



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

December 2014

Vol. 7, No. 5

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Darren Sleep
Senior Forest Ecologist
NCASI,
President, CSTWS

And with that...it is winter. So far I've seen predictions for a winter that is colder than usual, warmer than usual, and just about normal. What's normal?

Well if you live anywhere in Canada except maybe the west coast that means cold. That's the prediction I will make - it will be cold this winter... like, Canadian cold.

Not that I'm complaining. For me, cold means great outdoor activities - downhill or cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, ice fishing, pond hockey and snowmobiling, with plenty of opportunities for wildlife viewing. Let's not forget that winter is also prime animal research time, with many study animals captured and monitored during the long, cold winter. There's plenty to do, and a great (if mostly cold) country to do it in.

What would a Canadian Section newsletter be without starting with a rousing comment about the weather? That being said, the executive of the Canadian Section have been busy working (no doubt to stay warm) as they seek to continuously improve the Canadian Section. Read on for details of what's been going on!

I would be remiss if I did not start with some congratulatory notes. Congratulations to the organizing committee of the Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh, PA, held October 25-30, 2014. Those who made the trek down were treated to a great conference, with opportunities for professional development and socializing a-plenty. The Canadian Section reception

was a popular event (as always) and the room was packed. In addition to the two prominent Canadians who received awards at the meeting in Pittsburgh (Merlin Shoesmith was awarded the Jim McDonough Award, and George Mitchell was honoured with the TWS Distinguished Service Award), our very own Matt Dyson brought home first prize in the research in progress poster competition - well done Matt!

As is tradition, the new President of The Wildlife Society, Dr. Rick Baydack of the University of Manitoba, assumed his role at the meeting - congratulations Rick! While Dr. Baydack is focusing on all the work the Society does for wildlife all over North America, we now turn our eyes to next year's convention. Plans continue to develop for Winnipeg 2015, with the call for workshops, symposia, panel discussions and special poster sessions now open (deadline is February 6, 2015). I know many people are already looking forward to a great meeting!

We are also in throes of planning the 2015 Canadian Section Annual General Meeting and Student Conclave in Saskatoon. Announcements will be forthcoming. And let's not forget it is election season here at the Section. Read on to find out who the candidates for the executive positions are, and please take the time to vote. This is after all your Canadian Section, and your professional society. We cannot do this without your participation!

Keep your eyes on the Section website and Facebook page for coming announcements, including election news, interesting articles, upcoming webinars in 2015, news of events and (occasionally) pictures. It is our aim to keep you informed, let you know what's going on, and provide opportunities for you to get involved. As we head into this winter, stay warm, and stay wild!

CANADIAN SECTION REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT



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

They didn't put fries on my sandwich as they had promised, but the TWS Annual Conference in Pittsburgh was another great success. There were more than 1500 participants and I was very pleased to see so many Canadians in attendance. The new state-of-the-art David L. Lawrence Convention Center provided a beautiful venue on the Allegheny River...and the river itself provided a fantastic venue for the closing night riverboat dinner cruise!

As always, the Conference Program was packed with activities; 20 Symposia, 30 Contributed Paper and Poster sessions, 25 Working Group Meetings, 11 pre-conference Workshops and half a dozen post-conference Field Trips. Something new this year, and a highlight for many, was the IGNITE! Session; 5-minute "speed talks" on a wide range of topics that challenged the audience and stimulated numerous, and sometimes heated, discussions. There were also several associated meetings to discuss the future directions of the Conservation Affairs Network and a meeting of TWS Section and Chapter leaders that was organized by Canadian President Darren Sleep, to talk about increasing Collaboration among subunits. A number of events were specifically designed for students, including a Student Research-In-Progress Poster session, a resumé review booth, a Panel Discussion titled "Uncertainty of an Undergrad: Navigating the Maze of Employment & Career Opportunities", the Student-Professional Mixer and the annual Quiz Bowl where the team from Lakehead University made it through the first three rounds to the quarter-finals. Congratulations on a tremendous effort – who says Canadian students can't compete with American schools! We look forward to seeing Lakehead and hopefully several other Canadian Student Chapters competing again next year in Winnipeg. It was also very gratifying to see Canadians honoured at this year's Awards dinner. George Mitchell was the recipient of a TWS Distinguished Service Award and Merlin Shoemith received the Jim McDonough Award – congratulations to both of you and

thanks for your lifetime contributions to the wildlife profession. Then there were the numerous receptions, including of course, the ever-popular Canadian Members and Friends Reception. Many thanks to Mark Boyce, Matt Dyson, Darren Sleep and Evie Merrill for planning and making the event a great success. And once again, thanks to Lotek Wireless Inc. for their continued sponsorship and support of our reception at the annual conference – we really couldn't afford it without their help – thanks! If you didn't get to Pittsburgh, you can look forward to all of this and more next year when we host the TWS Annual Conference in Winnipeg – start making your plans now and I hope to see you there!

Throughout the Annual Conference there were also several TWS Council Meetings and opportunities for members to meet with Council, including the revived Annual Members Meeting that was attended by well over 200 members. Once again I had the honour of representing the Canadian Section at these proceedings, where numerous reports and items were tabled and discussed. Here are just a few highlights of the meetings;

- Council welcomed our new Vice President Bruce Thompson as well as several new Section representatives – Bob Lanka (Central Mountains and Plains) and Paul Johansen (Northeast Section) and new Student Liaison Matthew Gould. Of course we were all very pleased to welcome Rick Baydack as the incoming President of TWS for the next year.
- Council also welcomed Nancy Savage, our new Director of Publishing and Communications. With her many years of experience we are certain Nancy will uphold the very high standards of The Wildlife Professional that we have all come to appreciate.
- Council approved a new strategic plan for 2015-2019, along with approval of annual operational plans for the current year.
- There were lengthy discussions of the Society's financial status, which were complicated by the transition from a calendar year financial cycle to one that goes from July each year to June the next. It appears the severe constraints and actions taken by Council over the last couple of years have been effective and our financial situation has much improved.
- The new publication agreement with Wiley was discussed along with suggestions for future publication strategies – all society-based journals are suffering these days under the threat of open access publishing and TWS along with other professional organizations need to consider new options.
- Preliminary results of the recent member survey were also presented. At the time of the Annual Conference, nearly 4,000 members had responded, making it the

most successful survey in TWS history. Council and staff are looking forward to the final results that will help us find new ways to provide benefits and services to TWS members.

- Participants in this year's Leadership Institute, including Erin McCance (Project Manager/Wildlife Biologist, Joro Consultants, Manitoba) and Sonja Leverkus (Doctoral Candidate, Oklahoma State University and Ecosystem Scientist, Shifting Mosaics Consulting, British Columbia), made presentations to Council on this year's theme "Increasing Diversity Within TWS". They did a great job and we look forward to seeing several more young Canadian professionals take part next year.
- President Rick Baydack outlined his agenda for the coming year that included the appointment of new TWS committee members and preparations for our next Conference in Winnipeg in 2015.

Over the next few of months, several TWS Awards Committees will be making their annual selections. As I have indicated many times, I'm sure we can find Canadian nominees for the Fellows Program, TWS Wildlife Publication Awards, Chapter and Student Chapter of the Year Awards, Student Chapter Advisor of the Year Award, Excellence in Wildlife Education Award and the Group Achievement Award. Nominations for these awards may be submitted to TWS by individual members, Sections, Chapters or Working Groups. And don't forget the TWS Distinguished Service Award that will be selected by the Canadian Section. If you would like to suggest a nominee for these or other TWS awards, or you would like assistance in preparing a nomination, please contact Canadian Section President Darren Sleep (dsleep@ncasi.org), me, or any member of the Executive as soon as possible for further information. Many of the Awards have a **February 15** deadline but some are not due until **March 15**, so don't hesitate to get working on your nominations **NOW** and let's make sure our Canadian colleagues get the recognition they deserve! See the list of awards and nomination details at <http://wildlife.org/get-involved/awards/>.

Now is also the time to start thinking about attending our Canadian Section AGM in Saskatoon, 13-15 March 2015. The organizing committee has already started planning some exciting events and the Call for Papers and Posters should be out soon. I hope we will see you there.

Lastly, it's that time of year to forget about all of the day-to-day issues and responsibilities that preoccupy us and to remind ourselves why we have dedicated ourselves to the wildlife profession. Most importantly, I hope you will take the time over the coming weeks to

spend precious moments with your cherished friends and loved ones. If you can do that while enjoying the "great outdoors" that is Canada then so much the better. Best Wishes for the Holiday Season and may you have a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year!

CANADIAN SECTION NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

2015 CSTWS AGM Hosted by the Saskatchewan Chapter

Mark Your Calendars!!

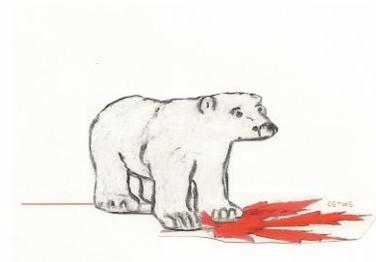
13 – 15 March 2014, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

- Student Conclave – March 13th
- Plenary Session – March 14th (TBA)
- Contributed Papers and Posters – March 14th and 15th
- CSTWS Business Meeting – March 15th
- Hosted at The Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation Building
- More information to follow about conference accommodations for members and students

For more information about the **Student Conclave**, contact sasktws@gmail.com

Continue to check our website and facebook page, as well as the Saskatchewan Chapter's website and facebook page for updates!

<http://drupal.wildlife.org/Saskatchewan/>
<http://drupal.wildlife.org/Canada>



**2015 ELECTIONS - CANADIAN
SECTION of THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

The Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society has had strong leadership since its initiation and this leadership has been instrumental in forming an active and productive Section. Please help us continue this trend by nominating valued Canadian Section Members to stand for the offices of **President-elect, Vice President and Canadian Section Representative to Council** in 2015.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: 23 January 2015

ELIGIBILITY: Only Voting Members that reside or work within the jurisdiction of the Section may be nominated and hold office. No individual may be nominated for more than one officer position. Officers also must be or become TWS members to hold office.

DUTIES:

President-Elect will assist the President in all phases of Section administration and will perform any duties assigned by the President. As president-elect in 2015 you will gain familiarity with the officers, committees, and overall administration of the Section prior to succeeding to the office of President upon the completion of his /her term.

Vice President shall perform any duties assigned by the President and shall assume duties of the President in the latter's absence or inability to serve. The Vice President is elected by the Section Membership and serves for approximately a one-year term but may not serve more than two consecutive terms.

Canadian Section Representative to TWS Council is the Section Representative, elected by the Society Voting Members residing within the Section boundary, and shall represent and serve as liaison on the Council for the Section, Chapters, and Members within that Section. Members of an Affiliate shall be represented on the Council by the Society Executive Committee. The Council establishes TWS policies, programs and directions and also provides oversight when various committees, editors, sections, chapters, working groups, and staff implemented policies and programs. The regular annual meeting of the Council shall be held shortly preceding the Society's annual meeting or at such time and place as the Council may select. Special meetings of the Council may be called by the President or upon written request of three Council members when, in their opinion, business of the Council so requires. Council members shall be notified at least 10 days prior

to said special meetings.

NOMINATION MATERIALS: Please contact your nominee and ask if they are willing to stand for the office. Once accepted please provide the following nomination materials:

- Nomination letter stating the strengths of the candidate for the position including but not limited to professional background and Canadian Section and TWS past involvement.
- Brief statement by nominee in what they hope to bring to the position and future directions for the Section.
- Photo of the nominee for Ballot materials

If you have any questions regarding the details of the positions please contact the current Canadian Section President or Past president or the current position holders whose contact information is posted on the Canadian Section website.

Please send the nomination materials (email preferred) to:

Evelyn Merrill, Past Canadian Section President
Department of Biological Sciences
University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB T6G 2E9
emerrill@ualberta.ca



***The Wildlife Society Annual Conference in
Winnipeg 2015***

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

Steady progress continues to be made on all fronts. On December 3th, the next quarterly meeting of Arrangements will be held at the University of Manitoba. The main agenda will be a wrap up and summaries of the Pittsburgh conference by Manitoba Chapter members in attendance as well as updates from the Arrangements subcommittees. Then on December

9th, we will begin our conference calls with Ed Thompson and Kerrill McNeil for decision making on the details of the next conference. The Fund Raising subcommittee has received recent commitments from Royal Bank Canada and Ducks Unlimited Canada. Also, the Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth and Science, University of Manitoba, sponsored travel costs of four students to the Pittsburgh conference to prepare them for volunteering during the 2015 conference. The Canadian Section provided some financial assistance to the Manitoba Chapter President, Dennis Brannen, for travel to Pittsburgh as did the Manitoba Chapter TWS and Manitoba Conservation. The Museum of Man, Fort Gibraltar in St. Boniface, MTS Centre and Human Rights Museum are under consideration for major receptions at the beginning and end of the conference.



CSTWS Student Travel Award Winner Pittsburgh Reflection

***By: Matt Dyson, MSc Candidate, Long Point
Waterfowl, Western University***



For most students, whether they be undergraduates, graduates, or PhD students, funding is almost always a concern heading into any conference. Thankfully, our Section offers support in the form of one travel award for both the TWS conference

and also the CSTWS AGM. I was lucky enough to be the recipient of this year's award for the Pittsburgh AGM, and I am very grateful for the opportunity.

I have been a section member since 2009, a former member of the UNBC Fish and Wildlife Student Chapter, BC Chapter, and current member of the Ontario Chapter and a full TWS member. I have also had an

opportunity to serve on our sections executive as a Student Chapter representative, and currently serve as the Secretary-Treasurer. Without a doubt, it has been a great experience to work with people that are passionate about wildlife, and know how to have fun too. The Pittsburgh AGM was my second opportunity to attend a TWS conference. If you have not had the opportunity to attend one yet, or on the fence about Winnipeg, I urge you to consider attending. These conferences are a fantastic opportunity for networking, education, and professional development. Where else are you going to find a building full of over 2000 wildlife professionals? It's like shooting fish in a barrel in terms of networking.

I arrived in Pittsburgh on Friday evening after a short 6 hour drive around Lake Erie from London, ON. Why don't we have a ferry yet? The first Saturday of the conference typically involves registration, field trips, and workshops. I attended a home-range analysis workshop in R and thanks to Andy Lyons of Stanford for putting the workshop on, it was a valuable experience to chat with the package developer.

Sunday's plenary was also a great experience, the theme was disseminating scientific information to the general public, and all of the speakers offered engaging and thought provoking talks. That night wrapped up with the Student reception, which offered free food and a great chance to meet other students at the conference. Starting Monday, the concurrent sessions began, and needless to say, my brain was pretty much mush by Tuesday, but it was great to have so many options of topics to hear about. Whether you study mice, bears, bats, or ducks, the TWS conference has something for you.

I presented my research at the Student Research in Progress session. I am currently a Master's Candidate with Long Point Waterfowl and Western University studying post-hatch survival and habitat selection of female wood ducks and broods. My research will help guide future habitat management objectives for wood ducks of the Great Lakes region. The session was very large with over 170 posters from undergraduates, master's, and PhD students. At the end of the day, I was probably the most surprised to learn that I had won the competition for best student poster for Master's students, which was quite the honour for me based on the quality of work I saw from my peers.

Later that evening, I attended the Student-Professional mixer, which for students, is essentially the networking mecca of the wildlife world. The event included free food, and if you spoke just right to some of the professionals, free beer as well. Overall it was an excellent opportunity to network with professionals at all

different levels of their career and a big thanks goes out to the organizers.

Perhaps the best part about the conference is reconnecting with old friends/colleagues, and meeting new ones. It was great to meet, and spend the week with students from across the country including University of Alberta, University of Manitoba, Lakehead, Laurentian, Trent, Guelph, Laval, and Memorial. It was also great to network with the various professionals who were there from both non-profits and government agencies.

The Canadian Section reception was also a great success. If you haven't already heard, the food was fantastic (thanks to Darren's wife for her selections), and I think there were some drinks there too? The event was highlighted by a lot of our members in attendance, as well as past and current Presidents of The Wildlife Society. A big thanks to Lotek for their ongoing support of our receptions, it always makes them a highlight of the conference.

Overall, the Pittsburgh AGM was a great experience and thanks to the Canadian Section for helping me to get there. I look forward to seeing everyone in Winnipeg.



CSTWS Student Chapter Report Pittsburgh AGM

By: Mallory Vanier, President, Lakehead Student Chapter

This past week, I attended the Wildlife Society conference in Pittsburgh as a student representative of Lakehead University. Our school had a delegation of 13 students and 1 professor and we thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to represent Canada throughout the conference. The symposium sessions were extremely informative and covered a wide array of topics. This was especially appealing to a group of undergraduate

students; our interests are quite varied and this gave us an opportunity to take in information on wildlife topics from mammals to birds to bats and everything in between. Listening to the contributed papers sessions also allowed us to see many of the research opportunities available for students like us in the near future.

The highlight of the experience for many of us was being able to participate in the Quiz Bowl competition. Lakehead University was the only Canadian team out of a record high 21 participating teams. Our team was thrilled to make it to the quarter finals (round of 8), as we didn't know what to expect coming in as a first time team. The quiz bowl gave us a chance to test our skills through friendly competition while also getting to meet new students with similar interests. Our team made friends with students throughout the United State, including Maine, Kentucky, New Mexico and California. This gave us an opportunity to listen to and share information about our programs, undergraduate theses and experiences at other conferences.

Overall, my experience at the Pittsburgh conference was quite positive. In addition to the conference sessions and the quiz bowl, there were student poster sessions, trade shows, job postings and resume workshops available. These all provide undergraduate students with valuable advice and guidance for the future. I would highly recommend that undergraduate students attend these conferences if possible because of all of the learning and networking opportunities available to them.



CSTWS Student Research
Mercury Affecting Bat Flight?
Ryan Beach, Lakehead University



Lakehead University student Ryan Beach has been working in collaboration with the St. Lawrence River Institute of Environmental Sciences to determine the likelihood that big brown bats (*Eptesicus fuscus*), which often consume food high in mercury resulting in elevated mercury tissue concentration, will as a result exhibit diminished flight maneuverability. Mercury is known to affect motor skills in mammals, but effects on bat flight acuity are unknown. Flight maneuverability is an important aspect of a bat's skill set as it will determine what prey they forage on.

Ryan is supervised by Dr. Brian McLaren of Lakehead University's Faculty of Natural Resources Management and Dr. Brian Hickey of the River Institute. Ryan was a part of a class field trip to the AGM of The Wildlife Society in October; here is his testimonial.

This past October, I had the wonderful opportunity of attending the annual general meeting of The Wildlife Society in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. This was my first time appearing at an international conference in my field, let alone presenting my thesis work at a research in progress poster session. I was astounded and grateful to see how many people took the time to read my work and give such valuable and positive feedback. It was a unique opportunity appearing at this conference; learning about some of the research currently ongoing throughout North America. There was a large variety of symposiums that allowed conference attendees not only to choose a specific topic to learn about, but also an opportunity to network with professionals and other students in a particular field. I highly recommend anyone who hasn't been to a Wildlife Society conference before to check their calendar and head to Winnipeg, Manitoba for next year's conference.



Photos From the Canadian Section
Reception
Sponsored by Lotek





CSTWS Webinar Series

To better serve students and wildlife professionals across Canada, the Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society (CSTWS) is continuing the Electronic Education Series this year. The intent of the series is to provide our members with opportunities to hear presentations by outstanding individuals in wildlife ecology and management. This year, presentations are taking place between October and March (except December), and

most are scheduled for the last Friday of the month.

- Jan 16: **John Fryxell**, University of Guelph – *Mammal migration in a rapidly changing world*
- Feb 20: **Ken Williams**, The Wildlife Society Executive Director – *Adaptive Management – When It Can Work and When it Won't*
- March 20: **Eric (Rick) Taylor**, COSEWIC Chair – *The Role of The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) in Assessing Species at Risk in Canada*

All CSTWS members are welcome to participate. Please watch for emails announcing each webinar, then reply to register. Instructions will be sent to those who register a couple of days before the webinar.

The Electronic Education Series is sponsored by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Centre for Northern Forest Ecosystem Research, Thunder Bay, Ontario. <http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en/Business/CNFER>



Check us out on Facebook!

<https://facebook.com/cstws>



UPCOMING MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

Prairie University Biology Symposium 2015

An international conference for students by students in biology

February 19, 20, & 21

Low-pressure setting to give a research talk or present a poster

Richardson College for the Environment and Science at The University of Winnipeg

Network with other students

All undergraduate and graduate students welcome!

Registration:

- Open December 9, 2014
- Register at: www.pubs2015.com
- \$50.00 registration fee
- \$50.00 for a banquet ticket



Contact us at:

2015pubs@gmail.com

DISCOVER · ACHIEVE · BELONG

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

Note: Please see the website @ wildlife.org/Canada/jobs for more up to date job adds!

Post-Doc – Aldridge Lab (Colorado State University)

Due to the tremendous interest and emphasis on sagebrush habitat management and applied sage-grouse population monitoring and modeling, we have an emerging opportunity for one or two recent or pending graduates (post-doc) to join our research team at Colorado State University / USGS Fort Collins. This is not an official announcement, but we are actively searching for potential candidates.

We are looking for individuals with experience with sagebrush obligates - experience with sage-grouse is a great fit, but knowledge of the sagebrush ecosystem and familiarity with other species could prove just as useful. Experience with applied population models, e.g. PVA, demographic models, and/or spatial habitat modeling, would fit nicely with the work we are proposing. We are most interested in individual with good quantitative skills, experience with population and/or habitat modeling and the interest and ability to apply these skills to applied wildlife management and conservation topics.

Without going into details here, our projects are focused on making connections between habitat change (driven by land-use & development, climate, conservation/mitigation, etc.) and population responses in both near and long-term scenarios. Connections to grazing, invasive species, fire, habitat treatments, energy and domestic developments are all important components of the analytic foci.

Modeling population responses is essential to these projects, but we also emphasize habitat prioritization and evaluation of factors that predict and drive rangeland conditions in the sagebrush ecosystem.

We have a diverse and expanding group of researchers, and we are strongly committed to maintaining a Team environment, with explicit opportunities to both lead project(s) and actively contribute to others -leading to multiple, semi-related publications. Our team for these projects is partially assembled, and this is chance to join an active team, analyze existing data, make a difference in sagebrush conservation and develop active research collaborations within the sagebrush/sage-grouse community.

Please share this email widely with colleagues and students or graduates who might fit these requirements, or who may know someone who does. If interested please contact us right away with questions, or for further discussion.

Cameron Aldridge & Dan Manier
 Assistant Professor, Department of Ecosystem Science and Sustainability, Natural Resource Ecology State University & U.S. Geological Survey, 2150 Centre Avenue, Building C Fort Collins, CO 80526-8118 USA
 Laboratory, Colorado
 Voice: 970-226-9433
 Mobile: 970-217-6313
 Fax: 970-226-9298
cameron.aldridge@colostate.edu

Postdoctoral Research Position – Assessing Caribou Survival in Relation To Moose and Wolf Distribution and Abundance

Many factors affect the outcomes of predator-prey interactions, particularly when those interactions involve multiple prey species, general predators, and a complex landscape. Factors most likely to affect survival of boreal caribou include the complexities of moose-wolf-caribou interactions such as apparent competition, and changes in selection resulting from changes to habitats on the landscape.

A postdoctoral position is available at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC; Prince George campus) to address the following questions:

- Is moose distribution and abundance related to human-caused habitat change inside and outside of core caribou habitats?;
- Is wolf use of caribou habitat related to moose distribution and abundance?;
- Do predator and prey abundance and behaviour interact to put caribou at risk?; and

- What biotic, landscape, and anthropogenic attributes affect the survival of boreal caribou (with particular reference to those attributes that can be managed)?

Related to this initiative, GPS-collared caribou and wolves in north-east British Columbia (BC) have been monitored for approximately 3 years. Studies of moose, however, have been limited to occasional density estimates. The BC Boreal Caribou Research Effectiveness and Monitoring Board (REMB) will deploy 60 GPS satellite collars on moose in three boreal caribou areas, as well as collar additional wolf packs, if necessary. The moose collaring will be completed in winter 2014-15 in cooperation with BC Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations. Analysis and subsequent reporting will be led by the postdoctoral fellow filling this position, which is funded by the REMB.

Understanding moose-wolf-caribou dynamics and their interaction with landscape condition will help identify elements of the caribou system that are under management influence, and will allow optimization of management activities. That landscape change increases the abundance of moose and wolves and leads to lower caribou survival, is a frequently cited hypothesis, but remains largely untested. This research will focus on quantifying these relationships across gradients in anthropogenic disturbances and moose and wolf densities, and will use the fine-scale data provided by GPS monitoring to test more sophisticated hypotheses related to the outcomes of survival analyses.

The postdoctoral fellow will:

1. Use existing data and models to predict where habitat use by moose, caribou, and wolves overlaps;
2. Develop and refine specific resource selection models for these three species as additional data become available;
3. Identify those factors related to landscape change, moose selection, and wolf predation that contribute to caribou mortality; and
4. Identify management activities that may increase caribou survival.

The postdoctoral fellow will work with a team of UNBC scientists including Drs. Mike Gillingham, Kathy Parker, and Chris Johnson, who have expertise in large-mammal population dynamics, survival analysis, animal movement, behaviour, and selection, and population modeling. This is a **two-year full-time**

position, based on the UNBC Prince George campus, with the Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Institute at UNBC. Salary is CDN \$53,000 per year plus health benefits; some research travel funds for field work and conferences also are available. The position could be extended for a third year depending on progress and funding availability. Applicants should have a PhD in wildlife ecology, biology, population ecology, or related discipline. Familiarity with analysis of telemetry and survival data; and strong GIS, quantitative and statistical abilities are essential. Applicants should have effective written and oral communication skills. Previous experience with animal movement, habitat use and selection, and population analyses is desirable. The ideal postdoctoral fellow will have initiative, curiosity and dedication to scientific research, as well as the ability to exercise independent judgment and work in a team environment.

USEFUL WEBSITES

<http://staging.scek.ca/boreal-caribou/projects/> (see Active and Complete Projects)

<http://scek.ca/news-type/boreal-caribou>

To apply, applicants should create a single pdf document containing a cover letter describing experience and goals, a resume, and the names and contact information (phone and e-mail) for 3 references. Please send the application to Dr. Michael Gillingham (michael@unbc.ca). Review of applications will begin 1 November 2014; the position will remain open until filled. Start date is negotiable, but is targeted for 1 January 2015.

Your job add *here*

Please send job announcements for the newsletter or website to Matt Dyson at matt.e.dyson@gmail.com



WHO'S WHO IN THE SECTION

President: Darren Sleep
P.O. Box 1036, Station B,
Montreal, PQ, H3B 3K5
Tel: (514) 286-9690
E-mail: dsleep@ncasi.org

Past-President: Evie Merrill
University of Alberta
Biological Sciences
Edmonton, AB, T6G 1Z8
Tel: (780) 492-2842
FAX: (780) 492-9234
E-mail: emerrill@ualberta.ca

President-Elect: Mark Boyce
University of Alberta
Biological Sciences
Edmonton, AB, T6G 1Z8
Phone: (780) 492-0081
Fax: (780) 492-9234
E-mail: mark.boyce@ualberta.ca

Vice- President: Jennifer Psyllakis
BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural
Resource Operations
PO Box 9303, Stn Prov Gov't
Victoria BC, V8W 9N1
Phone 250-356-9287
Cell 250-812-7797
E-mail: Jennifer.Psyllakis@gov.bc.ca

Secretary-Treasurer: Matt Dyson
106-1558 Trossacks Ave,
London, ON, N5X 2P2
Tel: (226) 238-1789
E-mail: matt.e.dyson@gmail.com

Section Rep: Arthur Rodgers
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
Centre for Northern Forest Ecosystem Research
955 Oliver Road
Thunder Bay, ON, P7B 5E1
Tel: (807) 343-4011
E-mail: art.rodgers@ontario.ca

PROVINCIAL CHAPTERS

Alberta Chapter
President: Kashif Sheikh
E-mail: Kashif.Sheikh@opussw.com

Saskatchewan Chapter
President: Van Wishingrad
E-mail: van.wishingrad@usask.ca
<http://sasktws.weebly.com>

Manitoba Chapter
President: Dennis Brannen
E-mail: dbrannen@mymts.net

Ontario Chapter
President: Neil Dawson
E-mail: Neil.dawson@ontario.ca

STUDENT CHAPTERS

Student Chapter Representative to Canadian Section Executive Board: Christina Prokopenko
E-mail: prokopen@ualberta.ca

Lakehead University
President: Mallory Vanier
E-mail: mdvanier@lakeheadu.ca

Trent University
President: Morgan Hawkins
E-mail: trenttws@gmail.com

University of Alberta
Presidents: Nikki Paskar
E-mails: uactws@ualberta.ca

Université Laval
President: Emilie Champagne
E-mail: emilie.champagne@bio.ulaval.ca

University of Northern British Columbia
President: Cale Babey
E-mail : tws@unbc.ca

EDITORS

Newsletter: Kathreen Ruckstuhl,
Garth Mowat & Matt Dyson
Website: Matt Dyson & Kathreen Ruckstuhl



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”

2015 Membership Application

The Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society invites you to join or renew your membership for 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
Western University, Department of Biology
1151 Richmond Street
London, ON
N6A 5B7

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)