

MINNESOTA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

VOLUME 37, NUMBER 3

December 2010

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MN Chapter TWS Regions



**NEXT
NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE:
MARCH 15,
2011.**

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our chapter recently deviated from its typical annual calendar, so I'd like to begin with a few brief explanations. First, we held our annual membership meeting during the Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference in Minneapolis in December rather than holding a separate conference and member meeting in February 2011. Draft minutes for the member meeting and December board meeting are in this newsletter. The board had previously decided to have me transition to President at the December meeting, but we will be holding annual elections for other board positions during late-winter, as usual. Please look for the candidate biographies and voting instructions in this newsletter.

We also delayed publication of what would have been the December 2010 newsletter. I think that was primarily due to the departure of our last Newsletter Editor, Eric Dunton, who landed a job back in Michigan. We are sincerely grateful to Eric for his service to the chapter. Thankfully, Wes Bailey has agreed to serve as the new Newsletter Editor, and he is producing this newsletter as the last issue for 2010 (volume 37). We plan to get back on schedule as soon as possible and have 4 additional issues for volume 38 during 2011. Please look for notices from Wes and your Regional Representative in the near future as work begins on the "March" issue.

Now I would like delve a bit further into the past to help set the stage for discussing the future. As soon as I became President-Elect at the meeting in Nisswa last March I started thinking about what I wanted MN TWS to accomplish during my term as President in 2011. As it turns out, I was not the only one. Fortunately, I had an opportunity to talk with Thom Soule at that meeting, and I discovered that he had been thinking about the future of the chapter as well. More specifically, we discussed ways to position the chapter for long-term success. Thom developed his ideas and described eight proposed initiatives in a document he presented to the board at the December meeting. His proposed initiatives addressed several of the ideas I had been contemplating but also greatly surpassed them.

2011 will be a great year for MN TWS. Members, both past and present, have always provided the horsepower for our chapter's successes in serving the needs of wildlife conservation and wildlife professionals. Together we will strive to make improvements big and small, strategic and tactical. The board will be discussing Thom's proposals and other ideas, and there are and will be many opportunities for all members to get more involved. As I humbly take the reins of this great organization, I will do my best to ensure that we remain on the desired path, build momentum, and prepare well for success in the years to come.

Mike



71ST MIDWEST FISH AND WILDLIFE CONFERENCE

The annual Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference took place in Minneapolis during 12-15 December 2010; the conference was hosted by Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. There were 1238 attendees registered, of these 332 students, 386 oral presentations, 12 concurrent sessions, 92 posters, 22 exhibitors. In addition to the conference program, abstracts from papers and posters can be downloaded from the conference website:
<http://www.midwest2010.org/>

The Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Steering Committee convened on January 24, 2011 and approved giving \$1000 to the Minnesota Chapters of American Fisheries Society and The Wildlife Society in appreciation for their efforts and contributions to the conference. A check will be presented to Mike Larson, MN TWS Chapter President within the next month or so as the steering committee closes their account.

ANNUAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MN TWS Board Meeting, 71st Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference
Hyatt Regency, Minneapolis, MN, Sunday, December 12, 2010

Minutes recorded by Larson for Olsen

Present: John Loegering, Gregg Knutson, Nancy Gellerman, Martha Minchak, Thom Soule, Maggie Anderson, Wes Bailey, Mike Larson, John Moriarty, Charlotte Roy, Brian Burkholder, and Greg Hoch.

Call to Order at 4:04 by Greg

Officer Reports

President's announcements (Hoch) – none, except preview of items covered below

Secretary's Report (Hoch for Olsen)

- Motion to approve minutes of the May 18, 2010, board meeting via conf. Call
 - Made by Martha, second by Charlotte, Passed.

Treasurer's Report (Roy)

- Cash accounts were moved to a credit union in Bemidji for convenience.
- CD
 - Original balance was income from dues paid for "Life Memberships."



- Established so interest could cover typical operating expenses of the society (i.e., how we spend income from dues), *if needed*.
- Motion to approve Treasurer's Report for 3/1 - 12/12/2010
 - Motion by John L., second by Molly, Passed.

Newsletter Report (Bailey)

- Eric resigned to take a new job as a biologist at Shiawassee NWR in Saginaw, Michigan.
- Eric asked Wes to take over, and Wes accepted.
- Next submission deadline is January 15, 2011, so the list of candidates can be published in time for a late-winter election.
- Newsletters for the rest of 2011 will follow the typical annual schedule.
- See also "Newsletter format" under Old Business

Old Business

- Fundraising – Brian Burkholder, MN-AFS
 - Representatives from boards of AFS & TWS organized the raffle
 - Written report given to Charlotte (will email to Mike); spent ~\$1,600
 - Drawing will be Tues. night
- Membership database
 - Brian Haroldson has resigned, is willing to help with transition to new manager.
 - Greg Hoch volunteered to work on it with Brian.
- Newsletter format
 - Bulk mail permit has been paid for 2011.
 - Motion to have 2011 be the last year for paper newsletters
 - Made by John L., second by Wes, Passed
- Joint meetings
 - Finances for the joint meeting in early-2010 are finished – paid Grand View \$352.59
 - Need to develop rules for future joint meetings
 - Strict, detailed rules can be onerous and are probably unnecessary

New Business

- 2012 ND-MN Joint meeting – Hoch
 - Need to notify Jim Leach (USFWS) and Susann Wilhite (MN DNR) when we set dates & times, so they can arrange for a DNR/USFWS Coordination meeting.
 - Fargo, ND – Doublewood Inn – dates TBD, sometime the first week of February.
 - Fargo should be considered in-state travel for MN DNR employees.
 - Greg H., Gregg Knutson, and Mike will serve on the organizing committee.
 - Gregg K. will work with Moody to coordinate fund-raising activities with ND chapter.
- How often to meet with other societies



- Dan Svedarsky had emailed John L., Greg H., and Mike about the desire to meet with other societies more frequently, including considering the “Missouri Model,” in which the major natural resources societies meet jointly every year.
- Some members in the past have expressed a desire to continue having MNTWS-only meetings, at least occasionally.
- When we do bigger joint meetings, we’d like to extend an invitation more broadly than we have in the past (e.g., to include the Soil & Water Conservation Society)

- Lead and Ammo discussion update (Tranel)
 - EPA rejected petitions to regulate ammo and fishing gear, and now the petitioners are suing EPA.

- Report from Snowbird (Moriarty)
 - John M. won the Jim McDonough Award; Bill Berg is a previous recipient.
 - John thanks MN TWS for reimbursing him for travel costs not covered by his employer.
 - Other Minnesotans recognized during the conference:
 - Dan Svedarsky was made a TWS Fellow
 - Meadow Kouffeld, Univ. of MN, won the Donald Rusch Scholarship

- MSTC meeting with Don Baloun (Provost)
 - Jodie distributed a letter and summary via email

- Proposal for changes and new initiatives (Soule)
 - Only had time during meeting to distribute a hard copy and introduce briefly.
 - Request to change bylaws needs to be published in the newsletter.
 - Chair of Awards Committee should remove the names from nomination materials.

- On agenda but not addressed
 - Wind Farms – revisit this topic later – North
 - Fedeler scholarship – expand to all post-secondary students? – Faber
 - DNR Roundtable invitation – Loegering
 - TWS request to sponsor a student membership – Larson

Committee reports

Standing Committees

Audit: Mehmel – will report in the next newsletter; year hasn’t ended yet.

Conservation Issues: Larson, Hoch, Loegering - nothing

Membership: see Old Business above

Nominations and Elections: Loegering – nothing to report

Program and Publicity: Loegering – nothing to report

Historian/Archivist: Moriarty

- Has been hearing from Bill Berg.
- Much info. may be in Bill Longley’s house, will be trying to access it.



Other Committees

Awards: Soule

- See appendix below submitted by Thom; only had time during meeting to briefly introduce a couple of the items.
- Want to do as much as we can to recognize all the good work that we're doing; want to expand beyond the formal, annual awards.
- Fedeler Memorial Award should be handled by the Awards Committee; it had been handled by the Past-President temporarily under special circumstances before.

COWCH Project: Snavelly

- Several new DNR retirees, so will be trying to interview them soon
- Would like some help, so contact Nick if you are interested.

NRCS STC: Provost – see New Business above

Prairie/Farmland: Tranel

- Thom suggested the committee consider ways TWS can participate in the Red River flooding issue.

Announcements

- MN Assoc Conservation Professionals – 25 Feb at Camp Ripley
Hidden Threats: Contaminants and NR Management
- 2012 MN/ND Joint Meeting –

Motion to adjourn by John M., second by Wes, Passed.

Adjourned at 6:44 pm

Appendix – Awards Committee Agenda Items

Item 1- TWS MN Chapter Member recognition and appreciation.

Proposal: Establish Quarterly Member Recognitions Process.

Method:

- Expand role of Regional Reps in selection of Chapter members in their Region who in their view are "worthy of recognition due to contributions to conservation or related "good deeds".
- An informal selection relying on the Regional Reps knowledge and connections in his or her "Region".
- Selection to be quarterly with written explanation to be published in quarterly news letters.
- Requires amending PD in OP/Bylaws. Add anyway

Purpose/Benefits:

- The opportunity to recognize Chapter members for their good work is limited or nonexistent.
- Member recognition is a powerful communication tool that reinforces and rewards the most important outcomes people create for conservation.



- MNTWS, the public, each of us and ultimately the resources and issues we support benefits greatly from recognizing members and non-members with awards at little to no cost to the Chapter.
- When you recognize people effectively, you reinforce, with your chosen means of recognition, the actions and behaviors you most want to see people repeat.
- The Chapter's greatest assets are their members, their institutional and resource knowledge and talent and their connections in the various communities within which they live and work.
- Member recognition increases the Chapters reputation; helps ensure a positive, productive, innovative organizational climate that members are proud of want to contribute to and one that will be more attractive to nonmembers.

Item 2. – Review Fedeler Scholarship Criteria.

- Clarify 2010 recipient(s) different than MLarson email.
- Current criteria limit this scholarship to 3rd or 4th year students.

“The Bob Fedeler Award is presented to one undergraduate and one graduate student who have a 3.0 or better GPA, a strong interest in a career in wildlife biology, be active in extracurricular activities, have a strong sense of public service and have demonstrated good communication skills.”

- Revise “Bob Fedeler Award” name to “Bob Fedeler Memorial Award”

OpManual/Bylaws change

Item 3. Chapter Award Recipients History.

Proposal: Increase awareness, knowledge, histories, biographies and contributions of the Chapter Awards recipients.

Method(s)

- Develop displays with pictures, histories, biographies etc to be displayed at the Annual Meeting and for the upcoming Anniversary.
- Add a permanent "Awards Column" to the newsletter.
- Other ideas??? Seek input from members.

Purpose/Benefits:

- Who were Arnold Erick, Robert Burwell, Lytton Taylor? What did they do for Minnesota's Wildlife and Natural Resources?
- Other than a name on the Chapters list of Award recipients these individuals are not know by most Chapter members, perhaps none.
- As Award winners they once symbolized the best ideals and of the Chapter. They gave the Chapter a human face and contributed to its reputation and credibility when they were recognized and helped make the Chapter what it is today.
- They should be better known, recognized and celebrated so they become a living part of the Chapters lexicon.

Item 4. Awards Section of Chapter Operations Manual and Bylaws needs Updating.

- Who, How??
- Student Conservationist is to go to a “wildlife major” ?? OpManual/Bylaws change.



- Revise *Janet Boe Memorial Award* name to “*Dr. Janet S. Boe Memorial Award*” OpManual/Bylaws change

Item 5. Revise Awards Committee and Award selection process.

- Reason and purpose of a standing Committee status?
- Open recipient selection to entire membership. OpManual/Bylaws change
- Review and clarify Fedeler Scholarship responsibility. OpManual/Bylaws change.

Item 6. Student Chapter Criteria-

- Who and how is this determined?
- Why does St Cloud not qualify?
- Status of Mankato Chapter (Emily)
- \$\$ Assistance for attending meeting(s) Who and how?

ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING MINUTES

MN TWS Board Meeting, 71st Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference
Hyatt Regency, Minneapolis, MN, Monday, December 13, 2010

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Greg Hoch at 5:37 pm

Officers Report:

- President : Greg Hoch – Greg welcomed everyone for attending the meeting and gave introductory remarks. Secretary: Richard Olsen – Motion to accept 2 March 2010 meeting minutes made by John Moriarty and 2nd by Bill Faber and passed.
- Treasurer: Charlotte Roy – Charlotte took over from Sara Vacek in March 2010. Reported that TWS accounts have been transferred to Bemidji area for easier banking and accounting. Charlotte handed out the latest TWS financial picture and explained expenses and incomes.
 - Motion to accept treasurer report made by Kurt Haroldson, 2nd by Ross Hier, and passed.
- Newsletter: Eric Dunton/Wes Bailey – Eric Dunton recently moved to Michigan to work for the USFWS and Wes Bailey has subsequently taken over newsletter editor duties.
 - January 15 2010 is the news item deadline for the newsletter. Send information to: wes_bailey@yahoo.com

Awards:

Thom Soule gave opening remarks and thanked those who have helped. He also recognized previous award winners in the room. The first awards began in 1958. Tom gave a quick history of the awards and the importance of awards to recognize our peers.

- Student Conservationist Award – presented by Dan Svedarsky.
 - Shelia Carlton was the award recipient.
- Conservation Award – presented by Jeannie Vorland
 - Shell Rock River Watershed District was the award recipient.
- Law Enforcement Award – presented by Greg Hoch



- Chuck Melvin from Detroit Lakes Fish and Wildlife Service was the award recipient.
- Dr. Janet S. Boe Memorial Award – presented by Gretchen Mehmel
 - Jodi Provost was the award recipient.
- Minnesota Award – presented by John Toepfer
 - Margaret “Maggie” Anderson was the award recipient.
- Service to Chapters Awards were presented by Greg Hoch
 - Sara Vacek for her contributions as TWS treasurer
 - Eric Dunton for his contributions as newsletter editor
 - Martha Minchak for her contribution as award chair. After giving out so many awards, she now deserves to receive one herself.
 - John Loegering presents an award to Greg Hoch for his service as TWS president during 2010.
- Grady Mann and Pat Karns Memorial – Tom Soule summarized the life histories of these 2 Minnesota men and the contributions that they have made. Both recently passed away.

Regional Report:

- Region I: Greg Knutsen
 - summarized many DNR and USFWS retirements that have recently occurred
 - TB efforts in NW Minnesota have wrapped up for the year. Sampling quotas were met and no apparent TB positive deer were found.
- Region II: Nancy Gellerman
 - summarized many DNR retirements that have recently occurred
 - DNR sampling wolves and moose
- Region III: Beau Liddell
 - Staff shortages remain an issues, especially so with DNR retirements
 - Fisher project continuing at Central Lakes College
 - Deer season was very successful
 - DNR and FWS offices are all involved with spending LSOHC dollars
- Region IV: Molly Tranel
 - DNR and USFWS retirements are continuing and ongoing
 - Progress has been made with a hunter walk-in program
- Region V: Pember
 - DNR retirements are the big news item
- Region VI: John Moriarty
 - DNR retirements are the big news item

Standing Committee Reports:

- COWCH Project (Celebrating Our Wildlife Conservation History): Snavely
 - Due to many DNR and USFWS retirements and much knowledge and history leaving, there is a strong need for people needed to help with this project. This would be a great introduction and networking experience for college students!
- FWLA (Fish and Wildlife Legislative Alliance):
 - FWLA is dealing with lots of different issue including: changes in the legislature from Democratic to Republican dominated, shoreline and dock rules, walk-in-



hunting areas, many bills dealing with aquatic/invasive species, muskie stocking, decoy regulations.

- MCF (MN Conservation Federation): Faber
 - Legislative issues, i.e., Democratic to Republican majority
 - Likely another Teeming with Wildlife meeting in Washington DC in 2011
 - Sara Vacek made a motion to maintain membership in MCF and FWLA, 2nd by Bill Faber and Passed
- NRCS State Tech Committee: Provost and Svedarsky
 - Suggested that there is a need to make more cooperation between SWCD/NRCS..... with DNR, FWS, et al. And with loss of so many DNR and FWS folks to retirement, there is a need for some sort of 'wildlife boot camp' to share knowledges and develop future relationships between all these folks and different agencies.
- Prairie/Farmland: Tranel
 - Seek out Molly if you are on this committee or want to be. Molly is updating the list.

Ad Hoc Committees

- Moose Advisory: Huschle
 - Management plan for the moose is being written
- Shallow Lakes Forum Advisory Board: Tranel
 - Shallow Lakes Forum will be planned again for 2011. No details yet.

Old Business:

- Electronic Newsletters:
 - There has been some discussion about doing away with the paper newsletter. Mainly it is a cost issue. A few paper copies will still be available. There are some issues with how to implement an electronic newsletter and when/how to sign up for it. Likely sign up at the annual meeting or with annual membership. Bulk mailings for paper newsletter are paid through Dec 2011 and this year (2011) will be our transition period to work out all the bugs.

New Business:

- New President, Mike Larson will be taking over the TWS presidency in 2011.
- Election Results – Greg Hoch will announce candidates in the Jan/Feb 2011 newsletter that everyone will receive in the mail. Instructions for voting will be announced in the next newsletter, and will likely have some sort of electronic balloting.
- Summer meeting/workshop: please forward ideas to reps for regions 1, 3, 5
- 2012 Annual Meeting: Hoch
 - TWS will have a joint MN/ND meeting in Fargo, ND at the Doublewood Inn in Fargo during the first or second week of February 2012. Last joint meeting with ND TWS was in 1998.
- Comprehensive Conservation Plan is now open for comments
 - Will be looking for scoping comments and a website will be put together soon to facilitate commenting.
- MN Legislature has funding available for forest management – see Lee Freulich.



News from the Membership:

- Best wishes to Eric Dunton as he moves to Saginaw MI

Adjourn at 730 pm Motion made by Bill Faber and 2nd by everyone. Passed

ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT

1 Jan 2010- 31 Dec 2010

SAVINGS (Bremer Acct transferred to Affinity Bank effective 27 May 2010)

Beginning Balance at Affinity	\$ 10.59
Beginning Balance at Bremer	\$ 1,264.56
Interest at Bremer	\$ 0.69
<u>Debits</u>	0
<u>Credits</u> (check from Bremer Savings 69172740)	\$1,265.25
Interest at Affinity	<u>1.19</u>
Subtotal	\$1,277.03
Ending Balance	\$1,277.03

CHECKING (transferred to Affinity Bank effective 27 May 2010, from Bremer checking 07137958)

Beginning Balance	\$1,968.18
Change	(\$ 48.76)
<u>Debits</u>	
Moose Conference	\$ 250.00
NA Moose Conference	\$3,398.85
Beth Walters (Student Conservationist Award)	\$ 100.00
Silver Bell (Awards)	\$ 630.00
Stephanie Bergh (Fedeler)	\$ 35.00
The Wildlife Society (Fedeler)	\$ 60.00
Charge for checks	\$ 14.50
Ye Ole Print Shoppe	\$ 78.55
Postage	\$ 456.69
NCD-AFS Continuing Ed workshops	\$ 250.00
John Moriarty	\$ 500.00
Printing Plus (newsletter)	\$1,142.00
UM-Crookston: Children in Nature Conference	\$ 250.00
MCF Dues (2010)	\$ 250.00
Grand View Lodge- Annual Meeting Balance	\$ 352.59
Fenske Wildlife Recipient	\$ 250.00
Student Conservationist Award	\$ 100.00
AFS (their portion of raffle proceeds)	\$2,520.50
Mike Schrage (reimb for TWS portion raffle prizes)	\$ 333.99
Greg Hoch (reimb for TWS portion raffle prizes)	\$ 11.35
MCF Dues (2011)	\$ 250.00
Brian Borkholder (reimbursement for raffle prizes)	\$ 466.75
Ross Hier (frame)	\$ 17.99
Jennifer Stenglein (1 st place student paper)	\$ 100.00
Bill Peterman (1 st place student poster)	\$ 100.00



Mark Ditmer (2 nd place student paper)	\$ 50.00
Christopher Jorgensen (2 nd place student poster)	\$ 50.00
Silver Bell Trophies (award plaques)	<u>\$ 540.00</u>
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$12,558.76</i>

Credits

Moose Conference CD	
((\$3,398.85 minus \$100 cash for annual meeting-Sara Vacek)	\$ 3298.85
Membership	\$ 1455.00
Raffle- March 2010	\$ 2,264.00
Donation	\$ 100.00
Shirts	\$ 266.00
Cash (by Sara Vacek to have on hand for the meeting)	\$ 100.00
Raffle –December 2010 (both TWS and AFS)	\$ 4,921.00
Raffle- Greg Hoch IOU for raffle	\$ 200.00
Interest	<u>\$ 2.67</u>
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$ 12,607.52</i>
Ending Balance	\$ 2,016.94

60 MONTH CD (Affinity Plus 7016288)

Beginning Balance	\$ 3,380.24
Dividend	\$ 18.61
Moose Conference, matured Feb 2010 (check to Checking Account)	\$ 3,398.85
Ending Balance	\$ 0.00

12 MONTH CD (Affinity Plus 7115999, formerly 7045270)

Beginning Balance	\$ 3,377.48
Renewed, matures 24 Aug 2011 (0.499% rate)	
Dividends	\$ 33.17
Ending Balance	\$3,410.65

Total chapter assets as of 31 December 2010 **\$6,704.62**

Charlotte Roy, Treasurer
31 Dec 2010

Raffle 2010 at Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference

	Total cost	TWS portion	Fisheries portion
<i>Raffle expenses</i>			
<i>Mike Schrage (reimb for TWS portion raffle prizes)</i>	\$667.97	\$333.99	\$333.99
<i>Greg Hoch (reimb for TWS portion raffle prizes)</i>	\$22.71	\$11.35	\$11.35
<i>Brian Borkholder (reimbursement for raffle prizes)</i>	\$933.50	\$466.75	\$466.75
<i>Total Debts</i>	\$1,624.18	\$812.09	\$812.09
 <i>Raffle Credits</i>			
<i>Raffle –December 2010 (both TWS and AFS)</i>	\$4921.00*		



Raffle- Greg Hoch IOU for raffle	\$200.00		
Fisheries checks	\$80.00		
Total Credits	\$5,201.00	\$2,600.50	\$2,600.50
Profit	\$3,576.82	\$1,788.41	\$1,788.41
Accounting with AFS			
AFS (their portion of raffle proceeds, i.e. credits)	\$2600.50**		
AFS (their portion of raffle expenses paid directly to contributors)	\$812.09		
AFS portion after payment of raffle expenses	\$1,788.41		

*Deposited into TWS account and then TWS wrote a check to AFS for \$2520.50

**which is TWS check for \$2520.50 plus the \$80 in Fisheries checks above.

2011 OFFICER ELECTIONS

The officer elections this year will be atypical because we chose to hold our annual meeting at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in December rather than in February as is our tradition. Consequently, we will substitute a mail box and electronic poll for our typically ballot box at the annual meeting. The newsletter is scheduled to be out in late January. Our constitution stipulates the slate of candidates be available to the membership for 45 days prior to the election. Thus, votes will be counted on or after 15 March 2011.

President Elect

Candidate #1 – Wayne Brininger – Wildlife Biologist, Tamarac NWR

Tamarac NWR, 35704 Co. Rd 26, Rochert, MN 56578
 Work phone: (218)847-2641, Email: Wayne_Brininger@fws.gov

Education: B.S. Wildlife Management, Univ. of Montana, 1993
 M.A. Biology: Wildlife Emphasis, St. Cloud State Univ., 1996

Work Experience:

Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Tamarac NWR (2002-present), Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Rice Lake NWR (1996-2002), Biological Technician, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Agassiz NWR (2004-2006), Biologist, Fort Totten Indian Reservation, ND (2004), Biological Consultant, Fort Belknap Indian Reservation, MT (2004)

Activities and Interests: Ecological restoration, landscape ecology & planning, forest ecology & management, wetland & wild rice ecology and avian population ecology, research & management and wildlife-habitat relationships



Personal: spending time with my family, hunting, fishing, bird-watching, hockey (for ol' timers)

Personal Statement: I have been an active member of the MNTWS since 1995, recently serving as a regional rep. and currently participating on the forest issues and awards committees. I believe MNTWS is an effective avenue for communicating and resolving common issues and challenges that we face as natural resource professionals. MNTWS functions as a “collective voice” which extends well beyond our own individual disciplines, responsibilities or work areas. This foundation set forth by our Chapter should continue to be based on “sound science”. Strengthening our scientific excellence is paramount to maintaining our professional credibility with the public, public officials and our partners. Sustaining wildlife populations and our natural resources is a critical component to delivering ecosystem services to the people of Minnesota. That responsibility begins with each and every one of us. I believe my dedication to the conservation of natural resources is evident not only in professional life but also in my personal life, as I strive to instill strong conservation ethics in my family and friends. I look forward to renewing my commitment to the Chapter, serving the members of the Chapter and immersing myself in the conservation challenges of today and the future.

Treasurer

Candidate #1 – Charlotte Roy – Research Scientist, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Dr. Charlotte Roy is a Research Scientist with the Wetland Wildlife Populations and Research Group with the Department of Natural Resources. She received her B.S. from the University at Buffalo in 1996, her M.S. from Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC) in 1998, and her Ph.D. from University of Missouri in 2004. She worked for two years at SIUC advising graduate students and teaching classes before taking a research position with the DNR in Bemidji in July 2007. Her research interests include waterfowl and wetland communities, population responses to management and human-induced landscape changes, and behavioral ecology. She is currently conducting studies on the nesting ecology and post-fledging ecology of ring-necked ducks, avian community responses to riparian restoration, and landscape genetics in fragmented populations.

Secretary

Candidate # 1 - Rich Olsen – Assistant Area Wildlife Manager, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Address: 24648 250th Avenue, Glenwood MN

Work Phone: 320/634-0342; Home Phone: 320/634-4750; Email: tackleberry59@hotmail.com

Education: MS – Louisiana State University

Work Experience: 2006 – present – Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Assistant Area Wildlife Manager, Glenwood MN



Activities and Interests: At home interests include raising mainly chickens, sheep, and goats for profit and consumption, participating in our local farmers market, hunting (supplemental meat), supporting kids (2) and wife (1), and outdoor activities such as skiing, hiking, canoeing, camping, etc. with my family. Professional interests include all aspects of game bird management and biology, wetland management, grassland management, and working with private landowners and other wildlife professionals.

Personal Statement: I have been a member of MN TWS since 2006 and National TWS since 1991. I have served as the Secretary since 2007. The TWS is an excellent opportunity to network with other professionals that you would not normally visit on a regular basis. Effective change in the wildlife/environmental sector can be influenced through groups and organizations such as the TWS. I will be happy to continue to serve in this position.

Region 2 Representative:

Candidate # 1 – Nancy Gellerman – Assistant Area Wildlife Manager – Two Harbors DNR

I grew up in an undeveloped part of Brooklyn Center, MN, where swamp & field, and woods & lakes were all part of my backyard. That was the start of my interest in nature & I later graduated from the University of MN College of Natural Resources with a B.S. in Fisheries & Wildlife Management (when it was one degree) and a minor in Forest Resources. My career with the Department of Natural Resources began with an internship assisting the new Resource Manager at Itasca State Park. The real start to my career though came much later when I was hired to be a Creel Clerk on the North Shore. And as hard as it was to leave the shore, I really enjoyed my time as a Wildlife Technician in northwest MN. I liked it so much that I stayed put for several years. Then in 2006 I took a position working in the Private Lands Program in southwest MN. I enjoyed assisting landowners improve their grasslands, wetlands, and woodlands for wildlife's benefit. I didn't stay long though and in early 2007 when there was an opening on the North Shore, I jumped at the chance to come back to my favorite part of the state. Since that time I've been working as an Assistant Area Wildlife Manager and enjoying the rewards and challenges that come with the territory. It gives me a real chance to put my minor degree to work! If I had to pick just one species that I would like to help the most during my career, it would without question be our own MN moose.

Region 4 Representative

Candidate # 1 – Molly Tranel – Wildlife Research Biologist, DNR Farmland Wildlife Populations and Research Group

Molly received her B.S. and M.S. from University of Illinois in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and has previously worked at Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, Ft. Collins and the Illinois Natural History Survey before coming to Minnesota. She currently works in Minnesota DNR's Farmland Wildlife Populations and Research Group with an interest in bird conservation and management, restoring forb diversity in tallgrass prairies, and the impacts of lead



ammunition on wildlife. Her personal interests include hiking, bird watching, music and dance, and wildlife photography.

Region 6 Representative:

Candidate # 1 – Erica P. Hoaglund, Non-game Wildlife Biologist, Minnesota DNR

I am a non-game wildlife biologist who has worked for the Minnesota DNR's non-game wildlife program out of the Region 3 office since 2008. I graduated from the University of Minnesota with a B.S. in Fisheries and Wildlife Management with a concentration in conservation biology in 2008. I specialize in herpetofauna, but have experience working with several game and non-game taxa. I am also interested in population dynamics, human aspects of conservation, landscape level conservation, invasive species control, and habitat restoration. I also enjoy fishing, hiking, nature photography and camping. I enthusiastically support the goals and missions of the MN TWS and passionately look forward to participating in such a wonderful group. I would do my best to bring a spirit of passion, enthusiasm and professional ethics. I am honored to be considered to represent Region 6 and look forward to the opportunities and challenges ahead.

2010 MN TWS AWARDS

By Thom Soule – Awards Committee Chair

I believe the Awards Ceremony is our most important tradition — started in 1958 when George Selke received the Minnesota Award — that has evolved and grown over the years. Each of us finds different aspects of the ceremony meaningful for different reasons.

The Award Ceremony is a time to celebrate our common heritage, to remember and reflect on the contributions and successes of all, and a reminder of why we go to work every day. The Award Ceremony is an important event for all of us because it helps remind each of us, regardless of our employer or position, that we are all working together toward a common goal in often unpopular but worthwhile endeavors.

Having an annual ceremony to remember and recognize our colleagues is especially important. This is one time each year when

we take the time to publicly declare those who best represent our core values, our hope and dreams for a better environment and in so doing we are all united, representing the mission and spirit of our Society. By this statement we assure that they and their contribution will never be forgotten.

Such an event keeps them and their contributions with us individually and as contributing members. Publishing the list of award recipients is a reminder of the work that we do and the dedication, commitment, and sacrifices that are needed

We recognize that the few we honor here are but a fraction of those who do good works for the wildlife resources of Minnesota. There are many others who go unrecognized and go about doing good work unselfishly with passion, and competency. Let us not forget them either.

MINNESOTA AWARD – Margaret Anderson, Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge



In the photo: Maggie Anderson receives Minnesota Award presented by John Toepfer

The Minnesota Award is our Chapter's highest award and has been presented since 1958 to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to Minnesota's wildlife and natural resources. Margaret was honored for 38 years of unselfish

contributions to wildlife. After two years at Mercer County JR. College she graduated from the University of Maine at Orono in 1973. Her first wildlife job after graduation was with the Atlantic Salmon Commission. Her first position with the USF&WS was the Assistant Refuge Manager at Moosehorn NWR where she worked until 1977. In 1979 she became District Refuge Mgr on Upper Mississippi NWR. In 1985 she became Assistant Refuge Mgr at Seneey NWR and in 1986 became Mgr at Lee Metcalf NWR in Montana. In 1992 she was Refuge Mgr at Petit Manan NWR in Milbridge, Maine. In 1997 she returned to Minnesota as the Manager at Agassiz NWR where she continues to redefine the role and standards of a National Wildlife Refuge Manager.

DR. JANET S. BOE MEMORIAL AWARD – Jodie Provost, Private Lands Specialist, Northeast Region MN Dept of Natural Resources, Aitkin, MN.



In the photo: Jodie Provost (left) receives award from Gretchen Mehmel, 2009 recipient.

The Dr. Janet S. Boe Memorial Award was established in 2008 recognize a professional woman or outstanding female graduate or undergraduate student who exemplifies the consummate natural resource scientist. The purpose of this award is to recognize women who are making a significant difference in natural resource science in Minnesota and to encourage increased recruitment of women into this profession. Janet was a MN TWS leader for many years and is a role model for many female natural resources scientists.

Unassuming yet highly effectively, for the last 20 years Jodie has distinguished herself and brought recognition and respect for the wildlife resource. She is truly a role model and inspiration for aspiring as well as



veteran natural resource conservationists. Jodie earned a B.S. Zoology, Minor in Botany in 1988 from North Dakota State University, Fargo ND; her M.S. in Biology in 1991 from University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND. She began her professional wildlife career in November 1991 as the Assistant Area Wildlife

Manager MN DNR Karlstad, MN; became a DNR Resource Assessment Specialist in Brainerd, MN in Sept. 1998 and in the Fall/Winter of 2004 became the MN DNR NE Region Private Lands Specialist.

CONSERVATION AWARD – Shell Rock River Watershed District, Freeborn County Minnesota.



In the photo: Members of the Shell Rock River Watershed District receive award presented by Jeannie Varland

The Conservation Award has been presented since 1985 to an organization or institution that has shown an outstanding commitment to Minnesota’s resources. The Shell Rock

River Watershed District was recognized for their commitment to and actions employing sound ecological principals to improve water and aquatic habitat quality in Freeborn County shallow lakes and the Shell Rock River. The Board and staffs professionalism, leadership, public outreach and education, collaborative spirit and ethic serve as a model for both public and private conservation. District personnel are: Brett Behnke, Administrator; Andy Henschel, Director of Field Operations; Jerad Stricker, Conservation Technician; Connie Kaupa , Office Manager and Carmen Christensen Financial Clerk and Recording Secretary

LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARD– Charles Melvin III, USFWS, Detroit Lakes, MN.



In the photo: Ryan Frohling, Deputy Project Leader, Detroit Lakes Wetland Management District receives award for Officer Melvin presented by Greg Hoch

The Law Enforcement Award has been presented since 1992 to an individual who has demonstrated dedication and service to the protection of Minnesota’s natural resources. Selected for this Award because of his professionalism, leadership, knowledge, understanding and passion for the core values of conservation Officer



Charles Melvin III is a model for what a Refuge Law Enforcement Officer should be. He serves a large geographic area with distinction, conducting/coordinating the law

enforcement activities for Hamden Slough, Tamarac NWR, Rydell NWR, Glacial Ridge NWR, Agassiz NWR, and the Detroit Lakes Wetlands Management District.

STUDENT CONSERVATIONIST AWARD – *Sheila Carleton*,
The University of Minnesota Crookston.



In the photo: Sheila Carleton and Dan Svedarsky

The Student Conservationist Award has been presented since 1985 to a wildlife major that has shown commitment to wildlife, has high scholastic achievement,

and shows promise as a future wildlife professional.

Sheila graduated from Central Lakes Community College in 2009 with a General Associate Arts/Natural Resource Associate Science Degree. She is currently in her first year at the University of Minnesota, Crookston carrying over a 3.8 GPA with a double major in Agronomy and Natural Resources. She tutors fellow students in Botany, Ecology, Agricultural Chemicals, and Plant Breeding. This fall she was awarded an Undergraduate Research Opportunity grant to help establish a student-run University garden that aims to provide local food for the campus. Sheila home town is Baxter, MN.

OTHER TWS MEMBERS RECOGNIZED

Service to Chapter Awards were presented to outgoing President *Greg Hoch*, Moorhead, MN; *Sara Vacek*, USF&WS Morris Wetlands Management District, for her work as treasurer and also for initiating region-wide plant diversity research and monitoring projects; *Eric Dunton*, MNDNR Farmland Wildlife Research Group, for his Newsletter Editor leadership;



In the photo: Sara Vacek & Greg Hoch



In the photo, Martha Minchak & Greg Hoch

Martha Minchak, MN DNR Cloquet Area Assistant Manager, for her enduring commitment and outstanding contributions through the Awards Committee.

John Moriarty, Ramsey County Natural Resources Specialist and Chapter Archivist, is the 2010 recipient of the TWS Jim McDonough Award.

MINNESOTANS RECOGNIZED BY THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Some Minnesota Chapter members were honored at the fall annual meeting of The Wildlife Society in Snowbird, Utah, including Doug Johnson who won the Aldo Leopold Award! Johnson is a federal biologist in the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology at the U of M, St. Paul. The Leopold Award is the highest honor bestowed by The Wildlife Society in honor of the founder of the profession.

John Moriarty, biologist with Ramsey County, (Minn.) received the Jim McDonough Award to recognize a certified wildlife biologist who has made a significant contribution to the profession by implementing wildlife programs and developing new techniques. Meadow Kouffeld, a doctoral student working with Dr. Ralph (Rocky) Gutierrez at the U of M, St. Paul, received the Donald Rusch Memorial Game Bird Research Scholarship for her work with ruffed grouse.



In the photo (l to r): John Moriarty; Bruce Leopold, President of The Wildlife Society; Doug Johnson; Dan Svendsky; Meadow Kouffeld; and Rocky Gutierrez.



U of MN Wildlife Professor Dan Svedarsky was among 8 individuals recognized as TWS Fellows. Svedarsky is a research biologist at the Northwest Research and Outreach Center (NWROC) and professor of natural resources at the University of Minnesota, Crookston.

2010 MIDWEST FISH AND WILDLIFE CONFERENCE STUDENT PAPER AND POSTER WINNERS

The Student paper and poster competition at this year's Midwest included 23 papers, over 14 sessions, and 11 posters. The first place winners of this year's judging will receive at one year membership, including The Journal of Wildlife Management, in TWS, NC Section, and their state chapter from the NC Section and a \$100.00 award from the Minnesota Chapter. The second place winners of this year's judging will receive at one year membership in TWS, NC Section, and their state chapter from the NC Section and a \$50.00 award from the Minnesota Chapter. The winners and their presentation titles are:

1ST PLACE PAPER

Allee effects and growth of the recovering southern Lake Superior gray wolf population
Ms. Jennifer Stenglein, Forest and Wildlife Ecology - University of Wisconsin - Madison

2ND PLACE PAPER

Seasonal home range and habitat use by American black bears in a fragmented, agricultural landscape
Mr. Mark Ditmer, Fisheries, Wildlife & Conservation Biology - University of Minnesota

1ST PLACE POSTER

Patterns in time and space: Using graph theory and occupancy modeling to assess population connectivity and persistence of Missouri wood frogs
Mr. Bill Peterman, Division of Biological Sciences - University of Missouri

2ND PLACE POSTER

Assessing Landscape and Vegetative Composition at Multiple Scales: What Drives Avian Abundance and Distribution in a Grassland Ecosystem?
Mr. Christopher Jorgensen, School of Natural Resources - University of Nebraska-Lincoln

The committee would like to thank all the students who participated and the judges who volunteered to review the presentations. We look forward to increased student participation at the 2011 Midwest in Des Moines, Iowa.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has." Margaret Mead



MINNESOTA CHAPTER, THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY, AWARDS HISTORY 1958-2010

YEAR	MINNESOTA AWARD	CONSERVATION AWARD	STUDENT CONSERVATIONIST	LAW ENFORCEMENT	FEDELER AWARD	JANET BOE AWARD
1958	George Selke					
1959	Lytton Taylor					
1960	Jack Berryman					
1961	John Moyle					
1962	Arnold Erick					
1963	Samuel Eddy					
1964	Richard Dorer					
1965	William H. Marshall					
1966	George McCullough					
1967	Walter J. Breckenridge					
1968	Flick Davis					
1969	Grady E. Mann					
1970	Milton Stenlund					
1971	Robert Burwell					
1972	Robley W. Hunt					
1973	Art Hawkins					
1974	Dave Vesall					
1975	Ross Hanson					
1976	L. Daniel Frenzel					
1977	Laurits W. Krefling					
1978	Robert E. Farnes					
1979	Gordon W. Gullion					
1980	Max Partch					
1981	David Dickey					
1982	**					
1983	John Mathisen					
1984	Arlin Anderson					
1985	Carl Madsen	Minnesota Waterfowl Association				
1986	L. David Mech	MN Chapter, The Nature Conservancy				
1987	John Scharf	Fish & Wildlife Legislative Alliance				
1988	Alfred Berner	Nicollet Conservation Club				
1989	Wallace Dayton	The Big Game Club-Special Projects				
1990	Edward Crozier	Friends of the Minnesota Valley				
1991	Roger M. Holmes	Pheasants Forever				
1992	Harvey Nelson	Itasca Community College	Eric Spadgenske	Doug Sandstrom		
1993	Carrol Henderson	Clean Up Our River Environment	Dean Paron	David Mador		
1994	Jan Green	Sportsmen's Coalition Clean Minnesota River	Jane Mueller	Todd Manley		
1995	William E. Berg	Hennepin Co. Parks - DNR	Kent Sundseth	Larry Lewis		
1996	Alfred H. Grewe	Ducks Unlimited - Minnesota	Eric Rosenquist	David Duncan		
1997	Al Radtke	Central Lakes College - Natural Resources	Myron Weltikol	Jeff Bircham		
1998	Larry R. Nelson	Rice Area Sportsmen's Clubs	Eric Thorson	John F. Smith		
1999	Dan Svedarsky	Minnesota Sharp-tailed Grouse Society	Shane Osborne	Martin Book		
2000	Robert Janssen	Izaak Walton League - Minnesota Division	Emily Spinler	Leland Owens		
2001	Larry Lewis	Minnesota Conservation Federation	Chad Nordstrom	Tom Provost		
2002	Ross Hier	Central Minnesota Audubon Society	Dan Oberg	Brian Mies		
2003	Francesca Cuthbert	KAXE Northern Community Radio	Tom Gorman	Joyce & Paul Kuske		
2004	Douglas Keran	Minnesota Prairie Chicken Society	Russell Kleinschmidt	Karl Hadrits		
2005	Terrance Wolfe	Stearns County Pheasants Forever	Nathaniel Emery	Richard Stoltman		
2006	Gary Huschle	St. Louis River Citizens Action Committee	Tim Barberg	Scott Staples	Micah Meyer	
2007	Lee Pfannmuller	Luverne and Mary Jo Forbord of Prairie Horizons Farm	Mary Jo Geldert	Gary Forsberg	Jessica Holmes	
2008	Brian Winter	Jane Bennett of Central MN Citizens for Responsible Growth	Chris Waltz	Jeremy Woinarowicz	Sarah Thompson	Margaret Anderson
2009	John Toepfer	Kelly Applegate & Larry Leonard - Purple MartinWorking Group	Beth Woodswalker Walters	Ed Picht	Stefanie Bergh	Gretchen Mehmel
2010	Margaret Anderson	Shell Rock River Watershed District	Sheila Carleton	Charles Melvin III		Jodie Provost

The Minnesota Award is our Chapter's highest award and is presented to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to Minnesota's wildlife and natural resources.

The Conservation Award is presented to an organization or institution that has shown an outstanding commitment to Minnesota's resources.

The Student Conservationist Award is presented to a Wildlife Major at a Minnesota college who had shown a commitment to wildlife, has high scholastic achievement, and shows promise as a future wildlife professional.

The Law Enforcement Award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated dedication and service to the protection of Minnesota's natural resources.

The Bob Fedeler Award is presented to one undergraduate and one graduate student who have a 3.0 or better GPA, a strong interest in a career in wildlife biology, be active in extracurricular activities, have a strong sense of public service and have demonstrated good communication skills.

The Janet Boe Memorial Award recognizes a professional woman or outstanding female graduate or undergraduate student who exemplifies the consummate natural resource scientist.



REGIONAL REPORTS

Region 1 – Mike Zicus

USFWS

The Friends of Morris WMD have received a CPL grant for the removal of trees, primarily eastern red cedar, from 320 acres of land in SE Pope County that is enrolled in an FWS Habitat Easement. This land lies on the Alexandria Moraine and has 245 acres of hilly, dry native prairie and a diverse wetland complex. The remainder of the land is in CRP and FWS wetland easements, unfortunately, the red cedar has heavily encroached on this entire area. This land is actively grazed by the owner, and a rotational grazing system is being considered for long term management of the site after the trees have been removed and a prescribed fire has been completed. This site sits in the center of the Ordway Working Lands Initiative target area and is a high priority for native prairie enhancement and restoration. This site and three others have been targeted within the Ordway WLI target area for invasive tree removal this year; this totals around 600 acres of invasive tree removal from native prairies and adjacent grasslands. Over 2,000 acres of grassland within this target area have already received invasive tree removal within the past five to ten years.

Morris WMD recently completed a Management Priority Model, which is already proving to be a useful tool to help us make good decisions about habitat management on our lands. Like many others in the state, Morris WMD does not have the resources to manage each waterfowl production area (WPA) to its fullest potential. Morris WMD is nearly finished with our Habitat Management Plan

(HMP), a document that clearly defines the priorities and habitat goals for District lands. The HMP helps determine *how* WPAs should be

managed, but we also wanted a strategic and thoughtful way to decide *where* to apply our limited management resources. The model was developed with input from the entire WMD staff and key partners, and modeling assistance from the USGS - Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center. It integrates landscape- and WPA-scale information that is relevant to the District's priorities, which include waterfowl breeding habitat, grassland bird habitat, threatened and endangered species, and prairie and wetland ecosystem integrity. The model provides a score for each of our WPAs; by focusing our management efforts on the highest scoring WPAs, we can ensure that we are allocating our management to the places where we will get the greatest benefit.

Currently, the Detroit Lakes WMD is busy developing the 15-yr Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) for Hamden Slough NWR. This plan will guide Refuge management of programs related to wildlife, habitat and people. So far, we have held one public meeting and one meeting with subject experts to get the perspectives on possible

MN Chapter TWS Regions





Refuge issues and potential ways to address those issues. The completion of final CCP is slated for September 2011.

To support the Hamden CCP, we have gone through a Contaminants Assessment Process (CAP) to help determine whether environmental contaminants pose threats to land or wildlife resources of the Refuge. A Water Resources Inventory and Assessment (WRIA) has also been completed (currently in DRAFT form) to take a closer look at the water resources on- and off-refuge, especially as related to the CAP and develop recommendations for resolving those potential threats.

Hamden Slough NWR is also under contract with Greenbriar Wetland Services to conduct a Hydrogeomorphic (HGM) analysis. The HGM collects both abiotic (hydrology, soils, topography, geology, climate) as well as biotic (vegetation and wildlife) data, along with information on historic ecological processes and current conditions to determine restoration potential, as well as management options that would create sustainable habitats for the future.

Within the Detroit Lakes WMD, we are working on tree removal projects to restore both prairie and oak savanna habitats on select WPAs. We are also prioritizing management and restoration projects for the upcoming field season. Construction of a new, energy-efficient office building is planned for spring 2011.

The big news from the Fergus Falls WMD is the retirement of Kevin Brennan, Project Leader, after 36 years with the Service. Kevin retired at the end of December. Chad Raitz is the acting manager until a new manager is hired.

Gary Tischer, Wildlife Refuge Specialist, retired after 36 years with the USFWS, including 26 at Agassiz NWR.

Neil Powers is the new Project Leader at Tamarac NWR. He entered on duty in early January 2011. Previously, Neil was the manager of the J. Clark Salyer WMD in North Dakota.

The USFWS prescribed fire budget was greatly reduced in 2011, nationwide. The Midwest Region (Region 3), suffered a 25% overall decrease, which resulted in an 80% reduction in each

station's operating budget. This will most certainly impact what is one of the most important management strategies on many refuges.

Agassiz NWR recently got results from a sedimentation study led by the St. Croix Watershed Research Station. Radioisotope analysis of sediment cores and total suspended sediment samples showed that Agassiz Pool (~10,000 ac) has accumulated 1,600,000 tons of sediment since 1938 (ave. 23,000/yr) and the majority of inorganic sediment that enters the Refuge is from agricultural field erosion, rather than ditch/streambank erosion.

MN DNR

Bovine TB: No sharpshooting this winter. Enough samples (1,618) were collected during the deer season. The hope is that all come back negative for TB. Eighteen deer (12 females, 6 males) will be captured just outside the TB management zone in mid-January and fitted with radios to determine if they are moving in to the zone.

Work has begun to develop a comprehensive conservation management plan for the state-managed, federal Land Utilization Project



(LUP) lands in the Beltrami Forest area. Scoping began this month to collect ideas from the public and there will be three public meetings between late January and early February. *The TWS membership is encouraged to comment too. Just visit the project website and fill out a combination questionnaire/comment form: www.beltramiisland.info. You can also get a comment form directly from Mike North*

Region 2 – Nancy Gellerman

Recent Retirements of DNR Wildlife Staff in Northeast Minnesota

Like so many other special Wildlifers who retired from state service on December 21, Frank Swendsen & Dan Litchfield will truly be missed. Frank was the Area Wildlife Manager in International Falls since 1991, but had worked in other parts of the state such as Carlos Avery & Thief Lake Wildlife Management Areas before coming to Region 2 in 1982. He had a grand total of 37 years of service! Dan Litchfield began his DNR career with Trails & Waterways as a Laborer in 1977. He later became a Wildlife Technician in 1982. He worked his entire 33+ years in the Tower/Ely area and knows the area well. Congratulations to both Frank & Dan!

Sunset Lake and Jack Pine Restoration in Tower Work Area – Walt Gessler, DNR Wildlife

We finished a dam removal on Sunset Lake in October. Sunset is a wild rice lake that had a dam put on it in the early 70's to establish a northern pike rearing pond. The lake has hence produced little if any rice as a result of the higher water levels. DNR Fisheries was a cooperative partner in the restoration project. We look for good things to happen to Sunset Lake in the near future.

Quality jack pine sites are both important and hard to come by in northeastern

who is heading up this planning effort Just write to him at: Minnesota DNR, 1601 Minnesota Drive, Brainerd, MN 56401, or by email to michael.north@state.mn.us.

Jeff Dittrich, area wildlife manager in Baudette retired and Scott Laudenslager, the assistant manager at Red Lake WMA, is now the acting manager.

Minnesota. We recently completed a 30 acre double disk trenching project at Five Mile Lake in cooperation with the St. Louis Co. Land Dept. This site was a former jack pine stand that had lost all of the jack pine due to old age and wind damage. The intent of this project was to prep the site for aerial seeding to jack pine in the spring of 2011 and re-establish jack pine on this FDn32 (a type of Fire Dependent plant community) site.

2010 Superior National Forest Odonate Survey – Dave Grossheusch, US Forest Service

This was the third year of the dragonfly & damselfly survey in Superior National Forest (in partnership with the MN Odonata Survey Project). It consisted of 3 weekend surveys (one each in June, July, & August) during the summer using volunteers to both capture and identify specimens. Because odonates have both aquatic & terrestrial parts to their lifecycles, they are valuable indicators of water quality and the health of riparian habitats within the forested region of the state. Twenty-two sites were visited comprising of bogs, streams, lakes, & wetlands. Twenty were new while the other 2 serve the purpose of monitoring sites because of the high diversity of species collected at those sites previously. During the three weekends in 2010, 56 species were found including 40 dragonfly & 16 damselfly



species. So far, 83 species have recorded in the SNF from these surveys including species of special concern (such as the Zigzag darner). Dave says the best parts of

Region 3 – Beau Liddell

This fall-winter has been a busy time for DNR-Wildlife employees from the TWS region 3 area. Many staff have been actively involved with FY11 internal and external partner LSOHC habitat development and acquisition projects funded by the new Outdoor Heritage Fund, as well providing input for the upcoming round of proposals for FY12, including the Conservation Partner Legacy (CPL) Grants routed through local conservation groups. Similar to last year, many DNR-wildlife staff worked weekend duty throughout the deer season to assist with chronic wasting disease monitoring in the southeast part of the state. Cambridge area wildlife manager Dave Pauly coordinated on-the-ground sampling effort, and the targeted sample size of 500 deer was achieved by the opening weekend of the muzzleloader season. Staff also collected data as part of required evaluation of antler point restrictions that were implemented in the southeast, and that monitoring will continue over the next couple of years.

Through the Anoka Sandplain partnership, Great River Greening was successful over the past year in obtaining LSOHC legacy funds for various prairie, oak woodland and oak savannah habitat improvement and restoration projects on public lands in the region, and will be breaking ground on the first projects this winter.

Minnesota Association of Conservation Professionals (MNACP) will hold its 4th annual workshop & meeting on February 25th, 2011 at Camp Ripley near Little Falls. All conservation practitioners & researchers

the surveys are the enthusiastic volunteers who participate. To learn more or find out about future surveys, go to:

www.mndragonfly.org

from around the state (regardless of government or non-profit affiliation) as well as students pursuing a career in a conservation discipline are invited to attend. The workshop, “Contaminants and Natural Resource Management” will focus on current and emerging issues of contaminants affecting resource management in Minnesota. Dr. Deborah Swackhamer from the University of Minnesota will present an overview on emerging contaminants, possible effects on aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems and human health, and possible policy initiatives for limiting exposures and harm. Dr. Shawn Schottler from the St. Croix Watershed Research Station will discuss novel techniques for tracing the origin of sediment deposits into lakes and streams (i.e., sediment “fingerprinting”), and Molly Tranell, DNR-Wildlife, will give a presentation on effects of lead on wildlife. Additional presentations on the agenda include contaminants from hard rock mining and mercury methylation in wetlands. For more information visit the association’s website at <http://www.mnacp.org/> in the coming weeks, or contact President Ray Valley at valleyr1@yahoo.com, or President-elect Anna Lipenga at Vuto76@yahoo.com. Registration deadline for the workshop is Feb. 18th.

Little Falls Wildlife Area – Beau Liddell

Staff are busy with timber stand improvements, clearing invasive woody vegetation from grasslands, preparing for spring prescribed burning projects, working on several acquisitions, multiple LSOHC projects, and will be breaking ground on a



major stream bank restoration project on Sartell WMA. This past deer season in the greater Little Falls work area ranked #4 all time, up about 24% from 2009. While the area has escaped much of the snow the rest of the state has experienced, snow has been on the ground since November 13th, prompting complaints and inquiries about nuisance turkeys, and the need to feed wildlife, respectively.

Sauk Rapids Wildlife Area – Fred Bengtson
Bart Bly, new Central Region MN-DNR Shallow Lakes Biologist. 2 new tracts added to Pelican Lake WMA (Wright Co.), totaling 408 acres, 2 new Pelican Lake WPA tracts added, totaling 130 acres. One of these was 2010's "Build a Wildlife Area". Trumpeter swans are showing a steady increase in numbers in central Minnesota. Monticello area continues to winter several hundred swans. Marco Restani, SCSU biology instructor, documented an amazing migration of Saw-whet owls this past October, capturing over 200 near St. John's University in one area. There was about a 10% increase in deer harvest this year, even with fairly conservative harvest strategies. CRP gains have offset losses for the most part in Stearns, Wright and Sherburne Counties. The quality of CRP habitat has improved over the years. County commissioners in Stearns, Wright and Sherburne counties generally remain supportive or neutral concerning WMA/WPA acquisition. Improved information on PILT disbursements have certainly helped local officials field questions to the public.

Thanks to a new water control outlet structure on Smith Lake in Wright County, the DNR is currently drawing down lake levels as winter sets in to rejuvenate aquatic vegetation and control invasive fish. The enhancement project is a partnership effort

between Ducks Unlimited, DNR and shoreline landowners, with funding from the LSOHC Outdoor Heritage Fund, to improve water level management capabilities and habitat conditions for waterfowl and other wetland wildlife.

Smith Lake, west of Howard Lake on Highway 12, is a 330-acre shallow lake managed by the DNR, and was designated for wildlife management purposes in 2009. DU engineered the project for the state in 2008 and recently hired a local contractor to construct the project. Work began in mid-November to clear the outlet channel and install nearly 1,000 feet of 24-inch pipe before winter conditions arrived. Due to snow and cold, the contractor temporarily suspended construction in mid-December, but will resume work sometime early next spring with completion anticipated during summer 2011.

Brainerd & Aitkin Wildlife Area – Gary Drotts

Dave Dickey retired in June and the Brainerd & Aitkin wildlife offices have since merged. There are several ongoing LSOHC projects in Cass & Crow Wing counties. Staff are dancin' as fast as they can to meet the demands of a large work area and additional OHF project workload. There are currently acquisitions in the works on 11 tracts throughout the work area – almost all funded in whole or part by OHF. Doing some winter shearing work in Aitkin area, and busy with spring rx burn planning. Had a great deer harvest, early winter, and starting to get some nuisance turkey complaints.

Rice Lake NWR – Michelle McDowell

We had a productive fall and are preparing for a busy field season at Rice Lake National Wildlife Refuge. We had large acreages of wild rice this past fall and it was very robust



(six feet above water, widest leaf observed was two inches). GIS analysis of aerial photos is underway. Fall peak of Ring-necked Duck was high (195,000 on 10/19/2010).

Timber harvest is ongoing within our proposed Upper Great Lakes Woodcock and Young Forest Initiative Demonstration Area (3 clearcuts in aspen/hardwood about 18 acres each, 5 reserve trees/acre and 2 created snags/acre). Point counts were done in harvest and control areas prior to cutting and will be repeated this spring. Best management practices can be found at <http://timberdoodle.org/greatLakes/bmp>.

We are one of the sites for a Golden-winged Warbler Demographic research project that will run through 2013: Demographic Response of Golden-Winged Warbler to Habitat and Management across a Climate Change Gradient in the Core of the Species Range, Henry M. Streby and David E. Andersen, Minnesota Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit.

Central Lakes College Natural Resources Club – Bryan Harvey

The Central Lakes College Natural Resources Club was very busy this fall and participated in a multitude of events. Some of the highlights included deer check stations at the Camp Ripley archery hunts, building bird feeders for backyard bird feeders at Crane Meadows NWR, trapping fishers for the Camp Ripley Fisher Project, deer hide prepping for the Brainerd Chapter of MDHA, bud-capping at Itasca State Park, a field trip to Hawk Ridge in Duluth, and helping with the Governor's Deer Opener at Camp Ripley. During the Governor's Deer Opener a team of our members was assembled to compete in the outdoor Olympics in which, I am very proud to say, they won first prize which came with a medallion and the travelling "Bad Axe"

trophy, I hope that we will be given the opportunity to defend and retain the title next year. This spring will also be busy starting with helping out with a night of candlelight skiing at Kathio State Park.

Sherburne & Crane Meadows NWR – Anne Sittauer

We currently have two on going studies right now. The first is, "Remote Sensing of basal area and canopy cover in oak savanna restoration units" Lizzy is working on that study with the University of Wisconsin. The second study is about the effect of urbanization on deer hunting and is being analyzed by Quality Deer Management Association and Minnesota DNR. In

addition, we completed the Crane Meadows CCP this past fall and are currently on finalizing the hunting management plan for that refuge, which will include youth and disabled deer & turkey hunts.

Cambridge Wildlife Area – Dave Pauly

Dalbo WMA Wolf Pack – Isanti/Kanabec County: We have had the opportunity to host what may well be the southern-most viable timber wolf pack in the state. The adult pair (alpha female has always been recognizable by obvious injured left-front leg) claimed the territory ~ 8 years ago with subsequent den/rendezvous site(s) located on the Dalbo WMA. This pair has produced pups 5 of the last 6 years (that we are able to document) – most notably 6 pups in 2009 and 8 pups in 2010. This past fall, with the assistance of Dan Stark and Dr. L. David Mech, we initiated a satellite-telemetry 'research project' to capture and collar 1 adult and one sub-adult from this pack. This has the potential to greatly add to our knowledge base of these 'fringe' packs.

Addition to the Becklin Homestead Park WMA – Isanti County: We recently



completed (with LSOHC \$\$) the acquisition of another ~ 85 acre parcel to be incorporated into the Becklin WMA thus creating a WMA within the Rum River Corridor totaling ~ 290 acres. This tract has some unique flood plain forest and oxbow habitats that will definitively add to the diversity and experiences of the physically challenged hunters – to which this WMA is dedicated.

New Spencer Brook/Kelly Lake WMA – Isanti County: AAWM, Tim Marion worked his magic and diligently facilitated with landowners and many NGOs to garner

significant donations and make the acquisition of this 235 acre WMA come to fruition. It contains a diversity of habitats – most importantly a shallow wild rice basin with historical waterfowl use and harvest. Hay-Snake WMA – Kanabec County: We are soon to graciously accept the donation of 120 acres of prime Snake River Corridor wildlife habitats into the Hay-Snake WMA, creating a 390 acre unit. This is made possible by a RCHM land donation from the MDHA – a project spearheaded by the Snake River Chapter MDHA and Kanabec Conservation Club.

Region 4 – Molly Tranel – No report

Region 5 – Emily Hutchins – No report

Region 6 – John Moriarty – No report

STUDENT CHAPTER REPORTS

Minnesota State University Moorhead – Char Binstock – No report

University of Minnesota, Crookston - Tim Knudson

The Student Chapter has continued to be an active club in good standing at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. The chapter started the year with a volunteer trip to Agassiz National

Wildlife Refuge to band ducks. The chapter then continued a long-term battle against European buckthorn at the Red River Valley Natural History Area. During two afternoons, members cleared an acre of buckthorn, opening the understory and hopefully encouraging something else besides buckthorn to grow. The UMC chapter also had 11 members attend the 71st Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, including the great Beginning Your

Professional Journey workshop. The chapter has also been involved in a number of other volunteer activities including Ag Activities Day at UMC and Winter Wonderland with the Crookston community. The chapter also did some work at UND's Ralph Engelstad Arena to raise some money for club activities. Early in December the chapter had a very educational speaker from the USFWS talking about employment and finding a job. Future endeavors include construction of a wildlife viewing blind overlooking a pond adjacent to the local high school. Our schedule for the spring is to continue to volunteer with local and government organizations to help the community, university, and wildlife.

MINNESOTA CONSERVATION REPORTS

MN State Technical Committee (STC) update - Jodie Provost, MSTC MN TWS representative

The input meeting for conservation groups with Don Baloun, NRCS State Conservationist, on Dec. 1 went great! Our letter and most thoughts in it were verbally shared with Don and the group. The letter was also e-mailed to Don after the gathering (see below). Present were Don, Rhonda Osterman, Tim Koehler (all NRCS), Tom Landwehr and Neal Feeken (TNC), Jeff Hastings (Trout Unlimited), Beth Kallestad (Cannon River Watershed Partnership), Dave Neu (NWTf), Dan Svedarsky and I. Thank you to Dan for also attending and sharing his wisdom, and all those who contributed to our input. Dan and I both appreciated Don's work manner and conservation attitude. We have the beginnings of a good partnership.

Key points from the meeting are noted below. Opportunities for our involvement definitely exist!

-
- The NRCS Chief plans a streamline/efficiency initiative to get District Conservationists (DC) back in the field 85% of time. They are too swamped to target their work.
- Don knows more "boots on the ground" are needed. In 2011, hopes are to expand the PF/NRCS cooperative to get more field biologists.
- Some EQIP local work groups need revitalizing. A smaller group of professionals should meet, as well as a broader listening group for the public to get farmers in the room.
- NE MN with less private and farmland may have a "mobile specialist" and hire more Technical Service Providers (TSP).
- NRCS will be happy to keep current staffing levels. There is a need for quality TSP to contract with, such as for prescribed burns. We informed Don of our willingness to help educate TSP and current workshops.
- To promote partnering, partners could be co-located, and joint natural resource conferences with NRCS, SWCDs, BWSR and others can be held.
- Don feels if he has a vision for MN, the DCs will emulate it. Each DC should consider landscape goals and have a vision for his County.
- The 365 FTEs need to keep funds flowing and maintain staff, but it's not about the money spent - it's about what happens on the land.
- Concern was expressed over Collin Peterson's statement that tiling is the answer in the Red River Valley. Pros and cons of tiling were discussed. Tim said if we are concerned, we need to do something.
- Don would like to separate DCs from swampbuster compliance work by hiring a certain person/entity to do it. He feels farmers should mitigate if they do not want to farm around wetlands.
- If trees in certain landscapes are a concern, such as on CRP, Don suggests we take the concern to the full STC and the CRP subcommittee, and don't let them off the hook.



- Tim noted that we'll get STC and subcommittee meeting notices. All are open to the public. The subcommittee structure will be updated. If we wish to serve on a subcommittee, just ask. A list of subcommittee and members will be sent soon.
- After Don meets with all three groups (conservation, agricultural agencies), he will list the top 10 or so items noted, prioritize them, and focus on what 1 or 2 items we can tackle together in 2011. He will dedicate a meeting to it.

The next MSTC meeting was held January 4, 2011 at Stearns History Museum, St. Cloud, Minnesota from 9 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. A web site has been set for MSTC meeting data at <http://www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov/partnerships>

Nearly 40 people were in attendance from conservation, agricultural and agency groups. Presenters were to get their handouts and a paragraph about their topic to Rhonda O. to place on the NRCS web site at <http://www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov/partnerships>, but it doesn't look like it's ready yet. The agenda is there. If you would like further detail on a topic, just give a holler.

Grassland Reserve Program - \$600,000 this year. Where to focus it? Subcommittee will craft language by March for Farm Bill recommendations. Contact Paul Flynn or Don Baloun if you'd like to serve on it.

Landscape Stewardship & EQIP - Andrew Arends of DNR Forestry explained the shift by USFS and DNR Forestry to using landscape plans and brief activity plans with landowners, rather than individual stewardship plans, to try to reach more landowners. A pilot booklet has been developed for SE MN by partners as the landscape plan to share with landowners. 10-14 of these booklets will be developed for MN's landscapes. **Wildlife partners could assist with these booklets and help with workshops in each landscape.** An ad hoc committee will get recommendations to the STC on use of EQIP funds for forest stewardship. \$1 million will be recommended in the 2012 Farm Bill for EQIP forest stewardship.

Mississippi River Basin Initiative - Identification of Additions/Changes to 8-Digit Focus Areas - The list of watersheds will be revisited and prioritized to determine where to work next. The EQIP subcommittee will be used; they will get recommendations to the STC at a future meeting. If interested in watershed monitoring and data, contact George, Don, or Tim Koehler about serving on a group.

CRP 39, CCRP, CP38 - Matt Holland of PF will draft a letter to STC for their review, requesting additional CP38 (SAFE) acres, to then go to FSA. These acres are targeted in pheasant and prairie chicken areas (a draft is complete; 15,000 acres requested, includes MPCs, MSGS, and DNR in support also) 1/2 million acres CRP will expire in next couple years. Need to keep rental rates competitive.

2012 Farm Bill Prep - Strategy and Comments from MN - Barbara Weisman of MDA explained that MDA, MPCA, DNR and BWSR are again coordinating comments as a group. Want a draft of recommendations ready by mid-Feb. and wrapped up in March. Three guiding

principles - keep working lands working, give state and local government flexibility, and identify conservation needs. Why 4 agencies doing it together - MN and NRCS are national leaders, there



is value in getting the agencies together, so much changed, such as the Clean Water, Land and Legacy funds. **Input can be sent to Barbara.**

Biomass Crop Assistance Program- Greg Anderson of FSA explained that the final rule occurred in Oct. 2010, so it can be implemented now. Is a matching payment to biomass owners to deliver it to certified plants within project areas? Landowners can enter into CRP-like contracts for herbaceous crops (5 yr) or converting to woody crops (15 yr). Cost share is available to grow crops.

Red River Conservation Initiative Update - A group has been functioning since September with 5 subcommittees with folks from MN, ND, SD. Want to draft language to present to Congressmen by March. Collin Peterson wants progress on the initiative. Will be a targeted WRP initiative (\$10 million) with a focus on both water retention and wildlife.

Summary of Input Meetings with Conservation and Agriculture Groups - Don summarized the gatherings from early December. State conservationists held these input meetings at the request of the NRCS Chief. They were not instructed to meet with agencies, but Don asked if agencies would like to meet also. They responded yes; Don will set a meeting date.

WRP - 2011 Recommendations - Tim explained the subcommittee recently met. Two main items resulted - final draft guidelines for winter food plots and geographical area rate cap. They tried to "meet in the middle" in regard to food plots on WRP. Support for both extremes existed. Work on it gave Tim "gray hair". The guidelines were approved by the committee.

EQIP - Tim explained that the program is ready to be rolled out. Jodie has heard that application deadlines will be mid Feb. for EQIP and WHIP.

MN Tribal Advisory Council - Don did give a presentation to the Council. He'll meet with each tribal council person and work directly with tribes.

The **next STC meeting is March 17**, via video conference locations around the state.

FARM BILL CONSERVATION FUNDING UPDATE

While Tax Package Richly Rewards Corn Ethanol, Senate Appropriators Propose Pulling Rug Out from Under Next Generation Bioenergy

On December 14, 2010, the Senate released their nearly 2000-page omnibus appropriations bill, which is expected to go to a vote at some point in the next few days. The \$1.1 trillion bill includes a number of cuts for conservation and energy programs, including a \$276 million cut in the Environmental Quality Incentives program and a very slight cut in the Wetland Reserve Program. More concerning, however, is the funding slashed from the Energy Title, and specifically the Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP). The legislation effectively eliminates all funding for BCAP for 2011, and reduces funding for the Renewable Energy for America Program, the Bioenergy Program for Advanced Biofuels, and the Biorefinery Assistance Program.



The National Wildlife Federation issued the following statement in response to the cut: “This is a slap in the face to those trying to develop the next generation of bioenergy.”

WASHINGTON, DC (December 15) – While the Senate approved a tax package today that includes a \$5-billion subsidy for corn ethanol, five lines buried within the almost 2000-page Senate Omnibus appropriations bill unveiled yesterday sound a death knell for next generation bioenergy crops at a critical time for the industry. The omnibus bill proposes to zero out funding for a key program to support development of the next generation of biofuels and bioenergy based on grasses and trees. “Coming on the heels of a tax package that approves billions for corn ethanol that economists have said are not even needed, this is a slap in the face to those trying to develop the next generation of bioenergy” says Julie Sibbing, director of Global Warming, Agriculture and Wildlife at the National Wildlife Federation.

The Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP), enacted as part of the 2008 Farm Bill, has been eagerly awaited by the next generation bioenergy industry as a critical link in making biomass-based energy a reality by helping with the “chicken and the egg” problem of ensuring an adequate supply of tree and grass crops to fuel biomass energy facilities. The program would provide annual payments for five years to offset the risk to the landowner of trying these new crops, as well as assistance with the cost of establishing the new crops.

“BCAP is crucial to helping us start the biomass industry,” said Steve Flick, president of the Show Me Energy Cooperative in Centerville, Missouri, a facility that produces energy pellets from grasses, crop residues and other organic wastes. “Show Me farmers throughout Missouri are ready to face the challenge of helping fuel this nation, while providing energy security to the U.S.”

The timing of the proposed cuts is especially troubling. USDA just issued the final rules for the program in November and was set to begin signing up farmers within weeks. “Show Me Energy Coop farmers have been waiting for two years for this program to become a reality,” Flick said, “and canceling BCAP funding now would create economic chaos in energy agriculture like we never have seen before.”

While Senate appropriators claim that it was their intent to deeply cut, rather than to eliminate the BCAP, the language included in the bill would eliminate all funding for the program in Fiscal Year 2011.

“If we can afford \$5 billion in tax credits for the mature corn ethanol industry, we can afford \$246 million to help develop the next generation of more sustainable and efficient bioenergy,” said Sibbing. “We call on the appropriators to restore full funding to the BCAP program.”



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

<p>Past - President John Loegering 2900 University Avenue Crookston, MN 56716 (w) 218-281-8132 jloegeri@umn.edu</p>	<p>Regional Representatives Terms expiring in 2011</p>	<p>Regional Representatives Terms expiring in 2012</p>
<p>President Greg Hoch Biology Dept Concordia College Moorhead, MN 56562 218-299-3799 (w) hoch@cord.edu</p>	<p>Region 2 Nancy Gellerman nancywildlifer@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Region 1 Gregg Knutson 22996 290th St. NE Middle River, MN 56737 (c) 218-686-4329 Gregg_Knutson@fws.gov</p>
<p>President-Elect Mike Larson 913 NE 5th Street Grand Rapids, MN 55744 Larson.grapids@gmail.com</p>	<p>Region 4 Molly Tranel missmolly102@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Region 3 Beau Liddell 16543 Haven Rd. Little Falls, MN 56345 liddell@brainerd.net</p>
<p>Treasurer Charlotte Roy Clroy_50@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Region 6 John Moriarty john.moriarty@co.ramsey.mn.us</p>	<p>Region 5 Brian Pember 51 E. 4th St. Room 203 Winona, MN 55987 504-494-6237 Brian_Pember@fws.gov</p>
<p>Secretary Rich Olsen 23070 N. Lakeshore Drive Glenwood, MN 56334 320-634-0342 tackleberry59@hotmail.com</p>		



COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND STUDENT CHAPTERS

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<p>Forest Issues Vacant</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>UMN-Twin Cities Devin Tunseth Tunse003@umn.edu Peter Jordan, Advisor sbme@umn.edu</p>
<p>Archivist John Moriarty john.moriarty@co.ramsey.mn.us</p>	<p>FWLA Representative Dave Fronczack</p>	<p>Student Relations (co-chairs) Jim Berdeen james.berdeen@gmail.com Mark Hanson Mkhanson@paulbunyan.net</p>
<p>Awards Thom Soule 14351 405th St. NE Driscoll, ND 58532 (701) 387-4420 souletp@bektel.com</p>	<p>Membership Brian Haroldson 1411 Cherry St. New Ulm, MN 56073 (507) 359-1687 bkharoldson@comcast.net</p>	<p>Webmaster John Loegering 2900 University Avenue Crookston, MN 56716 (w) 218-281-8132 jloegeri@umn.edu</p>
<p>Publicity/Programs Eric Dunton 810 2nd South New Ulm, MN 56073 517-260-0435 eric.dunton@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>USDA NRCS State Technical Committee Rep. Jodie Provost 27267 Spruce Grove Road Aitkin, MN 56431 218-546-7310 (h) sprucegrovefarm@emily.net</p>
<p>Prairie/Farmland Issues Molly Tranel Missmolly102@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Wetland Issues Mike North 13261 21st Ave SW Pillager, MN 56473 (w) 320-255-4279 x 235 tjnorth@brainerd.net</p>	<p>COWCH Nicholas Snavely nnav589@yahoo.com</p>



COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

If you are a member of any of the below committees and do not see your name or see your name and are not on that committee, please contact John Loegering for changes.

<u>Archivist</u> John Moriarty	<u>Audit</u> Gretchen Mehmel (Chair) Dave Olfelt	<u>Awards</u> Thom Soule (Chair) Fred Bengston Bill Berg Wayne Brininger Ross Hier Greg Knutsen Martha Minchak Sara Vacek
<u>COWCH Project</u> Nicholas Snavelly	<u>Forest Issues</u> Wes Bailey Wayne Brininger Steve Caron Jeff Hines Martha Minchak Gretchen Mehmel Mike Schrage	<u>Fundraising</u> Norm Moody (Chair) Jack Lamon Rob Naplin
<u>FWLA Representative</u> Dave Fronczack	<u>Membership</u> Brian Haroldson (chair) Past president (John Loegering)	<u>MCF Representative</u> Bill Faber
<u>NRCS Tech Representative</u> Jodie Provost Dave Trauba	<u>Prairie/Farmland Issue</u> Molly Tranel (Chair) Greg Hoch Scott Kahan Richard Olson David Pauly Jeanine Vorland	<u>Publicity/Programs</u> Eric Dunton (Chair) Doug Franke Ruth Anne Franke Greg Hoch Mike Larson John Loegering John Moriarty
<u>Shallow Lakes Forum Rep</u> Molly Tranel	<u>Statewide Issues</u> Bill Faber (Chair) Mike North	<u>Student Relations</u> Jim Berdeen (Co-Chair) Mark Hanson (Co-Chair) Stacy Salveold
<u>Webmaster</u> John Loegering	<u>Wetland Issues</u> Mike North (Chair) Tim Barberg Laurie Fairchild Sheldon Myerchin Doug Norris Stacy Salveold	



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

There are several options to renew your TWS memberships. MN TWS memberships can be renewed online when you renew your national TWS membership.

A MN TWS membership renewal form is located in the center section of this newsletter or simply go to the Chapter's website below and download the membership application and mail to Brian Haroldson at the indicated address to renew your membership. In addition, please keep Brian informed on any address change.

Thank you for taking time to renew your membership.

<http://www.uncrookston.edu/tws/mn/downloads/MembershipApplication-MTWS2007.doc> or
<http://www.uncrookston.edu/tws/mn/downloads/MembershipApplication-MTWS2007.pdf>

MN TWS LISTSERV

Do you want to exchange ideas and information with fellow TWS members? Or be the first to hear about the annual meeting, summer meetings, or important issues in conservation? We now have a listserv for all members for just that purpose. . If you would like to join the list, direct your browser to http://wildlifeprofessional.org/mailman/listinfo/mntws_wildlifeprofessional.org.

The governing board corresponds on a similar list (which is open to the members) at http://wildlifeprofessional.org/mailman/listinfo/mntwsboard_wildlifeprofessional.org

MN TWS SHIRTS!

Short sleeve (natural white or sage green, S-XXL): \$10

Long sleeve (natural white, S-XXL): \$12

Please contact Sara Vacek (320-297-0386 or curtsara@hotmail.com) to order.

WEBMASTER NEEDED

The Minnesota Chapter is searching for a webmaster to assume responsibility of the chapter website as it transitions from its current location to be hosted on the parent society's server. An interest in website design and Joomla software used to manage web content is a plus! Anyone interested in additional information should contact current webmaster John Loegering, 218-281-8132 or jloegeri@umn.edu.

STUDENT INTERNS FOR SUMMER FIELD WORK

The Minnesota DNR – Shallow Lakes Program will be hiring 10-14 student interns for the 2011 summer field season to assist with surveying shallow lakes and assessing waterfowl habitat throughout Minnesota. Positions will be located at DNR offices throughout Minnesota. The complete announcement and application instructions will be posted to the DNR Internship website (<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/jobs/internships.html>) in January 2011. The application deadline will be in February 2011.



8TH ANNUAL FORESTRY, WILDLIFE AND NATURAL RESOURCES RESEARCH REVIEW
February 22, 2011 at the University of Minnesota Cloquet Forestry Center. Co-Sponsored with Superior National Forest, UM Dept of Forest Resources, USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station and UMD NRRI. An opportunity to learn about the latest research and results from researchers. Target audience includes foresters, wildlife biologists, natural resource managers and others who are actively involved in managing forested lands in MN and the Midwest. Cost: \$135 (\$65 SFEC). Go to <http://cfc.cfans.umn.edu/> to register.



Federal laboratory confirms CWD diagnosis

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) received confirmation from a national laboratory on Jan. 25 verifying that the sample from a southeastern Minnesota white-tailed deer tested positive for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD).

The finding by the National Veterinary Services Laboratory at Ames, Iowa, had been expected and confirms a preliminary diagnosis by the University of Minnesota.

The DNR announced on Jan. 21 that a deer harvested by an archer in November 2010 near Pine Island likely would test positive for CWD, a fatal brain disease that affects deer, elk and moose but not cattle or humans.

The DNR is implementing its CWD response plan, the first step of which involves an aerial survey of deer numbers in the Pine Island area. During the next two weeks, DNR will be working with landowners, collecting additional information and will share its plans and findings at a public meeting in February.

Additional information about the disease and the DNR's plan to manage it is available online at mndnr.gov/cwd.

Governor Dayton Announces Tom Landwehr as DNR Commissioner

January 06, 2011

St. Paul—Today Governor Dayton appointed Tom Landwehr as Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources. Landwehr brings both an insider's knowledge and an outsider's perspective to the agency. He has served as a City Council Member and as an Instructor at the University of Minnesota's School of Natural Resources. He also served for seventeen years at DNR both as a scientist and as a Wildlife Manager. With a Master's Degree in Business, Landwehr understands that conservation and resource management must be properly balanced to promote economic prosperity and support jobs. Landwehr is widely respected by people in the conservation,



recreation and business communities. He brings to the agency a reputation as someone with creative and innovative solutions to many of Minnesota's top natural resource issues.

Landwehr began his career at DNR in the early 1980's as a research biologist, and quickly moved on to greater responsibility as Wildlife Manager for over 5 years and as the Wetland Wildlife Program Leader for nearly ten. After leaving DNR in 1999 he was State Conservation Director for Ducks Unlimited in Minnesota and Iowa until 2003 and most recently has served as Assistant State Director for The Nature Conservancy in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota. He has also served on the Shoreview City Council where he served from 1995 to 2002. He has been an active member of his community for many years, serving on multiple boards and commissions. He has an MS in Wildlife Management from the University of Minnesota, and an MBA from the Carlson School of Management. Landwehr lives in Shoreview with his wife Patty and 2 children, He is an avid outdoorsman and enjoys hunting, fishing, canoeing, camping and boating.

Dave Schad named DNR Deputy Commissioner

A veteran natural resource professional has been promoted to deputy commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) by new DNR Commissioner Tom Landwehr.

Dave Schad, 53, has served in the DNR since his student worker days in 1981, most recently as director of the agency's Fish and Wildlife Division. Previously he was the agency's Wildlife Section chief; he has also served as wildlife operations manager, regional wildlife manager, area wildlife supervisor, and statewide wetland wildlife coordinator and statewide forest wildlife program coordinator.

Landwehr said he's known Schad since they both attended the University of Minnesota, where Schad earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Wildlife Management. "We intend to work with the entire DNR team and the citizens of Minnesota for the long-term benefit of our natural resources," said Landwehr.

In addition to his work in Minnesota, Schad serves on several national committees for the national Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies as well as the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

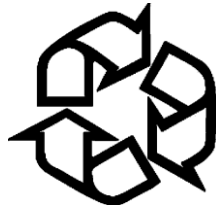
Schad replaces Laurie Martinson, who was named deputy commissioner by former Commissioner Mark Holsten in 2007. Martinson's role and responsibilities, as well as those of other commissioner's office staff, will remain largely unchanged during an upcoming transition period, said Schad.

There is no word yet on Schad's replacement; however Deputy Fish and Wildlife Division Director Ed Boggess will serve as acting director during the interim.

MINNESOTA CHAPTER - THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY
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_____ Charlotte Roy
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Regional Representatives –vote only for one candidate and only in your region

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_____ Nancy Gellerman
_____ Write In: _____

Region 4 Representative

_____ Molly Tranel
_____ Write In: _____

Region 6 Representative

_____ Erica Hoaglund
_____ Write In: _____

MN Chapter TWS Regions



Ballots will be counted the nominations committee, chaired by John Loegering, on March 15, 2011. Members can send their ballots to John Loegering using one of 3 different methods. 1) Ballots may be mailed, 2) Ballots may be returned via email, or 3) Votes may be registered on an electronic ballot (preferred) at <http://doodle.com/2d29fh32cq49izs4> . Please include your name with your returned ballot so that the tellers will be able to assure 1 vote per person (this isn't Chicago after all). Thanks!

John Loegering, Ag and NatR Department – UMC, 2900 University Avenue, Crookston, MN 56716-5001. Questions can be directed to 218-281-8132, jloegeri@umn.edu.

Your Name _____ (to be separated and used only to confirm voting)