



President's Message

I can't believe that summer is almost over. The elk are bugling and the archery hunters are in the field. This has been the 3rd coolest summer on record for the Black Hills area, maybe Global Warming is over and we are going into the Ice Age.

We have provided funding support for the following requests for assistance:

The South Dakota Junior Duck Stamp Program

Rasmussen-Lehman "33 Ranch" Bird Tour

The South Dakota Outdoor Expo

Mega Ta Hohpi Waterfowl Production Area Field Day

University of Tennessee North American Wildlife Model DVD to each TWS Annual Conference attendee in Monterey

Student Chapter TWS support for the annual conference in Monterey, California

Just an update on Memberships for 2009:

Renewals 132, new memberships 30, 2 new life memberships

Memberships are extremely important to a strong and growing organization such as SDTWS, whatever we can do for outreach will help build this organization. Most non-profits are seeing significant reductions in income some as much as 50% from the last two years.

Annual conference is in Monterey California September 20th through the 24th. KC Jensen is going to attend with students from SDSU, should be an educational experience for all attending.

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 get together. This year's theme is: "Technological Advances and its use in Wildlife Management".

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 Mountains and Plains Section. The meeting will be held August 17-19, 2010 at the Cedar Shores Resort, Chamberlain, South Dakota.

Have a great fall; enjoy the resources , your family and friends.

Respectfully,

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 January 8, 2009 Executive Board Meeting of the
South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society (SDTWS)**

KC Jensen called the meeting to order at 10:15am, Oacoma, SD. Board members present were Kurt Forman and Art Smith, Dennie Mann joined the meeting at 10:50 (icy roads), Chad Switzer and Bill Smith called in.

Secretary's report

Art Smith presented copies of last meeting's minutes. Forman covered some additional details about the SD Conservation Alliance. Switzer motioned to approve w/ correction, Bill Smith seconded, motion passed (4-0).

Treasurer's report

Art Smith presented the Treasurer's report. Forman motioned to approve the report as presented, Switzer seconded, motion passed (4-0).

Old Business

Bald Eagle Days funding request:

Eileen thanked everyone for the \$200 funding the Chapter gave for that event.

Newsletter editor:

Charlie Bessken has agreed to be the new editor, Board is very happy with her taking this job on. Perks the Board agreed to give for the newsletter editor may not all be needed by Charlie as her travel is already paid by her employer. To get everything into the newsletter in time for election materials, 15Jan09 is the deadline to get everything into the next newsletter. This includes Committee reports (Forman will do this), Board election materials (Mann will do this), announcements, meeting announcements, membership announcements (Switzer will do this).

New Business

Awards:

MS award still open until the end of this week, will be taken care of through email. 2 PhD nominations for the same individual. All in favor of awarding the PhD to this person.

Professional award, 2 nominations. Because Bill Smith did not have the nominations in front of him, voting for this award will be done via email. Board discussed each of the nominees briefly.

Citizen's award, 2 nominations. Brief discussions on the nominees was done.

Annual meeting – update

Mann indicated that for agencies BLM (maybe), GFP, NPS, USFS (maybe), USFWS, RMEF, NWTf (no) have been contacted so far as speakers. Forman mentioned Judge Jessop representing the SD Grasslands Coalition as a speaker. Someone to talk about the switch from corn-based ethanol to cellulosic energy could be interesting. GFP Regional Supervisor for affects of the reduced economy with on-the-ground management capacities.

Announcement for student papers still needs to be done, Mann will be getting this done.

Raffle – Forman asked if we wanted to do a big raffle (Carl Madsen's deal).

Usually make several hundred on the item, optics may make a bit more. Options to give Carl a budget or ask him to find a specific item for the raffle. GPS unit, rangefinder, gun combo was brought up. Forman will give him a \$750 limit for a gun or a combo gun/rangefinder for the raffle. Art Smith motioned, Forman seconded, motion passed (4-0).

Special award – Forman reviewed last year’s sponsorship of a special award for Jim Turex for their annual support. Idea is for UAP’s Bill Walker to receive a like award this year. General support was given. Forman would use the same template used from a Brookings award shop from last year with a slight modification of the wording. Forman will go forward with the award.

Potential sponsors reviewed by Forman. He will identify specific sponsors and a Board member to follow up for a 22Jan09 date and get the list of these to the Board.

Elections:

Candidates were briefly discussed, and there is at least 1 candidate for each spot, but for President-elect there is only 1 candidate.

Banquet speaker:

NGO’s travel budgets have been quite reduced, so may be hard to find someone. Dave Nomsen, PF government affairs person, could be a good potential speaker. Jensen will call him, using Bill Smith as a backup if needed. Secondary plan could be using John Cooper to talk about Missouri river management.

National Awards – TWS Fellow

Jensen will resubmit a packet for a nominee. No other immediate thoughts were brought up, deadline for any TWS awards is mid-March.

Bill Smith motioned to adjourn, Forman seconded, motion passed (5-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Art Smith

Secretary/Treasurer, SDTWS

Minutes of the February 22, 2009 Executive Board Meeting of the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society (SDTWS)

KC Jensen called the meeting to order at 7:30pm, Oacoma, SD. Board members present were Kurt Forman, Art Smith, Dennie Mann, Chad Switzer, and Bill Smith. General member Carl Madsen was also present.

Secretary’s report

Art Smith presented copies of last meeting’s minutes. Mann motioned to approve, Forman seconded, motion passed (5-0).

Treasurer's report

Art Smith presented the Treasurer's report. Switzer motioned to approve the report as presented, Bill Smith seconded, motion passed (5-0).

Old Business

Bald Eagle Awareness Days – Eileen Dowd Stukel sent another thank you with an agenda of the past meeting we sponsored.

Revisited TWS awards.

New Business

Wind Power Consortium Funding Request

Putting together a big proposal with many sponsors. Request is for \$2,000.

Concern for funds to allow appropriate funding is an unknown. Board decided to table this issue until Wednesday when more knowledge is known about this year's revenue.

SD Grasslands Coalition Funding Request

Forman summarized past events. Switzer motioned to support event at \$500, Mann seconded, motion passed (5-0).

SD Outdoor Expo Funding Request

Board reviewed last year's event. Attendance last year was 4,000, good program, but the publicity to the Chapter was limited. Mann motioned to support the event at \$500, Forman seconded. Motion passed (5-0).

Annual meeting – update

Board reviewed Business meeting agenda. No major omissions were noted.

Meeting agenda – update

Mann summarized the meeting agenda going into some detail about a few of the presenters.

Concept for Tony Dean Memorial

Forman introduced the idea of looking at devoting some time and effort into making support towards the Tony Dean memorial. Madsen went into a few details about how fundraising was going. Several ideas were discussed about how the Chapter could augment the memorial fundraising effort. Timing and longevity of effort were discussed. Madsen suggested donating 3 fishing rods built by his brother for this year. Board decided to dedicate the rods for this funding support.

Elections:

No changes from last meeting.

Mann motioned to suspend meeting until Wednesday, Bill Smith seconded, motion passed (5-0).

Wednesday 25Feb09,

Mann called the meeting back to order at 11:15am. Board members present were Nora Kohlenberg, Bill Smith, John Kanta, KC Jensen, and Chad Switzer. Recent past Board members Kurt Forman and Art Smith were also present.

Art Smith summarized the meeting's revenue amounts.

Board looked at previously tabled funding request for the Wind Power Consortium request of \$2,000. Discussions ensued on who made up the consortium, and what the funds are being used for. General thought was without more information about what the request is supporting, plus the relatively high request amount itself, is problematic. Jensen motioned to not support the request, Kanta seconded. Discussion about asking for more information about budget allocation was brought up. Jensen and Kanta accepted the amendment. Motion passed (5-0).

The venue bill was discussed and loosely compared to the signed contract. No discrepancies were noted; Pheasants Forever will need to be followed-up on to make sure beer keg reimbursements are received. Switzer will do that. Kanta motioned that the venue bill be paid when the invoice is received, Bill Smith seconded, motion carried (5-0).

Discussions for the 2010 meeting were then covered. A student-professional mixer was covered and potential ways of holding that were discussed. Day and timing need to be addressed. Best dates in February will be focused on and Cedar Shore as the venue.

Ideas on logo clothing were briefly discussed.

Next meeting scheduled as a conference call 9June09, 10am Central start. If not held as a conference call it would be held in Pierre.

Kanta motioned to adjourn, Bill Smith seconded, motion passed (5-0).

Respectfully submitted,
Art Smith
Secretary/Treasurer, SDTWS

**Minutes of the June 25, 2009 Executive Board Meeting of the
South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society (SDTWS)**

Dennie Mann called the meeting to order at 10:00 am at the Game, Fish & Parks Region 2 Office in Chamberlain, SD. Board members present were Dennie Mann, John Kanta, Chad Switzer, KC Jensen, and Nora Kohlenberg. Bill Smith joined the meeting via conference call.

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

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

Old Business

Correspondence Received

- Thank you from the Booth Society for support of the South Dakota Junior Duck Stamp Program
- Request from National TWS office for confirmation of SDTWS's 2010 membership dues rates
- Susan Rupp requested list of membership to send out information regarding TWS Certification

CMPS Memberships

Kohlenberg will work through past several years of expenses to make sure that CMPS has been paid for memberships. Kohlenberg will also send quarterly dues to CMPS for memberships received since May. Jensen made a motion to pay any outstanding CMPS dues, Kanta seconded.

New Business

Requests for Funding

SDSU Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society: Student Chapter is requesting funding support for travel to the 2009 Wildlife Society Conference in Monterey, CA. In the past, the State Chapter has provided \$1,000 in funding support for travel. It is unknown at this time how many students will attend, but the estimate is at least four. The Student Chapter requested funding through National for \$500, but it is unknown at this time if they will be success for that request. Kanta made a motion to provide \$1,000 and revisit this request if more students sign up to attend and more funds are needed. Switzer seconded the motion. Motion passed (6-0).

Maga Ta-Hohpi Friends Group: Request was received from the Maga Ta-Hohpi Friends Group for support for the 2009 Huron Prairie Fest, to be held September 12, 2009. Jensen made a motion to provide \$300 in support of the event, seconded by Kohlenberg.

Leadership Luncheon

The SDTWS has covered the cost for the President of the Student Chapter at SDSU, a chaperone and two board members. The invitation has not been received yet, cost unknown.

Membership Dues to SDTWS

Board received the 2010 Section Dues Form from the National chapter. Board reviewed membership dues charged by other state chapters. Regular memberships ranged from \$5 to \$20 and student memberships ranged from \$5 to \$8. Kanta suggested keeping membership dues at same cost. Board agreed that the need was not necessary at this time.

Annual Meeting Registration Cost

The board discussed the cost of the annual meetings and the ability for SDTWS to be able to fund conservation orientated requests. The cost for the annual meeting registration has remained the same for many years. However, costs have increased. The amount of money collected for registration and meals has not covered all the annual meeting costs. Board wants to ensure that

the money raised through the auction and raffles is not used to cover meeting costs, and that all money raised through the auction and raffles will be used for funding requests. The board decided to increase the annual registration an additional \$10, bringing the annual registration cost to \$45. The student meeting registration will remain \$20. A motion to increase the annual registration cost by \$10 was made by Smith and seconded by Switzer. Motion passed (6-0).

Website

Charlene Bessken has been managing the website. Charlene is happy with the current layout. Board is not interested in using Joomla that the National Chapter uses. Some other ideas that came out of this discussion included creating a Facebook page for SDTWS members similar to what the National Chapter has done. Jensen will follow up.

Membership Losses/Retention

2009 Membership is down in comparison to 2008. There were 93 individuals who did not renew their memberships in 2009. Board discussed how to reach membership to retain individuals who are not able to be at the Annual Meeting. Board discussed sending out renewal emails. Mann will work with department heads to help with support for their staff to attend annual meetings.

2010 Meeting Theme

Switzer provided a list of possible themes for the 2010 Annual Meeting. Kohlenberg suggested polling annual meeting attendees for future topics. Kanta suggested a list of topics to put out for a vote at next annual meeting. Board discussed a student mixer to tie into the theme. A consensus amongst the Board was "Technological Advances and its use in Wildlife Management" for the 2010 Annual Meeting Theme. The meeting will be March 1 – 3, 2010, at Cedar Shores Resort in Chamberlain.

Schedule for March 1, 2010:

1:00pm to 4:00pm – Theme Presentations

4:30pm to 6:00pm – Student Mixer

6:30pm – Dinner and Auction

Schedule for March 2, 2010:

9:00am to 12:00pm – Business Meeting

1:00pm to 5:00pm – Presentations

6:00 pm to 7:00pm – Social

7:00pm – Awards Banquet

Schedule for March 3, 2010:

9:00am to 12:00 – Presentations (ending time dependent on number of presentations)

Waxman-Markey Climate Bill

Jensen provided an information update about the status of the Waxman-Markey Climate Bill. Jensen talked with an individual from Herseth-Sandlin's office voicing concern about certain language that may be potentially be pulled out. Jensen reminded Herseth-Sandlin staff that

Herseth-Sandlin was very protective of sod saver language.

USFS EA on Waterline in Ft. Pierre National Grasslands

SDTWS provided written comments on this project, but project was dropped. USFS is once again asking for written comments. Mann will resubmit letter.

Newsletter

Need to send out newsletter. Need to request committee reports. Need to include new cost of Annual Meeting registration in next newsletter.

Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting was set for September 10, 2009, at 10:00am at the Game, Fish and Parks Region 2 Office.

Adjourn

Switzer motioned to adjourn, seconded by Smith at 11:50am.

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.

Fund Raising Committee Report

As Chair of the Fund Raising Committee, I would like to say Thank You for supporting our annual fund raiser. 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. We have had tremendous support and great items donated the past few years, and we hope to continue that trend. If you have an item(s) that you would be willing to donate, please bring them to the meeting. At the same time, 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. Thanks again!

Submitted by Bridgette Flanders-Wanner

Grassland Issues Committee Report

The Northern Prairies Land Trust (NPLT) is partnering with the East Dakota Water Development District out of Brookings to place perpetual and or 30-year easements on private lands along the Big Sioux River and some of its major tributaries between Sioux Falls and

Watertown. The easements consist of 120-foot buffers, where grazing and tillage are totally restricted. To date over 80,000 feet of shore line has been protected in Brookings, Codington, Hamlin and Minnehaha counties. Landowners are paid cash for restricting the uses in the easement based on a formula using assessed values and considering easement length and the presence of other conservation programs.

Submitted by Jim Madsen

Missouri River Issues Committee Report

A federal law passed in 2000, the Missouri River Restoration Act of 2000, has a primary purpose of reducing siltation in to the Missouri River and to develop a long-term strategy to meet the objectives of the Pick-Sloan plan. The legislation allows the creation of a state "Task Force". The South Dakota Task Force, consisting of 15 members appointed by the Governor of South Dakota, 10 Tribal representatives, and four Federal representatives held their first meeting in April, 2009 in Ft. Pierre.

The Task Force charter asks them to prepare and approve a plan for the use of the \$50 million of funds authorized by the legislation, but not appropriated. The Task Force needs to develop and recommend critical restoration projects for protecting the river from erosion and the sediment that flows in from tributary rivers and streams. Money for the projects would be available only if Congress appropriated it, and the state or some other local sponsor also would have to provide 35 percent of the cost of projects, according to officials of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which is managing the Task Force.

A similar task force has been operating in North Dakota.

Submitted by Clifton Stone

Public Lands Committee Report

The Public Lands Committee has sent in comments on the following management proposals, brief summary follows.

Ft Pierre National Grasslands The Wildlife Society supports Alternative 3. This proposal includes 82 miles of forest system roads for motorized use. In addition 146 miles of user created routes will be closed to motorized vehicles. This additional access from Alternative 2 will provide access to pond and small dam fishing which is very important to the public in this area of South Dakota. With the utilization of appropriate signing for designated motorized routes the Ft Pierre National Grassland will be able to manage motorized vehicle access and improve recreational opportunities for the people of South Dakota and other visitors. This was our second comment period for the same proposal, no changes from the first back in 2008.

BNG West Geographic Area Allotment Management Draft EIS concerning Buffalo Gap National Grasslands Fall River District We ask that allotment management plans take into account grassland structure and sagebrush habitat associate with sage grouse, including management practices to provide residual herbaceous cover for nesting birds and brood cover to aid in retaining this rare species on the Fall River District. Swift fox and prairie dogs require a different management condition and through the use of clearly defined adaptive management techniques and close monitoring grassland structure can be modified to appropriate structure levels to meet the ecological needs of these species. We cannot over emphasize that monitoring will be a critical part of the adaptive management process in order to change or modify management strategies to meet desired resource conditions that are consistent with forest plans directives.

Badlands National Park South Unit We are in the process of commenting on the Badlands National Park South Unit change in management from NPS to Tribal, but have not seen the proposal as yet, still waiting.

Submitted by Dennie Mann

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

Rozol Approved for Prairie Dog Control in South Dakota

The South Dakota Department of Agriculture has approved the use of Rozol (chlorophacinone) for prairie dog control in South Dakota. Rozol is an anticoagulant that results in a prolonged mortality period for prairie dogs. The label requires that Rozol be applied at least six inches down an active prairie dog burrow and that applicants return to the site to pick up uneaten bait and dead prairie dogs on the surface. The prolonged mortality period and the possibility that applicants may not comply with all label restrictions have raised considerable concern about secondary poisoning impacts of Rozol to migratory birds and endangered species.

The Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies has repeatedly requested that the EPA rescind existing permits for Rozol use and suspend new permits. The South Dakota TWS Chapter has written to EPA expressing similar concerns. The South Dakota Department of Agriculture approved Rozol against the advice of the SD Department of Game, Fish and Parks (SDGFP) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Ecological Services Office. On July 15, 2009, Defenders of Wildlife informed EPA of a notice of intent to sue for violations of the Endangered Species Act concerning registrations of Rozol prairie dog bait and Kaput-D prairie dog bait.

Black-footed Ferret Petition

Three groups, WildEarth Guardians, Biodiversity Conservation Alliance, and the Center for Native Ecosystems, have petitioned the U.S. Fish and Wildlife 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.

These three populations were reintroduced as experimental, nonessential populations, a designation that allowed enough management flexibility to satisfy many of the concerns of landowners and land users in and around the reintroduction areas. The petitioning groups believe that endangered status is needed to more effectively protect and manage these populations. Here is an excerpt from a news release on this topic at the WildEarth Guardians' website, pertaining to the Conata Basin site:

“Black-footed ferret recovery should be a national priority,” stated Erin Robertson, Senior Staff Biologist with Center for Native Ecosystems, “The status quo will not achieve this. The ferret recovery program deserves a few sites where efforts to conserve the species are not continuously being undermined.”

The Conata Basin situation stands as a stunning example of government economic and public lands mismanagement at its worst. For example, when plague hit the Conata Basin ferret population for the first time in 2008, the Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, and conservation organizations tried to prevent the disease from spreading by dusting prairie dog burrows with insecticide. Yet, the Forest Service has also poisoned prairie dogs on the Buffalo Gap National Grassland every year since 2004. In 2008, the Forest Service poisoned and dusted. This demonstrates the prairie dog/black-footed ferret paradox occurring on all ferret recovery sites. In the Conata Basin case the conflict is between the Fish and Wildlife Service—responsible for preventing wildlife extinction and the Forest Service—responsible for protecting our national forests and grasslands while also promoting agricultural and extractive interests.

Source: <http://www.wildearthguardians.org/library/paper.asp?nMode=2&nLibraryID=792>

The SD Chapter will monitor this issue for appropriate opportunities for input.

Award for Senator Tim Johnson

The following news release of August 4, 2009, was issued by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies regarding an award to South Dakota Senator Tim Johnson to recognize his leadership for wildlife.

SENATOR JOHNSON AWARDED FOR HIS LEADERSHIP IN HELPING TO PREVENT WILDLIFE FROM BECOMING ENDANGERED

WASHINGTON, DC — Senator Tim Johnson (D-SD) today was honored by the Teaming With Wildlife Coalition and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies for championing federal funding for state-based wildlife conservation as part of the Teaming With Wildlife Act, which he introduced in March 2009.

The award recognizes the Senator's leadership in supporting legislation to establish a first-of-its-kind funding program to help state fish and wildlife agencies further move their State Wildlife Action Plans into on-the-ground action to prevent at risk wildlife from becoming endangered nationwide.

"I am honored to receive this award from the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies," Johnson said. "South Dakota has a deep history of appreciation for the outdoors and that's why I introduced important legislation that will help preserve our wildlife."

As introduced by Senator Johnson, the Teaming With Wildlife Act would provide \$350 million annually over five years through a portion of the royalties collected from Outer Continental Shelf drilling and mineral development on federal land to help state agencies carry out their State Wildlife Action Plans, the primary, comprehensive conservation tool adopted in every state and territory to keep fish and wildlife healthy and off the list of threatened and endangered species.

"We are grateful to Senator Johnson for recognizing that taking action to conserve wildlife before it becomes endangered is environmentally sound and fiscally responsible to taxpayers, said Matt Hogan, Executive Director of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. "Once a species declines to the point of potential extinction, recovery efforts become risky and expensive. The Teaming With Wildlife Act is a major milestone in the effort to secure dedicated funding essential for state agencies' fish and wildlife conservation efforts."

In addition to state fish and wildlife agencies, the Teaming With Wildlife Act has the active support of the 6,100-member Teaming With Wildlife Coalition, which is the largest and most diverse wildlife conservation alliance ever assembled in the U.S. representing millions of birdwatchers, hikers, anglers, hunters, outdoor enthusiasts and conservation professionals.

To learn more about Teaming With Wildlife and State Wildlife Action Plans, visit www.teaming.com and www.wildlifeactionplans.org.



Photo (l-r): Mark Humpert, AFWA Wildlife Diversity Director; Matt Hogan, AFWA Executive Director; Senator Tim Johnson; representing the Teaming With Wildlife Coalition --Laura Bies, Director of Government Affairs, The Wildlife Society; Derek Brockbank, Conservation Funding Campaign Director, National Wildlife Federation

Teaming with Wildlife Coalition in Action

To meet a tremendous and growing interest in watchable wildlife, SDGFP recently completed a new publication titled “Backyard Birds of South Dakota.” SDGFP invited members of the South Dakota Teaming with Wildlife Coalition to sponsor the booklet, which is distributed free-of-charge to the public. A dozen Teaming members stepped up with contributions of at least \$100. The first 5,000 copies were gone within a few weeks, and an additional 10,000 copies were printed. These are the sorts of projects state wildlife agencies could do much more of when the Teaming initiative becomes a reality.

South Dakota’s coalition is just five new members from cracking the “Top 10” in the U.S. Take a few minutes to think of an organization, a business, or an administrative body that values wildlife. Send them to <http://www.sdgfp.info/Wildlife/Diversity/teaming.htm>, or take a copy of the endorsement form to them to complete to help South Dakota continue to expand its already diverse coalition.

To request a copy of the new guide to backyard birds, visit:

<http://www.sdgfp.info/Wildlife/Diversity/BackyardBirdsBook.htm> Special thanks go to Doug Backlund for allowing free use of many of his great bird photos. To learn more about Doug’s photography, visit: <http://www.wildphotosphotography.com/> Thanks are also extended to the following South Dakota Teaming with Wildlife coalition members for helping to sponsor this guide:

- * Batworks, LLC
- * Brookings Wildlife Federation
- * Great Lakes of South Dakota Association
- * Human Dimensions Consulting
- * Izaak Walton League of America South Dakota Division
- * Izaak Walton League of America McCook Lake Chapter
- * Missouri Breaks Audubon Society
- * Northern Hills Bird Club
- * Prairie Hills Audubon Society
- * South Dakota Ornithologists' Union
- * South Dakota Parks and Wildlife Foundation
- * Wildlife Experiences, Inc.

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

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.

SDTWS Wants to Showcase YOUR Hand-made Items at the Annual Auction

Whatever your special or hidden talent, the Fund Raising Committee is holding a special segment of the annual auction this year to highlight it! Please consider donating a hand-made item for the auction this year. Along with your item, I would appreciate if you would also include your name, employer, and title. Although not mandatory, I would love if you would also include a photo of yourself at work or practicing your hobby! The items will be displayed in a collection prior to the auction so that everyone can see how multi-talented and skilled our members are! Here are a few more ideas just to get your creative juices flowing:

- * Hand-woven baskets
- * Handmade jewelry
- * Hand-tied fly-fishing flies
- * Framed photography or paintings
- * Wooden shelves or furniture
- * Hand-tooled leather
- * Carved fish or duck decoys
- * Home made greeting cards

Alternatively, consider getting together with your office or other colleagues and doing a themed basket, like homemade canned goods or baked items. Feel free to e-mail me digital photos in advance of the annual meeting if you plan to bring an item: bridgette_flanders@hotmail.com

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 address has changed, send the information to: Charlene Bessken at ladyhawk155@hotmail.com or call 605-222-9445. Thanks.

Now you can plan ahead for that next issue. I'll plan to send out four issues of the newsletter each year in the following months: February, June, September and December. I'll notify Committee Chairs as the deadline approaches.

South Dakota Chapter TWS - Executive Board

President

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

Past-President

K.C. Jensen
Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
Sciences NPB 138D
PO Box 2140B
South Dakota State University
Brookings, SD 57007
(605) 688-4781

President-Elect

Chad Switzer
SD Game, Fish & Parks
523 East Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501
(605) 773-4193

Secretary-Treasurer

Nora Kohlenberg
SD Game, Fish & Parks
523 East Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501
(605) 773-6228

Board Member

Bill Smith
SD Game, Fish & Parks
523 East Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501
(605) 773-3096

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 2009 Dues Renewal 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.

