



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 2014

Vol. 7, No. 2

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Darren Sleep
Senior Forest Ecologist
NCASI

Out of the frying pan - into the fire.

When I was asked to put my name in to run as President-elect of the Canadian Section, I thought, "Sure, why not?" Frankly it was an honour to be considered - but

I did not expect to get the job! When I was asked to help plan and host the Canadian Section annual conference and general meeting at the Université Laval, I thought, "No problem - how much work could that be?" Then, at the end of the AGM on March 30, Evelyn Merrill laid out the work ahead for the Section, handed me the gavel and said, "Good luck!" But I have more than luck to work with. I have the legacy of my colleagues before me, a great team of people to work with now, and a Section full of engaged members ready to roll up their sleeves and get to work.

First to the legacy: I would like to acknowledge the hard work that Evie has done over the past year to manage and grow the Section and to keep pushing us to look to the future while we work to address issues important to the membership and the wildlife profession as a whole. I have big shoes to fill. I also need to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of those - there are too many to name here - who have worked at the executive and committee level to make the Section what it is today. Last but certainly not least, I want to thank all those who call themselves members of our little community across the country, and make a point of reading the newsletter, attending the annual meeting when they can, and participate in the section. Our Section is strong - and getting stronger - because of you. And there is always more to be done (more on that in a bit).

For those who made the trek to Quebec City in March, my hats off to you. The weather was...challenging, with lots of cold blowing snow (blizzards!) to mark the start and finish of the meeting. However, the atmosphere at the meeting was nothing short of warm and inviting, and a good and productive time was had by all who attended (see the meeting overview later in this newsletter). It is worth mentioning that the executive has already begun discussing plans for next year, possibly to be held in Winnipeg as a prelude to the 2015 TWS Annual Conference. Stay tuned...

Speaking of meetings, if you are reading this you should be aware that the upcoming TWS Annual Conference is planned for **October 25-30, 2014 in Pittsburgh, PA**. Like all TWS meetings, this is an excellent opportunity to learn and think about current wildlife science and management issues, to network with colleagues across North America, and to have a great time within your profession. Nothing energizes me like the TWS Annual Conference, and it's always good to see fellow Canadians attending (and look for the Canadian reception!). It's also worth noting that the next meeting in 2015 will be held on our Section's home soil, in Winnipeg, MB, October 17-22, 2015. It might seem like a long way off, but plans are already underway, and there is plenty of ways to get involved (see TWS 2015 update, this newsletter).

So what will the Section be up to over the next year? Excellent question. Thanks to all those who filled out the **CANADIAN SECTION PLANNING SURVEY**. We have been pouring over the results to determine where we should be focusing to make the Section stronger and more useful to our membership. A number of priorities seem to be floating to the surface. Evelyn Merrill has been working hard to summarize the results, and presents some of them below. From this work we will craft our plans going forward; you spoke, and we are listening.

And the work continues. We are currently seeking involvement with the Section for a number of key roles. The Conservation Affairs Committee (*Jim Allen*, Chair) continues to keep watch for issues of relevance to wildlife management that we can assist with. If there is something you feel strongly about, please let us know. The Education Committee (*Meagan Hainstock*, Chair) is working on a list of webinars for this year. The Awards Committee, having finalized a lifetime achievement award for the Section, is now looking to

receiving and evaluating nominations. We are also on the lookout for someone to sit as the Section Representative on the Editorial Advisory Board for the Wildlife Professional, TWS' award-winning quarterly magazine. This would be a great opportunity for someone who wants to promote Canadian wildlife science and management at the national and international level (see below for details). Finally, our illustrious CSTWS Historian (*Merlin Shoemith*) is hard at work compiling all our documents, making sure we do not forget where we've come from, and helping steer us as we go forward.

For those of you who would like to get more involved with the Canadian Section, we continue have a number of openings on committees. We are in need of enthused, dedicated people who want to leave a mark on the wildlife management profession in Canada, so please let myself, or anyone affiliated with the executive know if that's you. This is a huge Section, bringing with it huge challenges. Fortunately, many hands make light work - give us a call!

CANADIAN SECTION REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT



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

If you were at our AGM in Québec City at the end of March then you will understand it when I tell you that I have almost recovered from sugar shock after our evening at the Cabane à Sucre. They put maple syrup on everything! What a treat! As was the entire meeting which featured a fun-filled and exciting Quiz Bowl, an exceptional Plenary Session with numerous distinguished speakers, many interesting presentations and posters and, of course, the trip to the Sugar Shack. I heard a lot of good things from the attendees, especially the opportunity to meet many new folks from across the country and time to get to know everyone. I'm sure others will tell you more about it elsewhere in this newsletter but I do want to thank the organizing committee and particularly the Laval Student Chapter of TWS – they showed what can be done with a small but dedicated group of people. I especially want to thank Darren Sleep, Orphé Bichet, Martin-Hughes St-Laurent, Ashley McLaren, Laura Trout, Michael Gillingham and Evie Merrill for putting on such a great meeting.

The mid-year TWS Council meeting was held in Denver, Colorado, 9-10 March 2014, in conjunction with the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference. As

always, the agenda was packed and much was accomplished. The following is a summary of some of the highlights.

New staff were introduced, including Ed Thompson, Chief of Operations, who took over responsibilities for Darryl Walter and began work on February 14. Keith Norris was hired to fill the position of Assistant Director of Government Affairs and Partnerships vacated by Terra Rentz and began work on February 18.

Executive Director Ken Williams presented a report on 2013 finances and where the Society stands for the first part of 2014. He also presented a new budget for Council approval, to cover the period from July 2014 through June 2015 that builds on the previously approved 2014 budget. For the first time in the last several years, TWS recorded a positive net income in 2013. The proposed 2014-15 budget includes a number of structural changes that correspond to organization and personnel changes in the Society and projects a surplus in the coming year. Council approved the proposed 2014-15 budget.

President-Elect Rick Baydack and Executive Director Ken Williams recapped the preparation of the new 5-year strategic plan for the Society that will update the 2008 plan. A draft plan has been developed that includes a strategic vision, 5 strategic themes, and 4-5 objectives under each theme. Following further revisions, it is hoped that the final plan will be shared with the membership in the next few months.

Government Affairs Director Laura Bies provided updates on the Conservation Affairs Network and position statements. Assistant Director of Government Affairs Keith Norris will be working with the Conservation Affairs Committees established in different Sections/Chapters to coordinate their involvement in the proposed Network.

As reported in the March *Wildlifer*, additional discussions addressed the filing and evaluation procedures for allegations of ethical misconduct and establishment of a formal Ethics Board. There were discussions of a new Wildlife Partners Program initiative and potential future changes to the Certification Program regarding professional experience as substitution for certain coursework. A block of time was designated for discussions about TWS's journals, the pending renewal of our publishing contract with Wiley and updates on *The Wildlife Professional* Editorial Advisory Board. Council also passed a motion to co-host the 2017 Annual Conference with the American Fisheries Society in Tampa, Florida.

Lastly, Council voted to approve a slate of 10 nominees for Fellows awards and voted on the nominees for the Group Achievement Award.

Full minutes of the mid-year TWS Council meeting will be posted on the TWS website and more detail will be provided on Council-approved actions in the April *Wildlifer*.

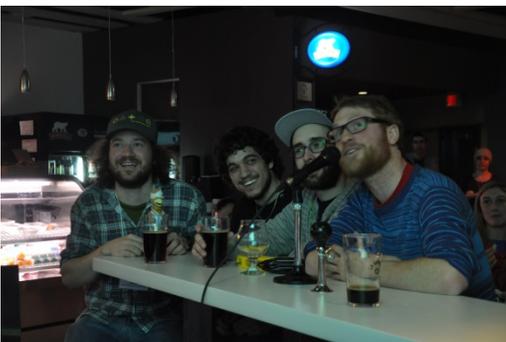
One last thing I want to tell you about is a planned series of articles on Canadian wildlife science and management to appear in *The Wildlife Professional* leading up to the Annual Conference in Winnipeg in 2015. The intent is not only to

inform our American friends about what is going on in Canada but to hopefully entice them into coming to Winnipeg to learn more. Already, Lu Carbyn and Yolanda Wiersma have offered to write a piece on the history of wildlife management in Canada. Evie Merrill has offered an article contrasting major differences in the legal framework in US/Canada that have big implications for wildlife management/conservation. And, Vince Crichton is going to write an article about the decline of moose populations and what's being done in terms of moose management and conservation in Canada. Additional suggested topics are; caribou management, FN collaborative management, TWS Student Chapters in Canada, wildlife diseases (perhaps CWD), shale/oil development, cross-border collaboration (perhaps waterfowl), invasive species, newly threatened species, and/or a polar bear piece that might be good advertising for the pre- or post-conference field trips. If you would be interested in contributing an article (~2,000 words) on one of these topics or have something else to suggest, please contact me, any of the Canadian Section executive and/or Lisa Moore (Editor-in-Chief, TWP; L.Moore@wildlife.org). The deadlines would be early September 2014 for the winter issue, early December 2014 for spring 2015 issue, early March 2015 for summer, and early June 2015 for fall. Please give it some thought and consider this an opportunity to let all of TWS know what great things are going on in Canada!

CANADIAN SECTION NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Report on the Canadian Section AGM

The Canadian Section Annual Conference and General



“Les Renards” from the Université Laval
(photo, P. Suffice)

Meeting was co-hosted this year with the Université Laval Student Chapter in Quebec

City, QC, March 28-30, 2014.

Attendees came from all across Canada to join in the sessions, networking and social events. The weekend kicked off in grand style with the 3rd Annual Student Quiz bowl, and what better place to hold a challenging and fun competitive event than in a student bar? The Fou Æliés student bar gave the quiz bowl competitors (and many observers) the run of the place as we moved tables and

took over the sound system...and the game was on! Congratulations to this year's winners - The Université Laval Foxes (les renards!). The winning team (proud owners of new Université Laval t-shirts) then went on to lose in a close match to the “Professionals” team, who have not yet lost in the history of Canadian quiz bowls!

After a good night at the pub, the conference opened on Saturday morning with introductions and welcome from



Conference Kick-off, with Evie Merrill
(photo, D. Sleep)

Evelyn Merrill (Section President) and an update on the society's activities by Ken Williams (TWS Executive Director).

Quebec City, being the oldest city in

North America, the plenary focused on the history of wildlife management in Canada. Attendees were treated to an in-depth discussion of the past, current, and future challenges of wildlife management at both a North American and Quebec scales. The session was followed up by a panel discussion, allowing the audience to engage with the speakers for a more in-depth examination of the issues and challenges for the profession.



Poster and Coffee Session
(photo, D. Sleep)

The afternoon saw concurrent sessions featuring talks on bison, caribou, deer, songbirds, amphibians, as well as several talks related to biodiversity and impacts of development and management. The

poster session was well attended during the coffee breaks, with great opportunities for discussion and socializing. Congratulations to Pauline Suffice (UQAT) for the best student poster, and to Jennifer Rodgers and Orophé Bichet (ULaval) who managed to tie for best student presentations. For their efforts they will be receiving \$100 each in cold, hard cash!



Merriment at the Cabane à Sucre
(photo, P. Suffice)

Saturday evening saw a trip to a “Cabane à Sucre”. For those of you from outside “La Belle Province” (Quebec), you might know it as a maple

sugar bush, or a “sugar shack”, where the running sap of the sugar maple is collected in the spring, and boiled down

to make that delectable treat, maple syrup (and a few other maple products). However, in Quebec there is a massive tradition around the “Cabane à Sucre”, where families and friends gather in the spring to celebrate and feast on a meal that would kill most diabetics and reduce vegetarians to tears. After a short bus ride, the meeting attendees descended on the “Erablière du Lac-Beauport” for an evening of eating, drinking, and French Canadian merriment! Especially of interest to the wildlife crew was the “Trapper’s Cabin Museum” which featured a wide variety of mounted and stuffed birds and mammals for all of us to enjoy. The evening ended with a group of tired, overfed, but very happy people on the bus back to the hotel.

The meeting ended on Sunday morning with the AGM and a few more talks. Evelyn Merrill led the meeting as she reviewed the



Conference Co-Chairs Orphé Bichet and Darren Sleep enjoying the entertainment
(photo, P. Suffice)

Section’s accomplishments over the past 12 months, the challenges currently facing the Section, and the future direction we will be working toward. One final session of contributed papers focused on remote sensing approaches to wildlife management, including some incredible footage of from cameras onboard caribou GPS collars.

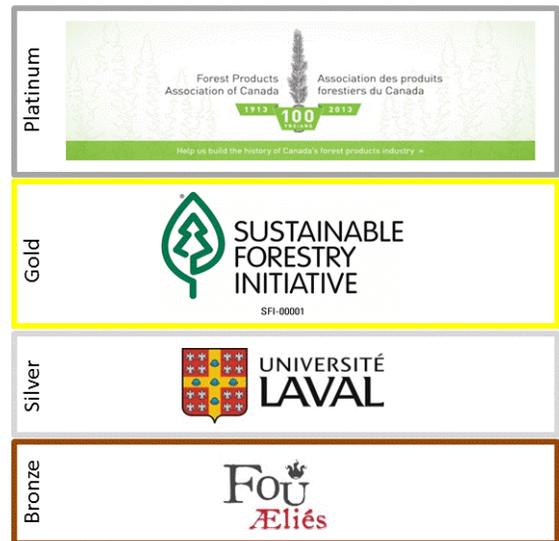
Many thanks to the volunteers who helped make the event a

success. Special thanks to the plenary session speakers, and all those who contributed posters and talks. Finally, a HUGE thank you to our sponsors for making it all

possible: The Forest Products Association of Canada, The Sustainable Forestry Initiative, The Université Laval, and the Fou Æliés pub. Onward to Winnipeg!



The Trapper’s Museum
(photo, P. Suffice)



Sponsors of the 2014 Conference

Report of the CSTWS student travel award winner

CSTWS ANNUAL MEETING IN QUEBEC
March 28-30, 2014

Jason Unruh



I thoroughly enjoyed my time at the CSTWS Annual Meeting in beautiful Quebec City. I had a fabulous time at the conference and exploring the historical capitol of Quebec. The weekend offered a great mix of research talks and posters and social events. The conference began on

Saturday morning with plenary talks on the theme of the history of wildlife management in Canada (past and present). Several speakers gave very informative talks on different aspects of this theme. I particularly enjoyed Dr. Lu Carbyn's talk on the History of Wildlife Management in Canada. I found it very enlightening to listen to an overview of wildlife management history given in such a condensed form. Saturday afternoon was filled with research talks, which covered a wide variety of focal species and areas across Canada.

Graduate students gave the majority of talks and poster presentations. This is one of my favourite things about The Wildlife Society – the focus they have on mentoring and engaging with students. I really appreciated the opportunity to rub shoulders with wildlife professionals and engage with other students across Canada who are conducting interesting research. I also enjoyed presenting some of my own research to professionals and students alike.

Saturday evening was the highlight of the conference. We boarded a bus and were taken to an authentic Cabane À Sucre (Sugar Shack) just outside of the city.



This was my first experience with maple syrup-related fun. Outside, I enjoyed seeing the sugar maples with taps and buckets. Inside we were treated to a meal that featured **a lot** of maple syrup and some great entertainment.



Everyone got into the spirit of the evening and there was lots of laughing and singing. After the meal we participated in a tire (maple syrup taffee pull), which was delicious. The night ended with some dancing, and of course I loaded up on maple syrup to bring home.

Sunday morning I attended the CSTWS Annual Business Meeting, which was less boring than it sounds. It was interesting to get insights into the workings of the Canadian Section of TWS and to learn about ways that I might get involved with the CSTWS. Dr. Darren Sleep was welcomed in as the new president of the Canadian Section that morning, there were a couple more talks, and then the conference ended with awards for student presentations. I would describe the conference as a very relaxed time with excellent networking opportunities with students and professionals in wildlife biology. I certainly plan to attend other Wildlife Society meetings.

Besides the conference, I also had a chance to explore the wonderful city of Quebec.



My wife came with me and we had such a great time walking around Old Quebec, drinking a lot of coffee, wine and beer, and eating a lot of delicious, high-fat foods! I want to express my thanks to the Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society for the Student Travel Award that helped to cover many of my expenses. Also, the Student Chapter at Université Laval did a marvelous job at hosting us in their beautiful facilities. Thank you!

The Wildlife Society Annual Conference in Winnipeg 2015

**(by Merlin Shoemith & Don Sexton
Co-chairs, Arrangements Committee)**

A 2015 Conference brochure is now available and will be used for Fund-Raising and promoting the event. An electronic copy is attached.

On March 15, 2014, the Manitoba Chapter sponsored a second Fun'd Raiser at the Pembina Hotel in Winnipeg. A largely university crowd of over 200 enjoyed the music of a blues band, played pool, ate pizza and bought silent auction tickets in the sports bar and lounge area. Early results were that about \$3200 was raised for 2015.

The third quarterly meeting of Arrangements with subcommittee members and interested parties will be

michael@unbc.ca) know about any planned nominations of a Canadian Section member for a TWS award.

Note: Submission deadlines have not yet been announced for all the 2014 awards. Full details for all awards can be found at <http://wildlife.org/who-we-are/awards>.

CSTWS Student research

Kerri Krawchuk, University of Alberta, Department of Biological Sciences, Merrill lab
kkrawchu@ualberta.ca



Competition inevitably occurs when two species fill similar ecological roles; the more similar these roles, the more severe the competition. Understanding how carnivores respond to competition with other predators is imperative, as their response to the presence of another carnivore can alter the top-down influences on ecological communities. Multiple predator species, as opposed to a single predator species, can increase the diversity of prey eaten and provide prey with multiple significant mortality sources. Additionally, multiple predator species force prey to try to avoid predators with different patterns of habitat use, thus limiting prey refuge. Multiple carnivores can coexist, yet avoid competition, by partitioning their niches in 3 major ways: dietary, temporal and spatial partitioning.

How two top-level carnivores, cougars (*Puma concolor*) and wolves (*Canis lupus*), coexist in high densities is not well understood. Wolves are often the focus of many ungulate management plans in Alberta, though a direct comparison is needed between wolves and cougars as valuable evidence for the relative effects of each species on prey.

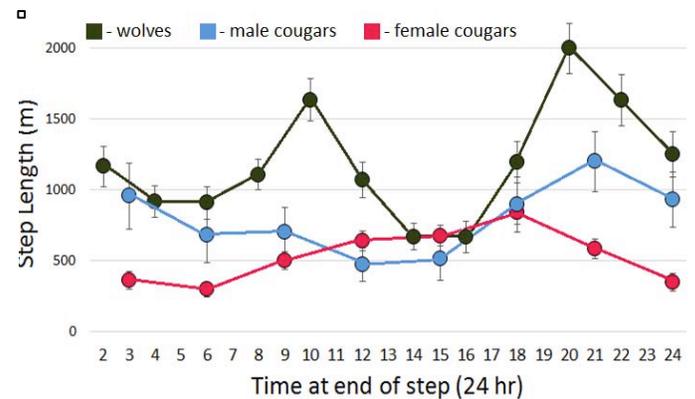
In the central east slopes of the Rocky Mountains of Alberta, cougars and wolves overlap at high densities. Using GPS telemetry data collected from two recent PhD studies by Kyle Knopff and Nathan Webb, my research investigates the mechanisms by which these two carnivores coexist in this area. So far I have found evidence of dietary partitioning with wolves having higher dietary overlap with male cougars than with female cougars. As well, diet selection was compared with Manly's selection ratio using prey killed and relative prey availability determined by pellet plot surveys. A selection ratio of 1 indicates that prey are

killed proportionate to their availability.



Wolves select for moose (selection ratio = 1.43) and female cougars kill moose less than available (selection ratio = 0.27). Some temporal partitioning has been discovered as wolves have two daily peaks in activity, in the late

morning and in the evening, while cougars have a single peak in activity in the evening or at night, for female and male cougars, respectively. I analyzed spatial partitioning using the volume of intersection and by comparing their resource selection functions. Thus far minimal spatial partitioning has been discovered, though I plan on investigating this further by examining the behaviour of individuals in closest proximity to other predators.



CSTWS webinar series

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN?

The Education Committee is working on the 2014/2015 line-up for the Webinar Series. If you want to suggest a good subject and speaker, please write webinars.cstws@gmail.com

We are on Facebook!

Check us out at <https://facebook.com/cstws>



TWS NEWS

We are very pleased to see that once again we have two Canadian participants in the Leadership Institute program this year. Congratulations!!!

Sonja Leverkus, Shifting Mosaics Consulting, British Columbia, Canada

Erin McCance, Joro Consultants, Manitoba, Canada.

CHAPTER NEWS

University of Alberta Chapter
(Meagan Dyck and Nick Parayko
UACTWS Co-Presidents)

This past year, the University of Alberta Chapter of the Wildlife Society (UACTWS) has worked to continue to provide opportunities for improved communication among individual members locally, and with other student chapters, chapters, the Alberta Section, and The Wildlife Society. We have also provided educational opportunities for students in wildlife biology, conservation and natural resources management programs at the University of Alberta. We helped to foster campus and community awareness of wildlife issues by holding chapter meetings, sending email updates, and posting to our Facebook page.

Our club started the year with a very successful clubs fair where we had over 100 students sign up to be on our mailing list. Our first meeting in September was just as successful with over 30 members signing up for a full club membership. Our first major event of the year was owl banding at the Beaverhill Bird Observatory in Tofield, AB. We had 20 members come out to the observatory on a Saturday night where we were able to

see 3 owls be banded. Many students also had the opportunity to speak with the observatory director and set up future individual volunteer opportunities.

In November, the club decided to have some new t-shirts made for our members as we had not had new shirts made in 3 years. We researched various companies for prices and were able to find a great deal. We even had 3 custom wildlife designs created for free by a local artist. The shirts were a huge hit and we almost sold out of our stock in 2 weeks. December was a quieter month for the club due to final exams. However, we did hold a study night during finals where a few members studied in a classroom with each other.

January was a busy month as the executive was preparing to host the Annual Game Dinner with the Environmental and Conservation Science Student's Association (ECSA). The dinner was a great success with over 50 people in attendance. There were wildlife guessing games, live music, and a mystery meat contest to keep the night fun. There were also industry representatives in attendance who were able to talk to students about summer employment and volunteer opportunities. February was once again a quieter month. The club planned an ice fishing trip which was unfortunately cancelled due to the weather.

In March we had 3 of our members attend the conclave held in Jasper, AB by the Alberta Chapter of the Wildlife Society. Later in the month we held our Annual General Meeting where we elected our new executive. We are very happy to be handing the club over to some very enthusiastic and committed individuals.

This past weekend UACTWS volunteered at the Annual Snow Goose Chase in Tofield, AB which is an event that gives inner city children, and low income families the opportunity to have a fun day interacting with nature. We led several busses around the Beaverhill Lake area where we saw flocks of Snow Geese, bluebirds, owls, falcons, cranes, and ducks.

Overall, we are very happy with our clubs performance this year and have made a list of new activities we would like to implement next year in order to better serve our members. We also are fully confident that our new executive team will be able to help the club continue to reach its goals and objectives for the following year.

Manitoba Chapter of the Wildlife Society Chapter Report (Dennis Brannen, President)

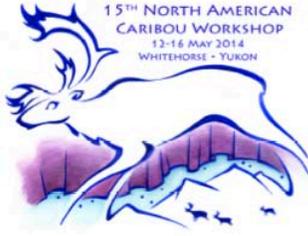
Spring has arrived on the prairies and with that comes the MB chapter AGM, this year held at Oak Hammock Marsh. There was a great turn out for the full day meeting that consisted presentations, the AGM, and a mixer and silent auction. The presentation portion of the day consisted of 11 speakers who spoke on wide variety of topics related to the themes of human-wildlife interactions and media relations. A highlight of the day was the final speaker, Women's Curling Olympic Gold medalist Jill Officer who provided tips for wildlife managers for dealing with the media. During the AGM, we were also pleased to recognize Jack Dubois as a Honorary Member and to present Vince Crichton with the chapter Conservation Award. Jack and Vince have both made significant contributions to The Wildlife Society and to wildlife conservation in the province and we are grateful for their continued participation in the Manitoba Chapter.

As one executive team hands the baton to the next (and most of us are planning field seasons) it has been a busy spring but the TWS 2015 local organizing committee is going strong. In addition to planning for the conference, they also held a fundraiser to raise money and excitement within the Chapter and wildlife community. We look forward to building on this success as we move closer to welcoming everyone to Winnipeg in 2015.



UPCOMING MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS





**15TH NORTH AMERICAN
CARIBOU WORKSHOP**
12-16 MAY 2014
WHITEHORSE - YUKON

**ANNOUNCEMENT –
15TH NORTH AMERICAN CARIBOU WORKSHOP**

**12-16 May 2014
Whitehorse, Yukon**

The 15th North American Caribou Workshop will be held in Whitehorse, Yukon, from 12-16 May 2014, at the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Center on the banks of the Yukon River.

The theme of the workshop is "Caribou Conservation and Management: What's Working?" It has been three decades since the first North American Caribou Workshop was held in Whitehorse in 1983. With the 15th Workshop returning to Whitehorse, it is a fitting opportunity to examine what we have achieved, as managers, biologists, and other interested groups with respect to advancing caribou conservation and management. Have we been successful in our efforts to ensure caribou populations are being managed in a sustainable fashion? What has worked, what hasn't worked, and what can we do differently? A full day will be devoted to presentations dealing explicitly with conservation and management initiatives throughout North America, and elsewhere, that address these questions.

In addition to three days of technical sessions, there will be one day of workshops on May 12 and a field trip day on May 16. Registration and abstract submission will be conducted on-line through our website at www.2014nacw.ca, and will begin in July 2013.

On behalf of the organizing committee of the 15th North American Caribou Workshop, we look forward to an exciting meeting and hope to see you in Whitehorse in May 2014.

Intermediate-Level Program MARK Workshop

June 1-6, 2014, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

This intermediate-level workshop will provide quantitative biologists and statisticians with the statistical background to understand the main-stream analyses performed by Program MARK, and the familiarity with the program to perform these analyses. A mixture of lectures and laboratory exercises will be provided. Participants will learn the basics of parameter estimation with likelihood theory, model selection with Akaike's Information Criterion (AIC), and the binomial and multinomial distributions. The Cormack-Jolly-Seber (CJS) mark-recapture, band (tag or ring) recovery, known fate, and closed captures models will be covered in detail. More advanced models will be described so that participants will understand the benefits of these models, but those models would not be covered extensively. Use of covariates, including individual covariates, will be covered with the CJS and band recovery models.

The clientele for this workshop are biologists with experience in the analysis of data from marked

animals. The content is aimed at providing the participants with a solid background in the philosophy, theory, and analysis of data from marked animals. This is not a workshop for beginners to this subject.

Format of the workshop will be a combination of lectures and computer lab exercises. The workshop would start on Monday morning, 8:00am, June 2, 2014, and end Friday at noon (with some time during Friday afternoon to address specific user questions). Evening sessions would be provided as needed to cover the workshop material. A get-acquainted social will be held Sunday evening, June 5. We expect you to attend the Sunday evening social to become acquainted with the instructors and others taking the workshop. Thus, arrange your travel to arrive in Fort Collins by 5:00pm Sunday, June 1.

Attendees are encouraged to bring their own data for analysis to the workshop, but should recognize that a thorough analysis will not be completed at the workshop. Given the amount of material to be covered, attendees likely would not be able to begin analysis of their own data until Thursday afternoon.

Attendees also must bring their own notebook computers. We will not be using a computer lab, so you must have your own notebook. Be sure that you have the administrative privileges to install MARK on the notebook you bring (i.e., that you can install new software on the hard drive). If you have difficulty in bringing your own machine, contact Gary <<mailto:Gary.White@ColoState.edu?subject=MARK%20Workshop%20--%20my%20notebook>> to work out something.

Cost for the 1-week workshop is \$1,200, with a reduction to \$1,000 for registered university students. This fee would include all course materials, zip drive with Program MARK and supporting documentation and examples, and facilities for the workshop, socials, banquet, and morning and afternoon refreshments.

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Software for Capture-Mark-Recapture Course

University of Georgia's Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources August 4 – 8, 2014

The course, titled “Software for Capture-Mark-Recapture” will be taught by Dr. Michael J. Conroy at the University of Georgia's Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources from August 4 – 8, 2014. The cost of this five-day course will be \$600.00 and will include breakfast, lunch and learning materials. Attached is the course website for further details and registration <http://conted.warnell.uga.edu/courses/mark>



8th International Congress for Wildlife and Livelihoods on Private and Communal Lands: Livestock, Tourism, and Spirit

September 7-12, 2014

YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, Colorado, USA

NOW ACCEPTING ABSTRACTS

To submit an abstract, or learn more about the event, please visit the Congress website.

<http://tiny.cc/2014WildlifeCongress>



The 8th Congress will emphasize practical knowledge, skills, and attitudes with action outcomes to assist private and communal sectors with nature conservation on those lands.

Projected audiences locally and from around the world include: agency, organization, and private professionals; landowners and on-the-ground private and communal managers; state/provincial fish and wildlife agencies; federal agencies, departments, bureaus, and offices; and non-governmental organizations.

The Congress is looking for **symposia, workshops, papers, and posters** that address or highlight the current needs, breakthroughs, challenges, experiments, and outcomes for private and communal management showing how wildlife and livelihoods can be compatible and beneficial for conservation, economies, and healthy societies.

Deadline for submission is April 15, 2014.



11th National Wild Turkey Symposium January 2016, Tucson, AZ

The National Wild Turkey Symposium seeks original research and synthesis papers on the ecology and management of wild turkeys for presentation at the Symposium and publication in the Proceedings. The Symposium occurs every 5 years and brings together state, federal and private wild turkey researchers, land managers, and enthusiasts to exchange ideas relative to

ensuring sustainability of the wild turkey resource.

Contributed papers will be peer-reviewed. Submissions can include presentation of original results, case studies, and review articles of pertinent topics. The proposed areas of emphasis for the Symposium include: understanding the future of wild turkey habitat; delivery of science to affect policy; science behind hunter recruitment and retention; and maintaining sustainable wild turkey populations.

Process: Authors are asked to submit an abstract by **20 September 2013**. The abstract is limited to 300 words, not including the title, author(s), and author(s) affiliation(s). The abstract must include contact information for the corresponding author. Submit abstracts to: darren.miller@weyerhaeuser.com with "Wild Turkey Symposium abstract" in the email subject line. An Editorial Board will review all submitted abstracts and authors of selected abstracts will be asked to submit a full manuscript for consideration. Authors of accepted manuscripts are expected to present their work at the Symposium in Tucson. The Proceedings will be available at or soon after the Symposium.

Key Dates:

- Abstracts due Sept. 20, 2013
- Manuscripts invited Nov. 15, 2013
- Initial manuscripts submission due Aug. 8, 2014

For more Information: Please direct questions to the Symposium Editor: Dr. Darren A. Miller, Weyerhaeuser Company, P.O. Box 2288, Columbus, MS, 39704; (662) 245-5249; darren.miller@weyerhaeuser.com. Please feel free to distribute this Call for Papers to appropriate contacts.

JOBS IN WILDLIFE

Announcement of professional vacancy: Senior Research Scientist

**The Research Foundation of the State University of
New York at the College of Environmental Science
and Forestry**

Department: Environmental and Forest Biology

Salary Range: low \$50s to mid \$60s commensurate with experience

Duration: Through March 2018 with continuation dependent upon funding

Location: Albany, NY (New York State DEC Headquarters)

Brief Description of Duties: This position will work closely with the New York State DEC Bureau of Wildlife staff to plan, design, and conduct statewide and regional harvest surveys, population monitoring, and research activities that are integral to a variety of New York's wildlife management programs.

The position involves the creation, manipulation, analysis and maintenance of complex data sets derived from a variety of user surveys and field studies throughout New York State. Computer programs for data processing need to be maintained and written in Access, and several Visual FoxPro programs need to be maintained until they are replaced by Access programs.

Analyses primarily relate to estimation of population indices and harvests from annual survey data, and development and application of population models. The Senior Research Scientist also serves as a consultant to Bureau of Wildlife staff throughout the state and research collaborators, providing direct support with statistical analyses, guidance on sampling designs, evaluation of project proposals to ensure statistical validity, assistance with preparation and review of technical reports and manuscripts, and response to data requests from staff and the public. The position will primarily serve the needs of the Game Management Section, but will be expected to provide as much support as possible for the Wildlife Diversity Section and to our university research partners. The position will provide recommendations to various wildlife program specialists and management teams through collaboration in all project phases from conception to completion.

Primary responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

* Provide statistical expertise and consultation for design and analysis of wildlife population research, user surveys, and monitoring programs and evaluate those surveys and programs after implementation.

* Continue, and refine as appropriate, long-term data collection from hunter surveys to estimate annual harvests as well as hunter effort for deer, bear, wild turkey, furbearers and small game species statewide and by wildlife management unit.

* Evaluate, and refine as appropriate, long-term data collection from a variety of wildlife observation surveys (e.g., bowhunter sighting log, big game hunter survey, grouse and turkey hunter logs, drumming surveys, incidental sightings) to monitor relative abundance of deer, bear, moose, turkey, selected furbearers, and other game and non-game wildlife species statewide.

* Provide technical guidance on data management systems, maintain and update computer programs used to analyze survey data, and help identify and correct

sources of errors that occur in telephone, internet and scannable form reporting systems.

* Provide user-friendly reports and data queries from the above surveys as needed for public information or management purposes.

* Perform or assist Bureau of Wildlife staff or cooperators with statistical analysis or programming (e.g., R, SAS, Access, Program MARK, DISTANCE, SURVIV, etc.) necessary to produce results from harvest surveys, population monitoring programs, mark-recapture studies and other research activities; analyses may include information-theoretic and Bayesian inference, as well as estimating population parameters, population modeling and reconstruction.

* Assist Bureau of Wildlife biologists in the preparation of peer-reviewed manuscripts and technical reports.

* Train and supervise support staff to assist with data quality assurance and validation procedures.

* Provide training for Bureau of Wildlife staff and cooperators on specific quantitative methods or statistical software needed to more effectively carry out their work.

* Travel around New York State as needed to meet with and make presentations to regional staff, other professionals, and wildlife management stakeholders.

Minimum qualifications:

* MS degree in biostatistics, wildlife population ecology, or related field.

* Demonstrated experience in one or more of the following areas: design or evaluation of population or harvest surveys; population modeling; population viability analysis; occupancy modeling; mark-capture-recapture studies; distance sampling; movement or home range studies; spatial analysis of wildlife distribution patterns using ArcGIS.

* Expertise using R and Microsoft Access. Familiarity with SAS or other comparable statistical programming software useful.

* Strong written communication skills, including preparation of agency technical reports or publication as a lead author of at least one original research article in a peer-reviewed journal.

* Strong interpersonal skills, including ability to establish and maintain satisfactory working relationships and collaborate with diverse personalities on project teams.

Preferred Qualifications:

* PhD in biostatistics, wildlife population ecology, or related field.

* Proficiency with likelihood-based and Bayesian inference.

* Experience working closely with state or federal wildlife agency staff.

Date to Be Filled: June 1, 2014 or as soon as possible thereafter.

Application Deadline: Although the college will accept applications until the position is filled, interested candidates should submit their materials by May 12, 2014 to ensure optimal consideration.

Application Procedure: Employment application must be submitted on-line at <http://www.esf.edu/hr/>, follow the Current ESF Vacancies link. Be sure to include contact information for a minimum of 3 references in your resume/CV.

In accordance with the “Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act” institutions of higher education are required to prepare an annual report containing information on campus security policies and campus statistics. This report includes statistics for the previous three years concerning reported crimes that occurred on-campus; in certain off-campus buildings or property owned or controlled by SUNY-ESF; and on property within, or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus. The report also includes institutional policies concerning campus security, such as policies concerning sexual assault, and other matters. You can obtain a printed copy of this report by contacting SUNY-ESF University Police at 315-470-6667 or by accessing the following web site: <http://www.esf.edu/univpolice/crimereports/>

As an Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action employer, the Research Foundation will not discriminate in its employment practices due to an applicant’s race, color, religion, sex, national origin and veteran or disability status.

National Council for Air and Stream Improvement, Inc.

Job Description: *Caribou Research Technicians (4 positions available)*

Work Week: Non-exempt positions; 40+ hours per week to meet work demands

Duty Station: vicinity of Fort St. John and Fort Nelson, British Columbia (BC), Canada

Anticipated Duration: 4-5 months, mid-June 2014 through late-October 2014

Salary Range: \$10.25/hour with appropriate overtime pay. Positions do not qualify for benefits.

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 northeastern 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.

Essential Job Functions:

1. 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.
2. Assist with pen construction in different habitats, transport the caribou to the pens for data collection in remote areas in NE BC, and feed/care for caribou.
3. Assist with behavioral observations on tame caribou.
4. Required to live in the woods with the tame caribou, which includes camping out near pens in remote areas. A travel trailer (sleeps 4-5 mixed gender), tents, camp stoves, and large jugs to hold drinking water will be provided. Some pots/pans/utensils are provided but we recommend technicians bring some of their own as well. Bear spray and bear bangers will be provided while on the job but these will not be available for personal use. Food and personal hygiene products will NOT be provided.
5. Work outdoors in inclement weather which may occasionally be extreme. We will work 2 to 2.5-week periods in the backcountry with 2-4 days off between bouts. Work days will range from 6 hours to 12 hours a day depending on what needs to be done. Due to the nature of this type of project, expect schedules (including days off) to change frequently...technicians need to be flexible. Biting insects can be relentless throughout the entire season. Also, ambient temperatures can be cool in higher elevations, and extended bouts of precipitation should be expected (last year we were snowed on in July and rained on 70% of the season). The project does not provide living facilities in town during periods of time-off...but the camper trailer and tents will be available at the base camp facility. Technicians must be flexible, but we will try to accommodate special needs for time off.
6. Perform technical project work with significant oversight from a manager or a colleague assigned this responsibility.

7. Demonstrate an ability to work effectively with others toward meeting the goals of the National Council.
8. Read, absorb, process, and communicate complex information.

Additional Responsibilities:

1. Undertake additional activities as assigned by Supervisor.

Minimum Qualifications:

1. Undergraduate degree (or near completion of a degree) in biology, animal science, or wildlife biology and/or suitable experience with identification of this region's flora.
2. Vehicles are supplied for work, but technicians must have a reliable vehicle to arrive at base facilities at Fort St. John. Travel will be on a mix of maintained and unimproved gravel and dirt roads...applicants must have experience driving large vehicles on back country roads.
3. Preference will be given to Canadians (or those with dual citizenship) but US citizens are also welcome to apply. US citizens must have a valid passport and must be able to obtain a Canadian work permit under NAFTA. NCASI will assist with this process.
4. A driving record such that you can be insured at standard auto insurance rates (a copy of your driver's license will be required if the position is offered).
5. Availability for work through late-October.

To apply submit:

1. Cover letter with dates of availability, status of reliable vehicle, citizenship, and status of valid passport (non-Canadian citizens only).
 2. Resume detailing relevant professional experience along with information on education (GPA included)
 3. Three professional references (include email addresses and telephone numbers);
- to: Dr. Rachel Cook via email (preferred) rcook@ncasi.org or mail to PO Box 122, La Grande, OR 97850. Position posting closes March 20, 2014. NCASI is an equal opportunity employer.

***USGS Post Doctoral Position -
Quantitative Ecologist focused on Avian
Migration Ecology***

The United States Geological Survey is recruiting a post-doctoral scientist in quantitative ecology to plan, develop, and extend continental-scale mechanistic models of avian migration to accommodate bioenergetics and climate aspects. Further, the scientist will develop local-scale models of avian count data collected at stopover and wintering locations throughout the United States. The scientist will collaborate to integrate these local-level findings to reflect results from and inform the continental-scale migration model. These analyses address science needs of the Integrated Waterbird Management and Monitoring (IWMM) project of the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service.

Funding for the position is for 1 year and is subject to renewal for 3 additional years given availability of funding. Remuneration is \$57,982, plus benefits. The post-doc will work with project lead Wayne Thogmartin and other members of the IWMM science team. The post-doc will be stationed in La Crosse, WI, at the Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center.

Candidates will support the project by taking lead and collaborative roles in: 1) the review, synthesis, testing, and evaluation of existing methods and models for moving waterfowl through the continent as a function of caloric gain and loss; 2) Extend these models to more formally accommodate physiological responses of birds to weather; and, as time allows, 3) Predict consequences to migration from changing patterns in climate and land use. Considerable latitude exists to pursue novel methods and questions, especially in the areas of ecosystem services and full life-cycle population ecology.

Applicants should possess strong skills in the R programming language, an understanding of mechanistic models, migration ecology, and avian physiological ecology, and experience publishing in peer-reviewed journals. Experience modeling wildlife populations and geospatial methods/GIS skills are highly desirable. Experience with or interest in wind energy development and ecosystem services is preferred but not a necessary condition for this position.

To express interest in the position and to be alerted when it is formally announced on USAJOBS.GOV, please send a short cover letter and curriculum vitae via email, subject line "Avian Migration Ecology Post-doc" to:

Wayne E. Thogmartin, PhD
United States Geological Survey

Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center
2630 Fanta Reed Road
La Crosse, WI 54603
608-781-6309
wthogmartin@usgs.gov

Disease modeling post-doc

A post-doctoral position is available through the Department of Veterinary Sciences and in conjunction with the US Geological Survey's National Wildlife Health Center to address questions related to the effects of vaccination on the long-term dynamics of plague in wild mammal systems. Currently, large-scale field trials evaluating the efficacy of an oral plague vaccine are ongoing at sites across the intermountain west. Candidates will support the project by taking the lead in developing spatially-explicit models of plague dynamics that incorporate empirical data collected from this field study.

Applicants should possess a Ph.D. with an emphasis on quantitative skills (probability and statistics, modeling, programming, etc.). Experience in disease modeling or wildlife population modeling is highly desirable.

Funding for the position is for a minimum of 1 year and is subject to renewal for additional years given availability of funding. The successful candidate will be an employee of University of Wisconsin (stationed in Madison, WI), and work closely with quantitative ecologists/disease modelers at the USGS National Wildlife Health Center.

Anticipated start date is Aug 1st 2014.

Salary: 38-42 k per year

Deadline for applications: June 15, 2014

Please send CV include contact information for 3 references to rerussell@usgs.gov

Robin Russell

Research Statistician

NWHC, Madison, WI



Your job add here

Please send job announcements for the newsletter or website to Kathreen Ruckstuhl at kruckstu@ucalgary.ca

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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"

2014 Membership Application

The Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society invites you to join or renew your membership for 2014 – 2015. 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.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Affiliation: _____ TWS Member # (if renewing): _____

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

Membership can be purchased:

1. Mail In:

- Complete this application and mail money order or cheque (Please make cheque payable to "Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society") to:

Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society
% Matt Dyson
106-1558 Trossacks Ave.
London, ON
N5X 2P2

2. Online:

- To renew or join online visit TWS's secure website (only applicable to full members of TWS): <http://wildlife.org/membership>

- 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 Matt Dyson by email (matt.e.dyson@gmail.com)