



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"

May 15, 2011

Vol. 4, No. 3

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*By Art Rodgers, CSTWS President,
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources*

Welcome to our newest Canadian Chapters in Saskatchewan and at Trent University! And thank you to those who made these new chapters possible! We continue to grow and another new chapter is imminent at Grant MacEwan University. But we still have a lot more room to expand with more than 80 universities and 50 community colleges in Canada and several provinces and territories to add, we have only just begun. Both student and provincial chapters have much to offer and the range of activities they are involved in never ceases to amaze me. Many of these groups regularly bring in guest speakers and of course they hold regular social events (e.g., potluck dinners, pub nights, etc.) but they also go well beyond, offering workshops on radio telemetry, wildlife tracking, skull cleaning, snowshoeing, orienteering, ice fishing derbies and photo contests, bird song recognition, owl calling, bird banding, visits to wildlife rehabilitation centres and research forests, quiz bowls, and the list goes on. Some chapters have also participated in local research projects involving radio telemetry of urban deer, amphibian and bird monitoring, and stream rehabilitation. As independent non-governmental organizations, some provincial and student chapters have considered applying for research funds to carry out their own local or regional research and monitoring projects for Species at Risk. Others have contributed to hunter education programs and provide an invaluable resource to hunting and fishing organizations. Many of our members have participated in Earth Day activities, helping to clean up neighbourhood creeks and highways. A few have built bird houses and bat boxes. There is also the possibility of contributing to local education programs, following the lead of the Alberta Chapter, connecting TWS members with classrooms in their community to help children better understand and appreciate nature. Members have also served as mentors

and judges in local Envirothons, Science Olympics and Science Fairs. It seems the list is endless!

Of course I would be remiss if I didn't mention the activities of the Canadian Section, especially the upcoming Annual General Meeting, hosted by the Ontario Chapter, to be held in Thunder Bay, September 24-26, and preceded by a student conclave hosted by the Lakehead University Student Chapter. If you haven't already done so, consider submitting an abstract for a paper or poster presentation by the June 30 deadline and don't forget to start putting your 4-member team together for the first-ever Canadian version of the famed TWS Quiz Bowl – it will probably be too late if you wait until classes resume in September! Hopefully, you also had a chance to take in the first presentation in our Electronic Education Series by Dr. Lee Foote, University of Alberta, on April 5 – it was awesome – thanks Lee! From all the positive feedback we received, we hope to get the series going again in the fall. If you have any suggestions of speakers or workshop topics, please let us know. Under the leadership of Past President Merlin Shoesmith, Canadian Section Representative Rick Baydack and the Manitoba Chapter, we are also working to get the TWS Annual Conference back in Canada in 2015 – the competition is stiff but hey this is Canada and we have moose, polar bears and waterfowl galore! How could anyone beat that!

It's also that time of year to think about nominations for Vice President and President-Elect for the Executive of the Canadian Section of TWS, for 2011-12. Perhaps you know someone who you think could provide leadership and a vision for the future of the Canadian Section, or perhaps you would like to nominate yourself. If you have suggestions for worthy candidates or would like to volunteer yourself, get in touch with Past President Merlin Shoesmith, Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee, before July 1, 2011.

With all of this going on and so many possibilities, I can't help but be optimistic about the future of the Canadian Section of TWS. I hope you agree and will continue to participate and build your local Chapters and the Canadian Section, as well as encourage those you may know at our many colleges and universities to consider forming their own Student Chapters. Last year TWS hit a membership milestone of more than 10,000 members, including 85 new members in the Canadian Section since last July – almost a 50% increase! I wonder if we can make 11,000 this year. Why not!



Canadian Section Representative's Report



'Baydack's Banter'

**By Rick Baydack, University of Manitoba
(baydack@cc.umanitoba.ca)**

Water, Water Everywhere.....And What to do with it All! That seems to be the common sentiment in Manitoba this spring as levels in our two major river systems and their many tributaries appear to be exceeding the limits of our knowledge base in terms of flood management. This leads me to recall the famous quotation from ecologist Frank Egler..... *Nature isn't more complex than we think, it's more complex than we can think.* I am sure many of us have often thought that to be the case as we struggle with the best ways to manage and conserve features of our environment, particularly with respect to wildlife resources and their various needs.

The Wildlife Society of course can provide the support and foundation for us to make the right decisions in the right ways for the right reasons as we strive to achieve *Excellence in Wildlife Stewardship Through Science and Education.* And I continue to be encouraged by the great strides that Canadians have been making in moving our Society forward in so many important ways. Hopefully you realize we now have provincial Chapters in 5 provinces and Student Chapters at 6 Universities/Colleges.

Discussions among wildlife biologists and managers are taking place in the remaining provinces and territories and at other academic institutions as we attempt to further

expand the sphere of influence of TWS in Canada. Since the local level and its associated knowledge base are so critical to the effective functioning of The Wildlife Society, I find it gratifying to see so many Canadians stepping forward to make things happen. Kudos to all who have been and will be involved!

In terms of recent TWS activities, I trust that you are aware that *The Wildlife Society Bulletin* resumed publication in March 2011. Editor-In-Chief Warren Ballard notes in his Editor's Letter entitled *The Road Back for The Wildlife Society Bulletin* that...*The Bulletin is a journal for wildlife practitioners that effectively integrates cutting-edge science with management and conservation, and also covers important policy issues. The Bulletin will include articles on contemporary wildlife management and conservation, education, administration, law enforcement, and review articles on the philosophy and history of wildlife management and conservation.... The stage has been set to bring back the Bulletin. The Wildlife Society Council and many TWS members have done their part to bring back the Bulletin. Now you must do your part by subscribing. At \$35 per year, you will be hard-pressed to find a better value. Thanks for your support.....* I think that Warren's words speak volumes about the importance of this publication to so many field biologists and wildlife managers. I encourage each of you to take advantage of this opportunity to not only subscribe to this publication but also to submit articles with Canadian content so that our knowledge is effectively disseminated to our TWS colleagues.

Another significant TWS advance in recent months has been our application for "Contributing Member" status in the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA), which would allow TWS leadership or appropriate members to serve and vote on AFWA committees. The application required a letter of support from a state director, which was provided by Scott Talbot, Director of Wyoming Game and Fish Department. TWS should hear the results of our application after the next AFWA Executive Board Meeting. AFWA represents the interests of all provincial and state wildlife agencies across North America, so having TWS at the table should once again enhance our sphere of influence in terms of achieving TWS goals and objectives.

And finally, The Wildlife Society 18th Annual Conference scheduled for November 5-10, 2011 in Waikoloa, Hawaii needs to be on your radar screen. I was astonished to find that air fares from Winnipeg through Denver to Kona, Hawaii were in the CDN \$500 return range for that time of year, and have booked my flights accordingly. Similarly, the hotel rates are reasonable at \$155 per night in the

Hilton, with lower rates likely available in nearby properties. So my advice is if you are considering attending, book early to take advantage of what seem to be excellent offers. The Wildlife Society has provided an 'Annual Conference Justification Toolkit' to assist members in making their case for support from employers and other potential supporters. Hopefully that will be of use to you as you make your plans.

And I hope to see all of you in September 2011 at the TWS Canadian Section Annual Meeting in Thunder Bay. Details on this event are available elsewhere in this Newsletter, so that you can plan your trip. I am sure that our colleagues in Northwestern Ontario will put together an outstanding event...



SECTION NEWS

Please see the below new executive for the MB Chapter TWS as of their AGM held on March 24, 2011:

President – Erin McCance, emccance@shaw.ca
 President Elect – Fiona Scurrah, fscurrah@hydro.mb.ca
 Past President – Jonathan Wiens,
Jonathan.Wiens@gov.mb.ca
 Secretary/Treasurer – Dale Wrubleski,
d_wrubleski@ducks.ca
 Graduate Student Representative – Robert Officer,
rofficer@rrc.mb.ca
 Undergraduate Student Representative – Lauren Hayhurst,
kayakfly_07@hotmail.com
 Member at Large, Marianne Schutz,
Marianne_schutz@yahoo.ca
 Member at Large, Chris Smith, C_smith@ducks.ca

Call for Nominations, Canadian Section Executive, 2011-12

By Merlin Shoemith, Chair Nominations and Elections Committee

Nominations for Vice President and President-Elect are being sought for the Executive of the Canadian Section, TWS, for 2011-12. All nominees must reside or work within the jurisdiction of the Canadian Section and be a voting member. No individual may be nominated for more than one officer position. We are soliciting nominees from

the full breadth of the Section to the extent practical. Approval shall be obtained from all candidates prior to placing their name on the ballot. Candidates shall submit nomination statements to the Chair of Nominations and Elections Committee for compiling and forwarding to the Newsletter Editor for publishing in a timely manner. Since the intent is for the annual meeting to be held in September 2011, then the Nominations and Elections Committee should receive nomination statements no later than July 1, 2011. There are many worthy candidates in the Canadian Section to provide leadership and direct our further growth as a Section.

Bid for the 2015 Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society

By Merlin Shoemith, Past President

The Manitoba Chapter and the Canadian Section have submitted a bid to host the 2015 Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society in Winnipeg. All bid submissions will be reviewed by TWS staff and a final recommendation will be made to Council in November. In our bid, the Manitoba Chapter will serve as the "host" chapter and oversee the Arrangements Committee. Seventeen letters of support for hosting the conference were received from Parks Canada, Canadian Wildlife Service, Manitoba Conservation, Manitoba Hydro, Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources, Churchill Northern Studies Centre, University College of the North, University of Manitoba, Department of Biology and Environmental Studies Program, University of Winnipeg, Brandon University, Fort Whyte Alive, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretative Centre, Stantec Consulting Ltd, Wildlife Resources Consulting and northern affiliates of the Manitoba Chapter. Thank you to all who helped obtain or prepare these letters in a timely manner.

Attention students!

The Canadian Section is looking for an enthusiastic and dedicated student who would like to take over the tasks of "Webmaster" for the Section. The duties of the webmaster include regular updates to the website, such as adding information on AGMs, candidate profiles for the executive, section news, announcements, Canadian job advertisements, etc. We are looking for someone who can make the website accessible and fun-to-read for members and interested people. The workload is about 3-4 hours a month. This work will be acknowledged through a stipend

of 250\$/year. Keen students should apply to Art Rodgers, President CSTWS at art.rodgers@ontario.ca

CHAPTER NEWS

Manitoba Chapter

By Erin McCance, President, Manitoba Chapter

The Manitoba Chapter held their AGM at Fort Whyte Alive on March 24th, 2011. The AGM was very well attended and welcomed two speakers from northern Manitoba. Daryll Hedman, Regional Wildlife Manager Manitoba conservation, spoke on polar bears issues in the north particularly the effects of climate change as well as the 'Polar Bear Alert Program' in Churchill. Kent Whaley, Regional Wildlife Manager Manitoba Conservation, spoke on issues relating to woodland caribou in the north. The 2011 Manitoba Chapter Conservationist Award was given to Dr. Dale Wrubleski. Congratulations Dale!



Dr. Richard Baydack, Don Sexton, and the 2011 Conservation Award Winner, Dr. Dale Wrubleski at the 2011 AGM of the MB Chapter TWS, Fort Whyte Alive (Photo by: Erin McCance)

The Manitoba Chapter Bid to host the TWS Annual Conference in 2015 has been submitted and received by TWS. The Manitoba Chapter welcomes a visit from Darryl Walters, TWS Director of Membership Marketing and Conferences on June 13-14, 2011 to showcase our facilities. A final decision on the location for the 2015 conference should be announced by the 18th Annual TWS conference in Wiakoloa Hawaii this November 5-10, 2011.

Saskatchewan Chapter (new!)

On May 4th, TWS and the CSTWS approved a petition signed by 15 full members of TWS and the proposed bylaws to form a provincial chapter of TWS in Saskatchewan. We are currently recruiting new members for our Chapter and hope to hold elections for our first executive in August. Membership is currently \$5 annually and benefits include:

- Presenting your work and learning about the wide variety of wildlife research and management projects currently underway by Saskatchewan students and professionals at our **Saskatchewan Chapter Annual event**
- Networking with fellow Saskatchewan wildlifers, conservationists and natural resource managers at the **Saskatchewan Chapter Annual Mixer**
- Attending our **Educational workshops** and **online webinars** to further enhance knowledge and training
- Discovering new career paths, obtaining valuable contacts for future careers, or inspiring young wildlifers through our **Job shadowing program**
- Helping put forth important information and adding to the collective voice on wildlife and conservation issues in **Saskatchewan**
- Finding new exciting Saskatchewan job opportunities in our newsletter or via postings on our **Saskatchewan Chapter website** and through TWS Online Career Center

Memberships can be purchased online at <http://store.wildlife.org> or personally from interim executive members (Jennifer Sheppard and Eric Vander Wal). If you have any questions concerning membership or executive roles please email sasktws@gmail.com

STUDENT CHAPTER NEWS

By Jerod A. Merkle, Chair of the TWS Student Professional Development Working Group

This winter I moved from the dry mountains of Western Montana, to the wet deciduous forests of southeastern Québec. This move was the beginning of a new chapter in my life, as I have never lived outside of the United States, and I have never lived anywhere that receives over 62 cm of precipitation annually. I grew up in the hot deserts of Arizona, and I completed a bachelor's degree in wildlife biology at the University of Arizona. Most recently, I finished a Master's degree at the University of Montana,

where I worked on human-black bear (*Ursus americanus*) conflicts in urban areas.

On 25 January 2011, I dove head-first into a Ph.D. project at Laval University. My project is focused on a free-ranging bison (*Bison bison*) population in Prince Albert National Park, Saskatchewan. The over-arching goal is to incorporate ecological theory with wildlife management to better understand interplay among range expansion, population dynamics, and behavior in bison. Although I have worked in the mountains of Arizona, Wyoming, and Montana, I have never seen such a neat study system. Since 1995 the bison population in Prince Albert has climbed from 100 animals to over 400. All the while, Parks Canada has documented this growth through annual aerial surveys, and researchers at Laval University have been collecting data via GPS collars. I am sure you will hear more as the study progresses, but since I am only three months into the program, I am going to keep you on the edge of your seat.

I joined The Wildlife Society (TWS) while studying at the University of Arizona, where I served as vice president of the student chapter. Since then, I have been an active member at student, state, and national levels, and recently became Chair of the Student Professional Development Working Group. In a nutshell, this working group strives to help wildlife students “grab this profession by the horns” through TWS’ guidance, opportunity, and knowledge. One of my main goals as Chair is to develop TWS’ international scope through student relationships. In January, we named Agnes Pelletier (Trent University) as the working group’s first international student liaison. I have high hopes that the Student Working Group can be an asset to the professional development of students around the world, and especially in Canada.

In the short time that I have been here, I have met many highly enthusiastic people. For example, members of the new student chapter at Laval University are working hard to develop a chapter that will be successful and perpetual. In conjunction with the Department of Biology, they have developed a long-term monitoring plan to examine American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) nest box use near the University. This type of program, along with a solid membership of over 40 students, is a recipe for a prosperous student chapter. Additionally, your president, Dr. Rodgers, wasted no time in getting me on the phone to talk about the development and future of the Canadian Section. I have also enjoyed conversations about the future of the Canadian Section with Rick Baydack, the Canadian Section representative on TWS’ governing council.

With the consistent addition of new members, new student

chapters, and dedicated leadership, the momentum in Canada is tremendous. I am confident that with the student enthusiasm I have seen, the Canadian section and chapters will contribute substantially to TWS. I am thrilled to be a part of this energy! I look forward to meeting and working with you all.

Do not hesitate to contact me (jerod.merkle.1@ulaval.ca) or Agnes (asg.pelletier@gmail.com) with any questions, comments, thoughts, or suggestions.



UPCOMING MEETINGS



20th International Conference on Bear Research and Management, Ottawa, Canada 17-23 July 2011.

The International Association for Bear Research and Management (IBA) is a non-profit tax-exempt organization open to professional biologists, wildlife managers, and others dedicated to the conservation of all bear species. The goal of the IBA is to promote the

conservation and restoration of the world's bears through science-based research, management, and education.

The organization has over 550 members from over 50 countries. The IBA sponsors workshops and international conferences on all aspects of bear biology, ecology, and management. The International Conference on Bear Research & Management is the largest of these conferences and is focused on all 8 bear species. Many of the conference papers are published as peer-reviewed scientific papers in the journal [Ursus](#).

The organizing committee invites you to join us in July in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada's capital region, for the 20th International Conference on Bear Research and Management. The host hotel for the conference is the newly renovated 'The Westin Ottawa', which is conveniently located within walking distance of many downtown attractions, restaurants, and pubs including the world-famous Byward Market with its many outdoor patios in summer.

Both hotel reservation information for regular conference attendees and a link to request student accommodation are now available on the conference website at: <http://www.wildliferesearch.ca/iba2011/>. Student accommodation has been arranged at the University of Ottawa residences a convenient walk from the conference venue at The Westin Ottawa.

Conference registration is also now available on the conference website. When you register you will be re-directed to the IBA secure server for payment. Don't forget to review the field trip options and to select your choice when registering for the conference.

Early conference registration ends May 15, so register now and save >20%.

The program committee is working hard to finalize the details and fine tune the program, which is shaping up to offer an exciting and stimulating mix of papers, invited speakers, posters, and workshops. A highlight of the program occurs on 19 July when two of Canada's prominent, now retired, bear researchers will speak in the evening public session.

Several options are available for mid-conference field trips ranging from a sedate cruise on the Rideau Canal to white water rafting on the Ottawa River. The website also offers some suggestions for post-conference travel

for those interested in extending their stay in Canada. Following on previous conferences a **silent auction** is planned to raise funds to support students attending the conference. Please consider donating an item to the silent auction—bear related items are always popular as are handicraft items from your country of origin. For more details contact Brian Scheick at brian.scheick@myfwc.com or Martyn Obbard at martyn.obbard@ontario.ca

For general inquiries about the conference contact Martyn Obbard, Head of the Planning Committee at martyn.obbard@ontario.ca



THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY
HAWAII 2011

Waikoloa, Hawaii - November 5-10, 2011

**THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY'S 18TH
ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Join your colleagues at North America's
largest gathering of wildlife professionals.

Network - Learn - Explore - Enjoy!

Featuring:

- technical paper and poster sessions
- workshops
- symposia
- Working Group meetings
- student activities
- exhibits
- social events

www.wildlife.org



The International Environmetrics Society

The Third North American regional meeting of **The International Environmetrics Society** will be held in La Crosse, WI, July 18-20, 2011. The deadline for submission of abstracts to appear in the conference program is May 30, while early registration closes June 10. This conference will bring together statisticians and quantitative scientists to address recent developments in the analysis of environmental and ecological data. Presentations will address statistical topics associated with environmental and ecological data, including with avian, climate, fisheries and forestry data. The theme of the meeting will be "Quantitative methods for the analysis of long-term monitoring data." La Crosse is located on the Mississippi River in southwestern Wisconsin and draws visitors for outdoor recreation, including bicycling, hiking, canoeing, bird-watching and fishing. For more information, please visit <http://www.uwlax.edu/conted/ties2011/>.

Other Meetings of Interest:

Jacksonville, FL The American Ornithologist's Union July 24-29: <http://www.birdmeetings.org/aou2011/>

Joint meeting of the Animal Behavior Society and the International Ethology Conference, July 25-30th in Bloomington, Indiana, USA: <http://www.indiana.edu/~behav11/>

Moncton, NB Society of Canadian Ornithologist's August 4-6: <http://www.sco-soc.ca/>

Austin, TX Ecological Society of North America August 7-12: <http://www.esa.org/>

Sioux Falls, SD America's Grasslands: Status, Threats, and Opportunities hosted by the National Wildlife Federation and South Dakota State University August 15-17: http://texasprairie.org/index.php/our_blog/blog_entry/2011/03/

2011 Arctic Ungulate Conference Challenges of Managing Northern Ungulates August 22 – 26, 2011 Yellowknife, Northwest Territories: www.auc2011.ca



Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society 2011 Annual General Meeting: Call for Papers and Posters

We are soliciting abstracts for posters and 20-minute oral presentations for the contributed paper and poster sessions at the 2011 Canadian Section AGM in Thunder Bay, Ontario. All papers and posters will be presented September 25-26, 2011. Abstract content may consist of either final or interim original research results. Students are especially encouraged to submit posters describing their proposed work and any preliminary results and analysis. Presenters in the contributed paper sessions should expect to speak for no more than 15 minutes, allowing for an introduction and limited Q&A after each presentation.

Abstract Submissions should be emailed to: Brent Patterson, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Wildlife Research and Development Section, Trent University, DNA Building, 2140 East Bank Drive Peterborough, ON, K9J 7B8, CANADA
Tel: (705) 755-1553, Brent.patterson@ontario.ca

The deadline for submission of both oral presentation and poster abstracts is June 30, 2011. Abstracts should not exceed 250 words, excluding title and author addresses, should be in Arial 12-point font, and must adhere to format and layout elements provided in the example below. Indicate whether the paper will be an oral presentation or a poster. Student presentations and posters are eligible for an award. Interested students should indicate their intent to compete for the award when submitting their abstract.

Abstract submittal does not guarantee a place on the schedule. Due to time and space limitations, not all submitted abstracts may be accepted. Acceptance of proposed papers and posters is solely at the discretion of the Program Committee. Presenters will be notified by July 31 2011 if their submission has been accepted.

Questions may be directed via email to the Program Chair, Brent Patterson, brent.patterson@ontario.ca. Speakers must register for the conference and are expected to cover their own travel and lodging expenses. See the CSTWS website (<http://joomla.wildlife.org/Canada/>) for registration and other conference information.

ABSTRACT FORMAT EXAMPLE

Type of paper: Oral presentation

If a student, indicate if you intend to participate in the Student Judging.

Paper Title: Monitoring bats in a restored montane willow meadow

Author(s), Affiliation, Contact Information:

Szewczak, Joseph M.; Humboldt State University, 1 Harpst St., Arcata, CA, 95521, USA, 707/826-4132, Fax: 707/826-3201, Email: joe@1111111.111

During the 1920s, the water table of the Knuthson meadow (Carman Valley, Sierra County, CA) was lowered to facilitate a railroad by diverting the original stream flow into a deeply incised channel. Over time, headward erosion in the diversion channel further lowered the water table across the meadow enabling xeric vegetation to replace much of the original willow-dominant riparian/wet meadow vegetation. Restoration work during 2001 plugged the incised diversion channel and returned the streamflow to its original channel with the intention to restore the meadow's hydrology, vegetation, bioproductivity and wildlife potential, for example to accommodate species of concern such as the endangered willow flycatcher. We monitored bat activity (64 person nights) and species composition (51 person nights) four years prior to the restoration, and three years post-restoration over riparian, willow, and sage-scrub zones of the meadow. In all three zones, activity, and abundance, as reflected by time to asymptote of species accumulation curves, increased significantly 2.4, 6.2, and 11-fold respectively over these zones. The unexpectedly rapid post-restoration increase in bat presence may reflect a transitional increase in insect abundance resulting from the disturbances caused by the restoration work rather than the eventual return to the original mature willow meadow condition



EDUCATION COMMITTEE NEWS

CSTWS Electronic Education Series

The Education Committee of the Canadian Section of TWS was established in the fall of 2010 with the intention of providing wildlife professionals, students and interested people with educational resources and opportunities, such as access to online training courses, web-based seminars and workshops and graduate positions in wildlife ecology and management. The Committee has held several conference calls to discuss the range of possibilities and is moving ahead with several initiatives.

To better serve the needs and interests of students and

wildlife professionals across Canada, the Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society (CSTWS) is undertaking an Electronic Education Series. The intent of the series is to provide our members with opportunities to hear presentations by outstanding individuals in wildlife ecology and management.

The first CSTWS Electronic Education Series presentation was given by Dr. Lee Foote, University of Alberta, on Tuesday April 5th, 2011. Dr. Foote's talk was titled "Sustainable Use of North American Wildlife: What can Africa Teach Us? A summary of his presentation was given in the last newsletter and is available on our website (<http://joomla.wildlife.org/Canada/>). Although the teleconference system that was used does not allow determination of the exact number of participants in the call, several reported setting up meeting rooms where they gathered with colleagues to take in the presentation. There was a lot of positive feedback and here are a few examples;

"I found the webinar a delightful and stimulating hour. Dr. Foote was both knowledgeable and entertaining, and his topic about adapting thinking about wildlife management in Africa to an evolving North American wildlife model gave scholarly structure to some concerns I personally was feeling in the last several years of my time in fish and wildlife management... prior to my retirement in 2008."

"The seminar format was certainly workable, with Dr. Foote coming through clearly on the telephone, and for the most part I was able to stay on the appropriate slide. I did lose track briefly a couple of times, as Dr. Foote's presentation had a few slides removed from a larger presentation altering the numbering, but I was able to find the right spot in rapid order. Art Rodgers was a good moderator/host, and the Q/A session worked well under his leadership. Thanks for the effort you invested in doing the behind-the-scenes organization for the webinar. I know there was lots of work that wasn't visible to us, and I appreciate your skilful hand in that regard. I look forward to the next webinar."

"Congratulations on the successful conducting of this first CSTWS lecture. I found the presentation well done, the speaker engaging, the topic interesting and thought-provoking, and the logistics worked well - a good job all around! I hope that this success encourages you to continue with the lecture series."

Given the feedback received, the Education Committee hopes to bring the series back in October or November. The Committee would like to see the series become more than just another online "webinar" and has proposed that sessions could also include workshops or even panel

discussions such as a workshop on using the R statistical package, constructing Resource Selection Functions, wildlife diseases or a waterfowl ID session. If you have any suggestions for speakers or topics you would like included in the series please send them in to any of the CSTWS Executive or your Chapter representative.

Progress has also been made by the Education Committee to streamline educational information on our webpage. Currently, we advertise educational opportunities under a variety of headings. To make these easier to find, the plan is to create a side tab on our webpage with a drop down menu that would allow us to post links to educational opportunities including our Electronic Education Series, other online lecture series that may interest our members, advertising for training courses and graduate positions in wildlife ecology and management. The website will evolve over time but you can help to move it along a little faster by telling us about any educational opportunities you think would interest our members and suggesting additional links that could be provided on the proposed "Education" tab; send your ideas and suggestions to any of the CSTWS Executive or your Chapter representative.

The Education Committee has tremendous potential to serve the needs of CSTWS members and is extremely excited about the possibilities...help us help you!

The Electronic Education Series is free to CSTWS members. Non-members who sit in on the presentations are encouraged to support the series by joining the CSTWS (annual membership is only \$10) at <http://joomla.wildlife.org/Canada/>.

The Electronic Education Series is sponsored by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Centre for Northern Forest Ecosystem Research, Thunder Bay, Ontario.



**Centre for Northern Forest
Ecosystem Research**

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

<http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en/Business/CNFER/>



Other interesting education links:

1. USGS offers Webinar Courses for Natural Resource Managers at:

<http://www.fort.usgs.gov/brdscience/Courses.htm>

2. Teaching Adaptive Management (TAM) Network

A growing number of graduate programs are offering courses in the Open Standards approach to adaptive management. Foundations of Success (FoS) is currently building a Teaching Adaptive Management (TAM) Network that hopes to capitalize on this opportunity and lead the academic community towards making adaptive management training an essential part of graduate programs. Through this online network, conservation graduate programs with new or existing courses have access to tried and tested teaching materials and benefit from the experience and lessons learned from colleagues who have taught a similar course. More information about the TAM Network can be found at: <http://teachadaptivemanagement.pbworks.com>.



OKER

3. The Wildlife Society Online Mentoring Program



TWS' Online Mentoring program is a great way to build professional relationships that will help advance a student's or young professional's career, while gaining knowledge from a wildlife professional. Already a professional? We are always looking for mentors to volunteer. It is easy to sign up, just go online to our [Online Mentoring Program](http://www.wildlife.org/mentor) with your TWS Member ID number and register.

Want to help but don't have the time to contribute? If you are interested in being a donor, please send your donations to The Wildlife Society, 5410 Grosvenor Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD 20814 with Investor's Campaign in the memo field. Contributions are tax-deductible.

What are TWS Workings Groups?

Working Groups are forums for members with common professional interests to network, exchange information and promote science-based decision making and management of wildlife and its habitats. Working Groups publish newsletters, hold meetings, conduct policy analysis, and organize technical symposia and workshops. Whether you are seeking information or are an expert on a subject, Working Groups have much to offer. In addition to the Native Peoples Wildlife Management WG, there are many others such as the Biodiversity or International Wildlife Management Working Groups. For a complete listing of all working groups, please visit the TWS website. Students and professionals who are a current member of TWS are welcome to join a Working Group. If you have any questions about membership in TWS or Working Groups, please e-mail the membership coordinator (membership@wildlife.org) or call 301-897-9770.

Wildlife Technician Certification Program (adapted from ad on TWS website)

The Wildlife Society has sought to promote and strengthen professional standards in all activities devoted to wildlife resources. To this end, the Society, along with the [North American Wildlife Technology Association](http://www.nawta.org/) (NAWTA; <http://www.nawta.org/>), has developed a professional certification program designed to evaluate the education and professional experience of wildlife technicians. A wildlife technician is a professional who provides support and services to scientists working in wildlife management and animal biology. They gather data on wildlife and their habitat and carry out management plans for wildlife and natural areas. The program for certification of wildlife technicians is a service provided by The Wildlife Society, and peer-reviewed by NAWTA, for its members who desire a peer evaluation statement. Certification constitutes recognition by The Wildlife Society and the North American Wildlife Technology Association that, to its best knowledge, an applicant meets the minimum educational, experience, and ethical standards for professional wildlife technicians. Certification requires a strong commitment to the wildlife profession as further evidenced by the requirement of membership in the Society. **For more information, eligibility and requirements** download the [Wildlife Technicians Certification Program booklet](#) (go to <http://joomla.wildlife.org/> and click certification program

on the left red drop-down menu and [download the application form](#) from there.



IMPORTANT TWS STUDENT AWARD DEADLINES!

The Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society (CSTWS) has made a fund available to encourage student participation in professional meetings of The Wildlife Society (TWS) for up to \$500. This year, the Section is offering a travel award to help students attend the upcoming 2011 TWS Annual Conference in Waikoloa, Hawaii (The Big Island) from November 5 to 10, 2011. Applications are due September 1, 2011. For more information or to apply see PDF form on the front page of our website at: <http://joomla.wildlife.org/Canada/index.php>.



2011 AWARDS DEADLINES - APPLY ONLINE
www.Wildlife.org/STUDENTS

- Student Chapter Advisor of the Year ~ Mar. 15
- Student Chapter of the Year ~ Jun. 30
\$1000 AWARD
- Student Travel Grant ~ Jun. 18
UP TO \$600 AWARD
- Best Student Presentation/Poster ~ Aug. 15

OPEN TO TWS STUDENT MEMBERS!

JOBS IN WILDLIFE

Integrating Resource Selection, Movement, and Group Size Models to Predict and Communicate Chronic Wasting Disease Risk for Elk with Co-occurring White-tailed Deer

Two well-funded Masters level research projects on the Northern Prairie Elk Project are available in the Wildlife Ecology and Community Resilience Lab of Dr. Ryan Brook at the University of Saskatchewan. Our research group has initiated a large-scale interdisciplinary study investigating the ecology and management of northern prairie elk populations across Saskatchewan and Manitoba with a focus on disease risk at the interface of elk and white-tailed deer. We have an existing long-term database

of >400 radio-collared elk and deer from our model system in southwestern Manitoba in addition to extensive data on crop damage claims and disease testing. The two Masters projects will involve determining the spatial distribution of elk and their dietary overlap with deer on agricultural lands in order to predict and mitigate transmission of Chronic Wasting Disease. The philosophy of our research group is to recruit bright, mature students and train them in research design by giving each student considerable latitude to develop the project in ways that best fit their skills and career aspirations.

In addition to an education with a focus on strong science, natural history, and critical thinking, students will gain valuable practical experience in Geographic Information Systems and spatial analysis. Fieldwork will include participation in collecting additional radio-collar data, validating GIS layers, as well as community consultation and knowledge translation to share project objectives and outcomes. Students will also participate in our school-based education module to teach rural and aboriginal youth about wildlife and Chronic Wasting Disease and will contribute to media relations. Our interdisciplinary research program incorporates fully funded specialized training modules with partners from Canadian and US institutions – academic and provincial, national and international wildlife agencies, presenting strong opportunities to network with potential employers and develop a broad skill set. The project also provides support for conference attendance.

The successful applicants will ideally begin September 2011, though there is some flexibility. During the first autumn and winter terms the students will be expected to seek scholarships, analyze data, and complete coursework. Stipend is \$16,500/year and this can be supplemented with additional scholarships. Applicants must have a B.Sc. or equivalent in biology, ecology, geography, environmental science, veterinary medicine, or a related field and must meet the admission requirements for the College of Agriculture & Bioresources (<http://agbio.usask.ca/>).

Interested candidates should email Dr. Ryan Brook (ryan.brook@usask.ca) based in the Indigenous Land Management Institute, the Department of Animal and Poultry Science, and the School of Environment and Sustainability, along with a letter of interest, CV, and indication of academic performance (unofficial transcripts acceptable at this stage). Application review will begin **June 15, 2011** and will continue until the positions are filled.

NOTE: Jobs are advertised on our Canadian section

website and in the newsletter. If you have jobs to offer, please send your job advertisements to Kathreen Ruckstuhl at kruckstu@ucalgary.ca.



©KER

Soar above the competition!

Being a TWS Certified Wildlife Biologist (CWB®) means you have:

- Increased job potential
- Increased credibility
- Recognized training & expertise
- An unsurpassed network of expert colleagues

APPLY TODAY!

See program and application at:
wildlife.org/certification
 or contact
shannon@wildlife.org

EXISTING CANADIAN CHAPTERS

British Columbia Chapter

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Alberta Chapter

President: Jim Allen
E-mail: James.Allen@gov.ab.ca

Saskatchewan Chapter

Interim President: Jennifer Sheppard
E-mail: jls911@mail.usask.ca

Manitoba Chapter

President: Erin McCance,
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Ontario Chapter

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

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University of Calgary

Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society

2011 Membership Renewal/Application

The Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society invites you to renew your membership for the new year. We would also like to encourage wildlife professionals and students alike who are not current members to join now. To join or remain a member for 2011, please fill out this application form and mail along with your dues to the address below. You also have the option to join the Canadian Section when you renew your membership through the Parent Society.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Postal Code: _____

Email: _____ Affiliation: _____

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

Please make payment out to: Canadian Section of TWS

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

Executive Board
Conservation Affairs Committee
Education Committee
Membership Committee

Please mail membership form and dues to:

Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society
C/o Erin McCance
104 Cloverwood Road
Winnipeg, MB
R3Y 1R6

Alternatively, to renew or join online visit TWS's secure website at: <http://store.wildlife.org/scriptcontent/index.cfm>

