



Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society

"The mission of the Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society is to foster excellence in wildlife stewardship through science and education among wildlife professionals in Canada"

Newsletter

April 2013

Vol. 6, No. 2

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Evelyn Merrill, CSTWS President,
Professor, Department of Biological Sciences,
University of Alberta, , Edmonton, Alberta*



Although it might be trying to get here...spring has just not arrived everywhere (but is here on the BC coast!). Nonetheless, we are off to a great start this year...enthusiast new Executive Board members, our new CS logo approved, a new face (and efficiency) to the website, and starting to look toward our priorities. But before we move on I want to say a few thanks.

Kathreen Ruckstuhl served a much longer term as Canadian Section President than others in the past yet she never missed a beat. Thanks for your dedication, **Kathreen!** I applaud the **Alberta Chapter** for hosting the Joint Meeting of the Alberta Chapter and Canadian Section in Canmore, Alberta this year. As you will see below it was a success on many fronts and a thanks goes to all involved from both the Chapter and the Section. It's got me excited about attending next year's AGM, which looks like it will be in Quebec! **Darren Sleep** and **Orphé Bichet**, our co-conspirators, are literally cooking up some fun events already ...stay tuned! I again thank **Marci Trana** for her service as Secretary-Treasurer, a

position that does the lion's share of the work to keep us rolling with not enough recognition.

Art Rodgers has now served his first ~6 months as the CS Representative to Council and is on only 12 subcommittees is it, Art? He represents us well! Art also provides his Canadian Wildlife Clips, current wildlife issues that we post almost weekly on the CS website...check them out!

Moving forward... we also have incoming Committee Chairs who volunteer their time to serve you – please help them out.

Conservation Committee Chair, **Jim Allen**, is looking toward you, the membership, to bring forth wildlife issues we should consider for comment or active involvement.

Awards Committee Chair, **Michael Gillingham**, will encourage you to submit Canadian nominations for this year's TWS awards recognizing individuals and groups for their service. Start thinking now, get those deserving Canadians recognized!

CS Historian, **Merlin Shoesmith**, is starting to build a system to preserve our records keeping them accessible and up-to-date: maintaining our legacy alive while we move ahead.

Membership Coordinator, **Jenn Shepard**, needs each of you to recruit *just one new member* this year. We are shooting for having over 400 members before the Winnipeg Conference in 2015! She also is looking for someone with artistic flair/digital talents to brainstorm on a possible CS membership brochure.

Education Committee Acting Chair, **Art Rodgers**, has built a tremendous program including popular webinars. We are in need of a replacement; so let us know if you are willing to guide these important outreach activities.

Website & Newsletter. TWS has moved to a new website system and this is a time of change. Please give CS Website keepers **Matt Dyson** and **Kathreen Ruckstuhl** your input on how to make the networking through the website & newsletter work for you.

My challenge to you this year is to help us decide how to move forward into the next 5 years...what are our priorities and how can we make them realities for Canada? You will be hearing more from me on this over the next months!

CANADIAN SECTION REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT



Art Rodgers, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
(art.rodgers@ontario.ca)

So much has happened since our last newsletter, including our fantastic Canadian Section AGM in Canmore that was held jointly with the Alberta Chapter of TWS. There were many highlights of the AGM that I expect others will tell you about elsewhere in this newsletter so I will leave it to them and just again thank the members of the organizing committee for hosting such a great event, especially Evie Merrill, Dee Patriquin, Dave Hobson, Kathreen Ruckstuhl, Marci Trana and Jenn Sheppard. Bravo and Many Thanks!

As your Canadian Section Representative, the other major event since January was the mid-year TWS Council meeting held March 24th & 25th in conjunction with the 78th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in Arlington, Virginia. The agenda was packed as usual and much was accomplished but there is only enough space here for some of the highlights.

For most members of Council, the mid-year meeting was our first opportunity to meet with our new TWS Executive Director, Dr. Ken Williams, and what a great first impression he made! In less than a month he had familiarized himself with most of the operational and financial aspects of the organization and started to develop some ideas and suggestions for the future. There is no doubt that he will make important contributions to the development of our next TWS strategic plan over the coming months. Ken has also expressed immediate interest in helping the Canadian Section to expand and achieve its goals. He has offered to join in on the next Section Executive Board Conference Call to introduce himself

and seek input on what he can do to help – what a great start!

The mid-year meeting was also our first opportunity to meet Katie Edwards, our new TWS Professional Development Coordinator. She has the unenviable task of taking on the duties previously assigned to Shannon Pederson, who returned to graduate studies in January. Katie is now the “go to” person for Sections and Chapters, as well as coordinating the Certified Wildlife Biologist program. Katie has all the energy and enthusiasm needed for the job and is a valuable addition to the TWS headquarters team – give her a call – she’s there to help!

Among the various activities and new initiatives agreed on by Council at the mid-year meeting were a number of policy priorities for 2013 including; Climate Change and Adaptation, Endangered Species Recovery, Energy Development and Wildlife, Federal employee participation in professional societies, Funding for Wildlife Conservation and Management, Invasive Species Prevention and Management, North American Model / Public Trust Doctrine, Strategic Conservation Planning, Wetlands Conservation, and Wildlife Health. Although it is unlikely that all of these can be fully addressed, the Government Affairs staff will try to move forward on as many of these initiatives as they can in 2013. You can learn more about them at <http://wildlife.org/policy/priorities>, and feel free to contribute your comments and suggestions through the Canadian Section or directly to Laura Bies (laura@wildlife.org), Director of TWS Government Affairs.

To modernize and streamline member services at TWS headquarters, proceeds of the 2013 Investors Campaign will be dedicated to partially funding a new computer infrastructure and purchase of membership portal software. The new software will integrate many of the activities that member associations such as TWS are involved with including financial management, membership databases, conference registration; and it can provide virtual meetings for subunits and Council. It appears to be a very efficient and cost effective solution to TWS needs.

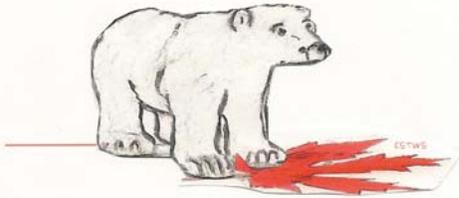
Council approved official status for the Renewable Energy Working Group and interim status for the Range Working Group and Wetlands Working Group. Subsequent to the mid-year meeting, the Wildlife Economics Working Group was suspended due to inactivity and inability to identify individuals to revitalize the working group.

Some of the other actions taken at the mid-year meeting were: at the urging of Council, TWS staff will be developing a plan for generating more frequent press releases on TWS journal papers that may have broad scientific and public interest; President Kessler initiated a plan to encourage more active collaboration with Mexican colleagues and members; the TWS fiscal year will be changed to start 1 July 2014; the Celebrate our Wildlife Conservation Heritage (COWCH) videos will be made available on the new online Retirees Center, and the Center’s content will be enhanced with content that’s relevant to TWS retirees.

Lastly, and a personal highlight for me, Council voted on the TWS Fellows nominations and I am very pleased to report that again this year a very deserving Canadian will be honoured as a TWS Fellow. If there is such a thing as “job satisfaction” from being your Section representative this is it! There is nothing more gratifying than seeing one of our Canadian colleagues get the recognition they deserve!

Since the mid-year Council meeting, work has continued on the various TWS subcommittees and a very important challenge has been met. With the help of the various Sections and Chapters, including a donation from the Canadian Section, and very generous support from the Dallas Safari Club, the Leadership Institute reached their fundraising target and will be able to offer the program again this year. Moreover, I have recently heard that for the first time two Canadians are among those chosen by the committee for this year’s class – congratulations! We look forward to hearing about your experiences with the program and hope your success will encourage more Canadians to participate in the future.

In closing, I want to tell you about a new TWS fund-raising initiative. As of April 10, TWS is an Amazon Associate. This will allow TWS to gain broader awareness of our own products, increase sales to include various types of merchandise commonly purchased by wildlifers, and realize income through a sales commission on Amazon.com purchases that are accessed through the TWS website. By clicking on <http://wildlife.org/amazon>, TWS will receive a commission for everything you buy at Amazon at no extra charge to you. The more you buy, the higher the commission rate for TWS. So, if you plan on making a purchase from Amazon, make sure to access their site using the link above or available on the TWS website. Wish we had this last Christmas! Don’t forget Mother’s Day is coming up! Happy Shopping!



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CANADIAN SECTION NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Joint Meeting of the
Alberta Chapter &
Canadian Section of
The Wildlife Society

Annual Conference
8-10 March 2013
Canmore, Alberta



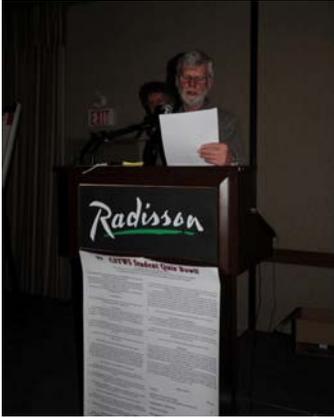
Joint Meeting of the Alberta Chapter and Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society

The Canadian Section owes their thanks to the Alberta Chapter of the Wildlife Society for a an amazing job in hosting the Joint Meeting of the Alberta Chapter and Canadian Section held in Canmore, AB on 8-10 March 2013. A total of 170 participants attended with 200 at the banquet dinner. Among them were our special guests The Wildlife Society’s current President Wini Kessler and Vice

President Rick Baydack, both Canadians.

Particularly exciting at the AGM this year was seeing the high number of students attending (over 70 students) who participated both in the Second Annual Canadian Conclave and Open Papers section of the meeting. Friday evening several student teams came all the way from British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and different parts of Alberta to compete in the Wildlife Quiz Bowl. As moderator, Art Rodgers (picture), Canadian Section Representative to TWS Council, guided the group through the event with the support of Jenn Sheppard, Garth Mowat, Kathreen Ruckstuhl and John Krebs, who keep the show running, and the astute Judges Margo Pybus, Rick Baydack and Dave Hobson, who kept us on track. There were tight matches, astounding questions, and some interesting non-North American skins and furs to identify. Prevailing in the end was the Student “Green Team” (see picture below) from Lakeland College consisting of members Tiffany Kjartanson, Conrad Taylor, Clayton Lamb (UBC Guest player), and Spencer Thome. Congrats!! As winners they were pitted in fun against a team of Professionals including James Allen, Michael Gillingham Evelyn Merrill and Nathan Webb, who barely could hold their own against this sharp group of young biologists. Congratulations to the

winners and we'll see you again next year for that rematch!!



This year's **PLENARY SESSION** focused on *Citizen Science: Can it lead to more with less in today's economy?* Speakers' perspectives ranged from those of practicing biologists to students. We heard from biologists who were just starting up citizen science programs like Jesse Whittington and colleagues' pika monitoring program in Banff National Park to those having worked with citizen science program over the long-term, like Bill Hunt, Resource Conservation Manager from Banff National Parks and Jane Wiedenhoft Program Manager with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (on the right in picture below), who now manages their citizen-based program for monitoring wolves.



Jane Wiedenhoft discussed the evolution of Wisconsin Dept. Natural Resources' citizen-based wolf monitoring program that was started in 1997.

We also heard from biologists like Tracy Lee, Miistakis Institute, Mark Boyce, University of Alberta, and Greg Breed, Harvard University on examples of how to work with citizens as examples of what has worked and not worked well. Glynnis Hood and students Morgyn Ramsay and Nick Yarmey gave inspired comments on what motivated them to promote citizen science efforts. The speaker comments set the stage for an excellent audience-panel dialogue that emphasized how you will manage volunteers from a logistics standpoint and how to adequately train volunteers for the work that they will be doing to provide reliable data and help with volunteer retention. But in the end, the discussion begged the questions: ...if we let citizens do this work, does it say that trained biologists are easily replaceable? What message do we give if we endorse this? These questions left us with some additional complexities that the road down our profession may have to consider in building citizen science programs. For those members wanting more details on the plenary session, we are working on posting videos of the speaker and panel discussion on the web site by the end of the summer.

Saturday evening, a fun time was had by all at the **AWARDS BANQUET**. After dinner Mike Gillingham, Awards Committee Chair, presented Dr. William Samuel with the TWS Distinguished Service Award.



The Award recognizes TWS members who have made a long-term commitment to the Society based on membership longevity and TWS service, a member who is/was "always there". Mike aptly praised Bill for his long-term, outstanding contributions to TWS, but also managed to regale us with the funny stories about shipping ticks through the mail that could only be the collaborative efforts of two moose biologists.

The **AUCTION** was a great success thanks to the dedicated efforts of volunteers under the leadership of Hugh Wollis and Lisa Wilkinson with folks opening their wallets to buy dances with our elite TWS members, hand-made knives and decoys, forays to trap lines and relaxing lake-side retreats, works of art, and a myriad of donations. The bar stayed open late and there was dancing to the rock'in tunes of the *High Point Bluegrass Band* late into the night.

In the **POSTER SESSION** on Saturday and the **OPEN PAPER SESSIONS** on Saturday and Sunday, there was an amazing array of topics addressed with crowds around posters and standing room only at some talks. As is becoming the norm, student papers are often the highlight, showing the diversity of skills and aptitudes that soon will be joining our professional ranks. This year we the **STUDENT AWARD WINNERS** for best presentations were Luis Cruz-Martinez, Jerod Merkle and best posters, Elisabeth Beck and Stephen Holly.

Elisabeth Beck and Stephen Holly with John Stadt.

Finally, there were some excellent entries into the **PHOTO CONTEST** with pictures evoking those thousands words or an overwhelming sense of beauty. This year's winners were: Top Choice for Canadian Landscape: Nick Briancomb, Wildlife: Alyssa Metro, Relationships with Nature: Sam Morris-Yasinski (photo), and People's Choice: Angela Rideout. Congratulations to all of you, and keep that camera close!



Sam Morris-Yasinski, winner of the Relationships with Nature category of the photo contest, with Dave Hobson.

AGM: The meeting closed with the CS AGM in which Merlin Shoemith gave an update on the planning of the TWS 2015 conference in Winnipeg, Art Rodgers, Canadian Representative to TWS council, shortly talked about TWS business, and Wini Kessler, President of TWS, was kind enough to give us an update on her presidency. Thank you all!



Wini Kessler, President TWS speaking at the CS AGM

Top left to right: Best Student Oral Presentation (pictures are ordered in that sequence): Luis Cruz-Martinez and Jerod Merkle with Ken Crutchfield; Bottom left to right: Best Student Poster Awards:

CONFERENCES AND NETWORKING: Networking with other professionals not just within your own province but across the country is one of the real advantages to being active in the Section. The joint meetings with provincial Chapters like occurred this year with Alberta is part of a long-standing tradition that evolved even before the Canadian Section was formed. Because of the Section's geographic spread it is often a challenge to regularly make it to these meetings. But as the Alberta Chapter has shown us, and other Provincial Chapters before them, these meetings cannot be beat for learning from our peers about the challenges they face. Across the Section we share common wildlife problems, but it is the synergisms of the solutions that make us stronger as wildlife profession. Networking within TWS helps us meet those challenges. We want to thank all the members of TWS who made this meeting possible and hope to see *you* all next year in Quebec!



The Wildlife Society 2015 Conference Update

*Merlin Shoemsmith, Manitoba Conservation
(retired)*

Manitoba Chapter Fun'd Raiser for TWS 2015

The Manitoba Chapter held a Fun'd Raiser on April 13, 2013, at the Hitch'N Post Ranch to have some fun and to help achieve our goal of raising the \$150,000 needed to successfully host the 2015 Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society. Over 140 ticket holders passed through the door and had a very enjoyable evening of auctions, draws and music. There were 34 silent auction stations for everybody plus another 13 devoted just to students. In addition, there were several card and heads or tails auctions and many door prizes awarded during the evening. Major prizes included two Jets tickets for the April 20th game against the NY Islanders, a signed L.A. Kings jersey by Mike Richards, a wildlife quilt with hummingbirds, 30 minute biplane rides (to be taken when the snow melts from the grass runway!) and a signed curling jersey by Team Jennifer Jones. These prizes were on top of all of the quality framed and unframed prints, photos, hunting and fishing equipment, books and other great donations made for this event. Music was supplied by Aime's Music. A very delicious late lunch with Beef on a Bun was served. By the end of the night a \$3200 profit was deposited to the savings account. This plus the \$25,000 that Manitoba Conservation has recently provided has given us a good start for our fund-raising campaign. We are also holding the Hitch'N Post in our plans for a major event during the 2015 Conference. Many thanks to all those involved with the organizing of this event, and in particular, Brian Kiss, Erin McCance, Jenna Black, Sarah Greenberg, Meagan Ross, Rob Officer, Don Sexton, Merlin Shoemsmith and Rick Baydack.



CSTWS Election Results

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new President Elect, Darren Sleep (left), and Vice President, Karla Guyn (right)



CHAPTER NEWS

Manitoba Chapter Winter-get-away

75 wildlife professionals and students took part in the Manitoba chapter's annual winter-get-away weekend which featured eight speaker presentations, five workshops on a variety of topics, a Friday night mixer and a "down home Manitoba social" on Saturday evening. Pictured are those in attendance at the social, toasting the **40th anniversary of the chapter** by sharing the spoils of the "perfume draw" won by chapter President Rob Officer. (Rob Officer)

Since the Chapter President won the rum bottle in the raffle, he made sure that we all stayed happy for the picture by pouring a shot into 60+ cups. It has been a great ride the first 40 years and will be even better the next 40. Cheers. (Merlin Shoesmith)



The photo was taken by Jesse Vanderhart. You might recognize some of them as they celebrated.

Manitoba Chapter- News from the Executive

Rob Officer, President, Manitoba Chapter

The Manitoba Chapter has been busy pursuing and implementing new initiatives while at the same time preparing for the 2015 conference.

The chapter and its members both past and present on celebrated the 40th anniversary of the chapter in 2013. Needless to say there have been many people responsible for the success of the organization during this time. However, most important were the charter

members, for without their vision, commitment and initiative there would not have been a chapter. These individuals were recognized at the Annual General Meeting for their efforts and as such are now recognized as honorary members of the chapter. They are; Bill Koonz, Brian Ransom, Pat Rakowski, Chuck Dixon, Wayne Cowan, Bruce Batt, Larry Bidlake, Merlin Shoesmith, Eugene Bossenmaier, Pat Caldwell, Bob Nero, Vince Crichton, Ray England, Herb Goulden, Bob Jones and James Shapiro.

The annual general meeting was a success with 75 people in attendance. The event consisted of the business portion of the meeting, a silent auction and guest speakers Jessica Lockhart and Dave Howerter. Of course we also acknowledged and celebrated the 40th anniversary of the chapter. There were five new members either elected or appointed by acclamation. Congratulations to Dennis Brannen of Manitoba Conservation who is President-Elect, C-Jae Morden of Joro Consultants who is Secretary-Treasurer, David Raitt of University College of the North who is the new Northern representative, Allyson Menzies as Graduate student representative, Karlyn McFadyen Undergraduate student representative. Executive members from this past year remaining with the executive include Rob Officer as President, Erin McCance as Past President, Tim Sallows as Member at Large and Don Sexton as Advisor to the Executive.

On the business side of the ledger the chapter executive has been exceptionally busy organizing, re-structuring, planning, and implementing new approaches and new initiatives with the intent of stabilizing the chapter financially, while at the same time providing an opportunity for growth. In order for this to occur portfolio chairs have been appointed, standard operating procedures for portfolios established, and capital and operating budgets, including reserve funds, have been established. The chapter is also pleased to announce a new Student Travel Award in the amount of \$500.00 for 2013.

I would like to thank the entire executive for their tireless commitment to the chapter and their guidance and support of me as we navigated through many issues and considerable change. As you can see this was a busy year and one that really didn't get started until September providing only 6 and half months of time to accomplish what they did. Many thanks and best wishes to Jenna Black, Shaun Greer, Brian Kiss, and Marianne Schutz who are leaving the executive.

Wishing everyone a safe and successful field season!

Trent University Student chapter news

Connor Fraleigh, President, Trent University Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society

I am very surprised and honoured to have received the Trent University Club Leadership Award for this year. Our club was nominated by one of the 70+ clubs at Trent for this award and was chosen to receive it. It has been a very busy but very successful year so far and I am proud of all that we as a chapter have accomplished. We have some pictures of the plaque and of us receiving the award, which are attached in this email.

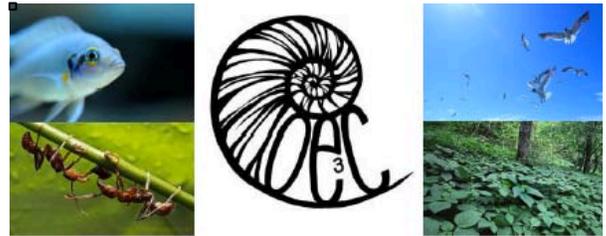
Some of the events that we've had recently have been our Social night with members from the Ministry of Natural Resources, a trip to Presqu'ile Provincial Park for the 37th Annual Waterfowl Viewing Weekend and the Species At Risk Act Webinar (another of which we are hosting today). I am also happy to report that we will have a full executive committee for the upcoming year, as I will be graduating in April of this year.

I would also like to mention that Courtney Mondoux, the former President, has been a tremendous amount of help this year with events and guidance. Please let me know if you would like to know any further information or would like pictures from the Waterfowl Viewing Weekend.



Top: Plaque and bottom: Connor Fraleigh (on the right) et al. at ceremony

UPCOMING MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS



Ontario Ecology, Ethology, and Evolution Colloquium

May 2-4, 2013 @ Western University
 London, Ontario
 Early Registration Closes April 1, 2013

Plenary Speakers

- Louis Lefebvre – McGill University
- Bryan Neff – Western University
- David Sherry – Western University
- Merritt Turetsky – Guelph University

Registration and Information at:
www.uwo.ca/biology/OE3C2013/

Western Science



Ecology Conference at Your Door Step

May 13-17th at Guelph University

The Ecology, Ethology and Evolution Section
 of the Canadian Society of Zoologists presents:

Invited EEE contributed paper session:

Breadth and Interaction of Ecological Disciplines From toxicology to behaviour to biodiversity... aspects of ecology.

- Dr. Patricia Gillis – contaminants/aquatic ecosystem recovery/bivalves (Environment Canada)
- Dr. Sigal Balshine – behaviour – stress/invasive species/reproduction (Mc Master University)
- Dr. Shelly Arnott – multiple stressors/biodiversity/dispersal of zooplankton (Queens University)

EEE Symposium

Linking Periods of the Annual Cycle in Migratory Animals to Understand Variation in Fitness and Population Dynamics

- Dr. Stuart Dutton – migration/foraging/conservation (Exeter)
- Dr. Steven Cooke – fish ecology/conservation biology (Carlton)
- Dr. Glen Crossin – homing salmon/physiological ecology (Dalhousie)
- Dr. Pierre Legendre – bird migration/resources/arctic ecosystem (UQ à Rimouski)



CSZ is an excellent venue for presenting new work, socializing and discussion.

Come, bring your ideas and coffee/beer mug. <http://cszmeeting.ca/2013/>
 Other photographic credits: wikipedia.com, nationalgeographic.com





Get Ready for ICCB 2013!



The Society for Conservation Biology is pleased to announce the **26th International Congress for Conservation Biology (ICCB)** will take place 21-25 July 2013 in historic and charming BALTIMORE, Maryland, USA!

Call for Abstracts for Contributed Oral, Speed with Poster, Poster, and Student Award Presentations. We are seeking abstracts for contributed oral, speed with poster, poster, and student award presentations. The deadline to submit your abstract is 30 January 2013. Visit the Call for Abstracts page of the ICCB website for complete instructions and to access the Abstract Management System. Decisions on submitted proposals will be made by 28 February 2013. We encourage proposals from individuals or groups involved in cutting edge conservation science or practice, especially those that can demonstrate an alignment with the theme of the congress: “Connecting Systems, Disciplines and Stakeholders.”

Baltimore, one of the oldest cities in the United States, is just 45 minutes from Washington, DC, two hours from Philadelphia, and three hours from New York City. It also sits on the Chesapeake Bay, the largest estuary in the United States, and home to numerous conservation-

related efforts in restoration, fisheries management, and the effects of urbanization and agriculture on watersheds and aquatic life. In addition to being served by nearby Baltimore-Washington International Airport, the city is within driving distance of two more airports that serve the greater Washington, DC area.

ICCB is the Society's premier event bringing together conservation scientists, students, and practitioners from around the world to present and discuss the latest conservation science, practice and policy. While the hallmark of each ICCB is its top notch lineup of symposia, workshops and short courses; what makes the Congress special is its emphasis on people and relationships, local culture, collegiality, and professional networking. SCB will continue this tradition at the 26th ICCB and looks forward to seeing you in "Charm City" 21-25 July 2013.



Early Announcement “Raptors of the Northwest Symposium” February 5-7, 2014

After the successful “Western Raptor Symposium, held in conjunction with The Wildlife Society’s (TWS’s) Western Section Annual Conference in Riverside, CA in 2011 (almost 200 attendees), I was asked by TWS to explore a similar symposium focused on the Northwest. It is my pleasure to announce and describe the “Raptors of the Northwest Symposium” to be held in conjunction with the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Washington Chapter of TWS and the 4th International Burrowing Owl Symposium. The specific dates for the Raptors of the Northwest Symposium are February 5-7, 2014; although, the other above events will overlap and/or extend past these dates. The venue will be the Red Lion, in Pasco, WA, which is ¼ mile from the Pasco Airport.

The geographic areas to be focused upon during the symposium are the NW U.S. states, including Alaska, and the Western Canadian Provinces. The habitats will, primarily, be the forested and shrub-steppe biomes; although, this is not fixed. The topical target will be the critical challenges to raptor conservation and management and relating research to those needs. Both diurnal and nocturnal birds of prey will be included. Specific topics that have been suggested thus far include:

- Urban growth/habitat loss

- Disturbance
- Mitigation
- Transportation infrastructure
- Limited funding
- Climate change
- Forestry/timber issues
- Migration and Dispersion
- How to effectively link research finding to management practices

Green energy is, clearly, an extremely important issue in the west but one that deserves its own symposium. Therefore, other than an overview paper, this subject will not likely be addressed.

We want there to be widespread and diverse geographical and organizational involvement and support from as many agency, academic, and NGO sectors as possible; so if you have suggested contacts, we would welcome them, of course.

Jeffrey L. Lincer, Ph.D.
Symposium Organizer
JeffLincer@gmail.com



JOBS IN WILDLIFE

Post Doctoral Appointment – Quantitative Ecologist

The United States Geological Survey is recruiting a post-doctoral scientist in quantitative ecology. Funding for this position is for 1 year, and is subject to renewal for up to an additional 3 years given sufficient availability of funding. Remuneration is US\$57,000, plus benefits. The post-doc will work with the principal investigator Wayne Thogmartin (USGS Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center) to model extinction risk in birds. The post-doc will be expected to develop models to estimate regional, national, and continental risk of extinction in birds, author and present results of research, and participate in grant and report writing. Applicants should possess strong skills in the R programming language, an understanding of Bayesian statistics and hierarchical methods, and experience publishing in peer-reviewed journals. Experience modeling wildlife populations, particularly the dynamics

of rare and declining species, is highly desirable. Interest in and experience with database development and wind energy is preferred but not a necessary condition for this position. The position is available as soon as a suitable candidate is found. The appointment will be at the Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center in La Crosse, WI.

To apply, please send a cover letter, curriculum vitae, and contact information for three references (preference is via e-mail, subject line as “Avian Extinction Risk Post-doc”) to:

Wayne E. Thogmartin
United States Geological Survey
Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center
2630 Fanta Reed Road
Onalaska, WI 54603
608-781-6309

wthogmartin@usgs.gov

Caribou Research Technicians

Location:

Fort St. John and Fort Nelson, British Columbia (BC), Canada

Job Description:

This announcement is for 3 positions lasting 4-5 months each to begin in early June and to end in mid-October, 2013, with one extended through mid-November (exact start dates/end dates to be determined). Salary is hourly (\$10.25/hour) with 1.5x overtime for greater than 40 hours per week. Monthly income can be expected to range from \$2,000-\$2,600 per month. This study involves data collection on foraging dynamics and nutrition using tame, captive caribou. Our primary goal is to increase knowledge of how habitat and habitat management influence the nutritional well-being of caribou.

We will construct temporary pens in different habitats and transport the caribou to the pens for data collection in remote areas in NE BC. The project is a collaborative study between the

University of Northern British Columbia (Prince George) and Canadian Operations of the National Council for Air and Stream Improvement (Montreal, QC). Technicians will be employed by NCASI-Canada. Technicians will measure forage abundance and forest overstory characteristics using standard vegetative sampling techniques on the boreal forests of NE British Columbia around Fort Nelson and northern Rocky Mountains between Prince George and Fort St. John. Duties also include assisting with pen construction, loading and moving the caribou, and feeding/caring for caribou. Technicians will be required to live in the woods with the tame caribou. “Living” with includes camping out near pens in remote areas. We will supply a travel trailer, tents, and camp stoves. Working conditions occasionally may be extreme. We will work 3-

to 3.5-week periods in the backcountry with few breaks. Early in the summer, biting insects can be relentless. Ambient temperatures in autumn can be cool, and extended bouts of precipitation should be expected. Work days often will be quite long. The study sites are located far from towns. The project does not provide living facilities during periods of time-off. Technicians must be flexible, but we will try to accommodate special needs for time off.

Qualifications:

Preference will be given to Canadians with an undergraduate degree or nearing completion of a degree in biology, animal science, or wildlife biology and/or suitable experience with identification of this region's flora. US citizens are also welcome to apply. Vehicles are supplied for work, but technicians must have a reliable vehicle to arrive at base facilities at Fort Nelson and Fort St. John. Travel will be on a mix of maintained and unimproved gravel and dirt roads. US citizens must have a valid passport and must have a Canadian work permit under NAFTA, and NCASI will assist with this process.

Benefits:

Workman's compensation.

Documentation Required:

A cover letter along with a resume showing relevant work and education experience is required (please include dates available to work in the cover letter!!). Please include GPA in the resume if you have attended university or college. Applicants should confirm that they have suitable transportation and identify their availability to work through mid-November. The resume should also include contact information for at least 3 references, preferably those associated with past work experience. No character references please. Please include email addresses and phone numbers for reference contact information. Please send application materials via email (preferred) or snail mail to:

Rachel Cook (rachierae@gmail.com)
PO Box 122, La Grande, OR 97850
541-963-9275 (office) or 541-910-4311 (cell)

MASTER OF SCIENCE

FELLOWSHIP / ASSISTANTSHIP

to begin the fall 2013 semester that would lead to a Master of Science from Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville Texas. The student chosen for this program will be required to complete course work and a thesis at Texas A&M University-Kingsville, as well as an assistantship in the Conservation Education Program at the Welder Wildlife Foundation located on the Welder Wildlife Refuge near Sinton, Texas. The student's thesis research will focus on investigating historical and current roles of women in the wildlife profession, and

the challenges women have faced in their careers. Fellowship stipend is \$14,000/yr plus \$900 insurance stipend.

The assistantship will be broken into 2 segments and completion of the graduate fellowship/ assistantship program will take approximately 3 years. The student will be on a Welder Wildlife Foundation Fellowship while at the university and on salary while at the Welder Foundation. Housing will be provided while working at the Welder Foundation.

As an assistant in the Welder Foundation's Conservation Education Program, the graduate student will help plan and conduct on-site and outreach education and training programs for public school and university students, and will assist the Education Program Coordinator with programs for adults and teachers. The graduate student will also assist with workshops, field days, symposia, public tours, preparation of educational materials, and maintenance of museum displays and biological collections.

Applicants must have a B.S. or B.A. degree in a biology-related field (e.g., Wildlife Biology, Ecosystem Science, Natural Resource Management, Zoology, etc.), and minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0 and combined GRE score of 1100 (300 on GRE new scale). A strong background in wildlife or range ecology, conservation, and management is important. Ideal candidates would have excellent written and interpersonal skills, a strong work ethic, and sincere interest in education and working with people.

To apply, please send the following materials via email attachment to Dr. Selma Glasscock, sglasscock@welderwildlife.org <<mailto:sglasscock@welderwildlife.org>>: (1) Cover letter explaining career goals, academic interests, and preferred sub-disciplines of study, highlighting relevant experience, (2) a resume, (3) names/addresses/email for three references, and (4) GPA and GRE scores (unofficial ok).

Deadline for applications is May 30, 2013.

To apply or for further information please contact:
Dr. Selma Glasscock, Assistant Director
Welder Wildlife Foundation
P.O. Box 1400
Sinton, TX 78387
Email: sglasscock@welderwildlife.org



Opportunité de projet de maîtrise

Évaluation des effets de l'aménagement écosystémique sur le caribou de la Gaspésie et son habitat



La population de caribou de la Gaspésie, isolée au sud du fleuve Saint-Laurent, est considérée en voie de disparition depuis 2000 et a récemment été identifiée comme l'une des 12 populations significativement distinctes à conserver à titre d'élément de biodiversité irremplaçable au Canada. Elle est aujourd'hui estimée à ~110 individus et depuis quelques années le recrutement annuel est inférieur à la cible d'autosuffisance. Malgré cela, très peu d'études ont été réalisées afin de mieux comprendre l'écologie de cette population. En parallèle, le ministère des Ressources naturelles du Québec (MRN) a récemment amorcé un virage vers l'aménagement écosystémique qui s'appuie sur des pratiques sylvicoles alternatives telles que les coupes à rétention variable; le caribou de la Gaspésie apparaît comme une espèce indicatrice unique permettant d'en évaluer l'efficacité.

Avec différents partenaires, l'Université du Québec à Rimouski (UQAR) coordonne depuis quelques années un programme de recherche visant à étudier cette population. Notre équipe est composée de **Martin-Hugues St-Laurent** (UQAR – Laboratoire de gestion de la faune terrestre), **Fanie Pelletier** (U. Sherbrooke – Chaire de recherche du Canada en démographie évolutive & conservation), **Chris Johnson** (UNBC – Natural Resources & Environmental Studies Institute), **Luc Sirois** (UQAR – Chaire de recherche sur la forêt habitée) et **Julien Mainguy** (MDDEFP – Direction de l'expertise sur la faune et ses habitats).

Nous sommes à la recherche de candidat(e) intéressé(e) à débiter le projet suivant :

- 1) **Maîtrise**: Évolution du couvert forestier dans l'habitat du caribou de la Gaspésie au cours des dernières décennies. Début en septembre 2013 ou janvier 2014 à l'UQAR; directeur : M.-H. St-Laurent, co-directeur : L. Sirois.

Exigences :

- Être **très motivé et déterminé** à mener à terme des études gradués et à **publier ses travaux**;
- Maîtriser le français et avoir des connaissances suffisantes de l'anglais (lire et si possible écrire);
- Aimer le **travail en équipe** et être ouvert à la **collaboration**;
- Avoir de l'expérience en analyses statistiques (R) et géomatiques (ArcGIS) est un atout important;
- Avoir un **bon dossier académique**. Si ce n'est déjà fait, des demandes de bourses au FQRNT, au CRSNG et au programme EnviroNord devront être soumises dès l'automne 2013. L'obtention d'une bourse n'est toutefois pas considérée essentielle à l'acceptation de votre candidature.

Procédure : Si vous êtes intéressé(e) ou désirez obtenir des précisions sur certains projets, envoyez votre CV (avec les coordonnées téléphoniques et le courriel d'au moins 2 références), un relevé de notes et une lettre de motivation expliquant quel projet vous intéresse **avant le 24 août 2013** à :

Martin-Hugues St-Laurent, Université du Québec à Rimouski (martin-hugues_st-laurent@uqar.ca)
(page web : <http://www.uqar.ca/biologie/professeurs/st-laurent-martin-hugues/>)



Opportunité de projet de maîtrise en écologie animale

Détermination des impacts respectifs de la perte et de la fragmentation de la forêt mature sur l'écologie spatiale des grands mammifères

Dans le cadre de mon programme de recherche traitant des impacts des perturbations anthropiques sur la faune, je suis à la recherche d'un(e) candidat(e) intéressé(e) à débiter une maîtrise visant à déterminer et quantifier les impacts respectifs de la perte et de la fragmentation de la forêt mature sur l'écologie spatiale des grands mammifères en utilisant des outils tels que la sélection d'habitat, l'utilisation de l'espace et la simulation de paysages.

Le changement de paradigme qui sous-tend le régime forestier québécois vise à réduire l'importance de la conversion des forêts matures en jeunes forêts, et a résulté en une grande variabilité de taille, forme et configuration des forêts matures résiduelles ainsi que des parterres de coupes. Ces matrices de paysages aménagés voient donc s'opérer différentes intensités de perte et de fragmentation des forêts matures, et peu d'études se sont intéressées à en distinguer les impacts respectifs, particulièrement sur les grands mammifères. Ce projet de maîtrise s'articule autour de bases de données issues du suivi télémétrique de caribou forestier (*Rangifer tarandus caribou*) et de ses principaux prédateurs, soit le loup gris (*Canis lupus*), l'ours noir (*Ursus americanus*) et le coyote de l'est (*Canis latrans*), entre le Saguenay – Lac-Saint-Jean, la réserve faunique des Laurentides, le Bas-Saint-Laurent et la Gaspésie.



Le (ou la) candidat(e) retenu(e) à l'Université du Québec à Rimouski, sera supervisé(e) par Martin-Hugues St-Laurent (UQAR, laboratoire de gestion de la faune terrestre) et profitera de l'expertise de précieux collaborateurs du Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement, de la Faune et des Parcs du Québec (Christian Dussault, Direction de l'expertise sur la faune et ses habitats, et Claude Dussault, Direction de l'expertise Énergie-Faune-Forêts-Mines-Territoire du Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean).

Exigences :

- Être **très motivé et déterminé** à mener à terme des études gradués et à **publier ses travaux**;
- Avoir de l'expérience en analyses géomatiques (ArcGIS) et en statistiques (SAS, R) est un atout;
- Maîtriser le français et avoir des connaissances suffisantes de l'anglais (lire et si possible écrire);
- Aimer le **travail en équipe** et être ouvert à la collaboration; il n'y a pas de travaux de terrain prévus pour ce projet, mais l'étudiant(e) pourra prendre part aux travaux d'autres étudiants pour passer quelques semaines sur le terrain, dans les diverses aires d'études du laboratoire.
- Avoir un **bon dossier académique**. Si ce n'est déjà fait, des demandes de bourses au FQRNT (date limite : 3 octobre 2013) ou au CRSNG (date limite : 15 octobre 2013) devront être soumises cet automne. **La priorité sera donnée aux étudiants boursiers pour ce projet de recherche mais il ne s'agit pas d'un incontournable.** L'entrée en fonction est souhaitée en septembre 2013 ou janvier 2014.

Procédure : Si vous êtes intéressé ou désirez obtenir des précisions sur certains projets, envoyez votre CV (avec l'adresse postale et le courriel d'au moins 2 références), un relevé de notes et une lettre de motivation expliquant quel projet vous intéresse **avant le 24 août 2013** à :

Martin-Hugues St-Laurent, Université du Québec à Rimouski (martin-hugues_st-laurent@uqar.ca)
(page web : <http://www.uqar.ca/biologie/professeurs/st-laurent-martin-hugues/>)



Field technician in road ecology/wildlife passages and American marten

Agency: Concordia University, Montréal, Quebec, Canada
 Location: Laurentides Wildlife Reserve, Quebec
 One field technician position is available about the effectiveness of mitigation measures at roads for small and medium-sized mammals (road ecology/wildlife passages and American marten)
 Job Description: A funded field technician position (for up to 3 years) is available at Concordia University in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, to support research into the effectiveness of wildlife passages and fences along roads for small and medium-sized mammals. The widening of highway 175 between Québec City and Saguenay has been one of the largest road expansion projects in Canada during the last 5 years. The region is important habitat for many wildlife species since the road runs through the Réserve Faunique des Laurentides and is adjacent to the Parc de la Jacques-Cartier. There is increasing concern about the reduction in connectivity for wildlife across roads. Connectivity is important for many ecological processes such as access to resources on both sides of the roads, gene flow across the road, dispersal of subadults, source-sink dynamics, and predator-prey dynamics. 33 new wildlife passages have been constructed which are the first designated wildlife passages for small and medium-sized fauna in Quebec. There is an urgent need to evaluate their performance for a variety of species to inform management with regard to the implementation of wildlife passages along other highways. This project is part of a larger project about the effectiveness of mitigation measures (in collaboration with A. Clevenger and A. Desrochers and others). Further information can be found on this website: <http://gpe.concordia.ca/faculty-and-staff/jjaeger/>
 Tasks and qualifications: We are looking for a motivated and enthusiastic field technician who has a solid background in handling small and medium-sized mammals in the field. Tasks will include: - participate in capture-mark-recapture study of American martens, - VHF telemetry on American martens, - baiting and luring infrared cameras to monitor American marten and other meso-carnivores, - monitoring wildlife passages with infrared cameras, - species identification (photos, tracks) - running wildlife track stations (track boxes) around wildlife passages, - wildlife mortality survey along highway, - snow tracking in winter. The field technician will be expected to work in the field on most days, under sometimes inclement weather conditions. Skill of using GPS and orienting in the field is essential. This work will best be done by someone who has organized and done fieldwork before, knows the challenges and can carry out the work properly. A minimum of a technical degree in Environment and/or Wildlife Management

(e.g., Cegep) or a BSc degree in Biology is required; a MSc degree would be an advantage. Strong preference will be given to applicants who speak French.
 Work Environment: The fieldwork will be conducted in the Réserve Faunique des Laurentides between Quebec City and Saguenay. Fieldwork will be conducted over 6 to 8 months each year. Funding support: This position is fully funded for 6 to 8 months each year, for up to three years (and potentially longer if the project is extended). Accommodation during the time of fieldwork is provided.
 To apply: Please send your application to: Dr. Jochen Jaeger Concordia University Department of Geography, Planning and Environment 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W., Suite H1255 Montréal, Quebec, Canada H3G 1M8 or by email: jochen.jaeger@concordia.ca Please include in your application your CV, your transcripts, three references (including phone number and email addresses), and a letter of interest that describes your background and your motivation for this project. One or two letters of recommendation would be very welcome (but are not required). Applications are welcome **no later than May 3rd**; they will be looked at immediately and the position will be filled as soon as possible. Start date **May 27**.



Jobs are advertised on our Canadian section website and in the newsletter. If you have jobs to offer, please send your job advertisements to Kathreen Ruckstuhl at kruckstu@ucalgary.ca



A beaver at work...



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Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society

"The mission of the Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society is to foster excellence in wildlife stewardship through science and education among wildlife professionals in Canada"

2013 Membership Application

The Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society invites you to join or renew your membership for 2013-2014. To join or remain a member for the upcoming year, please fill out this application form and mail it along with your dues to the address below. If you are joining, be sure to list the member that referred you!

You also have the option to join the Canadian Section when you renew your membership through TWS International (see link below). In order for the member who referred you to get credit, you must send an email to marcitrana@gmail.com stating your name and the name of the person that referred you.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Affiliation: _____

Name of member that referred you: _____ Member # (if renewing): _____

Annual Membership Dues: **\$10.00 (CDN/US)**

Please make payment out to: Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Executive Board or involved in one of our standing Committees please indicate:

- | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Executive Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation Affairs Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Awards Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter/Website |

Please mail membership form and dues to:

Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society
% Jenn Sheppard
P. O. Box 248, Prud'homme, SK, S0K 3K0

To renew or join online visit TWS's secure website at: <http://store.wildlife.org/scriptcontent/index.cfm>
If you only want to sign up for the Canadian Section visit the CSTWS's secure website at: <http://flash.lakeheadu.ca/~arodgers/cstws/>
If you have any questions please feel free to contact Jenn Sheppard by phone (306 654-2040) or email (sheppard15_j@hotmail.com)