

THE WILD TIMES

IDAHO CHAPTER THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Issue 01:2

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Officers:

Chuck Harris	President	334-2920
Toni Holthuijzen	Vice-President	388-2352
Michelle Commons	Treasurer	324-4359
Anna Owsiak	Secretary	756-2271

Newsletter Editor: Joe Butsick 768-2515

President's Message

IDAHO CHAPTER WILL HOST THE 2004 TWS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Now that I have your attention, it could happen. In 2004 it is the Northwest Section's turn to find a Chapter to host The Wildlife Society's 11th Annual Conference. The Oregon Chapter (with assistance from the Washington Chapter) hosted the 2nd Annual Conference in Portland in 1995. In January 2001, TWS Chapters in Idaho, Montana, Alaska, and Alberta were contacted by TWS Program Director Sandra Staples-Bortner to see if they had an interest in hosting the 2004 conference. At the Northwest Section TWS meeting in Banff, Alberta (2-4 March), I was informed that Montana does have the facilities in any city to handle the expected attendance of 1500-2000 people during the preferred September time frame, and the Alaska Chapter will likely not pursue hosting the conference. At the Alberta Chapter business meeting the membership in attendance voted to submit a bid to host the conference (host city would be Calgary or Edmonton). At the Idaho Chapter business meeting on 9 March the membership in attendance also voted to submit a bid to host the 2004 conference. The odds are therefore pretty good that Idaho could be hosting the conference. The 2 cities in Idaho that have expressed an interest in hosting the conference are Boise and Sun Valley.

What is involved in hosting the annual conference? TWS's annual conference is operated as a partnership between the Arrangements Committee (host chapter), Program Committee (a Society-wide committee appointed by the TWS president), and TWS staff. The host chapter forms the Arrangements Committee that has a Chair, Vice Chair, and individuals to lead each of the following 12 subcommittees: associated meetings, audio visuals and computers, field trips and transportation, fund raising (in partnership with TWS staff), local information, meals and entertainment, media relations and photography, merchandise, photography contest, signs, student activities, and volunteers. Using this committee structure avoids burn out among a few individuals.

The host chapter is not responsible for the technical program, exhibits, facilities (convention center and hotels), finances, marketing, publications, or registration. The Wildlife Society Annual Conference Handbook provides details of the chapter's responsibilities and deadlines. It is not necessary for the Arrangements

Committee Chair or even a majority of the Arrangements

Committee members to live/work in the city that is selected as host. Most of the committee meetings can be held off site. However, it will be critical for the committee to meet at the host facility once or twice prior to the conference to become familiar with the layout.

The Wildlife Society provides a cash rebate of \$10,000 to the host chapter to recognize the significant investment of time and energy in the conference. The chapter incurs no financial cost or risk associated with hosting the conference. Although the \$10,000 is the chapter's to use as it pleases, some chapters use a portion of it to assist member volunteers who work at the conference with registration fees and/or lodging expenses as deemed necessary. TWS itself does not provide any complimentary registration or lodging to the host chapter.

A formal bid consists of a letter of interest and completed bid form due by 31 July 2001. TWS Council Steering Committee will meet 24-25 September in Reno to review bids. If the Idaho Chapter is one of the 1 or 2 chapters selected for final consideration, Sandra will conduct a site visit during the fall prior to the final selection of a host city.

Chapters that have hosted a conference are proud of their accomplishment and generally enjoy the experience of working together on a large project. Hosting a conference is also lots of work. We would start having monthly meetings about 18 months prior to the conference (March 2003). The last few months before the conference will require almost full time work of the Chair and Vice Chair, so they will need full support from their agencies to take on the responsibilities of these positions. Some host chapters decide not to hold a separate chapter annual meeting in the year they host the annual conference to avoid overburdening chapter members and exceeding travel funds.

What has to happen between now and 31 July? I need to contact the various state, federal, and private employers to see if they are willing to put forth the personnel and financial resources to help host the conference in Idaho. ICTWS members need to volunteer to be Chair, Vice Chair, and subcommittee chairs (Kerry Reese has already volunteered for the student activities subcommittee chair).

This is not a meeting the 4 members of the ICTWS Executive Board are going to pull off by themselves, it will take a major commitment by the entire membership to have a successful meeting. If I do not hear from you

by early June, I will start making personal contacts to fill the necessary positions. If that does not work, we will know we do not have the commitment to host the conference and I will not submit the formal bid. So over the next few weeks think about how YOU are going to help the Idaho Chapter successfully host the 2004 TWS Annual Conference and give me a call. WE CAN DO THIS!!

2001 Idaho Chapter Meeting

We had a great meeting in Boise for the 2001 Idaho Chapter TWS annual meeting. I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to all those who presented papers and posters, to those who chaired the various sessions, to those who provided auction items for the Chapter's fund raising effort, to those who bought the auction items, and to all those who attended the meeting. Without all of you we could not have a successful meeting and be a successful Chapter.

2002 Idaho Chapter Meeting

The 2002 Idaho Chapter TWS annual meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held in eastern Idaho (Idaho Falls or Pocatello) the last week of February or the first week of March, depending upon the availability of facilities. Thanks to Brad Compton for taking on the local arrangements responsibilities. There will be more details in the next newsletter. If you have ideas for a workshop or symposium for the 2002 meeting, contact Toni Holthuijzen.

Rare Animal Workshop Follow-up

For those members who attended the Rare Animal Workshop on 7 March, remember that you have a homework assignment. You were going to carefully read the Idaho Species of Special Concern Element State Ranking Reviews (that really cool booklet you received with the Edson Fichter nongame montage on the cover) and send your comments back to Chuck Harris by the end of May (before you get too heavily immersed in summer field work). If you want to add or remove a species of special concern, update the existing data, change the CDC state rank, or make changes between the categories of priority, peripheral, and undetermined status, use the Element State Ranking Form on page 103.

If you could not attend the Rare Animal Workshop and want to take part in this Species of Special Concern review process, contact Chuck Harris

(208/334-2920; charris@idfg.state.id.us)

Editor's Corner

Anybody interested in taking over the newsletter? My time is running out. I have accepted a job in Hamilton, Montana as a wildlife biologist with a Fire Response Team on the Bitterroot National Forest. I will remain the editor of the newsletter for three more issues which means we should plan on having someone in place by this time next year. If someone is interested in becoming editor give me a ring or send me an e-mail message.

Since I'm not gone yet, I'll continue to badger everyone for reports, articles, and other items of interest. I know we have gaggles of biologists and herds of conservation officers out there with information to share.

Conservation officers – let's hear from you. I even accept post-it-note memos!

Please send newsletter correspondence to:

Joseph Butsick

19 Havens Lane

Salmon, Idaho 83467

Work Phone – 406-363-7100

Home Phone – 208-756-3813

E-mail home

jonabrem@salmoninternet.com E-mail work

jbutsick@fs.fed.us

Feature Article

The following is a summary of changes within CARA between the 106th and 107th Congressional Sessions.

While CARA holds the same bill number (H.R. 701) in the 107th Congress there are a few changes in the bill since it passed the House in the 106th Congress. Following are the most substantial changes (in the order in which they appear within the bill):

Wildlife program references:

The FY 2001 Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (P.L 106-553) included amendments to Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act (P-R) that were

similar to Title III of the House-passed CARA. These amendments created a third sub-account for wildlife conservation within (P-R).

The language within Title III of the 107th Congress's CARA makes conforming changes to allow for deposits from the "CARA Fund". In addition, amendments within the 107th CARA allow wildlife funding for tribes (a description follows): Allocating wildlife funding for tribes and Alaska Native Corporations; The 107th CARA provides that 21/4% of Title III be made available to Indian tribes and Alaska Native Corporations for wildlife conservation and recreation programs. Funds are distributed based upon a formula of 1/3 land area and 2/3 population.

Fully funding the Historic Preservation program; The 107th CARA provides an additional \$50 million to the Historic Preservation program to fund this program at its authorized level (\$150 million).

Funding the maritime heritage programs; The 107th CARA provides \$10 million for the Maritime Heritage programs within the National Maritime Heritage Act of 1994.

Removal of Agriculture programs; The 107th CARA does not provide funding for the agriculture programs included in Title VII of the 106th Conservation and Reinvestment Act of 2000. The House Agriculture Committee is gearing up for a reauthorization of the 1996 Farm Bill and reviewing many conservation programs in the 107th Congress.

Fully funding Payment In-Lieu of Taxes (PILT) and Refuge Revenue Sharing (RRS); The 107th Congress fully funds both PILT and RRS at their authorized levels. The 106th CARA included a very complicated method of allocating interest proceeds based upon appropriation levels of a given year. The 107th CARA simply provides the funding for these two programs.

Protection of Social Security and Medicare; The 107th CARA clarifies and consolidates Social Security and Medicare language adopted during floor consideration for H.R. 701 during the 106th Congress.

For more information, please visit:
<http://resourcescommittee.house.gov/cara/>
IAFWA Website: <http://www.sso.org/iafwa>.
Teaming with Wildlife web site:
<http://www.teaming.com>

Regional Reports

I'm looking for a few good reports! Don't be shy – if you have anything to share with colleagues and members let's hear it. A paragraph or two is all I need but longer pieces are also welcome.

Committee Updates

Committee Chairs Needed:

The success of our Chapter, and TWS as a whole, is based upon the work of dedicated volunteers. The work of TWS cannot get done by the small paid staff in Bethesda, Maryland, or the executive boards of the Chapters and Sections. We need you to volunteer to be chairs and members of the standing committees of the Chapter. Toni, Michelle, Anna, and I cannot do it all.

Please consider volunteering for one of the committees below. Contact the committee chairperson or Chuck if you have an interest in chairing or working on any of the following committees.

Conservation Affairs Committee:

Gregg Servheen is chair and could use some members. (gservhee@idfg.state.id.us).

Nominations-Election Committee:

Don Kemner has retired (thanks for all your work Don), and we need a chair and members by 1 October 2001 to select a new slate of candidates to run for office. There will be no problems with ballots, chad, etc. If we have a tie vote, like last year's secretary position, we settle it at the business meeting with the flip of a coin.

Awards Committee:

The Idaho Chapter of TWS presented the Professional Wildlifer Award to Dr. E. O. (Oz) Garton on March 8th at the annual meeting in Boise. The award is intended to honor members of the Idaho Chapter who make long-term, outstanding contributions to wildlife resources and management within Idaho. Dr. Garton, a professor of wildlife resources at the University of Idaho, received his B.S. degree at Stanford University, and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees at University of California, Davis.

He served in the Peace Corps in Malaysia and was a Fulbright Fellow in Kenya where he taught at Moi

University. At the University of Idaho, he teaches Fish and Wildlife Population Ecology, and graduate courses in Advanced Population Biology and Wildlife Population Analysis. During the course of his 24 years in the state, Dr. Garton has worked on the effects of pesticides on bird communities, methods of home range analysis and population modeling. He has dealt with species as diverse as peregrine falcons, owls, elk, mule deer, bighorn sheep, trumpeter swans, bears, pocket gophers, gray partridge and woodpeckers.

Audit: vacant

He has worked with numerous agencies including the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, BLM, USFWS, Forest Service, National Park Service, the Hanford Nuclear Reservation and the Colville Confederated Tribes. Dr. Garton has published dozens of peer-reviewed articles and book chapters. In addition to his normal duties as a professor, he teaches workshops on advanced topics such as Metapopulations of Animals and Plants: Inventory, Monitoring and Viability Analysis, Multivariate Applications in Fish and Wildlife, Statistical Methods and Data Analysis for Fish and Wildlife Biologists, and Wildlife and Fisheries Surveys: Design and Analysis.

The letter of nomination stated that “he conducts these workshops during the Christmas and spring breaks, and at other times, and people from all across the continent come to participate. His leadership in the development of the sightability census methodology has been used across the elk range and is the cutting edge procedure. He can advise on quantitative methods appropriate for anything from vegetation production surveys to bird and mammal surveys. Oz is one of the few who has made the transition between the quantitative and the practical in a manner that gains the confidence and respect of those who work with him. He is a rare person in our profession, and highly deserving of recognition by the Idaho Chapter”.

Congratulations, Oz!

Kerry Reese, Chairperson
kreese@uidaho.edu

Education and Information: vacant

Resolutions and Public Statements (vacant)

Research Update

EDITOR'S NOTE: *I know you're out there, come on folks get me some material for the next newsletter. If you are not a researcher but know someone who is, poke him or her in the ribs and get them to send me some material. Thanks! Let's try posting some digital photos too. Or if you only have photos send them to me and I will scan them.*

TWS
Reno/Tahoe 2001
8th 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

For more information:

<http://www.wildlife.org>

IDAHO WILDLIFE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I want to join the Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society, and enclosed ___\$10.00 (1 year), ___\$20.00 (2 years), or ___\$30.00 (3 years) in payment of dues. This is ___ new or ___ renewal membership. It is not necessary to be a member of the parent The Wildlife Society to be a member of the Idaho Chapter of TWS. Membership is by calendar year. Make checks payable to: "Idaho Wildlife Society" and mail to Idaho Wildlife Society, c/o Michelle Commons, Treasurer, 868 East Main Street, Jerome, ID 83338 (Telephone 208-324-4359)

Name _____

Address _____

E-Mail _____

Telephone _____

- - - - Clip-And-Send - - - -

*Idaho Chapter the Wildlife Society
19 Havens Lane
Salmon, Idaho 83467*