

President's Message

As I write this message for the newsletter, a refreshing cold front is blowing in cooler temperatures and provides a hint of what is coming around the corner. The summer weather of 2010 was interesting and unpredictable to say the least, yet wildlife production seems to have been strong. There are a few things I want to share with you regarding the activity of the chapter over the past couple of months.

With wetter than average conditions again found across much of eastern South Dakota, you don't have to look very hard to observe the drainage occurring on the prairie pothole landscape. Many county drainage boards are currently evaluating their respective drainage ordinances, primarily at the request of landowners and local road districts. In addition, many are awaiting the outcome of the drainage ordinance review and decision of the Minnehaha County Commission. The SDTWS Wetlands Special Committee drafted a letter to the commission outlining facts related to wetland drainage and provided recommendations for the commission to consider in making their decisions. I want to personally thank our committee for taking the time to address this important natural resources issue. A copy of this letter can be found in this newsletter and our website.

The date for the 2011 Annual Meeting has been set for February 28-March 2 and will again be held at Cedar Shores Resort. Board members will soon begin the process of developing the agenda and working on other details for the meeting. If you have any suggestions for our annual meeting, please contact any of the current board members. This is your annual meeting and we want to hear your voice on ways to make this meeting as productive and informative as possible.

Our members who volunteer their time and expertise to serve on our standing and special committees help keep the state chapter alive, functional, and successful in achieving our objectives. Much of what our chapter has accomplished is a reflection of this work and commitment. I would ask that our membership work closely with those serving on these committees to address relevant issues and topics. In return, it is important for those serving on committees to provide necessary updates via this newsletter and at our annual meeting.

The Central Mountains and Plains Section held their annual meeting on August 17-18 at Cedar Shores Resort. Though attendance seemed down from those representing the section throughout the region, the meeting was informative and productive. A special thanks to all of our members who attended the meeting and to those who assisted in many ways in making this meeting a success!

Again, The Wildlife Society's 17th Annual Conference will be held in Snowbird, Utah, on October 2-6, 2010. More information about the annual conference can be found at <http://www.wildlifesociety.org/>.

The ever anticipated autumn season is fast approaching; it always amazes me how much we all want to accomplish in such little time. With that being said, make no excuses to not leave the house and consider introducing someone new to the experience South Dakota's outdoor heritage. Have a great fall!

Chad Switzer—President
SD Chapter of The Wildlife Society

MEMBERSHIP

Know anyone who is a wildlife professional, who is in a field related to wildlife conservation, or anyone with an interest in South Dakota wildlife? Have you noticed co-workers or someone you know that has been missing at annual meetings?

Starting in 2010, we will list annual memberships on the SDTWS website (contact information will remain confidential). If you see someone who is not on the list, take some time to share with those individuals what the SDTWS has to offer.



Membership is \$10/year for a regular membership and \$6/year for students. You can renew a membership by using the membership form included at the end of this newsletter.

Please make your payment to SDTWS. Please give Nora Kohlenberg a call at 605-773-6228 or an email at Nora.Kohlenberg@state.sd.us if you have any questions.

Life Members: The full list of members is available on the website.



SDTWS can now be found on Facebook!

SDTWS is now on Facebook! Facebook is a social networking website and it is free! If you are currently not signed up for Facebook, you can use the following link and it will direct you to a page to sign up. If you are already a member, the link below will take you the SDTWS Facebook page, where you can join the group!

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/group.php?gid=375605397459>

Facebook is a great way to share information. Facebook can be used to post events, such as the upcoming Outdoor Expo, and to stimulate discussions on environmental issues or other topics of interest. The SDTWS Facebook page is also another way that we can reach out to recruit more individuals in the wildlife conservation field in South Dakota. We are very excited about this new tool and we hope as members that you will benefit from it too!

If you have any questions about the page or have some suggestions or ideas to post, please contact Nora Kohlenberg, nora.kohlenberg@state.sd.us.

Minutes of the May 11, 2010 Executive Board Meeting of the South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society (SDTWS), GFP Rapid City Regional Office

Chad Switzer called the meeting to order at 11:15 am MST at the Game, Fish and Parks Regional Office in Rapid City. Board members in attendance were Dennie Mann, John Kanta, Silka Kempema, Chad Switzer, Rocco Murano and Nora Kohlenberg.

Kohlenberg presented the minutes of the February 28th & March 3rd meeting and the May 3rd conference call meetings. Kanta made a motion to accept the minutes, Murano seconded. Motion passed (6-0).

Kohlenberg presented the Quarterly Treasurer's report. A mistake was noted. Board decided to table the pending report until the next meeting. Murano made a motion to table the pending report and Kempema seconded. Motion passed (6-0).

Old Business

Funding Request

Outdoor Campus West: The discussion about a donation to the Outdoor Campus West was tabled at the previous meeting. Kanta made a motion to deny the request at this time and was seconded by Kempema. Motion passed (6-0). Switzer will draft a letter to send that voices the support by SDTWS, but that we will not provide any funding at this time.

Wilderness Letter

Following the 2010 Annual SDTWS meeting, SDTWS sent a letter to the SD Governors Office and to the offices of Tim Johnson, Stephanie Herseth Sandlin and John Thune. A response was received from the Governors Office. No responses have been received from the congressional offices.

SDTWS Banner

The SDTWS podium banner has come up amongst the missing. Mann and Kempema will work on ideas for replacing the missing podium banner.

Shirts and Logo Wear

Have not received any information from KC Jensen who was going to get some price quotes. Switzer will visit with KC.

New Business

Requests for Funding

Friends of Maga Ta Hohpi: Received a letter asking for support on for the 2010 Annual Prairie Fest. Motion to fund again this year was made by Mann and seconded by Murano.

2010 Meeting

Meeting Date: Board discussed the proposed meeting date that was penciled in with Cathy Anderson of Cedar Shores Resort. Currently February 28 – March 2 is penciled in. Board will check to see when the Dakota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is scheduled.

Meeting Theme: Board discussed a variety of different possible meeting themes. One potential topic discussed was Land Use Changes, which encompasses many facets like access, habitat, urban sprawl, wildlife and resource management. For the next Executive Board meeting, the board is challenged to continue to brainstorm for more topic ideas or think of possible speakers for the Land Use Changes topic.

Facebook Page

Kohlenberg presented the SDTWS Facebook Page to the Board members. Facebook is a great tool for social networking and recruitment.

Membership and Retention

Kohlenberg presented the status of memberships to the Executive Board. The Board discussed the need to have support from the higher levels of leadership in agencies in order to maintain our memberships and recruit more members. Board further discussed sending questionnaires out to several agencies to find out what we could be doing better as a Chapter to build and retain memberships.

CMPS Meeting

No further information received.

Next Board Meeting

The next board was not set.

Adjourn

Kanta motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mann at 11:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Nora Kohlenberg
Secretary/Treasurer, SDTWS

2011 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, one MS and one PhD scholarship for the 2010-2011 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 15, 2010**. 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 and one (1) PhD scholarship for the 2010-2011 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 15, 2010**.

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) 222-9408
Email: nora.kohlenberg@state.sd.us

Committee Reports

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

Membership Report

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

Certification Committee

A new web page has also been created for Certification on the state chapter website. Please feel free to visit it at <http://www.sdwildlife.org/Certification.HTM>.

Submitted by Dr. Susan Rupp

Fund-raising Committee

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, 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

Missouri River Issues Committee

What a difference a couple of years make. Abundant snow fall, followed by numerous large rain

events over the Great Plains has resulted in the reservoirs on the Missouri River system recovering very quickly from the drought cycle that gripped the area just a couple of years ago. Water elevations in Lake's Oahe, Francis Case and Lewis and Clark all entered the exclusive flood control zone during at least a portion of the spring/summer. To vacate water from the system, to prepare for next spring, the US Army Corps of Engineers (USCOE) began spilling water through the emergency spillways at both Gavins Point and Ft. Randall Dams in August. These large releases will continue at least until well into the fall.

Public scoping meetings for the USCOE Missouri River Authorized Purposes Study are wrapping up. Comments will be accepted through September 20, 2010. They can be emailed to: mraps@usace.army.mil or sent to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Missouri River Authorized Purposes Study, Attn: CENWO-PM-AA, 1616 Capitol Avenue, Suite 9000, Omaha, NE 68102-4901. For more information about the Missouri River Authorized Purposes Study, visit: www.mraps.org.

Submitted by Cliff Stone

Public Lands Committee

No report this quarter

Submitted by Dennie Mann

Wildlife Diseases Committee Report

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD): From July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 a total of 1,923 samples (405 elk, 476 mule deer, 1041 white-tailed deer, and 1 moose) were collected from southwestern South Dakota and the Black Hills of South Dakota. As of June 31, 2010 all results are in, and we have found 7 CWD positive elk, 13 CWD positive white-tailed deer, and 8 CWD positive mule deer. Since testing began in 1997, South Dakota has documented 140 cases of CWD (44 elk and 96 deer) in free ranging deer and elk. Wind Cave National Park accounts for 31 of these animals (23 elk and 8 deer). Custer State Park has found 4 elk and 1 deer. Sampling of CWD deer and elk will continue in the fall of 2010 in the Black Hills area and in Custer and Fall River Counties.

In March of 2010, South Dakota was notified of a positive mule deer male that was located in North Dakota about 4 miles north of the South Dakota border. The close proximity to South Dakota and the fact that the deer lies within the Boundaries of the Standing Rock Indian Reservation has prompted some cooperative agency responses. South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks, North Dakota Game and Fish, and Standing Rock Sioux Tribe Game and Fish Department are cooperating on a large surveillance effort during November of 2010 to determine the prevalence of CWD in the area. South Dakota will be sampling in Corson and Northern Perkins Counties.

Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease: No reports of EHD have been received at the time of this report. Late August to the end of September is usually when we receive reports of sickly deer. We can only hope that this is another uneventful year for this virus.

Tuberculosis (TB): South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks in cooperation with The South Dakota Animal Industry Board is going to conduct some TB surveillance in Gregory County on hunter harvested elk, and some TB surveillance on hunter harvested deer in Yankton County this fall. This surveillance is in response to a positive cow that was found in Yankton County in December 2009. A total of 50 deer were sampled in February and March of 2009 and no TB was detected in any of these deer. We are being proactive with this surveillance to determine if the disease has spread to any wildlife in the area.

Submitted by Steve Griffin

Wildlife Diversity Committee Report

No report this quarter.

Submitted by Eileen Dowd Stukel and Silka Kempema

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 "Charlie" 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.

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

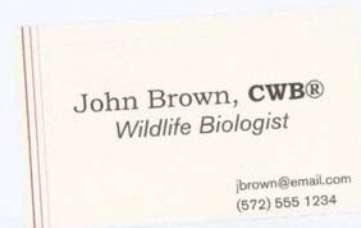
Certification

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!



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

South Dakota Chapter TWS - Executive Board

President

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

Past-President

Dennie Mann
SD Game, Fish & Parks
3305 West South Street
Rapid City, SD 57446
(605) 394-6838

President-Elect

Rocco Murano
SD Game, Fish & Parks
895 3rd Street SW
Huron, SD 57350
(605) 353-7185

Secretary-Treasurer

Nora Kohlenberg
109 Riverside Drive
Pierre, SD 57501
(605) 222-9408

Board Member

Silka Kempema
SD Game, Fish & Parks
523 East Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501
(605) 773-2742

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 - Dennis Mann, 394-2391

Awards - Nora Kohlenberg, 222-9408, Nathan Baker 773-4345

Conservation Review - Paul Coughlin, 773-4194

Education & Information - Laura Hubers, 947-4521, Sandy Uecker, 352-5894, and
Jacquie Ermer, 947-4521

Membership - Nora Kohlenberg, 222-9408

Program - Rocco Murano, 353-7185

Nominations and Elections - Rocco Murano, 353-7185

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-Klager, 226-7621, KC Jensen, 688-4781, and Shilo Comeau, 685-6508

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

Wildlife Diseases - Steve Griffin, 394-2391, John Kanta 394-2391, Ron Schauer, 391-2926, and Jacquie Ermer,
947-4521

Wildlife Diversity - Eileen Down Stukel, 773-4229, Silka Kempema, 773-2742, Thomas LeFaive, 223-2316, and
Laura Hubers, 947-4521

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 2011 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
109 Riverside Drive
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) 222-9408.

