NC Wildlifer

Winter 2019

Photo courtesy of Haw River State Park

MEET YOUR CANDIDATES

Photo courtesy of Kelly Douglass

NCTWS 2020 Annual Meeting
Preview & Registration

#ExploreNC!
Jockey's Ridge State Park

(December 2019) • NC CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY • VOLUME (34) NO.(4)
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Your NCTWS Executive Board

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Officer Name</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Dr. Rachael Urbanek</td>
<td>UNCW</td>
<td>910-962-7909</td>
<td><a href="mailto:urbanekr@uncw.edu">urbanekr@uncw.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President Elect</td>
<td>Will Ricks</td>
<td>Duke Energy</td>
<td>919-546-6878</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wilson.ricks@duke-energy.com">wilson.ricks@duke-energy.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Past President</td>
<td>Colleen Olfenbuttel</td>
<td>NCWRC</td>
<td>540-239-6457</td>
<td><a href="mailto:colfenbu@vt.edu">colfenbu@vt.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Dr. Aimee Rockhill</td>
<td>WCU</td>
<td>828-227-3915</td>
<td><a href="mailto:aprockhill@wcu.edu">aprockhill@wcu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>James Tomberlin</td>
<td>NCWRC</td>
<td>828-234-8823</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jimmert10@yahoo.com">jimmert10@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td>At-Large Board</td>
<td>Worth McAlister</td>
<td>NCWRC</td>
<td>252-926-0176</td>
<td><a href="mailto:john.mcalister@ncwildlife.org">john.mcalister@ncwildlife.org</a></td>
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<td>At-Large Board</td>
<td>Shannon Rabby</td>
<td>HCC</td>
<td>—</td>
<td><a href="mailto:srabby@haywood.edu">srabby@haywood.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE Section Rep</td>
<td>Gabriela Garrison</td>
<td>NCWRC</td>
<td>910-409-7350</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gabriela.garrison@ncwildlife.org">gabriela.garrison@ncwildlife.org</a></td>
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Associate Editor: Kelly Douglass
Assistant Editors: Meagan Thomas and Rada Petric
Copy Editor: Steven Ball
Rachael’s Rumination

Happy New Year Wildlifers! We are starting the year 2020 with over 350 members in our NCTWS family. That’s 350 people that work hard every day to conserve, research, and manage our wildlife in the state.

Last year, North Carolina was the 14th fastest growing state in the nation and our population has grown by almost 10% since 2010. Most of this growth is occurring in four of our metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) which were ranked within the top 50 for growth out of the 390 MSAs in the nation (Table 1, next page).

With growth comes development, and with development comes more challenges to conserving our natural resources. So, to the 349 NCTWS members (minus me, of course!), I want to give a big THANK YOU for all that you do for our state. I feel lucky to live in a state where there are so many people working together across disciplines, agencies, and backgrounds for the future of our natural resources. As a parent, I am also thankful that there are still places I can take my 3-year-old son, Rowan, to experience nature, even within one of the fastest growing and developing areas in the state and nation. Without all of your hard work and dedication, these

Dr. Rachael Urbanek’s son, Rowan, taking a break from his first birding hike with his new binoculars. Photo courtesy of Dr. Rachael Urbanek.
PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

quintessential experiences for youths would be truly lacking in our state.

Facing growth and development challenges in managing our wildlife may seem easy as we continue into this year and future years with the impacts of climate change bearing down upon us. That is why we are focusing this year’s annual meeting on *Climate Change: Adaptation, Biodiversity, and Communication*. The meeting will be at Haw River State Park between 11-13 February and will feature a suite of speakers on the effects of climate change on our flora and fauna. Look on page 25 for more details about the agenda. I hope to see you there!

Dr. Rachael Urbanek, her son Rowan, and his best friend Alexandra Conklin playing in an awesome fort they found at Carolina Beach State Park. Photo courtesy of Dr. Rachael Urbanek.
2020 NCTWS Officer Elections

Cast your vote today! Voting for the 2020 NCTWS officer elections is now open and can be completed in one of three ways: 1) in-person at the annual meeting, 2) via an absentee ballot using snail mail, 3) or via an absentee ballot using our online survey.

Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots are only to be used by members who are unable to attend the annual meeting February 11-13, 2020 at Haw River State Park in Browns Summit, NC.

Absentee ballots can be submitted in one of two ways, either on-line (via a Survey Monkey link that will be emailed to members immediately following the publication of this issue) or via snail mail. If you want to mail us your ballot, complete the ballot below and mail it to NCTWS, c/o Kelly Douglass, 5309 Eolian Ct., Raleigh, NC 27607. All absentee ballots must be received by February 10, 2019 11:59pm EST.

Voting at the Annual Meeting

If you plan to attend the annual meeting, you do not need to complete an absentee ballot. Like last year, hard copy ballots will be distributed at the registration table to all NCTWS members attending the annual meeting, and attendees will be asked to complete them on-site. Ballots will be collected on-site February 11 and 12. Winners will be announced at the Annual Business Meeting on February 13.

Candidates

This year, we have 7 candidates running for 3 positions on the NCTWS Executive Board! Matthew Harrell and Shannon Rabby have accepted a nomination for President-elect. Jimmy Capps and Liz Hillard have accepted a nomination for Secretary. And, Alicia Davis, Justin McVey, and Todd Menke have accepted a nomination for the At-large Board position. Check out their bios below.
2020 NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY
BALLOT

President-elect (please vote for 1)

_______ Matthew Harrell
_______ Shannon Rabby

Secretary (please vote for 1)

_______ Jimmy Capps
_______ Dr. Liz Hillard

At-large Board Member (please vote for 1)

_______ Alicia Davis
_______ Justin McVey
_______ Todd Menke

Signature: __________________________

According to the Chapter bylaws, absentee ballots submitted prior to the scheduled time for counting ballots (i.e., the annual meeting) must be signed by the voting member. If your ballot is not, it will not be counted.

Mail ballots to NCTWS, c/o Kelly Douglass, at 5309 Eolian Ct., Raleigh, NC 27607. All absentee ballots must be received by February 10, 2019.
CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT

NAME: Matthew Harrell  
OFFICE: President-elect  
PRESENT CAREER POSITION: Senior Project Manager at Restoration Systems, LLC  
FORMER CAREER POSITIONS: Natural Resources Coordinator at Mecklenburg County, Project Manager at Perry Management, Kinston, NC; Invasive Species Technician at Cumberland Island National Seashore. 
TWS ACTIVITIES: NCTWS Member (2012–present), Program Committee Chair 2018, Audit Committee (2018–2019)


VIEWS: My early years were spent in a rural corner of Nash County, where I became captivated by wildlife and ecology. Now I live in Wake County with a million other people and travel across the state working on stream and wetland restoration projects. The fast pace and lack of elbow room leave me feeling a bit nostalgic for simpler times and the natural world I fell in love with as a kid, but these challenging realities have helped me embrace the vital role of social science and apologetics in shaping the public policies that so greatly affect the things I love. As someone with the mindset of an ecologist I know that public sentiment, policy, and funding are all tangled up with the TWS mission to “sustain wildlife populations and habitats through science-based management and conservation.” I walk daily in that tangled world as I navigate the ever-evolving world of private sector habitat restoration and am constantly learning. As President-elect, I would enjoy serving both students and professional members by coordinating with our existing Board and committees in supporting our traditional programs and efforts. I have enjoyed being a member of TWS for some time now and relish being able to give something back to an organization I have found to be so worthwhile. Beyond the basics, I would also push for engagement opportunities beyond the traditional wildlife sciences which might help our members stay relevant in a fast and tangled society.
MEET THE CANDIDATES

CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT

NAME: Daniel Shannon Rabby
OFFICE: President-elect
PRESENT CAREER POSITION: Lead Instructor, Fish and Wildlife Management, Haywood Community College
MEET THE CANDIDATES


EDUCATION: MS, Biology Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC (2005); BS, Natural Resource Management (Forestry Concentration) Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC (2001); AAS, Forest Management Technology Haywood Community College, Clyde, NC (1998); AAS, Fish and Wildlife Management Technology Haywood Community College, Clyde, NC (1997).

TWS ACTIVITIES: TWS member since 1995; Founding member, HCC Student Chapter of TWS (1995); NCTWS and SE Section TWS member since 2003; Co-Chair, Program Committee 2015 Annual Meeting NCTWS Lake Logan, NC; Attendee, NCTWS annual meetings 2007–2019, 1996–1998; Faculty Advisor, HCC Student Chapter of TWS 2007–present; President, HCC Student Chapter of TWS 1996; Attendee, TWS National meetings (Raleigh, Pittsburgh, Miami, Burlington, Cincinnati, Nashville); Attendee, TWS Southeastern Wildlife Student Conclave 1995–1998, 2002–2019; Recipient, Ken Wilson Award, NCTWS 1996; TWS Certified Wildlife Biologist®, 2013.
MEET THE CANDIDATES


VIEWS: As a wildlife management educator, I have always benefitted from involvement with professional organizations such as The Wildlife Society. I have been a member of TWS at the student level, as a young professional, and as an older professional; and at each step along the way, TWS has been instrumental in helping me to develop and improve in my chosen profession.

I encourage my students to become involved in our very active student chapter of TWS. I make efforts to help students attend NCTWS annual meetings, student conclaves, and national TWS conferences. The networking opportunities at these events are of great value to me and to my students. In addition, involvement in TWS provides opportunities to learn about current research and about the practical application of wildlife management techniques.

When I was first getting involved with TWS as a student, I was fortunate to receive the Ken Wilson Award from NCTWS. My personal mentor and former NCTWS President, Dave Dudek, told me that the award comes with a price: I would one day be tapped to serve our Chapter. If elected as President-elect, I will do my best to serve our organization and to help further our common goal of excellence in wildlife education and stewardship of our natural resources.
MEET THE CANDIDATES

CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY

NAME: Dr. Liz Hillard

OFFICE: Secretary


FORMER CAREER POSITIONS: Assistant Wildlife Scientist, Southern Illinois University (2018–2019); Adjunct Faculty, Biology, McDowell Tech Community College (2013); Science Instructor, Wellspring Academy of the Carolinas (2007–2011); Wildlife Research Technician, Cooperative Wildlife Research Laboratory-

**EDUCATION:** Ph.D. Cooperative Wildlife Research Lab, Southern Illinois University (2018); M.S. Biology, Western Carolina University (2013); B.S. Zoology-Wildlife Biology, Southern Illinois University (2005)


**VIEWS:** The Wildlife Society has provided mentorship, support, and opportunities throughout my career. I want to give back by encouraging and inspiring future wildlifers. Most of my Society involvement has been with the Illinois Chapter of TWS. With my work now in North Carolina, I plan to be an active and engaged member of the North Carolina Chapter through serving as Secretary, by participating in mentorship/networking, and overall helping to enhance understanding of the role and value of wildlife conservation.
CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY

NAME: Jimmy Capps

OFFICE: Secretary


MEET THE CANDIDATES

EDUCATION: BS in Environmental Science, Biological Sciences minor, Florida State University (2003).

TWS ACTIVITIES: NCTWS Professional Development Committee, Co-Chair (2018–present); NCTWS Program Committee, member (2017 & 2019); NCTWS Communications Committee, member (2018–present).

AFFILIATIONS: TWS (2016–present); North Carolina Chapter (2016–present); Ducks Unlimited-Member; NWTF-Member; Delta Waterfowl-Member; Wake County Audubon-Member; Florida State Ducks Unlimited Student Chapter-Committee Member (1998–2001).

VIEWS: When the TWS conference was held in Raleigh back in 2016, I wanted to attend and have a look. I had never been to one of these events before and it was right in my backyard. Needless to say I was very impressed not only by what I learned at the event but also seeing the NCTWS Chapter’s dedication and involvement in pulling off the conference.

Shortly after the conference, I spoke with my Assistant State Director, Todd Menke, and Kelly Douglass, both long-time NCTWS contributors, about assisting with the NC Chapter. I started off as a member of the Program Committee. The following year, I was asked to get more involved and for the last two years I have co-chaired the Professional Development Committee and assisted with several other committees. I have really enjoyed volunteering and being a part of the NC Chapter over the last few years. The connections and friendships I have made over the past three years has really shone a light on the benefits of stepping up and being a bigger part of the NCTWS.

I am running for Secretary to broaden my knowledge and involvement with our great Chapter. I would appreciate your consideration for this position on the Board.
CANDIDATE FOR AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBER

NAME: Alicia Davis

OFFICE: At-Large Board Member

PRESENT CAREER POSITION:
Alligator Biologist – North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

FORMER CAREER POSITIONS:

EDUCATION: B.S. in Fisheries, Wildlife & Conservation Biology (Wildlife Science Concentration) and minor in Zoology, North Carolina State University (2015); Associate of Science, Craven Community College (2012).

**AFFILIATIONS:** The Wildlife Society (Parent and State Chapter), Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Alligator Working Group, Wake County Audubon, North Carolina Herpetological Society, and NC Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation.

**VIEWS:** As a student, I was told time and again how valuable networking is in our field. Like most wildlife students that dream of one day being a biologist, I once thought of networking as just one of the tools that would help me “get the job.” However, as an early professional, I came to learn the true value of the relationships that are built through networking opportunities. As wildlife professionals, the most valuable resource that we have isn’t scientific literature, technical skills, or funding; our most valuable resources are our relationships with our peers. With most of the challenges we face, the path to the solution almost always incorporates the experience and advice of others that have tackled similar tasks. Likewise, the consideration of multiple perspectives often contributes to the creation of more sound solutions to more complicated issues. The propensity for folks in our field to share their knowledge with others in the wildlife community is an essential ingredient in the recipe for conservation. I have a great respect and appreciation for NCTWS’ role in bringing wildlife professionals together and creating opportunities for individuals at all career levels to learn from and inspire each other. If elected as an At-large Board member, it will be a privilege to serve our Chapter and its members and to contribute to these efforts.
CANDIDATE FOR AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBER

NAME: Justin McVey

OFFICE: At-large Board Member


TWS ACTIVITIES: Certified Wildlife Biologist®, NCTWS Program Committee, member (2018-2019)


VIEWS: Part of the strength of NCTWS is having a group of members who will step up to the plate when needed. In order to keep NCTWS effective, it is necessary for members to be engaged and active. When I was asked to run for At-large Board member, I agreed. I want to do my part to ensure that NCTWS continues its success in wildlife conservation and provides continued opportunities for wildlife professionals, students, and others to be engaged in science-based management and conservation.
CANDIDATE FOR AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBER

Name: Todd Menke

Position: At-Large Board Member

Career Position: Assistant State Director/Supervisory Wildlife Biologist - 27 years USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services

Education: Bachelor of Science in Natural Resources — Fisheries and Wildlife, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

TWS Activities: Current Chair NCTWS Audit Committee; TWS Certified Wildlife Biologist® (19 years); NCTWS Chapter Award 2018; TWS Arrangements Committee and Chair of Local Networking and Engagement Subcommittee (2015–2016) TWS Conference held in Raleigh October 2016

Affiliations: Lifetime Member of NCTWS (19 years); North Carolina Trappers Association (27 years) — Hall of Fame Inductee 2017; National Trappers Association (27 years); Fur Takers of America (27 years); TWS Member (19 years); North Carolina Beaver Management Assistance Program Advisory Board (27 years); North Carolina Wildlife Damage Control Agent (25 years); Volunteer Certified Hunter/Trapper Education Instructor (31 years); North Carolina Trappers Association Board of Directors (27 years) — current Education Coordinator, Past President, Past Secretary; Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies — Furbearer Conservation Technical Work Group Best Management Practices Advisor; EAGLE Scout and Volunteer Scoutmaster with Boy Scouts of America
**Views:** I am an eternal optimist. If you learn to have a good day on purpose you will always bring something positive to the situation. Those who know me appreciate my passion for promoting responsible trapping through education and by setting high ethical standards, following best management practices, and abiding by all laws and regulations while respecting and understanding others’ concerns. Trapping is conservation in the purest form which supports the “wise use” of our abundant natural resources, and its resulting product, fur, is one our “greenest” products — a renewable resource that is fashionable, beautiful, all-natural, and organic. If we continue to educate others that we care about our responsibility to the sustainable use of wildlife, we can show that fishing, hunting, and trapping are safe, efficient, reasonable, environmentally friendly, acceptable, and critical components in managing wildlife populations and we can help ensure these traditions continue. We are responsible stewards of wildlife and we need to show respect for the animals we pursue because no one loves or cares more about wildlife than we do.

Your willingness to get involved and give back is needed to help educate others on what we all love.....wildlife! Having your vote to serve on the NCTWS Executive Board as an At-Large Member is another way for me to give back to my passion for wildlife. You can count on me to be professional with facts and not let personal emotions bias decisions. I will continue to be selfless with my time and energy to be a role model for all to follow. We all have lots to do in this fast-paced world with family and job obligations, but hopefully everyone can find some time to give back as well. You too can leave a legacy — donate time by giving back. If we continue to share information, be consistent, and go out of our way to support each other we all are winners! Knowledge comes from information, information comes from communication, and thus communication is the key!! I firmly believe in and follow this statement: do what is right because it is the right thing to do, not because you expect something in return!!!
Please join your fellow wildlifers in Browns Summit, NC for the 2020 Annual Meeting of NCTWS at Haw River State Park, February 11–13, 2020. The theme for the meeting is *Climate Change: Adaptation, Biodiversity, and Communication*. Sessions will focus on climate change and related topics, as well as presentations related to central NC. Mark your calendars now for an educational and captivating conference, including our traditional, lively auction!
NCTWS ANNUAL MEETING
“Climate Change: Adaptation, Biodiversity, and Communication”
Haw River State Park
Browns Summit, NC
Feb. 11th-13th, 2020

REGISTRATION FORM

Registration must be postmarked by January 17th, 2020 for early registration
(lodging not guaranteed after Jan. 17th)
Return To: James Tomberlin
NCTWS Treasurer
5171 Sherrill Dr.
Granite Falls, NC 28630

Name: __________________________ Affiliation: __________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________
City: __________________________ State: _________ Zip: ___________
Phone: __________________________ E-mail: __________________________

Please mark which options you prefer and add the appropriate $ amounts in the subtotal.

**Make checks payable to NCTWS**

| Overnight lodging includes: Registration, Meals, Lodging, Socials, Breaks |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Meals provided for 1-night stay (in order): dinner, breakfast and lunch |
| Meals provided for staying both nights: Tues. dinner, Wed. B/L/D, Thurs. B/L |
| If you plan on arriving Wed. morning and would like Wed. breakfast and/or Wed. lunch, please mark that in the Commuter meals and add to subtotal. |

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Meeting Registration Total: $
Dietary Restrictions
Please indicate any dietary concerns here: _______________________________________________________
(Vegetarian, Vegan, Gluten-free, no peanuts, and other)
Note: If gluten-free, please add $2.50 per meal to subtotal above.

Please Indicate Roommate choices:
__________________________________________________________________________________________

Basic Meeting Information:
- Tuesday night dinner (Feb. 11th) is from 6:00-6:45 pm
- The NCTWS Annual Meeting will begin at 8:55 AM on Wednesday, Feb. 13th, with door prizes and our plenary session.
- Registration table will be open the following hours:
  o Feb. 11th (Tuesday) afternoon: 4:00-6:00 pm
  o Feb. 12th (Wednesday): 7:00-8:45 am, during morning and afternoon breaks

Silent Auction Donation
Please consider bringing a silent auction item that will be auctioned off during the 2nd night of the annual meeting. This auction raises funds to benefit students and student chapters (e.g., awards, endowments, conclave, scholarships)

I will bring a silent auction item to the meeting: Yes_______ No_______

Concurrent Field Workshops
February 11th, 2020
1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.
Haw River State Park

The 2020 Annual Meeting will begin with several workshop options at Haw River State Park. There are three workshop options to choose from. If you would like to attend a workshop, please visit links below to register.

1. Specialty Tools used in Wildlife Damage Management: Professionals from the NC Wildlife Resources Commission and USDA-Wildlife Services will offer a brief presentation followed by a demonstration of the various tools used in wildlife damage management. This will include pyrotechnics, dart guns, and much more. Session limited to 30 people
   https://www.eventbrite.com/e/nctws-field-workshop

2. GIS Basic Skills Workshop: Dr. Aimee Rockhill with Western Carolina University will do a hands-on data collection and demonstration of basic GIS skills including collecting data, projections, and adding gridlines. Session limited to 20 people
   https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gis-basic-skills-workshop

3. Winter Dendrology ID Hike: Shannon Rabby from Haywood Community College will lead a hike through Haw River State Park discussing key features to use while identifying trees during the winter. Session limited to 20 people
   https://www.eventbrite.com/e/winter-dendrology-id-hike

Contact Lauren Smith for further information: lauren.e.smith@usda.gov
2020 Annual Meeting

Tentative Meeting Agenda

Theme - *Climate Change: Adaptation, Biodiversity, and Communication*

**Tuesday, February 11th**

1:00–4:00 PM Concurrent Field Workshops (all onsite at Haw River State Park)

  **Workshop option 1:** Specialty Tools Used in Wildlife Damage Management — USDA Wildlife Services. Limit: 30 People

  **Workshop option 2:** GIS Basic Skills Workshop — Dr. Aimee Rockhill, WCU Limit: 20 People

  **Workshop option 3:** Winter Dendro ID Hike — Shannon Rabby, HCC Limit: 20 people

4:30 PM Registration (open until 5:30 PM)

6:00 PM Dinner

7:00 PM Poster Session/Social/Jam Session

**Wednesday, February 12th**

8:00 AM Breakfast

8:55 AM Door Prizes

9:00 AM Welcome — Gordon Batcheller, TWS Vice President

9:15 AM **Effectively Communicating Climate Change** — Mary Alice Holley, Conservation Trust of NC

10:15 AM **Response of Exotic and Invasive Plants to Climate Change** — Owen Carson, NC Invasive Plant Council, Equinox Environmental Consulting

10:45 AM Break (registration open)

10:55 AM Door Prizes

11:00 AM **North Carolina Leading the Way on Low Impact Solar Siting and Design** — Liz Kalies, NC Chapter of The Nature Conservancy & Gabriela Garrison, NC Wildlife Resources Commission
11:30 AM  Announcements/ Updates
12:00 PM  Lunch
12:55 PM  Door Prizes
1:00 PM   Concurrent ID/Technique Stations: Hands-on
           *Choose 2 different 30-minute sessions to attend.*
           *Sessions are 1-1:30 and 1:45-2:15*
1:00 PM   1: Birds: John Gerwin, NC Museum of Natural Sciences
1:00 PM   2: Mammals: Danny Ray, NC Wildlife Resources Commission
1:00 PM   3: Interview Crash Course/Round Table
1:30 PM   Break (registration open)
2:15 PM   Concurrent Sessions (20 minutes each. Choose 3 to attend.) *subject to change*
2:30 PM   Hard Mast Production: Collaborations to Standardize Regional Indexing
           Protocols and Forecast Potential Production Using Forest Inventory — Katie
           Greenberg, USFS
2:30 PM   Are Mitigation Translocations of Timber Rattlesnakes a Conservation Action? —
           John Sealy
2:30 PM   Feeding on the Edge: Foraging White Ibis Target Interhabitat Prey Fluxes —
           Erin Binkley
2:30 PM   Partnerships: The Web of Conservation — Will Ricks, Duke Energy
2:30 PM   Public Interactions, Attitudes, and Conflict Regarding Coyotes and their
           Management in New Hanover County, NC — Rebecca Buteau
2:30 PM   Documenting Biodiversity: Projects, Studies and Monitoring Efforts in
           Mecklenburg County — Lenny Lampel, Mecklenburg County Parks &
           Recreation
3:00 PM   Break
3:50 PM   Door Prizes
3:55 PM   Sea Level Rise Impacting Coastal Wildlife Refuges — Ryan Boyles, SE Climate
           Adaptation Science Center
4:15 PM   Awards Presentation
5:00 PM   Break

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6:00 PM  Dinner
7:00 PM  Social/Jam Session/Auction

**Thursday, February 13th**

8:00 AM  Breakfast
8:55 AM  Door Prizes
9:00 AM  NCTWS Annual Business Meeting
10:00 AM  Impacts of Climate Change on Fish and Wildlife and Their Habitats — Cindy Simpson, NC Wildlife Resources Commission
10:20 AM  Climate Adaptation Strategies in the Albemarle-Pamlico Sounds — Eric Soderholm, The Nature Conservancy
10:40 AM  Break
10:55 AM  Door Prizes
11:00 AM  Bird Community Responses to Rising Sea Level Reveal Conservation Opportunities in Low-lying Coastal Environments — Paul Taillie, NC State University
11:20 AM  Climate Change and Prescribed Burning — Adam Terando, US Geological Survey
11:40 AM  Closing Remarks/Adjourn
12:00 AM  Lunch

2020–2021 Executive Board Meeting
Need to tidy up your attic or garage? Want to donate to a good cause? Bring your unwanted or left-over items to the 2020 NCTWS Annual Meeting at Haw River State Park! In years past, we’ve had wildlife artwork, used books, local honey, craft beer and wine, homemade baked/canned goods, native bee blocks, bird seed and houses, hunting blinds, tree stands, hand carved coffee tables, skulls and furs, foothold traps, and more! So, dust off your old digs, get creative in the kitchen, finish a woodworking or metal work project, or just go buy something to donate! All donated items will be used to help our Chapter raise funds for chapter and student awards and student chapter endowments. Donors will receive a thank you letter from the Chapter that can be used for tax deduction purposes. Support your Chapter today!!

Please complete 4 fields on the following bid sheet: item, description, donated by, and value—for each item you donate and bring the sheets (or send them via a friend/colleague) along with the items to the annual meeting.
NC TWS Silent Auction
2020 Annual Meeting
February 12, 2020

Item:

Description:

| Value: $ ________ | Minimum bid: $________ | Minimum bid increase: $ ______ |

Donated by:

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Get Your Raffle Tickets!

The NC Chapter of The Wildlife Society will once again raffle off four exciting expedition trips during the 2019 NCTWS Annual Meeting. See the trip descriptions below!

Just print off your tickets, fill them out, and bring them (or send them with a friend) to the annual meeting along with your donation. Cash and checks, made payable to NCTWS, will be accepted for tickets sold outside of the annual meeting. Cash, checks, or credit cards will be accepted for tickets sold on-site at the annual meeting.

**Ticket prices:**

- 1 ticket for $5
- 3 tickets for $10
- 8 tickets for $20

You do not need to be present at the annual meeting to win. And you do not have to be a member of NCTWS to purchase tickets. So ask your neighbors, friends, or anyone else you think might be interested in one of these amazing experiences to buy some tickets today!

The drawing will be held during the evening social on April 3rd. Winners not present will be contacted the following day.

The NCTWS member who sells the most tickets between now and the annual meeting will win a prize!
Raffle #1:

Trapping in the Piedmont of North Carolina for the 2021 trapping season: Spend a day on the trapline with Clint Brooks, Natural Resources Coordinator for Mecklenburg County, in the Piedmont of NC. This trip will take place during the months of January-February for the 2021 trapping season. The day will consist of locating ideal trapping locations as well as setting and checking traps for a wide array of species, including: coyote, bobcat, raccoon and fox. This expedition will walk through some of the ins and outs of trapping techniques for NC furbearers. Transportation is provided to trapping locations.

Raffle #2:

Day Guided Bass Fishing: Join Dr. Richard Lancia, an emeritus Professor of Wildlife Biology at NCSU, for a guided bass fishing trip on Lake Gaston in the spring or summer. You may bring your own bass fishing gear, but if you don’t have any, Dr. Lancia will provide it. The winner will meet Dr. Lancia at the Morning Star Marina that is located at 1865 Eaton Ferry Road, Littleton, NC. Winner must have a valid NC fishing license.
Raffle #3: Elevational Bird Watching Expedition: Join Kendrick Weeks, Mountain Wildlife Diversity Supervisor with the NCWRC, to learn how bird communities in the mountains change with elevation. This trip for up to 4 people in May or June will visit various habitats at different elevations with opportunities to see (or hear) birds such as Blackburnian warbler, black-throated blue warbler, chestnut-sided warbler, and golden-winged warbler.

Raffle #4: Black River Paddle Tour: Join Jerry Reynolds, Head of Outreach for the NC Museum of Natural Sciences, on a 10+ mile paddle on the scenic Black River in eastern North Carolina. Winner will paddle through the Three Sisters area famous for the oldest known Bald Cypress tree (2,624 years old in 2019) and 5th oldest tree in the world. This expedition will take place around April 1 as Spring is a great time to paddle the river. Enjoy the scenery and observe the wildlife encountered on the trip. It’s a long paddle on a relatively slow-moving black water river requiring good general physical abilities and moderate paddling experience but is certainly worth the effort. Trip includes transportation from Raleigh, solo kayak and gear for paddling.
| Name: ______________________________ |
| Phone: ____________________________ |

The Wildlife Society - NC Chapter
**2020 Expedition Mountain Birding Trip**

Name of ticket seller: __________________________

North Carolina Chapter of The Wildlife Society
2020 Expedition Trip Raffle

**Elevational Mountain Birding Trip**

Drawing held February 12, 2020

*Donation 1 ticket for $5, 3 for $10, 8 for $20*

See Expedition Descriptions sheet for further details.
Dates to be arranged between winner and expedition coordinator.

| Name: ______________________________ |
| Phone: ____________________________ |

The Wildlife Society - NC Chapter
**2020 Expedition Trapping**

Name of ticket seller: __________________________

North Carolina Chapter of The Wildlife Society
2020 Expedition Trip Raffle

**Trapping in the Piedmont of NC**

Drawing held February 12, 2020

*Donation 1 ticket for $5, 3 for $10, 8 for $20*

See Expedition Descriptions sheet for further details.
Dates to be arranged between winner and expedition coordinator.

| Name: ______________________________ |
| Phone: ____________________________ |

The Wildlife Society - NC Chapter
**2020 Expedition Bass Fishing Trip**

Name of ticket seller: __________________________

North Carolina Chapter of The Wildlife Society
2020 Expedition Trip Raffle

**Guided Bass Fishing**

Drawing held February 12, 2020

*Donation 1 ticket for $5, 3 for $10, 8 for $20*

See Expedition Descriptions sheet for further details.
Dates to be arranged between winner and expedition coordinator.

| Name: ______________________________ |
| Phone: ____________________________ |

The Wildlife Society - NC Chapter
**2020 Expedition Black River Trip**

Name of ticket seller: __________________________

North Carolina Chapter of The Wildlife Society
2020 Expedition Trip Raffle

**Day long canoe trip on the Black River**

Drawing held February 12, 2020

*Donation 1 ticket for $5, 3 for $10, 8 for $20*

See Expedition Descriptions sheet for further details.
Winner responsible for meals and lodging. Plus 1 available
This year, the NC Chapter of The Wildlife Society granted Ben De Aguilar (age 14, from Rockingham) a $250 scholarship to attend the Fur, Fish, and Game Rendezvous at the Millstone 4-H Camp in Ellerbe, NC. This camp is the premier summer camp experience for youth interested in the outdoors, wildlife, hunting, and fishing. Please help us congratulate Ben on this awesome achievement!

“The main reason I wanted to go to the Advanced Fish and Fur Camp was to learn more about hunting. I also wanted to see my friends that I had met at the Fish and Fur Camp that I haven't seen in a whole year. The camp was made fun due to the planned activities like hunting. The whole experience was amazing. I also enjoyed making new friends aside from the old ones. After camp I participated in the Wildlife Game Food Competition in our county. Using my knowledge I gained from the camp I got first place in my age category. I made Deer with Guajillo Sauce (a Mexican chili sauce). I have also participated in our local 4-H Shooting Sports.”

-Ben De Aguilar

Scholarships for the Fur, Fish & Game Camp will be offered again in 2020! Stay tuned for future announcements about application info and deadlines!
2019 Southeastern Wildlife Conclave

This year the Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (ABAC) Student Chapter of TWS hosted the TWS Southeastern Student Conclave on March 21-23 in Tifton, Georgia. Three of our student chapters here in North Carolina attended, and all three brought home awards!

The scoring is broken down as follows:

- Team Competition (30%)
- Quiz Bowl (25%)
- Art (15%) – landscape photography, digitally enhanced photography, non-manipulated photography, trail-cam photography, free-form, painting, drawing, poetry, field photography, wildlife calling
- Physical (15%) – archery, shotgun, riflery, obstacle course, canoeing, fly casting
- Intellectual Competitions (15%) – radio-telemetry, dendrology, orienteering, lab practical, essay

Our state chapters represented North Carolina very well, so please congratulate them next time you see them, and read on to find out which awards they won!
The 2019 Southeastern Wildlife Conclave was a successful event for North Carolina State University (NCSU). Eighteen students spent the weekend in Tifton, Georgia at ABAC. These students competed in individual competitions, quiz bowl, and team field events against other wildlife clubs from the southeast.

NCSU placed 3rd this year in team field after competing in a wide range of events such as trap assembly, anatomy and physiology, and deer antler ranking. Unfortunately, the team did not hold their place in the top 3 (as they have in
recent years) for quiz bowl, but came in a close 4th behind Mississippi State University (3rd), University of Tennessee at Martin (2nd), and University of Georgia (1st).

The team was very successful in individual events, with several students placing in the top three for their competitions. Alex Mense and Amber Bumgarder brought home a team victory with a 2nd place award in canoeing, Dylan Poplin won 3rd in shotgun, Alea Hunsucker won 1st place for freeform art, and Kyle Watkins won 3rd place in both field estimations and landscape photography.

This year, the collective NCSU team placed 3rd overall, making this the 3rd consecutive year in the top three teams overall. This accomplishment wouldn’t be possible without the commitment of club members both inside and outside the classroom, or without the help of the NCSU Wildlife Department’s amazing professors and advisors. All of these members are proud of their accomplishments and those that are returning in 2020 are already looking forward to traveling to Western NC in the spring.

Submitted by Alea Hunsucker, Leopold Wildlife Club President 2019-2020
The Western Carolina University Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society was able to bring 13 students down to ABAC for the Southeastern Student Wildlife Conclave. Students competed in all events except the canoe race this year. We’re excited about the continued growth in the student chapter and are working hard to bring a full team to the 2021 conclave!

Overall, we performed well in individual competitions. Amelia Macdonald took home the 3rd place trophy for free form art. Also, we placed 5th in GIS and lab practical; 6th in quiz bowl, field estimation, landscape photography, and drawing; 7th in orienteering; and 8th in dendrology and study skin prep. Students were thankful for the opportunity to participate in the many great field trips put together by ABAC. For most students, it was the first time we stepped foot in a longleaf pine ecosystem and saw gopher tortoises. It will be hard to top this years' conclave, but we are working hard with Haywood Community College to make the 2020 Conclave an event to remember!

Submitted by Dr. Aimee Rockhill, WCU student chapter advisor
The Haywood Community College Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society was fortunate enough to bring 24 students to ABAC for Southeastern Student Wildlife Conclave. We are thankful to ABAC for allowing us to bring extra students to watch the events, giving us the opportunity to prepare for the 2020 Southeastern Student Wildlife Conclave that we are co-hosting with Western Carolina University.

Overall, Haywood placed 4th out of 21 schools. Students Ben Parker, Josh Gothard, and Dylan Mahaffey placed 3rd in the obstacle course. Jessica Kervin took 1st in landscape photography and 4th in the GIS Practical. In the rifle event, Brandon Keever took 1st place! Andrew Jones placed 3rd in Dendrology and Garrett McCarson placed 1st in museum skin preparation.

Submitted by Garrett McCarson, HCC Student Chapter President 2019-2020
NCTWS Member and Immediate Past President, Colleen Olfenbuttel, Receives TWS Fellows Award

At the TWS Conference in Reno, NV in September 2019, Colleen Olfenbuttel was presented with the prestigious TWS Fellows Award. This award is given to individuals who have been a TWS member for at least 10 years, are active in TWS at the section, chapter, working group, or parent Society level, and have a distinguished professional record that includes significant contributions to wildlife resources and the profession.

Fellows are appointed for life. A maximum of two TWS Fellows per Section may be appointed annually, by vote of Council.
Colleen’s involvement with TWS and her impact on the profession is so extensive, we can’t cover it all. So, we’ve included only some of the highlights below, taken from her nomination.

At the parent Society level, she currently serves as an At-large Member of the Editorial Advisory Board and has been a member and officer of the Wildlife Damage Management Working Group and the Hunting, Trapping and Conservation Working Group. At TWS Conferences, she consistently volunteers to review contributed papers and posters, review student travel grant applications, and organize, moderate, and instruct symposia and workshops. And she was, of course, involved in the planning for the TWS Conference when it came to Raleigh in 2016; she served on the TWS Arrangements Committee and Local Information Subcommittee, and chaired the Fundraising Subcommittee. For the Southeast Section, she currently serves as the chair of the SEAFWA Furbearer Working Group and Large Carnivore Working Group and chair of the SETWS Fur Resources Committee.

For the NC Chapter, she currently serves as our Immediate Past President and chair of the NCTWS Membership Committee and NCTWS Grants and Finance Committee. She served as President-elect and President from 2017–2018 and served as Treasurer for the four years preceding. She has been a member of our state Chapter for 12 years and became a lifetime member in 2016. And her impact and dedication to the wildlife profession has been just as impressive.

Colleen has a long career as a biologist and uses her extensive expertise to promote wildlife resources and help provide leadership in the profession. Currently, she is working with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission and is responsible for managing and coordinating monitoring, surveys, research,
and restoration activities on both game lands and private lands of black bears and furbearers in North Carolina.

She works to support trappers and wildlife damage professionals, and volunteers to teach wildlife techniques courses and carnivore biology to the public and university students. She assists with the administration of the Wildlife Damage Control Agent program in North Carolina. Colleen works with the public and designs educational materials on black bears and furbearers to help the public understand the importance of our natural resources and how to resolve human-wildlife conflicts.

Colleen serves as an invited expert for research and management of black bears and furbearers across the country. She is engaged in research that facilitates management of black bears and furbearers, and is able to translate that research to other biologists and the general public through engagement and formal educational programs.

“Colleen works for the wildlife resources and the people. She is always engaging to promote the profession. Her enthusiasm and passion for wildlife resources is what makes her so successful and why she has such a high impact in all levels of The Wildlife Society. She has received honors from the North Carolina Chapter of the Wildlife Society and from her employers for excellence as a biologist and professional. She inspires us all to be more involved with her passion and enthusiasm.” [quote from nomination form]

Congratulations Colleen!
NCTWS member Kelly Douglass elected as President-elect of Southeastern Section of The Wildlife Society

Kelly hiking the Rainbow Falls Trail to the summit of Mount Le Conte in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Photo courtesy of Kelly Douglass.
At the Annual Conference of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Southeast Section of The Wildlife Society (SETWS) announced that NCTWS Past President, Kelly Douglass, was elected by her peers to serve as President-elect of the SETWS. Kelly had just completed her 2-year term as the Secretary/Treasurer of the SETWS. Kelly has been very active in TWS and has held many leadership roles with the NC Chapter, SETWS, and parent society since 2002. She has also served as a mentor for many students and young professionals over the years. Kelly previously worked for the NC Wildlife Resources Commission and currently works as the wildlife disease biologist for the USDA-Wildlife Services.

Please join us in congratulating Kelly! She will be a strong voice in supporting wildlife students and professionals, as well as advancing wildlife management and conservation at the regional level. And consider joining the SE Section when you renew your parent TWS membership.

The SE Section of The Wildlife Society comprises the US states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia as well as the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands.
Get your Lifetime Membership Today!

These memberships award you a lifetime of benefits for a one-time cost of $250!

What kind of benefits?

1) You won’t ever have to worry about renewing your Chapter membership again,

2) You get your name published in a future issue of the NC Wildlifer,

3) You get a letter of appreciation from the Chapter and a signed certificate of membership from the President, and

4) You are helping fund the good work of our organization and ensure our Chapter’s financial sustainability into the future.

You can invest in your Chapter by upgrading your membership online today!

Join the ranks of our current Lifetime Members!

#001 – Kelly Douglass
#002 – John Ann Shearer
#003 – Colleen Olfenbuttel
#004 – Ken Knight
#005 – Susan Campbell
#006 – Jeff Marcus
#007 – Pete Campbell
#008 – Brad Gunn
#009 – Todd Menke
#010 – Daron Barnes
#011 – Pete Benjamin
#012 – Liz Rutledge
#013 – Scott Kiser
#014 – Will Ricks
#015 – Jason Allen
#016 – Don Seriff
#017 – Scott McNeely
#018 – Allen Basala
#019 – Matina Kalcounis-Rueppell
#020 – This could be you!
Thank you NCTWS for supporting my attendance at the joint annual conference of The Wildlife Society and the American Fisheries Society in Reno, NV! This was my first annual conference with either organization, and I can undoubtedly say it is one of the highlights of my PhD journey so far. The NCTWS conference grant
NCTWS GRANTS

provided me the opportunity to present collaborative research between NCSU and the NCWRC, evaluating the impacts of NCWRC Game Lands on nearby property values. I also had the opportunity to network with academic and agency professionals and attend countless presentations related to my field of research. This funding also provided me the opportunity to attend both the TWS Urban Wildlife Working Group workshop and the TWS Human Dimension Working Group meeting. This workshop and meeting allowed me to connect with professionals who are also interested in human dimensions of wildlife and reconnect with former NC State Fisheries, Wildlife, & Conservation Biology students. Overall, I had a great time in Reno and can attribute the success of this trip to the support provided by NCTWS. Thank you again and I look forward to seeing everyone at the NCTWS Annual Meeting in the spring!

William Casola at Lake Tahoe. Photo courtesy Moriah Boggess.
As a NCTWS member and wildlife professional, I’m extremely appreciative of the opportunities our state chapter provides for its members. Through the NCTWS Professional Development Grant, I was able to attend the recent joint meeting of The Wildlife Society and American Fisheries Society in Reno, Nevada.

After grad school, I chose a career in wildlife conservation and advocacy that requires a broad knowledge of wildlife and collaborative efforts among numerous stakeholders. Science and technology can change quickly so it’s incredibly important to stay current on wildlife topics, ranging from improved data collection techniques to species management and habitat restoration. Now in my sixth year as a biologist at the NC Wildlife Federation, where we have numerous species and habitat related endeavors that require science-based decision making, we depend on the academic re-
search community to analyze data and disseminate their findings through conferences such as the one in Reno. This first ever joint TWS/AFS conference provided cutting edge research talks on almost every fisheries and wildlife topic as well as opportunities to share ideas, experiences, and knowledge with other wildlife professionals.

Early in the conference, I attended the TWS Conservation Affairs networking meeting with Dr. Rachael Urbanek from UNC Wilmington to learn more about the work done by these committees throughout the U.S. and Canada. This meeting was my first exposure to a broader context of what it means to serve on NCTWS Conservation Affairs Committee which I’ve been a member of for the past two years. From attending the networking meeting, I gained a stronger understanding of the committee’s role, the objectives of TWS as a society, and the importance of uniting wildlife professionals from diverse backgrounds to serve in these capacities. In addition, it was extremely fulfilling to hear what the various regions had accomplished in the last year and what potential topics are for 2020.

As a biologist for a grassroots organization, networking is vitally important to expanding our impact in wildlife conservation and the joint conference strategically provided numerous ways to interact with peers and colleagues. While attending the conference, I met undergraduate and graduate students from across the country and folks from state and federal agencies, enabling me to hear their stories about what wildlife means to them and where they’re headed as professionals in the field. One of my favorite socials of the conference was TWS Out in the Field luncheon, which had a much larger than expected turn out to show support for inclusivity in the professional wildlife community. It was also great to attend the university socials and catch up with old friends and past colleagues who’ve taken various positions across the country.
The conference plenary and symposiums were great but as wildlife enthusiasts we needed some outdoor time to reconnect with what we’re passionate about and work hard for—nature. The highlight of the trip was hiking around Lake Tahoe with other wildlife professionals from the conference. I was amazed at not only how beautiful and clear the lake was but also how much human development was able to blend in with the surrounding landscape. A plus of having the conference in Reno was that we were able to experience high mountain terrain and desert all within a relatively short drive.

By the end of the week there were many successes in terms of increased knowledge and networking, which are invaluable to my development and expertise as a TWS Certified Wildlife Biologist® for the NC Wildlife Federation, and our organization’s mission to protect, conserve, and restore wildlife. And I left the conference as many do, tired but motivated to come home and make a difference for wildlife!
This grant program is funded on an annual basis upon approval by the Executive Board of the NCTWS. The objective of this program is to provide three grants (up to $100 each) to NCTWS members to assist them in offsetting the cost of attending the NCTWS Annual Meeting. The Grants and Finance Committee will select the 10 best applicants based on their Needs Statement. A random lottery selection of the 10 best applicants will be used to select the 3 applicants that will receive the grant. This grant is only to be used to support attendance at the NCTWS Annual Meeting. Recipients must be members in good standing of the NCTWS at the time of application and attendance at the meeting as certified by the NCTWS.

APPLICATION

Name_________________________________________ Email_________________________________________
Address _________________________________________ Phone _________________________________________
City __________________________________________ State_______________________ Zip ___________________

Are you a current member of the NCTWS (y/n)? ______

Needs Statement (500 words maximum)

Describe the expected benefit(s) of attending the annual meeting including direct benefits to you, how it contributes to your professional development, whether you have a role in the annual meeting, and/or expected benefit(s) to your teaching, research, management, or outreach activities. Indicate whether attendance at the annual meeting will be used to gain credits to maintain your TWS Certified Wildlife Biologist certification.
Provide a budget for the cost of attending this meeting:

Registration $___________________________ Transportation $___________________________
(if using personal vehicle, see mileage rate below)

Lodging $______________________________ Miscellaneous $___________________________

Meals $_______________________________ TOTAL $ __________________________________

Your Signature __________________________________________ Date _______________

*Your signature certifies that you are a member in good standing of the NCTWS, that your dues are paid, and that you will use these funds, if awarded, for the purpose stated in this application.*

All application materials must be received by 1159 pm on January 15th for consideration.

Please send this application by mail or email to:

Colleen Olfenbuttel, NCTWS Grants and Finance Committee
1293 Laurel Bluffs
Pittsboro, NC 27312
Phone: 540-239-6457
Email: colfenbu@vt.edu (include “NCTWS Annual Meeting Grant” in the subject line of the email)

The recipients will be notified 7 calendar days after the application deadline (January 15). During the NCTWS Annual Meeting, a formal announcement will be made to the membership of the winning recipients. While not required, the NCTWS may request a picture taken of all three recipients to include in the NCTWS newsletter, *The Wildlifer*.

Recipients will only be awarded funding for actual travel expenses (up to $100). To collect the grant, the recipients needs to send the NCTWS Treasurer a request for reimbursement, including receipts for all expenses, within 14 calendar days after the annual meeting. Mileage on personal vehicles will be at the federal/state rate ($0.54 per mile).
Other News

TWS Give Back Program:
Engaging more wildlife professionals

Beginning Dec. 1, when professionals, early-career professionals and retired TWS members renew their memberships, they’ll have the opportunity to “Give Back” to the wildlife profession by gifting a six-month complimentary TWS membership to an active wildlife professional of their choice to introduce that person to the many benefits that TWS has to offer. One of many significant announcements at the TWS Annual Conference in Raleigh by TWS chief operating officer Ed Thompson, this program was arguably one the biggest, creating quite a stir and plenty of positive buzz among attendees.

“Members have expressed how difficult it is to put the true value of a TWS membership into words when encouraging other professionals to join,” Thompson said. “By allowing them to pass along the complete TWS experience, the Give Back program provides members with a simple way to demonstrate that value.”

Over the past two years the Society has significantly improved the benefits
of TWS membership, but those who aren’t members of the parent Society likely do not know how much they are missing. During that same time period, the Society’s student membership has continued to grow, but the number of professionals has remained mostly stagnant. So in order to grow and strengthen the TWS network of professionals and increase collaboration opportunities for all members, the new Give Back program specifically targets individuals who are active wildlife professionals to receive these introductory memberships.

Nominees, should they choose to accept their gift membership from a TWS member, will experience all the same benefits as members, including but not limited to:

- *The Wildlife Professional* bimonthly magazine
- Weekly editions of the *eWildlifer* newsletter, including featured TWS Talks presentations
- Networking through the TWS Online Member Directory (launching in December)
- Ability to join any and all working groups
- Ability to pursue certification opportunities
- A variety of members-only discounts, including $200 off TWS Annual Conference registration
- And much more!

If you renew online, you will immediately have the opportunity to nominate an active wildlife professional. If you renew through TWS’ paperless automatic renewal program or mail in a paper renewal form, you will receive an email with a link that can be used to submit your nomination.
The nomination process is easy:

- Provide the name and email address of the nominee.
- TWS will send an email on your behalf inviting the person to accept your gift.
- The nominee accepts the gift by simply providing a mailing address (to receive The Wildlife Professional magazine).
- The nominee receives a welcome email with member login information. You receive an email confirming that the person has accepted your gift so that you can stay in touch and continue to encourage your nominee to join at the end of the six months.

Before your renewal date sneaks up on you, start thinking about who you can nominate. It may be a friend or colleague in your organization or agency; a respected peer at a different organization; a TWS local chapter or section member who isn’t a parent society member; or anyone you believe would benefit from a TWS membership and would be a valuable addition to our network of wildlife professionals.

“If every professional, early-career professional and retired member nominates an active professional for this special opportunity, nearly 7,000 people will experience TWS membership through this new program during the upcoming year,” Thompson said. “The Give Back Program is an amazing opportunity to significantly grow our membership, providing all TWS members with a wider and more diverse network for professional development and collaboration.”

Article reprinted from http://wildlife.org/giveback
Are you a member of Parent TWS?

If you are not a member of The Wildlife Society, you may want to consider joining. TWS members enjoy many benefits including:

- Online access to three TWS journal publications *Journal of Wildlife Management*, *Wildlife Society Bulletin*, and *Wildlife Monographs*
- Weekly *e-Wildlifer* e-newsletters
- Quarterly issues of the *Wildlife Professional* magazine
- Access to over 100 online archived talks from the most recent TWS Annual Conference
- Discounts on Wiley scientific books (25%) and Johns Hopkins books (30%)
- Significant discount on conference registration ($200)
- Become CWB or AWB
- Attend the TWS Annual Conference
- Access to the TWS network directory
- Access to members-only working groups
- Increase the impact of your voice on important wildlife policy issues
- Nominate someone for a free 6-month membership to TWS

Membership dues:

- Regular membership $81
- New professional $51
- Student $41
- Retired $41
- Family $125

Don’t forget SETWS!

For only $10 a year for professionals or $6/year for students, you can also become a member of the Southeastern Section of The Wildlife Society and join over 475 other professionals in the Southeast! Join online through TWS, or mail a membership application form to SETWS today.
INSECT FREEFALL: WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR BIRDS?

(REPRINTED FROM ABC.ORG)

Many people quip that they’d prefer a world without “bugs,” but as the adage goes: Be careful what you wish for. Our planet cannot function normally without insects and other invertebrates. “The little things that run the world” is what biodiversity pioneer Edward O. Wilson calls them. Insects anchor natural systems and provide invaluable natural services, as pollinators, scavengers, predators, and protein-packed prey that sustains many birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles, and mammals, in virtually all terrestrial ecosystems.

Yet insect diversity and abundance are plummeting in many places.
“We are seeing declines in abundance, diversity, and biomass of insects,” says Scott Hoffman Black, Executive Director of The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation, “and by extension we have to assume that this is, and will be, impacting birds.”

The clues in this mystery include large-scale disappearance of insects, dipping bird populations, and a line-up of potential culprits including pesticides, habitat loss, and climate change. What's likely on the horizon is a choice: Do we ignore insect declines to our detriment, or change some of our most destructive day-to-day routines, which seem to be modifying our world into a more sterile place?

Vanishing Insects, Mounting Concern

In the Netherlands, rapid declines in Barn Swallows and other insect-eating farmland birds were attributed to a "depletion of the birds' food — insects." Photo by Bildagentur Zoonar GmbH/Shutterstock.
Although there are not many long-term studies of insects in North America, the studies done have revealed sharp declines in certain species, including Monarch butterflies and Rusty-patched Bumble Bees, and even entire groups. “In Ohio, a study found a 33-percent reduction in abundance of butterflies over 21 years,” says Black, “and a long-term 45-year-long study with transects across California is finding declines at all sites and of all different butterfly groups.”

A study out of Germany has raised even more eyebrows, standing out for its longevity, the many sites monitored, and the focus on sampling all flying insects.

This wide-ranging, long-term investigation, published in the online journal *PLOS ONE* in 2017, spans 27 years of collections—and shows a more-than 75-percent decline in the flying insect biomass at 63 protected areas. The investigators used Malaise traps, tent-like contraptions that channel flying insects between fine mesh panels to a collection container. Collections made at these traps, basically masses of flying insects of many types, were weighed to gauge biomass for each reserve over different years.

The authors write: “Our results demonstrate that recently reported declines in several taxa such as butterflies, wild bees, and moths, are in parallel with a severe loss of total aerial insect biomass, suggesting that it is not only the vulnerable species, but the flying insect community as a whole, that has been decimated over the last few decades.”

By just looking at collection jars on the shelves, the investigators could see the winnowing of insect populations. Caspar A. Hallmann, an entomologist at Radboud University Nijmegen in the Netherlands and one of the study's authors, says: “In the early 90's, you would fill a jar of one liter in about a week, requiring a more rapid replacement of jars at shorter time intervals...or they would overflow. In recent years, collectors of the Krefeld Entomological Society have used quarter-liter jars, which would not fill even after two weeks of trapping. It is really apparent.”
Silence in the Forest

Dropping insect populations impact many birds. Excepting seabirds, 96 percent of North American bird species feed insects to their young. Caterpillars alone are an important food source for at least 310 North American bird species.

Strictly insectivorous species seem to be particularly hard hit. For example, the Eastern Whip-poor-will's incessant namesake cries no longer permeate woodlands in many parts of its mapped range. After analyzing stable isotope signatures in Eastern Whip-poor-will museum specimens from Ontario, researchers wrote in the journal *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution* in 2018: “For aerial insectivores, a significant change in dietary isotopes of whip-poor-wills over the past 130 years adds to the mounting evidence that population declines for many of these species may be related to changes in food supply.”
The researchers suggest that their findings could reflect the harmful effects of a decline in large night-flying moths, beetles, and other insects that left whip-poor-wills feeding at a lower trophic level, or stage in their ecosystem's food chain. The drop in prey size, diversity, and abundance may stifle whip-poor-will reproduction. More study is required to know if whip-poor-wills' and other aerial insectivores' declines are linked to pesticides, habitat loss and degradation, light pollution, or other factors.

Direct consumption aside, insects are critically important to birds in other ways. More than 85 percent of flowering plants require animal pollination; in most cases this job is done by insects. “If you start to lose those pollinators,” says the Xerces Society's Black, “this also impacts many plants, and by extension birds. Many birds, for example, eat small fruits or seeds. A lot of these are from insect-pollinated plants.”

**A Toxic Shadow**

Many scientists believe agricultural alchemy plays a big role in insect declines. Pesticides cast a broad yet invisible shadow over huge swaths of land, often well beyond areas they are meant to treat.

Pesticides and intensive farming loom large as culprits in the stark drop in France's farmland avifauna, where populations of farm-nesting species dipped by, on average, a third over the past 15 years. Partridges, Meadow Pipits, and others suffered far steeper declines in that time.

In recent decades, 24 of 39 farmland bird species have declined in agricultural habitat encompassing 45 percent of the European Union's land. Even generalist species such as the Common Woodpigeon seem to fare better in cities than on farms, and bees as well. Farm pesticides' effects on nontarget species are suspected to be a principal cause.
Today, the world's most widely used agricultural pesticides are neonicotinoids, neurotoxins absorbed and stored in plant tissues so they repel insect pests. Neonics, as they are also known, are now banned in the European Union because of their impact on honeybees. A number of U.S. states have also introduced legislation attempting to prohibit or limit their use.

Persistent and water-soluble, neonics are highly toxic to a broad range of insects and other invertebrates. And they reach well beyond farm fields, leaching into watersheds, rising up in dust, and soaking into soil adjacent to farms, toxifying insect food plants there.

Neonics' impact on nontarget terrestrial and aquatic insects is formidable, and long-lasting as well. Depending upon soil and other factors, neonics have half-lives — the time it takes to reduce an amount of the pesticide by half — of up to 1,000 days, or nearly three years.-coated seed can kill a bird the size of a Blue Jay.
Proving a direct link between bird declines and pesticides’ impact on their insect food is difficult given other factors also at play, including habitat loss, climate change, and the direct physical effects of the chemicals on birds. But a study published in the journal *Nature* in 2014 was the first to “provide direct evidence that the widespread depletion of insect populations by neonicotinoids has knock-on effects on vertebrates.” In that study, in the Netherlands, rapid declines in Eurasian Skylarks, Barn Swallows, Western Yellow Wagtails, and other insect-eating farmland birds were attributed not to direct effects of the chemicals on the birds, but likely “the result of a depletion of the birds’ food — insects.”

Given their widespread use — for example, most corn-growing acreage in the United States is treated with neonics — these pesticides require much more research, and controls or bans. A recent review of existing research, published
in *Environmental Science and Pollution Research International*, reports:
“Correlational studies have suggested a link between neonicotinoid usage in agricultural areas and population metrics for butterflies, bees, and insectivorous birds in three different countries.”

Other potent chemical threats persist. For more than 50 years, the organophosphate chlorpyrifos has been sprayed on apples and other fruits, vegetables, nuts, and other crops. Related to sarin gas, chlorpyrifos is among the most toxic pesticides to reach aquatic ecosystems. It is a threat not only to birds that ingest it, but also to their insect food base.

ABC and other groups are calling for a ban on the use of chlorpyrifos. *Environmental Protection Agency* (EPA) scientists agreed that there is no way to use the pesticide safely, and the agency was on course to ban it in spring 2017. But EPA reversed course, extending its use for five years. In July, EPA rejected a challenge by a coalition of environmental and public health advocacy groups that urged the agency to ban the pesticide. ABC and others continue to advocate for legislation prohibiting chlorpyrifos' use. Meanwhile, states are taking action: California, Hawai‘i, and New York have initiated bans, and a few other states may soon follow.

**This Land Is Your Land, This Land Is Wild Land**

Most of the German protected areas covered in the landmark 2017 *PLOS ONE* study are small holdings surrounded by farmland, leading the investigators to suspect physical and chemical factors at play. “Agricultural intensification, including use of pesticides, is as far as I am concerned one of the prime suspects responsible for the insect decline,” says Hallmann.

Around the world, much of the goliath human footprint on the land comes in the form of cropland agriculture, grazing land, as well as both carefully and haphazardly logged forest. On these working lands, decisions on where habitat is cleared, whether or not it’s managed with native plants, and where and how
pesticides are applied will have a huge impact on insects and thus the future of birds.

Recent investigations provide a window into how, with more knowledge and the will to coexist, people can both work the land and maintain a higher diversity of insects, birds, and other wildlife. A 2019 PLOS ONE study conducted in Finland, for example, reveals that of all farm types in Europe, organic livestock farming is the only one to significantly boost populations of insectivorous and migratory birds, including swallows. The livestock and their dung draw insects; rotational grazing improves habitat health and plant diversity; and the semi-wild state of chemical-free pastures most closely matches untouched grassland, which is a very rare commodity in Europe these days.

Another recent study, published in the journal *Wildlife Biology* in January, focused on another native tree, the Andean Alder. In Colombian alder plantations, researchers found more insectivorous birds than in regenerating natural forest of about the same age (35 to 40 years). Comparing insect-eating bird abundance and diversity in both habitats, the team found that fly-catching and foliage-gleaning birds abounded in the alders, where greater sunlight penetration resulted in lush undergrowth supporting an insect bounty. The Black-capped Tyrannulet, Plushcap, and 15 other bird species were found in the alders, but not in nearby secondary
forest, although with its greater diversity of trees and tree sizes, that habitat drew tree-trunk foragers not attracted to the alders, including the Powerful Woodpecker and Black-banded Woodcreeper.

In the end, the authors did not consider alder plantations replacements for natural forests, but rather complements to them. The differing habitats and their birds raise interesting questions about “green” land uses that offer significant benefits to insects and birds.

**Rainforest in the Hot Seat**

Climate change is very likely detrimental to insects and insectivores, including birds. Reported in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* in 2018, one study looked at the biomass of arthropods — invertebrates including insects, spiders, and centipedes — in Puerto Rico’s largest remaining rainforest, El Luquillo.

The researchers also surveyed populations of insect-eating *Anolis* lizards, frogs, and birds, comparing what they found with prior survey results from the 1970s. These comparisons were made with a troubling backdrop: Over the 30-plus years between surveys at El Luquillo, the average maximum temperature in the forest there rose 3.6 degrees Fahrenheit.

The study notes a drop in arthropod biomass of between four- and eight-fold since the 1970s, with parallel declines in *Anolis* lizards, frogs, and birds. This includes a 90-percent drop in mist-net captures of the endemic Puerto Rican Tody — a tiny green, white, and red bird that can snap up about 40 percent of its weight in insects in a day.
More study is required in El Luquillo — which was subsequently hammered by Hurricane Maria in 2017 — and other parts of the tropics, but the study's authors wrote: “Our analyses provide strong support for the hypothesis that climate warming has been a major factor driving reductions in arthropod abundances, and that these declines have in turn precipitated decreases in forest insectivores in a classic bottom-up cascade.” They added that the same scenario is likely playing out in other tropical forests experiencing significant increases in ambient temperature.

No Birds Without “Bugs”

From farm fields to alder plantations to remaining rainforest, conservationists now ponder, with a sense of urgency, human activities' unintended and intentional impacts on insects and birds.
Although many people are just now awakening to the ecological importance of insects, those who valued them all along are rolling up their sleeves to learn more and do more to conserve them.

“The authors of the German study were very fortunate to have started data collection decades ago,” says the Xerces Society’s Black. “This study has got many other researchers thinking about implementing long-term monitoring.” But Black and others say that while further studies are important, so is immediate action to stem the loss of diversity and abundance of insects and other wildlife.

Exactly what insect declines mean for birds, and for us, is an emerging picture, but the todies, skylarks, and whip-poor-wills seem to tell us something we may have taken for granted before: There can’t be birds without “bugs.”

Howard Youth is ABC’s Senior Writer/Editor.
Jockey’s Ridge State Park

By Kelly Douglass

At the end (or beginning) of the Mountains to Sea Trail, you will find an extraordinary playground of sand piled high above the horizon, a veritable sandbox full of surprises! Jockey’s Ridge State Park, established in 1975, is located in Nags Head, roughly 40 miles south of the NC/VA line on the Outer Banks. The park encompasses 426 acres and seven natural communities: dune grass, estuarine fringe pine forest, interdune marsh, live dune barren, maritime evergreen forest, maritime shrub, and tidal freshwater marsh.

Jockey's Ridge. Photo courtesy of Kelly Douglass.
Park goers can enjoy many activities, including hiking, kite flying, picnicking, hang gliding, wildlife watching, sandboarding, and sunset/sunrise viewing. In fact, the largest hang gliding school in the world—operated by Kitty Hawk Kites—provides a plethora of guided opportunities for the adventure seeker.
Dead tree along the Tracks in the Sand Trail. Photo courtesy of Tiffany Long.
One of the best things about the great state of North Carolina is its natural diversity. From the high peaks of the Smokies (among the oldest in the world!) to the ever-shifting sand dunes of the Outer Banks, we have countless locations—many of which have been protected, and are still available to the public—for us to explore this diversity firsthand, replenish our souls and spirits, and be reminded that we are just one small cog in the enormous wheel of life around us. We have been blessed with the opportunity to protect and enjoy such places for generations to come, and I hope you will join me in exploring North Carolina to its fullest in the New Year. May you watch a bevy of swans circling the skies before bedtime, admire the beauty of light dancing through a mountain stream, or just sit still for a while and have a long conversation with the trees. #ExploreNC
Did you know that the tallest living sand dune system on the East Coast is located in North Carolina?

By Christine Fox

Jockey’s Ridge State Park, located in the Outer Banks, is home to the tallest living sand dune system on the East Coast. The tallest dune has been recorded at 100 feet tall! Ever-changing winds influence the size and shape of the three prominent dunes that make up the famous ridge. Southwest summer winds followed by northeast winter winds push the sand back and forth, keeping the dunes from blowing away. Geologists believe that the dunes formed 3,000 to 4,000 years ago when hurricanes and storms washed large amounts of sand onto the beach. Over time winds picked up this sand and blew it inland, creating the dunes.
Name: Radmila Petric

What you’re called: Rada

Current Position: Ph.D. Candidate in Environmental Health Science, Biology Department at University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG)

How long have you been with this employer? 11 years with various academic appointments

Phone number and/or e-mail: r_petric@uncg.edu

Education: I received my B.S. in Biology and Minor in Chemistry from UNCG. After graduating, I was fortunate to join the Dr. Kalcounis-Ruepell Bat and Mouse Lab at UNCG where I received my M.Sc. in Biology. My master’s thesis work was focused on understanding the individual context of ultrasonic vocalizations produced by free-living brush mice. I am in the process of completing my Ph.D. work at UNCG with two focuses 1) understanding the effects of human-made noise on deer mouse and woodland jumping mouse behavior and 2) understanding the effects of transient testosterone pulses on spatial preference and associated behaviors of a monogamous California mouse.

Where did you grow up? I grew up in Sarajevo Bosnia.

What other work experience do you have? Prior to my current position I was a biology lecturer, biology for non-majors lab coordinator, and academic advisor at UNCG. I also worked as an animal compliance coordinator for a NSF-funded project titled “Herpetology Education in Rural Places and Spaces (HERPS).” In addition, I was a project leader in Toolik Field Station on the North Slope of Alaska for a LTR project assessing methane-derived carbon as a resource for benthic consumers in artic lakes. Lastly, over the past 14 years, I worked on various small mammal projects mainly focusing on bats and rodents.
**NCTWS Member Spotlight**

**Why did you go into a wildlife career?**
When I was seven years old, a civil war in Bosnia tore my country apart and separated me from my parents. I frequently experienced nightmares as my mind reenacted the gunfire, bombings, and casualties. My coping mechanism was to hide in my aunt’s barn with the animals. As I laid on the hay, I would listen to the natural sounds of the night and I found comfort in the dark. It was through these experiences that I made the connections with animals.

**Have you always been interested in wildlife?**
I believe that most of us have a strong connection with wildlife. For me, it wasn’t until I joined the Bat and Mouse Lab that I realized I could actually pursue a career working with wildlife.

**Who has been an influence on you in your career? How and why?**
The most influential person in my career has been and still is my academic advisor, Dr. Matina Kalcounis-Rueppell. I initially worked with Dr. KR as an undergraduate student in her Bat and Mouse lab, during which time she provided mentorship and opened my eyes to research opportunities with wildlife. Dr. KR always proactively provided opportunities, support services and information and encouraged me to ask questions and always think about the big picture. Her tremendous support increased my motivation to succeed academically. Dr. KR continuously demonstrated that she cares about my success. She did not just provide excellent feedback about my research, professional development, and how to appropriately balance work and life, she exemplifies all of it. Many mentors can explain how things should be, but few show their students through their own actions. One of the key elements in my success is observing her dedication in conducting rigorous research and excellent at clarifying difficult concepts. She does not just provide an answer for you but she takes the time to help you think critically and from various points which lead you to the answers. She truly wanted me and all of my fellow students to learn not only the concept, but new ways of thinking. Her passion is to spread her knowledge and love of science to all she can and she does an excellent job of it. Dr. KR is a strong female role model. Having a successful female advisor has led me to more confidently pursue a career in wildlife research. Without her, I

![Rada and Matina setting-up the audio and video equipment to record mouse behaviors at Highlands, NC. Photo courtesy of Rada Petric.](image-url)
know I would not have pursued a career as a scientist. During my graduate degree, I ques-
tion my ability to persist in the science field but thanks to Dr. KR’s mentorship, support and
couragement, I am only a few months from defending my Ph.D. work. Dr. KR had ensured
we built a student-advisor relationship based on trust and understanding so we can discuss
any problem I may be facing.

What species or habitat do you know most about or work with the most?
I have worked extensively with several mouse species in the genus *Peromyscus* (North
American deer mice), as well as other small mammals and bats.

What do you think is the greatest misunderstanding that the public has about wildlife?
I think the greatest misunderstanding about wildlife is lack of knowledge and understanding
about individual and species importance. The general public has numerous negative conno-
tations associated with various taxonomic groups, including snakes and bats, most of which
are based on inaccurate information. This is why I believe it is absolutely essential to pro-
vide outreach programs and bring awareness to the importance of each species and provide
information on any special concerns.

What are your hobbies?
My hobbies include mountaineering, camping, rock climbing, star gazing, mountain biking,
wildlife spotting, and photography.
NCTWS Member Spotlight

Where is the most interesting place you have traveled?
The most interesting place I traveled to so far was Tanzania. Prior to starting my Ph.D. journey, my husband and I took three weeks to explore Kenya, Tanzania, and Zanzibar. Our primary intent for the trip was to climb the tallest mountain in Africa, Mount Kilimanjaro. After summiting the proud peak which stands at 19,341’ we toured several of the National Parks and saw spectacular wildlife. Our journey was concluded by relaxed on the white sand beaches of the island of Zanzibar.
### Upcoming Events

#### January-March
- **NCTWS Executive Board Meeting**—Raleigh, NC (January 3, 2020)
- **NCWRC Public Hearings**—Statewide NC (January 7-23, 2020)
- **NCTWS Annual Meeting**—Browns Summit, NC (February 11-13, 2020)
- **Southeast Bat Diversity Network Annual Meeting**—Athens, GA (February 12-14, 2020)
- **NCSU Wild Foods Supper**—Raleigh, NC (February 22, 2020)
- **43rd Southeast Deer Study Group Meeting**—Auburn, AL (February 23-25, 2020)
- **Southeast Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Annual Meeting**—Nauvoo, AL (February 27-March 1, 2020)
- **Dixie Deer Classic**—Raleigh, NC (February 28-March 1, 2020)
- **NC Association of Environmental Education Centers Annual Meeting**—Oak Island, NC (March 6, 2020)
- **85th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference**—Omaha, NE (March 8-13, 2020)
- **TWS Southeastern Wildlife Conclave**—Cullowhee and Clyde, NC (March 12-14, 2020)
- **22nd Central Hardwood Conference**—Charleston, WV (March 18-20, 2020)

#### April-June
- **2020 Party for the Pine**—Weymouth Woods, NC (April 18, 2020)
Upcoming Events

- **11th Annual Longleaf Festival**—Harris Lake County Park, NC (May 16, 2020)
- **Wildlife & Forestry Field Techniques SETWS Field Course**—Ichauway, GA (May 26-June 10, 2020)
- **100th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Mammologists**—Boulder, CO (June 5-9, 2020)

  **July-September**

- **Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists Annual Meeting**—Norfolk, VA (July 20-26, 2020)
- **North American Congress for Conservation Biology**—Denver, CO (July 26-31, 2020)
- **Ecological Society of America Conference**—Salt Lake City, UT (August 2-7, 2020)
- **69th Annual Wildlife Disease Association & 14th Biennial European Wildlife Disease Association Conference**—Cuenca, Spain (August 30-September 5, 2020)
- **110th Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Annual Meeting**—Sacramento, CA (September 13-16, 2020)
- **27th The Wildlife Society Annual Conference**—Louisville, KY (September 27-October 1, 2020)

  **October-December**

- **Society of American Foresters National Convention**—Providence, RI (October 28-November 1, 2020)
Upcoming Events

- **13th Biennial Longleaf Conference**—Wilmington, NC (October 20-23, 2020)
- **Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Conference**—Springfield, MO (October 25-28, 2020)
- **12th Eastern Native Grass Symposium**—Louisville, KY (October 27-29, 2020)

Did you know you can check your membership status on-line, including when your member expires in 3 easy steps!

1. Go to nctws.org and click “Members”
2. Sign in with the password
3. Then click “NCTWS Members Directory”

Did you forget the password? It gives you access to the directory and much more!

E-mail Colleen: colfenbu@vt.edu to get the password!
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Come join us for a NCTWS Executive Board Meeting in 2020!

All members are welcome to attend in person or via Skype. Our meetings usually run from 10am – 2pm, and are scheduled for:

Jan 3 – USDA-WS Raleigh office

Future 2020 Board meetings will be scheduled following the NCTWS Annual Meeting in February - stay tuned for dates!

Contact Dr. Rachael Urbanek at urbanekr@uncw.edu or (910) 962-7909 for meeting details (location, agenda, Skype invitation, etc.).
Upcoming Events

2020 TWS Southeastern Wildlife Conclave

March 12th - 14th

Conclave will provide college students with valuable hands-on training in wildlife management and conservation, along with networking opportunities with wildlife professionals.

Activities will include field trips, workshops, field competitions, game-calling competitions, quiz bowls, banquets, photography contests, and guest speakers.

Do you want to volunteer for this event?
Contact our club presidents
Rachel Chism (rochism1@catamount.wcu.edu)
Garrett McCarson (mgmccarson@haywood.edu).

Western Carolina University and Haywood Community College are located in beautiful western North Carolina; a short distance from Asheville, the Blue Ridge Parkway, and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Activities and events will showcase the beautiful diversity this area has to offer.
Upcoming Events

Wildlife & Forestry Field Techniques
Southeastern TWS Field Course

Course Topics
- Wildlife surveys/capture and handling
- Habitat surveys
- Longleaf pine ecology and management
- Threatened and endangered species
- Prescribed fire
- Firearms safety
- Remote animal tracking
- Heavy equipment operation
- And many more!

College Credit
You will earn 3 credits through Castleton University in Vermont that can be transferred back to your home institution. In addition, there are unparalleled networking opportunities with your peers and practicing biologists.

Who is Eligible?
This course is open to undergraduate and graduate students majoring in any natural resource program. Preference will be given to members of The Wildlife Society or a student chapter. This course will be filled on a first-come first-served basis up to a maximum of 24 students.

May 26th – June 10th, 2020
Jones Center at Ichauway, GA
Total Cost: $1,500
Includes Tuition (3 credits), Room and Board

More Information?
Contact:
Daniel U. Greene, Ph.D.
Weyerhaeuser Company
3477 S. Frontage Road
Columbus, MS 30701
Email: dgreene907@gmail.com

This course will be instructed at the Jones Center at Ichauway, a 25,000 acre ecological center that includes a diverse range of ecological communities unique to the historic landscape of the southeastern Coastal Plain.

WILDLIFE SOCIETY
NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER
Excellence in Wildlife Stewardship Through Science and Education
Upcoming Events

THE 9TH ANNUAL
WILD FOODS SUPPER

Saturday, February 22nd, 2020
Doors open at 5:45 and food served at 6:30PM

Cary VFW Post 7383
522 Reedy Creek Rd,
Cary, NC 27513

Enjoy food, fun, and good company at this annual fundraising event for NC State University Fisheries and Wildlife students!

Festivities Include:

• Potluck style dinner
• Wild foods cooking contest (entered by 6PM)
  - Categories include venison, other game, and non-meat dishes.
• Live music

Suggested Donations
Adults - $15
Adults with dish - $10
Students - $10
Kids under 10 - Free

For questions, concerns, or to receive more information please contact leopoldwildlifecub@ncsu.edu

WILDLIFE SOCIETY
Excellence in Wildlife Stewardship Through Science and Education
Chapter Vision Statement

To guide and promote the conservation and management of wildlife resources throughout North Carolina

Do you have a research or management project you think your fellow NCTWS members would enjoy hearing about? Do you have an idea for a new item in the newsletter? Or perhaps you would like to submit an article for publication? If so, please let us know! And thanks for reading!!

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