

President's Message

Winter is just around the corner, the bighorn sheep have moved back to Rapid near the hatchery which gives the public some excellent viewing opportunities during the "rut". Everyone on our staff is trying to complete projects before "winters grip" limits the opportunity.

The 2010 SDTWS annual conference will be at Cedar Shores Resort March 1st thru 3rd, 2010. We are going to have a STUDENT-AGENCY-NGO get together on the 1st before the evening mixer. This year's theme is: "Technological Advances and its use in Wildlife Management". We will have some excellent presentations from all aspects of wildlife management.

We will have one Board Position open with Bill Smith coming off of the board. At this time we have one individual that has expressed interest in this upcoming position. If you have interest, please contact me and I will add your name to the ballot.

We have received 20 copies of "Opportunity for All" (The North American Model for Wildlife Conservation) from Matt DeHart University of Tennessee. SDTWS assisted with funding for this project and 1600 copies were distributed during the TWS Monterey Conference last September. If you would like a copy for education purposes let me know and I will sent it out. This is an excellent DVD and will help to educate the public about our "North American Model of Wildlife Conservation".

This will be a busy and fun year for SDTWS, with the CMPS summer meeting in Chamberlain. The South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society and the Central Mountains and Plains Section will host the 55th annual summer meeting of the Central Mountain and Plains Section. The meeting will be held August 17-19, 2010 at the Cedar Shores Resort, Chamberlain, South Dakota.

Please visit with your colleagues about our Annual and CMPS conferences and see if we can increase attendance this year and gain support for the Organization. Have a great Thanksgiving and enjoy some time with family, friends and the outdoors.

Dennie

2010 SDTWS Award Nominations

The Awards Committee is currently soliciting nominations for the 2010 awards. The awards include the Wildlife Professional of the Year Award, the Citizen's Wildlife Award, and one Master of Science scholarship for the 2009-2010 academic year.

Each year SDTWS recognizes one wildlife professional and one state citizen for their outstanding contribution in the arena of wildlife resource management. If you would like to nominate an individual for either of these awards, please submit a letter of nomination to the Awards Committee **no later than December 18, 2009**. This is a great opportunity to recognize those who go the extra mile in their stewardship of South Dakota's wildlife resources.

The SDTWS also recognizes academic and/or research excellence achieved by graduate students. This year there will be one(1) MS scholarship for the 2009-2010 academic year. If you would like to nominate a student for this award, please complete and submit the nominations form to the Awards Committee **no later than December 18, 2009**.

Information regarding the nomination process for these awards and the student Award Nomination can be found on the SDTWS webpage at <http://www.sdwildlife.org/awards.htm>. If you have any questions regarding the nomination process or the formulation of nomination letters, please contact Nora Kohlenberg.

SDTWS Awards Committee
c/o Nora Kohlenberg
109 Riverside Drive
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: (605) 773-6228
Fax: (605) 773-6245
Email: nora.kohlenberg@state.sd.us

Minutes of the September 10, 2009 Executive Board Meeting of the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society (SDTWS)

Dennie Mann called the meeting to order at 10:08 am at the Game, Fish & Parks Region 2 Office in Chamberlain, SD. Board members present were Dennie Mann, John Kanta, Bill Smith, and Nora Kohlenberg. Chad Switzer and KC Jensen both joined the meeting via conference call.

Kohlenberg presented the minutes of the June 25, 2009 board meeting. Kanta made a motion to accept the minutes, Smith seconded. Motion passed (6-0).

Kohlenberg presented the Quarterly Treasurer's report. Smith made a motion to accept the report, Jensen seconded. Motion passed (6-0).

Old Business

Correspondence Received

- Thank you received from SD Grasslands Coalition for 2009 Grassland Bird Tour support
- Thank you received from Parks & Wildlife Foundation for donation to Tony's Acres Memorial as part of the 2009 Annual Meeting fund raiser.

Annual Meeting Costs

Kohlenberg presented some cost analysis for the Annual Meeting using new registration cost. At the June 25, 2009, meeting, the executive board voted to increase the annual meeting registration fees an additional \$10 for regular members. The additional \$10 will help cover costs of meeting allowing membership dues and fund raising money to be reserved for funding requests and activity support.

CMPS Memberships

Kohlenberg looked into financial records and noted that dues to CMPS were outstanding for 2006, 2007 and 2008. Kohlenberg also sent quarterly dues to CMPS for memberships received since May.

New Business

Requests for Funding

University of Tennessee Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society: Student Chapter is requesting funding support for Professional Service Project at 2009 Wildlife Society Conference in Monterey, CA. This project would provide a DVD of the North American Model to all State Chapters as well as the Monterey Conference attendees. The Student Chapter requested funding for \$200. Kanta made a motion to fund the request at \$200. Switzer seconded the motion. Motion passed (6-0).

Indian Creek Wilderness Designation

Board discussed the Wilderness Designation at Indian Creek. The Executive Board unanimously decided to remain neutral on the designation.

2010 Meeting

KC will take care of the contract with Cedar Shores. Mann, Smith, Kanta and Kohlenberg stopped by Cedar Shore to visit with Kathy regarding menu options and cost.

Board Members will start working with NGOs for meeting sponsorship.

Board Members challenged with brainstorming for a Banquet speaker and speakers to present talks related to the 2010 theme of technology and its application in wildlife management.

Student Mixer: Board members will work on talking with agency representatives and NGOs about providing representatives to meet with students to discuss their jobs. This could potentially be a job recruitment tool as well. Board envisions having tables and chairs for a sit-down opportunity for representatives and students. Kanta volunteered to spearhead getting contacts for representatives.

2010 Officer Candidates

Board identified two vacancies that will be open for voting at the 2010 Annual Business Meeting. These positions will be President-Elect and one Executive Board Member. Officers who will be leaving are Past-President Jensen and Executive Board Member Smith. Board Members will make some contacts with individuals to consider running for the two positions.

Committee Vacancies

There are a few vacancies for committee chairs. There is a co-chair vacancy for the Wildlife Diseases committee. Chad Switzer would like to step down as the Membership Committee chair. Nora Kohlenberg would like to take the Membership chair if someone else would fill the Awards Committee Chair.

Misc.

- 2009 Annual Buffalo Dinner at SDSU will be November 20th.
- The next newsletter will be sent out in September.

Next Board Meeting

The next board will be via conference call, date and time yet to be determined.

Adjourn

Kanta motioned to adjourn, seconded by Switzer at 11:29 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Nora Kohlenberg
Secretary/Treasurer, SDTWS

Annual SDTWS Meeting Registration Cost to Increase \$10

An agenda item discussed at both the June 25, 2009, and September 10, 2009, Executive Board Meetings, was the cost of the annual meeting in comparison to the amount of money collected for meeting registration and meals. At the cost of \$35 per registrant, plus meals, it has been a stretch to cover all the meeting costs. One of the biggest challenges is to reserve all funds from memberships, auctions, and other fund raising activities for funding requests, activity support, and other conservation related funding needs. Thanks to several outstanding sponsorships at our annual meetings, we have been able to keep registration costs down and reserve the funds raised from memberships and auctions for funding requests. However, the 2009 Annual Meeting costs got too close for comfort. The Board voted (6-0) to increase the registration cost \$10 for regular members to ensure those reserved funds will only be used for funding requests. The \$10 increase in registration cost will only affect the regular memberships, bringing the annual meeting registration to \$45. This increase in registration cost will help us break even on the meeting costs along with support received through sponsorships. The student registration cost will remain unchanged at \$20. Additionally, the costs of meals will remain unchanged.

If you know an agency or business who might be interested in helping to sponsor our annual meeting, please put them in contact with an Executive Board Member. If you know anybody who does not normally attend our annual meeting, please encourage them to attend as another way to network and support the SD Chapter of The Wildlife Society. We appreciate any and all support to help provide a great and successful meeting. See you in March!

Positions Open

Here's your chance to become more active.

Board Positions that will be Open

- * Board Member Position (currently held by Bill Smith)
- * President Elect Position (currently held by Chad Switzer)

Committee Positions Open

- * Wildlife Disease Committee Co-Chair
- * Awards Chair (currently held by Nora Kohlenberg who is taking over Membership Chair)

Please contact Dennie Mann (605) 394-2391 if you are interested in any of these important positions.

Committee Reports

If a committee isn't listed here, it means no information was available for this issue of the newsletter.

Resolutions and Public Statements Committee

If you have a resolution for the Chapter to consider you may send it to the Committee Chair at any time. In order to be considered, a resolution only needs to be sponsored by two voting Chapter members. You can send it, preferably as a Word attachment to an email, to the Chair, Dan Hubbard at daniel.hubbard@sdstate.edu. You needn't worry too much about format. As long as the draft has the appropriate background and facts, Dan can put it in the correct format. If you have any questions, contact him (Phone: 605-688-4780). Additionally, if you have an idea for a resolution but aren't sure that you have enough of the "facts" to put one together, contact Dan anyway and perhaps the appropriate committee or person can be identified to help put together a credible resolution.

Submitted by Dan Hubbard

Wildlife Diversity Committee Report

Black-footed Ferret Petition

As reported in our last committee report, three groups, WildEarth Guardians, Biodiversity Conservation Alliance, and the Center for Native Ecosystems, petitioned the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) to designate three reintroduced populations of black-footed ferrets as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. The populations are located in the Conata Basin in South Dakota, Shirley Basin in Wyoming, and Aubrey Valley in Arizona.

We have been awaiting finalization of a comment letter from the Central Mountains and Plains Section (CMPS) of TWS. The CMPS letter was recently finalized and can be viewed at the section's website (<http://joomla.wildlife.org/CMP/>) at the Position Statements tab. The SD Chapter will separately comment on this petition to the Service. Because the petition was filed under the Administrative Procedure Act, there are no specific deadlines for comments to the Service or from the Service to the petitioners. The Service sent the petitioners a brief response letter and promised to follow up with a more detailed response later.

South Dakota's Teaming with Wildlife Coalition Now in the Top Ten

Our chapter is one of South Dakota's original Teaming with Wildlife coalition members. More than 6,200 organizations and businesses in the United States have endorsed Teaming with

Wildlife, showing a commitment to help secure increased funding for wildlife recreation, education and conservation. South Dakota's coalition recently gained 17 new members and now totals nearly 200 groups, making it the 10th largest state coalition in the nation.

The hundreds of thousands of South Dakotans represented by the state's coalition support a legislative effort to translate widespread, grass-roots support for wildlife into a stable funding source for state wildlife agencies. Funds will help prevent wildlife from becoming endangered and enhance environmental education and nature-based recreation.

South Dakota's Teaming with Wildlife coalition represents hunters, anglers, archers, scouts, businesses, agriculture, economic development and tourism interests, and more. These new members have expressed their commitment to wildlife and the natural places that contribute to the state's quality of life.

- Aberdeen Gun Club, Aberdeen
- Alcester Area Chamber of Commerce, Alcester
- Archery Outfitters, Sioux Falls
- Black Hills Guitar, Spearfish
- Brookings Renegade Muzzleloaders, Bushnell
- Green Thumb Commodities, Oldham
- Herrick Elevator, Herrick
- Interlakes Archers, Madison
- Lake County Pro Pheasants, Spencer
- Lower James Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council
- Randall Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council
- Rapid City Rifle Club and Junior Division, Rapid City
- Redlin Art Center, Watertown
- South Dakota Walleyes Unlimited Rapid City Area Chapter, Rapid City
- The Journey Museum, Rapid City
- Tudogs Computing, Elk Point
- Wagner Chamber of Commerce, Wagner

There is no charge to join the coalition. Members simply go on record to show support for the need to ensure that we responsibly manage wildlife and natural habitats in South Dakota and throughout the U.S. Visit South Dakota's Teaming with Wildlife Web site at: <http://www.sdgifp.info/Wildlife/Diversity/teaming.htm>. To learn more about the national Teaming with Wildlife initiative, visit <http://teaming.com/>.

State Wildlife Grants Funding Increase

Congress recently approved \$90 million for the State and Tribal Wildlife Grants Program for fiscal year 2010. The increase is \$15 million more than last year's level. Additional good news is that the nonfederal match requirement was reduced from 50% to 35%.

This program is the primary funding source for implementation of state Wildlife Action Plans. This funding source is hopefully an interim step in addressing wildlife needs until a long-term funding solution is identified at the national level.

Rozol Prairie Dog Poison Approved for Use

In May of 2009, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved a special needs permit for the use of Rozol to control prairie dogs. The active ingredient in Rozol, chlorophacinone, is an anti-coagulant. In September of 2009, the South Dakota Department of Agriculture approved an application for registration and use within South Dakota. The perceived advantage of chlorophacinone over zinc phosphide is that pre-baiting is not required. Laborious label requirements regarding bait and carcass clean-up lend themselves to non-compliance. There are concerns about Rozol's impacts to non-target wildlife species. Chlorophacinone results in a prolonged period of mortality and persistence in body tissue, making dead and dying prairie dogs available as prey for weeks compared to hours with zinc phosphide. Impacts to non-target species have been documented in both birds and mammals in at least three states.

The World Wildlife Fund, concerned over impacts to non-target species, petitioned the EPA to suspend registration of Rozol. In October, the EPA published a request for comments on the petition. Background documents on the petition, the request for comments and comments submitted to date, can be found at <http://www.regulations.gov>; search for EPA-HQ-OPP-2009-0684. The SD Chapter is currently preparing a comment

Submitted by Eileen Dowd Stukel and Silka Kempema

Energy Subcommittee - Ad Hoc Biofuels

Susan Rupp, Chair of the Biofuels Subcommittee, has been asked by the parent society of TWS to Chair the Biofuels Technical Working Group after Dr. Tim McCoy resigned. She has not accepted the position yet, but is considering it. The SDTWS Biofuels Subcommittee is still looking for interested individuals to sit on the committee. If you are interested, please contact Dr. Susan Rupp (605-688-4779, susan.rupp@sdstate.edu).

Submitted by Dr. Susan Rupp

Newsletter Submissions and Schedule

If you have an announcement, information item, or committee activity report that should be included in the next edition of *A Prairie Voice*, or if your email or mailing address has changed, send the information to: Charlene Bessken at ladyhawk155@hotmail.com or call 605-222-9445. Thanks.

The newsletter is published four times a year in February, June, September and December.

Opportunities to Mentor New Wildlife Professionals

Susan Rupp is searching for professionals to serve as student mentors in two ways.

1) to be a mentor for the upcoming SD Chapter of TWS meeting. We will have some sort of social activity and the students may wish to “shadow” the professional for those couple of days to meet folks and network.

2) to be a mentor for a “Student/Professional Mentoring Program” as part of Susan’s Applied Habitat Management class to be taught this spring 2010. Professionals can come from any agency. The goal will be to have professionals who can assist students and answer questions as they develop a Wildlife Habitat Management Plan as a semester project. We will work out details with students so as to minimize any intrusions into the professionals’ work time.

If you are interested, contact Dr. Rupp at (605) 688-4779.

Certification

If you are already certified – great! If not, please consider doing so. See the new page on our website about certification . . . www.sdwildlife.org/Certification.HTM


And see the list of Certified and Associate Wildlife Biologists in South Dakota.

Attention Certified and Associate
Wildlife Biologists:
Flaunt your acronyms!

John Brown, **CWB®**
Wildlife Biologist

brown@email.com
(572) 555 1234

You worked hard to earn your AWB® and
CWB®, so add them to your business card and
emails **and stand out from the crowd.**

 TWS membership is now required for
certifications to remain valid, so be
sure to join or renew at wildlife.org

Special Note: If you change your mailing or email address please let Charlie or Nora know. Thanks.

Fund-Raising Committee “Let’s Gear Up for the Outdoors”

As chair of the fund-raising committee, I would like to encourage you to either solicit or donate items for the SDTWS auction. This year I would like to focus on outdoor gear of all shapes and sizes. If you have a new item sitting at home that remains unused by yourself, please consider donating it to SDTWS auctions, where it might generate funds for the chapter and also get some good use by another member. If you know of an individual or business that would be willing to donate an item, we would appreciate your assistance in obtaining those donations. Finally, I’d like to continue to encourage you to provide your hand-made items. Dollars generated from this event assist the chapter in sponsoring several events throughout the year, such as student scholarships, Bald Eagle Awareness Day, educational programs, supporting national programs, and to help keep meeting costs and associated fees to a minimum. Thanks again! Bridgette



South Dakota Chapter TWS - Executive Board

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Board Member

John Kanta
SD Game, Fish & Parks
3305 West South Street
Rapid City, SD 57446
(605) 394-2391

Northern Great Plains Working Group Representative: Rocco Murano, 353-7185

South Dakota Chapter TWS - Standing Committees

Audit - K. C. Jensen, 688-4781

Awards - Nora Kohlenberg, 773-6228

Conservation Review - Paul Coughlin, 773-4194

Education & Information - Laura Hubers, 947-4521

Membership - Nora Kohlenberg, 773-6228

Program - Chad Switzer, 773-4193

Nominations and Elections - Chad Switzer, 773-4193

Resolutions & Public Statements - Dan Hubbard, 688-4780

South Dakota Chapter TWS - Special Committees

Arrangements - K. C. Jensen, 688-4781 & Tom Kirschenmann, 352-1874

Book Service - Bob Klaver, 594-6067

Certification - Susan Rupp, 688-4779

Chapter History - Corey Huxoll, 773-4195

Energy Subcommittee - Ad Hoc Biofuels - Susan Rupp, 688-4779

Energy Subcommittee - Wind Power - K C Jensen, 688-4781 & Silka Kempema, 773-2742

Fee Hunting & Ownership of Wildlife - Andy Lindbloom, 223-7709

Fund Raising - Bridgette Flanders-Wanner, 352-5894 ext. 14

Grassland issues - Boyd Schulz, 697-6041, Bill Smith, 773-3096 & Jim Madsen, 882-5250

Missouri River Issues - Cliff Stone, 734-4530 & Greg Pavelka, 402-667-7873 ext 3334

Newsletter/Website - Charlene "Charlie" Bessken, 222-9445

Public Lands - Eddie Childers, 433-5263, Dennis Mann, 394-2391, & Tom LeFaive 223-2316

Tribal Fish & Wildlife - Diane Mann-Klaver, 226-7621

Wetlands - Kurt Forman, 692-8359 & Peter Bergmann, 692-9820

Wildlife Diseases - Steve Griffin, 394-2391

Wildlife Diversity - Eileen Down Stukel, 773-4229 & Silka Kempema, 773-2742

SOUTH DAKOTA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Application for Membership Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (indicate home or work) _____

E-mail Address (for newsletter delivery) _____

Home E-mail Address (for list serve) _____

Please Note:

The SDTWS List Serve is a one-way, non conversational list serve used on an infrequent basis solely to inform members about important conservation issues and legislation. Due to the sensitive nature of some list serve content, we strongly advise that you provide us with a home e-mail address.

SDTWS's newsletter, *A Prairie Voice*, is all-electronic. Therefore, an e-mail address must be provided above in order to receive it (paper copies will be provided only to individuals who do not have a computer, internet access, or an email address).

Please Check One: New Member 2010 Dues Renewal

Employer _____

Sponsor's Name _____

Send the completed application/renewal form and a check for \$10.00 (regular), \$6.00 (student) to:

Nora Kohlenberg
SD Game, Fish & Parks
523 East Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501

Regular Dues: \$10.00

Student Dues: \$6.00

Life Membership dues are prorated by age as follows:

Age 20 to 35: 25 x annual dues (\$10 x 25 = \$250)

Age 36 to 45: 20 x annual dues (\$10 x 20 = \$200)

Age 46 to 65: 17.5 x annual dues (\$10 x 17.5 = \$175)

Age 66 to 75: 12.5 x annual dues (\$10 x 12.5 = \$125)

Age 76 and over: Free

For more information on becoming a life member, contact Nora Kohlenberg (605) 773-6228.

