



The Alaskan Wildlifer

Newsletter of the Alaska Chapter of The Wildlife Society

September 2006

Highlights in This Issue:

- *News From Around the State*
- *The Line Between Outreach and Advocacy*
- *Actions of AK Chapter Committees*
- *Final Update on 13th TWS Conference in Anchorage*
- *Joint Session on Marine-derived Nutrients*
- *Member Contribution:*
 - *Holy Hypothesis Statman!*

Message from the President:

It's the time of year that many Alaskan wildlifera transition from a busy field season to enjoying the fall colors, wildlife migrations, and hunting seasons. In addition to their normal summer activities, many Chapter members also volunteered to prepare for the TWS conference in Anchorage later this month. The Arrangements Committee and its 11 subcommittees were busy with the many details and tasks that will help make the 13th Annual Conference memorable (read more on page 5). **Don't forget to mark your itinerary with the Alaska Chapter social mixer on Tuesday September 26th from 7-9 PM in the Birch/Willow Room at the Hilton.**

Twenty Chapter members voted unanimously in July to approve a set of proposed changes to our bylaws. Also, a special meeting was convened on 31 July by teleconference to further amend the bylaws to specify that charitable gaming proceeds would be disbursed to charitable organizations if the Chapter were to dissolve in the future. We needed the wording to obtain a gaming license from the AK Department of Revenue for raffles and auctions at the Conference. Fourteen members attended and passed the change unanimously. All changes to bylaws were later approved by TWS and are now posted on our website (http://www.wildlife.org/chapters/ak/AK_bylaws_rev_1Aug06.pdf). Following the bylaw changes, we extended an invitation for the Student Chapter at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks (UAF) to nominate a member to be a non-voting member of the Executive Board starting in September.

Members also voted on options for geographic rotation of our annual meeting, with the following results:

- Option 1 (No Action) Maintain the Alaska Chapter TWS Annual Meeting rotation as follows: Year 1 Anchorage, Year 2 Fairbanks, Year 3 Juneau, [repeat rotation]. **2 votes**
- Option 2: Rotate the Alaska Chapter TWS Annual Meeting as follows: Year 1 Anchorage, Year 2 Fairbanks, Year 3 Anchorage, Year 4 Juneau, [repeat rotation]. **11 votes**
- Option 3: Rotate the Alaska Chapter TWS Annual Meeting between Anchorage and Fairbanks. **2 votes**
- Option 4: Rotate the Alaska Chapter TWS Annual Meeting between Anchorage and Fairbanks. Waive meeting registration fees for all members residing in rural (defined here as any area not disconnected to primary highways in Alaska) areas. **5 votes**

There were comments both for and against providing financial assistance (in the form of reduced or waived registration) to members off the road/ferry system as an incentive to attend annual meetings in one of the three urban locations. We recognize the extra cost in transportation by air and often the need to spend an extra night or two in a hotel because of flight schedules. The interchange between professionals from urban and bush

locations greatly improves the educational aspects of our annual meetings, both in formal presentations and informal dialog. I encourage members to contact your regional representative with feedback on this topic, and we will plan to address it in greater detail at the next business meeting.

Congratulations to **Sanjay Pyare** of Juneau on becoming Vice-President of Northwest Section TWS! Following his one-year term, Sanjay will become the President of the Northwest Section in Spring 2007. Sanjay is an Assistant Professor of GIS & Landscape Ecology at the University of Alaska-Southeast and will be leading a session on conservation issues of the Tongass National Forest at the 13th Annual Convention in Anchorage.

Although TWS members get *The Wildlifer* newsletter bimonthly, I encourage everyone to get on the TWS website (www.wildlife.org) periodically to see what is happening. At the request of the Sportsman's Alliance of Alaska, TWS recently sent a letter to Secretary of Interior Dirk Kempthorne opposing the BLM preferred alternative for Teshekpuk Lake. Election results are posted--Tom Franklin is now Vice-President and all TWS by-law changes were approved. There is now a single contact, Carol Jo Black (cj@wildlife.org), for staff support to TWS Sections, Chapters, Student Chapters, and Working Groups, and many other changes in member services are occurring. CJ helped the Alaska Chapter get our bylaw changes approved quickly to expedite our application for a gaming license at the conference. Log on to the national website for details.

One of my objectives is to publish a regular newsletter on a quarterly schedule, regardless of news volume. Please send submissions to your regional representative or the newsletter editor by the 25th day of October, January, April, or July and then watch for the newsletter early in the following month. Take a moment now to think about items or issues that might be of interest to fellow Chapter members, and watch for additional items between now and late October.

2006-2008 Alaska Chapter Executive Board

President: Tom Paragi, ADF&G, 1300 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99701, tom_paragi@fishgame.state.ak.us; phone 907-459-7327, fax 452-6410

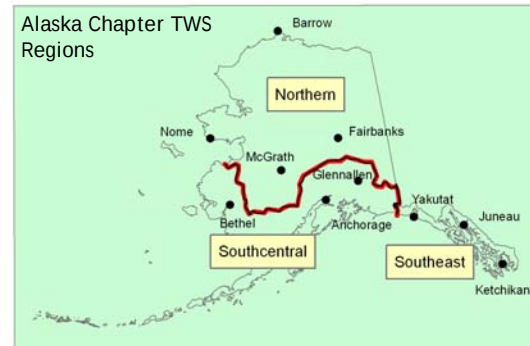
President-elect: Howard Golden, ADF&G, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, 99518-1599, howard_golden@fishgame.state.ak.us, phone 267-2177, fax 267-2433

Past-president: Eric Taylor, The Wildlife Society, 5410 Grosvenor, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD, 20814-2144, eric_taylor@fws.gov, phone 301-897-9770, fax 301-530-2471

Secretary-Treasurer: Mark Udevitz, USGS Alaska Science Center, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, 99503, mark_udevitz@usgs.gov, phone 786-3365, fax 786-3636

Northern Representative: Carol McIntyre, US National Park Service, 4175 Geist Road, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709, carol_mcintyre@nps.gov, phone 455-0671, fax 455-0601

Southcentral Representative: Robin West, USFWS, P.O. Box 2139, Soldotna, 99669-2139, robin_west@fws.gov, phone 262-7021, fax 262-3599



Southeast Representative: Stephen B. Lewis, ADF&G, P.O. Box 110024, Douglas, 99811, steve_lewis@fishgame.state.ak.us, phone 465-4348, fax 465-4272

Newsletter editor (non-voting): Jim Herriges, USBLM, 1150 University Avenue, Fairbanks, 99709-3844, jim_herriges@blm.gov, phone 474-2373, fax 474-2282

Please make note of upcoming events, personnel changes, issues and projects, or anything of interest to other AK-TWS members, and pass them on to your regional representative by the 25th of October, January, April, or July.

News from Southeast:

By Steve Lewis, Southeast Representative
No submission this quarter.

News from Southcentral:

By Robin West, Southcentral Representative

Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge Manager **Leslie Kerr** retired in May. A replacement has not yet been selected. The District Ranger position on the Seward Ranger District of the Chugach National Forest, remains open; however, **Jeni Bradley Evans** is serving in an acting capacity on a long-term detail.

Avian influenza sampling by staff and volunteers of the U.S. Departments of Interior and Agriculture and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) has continued in recent months throughout Southwestern Alaska, and further north, with over 13,000 migratory birds sampled for the virus. None of the highly pathogenic H5N1 strain has been detected.

Bear-human interactions (involving both brown and black bears) in the Russian River area of the Kenai Peninsula have resulted in attacks on people and injured and dead bears. U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service land managers took action to prevent night-time use of the popular fishing area, close areas to tent camping, and prohibit unattended food items and garbage. Managers have stepped up education and enforcement in the area the last several years and are looking for long-term solutions.

New species have been found at Kenai National Wildlife Refuge! In an effort to develop long-term ecological monitoring of the 2 million acre refuge, Dr. John Morton has partnered with the U.S. Forest Service and developed a sampling regime with hundreds of random plots. The effort tracks trends in flora, small mammals, birds, and insects. It has also resulted this year in the discovery of a species new to science, a plant hopper (family *Achilidae*, genus *Epiptera*). This is the second such discovery by Biological Technician Matthew Bowser who discovered a harvestman (better known as a daddy long-legs) that was new to science in 2005. In addition, a scarab beetle (*Aeigialia browni*) and a book louse (*Badonelia titei*) were also recently identified as new species records for Alaska, the latter also new to the Western Hemisphere. Bowser is working on a Master's Degree at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks (UAF) and is preparing a thesis based on his work on the Refuge.

News from the North:

By Carol McIntyre, Northern Representative

Anne Ruggles is the new Executive Director of the Alaska Bird Observatory in Fairbanks, replacing **Nancy DeWitt**. Anne recently returned to Alaska from Colorado, where she ran an ecological consulting business for several years and obtained a law degree with emphasis in natural resources from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Anne brings extensive Alaskan experience with her including teaching biology at UAF, studying loons in the Mat-Su Valley, and serving on the Alaska Board of Game in the 1990s. She also served on the board of the Rocky Mountain (originally Colorado) Bird Observatory.

U.S. District Court Judge John Singleton released a preliminary decision that prevents the Teshekpuk Lake lease sale from going forward in the northeastern portion of the National Petroleum Reserve Alaska (NPR-A), concluding the Bureau of Land Management had not properly considered the cumulative environmental impact of leasing in the Northeast NPR-A alongside development in the Northwest part of the reserve. Hear the Alaska Public Radio Network broadcast at http://www.publicbroadcasting.net/apti/news.newsmain?action=article&ARTICLE_ID=964842

The Department of the Interior held a "Listening Session" as part of the Department's Cooperative Conservation Program in Fairbanks on 28 August 2006. Dale Hall, director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration attended the session. Dirk Kempthorne, Secretary of the Interior, attended part of the session. More than three dozen people commented during the meeting on issues ranging from oil and gas development to federal funding for wildlife management. You can submit your written comments about how the Department of the Interior is addressing these and other issues in Alaska to the Secretary until 30 September 2006 to:

Beth Duff
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW, MS5258
Washington, D.C. 20240
202 208-5904
202 208-7574 (fax)
Beth.Duff@ios.doi.gov

NOTE: If you transmit comments via e-mail, write 'Listening Session Comments' in the subject line.

Alaska Chapter Committees and Reports

Membership committee: Initial results of membership drive

By Jimmy Fox

In spring 2006, the Chapter began a focused effort to increase membership. Phase I occurred in June, when we sent 52 letters to TWS members in Alaska who were not Chapter members. Phase II occurred in July, when we sent 172 letters and emails to former Alaska Chapter members. Phase III occurred in August, when we sent 115 letters to individuals or offices employing wildlife professionals in Alaska.

Committees are always seeking members willing to help with periodic tasks. Descriptions of committee tasks are found in the bylaws (<http://www.wildlife.org/chapters/ak/proposed%20AKCHPTR%20BYLAWS%201June06.pdf>). Contact a member of the Executive Board if you have questions or want to become involved!

It is too early to evaluate results of Phase III, but our recruitment efforts likely contributed to an increase of chapter membership from 187 to 212 members. This brings chapter membership back to the level of membership we had in 2003, but shy of the reported 226 members in 2000. Eleven of 25 new chapter members were chapter members previously, meaning they came back to the chapter after a lapse in their membership. New members include seven that were last members in 2004, three that were last members in 2005, and one that was last a member in 1998. Three of the new chapter members also signed up with TWS simultaneously and 15 new chapter members were current members of TWS that sent in the \$5 to join the AK Chapter.

To date, roughly 340 letters and emails generated 25 new or returning chapter members. The upcoming TWS Conference in Anchorage likely influenced decisions to rejoin and may continue to bring in a few more new members. However, it seems that the longer a person is away from the Chapter, the less likely they will rejoin at a later date. This highlights the need to keep members engaged and follow up quickly if someone fails to renew. We'll report on the updated member tally after the Conference in the November newsletter.

Conserving Our Wildlife Conservation Heritage (COWCH):

In June, Tom Paragi conducted the first of six proposed COWCH interviews for which funding was approved this past spring. Tom interviewed Dr. Robert Weeden, a former UAF professor and ADF&G wildlife researcher, when he visited relatives in Fairbanks. Dr. Weeden became a life member of TWS in 1952, moved to Alaska in 1956 for graduate research on rock ptarmigan, was a charter member of the Alaska Chapter in 1971, and was the first president of the Northwest Section (1971-72). Dr. Weeden retired to Salt Spring Island, B.C. in 1991 and is active in the local land trust, which is playing an active role in protecting the endemic sharp-tailed snake and the Garry oak ecosystem through conservation easements.

A couple members from the Interior have expressed interest in working on COWCH. We are still seeking a person or two from the Southcentral and Southeast regions to help with identifying wildlife pioneers and conducting interviews. Please contact Tom Paragi if you are interested.

Technical reviews on bear management in Alaska

Gail Collins submitted the final technical review on the sale of bear parts on 18 August 2006. Laura Bies of TWS read the technical review and approved it as not being in conflict with TWS positions or policy. It will be posted on the Chapter website with the Chapter's other technical review on wood bison.

Rod Boertje indicated that the review of bear predation management will be ready for Chapter member comments within the next couple weeks. With hunting seasons underway and the upcoming national conference, the normal 30 day review and comment period will be extended to 45 days.

Dick Shideler reported that the bear baiting technical review committee lost a couple members, but is still making progress gathering unpublished information.

The Fine Line Separating Educational Outreach from Political Advocacy

By Tom Paragi

State elections often have important bearings on wildlife and habitat issues in Alaska by influencing policies on wildlife management and resource development for the following few years. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization for science and education, The Wildlife Society cannot conduct political campaign activities to influence elections to public office, nor spend a "substantial part" of its assets for lobbying [[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/501\(c\)\(3\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/501(c)(3))]. However, public organizations are permitted to conduct a limited amount of lobbying to influence legislation, educate individuals about issues, or fund research that supports their political position without overtly advocating for a position on a specific bill. See also <http://www.irs.gov/charities/charitable/article/0,,id=155030,00.html>.

Discussing wildlife issues during the campaigns (e.g., wildlife law enforcement, permitting of habitat modification, predator control) can be positive by raising the level of informed debate among candidates and educating voters. Influencing political representation by educating voters (and elected representatives before the next legislative session) about wildlife issues could be effort well spent if it means that we don't have to offer critical reaction to future bills that threaten conservation. However, some Alaska Chapter members view our role as scientists--strictly presenting the facts and interpreting them within the scope of the data.

During the summer, the Executive Board had a few respectful email exchanges arguing both sides of the issue. There also was concern about whether political involvement by an individual Chapter member might be viewed as an official position of the Chapter, such as if a person mentions their affiliation with the Alaska Chapter in the byline to a letter to a newspaper. Our consensus was that the Chapter could provide information bullets on key election issues that any member could use in writing or speaking as an individual citizen. However, we felt that soliciting members to write letters would be inappropriate, because of the possible confusion about whether the views they expressed represented Chapter positions. This was a tough year to attempt beginning a new program of providing information bullets with so many of us helping with the Annual Conference preparations. Nonetheless, I encourage anyone who wishes to raise wildlife issues during the 2006 elections to use the network of Chapter members with expertise on subject matter to become informed and provide outreach on an issue that you care about. We will try to be better prepared for public outreach during election cycles in future years.

Meetings and Announcements

Final update on 13th TWS Conference in Anchorage

Because of the high rate of early registrations, TWS has increased the projection of attendees to 1500 to 1800! Hotels are filling up, so late registrants should watch the TWS web site for additional hotel information. Attendees that missed the deadline for the early registration are still encouraged to apply online to improve estimates of attendance.

Things are looking great on the volunteer front. Liz Solomon reported that we have 70 volunteers officially signed up, including 2 retirees, 16 professionals, and the remainder students from all over the country. The student list includes 19 volunteers from UAF and groups from Michigan State, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, and Texas A & M. Thus far, there are 192 shifts assigned!

The Executive Board voted to use part of the guaranteed meeting reimbursement from TWS to support travel (\$100) and a small gift (book) for UAF student volunteers helping with at least two shifts; awards for winners of the student Quiz Bowl (books), and dessert refreshments at the Chapter social. Additional funds may come to the Chapter if attendance exceeds initial projections and registration generates a profit beyond meeting expenses.

The first TWS *Run Wild!* 5K race will be held Monday, September 25th at noon. The start is a couple of blocks from the Hilton Hotel (our Headquarters hotel) at the beginning of the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail. The race will follow the scenic Coastal Trail for 2.5 K to Westchester Lagoon and back. There should be great bird watching

along the way for walkers and runners that aren't that serious about competing. There will be a nominal registration fee (~\$15.00), and all participants will receive a commemorative bandanna. Post-race snacks will be provided.

Annual Chapter meeting in Juneau, April 2007

Kevin White and Steve Lewis are co-chairing the arrangements committee and are negotiating a location for the annual Chapter meeting for the third week of April 2007. More details will follow in the November newsletter.

American Fisheries Society joint session: *Marine-derived nutrients in Alaskan ecosystems*

This special joint session of Alaska Chapters of the American Fisheries Society (AFS), Society of American Foresters, and The Wildlife Society will occur on 15 November 2006 at Wedgewood Resort in Fairbanks. It is part of the 33rd annual meeting of the Alaska Chapter of AFS, *Partnering with Change, 21st Century Aquatic Ecology in Alaska*. Speakers will discuss the science and potential management concepts behind this topic from the perspectives of the fisheries, wildlife, and forestry professions. Presentations will focus on studies in coastal Alaska; however, a study of the effects of anadromous fish on boreal ecosystems, conducted in the upper Yukon River, would be a fruitful topic to address during the panel discussion. A special rate of \$30 will allow non-AFS members to attend this session. Registration information will be located on the Alaska AFS website (<http://www.fisheries.org/afs-ak/>).

What are the effects of marine-derived nutrients (MDN) on ecosystems?	If MDN affects biota, how can resource managers incorporate it into management decisions?
8:20-8:45: Aquatic systems and brief overview of MDN study methods in Alaska, Mark Wipfli, Alaska Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, University of Alaska-Fairbanks	9:35-10:00: Salmon escapement goals for wildlife, Josh Pierce, Alaska Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, University of Alaska-Fairbanks
8:45-9:10: Stable isotope methods and their utility for tracking MDN in biota, Craig Stricker, U.S. Geological Survey, Denver	10:20-10:45: Criteria for monitoring ecosystem health, Scott Gende, U.S. National Park Service, Juneau
9:10-9:35: Influence of salmon runs on riparian plants, Robert Naiman, School of Aquatic and Fisheries Sciences, University of Washington, Seattle	10:45-11:10: Operational guidelines for multiple-use lands, Marty Freeman, Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, Anchorage
	Panel discussion with audience
	11:10-12:00

Mammal taxonomy has undergone changes

The Smithsonian Institute website (<http://nrmnhgoph.si.edu/msw/>) has downloadable lists of revised mammalian taxonomy from the 3rd Edition of Wilson and Reeder's Mammal Species of the World, which was released in late 2005 by Johns Hopkins University Press (<http://www.press.jhu.edu/>). Jack Whitman, ADFG Nongame Biologist in Fairbanks, waded through the extensive list and summarized changes in nomenclature for Alaskan land mammals:

- *Mustela vison* is now *Neovison vison* (American mink)
- *Alces alces* is now *Alces americanus* (North American moose)
- *Clethrionomys rutilus* is now *Myodes rutilus* (northern red-backed vole)
- All the Soricids (shrews) are now order *Soricomorpha* rather than *Insectivora*, and the subfamily *Microtinae* was changed to *Arvicolinae*.

New Publications:

Alaska's Inside Passage Wildlife Viewing Guide is an 82-page booklet produced jointly by Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and the Tongass National Forest to describe wildlife species and viewing opportunities along the Alaska Coastal Wildlife Viewing Trail traveled by the Marine Highway System in southeast Alaska. A

small number were printed for free distribution, and it will retail for \$5.95 in bookstores, on ferries, and other outlets. More information is available at http://www.adfg.state.ak.us/news/2006/7-11-06_nr.php.

Member Contributions

(Note: This section allows Chapter members to discuss topics or ideas pertinent to our organization, following review by the Executive Board. The purpose is to stimulate member involvement and professional discussion. Opinions of the authors do not necessarily reflect those of TWS or the Alaska Chapter TWS.)

Holy Hypothesis Statman!

By Dave Person

Holy hypothesis Statman!!!! There may be a problem with using logistic regression in habitat use-availability analyses. Darn, another cherished procedure endorsed by the "Priesthood of Normal Deviates" goes down the drain. Or does it? Do you know? Maybe you should. I urge members to read the Spring 2006 issue of the Journal of Wildlife Management (JWM) that contains an excellent series of papers about the promises and pitfalls of resource selection analyses. That issue follows on the heels of another debate among wildlifers, using models and Akaike information criteria (AIC) versus classical Popperian hypothesis testing (See Guthery et al., Spring issue JWM 2005). The debate has gotten so acrimonious that one would think they were arguing about religion or the right path to heaven: "*Only the chosen few have controls*" versus "*It's all relative depending on the size of your log likelihood.*" You know the script don't you? If not, maybe you should.

So what should we make of those debates and issues? I am reminded of a prominent ecologist who said, "*Ecology is not rocket science, it is a whole lot harder*". In my opinion, that implies our methods of analyses must be flexible to meet the difficult challenges that we face and we must be knowledgeable about those methods. Despite our best efforts, study designs often are compromised, controls confounded, and assumptions violated. We rarely have the opportunity to do nice, clean ANOVA-type of experiments. Indeed, if our work was restricted only to questions that could be solved in that way, we quickly would be out of work. However, if the opportunity does exist, by all means use a nice, classical experimental design rather than more ambiguous and complicated modeling. In contrast, if you have to evaluate multiple hypotheses with covariates changing simultaneously and no controls, use a modeling approach along with AIC model selection criteria. The bottom line is to be flexible and understand the uses and limitations of every approach or method that you use. To that end, wildlife biologists need more than a rudimentary understanding of statistics. We are often "pushing the envelope" of assumptions associated with statistical tests. We need to get beyond the ubiquitous bar charts and line graphs that we trot out at every board or public meeting. Some of you may be inclined to leave that knowledge to your staff biometrician. Take it from me, to use the real talents and knowledge of your local biometrician you need to have a good understanding of the methods you are applying. Reading journal articles such as those I highlighted in JWM is a good practice to keep up on the technical details. Some of you may consider taking courses in statistics. I specifically recommend courses discussing general linear modeling and categorical data analysis. I also believe that the Alaska chapter of The Wildlife Society can help by sponsoring workshops and online training focusing on data analysis. Online training would be particularly helpful to those without access to universities or colleges.

Getting back to the beginning, can you use logistic regression in habitat use-availability analyses? Absolutely! You just need to make sure that either your available sites are actually unused or that the probability of use is low. Even if that assumption is violated, the relative values for covariates in your model likely are still valid for ranking the effects of each on use but the absolute probability of use predicted by the model is unreliable. In the parlance of resource selection analyses, the resource selection function can be estimated but the resource selection probability function cannot.

In thinking about this column, I remembered a trip I took on a plane a few years ago. I sat next to an overly talkative man who clearly liked to hear the sound of his own voice. I was trying to work on a manuscript and he kept interrupting me with comments and questions, rarely waiting for me to answer. I was working on a page with many equations when he asked me if I really understood those things. I looked at him incredulously and said, "Of course, don't you?" On that note, he kept quiet for the rest of the trip.

Northwest Section Awards and Student Travel Grant

Awards

The **Arthur S. Einarsen Award** was established in 1966 to recognize outstanding service to the wildlife profession by individuals residing in the area encompassed by the Northwest Section of The Wildlife Society. The **Wildlife Administrator Award** was designed to recognize and reward excellence in the areas of wildlife program development and administration. The Awards Committee encourages nominations from the membership of the Section by 5 January 2007 for both awards. Nominations benefit from supporting documentation so please contact Lowell Suring for more details if you have deserving candidates in mind. Awards will be presented at the annual meeting scheduled for Spring 2007 and hosted by the Alberta Chapter (details to be posted at: <http://albertadirectory.net/actws>).

Student Travel Grant

The Northwest Section of The Wildlife Society is offering grants to partially support student travel, registration, and/or lodging expenses associated with attending the 2007 annual meeting. The 2007 meeting is being hosted by the Alberta Chapter (<http://albertadirectory.net/actws>) and will be held in the spring. Grants will be issued up to a cumulative total of \$2,000.

Please submit grant requests via e-mail by 15 December 2006. Recipients will be notified by 16 January 2007.

The following factors will be given priority during selection of grant recipients:

- support to students presenting papers or posters at the meeting,
- support to officers of student chapters, and
- prudent expenditure of funds (e.g., requests for partial funding of group transportation or shared lodging).

Grant requests should include:

- the factors mentioned above (if applicable, for example - title of presentation, office held),
- other supporting information,
- the amount of financial assistance requested,
- contact information for the applicant (physical address, telephone number, and e-mail address), and
- contact information for the student's or chapter's faculty advisor.

Award nominations and travel grant applications should be sent to: Lowell Suring, Aquatic Sciences Laboratory, 322 East Front Street; Boise, Idaho 83702; voice: 208.373.4351, FAX: 208.373.4391, e-mail: lsuring@fs.fed.us.

2006 Membership Subscription and Renewal

New memberships and renewals for the 2006 calendar year are available on-line at The Wildlife Society's store (<http://www.wildlife.org>). An individual may renew their TWS membership (\$64 regular, \$32 student, or \$16 retired), as well as their NW Section dues (\$5.00) and Alaska Chapter dues (\$5.00). The Journal of Wildlife Management may be delivered on-line (\$25.00) or on-line and print (40.00); similarly, the Wildlife Society Bulletin can be ordered on-line (\$25.00) or on-line and print (\$40.00). TWS members can also join one or more of the 18 TWS working groups.