



Minnesota Chapter Newsletter The Wildlife Society

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TABLE OF CONTENTS:

President’s Message.....	1
Quarterly Treasurer’s Report.....	2
Annual Meeting Report.....	3
Board Meeting Minutes.....	4
Regional Reports	8
Section and Committee Reports.....	12
Mentoring Proposal.....	13
OHV Position Statement.....	15
2007 Farm Bill Recommendations.....	18
Letter to Governor Pawlenty.....	21
Letter to Comm. Holsten.....	23
Upcoming Events and Workshops.....	24
Volunteer Opportunities.....	25
Janet Boe Obituary.....	27
Contact Information.....	28

MN Chapter TWS Regions



Next Newsletter
Deadline:
September 1, 2007



President's Message

The 2007 legislative session has proven a disappointment for natural resources. I have seen almost no media attention and little discussion even among natural resource legislative networks about natural resource issues this year. The legislature passed a requirement to plan for reducing our greenhouse gas emissions in MN to 30% less than 2007 levels by 2030. Requirements for “green energy” were placed on utility companies in Minnesota as well this session. Many of the “natural resource issues” focused on energy instead of dedicated funding. The ditch buffers rule change did pass. All repaired or improved ditches will now have to have a 1 rod buffer from the top of the ditch. We expected to see limits placed on aquaculture, and I never heard anything related to aquaculture either.

MN TWS has been actively trying to get involved with the legislative process in MN. We sent our final copies of the OHV Position Statement and the Farm Bill Position Statement to key legislators, agencies, and organizations that may be able to use our information. MN TWS, along with the Minnesota chapters of American Fisheries Society and the Society of American Foresters, wrote a news release about our OHV position statements and resolutions. The news release was sent to numerous news organizations throughout the state, and was used by the Duluth newspaper to do a feature on OHV impacts. I received a call from Congressman Petersen's office immediately after we submitted our Farm Bill comments to him. Our Farm Bill comments were sent to numerous other federal legislators and the official comment website that was set up to receive farm bill comments in addition to the congressman.

On a brighter note, we have just established a student relations committee to be chaired by Mark Hanson and Jim Berdeen. We are excited to improve our relationships between students and professionals with a new mentoring program that this committee will oversee. The mentoring program is in the planning phase, hopefully to be unveiled later this year. This committee will also be in charge of a student – professional discussion forum during the coming annual meetings. The discussion forum this year was a great success, and we plan to continue that tradition.

Our annual meeting drew nearly 220 people this year, which is about 40 more that we have had in the past. We showed a profit on the meeting of nearly \$4,000. We try to break even, and planned to break even if 100 people were in attendance. With over twice that many people we made a greater profit.

We used our raffle proceeds from this year and a couple of previous years to award the Stearns County Chapter of Pheasants Forever a habitat grant in the amount of \$1,500 to help with the acquisition of a 159-acre Wildlife Management Area. Since our finances are looking good for this year, we tabled another habitat grant proposal to help a private landowner rejuvenate a remnant hill prairie and oak savannah until that property is protected by a perpetual habitat easement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Once the easement is in place, we will bring this proposal back to the table. It is an excellent project; we just wanted to see protection forever.



Unfortunately, we also lost a great friend of Minnesota wildlife this spring. Janet Boe, who was an active member of our chapter and an inspiration to many, especially us women who were coming up in this field, passed away from cancer in early May. Janet will be sorely missed by all of us. She was the epitome of the consummate professional, and she was a role model and friend for many! As we go about our busy season this spring let us not forget about the great biologists we have lost. Another woman who was an inspiration to many was Rachel Carson. It was 50 years this year since she published her ground breaking work *Silent Spring*. *Silent Spring* changed our world as we know it when people began to realize the toxins that we were emitting into our world and slowly began to change.

It has not been a silent spring for me as I finally make my home in the country. I have been enjoying the field sparrows, bluebirds and meadowlarks that serenade me during the evening on the deck. The morning antics of wild turkeys chasing each other and displaying for their potential mates in the pasture near my house has been a joy. Waterfowl migration is always inspiring for me, and this year was no different. I hope you all are enjoying the spring and summer season as it will soon be coming to end!

Take care, friends!

Stacy Salveold
MN TWS President

Treasurer's Report

TREASURER'S REPORT

MN Chapter TWS
Quarterly Report
21 February 2007 – 23 April 2007

Savings Account	\$ 1,170.58
Beginning Balance	\$ 1,169.63
Change	(\$ 1.48)
Checking Account	\$ 9,324.48
Beginning Balance	\$ 12,833.84
Change	(3,509.36)
Debits:	
D. Trauba (DNR Rtable, copies, jump dr.)	\$ 112.12



Donna Stockrahm (mtg. reimb.)	\$ 25.00
Bill Faber (mtg. reimb.)	\$ 40.00
Holiday Inn Alexandria	\$ 7,034.77
Otter Tail Power (mtg. booklets)	\$ 284.65
Michael Hutchins (lodging)	\$ 130.00
Silver Bell Awards	\$ 709.29
Stacy Salvevold (ann. mtg. expenses)	\$ 28.24
Shallow Lakes Forum	\$ 250.00
TWS (Fedeler Scholarship)	<u>\$ 92.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 8,706.07

Credits:

Interest (February - March)	\$ 1.71
Annual Meeting (reg. + memb.)	\$ 3,657.50
T-shirt sales	\$ 80.00
Raffle proceeds	\$ 1,335.00
Membership	\$ 22.50
Reimbursement for cash withdrawal	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
Subtotal	\$ 5,196.71

12 Month CD (Life membership, matures Aug. '07) \$ 2,063.26

60 month CD (Moose conference, matures 2010) \$ 3,005.54

Total Chapter Assets \$15,563.86
 (Total Chapter Assets 20 February 2007 **\$19,036.84**)

**MN Chapter TWS
 2007 Annual Meeting Report**

Credits:

Registration (incl. membership, banquet)	\$12,082.50
Raffle	<u>\$ 1,335.00</u>
	\$ 13,417.50

Debits:

Holiday Inn- Alexandria	\$ 7,034.77
Otter Tail Power (program printing)	\$ 284.65
Awards (plaques and scholarships)	\$ 901.29
Reimbursements for student registrations	\$ 65.00
Raffle prize (depth finder)	\$ 298.19
Postage (Doug Wells)	\$ 78.00
Speaker expenses	\$ 870.00



Miscellaneous expenses

\$ 28.24
\$ 9,560.14

CONFERENCE BALANCE

\$ 3,867.36

Board Meeting Minutes

MN TWS SPRING BOARD MEETING 24 APRIL 2007 BRAINERD DNR OFFICE

Meeting called to order by Stacy Salvevold at 11:14

Attendance: Mike Zicus, Mike Larson, Stacy Salvevold, Richard Olsen, Bill Faber, Tim Quincer, Mike North

Officer Reports

President announcements: Officer lists have been submitted to national
Due to dearth of board members present, electronic voting is needed.

Motion by Mike North to accept report of minutes as written from last meeting in Alexandria,
Seconded by Mike Zicus

Will send out as electronic vote

Reviewed treasurer's report. Motion to accept by Larson and seconded by North. **E-vote**
Discussed that there is a need to know where CD's are located and who holds them
Discussed whether we want automatic renewal of CD's

The Newsletter has been sent out and should be or have been received by all. There will be a 1
June deadline for the next newsletter to be published in August.

Electronic Voting Issues/Motions

OHV Position Statement – Motion by Larson to accept and Seconded by Trauba and passed via
electronic voting

OHV Position Statement has been posted on the website and also has been sent to DNR
Commissioner, State Legislature, State Senate, Governor. Press release sent out last
week with AFS and SAF

Farm Bill Position Statement – Trauba made motion to accept, seconded by C. Vasek and passed
via electronic voting



Collin Peterson's Office has forwarded response of receipt to MN TWS

Forest Industry Task Force Letter to Governor – Motion by Larsen and seconded by Trauba, and passed via electronic voting

Bald Eagle Letter/issues have been dropped

Old Business

Operations manual has been retyped and also stored in electronic format. Manual was distributed to those present and the new manual should replace all old copies.

Annual Meeting Summary

Many positive comments were received expressing how well the annual meeting went. One negative comment suggested that TWS annual meetings of late have been too focused on land management issues and not enough emphasis put into scientific research, especially research conducted by graduate students. The board discussed that perhaps historically there were a lot more student/scientific papers presented. Those present felt that there was lots of variety with presentations and that solicitations were sent to a diverse audience including many in the university systems. However, the event was well attended with diverse and interesting topics.

ASF has expressed interest to collaborate the next annual meeting with TWS

Subsurface Drainage Position Statement update. Trauba and Delehanty, primary authors, have been busy and not making much progress to date, but they anticipate more free time later this summer to devote to developing a position statement

Shallow Lake Forum – well attended despite a blizzard the day before. Meeting was good and well received. There will be a good opportunity for someone to help with the next shallow lake forum meeting next year. If anyone is interested, please step forward.

Student Chapters - no report

Membership Database Issues – there is a strong need to improve this process and information flow. Seems that every year there is someone new in charge of this, and need a stable person to work within MN TWS and coordinate membership issues with National. Perhaps form a small committee/contact person to receive and manage membership information. Treasurer, newsletter editor and Haroldson are suitable candidates for this committee.

FWLA+MCF – have had difficulty with contacts and payment issues. TWS representative has not been invited to meetings or informed as such.

Break for Lunch 11:50, Resume meeting 12:09.

New Business



Request of \$500 or \$1000 or more to sponsor 2007 TWS Meeting in Az from National on behalf of the AZ TWS Chapter. Discussed and decided not to support. Members present thought it more important to keep dollars within the state and region.

MN TWS Display – need volunteer to make new display for poster board because current display is out of date. Jody is currently keeper of display. Possible volunteers/nominations include the MN TWS website designer, Tim Barber (UM) has been looking for something that his students can get involved in – Stacy decided to contact him

Summer Meetings

Still looking for ideas

Grassland Monitoring for Public Lands with Livestock – maybe too specific in terms of people, interest and location.

North and Larsen say potential for a *Native Plant Community Use in Wildlife/Forestry Management Summer Meeting*. Joint effort/meeting with SAF/DNR. Could be multi-day for wildlife manager training, 1st day DNR training, 2nd day general meeting/seminar. Likely located in NE MN. Main topic will be how the native plant community fits in with DNRs Forestry/Wildlife protocol for timber sales, forested areas.

Other topics for the summer meeting will also be considered and ideas/event are still being solicited.

State Tax Exempt Status –Currently we have Federal 501/3C status and that is taken care for us by national. Issue here is should our chapter be paying state taxes to save some money. It was looked into and decided/agreed by those present that such a status would likely not save any significant monies and the follow-up, recorded keeping and filing may end up being too costly.

Habitat Grants – Projects for consideration

1. Rejuvenation of Hill Prairie and Oak Savanna on Private Lands in Swift County, submitted by C. Vacek. Work has been completed or nearly so. Asking \$1500 to help reimburse landowner personal expenses of \$4800. Total project costs were \$10,500.
2. Land Acquisition funding request in Stearns County, submitted by Fred Bengston. 180-acre tract. Stearns Co. PF has currently raised ~\$72,500 with many partners. Need to raise a total of \$144,000 to be matched by RIM to meet the asking/appraised price of \$288,000. Requested \$2000 but any amount will do.

Members digressed into discussion of available funds and what is available and what we are supposed to do with our funds. ½ of all raffle proceeds are available to fund habitat projects – this means there is about \$1690 to use. Also, there is ~\$7000 in checking. Financially MN TWS chapter is sound. Some discussion on moving money from checking to savings or just providing checking money to support habitat projects. Group discussed pros/cons of each proposal.

Agreed to wait until a permanent easement is recorded on the Hill Prairie area and then reconsider funding. Group did not want to fund a project that could potentially be converted out of restored prairie by a future landowner.



Land Acquisition – Motion by Zicus to fund with \$1000 seconded by Faber, but then amended to fund with \$1500 by motion by Larsen, seconded by Salvavold. **Electronic vote needed to pass.**

Student relations – Hanson/Berdeen are working on a student-mentoring program and have written a draft proposal for review (this was handed out at the meeting). There is a need for a student mentoring committee that will be tasked with coordination between students and mentors and MN TWS. Larson stated that there is lost of interest from students, and this is evident by the large turnout during the open forum discussion at our last annual meeting.

Motion by Larson to endorse the Mentoring Program, seconded by Quincer. **Need electronic vote to pass.**

The Berdeen/Hanson paper will be published in the next newsletter.

FWLA – Mike Dings has been appointed/volunteered as TWS Representative

Officer Reports have been sent and submitted to National

Annual Meeting Stuff –

Steve Kittleson not here, but SAF and AFS invited TWS for next joint meeting

Good opportunity

SAF annual meeting in Grand Rapids and topic/focus will be on prescribed fire in MN

The board members present supports such a joint meeting, but the question is with Whom

Regional Reports

None – regions 1 and 2

Student Chapter

None to report

Committee Reports

Conservation issues – try to select 1 or 2 topics each year for comments

i.e., wind, biofuels (grass, wood) - perhaps construct best management practices and provide sustainable recommendations

Other ideas?

Forest Issues – Tim Q.

Recent position statement completed

Looking into potential summer meeting, but have little to report about that at this time

Tribal Liaison – Faber

Faber feels that there is no longer a need for a tribal liaison with TWS. Most tribe people are part of the TWS and there is good communication anyway and this ends up falling into statewide communication with Faber heads. Suggest dissolving this committee, and since Faber is only one on committee Salvavold executes her administrative power and thus removes this committee from MN TWS.



Fundraising

Did well at annual meeting

FWLA

FWLA has been sending monthly minutes from there meeting to TWS, but there is nothing to report

Statewide Issues – Faber

There is a start of a 6-8 yr study on Fisher/Martin at 3 sites – Camp Ripley, St. Louis Co, and ???. Faber will be involved with this study.

Wetland Issues – Mike North

BWSR-DNR DNR found some wetland violations on BWSR restored wetlands?

Trend for wetland mitigation to move from on-site areas to wetland banking because of poor monitoring compliance, invasive species, and function and values of wetlands are not where they need to be

Large wetland fill projects and have been received by many municipalities of late, (6-8 acres in size), but so far have been denied by local governing boards.

MCF- Faber

Have heard nothing from them, we do not know what is happening

Motion to Adjourn by Faber, 2nd by Larson – **need electronic vote?**

Meeting Adjourned 1:51

Regional Reports

Region 1 – Mike Zicus

People in Region I must be really busy judging from the lack of field reports that I received!

Personnel from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Wetland Wildlife Populations and Research Group will again sample 1,000 waterfowl for the “hi-path” H5 N1 avian influenza. The helicopter survey of breeding resident Canada geese estimated about a two-thirds as many geese as last year (but still within the 95% confidence interval of last years survey). Numbers of breeding geese were similar to last year in the Prairie zone, whereas the estimate for breeding goose numbers were lower in both the Transition and Forested zones. Although no formal goose production surveys are conducted, anecdotal evidence suggests many nest were lost this year during the extreme cold spell that occurred in early April. Depending on the amount of re-nesting that occurs, this year’s production might be reduced somewhat. The May waterfowl survey has been completed, but no estimates are available yet.

There has been one personnel change in the Region that I’m aware of. Charlotte Roy-Nielson has been hired to fill the research vacancy in the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources



Wetland Wildlife Populations and Research Group left when I retired last August. Charlotte comes from Southern Illinois University and will start in mid-July.

The drought that developed in 2006 has lessened somewhat. The latest U. S. Drought Monitor places much of Region I in the *Abnormally Dry* or *Moderate Drought* categories. Precipitation between 1 April and 4 June has ranked between the 75th and 100th percentiles over much of the Region.

Region 2 - Mike Larson

Gray wolves in the Western Great Lakes region were officially removed from the federal list of threatened and endangered species on March 12, 2007. Since wolves in this area have met and exceeded the recovery criteria outlined in the federal wolf recovery plan and therefore, are no longer considered at risk of extinction in the foreseeable future, wolf protection and management in this region has now been turned over to the states and tribes. In order to make better informed management decisions concerning the wolf and its primary prey, moose and deer, the Grand Portage band and 1854 Treaty Authority are initiating a multi-year wolf research project this summer on tribal and ceded lands in northeastern Minnesota. With the help of a Tribal Wildlife grant awarded to the band by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 2006, biologists will be collecting information on wolf pack sizes and territories and comparing wolf densities with those of deer and moose living in the same areas. Trapping for wolves will begin in mid-June both on Grand Portage reservation and just north of Duluth in the 1854 Ceded Territory. Wolves will be collared with GPS/Argos collars scheduled to collect locations twice a day for up to 16 months. Data will be regularly transmitted from the collars to an Argos satellite which will eventually end up at our offices in the form of an e-mail, making near real-time data readily accessible. The goal is to track five wolf packs this first year, with additional packs to be collared in subsequent years. For more information, contact Angela Aarhus, Wildlife Research Biologist for the 1854 Treaty Authority at aaarhus@1854treatyauthority.org.

Region 4 – Curt Vacek

John Schladweiler – DNR Ecological Services, New Ulm:

Interviews for the Prairie Biologist position (Peter Buessler's old one) will be held at the end of May. This position is being moved to Windom from Fergus Falls.

Josh Kavanagh – Ducks Unlimited:

"DU is continuing dike and structure construction work this summer on 1,660-acre Pool 7 (West Pool) at Big Stone NWR this summer after flooding recedes. The \$1 million project was funded in 2005 by the NAWCA grant "Minnesota Marshes" to DU with leverage match partnership by MNDNR. Construction was started in fall 2006 and is about 80% completed, but the project has been delayed due to winter and spring flooding. The project should be completed by fall, and a partner project dedication will be planned soon thereafter.



DU has also recently completed construction of a new water control structure equipped with a large velocity tube fish barrier on the outlet of 803-acre Rice Lake in Blue Earth County, and is completing a new variable crest weir on the outlet of 1,875-acre Geneva Lake in Freeborn County. Meanwhile, DU is also adding a fish barrier to the outlet of 370-acre Goose Lake in Waseca County. All three shallow lakes are legally designated for wildlife management purposes (40 in state), which gives DNR the legal authority to actively manage water levels (draw-downs) and restrict surface use year-round." Other large shallow lake enhancement projects planned by DNR and DU for 2007 in Region 4 include Bear Lake in Freeborn County, Buffalo Lake in Waseca County, and Hjermstad Lake in Murray County."

Jeff Zajac - DNR Wildlife, Redwood Falls:

DNR Wildlife filled the Private Lands Specialist position in Redwood Falls with Joseph Stangel recently of Renville SWCD. He started on May 2 and has jumped in at full speed. He is currently working on a demonstration prairie and roadside planting at the Outdoors Segment of FarmFest near Morgan.

Richard Kimmel – DNR Farmland Wildlife and Research Group, Madelia:

The Farmland Wildlife and Research Group, DNR office at Madelia, is interviewing for their Wild Turkey Biologist position in June. Also, they are seeking to create and fill a Habitat Management Evaluations and Monitoring position by early fall.

Region 5 – Emily Hutchins

Winona Area Wildlife Office—Gary Nelson, Area Wildlife Manager:

The Winona Office has been working on private lands projects and continues to work on land acquisition projects in Houston, Wabasha, and Fillmore Counties. As in many parts of the state, prescribed burning has been the main focus in the months of April and May. The Winona office burned approximately 300 acres this spring in the Winona work area and assisted the Rochester and Whitewater WMA staff with burns in their work areas. Hunting season recommendations for fall 2007 are the next priority.

Owatonna Area Wildlife Office—Jeanine Vorland, Area Wildlife Manager:

Much of the spring was spent preparing for the burn season and conducting prescribed burns. The burn season was productive until a statewide burn ban was implemented.

Noteworthy phenologic events in our area include a cold snap that may have affected nesting for early migrants and strong winds throughout the month of May. Additionally, the first crane colts have been sighted near Rice Lake State Park.

Because good old-fashioned winters seem to be a thing of the past in southern Minnesota, winterkills on area lakes are hard to come by. However, Geneva Lake in Freeborn County experienced a fairly good winterkill of rough fish last January. Owatonna Area staff has been



working hard on the reclamation of this lake, which includes the completion of a new dam capable of drawing down the lake.

Windom Wetland Management District—Mark Vaniman, District Manager:

The Windom Wetland Management District has had a busy season to date. They have conducted prescribed burns on over 2100 acres. In addition, they provided a 3-person crew and engine to assist with the wildfires in northern Minnesota.

On May 5, the Wings on the Prairie event drew over 150 people (in spite of the rain/wind) to view the release of three trumpeter swans into the wild. One pair of trumpeters, assumed to have nested the past two years, has returned. There is no evidence of nesting as of 5/17, but they are definitely defending the territory.

Lastly, the District hired two Student Temporary Employment Program folks for work on Touch the Sky Prairie unit of the Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge.

Minnesota Valley Wetland Management District—Mike Malling, Wildlife Biologist:

During the months of March, April, and May, Minnesota Valley Wetland Management District seeded 700 acres of prairie in its 14-county district. Highlights include seeding 290 acres at Vermillion AMA/WMA in partnership with DNR in Dakota County, 220 acres at Roberts WPA in Blue Earth County, 50 acres in Swan Lake Watershed in Nicollet County, and 60 acres at Doheny Refuge Unit in Sibley County.

In addition to prairie restorations, the Minnesota Valley WMD restored 100 acres of wetland. Highlights include restoring 70 acres on 20 + wetlands at Roberts WPA and 25 acres on CRP land in Sibley County. Throughout the 2007 field season, the District plans to restore at least 75 wetlands totaling more than 500 acres.

The WMD also purchased 500 acres of WPA units in Blue Earth County and more than 200 acres of Refuge Units in Sibley County.

MN TWS Chapter t-shirts are on sale
for only \$10! Get yours now!
Contact Jodie Provost at (218) 546-
7310 or sprucegrovefarm@emily.net.



Section and Committee Reports

North Central Section – John Moriarty

It is time again to begin the search for North Central Section of TWS nominations for officers. I am looking for people to help on the nomination committee and run for positions. If you can help with nominations please send me an e-mail or call. The offices that we are looking for nominees to fill are President-elect, Treasurer, and Secretary. It would be nice to have 2 nominees per position.

Thanks,

John Moriarty
President NCS-TWS
Ramsey County Parks
2015 N. Van Dyke St.
Maplewood, MN 55109
(651) 748-2500
(651) 748-2508 fax
john.moriarty@co.ramsey.mn.us

Forest Issues Committee – Tim Quincer

The OHV position statement and response to the Governor's Task Force Recommendations for timber industry competitiveness drafts were completed by the committee and finalized by the board and sent out to the public, key legislators, and state other state decision makers in March.

Many thanks to all who sent in comments or contributed to these two products in some way. It was a very interesting process, particularly with the OHV position, where it became evident that chapter members views differed on some specific responses.

As time goes on, the hope is that those responsible for decisions will utilize both documents in their work. Stacy was sent a brief letter from DNR Division of Forestry Director Dave Epperly thanking us for the letter and providing assurance that wildlife concerns will be a "major consideration" in their forest management actions. We would appreciate hearing any other feedback you may hear regarding the Task Force response or OHV Position Statement.

Moving forward, we are currently working on a potential summer workshop addressing the topic of incorporating native plant community information in forest management prescriptions. We have some interest from MN-SAF (Society of American Foresters) members in collaborating on the workshop. Early discussion is focused on an early August meeting somewhere in the Grand Rapids area. Decisions will be made soon and if the workshop is to occur, a special mailing will be sent out to chapter members.



Student Relations Committee Formed and Tribal Liaison Removed:

A couple of changes are occurring among our committees right now. The Tribal Liaison recommended dissolving that specific position on our board and rolling it into the Statewide Issues Committee duties. The liaison's membership in the National Organization of Tribal Wildlife Biologists has not been very productive for us, and we are lucky to already have many active tribal members involved in our organization. Relationships with the tribes will now fall under the Statewide Issues Committee.

Over the past three to five years we have been working to improve the relationship between wildlife professionals and students in Minnesota. We have recently established a Student Relations Committee to be co-chaired by Mark Hanson and Jim Berdeen. We had an excellent start to this relationship process during our student discussion forum at this year's annual meeting. This committee will continue to plan the discussion forum during each annual meeting, but they are beginning the planning phases of starting a student – professional mentoring program. Please see the attached mentoring program proposal that the board recently approved. This is an exciting new step for our organization. A big thank you to Mark and Jim for all of their work on this program! This committee is also a great opportunity for members to get involved in planning for the future of wildlife biologist student – professional relationships in Minnesota.

A MENTORING PROPOSAL – MNTWS April 2007

We propose that the Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society (MNTWS) formally establish a mentoring program to facilitate relationships between wildlife professionals and college students with natural resource, conservation biology, and other related majors. If the Board of MNTWS approves such an endeavor, a first step should be to identify Minnesota-based wildlife professionals who are willing to serve as mentors. The core group of potential mentors should be composed of a breadth of professionals with expertise in diverse subject areas (e.g., education, law enforcement, management, policy, research), and employed by various natural resource agencies, university faculty within natural resource and related programs of colleges and universities, and non-government organizations (NGO). Qualified individuals should be willing to serve as mentors for at least one year. Prior to start of each academic year, representatives of MNTWS could contact current mentors to determine whether they are interested in mentoring for another year.

Potential mentoring opportunities must be visible to students, regardless of their current affiliation with MNTWS and university chapters. Therefore, a summary of mentors' names, area(s) of expertise, and contact information should be posted on the websites of MNTWS, student chapters, and wildlife clubs, and participating agencies and NGOs. Students affiliated with a natural resource program at a college or university could learn about mentoring opportunities and the information on these websites during freshman orientation, meetings with faculty advisors, student chapters of MNTWS events, and contacts with their educational institution's career center. Students interested in entering into a mentoring relationship could,



with the help of a faculty advisor, identify a potentially suitable mentor based on information provided on these websites. Students could then contact potential mentors, and schedule an initial discussion to address mutual interest areas, goals and objectives for the proposed mentorship, and an appropriate timetable.

If, after preliminary discussion(s), a student and potential mentor agree that there is sufficient basis for establishing a mentoring relationship, a formal meeting could be arranged between the student, prospective mentor, and representatives of the university (e.g., student's advisor, student chapter coordinator) and the organization that employs the mentor. By the end of this meeting, the mentor and student should be able to formalize the opportunity with a signed agreement stating the goals and objectives of the mentorship, the time period during which the mentorship will take place, and the responsibilities of each student, mentor, and faculty and chapter advisor.

The role of faculty and chapter advisors should include providing students some tactful guidance to ensure that potential mentors' schedules are not abused, maintaining records of participants, and providing annual and other updates to the "Mentoring Committee" of the MNTWS chapter as requested.

Because mentoring opportunities may not coincide with academic calendars, there is likely to be a need to accommodate alternative schedules. Semesters may be a good alternative to school years as a time frame for mentoring relationships.

OTHER COMMENTS:

1. Board members should read Suedkamp Wells et al. (2005).
2. For this proposal to become operational and effective, our chapter will need increased participation from student chapter advisors and officers.
3. If this proposal becomes operational, it might be appropriate to formally review problems and successes, and provide a formal presentation at the next winter meeting.

Submitted for consideration by the MNTWS Executive Board members – April 2007

Approved by the board at the April board meeting

Jim Berdeen and Mark Hanson





**Position Statement of the
Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society
3/22/07**

Off-Highway Vehicles and Wildlife Impacts in Minnesota

The Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society recognizes the popularity of off-highway vehicles (OHV's¹) in the state. We also believe that managed use of OHV's for work and recreation--including use for hunting and management purposes--can be supported, as long as that use occurs with full consideration of the potential for OHV use to have a negative impact on wildlife, wildlife habitat, and wildlife-oriented recreation.

MN TWS believes that sufficient evidence exists to be concerned about the potential for negative impacts on wildlife and wildlife habitat due to current OHV riding in the state.^{2 345} We also are aware of evidence suggesting that the presence of OHV trails can often be incompatible with many traditional forms of outdoor recreation in the state, including wildlife-oriented recreation.⁶

MN TWS has watched as Minnesota's legislators and land managers have grappled with the rising popularity of OHV's and the complex issues they present, and we acknowledge that some progress to incorporate wildlife concerns has been made in recent years. However, MN TWS remains concerned that negative impacts of OHV use on wildlife, wildlife habitat, and wildlife-oriented recreation are still not being adequately acknowledged and mitigation needs are not being fully addressed in OHV trail location decisions or by those responsible for OHV regulation and management in the state.

To remedy this situation, MN TWS believes the following must occur:

- 1) Require that *all* public land OHV trails be managed under a "closed to motorized use unless posted open" policy (e.g. the MN DNR "limited" classification), with trail systems sited, designed, and signed in a manner that allows for sustainable use. Current practice often leads to a confusing mix of policies as OHV riders travel between public lands that

¹ OHV's include all-terrain vehicles, off-highway motorcycles, and off-road vehicles

² Joslin, G., and H. Youmans, coordinators. 1999. Effects of recreation on Rocky Mountain wildlife: A Review for Montana. Committee on Effects of Recreation on Wildlife, Montana Chapter of the Wildlife Society.

³ Stokowski, P.A. and C. B. LaPointe. 2000. Environmental and Social Effects of ATVs and ORVs: An Annotated Bibliography and Research Assessment. School of Natural Resources, University of Vermont. 31 p.

⁴ Taylor, Richard B. 2006. The Effects of Off-Road Vehicles on Ecosystems. Texas Parks and Wildlife P.O. Box 207, Uvalde, TX 78802 12p.

⁵ Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection. 2002. Interim Wildlife Guidelines for Commercial Backcountry Recreation in British Columbia. British Columbia Ministry of Water, Land, and Air Protection, Victoria British Columbia, Canada.

⁶ Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. 2005. Compatibility and Conflict in Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation. Pages 4-1 to 4-13 in The 2005-2010 Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan : SCORP/ Wisconsin. WI Gov. Pub. NAT.1/6:R 27/2010



are managed differently (e.g. from managed state forest lands onto federal forest lands, or from open county lands onto limited state lands), which greatly complicates enforcement efforts.

- 2) Where resource protection needs are impacted by OHV trail riding impacts, those trails should be closed to OHV's unless solutions allowing sustainable use can be found.
- 3) Allow for full consideration of direct (e.g. collision-induced mortality, increased hunting mortality, poaching mortality, displacement, nest disruption, abandonment of offspring, migration or travel route barriers,) *and* indirect (e.g. reduced reproductive success, habitat destruction, reduced habitat effectiveness, habitat fragmentation, spread of exotic species) wildlife impacts during trail siting decisions.
- 4) Additional staff and funding for ongoing research and monitoring of OHV riding impacts on wildlife, wildlife habitat, and wildlife-oriented recreation in Minnesota are essential, and results of such research and monitoring should be used in OHV trail management decisions and regulation. MN TWS is particularly concerned by reports that the best professional judgment of resource professionals during trail siting and management decisions is being discounted due to lack of direct evidence of current problems and/or lack of regionally specific research.
- 5) To fully assess potential for wildlife impacts due to OHV trails, the cumulative impact of all roads and trails (e.g. road/trail density analysis) and off-trail impacts must be considered. MN TWS is concerned that current OHV impact review processes focus primarily on impacts added via OHV trails, while neglecting cumulative impact analysis of all roads and trails.
- 6) Enforcement officers should be provided with more tools for enforcement of riding within road rights of way. Seasonal restrictions on riding within road rights of way to protect nesting wildlife currently apply only in the agricultural portion of the state, and should be extended statewide. Seasonal right of way restriction enforcement efforts are also hampered by exemptions to the law. A restriction requiring that roadside riding occur only on the shoulder of selected, mapped and signed roads—as occurs in portions of Wisconsin—would help mitigate many right of way impacts.
- 7) Increase funding for OHV enforcement efforts and additional dedicated OHV enforcement officers without utilizing state Game and Fish funds. MN TWS is concerned that traditional fish and wildlife enforcement efforts are suffering due to an increased OHV enforcement workload, and believes that state Game and Fish funds should not be spent on OHV enforcement efforts which are not directly related to hunting or fishing.
- 8) The placement of “mudder” truck or aggressive riding “challenge area” OHV trails should be restricted to lands specifically acquired and designed to prevent off-site impacts. The impact of such trails on wildlife and potential for displacement of traditional wildlife-oriented recreation make them a poor fit for siting on existing public



lands with a history of multiple use. Similar restrictions on use of the larger, more powerful and heavier atv's may become necessary as their popularity grows and the difference narrows between their impact and those of mudder trucks.

- 9) The ability to drive OHV's within wetlands subject to the Wetland Conservation Act⁷ in a manner that causes damage to those wetlands should be restricted on public lands. Current law allows for wetland damage below a defined "de-minimus" exemption, which starts at 400 square feet and can rise in counties which retain more than 80% of their historical wetlands.
- 10) Restore the requirement for mandatory Environmental Assessment Worksheets (EAW's) for OHV system plans. This was recommended in a 2003 legislative audit of OHV fund expenditures and was in effect at one time, but was removed through subsequent legislation.
- 11) Physical developments (e.g. roads, trails, and ditch banks) on state Wildlife Management Areas (WMA's), Scientific and Natural Areas (SNA's), and state parks should be managed consistent with statutory requirements⁸ (e.g. statutory requirements to manage WMA habitat "for maximum production of a variety of wildlife species", and that physical improvements "shall be developed so as to minimize intrusion on the natural environment").
- 12) Take the following actions to address problems created by the current hunting and trapping exemptions for OHV travel off of designated trails: a) efforts to tighten regulations to prevent abuse of the exemption by non-hunters and non-trappers; b) actively monitor the extent of negative impacts created by the exemption, (e.g. habitat degradation, the effect on "trail creep" or unauthorized trail creation, the extent to which the exemption contributes to other problems such as illegal permanent deer stand creation); and c) based on monitoring results, consider changes to the exemption (such as limiting the exemption to big game retrieval only).

Addendum 1:

The Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society (MN TWS) is a professional organization of biologists dedicated to the sustainable management of wildlife resources and their habitats. The Wildlife Society is an international, non-profit, scientific and educational organization serving and representing wildlife professionals in all areas of wildlife conservation and resource management.

MN TWS subscribes to the objectives set forth by the parent organization of The Wildlife Society, which are to:

⁷ see MS Chapter 103G.2241

⁸ see MS Chapter 86A.05



- Develop and promote sound stewardship of wildlife resources and of the environments upon which wildlife and humans depend;
- Undertake an active role in preventing human-induced environmental degradation;
- Increase awareness and appreciation of wildlife values; and
- Seek the highest standards in all activities of the wildlife profession.

The Minnesota Chapter objectives are to:

- Manage wildlife resources on a sound biological basis that benefits ecosystems and people; and
- Encourage the highest possible professional standards in those working with wildlife resources.

More information about the Minnesota Chapter of the Wildlife Society can be found on our website, including chapter contacts: <http://www.umcrookston.edu/tws/mn/>

Recommendations for the 2007 Farm Bill
Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society
3-14-07

The Minnesota Chapter of TWS proposes the following recommendations for the 2007 Farm Bill. The Farm Bill has been one of the primary funding sources for wildlife habitat in the agricultural Midwest over the past two decades. Farm Bill programs have been documented to increase wildlife populations, reduce soil erosion, improve water quality, preserve open spaces, and contribute to the economic health of rural economies while maintaining working farms and ranches. We recommend the following:

- 1) Maintain or expand all of our current programs that place or maintain permanent cover on the landscape. These include the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Continuous CRP (CCRP), Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), Grassland Reserve Program (GRP), Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP), Wetland Reserve Program (WRP), Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), and Conservation Security Program (CSP). These programs provide a number of well-documented benefits to farmers, society, and wildlife.
 - a. These programs need to be re-examined to **facilitate enrollment** or re-enrollment. Farmers should not avoid these programs because of any difficulty in enrollment.
 - b. **Rental rates** need to keep pace with land values so that these programs continue to be financially competitive alternatives for farmers.
 - c. All programs should use **native species**, and wherever possible local genotype seeds.
 - d. The plantings should be **appropriate to the area**. Many grassland areas are still planted to tree species. Trees provide habitat for grassland nest predators.
 - e. **Incorporate supporting data** such as the USFWS's 'thunderstorm maps' (CP-37 program), state Wildlife Action Plans, or Natural Heritage Databases for determining focus areas and/or payment rates for these programs.



- 2) CRP language should be modified to allow permanent retirement on highly erodible soils.
- 3) GRP should be expanded to maintain native grassland communities and preserve ranching. Expand tax incentives programs to make voluntary protection a viable option.
- 4) WHIP should be expanded to provide benefits for fish and wildlife, especially for rural landowners who are not farmers.
- 5) Toughen and enforce **Swampbuster**. The Swampbuster provisions of the 1985 Farm Bill were a clear recognition of the importance of **wetlands** and are a powerful disincentive for wetland drainage. Without Swampbuster, thousands of small temporary and seasonal wetlands in the prairie pothole region would be vulnerable to drainage, with resulting decreases in game and nongame wildlife populations. In addition, wetlands absorb floodwater. More waters held in wetlands in the watershed during storm events means less flood damage downstream.
- 6) Promote **grass buffers** on waterways. Buffers filter sediment from the water before the water reaches the streams and rivers. Clean water is in everyone's best interest.
- 7) Regulate **pattern tiling**. Pattern tiling is a recent practice that indirectly drains wetlands by intercepting water, effectively removing the waters that fill "prairie pothole" type wetlands. It is essential that Swampbuster provisions be retained, including those for small temporary wetlands, and that loopholes allowing indirect drainage of wetlands be tightened.
- 8) Increase funding for and research on **invasive species**. Invasive species are one of the greatest threats to agriculture and wildlife alike. The USDA estimates invasive species cost agriculture \$138 billion per year. The USFWS lists invasive species as the second greatest threat to wildlife after habitat loss
 - a. Whenever possible, current invasive species problems need to be treated using **Integrated Pest Management (IPM)** instead of potentially harmful chemicals.
 - b. A **monitoring and rapid response program** needs to be developed to look for and immediately treat any infestations. Vigilance and treatment of an acre will be more cost effective than treating thousands of acres once the invasive species has become established in an area.
- 9) Increase funding for the **Conservation Security Program (CSP)**
 - a. While incentive programs are good and do help entice farmers into protecting their soil and water, many farmers already do this. They should be rewarded for their diligence. More importantly, there should be greater financial rewards for always having done the 'right' thing compared to those who are currently using unsustainable practices. It should pay to do the right thing when it comes to the societal costs involved with modern agriculture.
- 10) Strengthen and **enforce Sodbuster** rules. There should be no federal support for producers that break native grasslands. This will eliminate the federal government's role of subsidizing the conversion of fragile, ecologically sensitive lands.
- 11) Increase incentive programs for farming practices that **sequester carbon** from the atmosphere, including no-till farming and planting native grasses.
- 12) Develop **better communication and cooperation** between wildlife/natural resource and agriculture agencies. Both groups have numerous programs landowners can enroll acres into. But often one side isn't aware of the programs on the other side or is not aware of how programs could be stacked for the landowner's maximum benefit. Better cooperation between these groups will allow us to protect the maximum number of acres.



- 13) Use only **native species** when working with emerging technologies and economies such as cellulosic ethanol. Native species are adapted to the local growing conditions and do not need inputs of pesticides and fertilizers. More importantly, bringing in new species or genetically engineering native species could have severe repercussions for cross-breeding with native plant communities.
- 14) Provide **research dollars** to monitor the effectiveness of any new programs and use adaptive management techniques as the results of these studies become available. Research should be coordinated among national, state, and local, as well as wildlife and agricultural agencies. Research can be done by agency staff but also conducted by colleges and universities. Educational institutions can often perform this research at a lower cost, and they train the next generation of agency personnel.

Addendum 1: The Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society (MN TWS) is a professional organization of biologists dedicated to the sustainable management of wildlife resources and their habitats. The Wildlife Society is an international, non-profit, scientific and educational organization serving and representing wildlife professionals in all areas of wildlife conservation and resource management.

MN TWS subscribes to the objectives set forth by the parent organization of The Wildlife Society, which are to:

- Develop and promote sound stewardship of wildlife resources and of the environments upon which wildlife and humans depend;
- Undertake an active role in preventing human-induced environmental degradation;
- Increase awareness and appreciation of wildlife values; and
- Seek the highest standards in all activities of the wildlife profession.

The Minnesota Chapter objectives are to:

- Manage wildlife resources on a sound biological basis that benefits ecosystems and people; and
- Encourage the highest possible professional standards in those working with wildlife resources.

More information about the Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society can be found on our website, including chapter contacts: <http://www.umcrookston.edu/tws/mn/>

Stacy Salvevold
MN TWS President
29965 State Highway 28
Starbuck, Minnesota 56381
320-239-2667



March 28, 2007

Governor Tim Pawlenty
130 State Capitol
75 Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King Junior Boulevard
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Governor Pawlenty:

We would like you to consider the comments and recommendations in this letter on behalf of the members of the Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society (MN TWS). The Wildlife Society is an international, non-profit scientific and educational organization serving and representing wildlife professionals in all areas of wildlife conservation and resource management.

The primary objectives of The Wildlife Society are to: 1) Develop and promote sound stewardship of wildlife resources and of the environments upon which wildlife and humans depend; 2) Undertake an active role in preventing human-induced environmental degradation; 3) Increase awareness and appreciation of wildlife values; and 4) Seek the highest standards in all activities of the wildlife profession.

The following comments and recommendations are based on a review of the final report to the Governor from the Task Force on the Competitiveness of Minnesota's Primary Forest Products Industry, dated December 15, 2006.

The Minnesota Chapter of TWS appreciates the important role that Minnesota's primary forest products industry plays in the state economy and in the sustainable management of public and private forestlands within the state. MN TWS also believes that a healthy and thriving primary forest products industry--when committed to sustainable forest management--is essential to achieving many wildlife habitat goals and in sustaining many forms of wildlife-related recreation within the state.

While MN TWS supports efforts to seek near and long-term solutions to the problems currently facing the primary forest products industry, we are concerned that some of the task force recommendations may have a significant negative impact on wildlife species within the state.



Specifically, we are concerned that:

- 1) a recommendation for significant permanent increases in annual volumes of wood offered for sale will prove to be unsustainable over time, or will necessitate a similar reduction in acres reserved for water quality and wildlife habitat needs;
- 2) a recommendation to increase the application of pre-commercial thinning (which can have a negative effect on wildlife species who require higher density tree distribution to meet their habitat needs) may be a concern if the amount of increase—which is not specified in the task force report—is significant;
- 3) a recommendation to strongly limit or eliminate the application of extended rotation forest prescriptions will have a dramatic negative affect on a number of wildlife species who require older forests to meet their habitat needs;
- 4) recommendations encouraging the use of optimum economic rotation ages may lead to a reduction in mature forest wildlife habitat, if those ages are derived without consideration for the variance in species growth rates and quality of timber across the state;
- 5) forest certification status of state, county, industrial, and private forests may be jeopardized by implementation of the recommendations mentioned above, which would counteract a 2003 recommendation of the governor’s task force that certification be aggressively pursued as a means to achieve a competitive advantage in domestic timber markets; and
- 6) implementation of the recommendations mentioned above will have a negative economic impact on money generated by consumptive (e.g. hunting, trapping) and non-consumptive (e.g. bird-watching, wildlife tourism) wildlife-oriented recreation.

We believe that solutions to problems facing the forest products industry should incorporate a balanced approach that considers the need for sustainable wildlife habitat and the important economic and recreational role that wildlife resources play in the state. To that end, we would like to request that professional wildlife expertise be added to the task force, with the objective of helping to ensure that recommendations consider the needs of wildlife and wildlife-oriented recreation in the state.

Sincerely,

Stacy Salveold
President, Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society
29965 State Highway 28
Starbuck, Minnesota 56381
320-239-2667

cc: Department of Natural Resources Commissioner Mark Holsten



March 30, 2007

Commissioner Mark Holsten
Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road, Box 37
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155-4037

Dear Commissioner Holsten:

The Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society (MN TWS) sent Governor Pawlenty comments regarding the "Final Report to the Governor from the Task Force on the Competitiveness of Minnesota's Primary Forest Products Industry", dated December 15, 2006. MN TWS was concerned with some of the recommendations in that report and advocated that wildlife professionals could have been involved with the task force. Wildlife professionals could have helped prepare a balanced approach to forest management that considered the needs of Minnesota's wildlife as well as the economic and recreational roles of forestry in Minnesota. I have enclosed a copy of the letter to Governor Pawlenty. We felt that the Department of Natural Resources should be aware of our concerns and comments as well as the Governor. We hope that wildlife professionals will be included in the Task Force on the Competitiveness of Minnesota's Primary Forest Products Industry in the future.

Sincerely,

Stacy Salvevold
President, Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society
29965 State Highway 28
Starbuck, Minnesota 56381
320-239-2667



Upcoming Events and Workshops

Thursday, July 19, 2007

Biofuel Production and Wildlife Protection: Discovering the Best Management Practices for the Great Plains

University of Minnesota, Cargill/MPG Building, Room 105, St. Paul Campus

How will biofuels affect wildlife? Present demand for ethanol is increasing corn prices and expanding corn acreage, and that in turn could decrease area available for wildlife. In the future, biofuels may be taken from a wider variety of plant sources, and effects on wildlife could be quite different. In any case, biofuels threaten to drive large and possibly rapid changes in land use, and therefore public policies and production practices surrounding biofuels must take into account their effects on wildlife. The expertise of our scheduled speakers covers a wide range of animal taxa, including birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, insects, and mammals. Participation by conference attendants will expand this to an even greater breadth. The presentations and discussions listed below will be a comprehensive and cutting-edge look into the state of scientific knowledge on biofuels and wildlife. We hope you will be able to attend and hear the discussions, develop ideas, offer your suggestions, and generally work toward improving the state of affairs for the planet's wildlife. Space is limited so please register early. Lunch provided at noon. Registration: www.cedarcreek.umn.edu/bioenergy/wildlife2007.html

Tuesday, July 31st, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Grazefest Minnesota and Working Lands Bus Tour

Starts & Ends at Prairie Horizons Farm, 31008 State Hwy 29, 11 Miles North of Benson

Speakers addressing the role of grazing in grassland and prairie conservation; strategies to improve forage yields and livestock performance; and invasive species control in the Pope County Working Lands Initiative target area:

- Howard Moechnig,
Midwest Grasslands Consultant
- Jason Garms,
DNR State Prairie Biologist
- Dennis Johnson,
WCROC - University of Minnesota
- Stacy Salveold,
USFWS Wildlife Biologist
- Don Struxness, grazier
- Jeff Jensen, Rural Advantage

The Bus Tour is free of charge, but space is limited, pre-registration required. To RSVP, contact Anne with SFA of MN at communications@sfa-mn.org or (320) 226-6318. Lunch and snacks included.



Sponsors include Pope County Working Lands Initiative, Sustainable Farming Association of Minnesota (SFA of MN), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Dept. of Natural Resources, University of Minnesota - West Central Regional Sustainable Development Partnership and West Central Research and Outreach Center (WCROC), Chippewa River Watershed Project and Pope County Farm Service Agency.

Thursday, September 6, 2007

Case Studies in Ecological Silviculture: Paper birch management success and economic risks

Superior Shores Resort, Two Harbors, MN

Cost: \$65, but MN TWS will cover \$15 for each member that attends. Contact Louise Levy at llevy@umn.edu for more information.

December 9-12, 2007

2007 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference

Madison, WI

Call for Papers: The organizers of the 2007 Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference are making their first call for papers. Information and guidelines may be found at: <http://midwest.ncd-afs.org/abstracts.asp>.

Our on-line submission system is sleek and sweet! The website for the conference is updated regularly. We are focused on living our conference theme - "Be the Change," and are continually looking for ways to reduce the waste generated by large meetings. Read your "survival guide," and think about participating in the first-ever Midwest Swap! If you're cash-strapped, we're also recruiting volunteers, who may be eligible for some compensation for their work. Registration information coming soon.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer Opportunities with the MN TWS Board and Committees:

- We are in need of a new MN TWS newsletter editor! Laura Bonneau has taken a position with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Ohio and will be moving in September. The position entails compiling and editing four newsletters per year, and is a great way to serve the chapter. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Stacy Salvevold at (218) 770-2062.
- Considering volunteering on any of our committees, but especially consider the new Student Relations Committee as they begin planning a brand new student mentoring program. You can help shape where our student-professional relations will go in the



future. For more information contact Mark Hanson (218-755-3920) or Jim Berdeen (218-755-2973).

- April 2008 will bring the Shallow Lakes Forum V. The wetlands committee is looking for a volunteer to help with planning the 2008 Forum. About eight organizations and agencies are involved in planning this annual event, so the work is not substantial. For more information contact Stacy Salvevold (218-770-2062) or Mike North (320-255-4279, ext.235.)
- MN TWS Chapter Display needs updating. We are interested in having someone design a new chapter display for us. Our display is a little out of date, and is starting to fall apart. The display can be used by any members to take to meetings and events where publicizing MN TWS would be desirable. See Jodie Provost to use the display. Contact Stacy Salvevold (218-770-2062) if you are interested in working on sprucing up the old display.
- The Conserving Our Wildlife Conservation Heritage Project is a fun way to learn about the history of our profession. This coordinator oversees the interviewing of retired wildlife biologists who tell their stories to document the changes in our profession. Stacy Salvevold (218-770-2062) can tell you more, but this is also a great way to become active on the executive board.

Be a College Career Volunteer!

Do you want to influence the future of your profession?

Are you willing to share what you've learned since college with a current student?

The St. Paul Campus Career Center of the University of Minnesota invites you to join us in preparing our graduate and undergraduate students for career success. One of the most frequent requests we get from students is for contacts in their fields of interest, and the panels of professionals who speak in our career classes are always a hit! We hope you'll consider being one such contact. There are several ways you can share your expertise, and there are opportunities to fit any schedule. Visit <http://www.stpaulcareers.umn.edu/alumni/volunteering.html> for a description of volunteer possibilities and to sign up!

We look forward to meeting you!

“Never underestimate the power of a few committed people to change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has...” – Margaret Mead



*In Loving Memory of
Janet Sharon Boe
(1952-2007)*

Janet Sharon Boe of Driscoll, North Dakota, died of breast cancer on May 4, 2007. She was 55 years young and had much, much more to give to this world. Despite crippling brain metastasis she never complained, never looked back, giving as much as she could until she died. She never lost her grace or dignity and always made others around her comfortable.

A memorial service will be held at Aardahl Lutheran Church in Bemidji, MN on June 2, 2007 at 10:00 AM with the Reverend Arlen Stensland and Reverend Richard Massaro officiating. Janet was born on April 15, 1952 to Torleif and Emma Boe in Fosston, MN. She spent her early years in Fosston, Baudette, Roseau, and Ada, MN. In 1965, she and her family moved to Bemidji where she graduated from high school in 1970. In 1973 she graduated from St. Luke's School of Nursing in Duluth and worked as a nurse until 1989. She earned a degree in Biology in 1977 from the University of North Dakota and a master's degree in Botany from the University of Minnesota in 1981. She was awarded a PhD in Zoology (avian ecology) from North Dakota State University in 1991. She taught sciences as a sabbatical replacement at Itasca Community College and at the University of Minnesota, Duluth. In 1992, she began working for the Minnesota County Biological Survey with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. In 1998, she became the Regional Plant Ecologist for the Northwest region of Minnesota. She remained in the position until 2006 when she took a medical disability.

She married Thomson Soule in 1980. They lived together at Norris Camp, Bovey, and Bemidji, Minnesota and Driscoll, North Dakota. She was a member of Aardahl Lutheran Church and participated in several professional and community organizations. Although most of her education and professional life was botanical her real passions were Zoology and writing about natural history to raise the awareness and appreciation of others. She was as eloquent a speaker and teacher as she was a writer. A strong advocate for women in science she was a role model for others with her quiet unassuming but effective leadership. Always at home in the forest she was happiest walking the prairies with her dogs. She enjoyed gardening, birding, hunting, and canoeing.

She is survived by her loving husband, Thom Soule; sister Patty Gillespie (Tom), nephew Chris (Tara) Gillespie and their daughter Emma; nieces Heather, Jenni (Jared) Nelson; grandnephews Cooper and Thatcher; brother Steve (Pam) Boe and their children Emily and Tylor; brother Jon (Julie) Boe and nephew Jonathan; and many friends, family, and colleagues. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Memorials may be sent in Janet's name to Heifer International or Hospice Care of Bemidji.



MN TWS Contact Information

<p>Past-President David Trauba 14042 20th ST NW Watson, MN 56295 (w) 320-734-4451 (h) 320-734-4884 (fax) 320-734-4452 datrauba@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Regional Representatives: Terms expiring in 2009</p>	<p>Regional Representatives: Terms expiring in 2008</p>
<p>President Stacy Salvevold 29965 State Hwy 28 Starbuck, MN 56381 (w) 218-589-4963 (cell) 218-770-2062 stacy_salvevold@fws.gov</p>	<p>Region 2 Mike Larson 1201 E. Hwy 2 Grand Rapids, MN 55744 (w) 218-999-7933 larson.grapids@gmail.com</p>	<p>Region 1 Mike Zicus 5369 Jackpine Rd NW Bemidji, MN 56601 (h) 218-751-0967 fltfs@msn.com</p>
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<p>Secretary Rich Olsen 23070 N. Lakeshore Drive Glenwood, MN 56334 320-634-0342 richard.olsen@dnr.state.mn.us</p>	<p>Newsletter Editor: Laura Bonneau 103 E. Cedar Ave. Fergus Falls, MN 56537 (w) 218-736-0938 (h) 218-998-0859 (fax) 218-736-0941 laura_bonneau@fws.gov</p>	



MN TWS Committees and Student Chapters

<p>Audit Gretchen Mehmel Box 100 Roosevelt, MN 56673 (h)218-783-2521</p>	<p>Fundraising Norm Moody PO Box 365 Hackensack, MN 56452 (w) 218-947-3338 (h) 218-675-7739</p>	<p>UMN-Crookston President Trenton Haffley Haff0022@mail.crk.umn.edu</p>
<p>Forest Issues Tim Quincer 11586 River Vista Dr. Baxter, MN 56452 (w) 218-833-8629 (h)218-825-4937 windyhills@charter.net</p>	<p>MCF Representative Bill Faber Central Lakes College Department of Natural Resources 501 West College Drive Brainerd, MN 56401 (w) 218- 855-8082 (h) 218-575-2328 wfaber@clcmn.edu</p>	<p>St. Cloud State University Cory Napoliton Naco0401@stcloudstate.edu</p>
<p>Professional Development Gary Huschle 18740 144th Ave NW Thief River Falls, MN 56701 (w) 218-449-4115 (h) 218-681-1035 honkerharmony@wiktel.com</p>	<p>FWLA Representative Mike Dings 3500 35th Ave. S. Minneapolis, MN 55406 763-913-7445 ding0106@umn.edu</p>	<p>UMN-Twin Cities Luke Kusilek Kusil002@umn.edu</p>
<p>Awards Martha Minchak 5420 Old Hwy 61 Proctor, MN 55810 (w) 218-628-3462 shrooms@peoplepc.com</p>	<p>Membership David Trauba 14042 20th ST NW Watson, MN 56295 (w) 320-734-4451 (h) 320-734-4884 (fax) 320-734-4452 datrauba@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Student Relations (Co-chairs) Mark A. Hanson Research Scientist MNDNR Wetland Wildlife Pops & Research Group (w) 218-755-3920 (fax) 218-755-2604 mark.hanson@dnr.state.mn.us</p>
<p>Publicity/Programs Steve Kittelson 1160 S. Victory Drive Mankato, MN 56001 507-389-6297 norskygnet@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Statewide Issues Bill Faber Central Lakes College Department of Natural Resources 501 West College Drive Brainerd, MN 56401 (w) 218- 855-8082 (h)218-575-2328 wfaber@clcmn.edu</p>	<p>Jim Berdeen MNDNR Wetlands Group 102 23rd St NE Bemidji, MN 56601 (w) 218-755-3622 (fax) 218-755-2604 jim.berdeen@dnr.state.mn.us</p>
<p>Prairie/Farmland Issues Greg Hoch Biology Dept Concordia College Moorhead, MN 56562 218-299-3799 (w) hoch@cord.edu</p>	<p>Wetland Issues Mike North 13261 21st Ave SW Pillager, MN 56473 (w) 320-255-4279 x 235 tjnorth@brainerd.net or michael.north@dnr.state.mn.us</p>	