

4.1 TITLE: HISTORY OF THE SECTION

In 1961, The Wildlife Society's North Central Region had the largest regional membership in the United States not already organized into a formal "section" of TWS. To evaluate options, a Steering Committee conducted an organizational meeting in conjunction with the 23rd Midwest Wildlife Conference at Lincoln, Nebraska, 4-6 December 1961. Eight States within the region were represented - Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

Besides a large regional TWS membership (695), there were other reasons that justified organizing a new section:

- (1) There were no formal means for instructing the Regional Representative about members' wishes;
- (2) A section might encourage formation of additional state chapters (only 5 of the region's 8 states had chapters in 1961);
- (3) Members needed more opportunity for direct participation in Society affairs;
- (4) Section activities might strengthen relationships between state, federal, university, and private interests; and
- (5) Future section committees might be able to improve upon promotion of members' interests in local, state, and regional problems.

The first organizational meeting at Lincoln was not without controversy. The very active Minnesota Section (as the chapter was then known) was concerned about how its work might be affected by the reorganization. The conferees accepted, however, that aside from a name change from "section" to "chapter", Minnesota's fine work would otherwise continue as it had. Another group concern was the potential for the proposed section to assume organization and planning of the annual Midwest conference, a task thought best left to the host state. This fear was also dispelled through discussion. A motion was then made and seconded to proceed with organizing a section, and no further opposition was voiced. Nominated by the Steering committee for initial officers were Harvey K. Nelson for President and Frank H. King for Vice-President. These individuals were unanimously elected. David B. Vesall agreed to serve as Secretary-Treasurer for the first year.

Approval of the North Central Section organization was sought and received at The Wildlife Society's annual meeting held 11 March 1962, prior to the North American Wildlife Conference at Denver, Colorado.

BYLAWS

The Section's bylaws were originally established in accordance with those of the parent Society. Over the years these bylaws have undergone several changes, generally directed toward making them more compatible with those of The Wildlife Society. Some of the more important changes included the following:

- 1972 - Voted to allow annual election of a Secretary-Treasurer and a President-Elect (who would replace the old position of Vice-President). The latter official would succeed to the office of President.
- 1974 - Established a special committee to handle publication and financial aspects of symposia sponsored by the Section.
- 1981 - Separated the office of Secretary-Treasurer into 2 positions beginning in 1981 (and actually implemented in 1983); formed a standing committee to replace the special committee on symposia and publications; formed an Audit Committee; permanently added 2 student representatives to the Section Executive Board and detailed the method of appointment; and provided a mechanism for the President and Executive Board to issue resolutions or public statements whenever quick action was necessary.
- 2000 - Completed a major revision of the Operations Manual and began discussion of Bylaws changes.

MEMBERSHIP

Parent Society members of all categories (honorary, life, regular, and student) residing within the Section boundaries are eligible for North Central Section membership. In the early years of the organization, NCS membership generally ranged between 350 and 500. Through the late 1960s and early 1970s it fluctuated widely, ranging from 164 to a record high of 756. Membership stabilized at just over 400 beginning in 1975. Eligible members of the Society residing within the Section ranged from 695 in 1961 to about 1,200 during the late 1900s. Section membership in the late 1990s fluctuated between 690 and 840.

ACTION PROGRAMS

The North Central Section has been involved in a variety of action programs over the years. Perhaps most notable among the Section's achievements has been biennial sponsorship of symposia on various wildlife management and research topics. These symposia are usually held every other year in conjunction with the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, and are sometimes cosponsored by state chapters of the Society. Proceedings are normally published and sold by the Section in years following each symposium. Symposia sponsored or cosponsored by the NCS and the years held were:

- 1965 - Wood Duck Symposium
- 1967 - Canada Goose Management: Current Continental Problems and Programs
- 1969 - Predator Ecology and Management
- 1970 - Wild Turkey Management - Current Problems and Programs
- 1973 - Biology and Management of Pheasant Populations in North America
- 1977 - Waterfowl and Wetlands - An Integrated Review
- 1979 - White-tailed Deer Management in the North Central State
- 1981 - Midwest Furbearer Management
- 1983 - Ruffed Grouse Management: State of the Art in the Early 1980's
- 1985 - Management of Nongame Wildlife in the Midwest - A Developing Art
- 1987 - Pheasants: Symptoms of Wildlife Problems on Agricultural Lands
- 1989 - Management of Dynamic Ecosystems
- 1991 - 2020 Vision: Meeting the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Challenges of the 21st Century
- 1993 - Urban Deer - A Manageable Resource?
- 1995 - Management of Midwestern Landscapes for the Conservation of Neotropical Migratory Birds
- 1997 - Double-crested Cormorant: Population Status and Management Issues in the Midwest
- 1999 - None

The first activity ever sponsored by the Section was "Operation - Natural Feature Preservation", in 1964. In 1966, the Section sought to establish a speaker register. In 1983, a new conservation affairs procedure was established to increase the effectiveness and frequency of activity on conservation issues. It was hoped this might facilitate communications on high priority items with members, chapters, and the Society.

In 1984, a continuing education program was established to be held in alternating years with Section-sponsored symposia. The

program was designed to provide advanced educational training for wildlife biologists. Our first topic was "Waterfowl and Wetland Management."

Another program involves providing financial contributions to student chapters for assistance with "wildlife conclaves" held at various universities in the region. Financial assistance is also provided for other worthwhile endeavors. In 1987, encouragement and monetary support was provided for the conference "Women in Natural Resources: Moving Toward the 90's."

Resolutions and public statements have also constituted a part of the Section's action programs. Among the more notable efforts were the Section's strong resolutions to urge the Secretary of Defense to evaluate biological effects of "Project Sanguine" in 1969, and statements of support in 1982 for continued funding of the Cooperative Fisheries and Wildlife Research Units. The Section also strongly supported the Dingell-Johnson expansion bill and commented on legislation pertaining to agricultural land retirement programs, nontoxic shot, diversion of Pittman-Robertson funds, transfer of animal damage control responsibility, USFS and BLM land exchange, the Indiana bat/Meramec River project, the Lock and Dam 26 project, and recognition of Aldo Leopold.

SECTION OFFICERS

Many well-known and hard-working wildlife professionals have served the Section's various offices.

| | <u>PRESIDENT</u> | <u>VICE PRESIDENT</u> | <u>SECRETARY-TREASURER</u> |
|------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1962 | Harvey K. Nelson USFWS | Frank H. King Wisconsin | David B. Vesall Minnesota |
| 1963 | Harvey K. Nelson USFWS | Thomas R. Evans Illinois | William H. Marshall Minnesota |
| 1964 | Arnold O. Haugen Iowa | Bill T. Crawford Missouri | Willard D. Klimstra Illinois |
| 1965 | Bill T. Crawford Missouri | David H. Jenkins Michigan | Kenneth R. Russell Ohio |
| 1966 | Willard Klimstra Illinois | Forest W. Stearns Wisconsin | Leroy J. Korschgen Missouri |
| 1967 | Laurence R. Jahn Wisconsin | J. Henry Sather Illinois | Kenneth C. Sadler Missouri |

| | <u>PRESIDENT</u> | <u>VICE PRESIDENT</u> | <u>SECRETARY-TREASURER</u> | |
|------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1968 | Glen C. Sanderson Illinois | Milton W. Weller Iowa | Glenn D. Chambers Missouri | |
| 1969 | James B. Hale Wisconsin | L. Dan Frenzel, Jr Minnesota | John B. Lewis Missouri | |
| 1970 | Glenn D. Chambers Missouri | Paul D. Kline Iowa | Ronald F. Labisky Illinois | |
| 1971 | C. T. Black Michigan | Theodore Bookhout Ohio | Eugene D. Klonglan Iowa | |
| 1972 | Theodore Bookhout Ohio | Kenneth C. Sadler Missouri | Daniel O. Trainer Wisconsin | |
| 1973 | David Arnold Michigan | Dean A. Murphy Missouri | Keith R. McCaffery Wisconsin | |
| 1974 | Dean A. Murphy Missouri | Kenneth C. Sadler Missouri | Alfred Berner Minnesota | |
| 1975 | Kenneth C. Sadler Missouri | John E. Warnock Illinois | Robert B. Dahlgren Iowa | |
| 1976 | John E. Warnock Illinois | David D. Kennedy Illinois | Charles E. Friley, Jr. Michigan | |
| 1977 | David D. Kennedy Illinois | Charley M. White Wisconsin | Franklin J. Svoboda Minnesota | |
| 1978 | Charley M. White Wisconsin | Allen L. Farris Iowa | Franklin J. Svoboda Minnesota | |
| 1979 | Allen L. Farris Iowa | Oliver Torgerson Missouri | Gerald F. Martz Michigan | |
| 1980 | Oliver Torgerson Missouri | James R. March Wisconsin | Gerald F. Martz Michigan | |
| 1981 | James R. March Wisconsin | Russell R. Hyer Indiana | Wayne R. Porath Missouri | |
| 1982 | Russell R. Hyer Indiana | David W. Erickson Missouri | Kenneth M. Reynolds Indiana | |
| | <u>PRESIDENT</u> | <u>PRESIDENT-ELECT</u> | <u>SECRETARY</u> | <u>TREASURER</u> |
| 1983 | David Erickson Missouri | Lee Gladfelter Iowa | Daniel Svedarsky Minnesota | Steve P. Havera Illinois |

| | <u>PRESIDENT</u> | <u>PRESIDENT-ELECT</u> | <u>SECRETARY</u> | <u>TREASURER</u> |
|------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1984 | Lee Gladfelter Iowa | Donald H. Rusch Wisconsin | Douglas C. Harr Iowa | James Kienzler Iowa |
| 1985 | Donald H. Rusch Wisconsin | Charles M. Pils Wisconsin | Harmon Weeks, Jr. Indiana | William E. Berg Minnesota |
| 1986 | Charles M. Pils Wisconsin | Robert T. Dumke Wisconsin | George Hubert, Jr. Illinois | P. Decker Major Indiana |
| 1987 | Robert T. Dumke Wisconsin | Wayne R. Porath Missouri | Stephen R. Brady Illinois | Edward Boggess Minnesota |
| 1988 | Wayne R. Porath Missouri | Harmon P. Weeks Indiana | David Howell Indiana | Lyle E. Naumann Wisconsin |
| 1989 | Harmon P. Weeks Indiana | Daniel Svedarsky Minnesota | William Fannucchi Wisconsin | Lonnie Hansen Missouri |
| 1990 | Daniel Svedarksy Minnesota | Erik K. Fritzell Missouri | Doris Rusch Wisconsin | Norb Giessman Missouri |
| 1991 | Erik K. Fritzell Missouri | Alan Crossley Wisconsin | Larry M. David Illinois | David Risley Ohio |
| 1992 | Alan Crossley Wisconsin | Scott Craven Wisconsin | DeWaine Jackson Iowa | Stan Etter Illinois |
| 1993 | Scott Craven Wisconsin | Dave Case Indiana | John Kubisiak Wisconsin | Rique Campa Michigan |
| 1994 | Dave Case Indiana | Gary Potts Illinois | Terry Riley Iowa | Dave Hamilton Missouri |
| 1995 | Gary Potts Illinois | Richard Clawson Missouri | Jim Bergens Indiana | Jeff Kiefer Indiana |
| 1996 | Richard Clawson Missouri | Patrick Brown Illinois | Rick Young Wisconsin | Jeff Greene Michigan |
| 1997 | Patrick Brown Illinois | Norb Giessman Missouri | Barbara Ver Steeg Illinois | Eric Kurzejeski Missouri |
| 1998 | Norb Giessman Missouri | Jeff Ver Steeg Illinois | Linda Parker Wisconsin | Jon Gilbert Wisconsin |
| 1999 | Jeff Ver Steeg Illinois | DeeCee Darrow Missouri | Robert Rolley Wisconsin | Dave Swanson Ohio |
| 2000 | DeeCee Darrow Missouri | Steve Havera Illinois | Stanley Gehrt Illinois | Scott Winterstein Michigan |

SECTION REPRESENTATIVE

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 1962-1967 | Tony J. Peterle (Region III Representative) Ohio |
| 1968-1972 | C.D. Besadny (Region III Representative) Wisconsin |
| 1973-1976 | L. David Frenzel, Jr. Minnesota |
| 1977-1982 | Robert B. Dahlgren Iowa |
| 1983-1985 | Oliver Torgerson Missouri |
| 1985-1988 | Erik K. Fritzell Missouri |
| 1989-1994 | Donald H. Rusch Wisconsin |
| 1995-1997 | Diana Hallett Missouri |
| 1998- | Dan Svedarsky Minnesota |

AWARDS

In 1978, the North Central Section initiated an awards program to recognize the best paper and best presentation given at the annual Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. In 1983, another award for the best poster paper at the Midwest was added. The NCS established a new Professional Award of Merit in 1984. The Award of Merit is bestowed upon society members residing within the NCS in recognition of outstanding professional accomplishments in wildlife conservation.

| | <u>BEST PAPER</u> | <u>BEST PRESENTATION</u> | |
|------|---|--|--|
| 1978 | Erica Nol and Ronald J. Brooks | William M. Heally and Richard O. Kimmel | |
| 1979 | Vernon G. Thomas | Randall S. Arndt and Thomas W. Townsend | |
| 1980 | Robert M. Jackson | Mark R. Ryan | |
| 1981 | William Eddleman | William Eddleman | |
| 1982 | Robert B. Frederick, William R. Clark, and Erwin E. Klass | Rex R. Johnson and James J. Dinsmore | |
| | <u>BEST PAPER</u> | <u>BEST PRESENTATION</u> | <u>BEST POSTER</u> |
| 1983 | Mickey E. Heitmeyer | Robert M. Jackson | John T. Brady |
| 1984 | John H. Hart, Henry Campa III, and Jonathan B. Hauffler | John H. Hart, Henry Campa III, and Jonathan B. Hauffler | Theresa W. Shuman and James W. Bennett |
| 1985 | David Westmoreland and Louis B. Best | Larry Vangilder | Stephen M. Schmitt, Thomas M. Cooley, Robert Strong, and George Burgoyne, Jr. and (tie) Glenn Y. Belyea, Harold Prince, and Pete Squibb |
| 1986 | Eric Kurzejeski and Larry Vangilder | David Urich, John Graham, Robert Miller, and Edward Gaskins | Charles Dieter and Thomas McCabe |
| 1987 | Scott Craven | Tonie E. Rocke, Thomas M. Yuill, and Beth Fritz | James D. Garner, Joyce E. Hoffman, and Elizabeth A. Cook |

| | <u>BEST PAPER</u> | <u>BEST PRESENTATION</u> | <u>BEST POSTER</u> |
|------|--|---|---|
| 1988 | Susan M. Haig, Jonathon D. Ballou, and Scott Derrickson | Frank R. Thompson, III | |
| 1989 | Loren W. Burger, David P Hones, Mark R. Ryan, and Alice Wywialowski | Frederic A. Reid, Mark S. Kaiser, and Leigh H. Fredrickson | |
| | <u>BEST PAPER</u> | <u>BEST STUDENT PAPER</u> | |
| 1990 | William H. Lane and Thomas Nicholls | Cynthia J. Wong and R. Ben Peyten | |
| | <u>BEST PRESENTATION</u> | <u>BEST STUDENT PRESENTATION</u> | <u>BEST POSTER</u> |
| 1991 | Brenda S. Clark, David M. Leslie, Jr. and Tracy S. Carter | Brenda S. Clark, David M. Leslie, Jr. and Tracy S. Carter | Kimberly K. Kessler and Ron J. Johnson |
| 1992 | Guy A. Baldassarre and Chris Dwyer | Matthew J. Lovallo and Eric Anderson | M. Isabell Bellocq and S.M. Smith |
| 1993 | David L. Urich and Robert J. Robel | David S. Klute and David E. Anderson | Nicholas A. Stathis |
| 1994 | Loren W. Burger, Jr., Thomas V. Dailey, Eric W. Kurzejeski and Mark R. Ryan | Jamie Lafferty and John O. Whitaker, Jr. | Jo Salyers, Catherine Kolkmeier, Karen Tyrell, and Virgil Brack, Jr. |
| 1995 | Therese M. Donovan, Douglas A. Clark, Robert W. Howe and B.J. Danielson | Meg Clark, Delia Raymer, Allison Gormley, Scott R. Winterstien and Henry Campa, III | George F. Hubert, Jr., David J. Case, Robert D. Bluett, and Mark D. Duda |
| 1996 | Tim A. Nigh | D. Todd Farrand, Alan Woolf and Richard S. Halbrook | No Award |
| 1997 | Douglas Siegel-Causey | David Unger, Eric Anderson, and Bruce Kohn | No Award |

| | <u>BEST PRESENTATION</u> | <u>BEST STUDENT PRESENTATION</u> | <u>BEST POSTER</u> |
|------|--------------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1998 | Not Judged | <u>Laura M. Myers</u> , N.E. Mathews, and J.M. Kozma | Not Judged |

| | <u>BEST STUDENT PRESENTATION</u> | <u>BEST STUDENT POSTER</u> |
|------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1999 | Brent E. Jamison | Lori Corteville |

PROFESSIONAL AWARD OF MERIT RECIPIENTS

| | |
|------|----------------------|
| 1985 | Thomas S. Baskett |
| 1986 | Glen C. Sanderson |
| 1987 | Harvey K. Nelson |
| 1988 | L. David Mech |
| 1989 | Louis J. Verme |
| 1990 | Gordon W. Gullion |
| 1991 | Leigh H. Fredrickson |
| 1992 | George V. Burger |
| 1993 | Tony J. Peterle |
| 1994 | Edward Langenau, Jr. |
| 1995 | Ted Bookhout |
| 1996 | John Roseberry |
| 1997 | Not Awarded |
| 1998 | Not Awarded |
| 1999 | Charles M. Nixon |

Materials for History of the Section were prepared originally by Douglas C. Harr and H. Lee Gladfelter and were adapted and enhanced for a NCS handout. Much of the information was extracted from file notes and correspondence; some information was drawn from memory. They apologize for any errors that may have crept into the document. Corrections and additions are

invited. Please respond to the current President of the North Central Section. The Section Secretary is responsible for updating this information annually.

OPERATIONS MANUAL

**NORTH CENTRAL SECTION
THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY**

Officer's Copy
PRESIDENT

Revised: March 2000