _____ Work _____	*Chapter Dues: AZ TWS = \$5.00; NM TWS = \$8.00; AZ/NM AFS = \$5.00
Chapter Affiliation _____	