



NORTH DAKOTA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

The mission of the North Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society is to provide a forum for discussion of ecological issues among natural resource professionals; to enable its membership to pursue conservation of natural resources; and to inform the public on ecologically wise uses of natural resources in support of a conservation ethic.

DECEMBER 2002

As 2002 nears its final days, most of us have holiday thoughts in our minds. It may be gathering with family and friends or trying to finish the holiday shopping list, maybe a planned hunting or ice fishing trip, whatever your plans were for the holidays, I hope it was joyous and safe.

The executive board met in early December. The agenda was full and the meeting was long. I would like to thank those that were able to attend for devoting a long day toward Chapter business. The majority of the meeting dealt with new business. Bill Bicknell and Mike McEnroe gave us a brief summary of the TWS Conference. They also proposed a possible contribution to the TWS Endowment Campaign. There is more information on the TWS Endowment Campaign in the newsletter. Several financial requests from outside organizations were reviewed and acted upon. Steve Dyke provided a short update on the Red River Valley EIS status. This is a good time to remind our membership that we do have a Red River Watershed Committee which is currently not chaired. If anyone should have an interest in chairing this committee, please contact a board member. Through Darla's hard work along with others the Small Grants Program became a reality. The board reviewed applications for the small grant program and decided on funding two projects. The board dealt with the proposed 2003 budget requests. Two significant items of increase were proposed in the budget. One would be the proposed contribution to the TWS Endowment Campaign and the other was from the Legislative Committee. The Legislative Committee has asked for money to hire an assistant to aid Bill Pfeifer this session. The board felt the increase serves a couple of purposes in that; this may aid in finding and training a future lobbyist for the Chapter and the rumor of this session having an over abundance of natural resource legislation. The last major task of the meeting was to review award nominations. This was a very difficult task in light of all the great nominations and certainly all those individuals nominated are winners. It is always difficult to narrow these awards to one. I would like to thank each and every person who took the time and effort to submit an award nomination. You'll have to attend the upcoming annual meeting to get the results.

Speaking of the Annual Meeting, make your plans now! This year's Annual Meeting will be a joint meeting with The American Fisheries Society. The program and arrangement committees have been hard at work. Put February 11, 12 & 13 on your calendars now! Look inside the newsletter for more details.

The ND State Water Commission asked for written comments concerning the process of assuming administration of Section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act. The Wetland Resources Committee reviewed and commented on the process. A summary can be found in the newsletter.

Files- Several executive board members and Greg Link attempted to take on our past collection of files. We invested in two additional file cabinets and tried to sort by committees. We managed to get through about half of the archive pile stored at game and fish. We need to continue this process so the Chapter has a useable file system for the future. If any committees have the time to pursue this activity, give Greg a call and he can get you started in the right direction.

Finally, I want to thank the membership and executive board members for your dedication this past year. All of you have been involved in protecting or enhancing our natural resources, and many of you have taken that extra step to be involved with the Chapter or other organizations that require some of your additional time. I thank you for that.

Tim Phalen, Chapter President

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JANUARY

27 Resolutions Due

FEBRUARY

11 Executive Board Meeting (Tentative) - Mandan, ND

11-13 2003 NDCTWS Annual Meeting - Mandan, ND

24 Newsletter Information Deadline

If you have event dates, deadlines or other dates of interest, please send them to: Tim Phalen, NDCTWS, PO Box 217, Wyndmere, ND 58081

North Dakota Chapter TWS - 2002

Executive Board Members

Tim Phalen Randy Crooke
Darla Lenz Glen Sargeant
Mike Goos Jon Roaldson
Dave Azure

President Portfolio - Tim Phalen

Secretary: Doug Staller
Treasurer: Greg Hiemenz
Newsletter: Stacy Adolf-Whipp
CMPS Rep: Jerry Heiser
Natural Resources Trust Advisor: Scott Peterson
Resolutions and Public Statements: Tim Phalen

Past-President Portfolio - Darla Lenz

Arrangements: Darla Lenz
Program: Darla Lenz
Audit: Tom Sklebar
Membership: Dave Azure
Nominations: Darla Lenz
2002 TWS Annual Mtg: Bill Bicknell & Mike McEnroe
ND Action Group: Jacquie Gerads

President-Elect Portfolio - Mike Goos

Bylaws: Paul Myerchin
Prairie Resources: Karen Smith & Darla Lenz
Legislative: Greg Link
Awards: Mike Goos
Prairie Chicken: Greg Link

Portfolio A - Dave Azure

Wetland Resources: Scott Peterson
Fishery Resources: Mike Olson
Youth Education: Jack Lalor
Historian: Chris Grondahl

Portfolio B - Glen Sargeant

Western Lands: Bill Jensen
Teaming with Wildlife: Chuck Bosch
Education: Kristine Askerooth
Forest Resources: John Schulz

Portfolio C - Jon Roaldson

Missouri River: Randy Renner
Red River Watershed: Vacant
Devils Lake Basin: Roger Hollevoet
Fund Raising: Brian Kietzman & Paul Halko

Portfolio D - Randy Crooke

Northern Great Plains Working Group: Kevin Willis
Endangered Species: Terri Thorn
Law Enforcement: Jackie Lundstrom
Wildlife Damage Management: John Paulson
Finance: Mike Goos

North Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society Executive Board Meeting Minutes December 3, 2002

The executive board meeting of the North Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society was called to order at 9:05a.m. by Tim Phalen on Tuesday December 3, 2002 at the ND Game and Fish Office in Bismarck, ND. Those in attendance included Tim Phalen, Mike Goos, Jon Roaldson, Glen Sargeant, Dave Azure, Greg Hiemenz, Bill Bicknell and Mike McEnroe.

Note: MSC = "moved, seconded, carried" followed by those board members making and seconding the motion.

Old Business

The board approved the minutes from the September meeting. MSC (Goos, Azure)

Correspondence sent and received: Correspondence was passed around the room.

Website future: Scott Kahan had been asked to research the future potential of hosting our website through the TWS website. Scott noted a few problems that would be associated with such a move and recommended we stay with our current website while continuing to monitor the future progress of TWS.

Membership list: All new 2003 members will be approved at the February board meeting.

New Business

Summary of TWS Conference: Bill Bicknell and Mike McEnroe provided a brief overview of the conference. Ninety-six percent of the participants rated the conference good to excellent. TWS complimented the Chapter on a job well done.

Proposed contribution to TWS Endowment Campaign: Bill Bicknell and Mike McEnroe asked the board to consider a \$5000 contribution on behalf of the Chapter to the Endowment Campaign. The board will address this issue at the February board meeting. Mike McEnroe will

put together an article for the newsletter explaining the Endowment Campaign. This should allow ample time for any feedback from the membership.

Scholarship donation to the Farm Bureau: The Farm Bureau donated \$500 towards the TWS Conference. In a gesture to continue a working relationship, Bill Bicknell and Mike McEnroe asked the board to consider a \$250 donation towards the Farm Bureau Scholarship Program. MSC (Sargeant, Goos)

ND State Water Commission assuming administration of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act: The ND State Water Commission asked for comments prior to the official rulemaking process. The Wetland Resources Committee reviewed and provided comments. See article in the newsletter.

Financial requests from outside organizations: Several financial requests from organizations were reviewed and action taken.

USFWS request for the Chapter to fund advertising for the National Wildlife Refuge System and the Centennial on billboards, at events and in state media: The board reviewed the request for advertising and the associated prices. A discussion was held on the costs and associated benefits to the Chapter. A motion was made to deny funding at the level requested. MSC (Sargeant, Roaldson)

Red River Valley Watershed: Steve Dyke provided an update on the Red River Watershed and EIS scoping meetings. Jon Roaldson reminded the board of Mike Ell's resignation from the committee and that the committee was currently un-chaired.

Small Grant Proposals: Applications for the Small Grants Program were reviewed. A motion was made to fund two projects at \$500 each. MSC (Goos, Azure)

Proposed 2003 Budget: A proposed 2003 budget was put together by the board. Two major funding requests were incorporated into the budget. A \$5000 donation to the TWS Endowment Campaign which still needs the boards approval and a \$3000 increase by the Legislative Committee, most of

which would be used to hire an assistant to work with Bill Pfeifer. A motion was made to accept the proposed budget. MSC (Sargeant, Goos)

National Park Service Proposed Expansion: The proposed expansion of TRNP was discussed. The board will wait for comments to be forwarded from the Western Lands Committee.

National Park Service EIS for elk management: A discussion was held that this may be an emerging issue. It was felt that this would be a good program at the Annual Meeting. The board would discuss with the Program Committee.

Creation of Invasive Species Committee: Scott Kahan requested the creation of this new committee which he would volunteer to chair. The purpose of the committee may work to address issues of education and eradication, rapid response to emerging threats, host technical sessions, identification programs, etc. with federal, state and local entities. A motion was made to create this new committee and place under Portfolio B. MSC (Azure, Goos)

President's Portfolio - Tim Phalen

Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Greg Hiemenz provided the board with an updated report. Secretary/Treasurer Report B Total Chapter Assets as of October 25, 2002 were \$43,901.89, including \$9,911.60 in checking, \$7,546.41 in money market savings, \$19,992.80 in Certificates of Deposit, and \$6,451.08 in two life membership mutual funds. The treasurer's report was unanimously approved by the Executive Board.

Newsletter - Stacy Whipp: No current report

CMPS Representative - Jerry Heiser: No current report

Natural Resources Trust Advisor - Scott Peterson: No current report

Resolutions and Public Statements - Tim Phalen: A reminder that any resolution planned to be

introduced at the Annual Meeting, must be signed by two members, and received by the executive board 15 days prior to the annual meeting.

Portfolio A - Dave Azure

Wetland Resources - Scott Peterson. State Water Commission's assumption of Section 404 responsibilities. The State Water Commission sent out proposed rules in draft form and requested comments by November 1st, 2002. Scott drafted a response outlining continued support for EPA guidelines - regardless of the regulating agency. See write-up elsewhere in newsletter.

Fishery Resources - Mike Olson. Mike reports that planning continues to be on-track for the next Annual Meeting, which will be held jointly with the Dakota Chapter of The American Fisheries Society.

Youth Education - Jack Lalor. No current report.

Website - Scott Kahan. Scott proposed that the Chapter subscribe to an on-line service to enable Chapter members to renew their membership with a credit card over the internet. This service will provide another method for members who are unable to attend the annual meeting to pay annual Chapter dues. The Board decided in favor of this proposal.

Historian - Chris Grondahl. Nothing to report.

Portfolio B - Glen Sargeant

Western Lands - Bill Jensen - NTR

Teaming with Wildlife - Chuck Bosch - NTR

Education - Kristine Askerooth - Jr Duck Stamp booklets have been sent to all schools in ND and continued support has been requested from the chapter and other state wildlife groups. The deadline for entries is March 15, 2003. Call Kristine (701-724-3598) for an entry form and instructions.

Nominations for Chapter Scholarships were solicited from ND universities.

Karen Kreil has asked the Chapter to continue co-sponsorship of the Keep ND Clean Poster Contest. The theme for this year will be "Refuges - Homes for Wildlife". Ribbons will be awarded to participants and the winning entry will be displayed on a billboard near their hometown.

Forest Resources - John Schultz - NTR

NEW - Invasive Species Committee - The NDCTWS has created a new committee to address the critically important issues associated with invasive species in North Dakota. The newly created, "Invasive Species Committee", is now looking for members to help shape the direction of this committee for 2003. If you are looking to become more active in the Chapter, here's another opportunity. Please contact committee chair, Scott Kahan at (701) 662-8611 ext. 323 (W) / (701) 655-3530 (H) or e-mail him at kahan@polarcomm.com if you are interested in becoming a charter member of this exciting new committee.

Portfolio C - Jon Roaldson

Red River Watershed - Vacant. Oral report presented by Steve Dyke. A modern-day version of the Garrison Diversion Units-Dakota Water Resources Act (GDU-DWRA) authorizes \$200 million dollars to be spent supplying Missouri River water to the Red River Valley of ND. A public meeting process reviewing the USBOR's Draft EIS are currently being held statewide. A longer series of meetings is likely to be held in Fargo. Does the NDCTWS desire to have a representative from the chapter in attendance at these meetings? At present, our Red River Watershed Committed Chair position is vacant.

Missouri River - Randy Renner. The Burleigh County Planning commission held a public hearing on the new ordinances for development along the Missouri River on November 13th. The Planning Commission has used the recommendations of the Missouri Vision process to come up with the new rules. The chapter has been involved in the Vision process from the beginning. The meeting turned into

a fight between the developers who are interested in making the most money possible along the river and those interested in preserving some of it. The meeting also got side tracked into a discussion over stabilization. After the testimony the commission voted and it was a 4-4 tie and the issued was tabled until the next meeting in December.

The County Commissions from all the counties along the Garrison Reach are watching these hearings very closely since they are all considering the recommendations from the Vision group. It looks like the developers and the landowners will carry the day if the Burleigh County meeting is any indication. If you as a NDCTWS member want to have any say in how the river is developed it is important to contact your County Commissioners and voice your opinion. There is very little of the Missouri River in Burleigh County that is developable that is not already platted for development that the new regulations would affect, but it is Morton, Oliver, McLean, and Mercer Counties that these recommendations could have the most effect on the preservation of the Garrison Reach of the Missouri River. The Missouri River Committee will continue to monitor the issues and take part in the Vision process taking action where appropriate.

Devils Lake Basin - Roger Hollevoet. No Report.

Fundraising - Brian Kietzman. Fundraising committee has been actively organizing for the 2003 annual meeting to be held at the Seven Seas Inn & Conference Center, Mandan. Plenty of new opportunities exist for new fundraising fun and games. Due to the meeting being a joint meeting with the American Fisheries Society, expect to bring a few additional dollars to support both the NDCTWS and AFS. Raffle tickets have been printed, so expect to see them attached to this newsletter. The suggested donation for each ticket is \$3.00.

If you have supported our annual fundraiser in years past, we thank you! Fundraising committee members will begin by contacting those members that have supported the fundraising event in the past. For those of you that have not donated an item, try something different... but not too outrageous by

donating an item to support your chapter's activities today.

Additionally, the fundraising committee requested that an additional \$500 be available for purchase of fundraising items for the 2003 Auction.

Accordingly, the Executive Board included an additional \$500 to be added to the \$1000 previously budgeted under the 2003 Auction within the 2003 Proposed Budget. Total 2003 Auction budget within the 2003 Proposed Budget is now listed as \$1500.

NDCTWS WEBSITE

The web committee continues to work on making the Chapter's web page a useful resource for the membership.

The website has useful information concerning the Chapter's Executive Board (e-mail addresses and phone numbers), awards information, various committee reports, and folks can download/print or view online the latest issue of the newsletter. Other documents (including the latest version of the conservation directory) can be downloaded/printed as well.

In recent news, we have added the capacity for folks to renew their membership online. Also, with the upcoming legislative session, it is important that members sign up to the e-mail list to be notified of items of importance to the Chapter. If you have not yet signed up to the mailing list, just click on the "sign up to the mailing list" icon on the Chapter's website. The website address is: www.ndctws.org

If you have any comments or suggestions regarding the Chapter's web page you contact Scott Kahan at (701) 662-8611 ext. 323 (W) / (701) 655-3530 (H) or e-mail him at kahan@polarcomm.com

Wetland Resources Committee Report

Scott Peterson

In recent years, one of the primary responsibilities of the Wetland Resources Committee has been to monitor the efforts of the State Water Commission (SWC) to assume the administration of the Section 404 program. The Section 404 program relates to the Clean Water Act (CWA) and is currently being administered in the state of North Dakota by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Senate Bill 2285 was passed into law by the 2001 Legislature. Funding in the amount of \$800,000 was also provided for the next biennium for the purpose of administering the Section 404 program. However, before the state can actually assume the responsibility of administering the Section 404 program, several requirements must be met which were listed in detail in an earlier report.

More recently, the Wetland Resources Committee received a document from the SWC entitled Proposed Administrative Rules Governing the Discharge of Dredged or Fill Material. An earlier draft (1994) of this document was also reviewed and commented on by the Chapter. Some of the Chapter's earlier comments had been addressed in this latest document but we offered further comments on this latest draft of the Proposed Administrative Rules.

Specifically, our latest comments related to several aspects of the draft but included 1) Streamlining the permitting process and reducing administrative burden to the applicants and regulators continue to be stated reasons that the state is pursuing assumption of the Section 404 program and we have again stressed that the actual intended purpose of the CWA is the protection of the waters of the United States, including wetlands, 2) Planned staffing and funding levels for the SWC to administer the program have not been addressed to the satisfaction of the Chapter, 3) SWC plans for dealing with potential legal actions have not been adequately addressed, 4) SWC plans for dealing with the enforcement and compliance aspects of the program have not been adequately addressed, 5) Plans for dealing with potential conflicts between the State Engineer and USFWS on impacts to Threatened or Endangered Species has not been adequately addressed, and 6) The Chapter once again went on record supporting the

COE's continued administration of the Section 404 provisions of the Clean Water Act.

As always, if anyone has specific questions or comments on this issue, they are welcome and encouraged to contact the Committee Chair.

NORTH DAKOTA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE 2002 YEAR-END REPORT

As of 12/02/02, the North Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society was represented by the following:

211	Regular Members
70	Life Members
16	Student Members
2	Benefactors
1	Patron Member
1	Life Patron Member
<u>1</u>	<u>Honorary Member</u>
302	Total Members

The Chapter also welcomes a new life member, Harold Wentland from Montana.

Membership in past years:

2001 - 323 Members
2000 - 302 Members
1999 - 335 Members

Membership has historically declined when the Annual Meeting was held somewhere other than Bismarck/Mandan as attendance is usually lower. The 2002 Annual Meeting was held in Grand Forks and the pattern continued.

One problem that has been noticed is that many Annual Meeting attendees pay their meeting registration but fail to pay membership dues. I think this is many times an oversight on their part, and to remedy this, I propose we change the meeting registration forms so that membership dues are listed before meeting registration fees. At least this way, if someone only chooses to pay for one, they will have to consciously pass over the membership portion.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dave Azure
Membership Committee Chair

**NORTH DAKOTA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE
Proposed 2003 Budget**

INCOME

Annual meeting	\$ 6,000
Auction	5,000
Raffle	2,000
Membership - Regular	3,000
Membership - Student	100
Membership - Life	200
CMPS - incoming dues	150
Interest (Checking)	25
Interest (Money Market)	75
Interest (Certificate of Deposit)	405
TOTAL REVENUES	16,955

EXPENSES

Operating Expenses

Annual Meeting	5,000
Raffle	1,000
Auction	1,500
2004 Raffle	250
2004 Auction	250
Newsletter	2,000
Postage	1,250
Other Printing	250
Student Scholarships	900
Awards	450
CMPS - outgoing dues	150
Miscellaneous	100
Sponsorships	600
Small Grants	1,000
Contribution to TWS Endowment	5,000

Committee Expenses

Northern Great Plains Working Group	0
Legislative Committee	8,500
Wetland Resources	0
Membership Committee	50
Fishery Resources	0
Youth Ed./Habitat Contest	300
Jr. Duck Stamp Contest	250
Western Lands	0
Forest Resources	0
Devils Lake Basin	50
Education/Information	450
Red River Watershed	50
Missouri River	50
Prairie Resources	1,000
Prairie Chicken	0
Endangered Species	0
Law Enforcement	0
Wildlife Damage & Control	0
Web Site	200

TOTAL EXPENSES	30,600
Net Income	\$ -13,645

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

The fundraising committee has been hard at work in preparation for the 2003 Annual meeting. Jon Roaldson single handedly tackled the permit application and raffle ticket printing this year and, as a result, ticket books are available prior to Christmas. We've included a book of tickets in this newsletter for you to sell over the holidays. (Maybe this year you won't have to buy all those tickets in order to sell out your book!) Make sure and personally thank Jon for his efforts and for saving YOU some money!

As in the past, fundraising committee members will be calling (hounding) you for donations for our auction and fundraiser. If, for some unknown reason we miss you, feel free to call any of the committee members or simply bring your donation with you to the Annual meeting. Home-made or hand-crafted items with that personal touch are always in high demand and bring top dollar for the Chapter. Thanks in advance for your donations and don't forget to sell those tickets.

Brian Kietzman

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

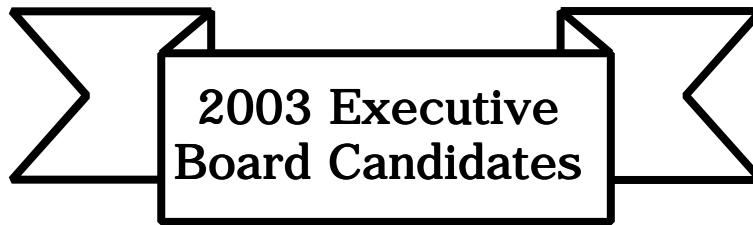
Brian Kietzman (701) 253-6483
Paul Halko (701) 662-7967
Jon Roaldson (701) 328-6308
Rodd Compson (701) 253-6484
Todd Frerichs (701) 848-2466
Doug Staller (701) 724-3598
Lynda Knutsen (701) 845-3466
Dan Duchscherer (701) 768-2548
Ed Meendering (701) 647-2866
Jim Lange (701) 442-5474
Jackie Jacobson (701) 442-5474

NDCTWS PROPOSES SUPPORT FOR TWS ENDOWMENT

The Wildlife Society recently launched a \$3 million financial support initiative, the Endowment Campaign to Sustain Wildlife Conservation. Interest money generated from this \$3 million Endowment will triple TWS capacity to educate government and private sector leaders on the need for science-based wildlife conservation and management. This Campaign has been initiated to ensure that work being conducted by Tom Franklin and other members of TWS on legislative and policy issues continues to be an integral part of The Wildlife Society's mission.

Taking an active role in policy and legislative issues has been an essential part of the work of the North Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society. To support this initiative, the Executive Board of NDCTWS has included a \$5,000 contribution for the TWS Endowment Campaign as a line item in the Chapter's 2003 Draft Budget. The TWS Policy and Public Education Program has worked on promoting inclusion of conservation and resource management solutions in the 2002 Farm Bill which resulted in a \$17 billion increase in conservation funding, advocated for long-term wildlife conservation in the face of calls for energy development in locations such as the Arctic NWR, supported increased funding for the Cooperative Wildlife Research Units and for habitat restoration on National Forests and National Wildlife Refuges, worked with the Teaming with Wildlife Campaign to secure \$ 155 million to meet the needs of State wildlife agencies, and instituted the Wildlife Information Network assisting landowners in improving their land with sound wildlife management practices.

NDCTWS received a \$10,000 rebate from TWS for hosting the 2002 Annual Conference. NDCTWS had proposed to use \$5,000 of the rebate to support wildlife students with the cost of conference registration fees, however only \$1,600 was spent to meet this need. The NDCTWS Executive Board proposes to use the \$3,400 saved from student registrations and contribute an additional \$1,600 from the TWS rebate to fund the \$5,000 contribution to the TWS Endowment. Support for the Endowment will assist TWS in being a strong advocate for sound science in wildlife and natural resource conservation issues. The endowment Campaign also helps to ensure that the sound science generated from research and management studies is considered by decision makers as they set enact legislation affecting natural resources and their management.



**2003 Executive
Board Candidates**

Bruce Kreft

Education: B.S. in Zoology with a Business Administration minor from North Dakota State University.

Present Position: Resource Biologist with the Conservation and Communication Division focusing on environmental review of water related issues, Bismarck, ND. I transferred there in 2000.

Previous Positions: The North Dakota Game and Fish Department hired me in 1989 as a Fisheries Technician in our Riverdale District Office. In 1990, I accepted the Assistant Missouri River Fisheries Biologist job where I remained until 1992 when I was promoted to Central District Fisheries Biologist.

Chapter Activities and Statement: I have been an active member of the Dakota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society holding office of Secretary/Treasurer and President and would like to continue expanding my personal and professional interests as an Executive Board member of the ND Chapter of the Wildlife Society. I believe as professionals we are at a pivotal junction in fish and wildlife management due to a number of issues including but not limited to commercialization of the natural resources and habitat loss. Through the Executive Board I would like the opportunity to potentially influence decision-making for the future of our resources. I enjoy spending time with my children, Sierra (8) and Seth (7) in the outdoors whether it's ice fishing, camping or just partaking in nature walks. I spent my first 18 years in Towner, North Dakota.

Kristine Askerooth

Education: B.S. Wildlife Biology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

Present Position: Biologist, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge, Cayuga, ND

Previous Position: Biological Technician, Nevada Department of Wildlife, Elko, Fallon, Carson City and the Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge, NV

Chapter Activities: Chairperson of the Education Committee since 1992. Fundraising committee for the National TWS meeting - 2002

Statement: I am very honored to be considered for the ND Chapter Executive Board. I have been a member of the Chapter since I moved to North Dakota in 1990. I enjoy serving on the Education Committee and attending Chapter functions. To me one of the most important components of the Chapter is the vitality and professionalism of its members.

When I think about what I could bring to the board and the Chapter I would have to say that I bring an enthusiasm and passion for preserving North Dakota's natural resources and expanding outreach and environmental education. The Chapter has long been the voice of support for wildlife and natural resource issues in this state. I would like to work to continue this tradition and reach out in a variety of ways to even more people. I see outreach and education as a vital part of wildlife and habitat management and conservation. We have to continue to encourage and educate our youth about the importance and value of wildlife and their habitats.

I was not born and raised in North Dakota however I chose to live in this state to continue my career and raise my boys here. Coming from the mountains of Colorado, I did not believe that there was a more wonderful place for natural beauty or for wildlife. Now after almost 13 years, I am continually humbled by the diversity and beauty of wildlife and habitats in North Dakota prairies and prairie wetlands. If elected I will work to preserve the natural resources that make North Dakota a place I enjoy to work and live in. I will try to help

ensure that my children and other children have the opportunity to explore and experience nature and wildlife in this state for many years to come.

William (Will) Meeks

Education: B.S. Fisheries and Wildlife Biology, 1994, University of North Dakota; M.S. Wildlife Management, 1996, South Dakota State University.

Present Position: Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Devils Lake Wetland Management Complex (1998-present).

Previous Positions: 1997-1998 Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sandhills Habitat Office; 1995-1996 Graduate Research Assistant/USFWS Co-op Student, Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge/South Dakota State University; 1992-1994 Research Assistant, Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center.

Chapter Activities: Joined the University of North Dakota Student Chapter in 1990; served as Vice-President for the student chapter in 1994. Member of North Dakota chapter since 1995. Member of South Dakota and Nebraska Chapters in 1995-1996 and 1997, respectively. Volunteer for the 2002 Annual Meeting in Bismarck. Member of the web-page committee. Member of national TWS.

Statement: When I was nominated to run for the Executive Board it was an extremely easy decision for me to make. There comes a time in everyone's professional and personal life that commitments to what they believe are important come easily, as I'm sure that those with a passion and desire to perpetuate the natural resources in North Dakota agree. I eagerly embrace the opportunity to serve the members of the NDCTWS on the Executive Board.

I have a varied professional career to date that has broadened my point of view as well as led me to gain valuable experience in dealing with issues related to wildlife and habitat resources. While working in the Sandhills of Nebraska I gained insight into human dimensions and wildlife management; this allowed me to walk in both sets of "shoes" while planning wildlife activities on rancher's lands.

While working in Devils Lake for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service the past 5 years I have been exposed to and dealt with many contentious political, social, and resource issues. My work duties have encompassed many facets of wildlife management which include: habitat and wildlife management, local and regional planning efforts, local government communication (county commission, water boards, weed boards), and partnership development. There are very few components of my duties that do not involve partnerships to some degree. I feel that this very element has made the NDCTWS so successful to date; an element that must be stressed if we are to continue to grow as an organization.

I also have had the fortunate opportunity to be involved at varying levels in the Chapter's workings. I've had an opportunity to participate in the web-site committee in addition to volunteering at the national meeting in Bismarck this past September. It was a great pleasure to accept the many kind words of gratitude from our colleagues on the entire Chapter's behalf on providing such a memorable experience.

I feel that it is an honor to be nominated to run for Executive Board. This opportunity will prepare me to further the mission of the NDCTWS into the future. The direction I feel that we need to stress to perpetuate the resources in the state are now ever so important as we begin a new legislative session. If elected, I assure the members that my passion, energy, and advocacy will revitalize the executive board to mirror the representation of the NDCTWS' members.

Lee Albright

Education: B.S. Zoology, Southern Illinois University, 1983

Present Position: Wetland District Manager, USFWS, J. Clark Salyer NWR Complex

Previous Positions: Wetland District Manager, USFWS, Arrowwood NWR Complex, 1997-1999, Biological Technician, USFWS, Valley City WMD, 1991-1997, Biological Technician, USFWS, Kulm WMD, 1985-1991, Biological Technician, NMFS, San Diego, CA 1987, Biological Technician, NMFS, Seattle, WA 1986,

Volunteer, USFWS, Long Lake NWR, 1984, Volunteer, Nature Conservancy, Cross Ranch Nature Preserve, 1983

Chapter Activities: ND Chapter member since 1985; Co-Chair, Photography Contest Subcommittee, 2002 TWS Annual Meeting

Statement: Following my passion for a natural resource management career, I migrated to North Dakota from Illinois in 1983. When I landed, I said, this place is it! Where have the last 20 years gone? Having visited 45 of our 50 states, I believe only Alaska can possibly offer more opportunities related to natural resources than North Dakota. I'm not alone. Take notice of how many people in natural resource careers come to North Dakota and never seem to leave. One of the most controversial political issues to face our state in my time stems from the tremendous interest in waterfowl hunting opportunities within this land we are fortunate enough to call home. As Chapter members our interest and concern for natural resources goes well beyond consumptive uses. We are privileged to live here and to have an organization like the Chapter to unite us. I envy those of you fortunate enough to have been born and raised here. Even though I was not, I will do my best to represent the entire membership if elected to the Executive Board.



**2003 President- Elect
Candidates**

PHIL MASTRANGELO

President Elect Candidate

Phil Mastrangelo has served as the State Director of the USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services program in North Dakota and South Dakota since 1999. Phil administers a program which provides assistance with the resolution of human/wildlife conflicts. Phil has worked in the field of wildlife damage management since 1984 and his previous duty stations include Mississippi, West Virginia, Texas, Tennessee, and Kentucky. While working in Mississippi Phil also served as an Adjunct Assistant Professor at Mississippi State University where he taught a course in wildlife damage management.

Education: B.S. Degree - Wildlife Management, Eastern Kentucky University
M.S. Degree - Biology, Eastern Kentucky University

Chapter Activities: TWS member since 1980, Certified Wildlife Biologist, Professional Development Certification. Member of the ND Chapter and Central Mountains and Plains Section since 1999. Served as Co-Chair of the Signs Subcommittee of the 2002 TWS Annual Conference Arrangements Committee. Member of the Wildlife Damage Management Working Group, past President of the Mississippi Chapter, served as faculty advisor to the Mississippi State University Student Chapter. Former member of the Texas and West Virginia Chapters; Charter Member of the Kentucky Chapter.

Statement: Active participation in TWS Chapters and working groups is important for maintaining strength and vitality throughout all levels of our professional organization. Participation in TWS activities also ensures individual commitment to TWS standards. I appreciate the opportunity to be a candidate for President Elect of the North Dakota Chapter. If elected I will do my best to fulfill the Chapter's commitment to the stewardship of North Dakota's natural resources.



RANDY RENNER
President Elect Candidate

Education: B. S. Fisheries and Wildlife Management, University of North Dakota 1987.

Present Position: Regional Biologist, Ducks Unlimited Great Plains Regional Office in Bismarck.

Chapter Activities: Chapter member since 1985, Missouri River Committee Chair, Served on the Fundraising Committee, Meals and Entertainment Committee Chair for TWS 2002 Annual Conference, Executive Board Member 1999-2001.

Statement: I have spent all 38 years of my life on the prairies of North Dakota. In my travels I am always extremely proud to say I am a “North Dakotan” and hope to be able to spend the rest of my life raising my family here. North Dakota offers a quality of life that is second to none. This is in large part due to the opportunities our natural resources provide. The Chapter has always been a strong voice for protecting these resources. I am honored to be nominated to be President of an organization that has led the way in protecting what makes North Dakota such a great state.

The dedication and professionalism of the North Dakota Chapter membership is it’s strength and is why the Chapter is considered to be one the most active and respected chapters of The Wildlife Society in the country. The Chapter has become a respected voice in the North Dakota Legislature. This has not come without its challenges and hardship. The legislative committee has done a marvelous job and has picked their battles well.

The Chapter has always risen to the occasion. This is exemplified by the job the Chapter did to host the TWS Conference in Bismarck. Kudos goes to all the members who were part of such a successful event.

The Chapter will face many more challenges in the years ahead. North Dakota is a great state but is also one of the hardest states to do work for conservation. The Chapter must continue to evolve to insure that the state’s natural resources are protected. The state has developed economic development as one of its core agendas. Economic development is important for the state to survive but not at all costs. It is essential for the Chapter to provide a voice for the resource as our state leaders push their agenda to move North Dakota forward. The committees have always provided the input necessary for the Chapter to have a respected voice amongst our leaders. As President I will be dedicated to providing the leadership necessary for the Chapter to continue to have a respected voice to insure our natural resources are protected for generations to come.

**NORTH DAKOTA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY &
DAKOTA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
2003 ANNUAL MEETING**

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

**Seven Seas Inn, Mandan, North Dakota
February 11-13, 2003**

Theme “Contemporary Issues Affecting Fish And Wildlife In The Dakotas”

Tuesday February 11th

8:00 - 5:00 Registration

9:00-12:00 NDCTWS Executive Board Meeting

1:00 - Welcome NDCTWS President Tim Phalen

1:10 The Role of the Scientific Review Team In Review Of Dakota Prairie Grassland Plan - Dave Piper

1:30 Biological Implications Of Surrounding Land Use On Wetland Health: A Conservation Agriculture Analysis - Greg Meyer, Sharon Clancy

1:50 The Effects Of Fire On The Ecology And Distribution Of Prairie Dogs At Theodore Roosevelt National Park - Sara Milne, Rick Sweitzer

2:10 Elk in Theodore Roosevelt National Park; Past, Present and (Future?) Mike Oehler, Glen Sargent

2:50 - 3:10 Break

3:10 Effects Of Seeding Mixtures On Breeding Bird Use Of Planted Grasslands - Brent Jamison, Douglas Johnson, Lawerence Igl

3:30 “Crop Circles - Secrets In The Fields” The Wetland Easement’s Contribution To A Century Of Conservation - William A. Meeks, Scott B. Kahan

3:50 Impact of the Environmental Benefit Index On Production of Upland-nesting Ducks - Terry L. Shaffer, Ron Renyolds

4:10 What Preys On Piping Plover Eggs And Chicks? - Jacob S. Ivan, Robert K. Murphy

Evening Social 5:30 - 7:00

Buffet Dinner 7:00 - 8:00

Fundraiser and auction 8:00 - 10:00

Wednesday February 12th

Registration Available 8:00 - 4:00

Posters on Display

8:00 Welcome Dakota Chapter of AFS President

8:10 Changing Farm Demographics and Land Use Practices: Greater Risks to Native Prairie Patches -
Kenneth Higgins, David Naugle, Kurt Forman

8:30 "Restoration" Of The Lower James River - John Koerner

8:50 The Ecological Implications of Salt Cedar - Ken Eraas

9:10 A Biological Assessment Of The Fish and Wildlife Services Private Lands Program - Boyd Schulz

9:30 Undercover Operations: A Valuable Wildlife Enforcement Tool. - Bill Schaller, Bob Timian

9:50 - 10:10 Break

10:10 The Future of Hunting in North Dakota - Mike McEnroe, Pat Stockdill

10:30 The Future of Hunting in South Dakota - (Speaker TBA)

10:50 The Future of Angling in South Dakota - Dennis Unkenhultz

11:10 The Future of Angling in North Dakota - Terry Steinwand

11:30 Natural Resource Issues on Tribal Lands (Speaker TBA)

11:50 BREAK

1:00 - 3:00 6 AFS Papers TBA

1:00 - 5:00 TWS Business Meeting

3:00 - 5:00 AFS Business Meeting

5:30 - 7:00 Social

7:00 - 8:00 Banquet

8:00 - 9:30 Awards

Thursday February 13th (Concurrent Sessions)*

8:00 The Results Of An Amphibian Breeding Call Survey In The Sheyenne National Grassland And Nearby Waterfowl Production Area - Ralph R. Tramontano

8:20 Amphibian Response To Drought, Deluge And Disease At The Cottonwood Lakes Study Area. - David M. Mushet, Ned H. Euliss Jr.

8:40 2002 Farm Bill Update - Jennifer Heglund

9:00 (Speaker TBA)

9:20 Fall/Winter Status of Gulls at Garrison Dam, ND - Ron Martin, Dan Svingen

9:40 Break

10:00 Ongoing Research Related To Wind Energy Farms in the Dakotas - Jill A. Shaffer, Doug Johnson.

10:20 Coal Bed Methane Development and Impacts To Fish And Wildlife (Speaker TBA)

10:40 New Developments In Overhead Transmission Line Technology And What It Means To Wildlife - Ted Anderson, Pete Smith

11:00 What's new in Coal Country (Speaker TBA)

11:20 Sagebrush Steppe Habitats And Their Associated Bird Species in North And South Dakota. Amy Lewis

11:40 Status Of Sage Grouse Population and Conservation Efforts In North Dakota - Karen Kreil, Gerald Kobriger, Dan Svingen, Dave Dewald, Don Ruffedt, Chuck Berdan

12:00 Closing Remarks President - Mike Goos Best Paper Awards

* In addition to the papers above, 11 AFS Papers will be presented during concurrent sessions on Thursday Morning. The TWS newsletter went to print prior to the confirmation of the AFS papers.

Posters submitted to date

Population Ecology Of White-tailed Deer In The Drift Prairie-Coteau Of North Dakota - Jason R. Smith, Rick A. Sweitzer

Terrestrial Vertebrates In Aspen Parklands - Neil J. Kadrmaz, Rick Sweitzer

The Herptofauna Of The Fens And Palustrine Wetlands In Intermittent Stream Drainages Of The Little Missouri National Grasslands - Ralph Tramentano, Ned H. Euliss

Raffle Tickets

Raffle tickets are being distributed with this newsletter. You know the drill. Sell ALL of your assigned tickets. NO EXCUSES. Just sell them or buy them yourself. The suggested donation for each of the raffle tickets is \$3.00. If you need additional tickets contact any of the Fundraising Committee members. We will get them to you right away!

Please submit money from the raffle ticket sales and any unsold tickets (there WON'T be any of these) to Brian Kietzman, Jon Roaldson, or registration personnel at the Annual Meeting on February 11th.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

The Fundraising Committee really appreciates everyone's interest in the auction and raffle events and is striving to show you another great time! So come prepared to have lots of fun and spend lots of money for the good of our Chapter.

Fundraising Committee:

Brian Kietzman	(701) 253-6483	Paul Halko	(701) 662-7967
Jon Roaldson	(701) 328-6308	Rodd Compson	(701) 253-6484
Todd Frerichs	(701) 848-2466	Doug Staller	(701) 724-3598
Lynda Knutsen	(701) 845-3466	Dan Duchscherer	(701) 768-2548
Ed Meendering	(701) 647-2866	Jim Lange	(701) 442-5474
Jackie Jacobson	(701) 442-5474		

Road Ringer

The finalists for this year's truly prestigious Road Ringer award have been determined, and YOUR name could be on the list! Participate in the fun surrounding the presentation of this honored award and buy Road Ringer insurance. Contact any Fundraising Committee member for details.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Students or other Chapter members are asked to notify Dave Azure, Membership Chairman, of any address changes. Please mail the change to ND Chapter Wildlife Society, PO Box 1442, Bismarck, ND 58502-1442. This is greatly appreciated and helps to keep our expenses down.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____

OCCUPATION/TITLE _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE # _____

EMPLOYER _____

I am _____ am not _____ a current member of the North Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society

- Regular.....\$ 15.00 _____
Available to any person employed, trained or is a student in a natural resource field. Entitled to vote in Chapter elections.

- Patron, Sponsor or Benefactor \$ 10.00 _____
Available to any person or organization which is interested in supporting the Chapter as it is operated by membership. Non-voting status.

- Life Member..... \$200.00 _____

- Student.....\$ 8.00 _____

- Central Mtn. & Plains
Section TWS.....\$ 5.00 _____

TOTAL enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to North Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society.

Mail to: North Dakota Chapter TWS, PO Box 1442, Bismarck, ND 58502-1442

ABSENTEE BALLOT

President-Elect Candidates

(Vote for one)

Randy Renner

Phil Mastrangelo

Executive Board Candidates

(Vote for two)

Bruce Kreft

Will Meeks

Lee Albright

Kristine Askerooth

**This ballot must be received by February 9, 2003. Mail to North Dakota Chapter TWS,
PO Box 1442, Bismarck, ND 58502-1442.**

**NORTH DAKOTA CHAPTER OF THE
WILDLIFE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER
C/O STACY ADOLF-WHIPPI, EDITOR
P. O. BOX 1442
BISMARCK, ND 58502-1442**

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