



South Dakota Chapter

The Wildlife Society

September 2005

President's Message

Fall is in the air! Hunting seasons are upon us! I hope everyone takes the time to enjoy the great outdoors and fabulous hunting opportunity South Dakota has to offer. These are the good times; enjoy them while we can, as what looms on the horizon is not positive for wildlife. I listened to a speaker that is in the agriculture promotion business. The "advancements" in agriculture have very little room for wildlife. A new genetically modified corn is two years from the market. This new corn will be drought resist and targeted towards the potential market in the heart of the waterfowl "thunderstorm map." This same area is planning at least two new ethanol plants with local production as the supplier of corn. The same news is also looking at expanding the range of soybeans to the same area. The end result will be that there will be no room for wildlife. Add to this development of wind energy and the future looks bleak for the hunter's paradise. The next farm bill will be a major player in determining the future of wildlife as we have come to know. Funding for conservation programs are vital. Hopefully funding for grassland easements can be found so those landowners that are willing to enroll will be able to before it is to late. We also need to be vigilant for any new legislation aimed at weakening easement enrollment and enforcement. Easements are only as strong as the ability to enforce them.

Your TWS board is requesting that the South Dakota delegation to Congress join in supporting a bipartisan effort to create a new Wetlands Loan Act. This would tap into the Federal Duck Stamp Program and potentially double federal dollars spent each year on wetlands and grasslands on which a great many waterfowl depend. This is a proposal put forth by the governors of Louisiana and Minnesota and is presently looking for sponsors for national legislation.

When you go a field this fall, recruit a new hunter by taking along a youth interested in the sport of hunting.

Will

Minutes of the June 1, 2005 Executive Board Meeting of the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society

President Will Morlock recognized a quorum & called the meeting to order at 11:04 AM at the Foss Building in Pierre, SD. Board members present were Bridgette Flanders-Wanner, Steve Griffin, KC Jensen, Will Morlock, Laura Hubers, & Art Smith.

Flanders-Wanner presented minutes of the January 2005 board meeting. The treasurer's report was incomplete and was voted by the Board to accept via email. Jensen motioned to accept the minutes and treasurer's report review procedures, seconded by Griffin. Motion passed.

Old Business

The 2005 meeting's financial report was examined. \$6,601.73 was made at the meeting. Approximately 115 people attended the meeting. Hubers motioned to accept the report, Jensen seconded. Motion passed.

The Board reviewed the Executive Board 2005 meeting minutes, but took no vote. This will be voted on at the 2006 Executive Board meeting during the annual meeting.

The group reviewed the balances of the savings and checking accounts. Incorrect information by the bank led to several monthly service fees being taken from the savings account. These have been reversed, but needed account levels still need to be examined. The Board gave the Treasurer the responsibility of making balance adjustments with recommendations to FYI the rest of the Board via email.

Ducks Unlimited Sponsorship – discussion moved around to decide if it is fair to have only a sponsorship from a single region, or if there is a more equitable way to work with Duck Unlimited and have more than a partial-state representation with the sponsorship. Morlock will talk with the western region to see what they can do for us without requiring us to buy a \$310 sponsorship. The Board realized there are a lot of intangibles, but the sponsorship doesn't benefit local chapters as much as it benefits the national Ducks Unlimited organization with only a trickle-down effect to the local chapters.

Correspondence Received

- Response to letter sent by Morlock asking Representative Stephanie Herseth why she supported oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Her response was that drilling in the refuge is part of a comprehensive energy plan that will reduce our dependence on foreign oil.
- Senator Tim Johnson's response was that he would continue to oppose drilling in the refuge.
- There was no response from Senator John Thune, but it is clear from his vote in the senate on the issue that he supports drilling in the refuge.
- Pheasants Forever thank you letter for \$500 contribution for their Leopold Education Project.
- Megan Hall thank you letter for her graduate student award.

Wind Turbines

Board reviewed notes to see who were potential wind turbine group members. The names of Ken Higgins, Alyssa Kiesow, Natalie Gates, Diane Mann-Klager, Pete Bowman came up. Morlock will ask Bowman to serve as chair. None of these individuals have been contacted yet. Task given to the group could be to gather available information on turbines to maybe develop a best placement strategy and potentially include recommendations for mitigation. Item for

newsletter would be asking for additional volunteers to serve on the committee.

Past President Pins

The past-president pins are till lost. Griffin will start looking into where these pins may be. There should be a medium-sized manila envelope with around 25 pins in it.

Correspondence Sent

- None reported outside of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge drilling letters.

New Business

Requests for Funding

Becoming an Outdoors woman (BOW): Chad Tussing, Fundraising coordinator, sent letter asking for funding. Last year the SDTWS gave \$500. Board questioned at what point do some organizations become self-sustaining? BOW is a good organization, provides a great program that the SDTWS has supported for years. Questions were raised about the accountability of the SDTWS money and what it is used for. Tussing was called; found money is used for costs of supplies (not food, lodging, or facility) and instructor expenses and travel. The South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks is another sponsoring agency, BOW is fairly self-supporting, and loss of SDTWS money would not bind BOW too much. The South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks would likely pick up the slack, but BOW likes the partnerships. There is no time limit on receiving the money, the conference is held September 16-18, 2005. Ten half-priced scholarships are made available, four for South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks staff, these costs absorbed. Griffin moved to provide \$200. Flanders-Wanner seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Pheasants Forever Leopold Education Project: Last year the SDTWS gave \$500. The request for this year is \$1,000 (same as last year). Consideration on this request is that Pheasants Forever provided the 2005 SDTWS banquet speaker for free. Griffin moved to provide \$300 scholarship and \$200 for training materials. Hubers seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Website Update

Need pictures for awards, Griffin has write-ups for the awards. Griffin will contact Bessken on all updates. Several areas need updating. Group decided that immediate Past-president should take on duties of updating website after each annual meeting.

Chapter History

Cara Staab and Corey Huxoll are willing to take co-chair positions and have been given Ron Fowler's contact information. (Fowler is most recent Chapter Historian Chair.)

New Award - Law Enforcement Case of the Year

Morlock proposed new award, modeled after the North Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society. After much discussion, group did not come to consensus and will look further into this proposed award.

Jane Goodall visit to South Dakota

Dr. Jane Goodall will arrive in Watertown on September 3 and stay the night and will visit the "Roots and Shoots" people. She will give a free lecture at the Watertown auditorium on September 4, and will travel to Rapid City the next day. Her normal speaking fee is \$50,000, which will be waived for these engagements.

2006 Annual Meeting

The 2006 SDTWS annual meeting will again be held at Cedar Shores, Oacoma. The group will examine options for a breakfast buffet. Jensen and Morlock spoke with the hotel, and next year

the double occupancy room prices will not be double the single room prices and the federal and state room rates will be different.

Program - Lefaiave and Mann proposed a half-day theme on collaborations. Flanders-Wanner would like to see a single talk and then perhaps have non-game (birds) talks with North Dakota and South Dakota projects.

Registration Fee Adjustment – Group will look into increasing the registration fee to match the new state per diems. The group will revisit this idea at the next meeting.

SDTWS Newsletter

Andy Lindbloom asked a question if there was a proposal to put the fee-hunting resolution into the newsletter for review. The group did not have a consensus on what should be done or what the group agreed to previously. Flanders-Wanner will check her original notes to see exactly what was written, Griffin will look on website and contact Lindbloom regarding the status of this project.

Next issue – Awards write-ups and pictures (Griffin), unapproved business meeting minutes (Smith), Committee Chair updates (Griffin), 2005 CMPS and National meeting information (Hubers), Contact Committee chairs for committee updates (Griffin), announcement for 2006 meeting and call for papers and Board candidates (Flanders-Wanner), President’s message and contact editor for due dates (Morlock).

Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting was set for August 24, 2005, at 6:00 pm at the Foss Building in Pierre, South Dakota. Flanders-Wanner moved to adjourn, seconded by Hubers. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Art Smith
Secretary/Treasurer, SDTWS

Sylvatic Plague Outbreak Threatens Prairie Dogs and Black-footed Ferrets

Sylvatic plague has recently been detected in a prairie dog town in Shannon County, South Dakota. This has provoked a crisis due to the proximity of the outbreak to the Conata Basin/Badlands Recovery Area, the site of the only self-sustaining black footed ferret population in the world. If plague moves into the Conata Basin, it would likely wipe out the large prairie dog complexes found there and thus destroy the ferret population.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture - Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service, South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks and the National Park Service have determined a course of action to protect the basin. This involves application of the insecticide deltamethrin (Delta Dust) in key prairie dog towns in the basin. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service will be the primary agencies involved with support from the South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks and the National Park Service. Nearly all of the 5,000 acres planned for treatment are on U.S. Forest Service land.

Eddie Childers, Grassland Committee Chair

2006 SDTWS Annual Meeting

Plans are underway for the 2006 annual meeting of the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society. It'll be easy to find, as once again it will be held at the Cedar Shore Resort and Convention Center in Oacoma. Please take a moment to mark the 6th through the 8th of March 2006 on your calendar and keep those dates open to attend this meeting. A total of 126 individuals attended the 2005 meeting and we hope that number will be surpassed in 2006. I am still looking for candidates for the positions of President-elect and one board member. If you are interested, or know someone that may be interested, please send me an e-mail or give me a call. I look forward to hearing from those of you with an interest in getting more involved with SDTWS. I would also like to take this opportunity to invite any of you with an interest in presenting during the general paper or student paper sessions to contact me with your presentation subject and/or title. It's never too early to get on the list. The special session will focus on non-game birds, so if you are currently conducting research or a collaborative project in that arena, you may want to consider participating in the special session. I am also looking for a dynamic speaker for the banquet. If you know or have heard someone that is entertaining and has a good message to present, I'd really appreciate the lead.

SDTWS President-elect, Bridgette Flanders-Wanner

2005 The Wildlife Society Annual Meeting

The 2005 Wildlife Society Annual Meeting will be held in Madison, Wisconsin from September 25-29, 2005. The registration fee for Wildlife Society members is \$339, non-members \$409, student members \$149, student non-members \$189, retired members \$149 and retired non-members \$189. Information on hotel accommodations can be found at the the Wildlife Society web page at www.wildlife.org. Below is listed the highlights of the conference. Further information can be obtained at the TWS web page.

Plenary

- Following Leopold's Footsteps: Six Decades After A Sand County Almanac

Workshops

- Introduction to R: Free Software for Statistics and Graphics
- Citizen Science and Wildlife Management: Opportunities and Challenges
- Urban Wildlife Management Issues in Madison, Dane County, Wisconsin
- ArcGIS 9.x Basics
- Spatial Modeling with ArcGIS ModelBuilder/Scripting
- Wildlife Investigator Series: Total Instructional Packages for Your Next K-12 Presentation
- Chronic Wasting Disease in Wisconsin

Symposia

- Diseases in Wildlife Populations: Challenges for Science and Management
- Statistics, Logistics, and Estimation of Detectability from Aerial Surveys
- Advances in Reptile and Amphibian Conservation
- Managing Western National Parks of North America for Ecological Integrity
- Birds in Changing Grassland Landscapes: Ecological and Management Implications
- Wildlife Habituation: Advances in Understanding and Management Applications
- Bird Conservation on North American Shrublands, Grasslands, and Pasturelands
- Gray Wolf Recovery in the Western Great Lakes Region
- Habitat Selection and Fitness Estimates: Implications for Wildlife Management
- CRP Mid-Contract Management and Benefits for Wildlife
- Unmanned Aircraft in Natural Resource Research and Management
- Kernel Methods in Space Use Analyses
- The Importance of Extended Field Programs (Summer Camps) to Undergraduate Education: Benefits and Limitations
- Observational Studies: When You Can't Control Nature
- Managing Aviation-Wildlife Conflicts: Challenges for the Wildlife Profession
- Habitat Conservation Accomplishments of the Farm Bill
- The Role of Professional Development in the Wildlife Profession
- Critical Wildlife Health Issues in North America
- Integrated Ecological Science in Central Yellowstone
- Overview and Treatment of Spatial Errors in GIS Applications
- State Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategies

Special Poster Sessions

- Wildlife Toxicology
- Citizen Science and Wildlife Management: Opportunities and Challenges

Contributed Papers and Posters

- Ecology and Conservation of Birds
- Ecology and Conservation of Mammals
- Ecology and Conservation of Reptiles and Amphibians
- Conservation of Communities, Ecosystems, and Landscapes
- Wildlife-Habitat Relationships
- Wildlife Population Dynamics and Management
- Wildlife Damage Management
- Human Dimensions, Conservation Education, and Conservation Policy
- Wildlife Diseases and Toxicology
- Biometrics in Wildlife Management
- New Technology in Wildlife Management

Changes in TWS Publications

To avoid misunderstanding among members about changes in TWS publications over the next two years, TWS Council prepared the following brief synopsis.

We encourage you to come to the annual meeting in Madison, (Sunday, 25 September to Thursday, 29 September), where there will be ample opportunity to learn more about these changes at the Members' Forum on Monday morning and Coffee with Council on Wednesday morning. Deadline for early registration is this Friday, 26 August.

Several years in the making, the changes in TWS publications are based on a solid foundation of information-gathering, analysis, and deliberation. Council had Cornell University do a survey of a representative number of our members as to what they wanted in publications. In addition, we did a separate survey of the non-TWS members of state chapters. Added to that was an External Review of TWS, done by a team led by Jim Fleming in 2004. In addition to these investigations, we also discussed a business plan with Alliance Communications Group (ACG), which is affiliated with Allen Press, a long time printer of our journals and many others in the biological and medical fields. ACG informed us that our library subscriptions were priced well below the norm, and that our citation rates were low compared to other journals in the natural resources and conservation fields.

TWS makes money off of our publications, mostly from library and non-member subscriptions. That is common among scientific publications. Our citation rate is low principally, we believe, because we have not been available online. We have now signed a contract with ACG to co-publish our journals. The journals are still ours, and we are responsible for the content, but ACG will take over many tasks associated with publishing. Our journals will be available online to individual subscribers via a user name and password, and to institutional subscribers.

All refereed articles will be published in the new JWM. That means JWM will have to be more versatile and broader in coverage - and will accept articles on such topics as techniques, wildlife damage control, wildlife diseases, human dimensions, teaching wildlife, and wildlife economics, to mention a few. The format will be changed to a larger size page and color cover. There will be 8 issues a year. We have not determined the title of the new JWM, but it will probably contain some combination of the words, wildlife, conservation, management, and maybe science and/or ecology. TWS will hire and pay a full-time Editor-in-Chief for this journal, and he/she will have Associate Editors as before. ACG will take over copyediting, layout, and other things now done at TWS, as well as marketing to libraries (called "bundling" with other journals), all subscriptions and billing.

Wildlife Monographs will also be available electronically, and ACG will provide similar services for it. Because the cost of producing WM is borne by the authors, we are doing an analysis to ensure that the authors are not over-charged.

The new "magazine" will be a combination of the WSB and *The Wildlifer*. It will look something like *Fisheries*, *Rangelands*, or one of the other conservation magazines. TWS will hire a

full-time or 1/2-time Editor-in-Chief, who will have an Editorial Board to review articles. The Editor will solicit articles, perhaps on themes. Quite likely, there will be regular sections, such as editorials, notes from the field, new techniques, book reviews, chapter news, information from working groups, and policy information previously found in *The Wildlifer*. Content will evolve to meet member needs and desires. Again, ACG will handle copyediting, marketing, advertising, and subscriptions. There will be 6 issues a year – a print copy will go to ALL TWS members as a part of membership! A name has not been chosen for this new magazine; but, based on responses to President Lancia's call in his Presidents' Podium, *The Wildlife Professional* is a 3 to 1 favorite over *The Wildlife Practitioner*.

These new publications will first appear in January 2007. In the meantime, ACG will do a survey of members as to what they want to see in our new magazine. During 2006, we will prepare for the change by hiring Editors-in-Chief to work with our current WSB and JWM editors, Terry Messmer and Mike Morrison, and to modify the formats so that all refereed articles have the same format by the end of 2006. As you know, we have a backlog of about 100 articles in JWM, so in 2006 subscribers will get 5 issues of WSB, and 6 issues of JWM - with no increase in subscription price!

At present the price will be \$25 for either JWM or WSB in 2006 for the electronic version, and an additional \$15 each for the printed copy. In 2007 the subscription price will actually go down, and issues will be larger and come more often. The new magazine will be "free." Those that subscribe to the new peer review journal will pay \$40 for electronic and \$20 if they want a print copy too. This amounts to about \$7.50 per issue (only \$5.00 for electronic only) in 2007 for two quality publications versus \$7.75 per issue for JWM plus \$7.00 per issue for WSB or \$14.75 per issue for both in 2005. Sounds like a win-win.

This is of course a major change for our Society, and it has been a long time in coming. We have had overwhelming support from the members as they have heard about the planned changes. Importantly, these changes will allow TWS to "plug some financial leaks" as well, and put our publications back on sound financial footing. We also expect to improve our citation rates.

Please feel free to send your comments to:

Dick Lancia
President, 2004-05
Richard_Lancia@nscu.edu

Bob Brown
TWS President – Elect
rdbrown@tamu.edu

South Dakota Chapter TWS - Executive Board

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South Dakota Chapter TWS - Standing Committees

Audit - Steve Griffin, Chairperson, 394-2391

Awards - Nora Kohlenberg, Chairperson, 773-4675

Conservation Review - Paul Coughlin, Chairperson, 773-4194

Education and Information - Laura Hubers, Chairperson, 947-4521

Membership - Chad Switzer, Chairperson, 605-353-6699

Program - Bridgette Flanders-Wanner, Chairperson, 352-5894

Nominations and Elections - Bridgette Flanders-Wanner, Chairperson, 352-5894

Resolutions and Public Statements - Dan Hubbard, Chairperson, 688-4780

South Dakota Chapter TWS - Special Committees

Arrangements - Cliff Stone 734-4530 & Steve Griffin 394-2391, Co-Chairs

Book Service - Bob Klaver, Chairperson, 594-6067

Certification - Pat Russel, Chairperson, 226-7587

Chapter History - Cara Staab 673-9347 & Corey Huxoll 773-41953, Co-Chairs

Fee Hunting and Ownership of Wildlife - Andy Lindbloom, Chairperson

Fish & Wildlife Diversity Funding Initiative - Eileen Dowd Stukel, Chairperson, 773-4229

Fund Raising - Tony Leif, Chairperson - 353-7145

Grassland Issues - Eddie Childers, 433-5263 & Boyd Shulz, 697-2500, Co-Chairs

Missouri River Issues - Vacant

Newsletter - Greg Pavelka, Editor, 402-667-2581

Nongame/Endangered Species - Eileen Dowd Stukel, Chairperson, 773-4229

Private & Public Land Management - Dennis Mann 394-2391 & Tom LeFaive 223-2316, Co-Chairs

Resource Activism - Chuck Dieter, Chairperson, 688-4555

Tribal Fish & Wildlife - Diane Mann-Klager, Chairperson, 226-7621

Wetlands - Kurt Forman, Chairperson, 697-2500

Wetlands and Waterbirds Recognition Honor Roll - John Koerner & Ken Higgins, 688-6121, Co-Chairs

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: Greg Pavelka at the Gavins Point Project, PO Box 710 Yankton SD 57078, or call 402-667-2581, or fax the information in at 402-667-2588. Email: Gregory.A.Pavelka@usace.army.mil

SOUTH DAKOTA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY
Application for Membership/Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: (Indicate Home or Work) _____

E-mail Address _____

Yes, please include my e-mail address in the SDTWS List Serve (a one-way, non-conversational list serve used on an infrequent basis solely to inform members about important conservation issues and legislation.

Yes, please use my e-mail address to send me the SDTWS newsletter electronically in place of mailing me my newsletter.

Please Check One: New Member 2005 Dues Renewal

Employer _____

Sponsor's Name

Send the completed application/renewal form and a check for \$10.00 (regular), \$6.00 (student) to: Art Smith, South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks, 523 East Capitol, Pierre SD 57501

Printed on Recycled Paper

50% Recycled (10% Post Consumer)

Return to:
Art Smith
SDGF
523 East Capitol
Pierre SD 57501