

Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society

Newsletter

"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"

June 3, 2010

Vol. 3, No. 3

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Merlin Shoemith
Winnipeg, Manitoba*

Proposed Bylaw change for Canadian Section, The Wildlife Society

Article VIII. Committees
Section 2. Standing Committees

Clause A – Nominating and Elections – See Article V, Section 1, Clause A.

Clause B – Membership – This committee shall encourage the maximum number of qualified persons residing or working within the Section's organizational area to become members of the Canadian Section, The Wildlife Society.

Clause C – Program Committee - This committee shall arrange programs of all regular and annual meetings and provide the President with a proposed agenda for the Annual Meeting at least 2 months prior to the meeting date.

Clause D – Conservation Affairs Committee – This committee shall review legislative proposals, administrative regulations, environmental assessments and impact statements, prepare white papers on critical wildlife issues, and other subjects or issues affecting wildlife or wildlife habitat with the geographical area of the Section and make recommendations to the Executive Board for any action that should be taken by the Canadian Section.

Clause E – Awards Committee – This committee shall coordinate, prepare submissions for, solicit for and receive unsolicited nominations for deserving members of the Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society. The scope of this committee's work includes nominations for annual awards of both the Section and parent Society.

Clause F – Audit Committee – On an annual basis, the President shall appoint a committee to review the financial records and support documents of the Secretary-Treasurer for report to the members at the next annual meeting. This committee shall consist of a Chair and two additional members. The committee also shall review these records and documents prior to any change in the office of Secretary-Treasurer.



SECTION NEWS & MEETING

Canadian Section, The Wildlife Society Annual Business Meeting

University of Alberta Campus
Edmonton, Alberta
July 3, 2010

Agenda and Schedule

11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	BBQ Welcome, Picnic Site #1, Hawrelak Park
2:30 – 5:30 p.m.	Annual Business Meeting, Canadian Section, TWS University of Alberta Campus, Engineering Teaching and Learning Centre E2 001
2:30 – 2:35	Welcome and Introductory Remarks (MerlinShoemith)
2:35 – 2:40	Approval of minutes of 2009 AGM
2:40 – 2:50	Report of the Secretary-Treasurer and Membership (Erin McCance)
2:50 – 2:55	Brief summary of progress in the Canadian Section on behalf of the Executive Board (Merlin)
2:55 – 3:15	Message from Executive Director, The Wildlife Society (Michael Hutchins)
3:15 – 3:25	BREAK
3:25 – 3:40	Report of Canadian Section Representative, The Wildlife Society (Rick Baydack)
3:40 – 4:10	Alberta Student Chapter Representatives: How Can the Canadian Section Help You with your programs and activities? (Robin Steenweg, Kayla Balderson)
4:10 – 4:30	Conservation Affairs Committee---Wildlife

	Policy in Canada Comments by the CAC co-chairs Darren Sleep and Chris Addison; Jenna Jadin, John Fitzgerald
4:30 – 4:35	Formation of chapters, student chapters in TWS (Shannon Pederson)
4:40 – 5:00	Manitoba Chapter/Canadian Section Hosting the TWS Annual Summer Conference 2015 (All)
5:00 – 5:20	Section Bylaws Revision (All) Create Awards Committee, Student Chapter Representative on Executive??
5:20 – 5:25	Annual change in Corporation Address Report of the Nominations/Elections Committee (Jack Dubois)
5:25 – 5:30	Welcome President Art Rodgers
5:30	Next Annual Meeting and Adjourn

Society for Conservation Biology & CSTWS AGM

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, 2-7 July 2010

Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society Annual Meeting supported by The Alberta Chapter of TWS and the Student Chapter of TWS at the University of Alberta will be held in conjunction with the International Congress on Conservation Biology (ICCB) on 3 July 2010 in Edmonton, Alberta.

There will be an open barbeque 11:30-1:30 on 3 July 2010 on the University of Alberta campus followed by the Canadian Section business meeting and discussions on making linkages among conservation groups in Canada. Instead of an open paper session at this year's meeting the Canadian Section is sponsoring two special symposia at the ICCB:

Sustainable Use in Wildlife Conservation: Sustainable use is a valuable tool for promoting the conservation of biological diversity, in many instances providing incentives for conservation and restoration because of the social, cultural and economic benefits that people derive from that use. In turn, sustainable use cannot be achieved without effective politics and conservation measures. Hunting, trapping and angling are forms of sustainable use of wildlife when properly managed. In this symposium, speakers will address biological, economic, socio-cultural and political aspects of sustainable use across the globe for what the future holds.

Caribou Conservation: International Perspectives on Management and Policy:

As one of the last example of remaining large ungulate migrations in the northern hemisphere, caribou and reindeer populations face a myriad of limiting factors.

Given that the global population decline encompasses all subspecies of caribou and reindeer, and the immeasurable value of the species to northern cultures through subsistence hunting and herding, international dialogue on caribou and reindeer management strategies is needed. The purpose of this symposium is to provide an overview of region-specific caribou and reindeer limiting factors and policy in order to educate both professionals and students on the conservation and management of a "threatened" species with circumpolar distribution. See details on **Canadian Section:** <http://joomla.wildlife.org/Canada/>

For info on accommodation while attending the AGM or the SCB meeting visit:

<http://www.conbio.org/activities/meetings/2010/visitor/accommodation.cfm>

See also flyer below



Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society

Picnic, Business Meeting & Sponsored ICCB Symposia
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
3-4 July 2010

Schedule

<p>Saturday, 3 July 11:30-2:00</p> <p>Saturday, 3 July 2:30-5:00</p> <p>Sunday, 4 July 8:00-12:30; 2:00-4:00</p>	<p>Member & Guest Picnic: Site # 1- Hawrelak Park \$15 CAD onsite; \$12 if RSVP: emormi@ualberta.ca Student members of Canadian Sections or Chapters FREE</p> <p>Canadian Section AGM UA – campus: ETL C E1 003 Sponsored symposia at ICCB Shaw Conference Center</p>
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PICNIC LOCATION

Join us at the picnic and meet Wildlife Society members from across Canada and North America.

Hawrelak Park is just a short walk from UA campus. Parking is available during the picnic. Lunch cost payable in cash (SCAD) on site (\$15) or RSVP for price reduction (\$12). Students of Canadian Section or Canadian Chapters free with proof of membership. Kids welcome; no dogs.



ETLC: CS Meeting & walking route

CANADIAN SECTION MEETING: Engineering Teaching & Learning Center – E1-003
Members and non-members are invited to the business meeting on UA campus where we will discuss how the Canadian Section is developing national wildlife policy; how it can support Provincial Chapters and Student Chapters, how it is making linkages with other organizations to address Canadian policies on wildlife and natural resources. No registration required.

SPONSORED SYMPOSIA: Shaw Conference Center – LRT stop: Central

Canadian section organized two symposia within the Society for Conservation Biology's International Conference on Conservation Biology on Sunday, 4 July 2010:

8:00 – 12:30 Sustainable Use in Wildlife Conservation

2:00 – 4:00 Caribou Conservation: International Perspectives on Management & Policy

Conference registration required – One-day and special rates for Albertans.
For details see: <http://www.conbio.org/activities/meetings/2010/index.cfm>
Sponsors: The Canadian Section of Wildlife Society, Alberta Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Alberta Conservation Association, Boone & Crockett Club, Hunting for Tomorrow.

For more information see: <http://joomla.wildlife.org/Canada/>



It's that time of year again to vote in new executive members to CSTWS. Please find below the candidates' profiles and the ballot with mailing address (last page)

CANDIDATES' PROFILES & BALLOT FOR ELECTING CANADIAN SECTION OFFICERS

Dr. Nicola Koper



Assistant Professor
Natural Resources Institute
University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada R3T 2N2
Tel.: (204) 474-8768
Fax: (204) 261-0038
E-mail: koper@cc.umanitoba.ca
Website: [Grazing Biodiversity](#)

Education

B.Sc., University of Guelph, Ontario
M.Sc., University of Guelph, Ontario
Ph.D., University of Alberta, Alberta

Experience

Dr. Nicola Koper holds a faculty position in Terrestrial Ecology at the NRI. Her broad background is in landscape ecology, prairie and wetland ecology, multi-species management, surrogate species, and ecological statistics. Her research has involved a variety of vertebrates, including songbirds, ducks, shorebirds, freshwater turtles, and woodland caribou. The common thread

that joins these topics is conservation biology.

Her current focus is in conservation and landscape ecology of prairie birds. Current projects explore conservation and habitat management for songbirds in mixed-grass and tall-grass prairies in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. For example, she is coordinating and managing a multidisciplinary long-term, large-scale adaptive management grazing experiment in southern Saskatchewan. In this study, she is experimentally manipulating grazing intensities in a hierarchical, replicated design to evaluate effects of habitat management on vegetation, invertebrate, and avian communities.

Dr. David Walker

Assistant Professor

466 Wallace
474-6581
[Email](#)

Dr Walker joined the Department of Environment and Geography in 2004, having previously worked as a Post-Doctoral Fellow, and research associate in various departments at the University of Manitoba. Dr. Walker is a quantitative, terrestrial ecologist who has worked in a wide array of different areas of the environment.

Dr. Walker's research interests are primarily in landscape systems, ecosystem dynamics and human and wildlife interactions with landscapes. This broad area of interest can be divided into four topical areas: invasive species research, diversity and fragmentation, data integration and modeling, and spatial methods

Dr. Kathreen E. Ruckstuhl



Name: Kathreen E. Ruckstuhl

Office Sought: President Elect

Present Position: Associate professor, wildlife biology, University of Calgary (Alberta), since 2004.

TWS Views: I became a member of the Wildlife Society in 1998. I am very excited about the possibility of serving as vice president for the new Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society. The new section is instrumental in strengthening the Canadian contribution to the Wildlife Society and is encouraging Canadian wildlife professionals to become active participants of the society. I would like to be involved in society activities, dealing with management, conservation and other issues particular to Canada. I am a wildlife biologist with special interest in behaviour and ecology. I've been mainly working on ungulate foraging behaviour, sexual segregation, group dynamics and decision-making. What I particularly love about my profession is the opportunity to gain a deep insight into the life history of a species and observe these magnificent animals in the wild. Access to a long-term study site and to individually marked bighorn sheep has allowed me to research this species in great detail. I currently work both on applied and fundamental studies, investigating the impact of cattle grazing on native ungulates and their range, and on small mammal abundance/life histories. Other projects include studies on breeding migrations/metapopulation dynamic, effects of dominance rank on stress levels in bighorn rams, male-male associations, dominance and social dynamics, feeding ecology individual differences/strategies in acquiring resources. I also work on a project on corridor use in elk in the Canmore (Alberta) area, together with Alberta Fish & Wildlife Division and Parks and Protected Areas.

Education: B.Sc. & M.Sc. (1990; 1992)--University of Berne, Switzerland (mother-kid behaviour in alpine chamois). Ph.D. (1994-1998)--Université de Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada (social and foraging behaviour of Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep in Alberta). Postdoctoral Fellowship (1999-2004)--University of Cambridge, England (sexual segregation in ungulates in Europe, North America and Africa [zebra, oryx, wildebeest, Alpine ibex, bighorn sheep]).

Former Positions: (1999-2004) Postdoctoral Fellowship,

University of Cambridge, UK. (2001) Wildlife Biologist at the Zoo and Wildlife Research Institute in Berlin. (1992-1994) Biologist, Natural History Museum, Berne, Switzerland.

TWS Activities: Member of TWS since 1998; member of the Canadian Section since 2007. Webmaster for Canadian Section website, and Newsletter editor (2009). Co-organizer and convener for the presentations at the June 2009 meeting of the Canadian section at U of MB, Delta Marsh Field Station, Manitoba. Vice President 2009-2010.

Other Professional Affiliations: Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour; Animal Behaviour Society; International Society for Behavioural Ecology; Canadian Society of Zoologists; International Network for Social Network analysis; Swiss Society for Wildlife Research; Cambridge Philosophical Society; Sigma Xi. Member of ESCC Alberta.

Principal Professional Interests: Wildlife ecology, large mammals, behavioural ecology, management, and conservation.



Honorary Membership, TWS

Nomination of Don Eastman for Honorary Membership, TWS

Merlin Shoesmith, president of the Canadian Section of the Wildlife Society, nominated two individuals for Honorary Membership with TWS, Dr. Donald S. Eastman and Fred Bunnell. The letters follow below:

I am nominating Dr. Donald S. Eastman for honorary membership in The Wildlife Society for 2010. Dr. Eastman is semi-retired with his own consulting business at present. For much of his career, he has been employed in natural resource management in the British Columbia (BC) government and has spent significant time at the University of Victoria. Don's main focus or professional interest has been related to habitat requirements of vertebrates and the effects of forest practices on these requirements. This extends to the protection of critical habitat of endangered species and the development of strategies for conservation of biodiversity.

From a Canadian perspective, Don has been a primary force in developing strategies and promoting biodiversity both locally in BC as well as on the national and international level. He has been an advisor to the Canadian Biodiversity Office and a member of the Canadian delegation to United Nations sponsored Convention(s) on Biological Diversity. The scope of his interests and research range from critical habitat of

grizzly bears to butterflies, marten, river otter, Vancouver Island Marmot, pelicans, Roosevelt elk and moose. Dr. Eastman is a leader in promoting the science of wildlife management in BC where he managed the Research and Biodiversity program of the B.C. government for 23 years prior to his retirement.

Don became a member of The Wildlife Society in 1967 and has been very active in the Northwest Section. He has devoted his entire career to understanding and protecting the biodiversity of B.C. and elsewhere. I highly recommend that he be designated as an Honorary Member of The Wildlife Society in 2010.

Merlin Shoesmith, President
Canadian Section, TWS



CHAPTER NEWS

Alberta Chapter

by Dave Scobie, ACTWS President

Hopefully this finds everyone excited about the upcoming field season. Our 20th Annual Conference was held at the Red Deer Lodge and Convention Centre in Red Deer, Alberta on March 12-13, 2010. Our theme for the Conference was '20 years and going strong...' which we are certainly achieving. We received strong support from our membership to establish an Executive Director position. The membership agreed to a part-time position, subject to funding availability, for a 2 year term that will be evaluated after 18 months. Seventy-five percent (75%) of the successful candidate's time will be allocated to advocating for wildlife issues by providing science based advice. The other 25% will be spent assisting the Executive with organizing our Annual Conference and Annual Business meeting.

We invited, as our guests, Past Presidents and Rowan Award recipients (the highest honor the Chapter awards) to the Conference. At the Awards Banquet we had approximately 600 years of professional wildlife experience sitting at 3 VIP tables. It was great to see these sages of the wildlife profession interacting with the students.

We have added 3 new Chairs to our Executive, Information and Education, History and Membership for a total of 17 positions.

We are hoping everyone will make it to Edmonton for the Canadian Section meeting and International Congress for Conservation Biology in July. Our Committee has been working hard at organizing venues and a barbecue picnic; it should be a really good time!

Manitoba Chapter

*By Jonathan Wiens, Manitoba Water Stewardship,
MBCTWS President*

As the new President of the Manitoba Chapter of the Wildlife Society, I'm pleased to be able to provide my first submission to our newsletter. Many thanks to David Walker, for his hard work over the past year in serving our chapter. Most of our members are likely getting geared up for the upcoming field season, and it's my hope that everyone has a safe and productive time in the

Nomination of Fred L. Bunnell for Honorary Membership in TWS

I am nominating Dr. Fred L. Bunnell, retired Professor from the University of British Columbia, as an Honorary Member of The Wildlife Society. Dr. Bunnell has demonstrated a total and undying commitment to advancing the science of wildlife management both locally and internationally during his entire career at the University of British Columbia. He has had a long and productive career authoring or co-authoring some 250 refereed papers plus a similar number of non-refereed papers in conference proceedings, reports to government and industry and has edited 7 books. His broad interest in science and biodiversity from bryophytes to mammals is evident in his publications. Upon retirement, Dr. Bunnell continued to conduct innovative and challenging projects in applied biology and wildlife conservation in B.C.

Dr. Bunnell has the gift of listening to ideas from anyone and then turning those ideas into pragmatic and applied wildlife research that truly lead to solutions for the wildlife manager. He bridged disciplines and integrated inputs from professionals across a wide variety of affiliations. These are unique character traits of a researcher that have made Fred an outstanding wildlife professional and advocate for biology in British Columbia and elsewhere.

A member of TWS since 1968, Dr. Bunnell has quietly worked in the "shadows" of many other wildlife professionals so honored in the The Wildlife Society for pursuing excellence in wildlife research and management. Recognition of his outstanding contribution by TWS is long overdue and I am proud to nominate Dr. Fred Bunnell for Honorary Membership.

Merlin Shoesmith, President
Canadian Section, TWS

outdoors. Many of you may be wondering why an employee of Manitoba Water Stewardship is the President of this Society. Although I'm trained in wildlife management, I'm proud to be working with the Conservation District Program of Manitoba. It's well known that one of the greatest threats to wildlife populations in North America is the loss of habitat. This program works all over municipal Manitoba to improve land and water management for the benefit our water, soils, and wildlife and opportunity to contribute to a major initiative to map the breeding range of all birds in Manitoba. The Manitoba Breeding Bird Atlas Project is being coordinated by our very own Christian Artuso. This project aims to conduct an intensive five year study on the exact breeding range of all birds in this province. Anyone interested in volunteering is invited to check out their website <http://www.birdatlas.mb.ca/>. During this next year I would like to ensure that all of us are aware of opportunities to volunteer in Manitoba wildlife projects and help contribute to wildlife policy development. This program works all over municipal Manitoba to

Check out the Chapter Website:
<http://joomla.wildlife.org/manitoba/>

5th Annual "Wildlife Management in Manitoba" Speaker Session

The 5th annual "Wildlife Management in Manitoba" speaker session, held on March 19th, was a great success. 14 speakers presented the results of their wildlife management efforts and research to an audience of over 40 participants. The topics ranged from songbirds to cougars and provided a great overview of some of major wildlife management efforts in this province. Dr. John Toepfer delivered an excellent keynote address on the status of the endangered Greater Prairie Chicken in North America. The AGM (held during lunch) allowed MB Chapter membership to catch-up on current activities within TWS – Canadian Chapter and TWS – International. Three new by-laws were also passed. Sponsorship for this event was provided by Manitoba Conservation, Ducks Unlimited Canada, and Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources. Oak Hammock Marsh also sponsored the event by providing an excellent venue and lunch at a reduced cost. Thank you to everyone who presented, volunteered and participated in this worthwhile event!

NEW: British Columbia Chapter

The CSTWS is happy to announce the formation of the British Columbia Chapter. Welcome BC chapter!

The current person in charge of the chapter is:
George Carlson (gcarlson@eba.ca)



JOBS IN WILDLIFE AND OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

We are advertising wildlife biology positions on our Canadian section website and the newsletter. If anyone has an add they'd like to put up please send it to me kruckstu@ucalgary.ca

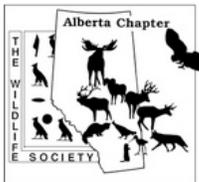
Please do also send me other contributions such as conference announcements, your thoughts on a particular topic that could be relevant to the society, your drawings or any pictures you'd like to see included in the newsletter

Kathreen Ruckstuhl
Newsletter editor, webmaster and Vice-president



EXISTING CANADIAN CHAPTERS

Alberta Chapter



President: David Scobie
E-mail: dscobie@avocet.ca
<http://joomla.wildlife.org/Alberta>

Ontario Chapter

President: Brent Patterson
E-mail: brent.patterson@ontario.ca

Manitoba Chapter



President: Jonathan Wiens
E-mail: jonathan.wiens@gov.mb.ca



STUDENT CHAPTERS

Student Chapter Representative:
Robin Steenweg (outgoing); Kayla Balderson (incoming)

University of Alberta
Contact: Kayla Balderson
E-mail: kbalders@ualberta.ca

Lethbridge Community College
Contact: Kalista Pruden (Pres.)
E-mail: kalista.pruden@lethbridgecollege.ab.ca

Lakehead University
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University of Northern British Columbia
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Université Laval
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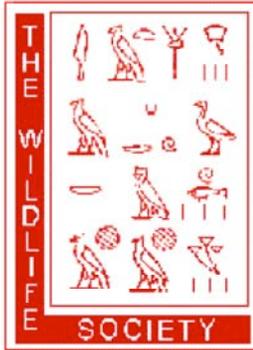
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University of Calgary





Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society, 2010 Elections Ballot

PRESIDENT-ELECT NOMINEE:

PRESIDENT-ELECT:
Dr. Kathreen Ruchstuhl

ACCEPT

REJECT

VICE PRESIDENT NOMINEES:

VICE PRESIDENT:
Dr. David Walker

VOTE

VICE PRESIDENT:
Dr. Nicola Koper

VOTE

PLEASE MAIL YOUR BALLOTS TO: THE CANADIAN SECTION OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY C/O JACK DUBOIS BOX 24-200 SAULTEAUX CRESCENT, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, R3J 3W3, or fax 204-945-3077