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TWS Wildlife Damage Management Working  
Group Newsletter

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2008

# INTERACTIONS: Newsletter of The Wildlife Society Wildlife Damage Management Working Group, Interactions: Volume 14 Issue 4 Fall 2008

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# INTERACTIONS

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Click Here to

**VOTE  
NOW!**

### Special points of interest:

- 2009 Wildlife Damage Management Conference
- Special Elections Issue
- Be sure to see the Voting Instructions on Page 7

Visit us on the web at:  
<http://Wildlifedamagegroup.unl.edu>

## FINAL MESSAGE - IT'S BEEN FUN! LETTERS FROM ART

Boy does time fly!! It's elections time again, and time for all working group members to vote for your Board members. Many thanks go to Ben West and John Steuber for finding the candidates and setting up the on-line voting ballot. More thanks goes to all of the candidates who have offered their services to the group. As this is my last message as Chair, I will extend my thanks to all current and recent past officers for their help over my tenure and to everyone else who assisted me and others putting on our 12th WDM conference back in 2007. I never expected to lead this group, but having been

granted the privilege of doing so I am quite honored. Thank you everyone!

You will notice we've tried making voting this time around as painless as possible. We will use an on-line system that's very simple and straightforward to use. During most of our elections, we get 30 - 50% of the members voting, and we're not any different (maybe even better) than any other subunit in TWS. But still, getting fewer than 50% of the members voting shouldn't be, and hopefully the web option will get more members to vote. If that doesn't help you to vote, please take a look at

Continued on pg. 2

## AND NOW...A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Hello Everybody. You may remember me from such newsletters as *Interactions*, the *Vector*, and the *Indiana Wildlife Disease News*. Fall is in the air, college football is in full swing (go Dawgs!), and it is election time again. And oh yeah, don't forget there is a National election going on right now as well.

Anyway, you will have noticed that this issue is a little different. I am forgoing most of the running sections, such as the Notes from the Field, Wildlife Damage In the News, and the usual Research in Focus articles so that we have plenty of room for the candidate bios. But hold on campers...you don't get off that easy. They will be back starting next issue. While we are on that subject, I really need you folks to submit articles. If you read the last issue, the article from Miha on Wild Boar in Slovenia was excellent. Now you don't have to be from Slovenia to get an article into *Interactions*. You can be from Texas, South Carolina, New York, California, or pretty much anywhere (well, maybe not Alabama—we Georgia fans are still pretty much put out with them;) and get an article about your wildlife damage management research or current project.

So back to this issue. Be sure to take the time to read about the candidates and VOTE. We have made it super easy to vote this time. All you have to do is open this Newsletter in electronic format and click on any of the boxes that read VOTE NOW! Those boxes will take you directly to the Internet to a site where you can vote. It should not take more than 1 minute once you know who you are voting for.

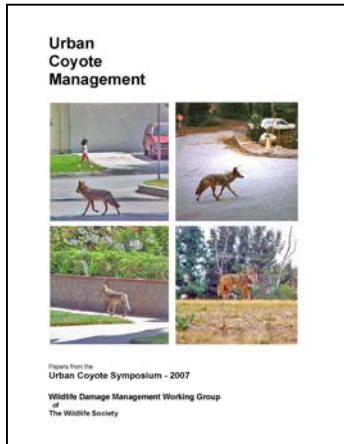
So please, take a minute out of your day right now to make your selection.

Thanks, *Lee*



Be sure to VOTE, or this guy could end up in charge.

It should not take more than 1 minute once you know who you are voting for.



## PUBLICATION ANNOUNCEMENT

# URBAN COYOTE MANAGEMENT

The Working Group's newest sponsored publication is just out this week. It is a compilation of the 24 papers from the Urban Coyote Symposium, held during the 12th Wildlife Damage Management Conference in Corpus Christi, TX, in April 2007. These papers have been reformatted from the Conference Proceedings and published in this 144-page booklet under the title "Urban Coyote Management". Copies can be purchased from the web store connected to the Internet Center for Wildlife Damage Management for \$14.95 each, plus shipping + handling. Click on the publication cover to the left or use this web link to order this publication. <http://nebraskamaps.unl.edu/viewPrd.asp?idcategory=591&idproduct=10742>

## PUBLICATION ANNOUNCEMENT

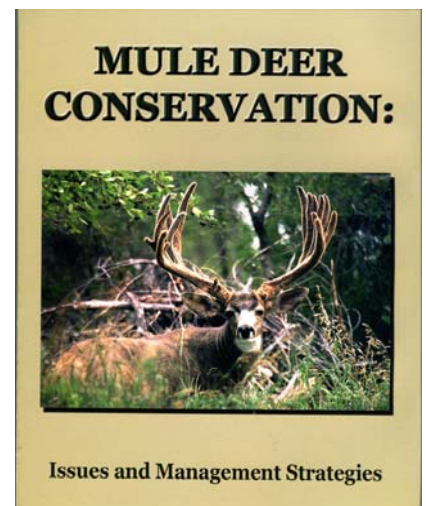
# MULE DEER CONSERVATION

A new publication on Mule Deer Conservation is now available from the Berryman Institute on mule deer conservation issues and management. If you are interested in ordering this publication, it can be purchased directly from the Berryman Institute by check or credit card.

Please make check payable to Berryman Institute. Include your name and mailing address. Visa, MasterCard, and discover cards are accepted. Include the name on the card, billing address, 16-digit account number, expiration date, and the cardholder's signature. Send to: Berryman Institute, Department of Wildland Resources, Utah State University, Logan, UT 84322-5230. E-mail orders accepted; send to [hwc@cc.usu.edu](mailto:hwc@cc.usu.edu).

Mule Deer Conservation: Issues and Management Strategies, by James C. deVos, Jr. et al. (eds.) 240 pp. (soft cover)

\$22 each (5 or more copies, \$20 each)



## FROM THE CHAIR (CONT. FROM PG. 1)

the list candidates! Maybe that'll get you to take a few moments and click on a box. Wow, talk about a quality bunch of folks!!

There are several reasons this is the most active and largest working group in the TWS world. First, wildlife damage is a very pertinent topic. Work on something a lot of people are concerned about for one reason or another, and you'll get a large following. In concert with that, are the regular communications, though Joe and this newsletter, that allows all members to keep abreast of issues with this group and our profession. You need to keep the members informed or else everything will start falling apart. And finally, there are the folks that do almost anything for the working group at the drop of a hat. Pretty much all of these people have run for elected office, sometimes successfully, sometimes not. But the most striking

thing about our working group is the sheer numbers of these "willing to do the job" people we have. As a great example, most sub-unit elections struggle to find the minimum of 2 candidates per open office. Look at our ballot. Not only are the people on there quality workers and all will do the position justice, but for all but Chair-elect we have many more candidates than minimum! That is simply outstanding and goes to show the amount of support our working group has from it's members.



WDMWG President - Art Smith

Miami is coming up, and after that over the first full week in May will be the 13th WDM conference. Please try to attend both. I've not been to Miami in the wintertime, so I'm really looking forward to that. If you've never been to Saratoga Springs, you should definitely try to make the trip in May. I hope to see each of you at one, or both, of these venues.

*Adios!*

## CANDIDATE FOR CHAIR ELECT

## GARY WITMER

Gary Witmer is a Supervisory Research Wildlife Biologist and Project Leader with the USDA/APHIS/WS National Wildlife Research Center in Fort Collins CO. He received his Ph.D. in Wildlife Science from Oregon State University, and M.S. in Wildlife Ecology from Purdue University, and an M.S. and B.S. in Biology from the University of Michigan. His research focuses on resolving human-wildlife conflicts and has included ungulates, carnivores, and rodents. Most recently, he has been working on invasive mammals on islands and has designed successful eradication strategies. Previously, he worked for the National Animal Disease



Laboratory, the Washington Department of Wildlife, Argonne National Laboratory, and Penn State University. He has been an affiliate faculty at Washington State University, the University of Idaho, Colorado State University, and Michigan State University. He has published over 70 scientific papers. Gary has organized, conducted, and produced the proceedings for several conferences. He has been a member of The Wildlife Society since 1984, including president of the Pennsylvania and Washington Chapters, the secretary/treasurer of the Wildlife Damage Management Working Group, the co-organizer of the 1995 TWS Annual Conference in Portland Oregon, and an associate editor of the Wildlife Society Bulletin.

## CANDIDATE FOR CHAIR ELECT

## KURT VERCAUTEREN

Kurt VerCauteren is a Project Leader for the Wildlife Disease Research Program of the USDA APHIS Wildlife Services, National Wildlife Research Center. He received his B.S. ('90) from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, and M.S. ('93) and Ph.D. ('98) from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Kurt has published over 90 papers on Wildlife Damage Management. His current research involves addressing scientific questions that will lead to a better understanding of diseases of deer and elk and developing means to manage and control diseases such as CWD and bovine TB. Many of his efforts are focused at the interface between free-ranging wildlife and livestock, including captive cervids. Kurt has been a member of TWS since 1988 and of the Wildlife Damage Management Working Group and Wildlife Disease Working Group since their inceptions. He is a past Board Member of the Wildlife Damage Management Working Group as well as past Secretary of the Colorado Chapter of TWS and past President and Secretary of the Nebraska Chapter of TWS. He has also been serving as an Associate Editor for TWS's Journal of Wildlife Management for the past 3 years.



The Wildlife Sciences building at the National Wildlife Research Center in Fort Collins, CO.

## WDM WORKING GROUP MEETING

## TWS Wildlife Damage Management Working Group Business Meeting

Wednesday, November 12, 2008

12:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m., Foster

Please make plans now to attend the TWS Wildlife Damage Management Working Group annual business meeting. It will be the last working group meeting and will be held over lunch. We will plan on having sandwiches or something available for attendees. Please join us at the meeting to discuss important issues for the upcoming year.

**Network. Learn. Explore. Enjoy!**

Take your seat in the sun!

Registration opens June 2008

**The Wildlife Society 15th Annual Conference**

November 8-12, 2008

**Miami, Florida**

[www.wildlife.org](http://www.wildlife.org)

C. Alex Bramacil

*CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY TREASURER***DAVID DRAKE**

David Drake is an extension wildlife specialist and assistant professor in the Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He completed his Ph. D. in Forestry at North Carolina State University, received a Master's degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences from Texas A&M University, and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Biology from Macalester College in St. Paul, MN. Prior to coming to UW-Madison a little over 3 years ago, he was faculty member at Rutgers University, where he conducted research on wildlife-human conflicts. David teaches a class at UW on wildlife damage man-

agement with biologists from the USDA-WS and WI DNR, is involved in the 2009 Wildlife Damage Management conference that will be held in New York, and is an active member of TWS' Wildlife Damage Management Working Group, as well as current chair of TWS' Urban Wildlife Working Group.

*CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY TREASURER***MIKE MENGAK**

Mike Mengak is originally from northeastern Pennsylvania. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Forestry and Wildlife from Virginia Tech; a Master's Degree and Ph.D. in Forest Wildlife from Clemson University. Mike is currently employed (since 2001) as an Associate Professor - Wildlife Specialist at the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources at the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia. In this role, Mike has a 50% teaching - 50% service outreach appointment. He teaches Wildlife Damage Management, Nongame and Endangered Species Management, Field Studies in Natural History, Wildlife Management for Teachers, and Natural Resource Conservation. His outreach activities include training and working with landowners and with county extension staff as well as adult education through Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists. Mike also advises graduate students working with white-tailed deer (repellents and food plots), armadillo natural history and ecology, environmental education, endangered species (Key Largo woodrats and Key Largo cotton mice), and small mammal ecology. He has authored over 75 publications in peer-refereed journals, proceedings, and extension publications on natural history topics, wildlife damage management, armadil-

los, Allegheny woodrats, Key Largo woodrats and mice, and numerous other species. Mike is a member of the American Society of Mammalogists (since 1982) and The Wildlife Society (since 1979) having served The Wildlife Society as SE Section Newsletter Editor (1990-1992), officer and president of the Virginia Chapter (4-year term), Board Member of the Georgia Chapter, Awards Committee chair - GA Chapter, Publication Awards Committee-SE Section (since 2003, chair since 2008), and co-advisor to the UGA Student Chapter of TWS. Prior to coming to UGA, Mike was Professor of Forestry and Wildlife at Ferrum College, a 4-yr liberal arts college in southwest Virginia.

*CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY TREASURER***NICKI FREY**

Nicki Frey graduated West Virginia University with a BS Degree in Wildlife Management in 1996. In 2001, she obtained her Master's degree in Wildlife Biology at Utah State University, working on the affects of predator removal on ring-necked pheasant recruitment. Nicki completed her PhD in Wildlife Biology at Utah State University in September 2004 where she conducted research on the interactions between red foxes, raccoons, striped skunks, their use of a corridor environment, and the effects of management on predator populations. Nicki began working for USU Extension and Jack H. Berryman Institute in October 2004, to focus on solving wildlife management issues in southern Utah as the Assistant Extension Wildlife Specialist. She teaches Principles of Natural Resource Management at Southern Utah University, is involved with 4-H, at the national and state level for the Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program, and serves as the Continuing Education Coordinator for the Jack H. Berryman Institute. In this role, she consults with Wildlife Services employees concerning Wildlife Biologist certification as well as provide them with academic opportunities. Nicki has been a member of the Utah TWS state chapter, since 2000 and a member of the CMPS chapter since 2004. She has been a member of the national chapter since 1996 and currently belongs to the Wildlife Damage Management and the Public Conservation, Education, and Outreach working groups. Nicki was also the NADCA secretary for 2 years before its unofficial disbanding.



Travis and a few friends on Young Island.  
Photo: J. Friers

CANDIDATE FOR BOARD MEMBER

## TRAVIS DEVAULT

Travis L. DeVault is the Field Station/Project Leader at the USDA Wildlife Services, National Wildlife Research Center's Ohio Field Station in Sandusky. The Ohio Field Station is dedicated to developing methods to reduce wildlife strikes with aircraft. Formerly, Travis was a Research Wildlife Biologist with NWRC in central New York, where he worked cooperatively with the Wildlife Services operational programs in New York, Vermont, and Michigan to study interactions between double-crested cormorants and sportfish populations in the Great Lakes region. Travis earned a B.S. and M.S. in biology from Indiana State University and a Ph.D. in wildlife ecology from Purdue University. His current professional interests include researching wildlife hazards to aviation, ecology and management of fish-eating birds, and vertebrate food habits and foraging behaviors. Away from the office, Travis enjoys hunting, kayak fishing, blues guitar, and playing video games with his two kids.

CANDIDATE FOR BOARD MEMBER

## DENISE RUFFINO

Denise Ruffino is a Certified Wildlife Biologist and has been a member of The Wildlife Society (TWS) and the Texas Chapter-TWS (TCTWS) since the mid 1980's. She has been an very active in TCTWS, serving on or chairing many committee activities, including regularly volunteering for the Wildlife Conservation Camp for high school youth held each summer in south Texas. She is a member of the TWS - Wildlife Diseases Working Group and the TWS - WDM Working Group, serving as the Local Arrangements Coordinator for the 2007 WDM Conference in Corpus Christi, Texas and is assisting with registration for the 2009 WDM Conference in New York. Denise has been employed by USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services (WS) since 1988, including 13 years as an urban biologist in Houston and 6 years as a staff biologist in San Antonio. During her years in San Antonio, Denise was also active in rabies research projects and rabies testing. She currently serves as a staff biologist for the WS Operational Support Staff in Riverdale, Maryland. She holds a B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences from Texas A&M, M.S. in Biological Sciences from Sam Houston State University, and is currently finishing up requirements for her Ph.D. at Texas A&M. Her goal in this position is to increase agency membership and involvement in both TWS and the WDM working group, thereby promoting professional development through networking and information sharing among its diverse membership.



APHIS headquarters in Riverdale, MD. Can you spot the goose - and yes, it is real.

CANDIDATE FOR BOARD MEMBER

## BOB TIMM

Bob Timm is Extension Wildlife Specialist at the University of California and Director of the UC Hopland Research & Extension Center in north coastal California. A Certified Wildlife Biologist since 1981, he served as chairperson of the Wildlife Damage Working Group from 2000 - 2002 and was instrumental in the Group's assuming responsibility for the biennial Wildlife Damage Management Conference. After completing his M.S. and Ph.D. at UC Davis, Bob served as Extension Vertebrate Pest Specialist / Associate Professor at the University of Nebraska from 1978 until returning to California in 1987. He edited and co-edited the 1983 and 1994 editions of Prevention and Control of Wildlife Damage. He has been managing editor of the Proceedings of the Vertebrate Pest Conference since 2002, and he is currently chair-elect of the Vertebrate Pest Council, scheduled to serve as chair during 2010-2012. He or-



UC Hopland Research and Extension Center

ganized and coordinated the first Urban Coyote Symposium, held during the 12th Wildlife Damage Management Conference in Corpus Christi, TX, and has recently edited the 24 papers from this symposium for sale as a Working Group publication. His professional interests include large predators, (particularly coyotes), rodents, animal behavior, and vertebrate pesticides. During 2009, he will be on sabbatical at Lincoln University, New Zealand.

## CANDIDATE FOR BOARD MEMBER

## PAUL CURTIS

Paul Curtis has coordinated the Wildlife Damage Management Program for Cornell University Cooperative Extension during the past 18 years. He received a Ph.D. in Zoology from North Carolina State University in 1990 and a M.S. in Wildlife Biology from Colorado State University in 1981. His research interests include human-wildlife conflicts in urban and agricultural landscapes, wildlife fertility control, and resolving community-based

wildlife issues. He currently supervises research projects dealing with large mammal issues, including black bears, coyotes, and white-tailed deer. His extension programming has included a variety of wildlife-related booklets, videos, and fact sheets, including Best Practices for Wildlife Control Operators. Dr. Curtis is a Certified Wildlife Biologist with The Wildlife Society.



Cornell University  
Cooperative Extension



Black bear. Photo: Corel © used with permission

## CANDIDATE FOR BOARD MEMBER

## JIMMY TAYLOR

Jimmy Taylor is a supervisory research wildlife biologist and leader of the National Wildlife Research Center's Olympia Field Station in Olympia, Washington, where his research focuses on reducing mammalian damage to forest and riparian ecosystems. Prior to joining the Olympia Field Station, Jimmy was a research wildlife biologist at the Mississippi Field Station where his research focused on reducing the impacts of fish-eating birds on aquaculture. Jimmy holds degrees in forestry and wildlife ecology and is a graduate of Mississippi State University, where he serves as an adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. He has been a member of The Wildlife Society since 1994 and has served in several appointed positions: MS Chapter President, MS President-elect, MS Secretary/Treasurer, Southeastern Section Representative, and MS State University Student Chapter President. Jimmy also serves as a Battalion Commander in the United States Army Reserve where he holds the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. In his "spare time", he enjoys watching his girls play soccer, hunting, and fishing.

## CANDIDATE FOR BOARD MEMBER

## PHIL MASTRANGELO

Phil Mastrangelo has worked in the field of wildlife damage management since the mid-1980's. He has been the State Director of the USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services program in North Dakota since 1999. Previously he served as the State Director of the Mississippi and West Virginia Wildlife Services programs. While working in Mississippi Phil also served as an adjunct professor at Mississippi State University where he developed and taught a course in wildlife damage management. Other duty locations within Wildlife Services include Texas, Tennessee, and Kentucky. Phil earned a B.S. Degree in Wildlife Management at Eastern Kentucky University and a M.S. Degree in Biology at Eastern Kentucky University. He has been a member of The Wildlife Society since 1980 and a member of the Wildlife Damage Management Working Group since its inception. Phil is a Certified Wildlife Biologist and has earned the TWS Professional Development Certification.



Blackbirds and sunflowers in North Dakota. Photo: USDA

## CANDIDATE FOR BOARD MEMBER

## KRIS GODWIN

Kris Godwin has been State Director for the Mississippi USDA APHIS Wildlife Services program for the past nine years. She oversees the Mississippi Beaver Control Assistance Program, as well as working with numerous airports, state and federal agencies and non-government organizations on wildlife damage management issues. Kris is an adjunct faculty member at Mississippi State University where she teaches a split level course on wildlife damage management and serves on graduate student committees. Previous to her position with Wildlife Services, she was with the US Forest Service for eight years, working on the Tombigbee and DeSoto National Forests in Mississippi. Her positions with the Forest Service included Wildlife Biologist, National Forests in Mississippi Public Affairs Staff Officer, and Planning Team Leader. Before her Forest Service career, Kris worked for Lawler, Matusky and Skelly Environmental Consultants in Nyack, NY as an environmental science technician. Kris holds an AAS degree in Biological Technology from State University of New York (SUNY), Cobleskill, a BS Degree in Wildlife Ecology from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse, and a MS degree in Wildlife Management from Mississippi State University. She is married to Dave Godwin, who is the Mississippi small game and turkey program coordinator for the State of Mississippi, and they have two children, Brannon and Eric.



Kris (middle), Brannon, and Eric Godwin.

## CANDIDATE FOR BOARD MEMBER

## RICH CHIPMAN



Richard Chipman is a certified Wildlife Biologist living in Castleton, New York with his wife and two sons. He is running for a two-year term as a board member of the Wildlife Damage Management Working Group (WDWG). He has worked for the USDA, Animal and Plant Health

Inspection Service, Wildlife Services since 1991 including seven years as a Wildlife Biologist in Vermont, the New York State Director from 1997-2006 and has been the WS Assistant National Rabies Management Coordinator since 2007. Prior to beginning his career with Wildlife Services he worked for various State Fish and Wildlife Agencies and Universities on rare wildlife species in

Vermont, Maine, Kansas and Costa Rica, Central America. Rich received his BA in Biology and BS in Wildlife Management from the University of Maine and his MS in Wildlife Biology from the University of Vermont. He is the Past President (1994-1997) and Newsletter Editor for the Northeast Association of Wildlife Damage Biologists and former Secretary of the National Animal Damage Control Association (1997-2000). He has been an active member of the Wildlife Society since 1987 and served as the Vermont Representative to the New England Chapter (1994-1998) and on the Conservation Committee (1996-1997). He has also served as the Secretary for the New York Chapter of TWS (1998-2001), been a member of the WDWG since 1993 and served on the Board from 1999-2002. He is also currently a board member of TWS Wildlife Disease Working Group and on the planning committee for the 2009 Wildlife Damage Management Conference.

## HOW DO I VOTE?!?

Voting this year is easier than ever. All you have to do is cut and paste on the link to the website below or click on the VOTE icon anywhere in this publication. The address will take you to the SurveyMonkey website where we have posted the ballot.

- Click on the link or icon
- Vote for your candidates
- Click on Submit Your Vote

That is it. Be sure to vote for:

- 1 candidate for Chair Elect
- 1 candidate for Secretary / Treasurer
- 3 candidates for Board Members

Click Here to

**VOTE  
NOW!**



**SurveyMonkey.com**  
because knowledge is everything

What is SurveyMonkey. Started in 1999, SurveyMonkey is an online survey tool that enables people of all experience levels to create their own surveys quickly and easily. Every day, SurveyMonkey gives thousands of people the feedback they need to make more informed decisions, including more than 80% of the Fortune 100. SurveyMonkey's offices are located in Portland, Oregon USA.

To Vote, use this link - [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=DqBZJc6FT\\_2f3C0G5aBwqwNQ\\_3d\\_3d](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=DqBZJc6FT_2f3C0G5aBwqwNQ_3d_3d)



## 2009 WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

## CALL FOR PAPERS AND ABSTRACT GUIDELINES

The *First Call For Papers* for the 2009 Wildlife Damage Management Conference went out in mid-September. Begin planning on your submission now. Submission deadline for abstracts is **November 15, 2008**.

Session topics are listed to the right of this column, however, submissions of manuscripts or posters are not limited to these areas. Other Papers on Contemporary Wildlife Damage Management Topics will also be reviewed. Details about abstract, length of manuscript, and other information about submissions and the conference will follow in future e-mails, issues of *Interactions* and the Wildlife Damage Management Working Group web site at <http://wildlifedamagegroup.unl.edu/>. Begin making your plans now.

If you wish to make a presentation at the Conference, please submit an abstract or summary of your presentation according to the following guidelines. Abstracts received after November 15 will be considered only on a space-available basis.

On a single page, submit the Abstract/Summary formatted as a single paragraph preceded by the Presentation Title, and Authors' Name(s) and Affiliation(s). Following the abstract, identify the contact person by name, mailing address, telephone, and email address. Please indicate if this is a student presentation. Your presentation may describe work currently in progress.

**Format the page as follows:**

Software: MS Word  
 Margins: 1" all around  
 Font: Times New Roman, 12 pt  
 Spacing: single  
 Justification: left  
 Word limit: 300

Poster presentations are encouraged, particularly from graduate and undergraduate students with final or preliminary results. Please submit an abstract in the same manner as a paper, but indicate that it is for a poster in the email.

Email your submission to the address below as an attachment to an email message. The subject line should read, "2009 WDM Abstract - Author's last name."

For the example provided, the subject line would read: "2009 WDM Abstract - Gaukler et al."

You will be asked to submit a manuscript for the Conference Proceedings. Your presentation should not have been published (or in review) elsewhere.

Email Abstract/Summary to:

Jay Boulanger  
 Cornell University  
 phone (607) 227-5444

**Session Topics and Deadlines**

Urban Carnivores  
 Wildlife's Impact on Fisheries  
 Capture and Immobilization of Animals  
 Fertility Control  
 Human Dimensions of Wildlife Damage Management  
 Wildlife Diseases  
 Management of Damage Caused by Mammals  
 Prevention and Control of Avian Damage  
 How Future Demographics Will Affect Wildlife Damage Mgmt.  
 Evaluation of Wildlife Damage Control Products

**ABSTRACT EXAMPLE**

Pathogenic Diseases and Movements of Wintering European Starlings Using Feedlots in Central Kansas

Shannon M. Gaukler, Dept. of Biological Sciences, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND, H. Jeffrey Homan, USDA Wildlife Services, National Wildlife Research Center, Bismarck, ND, Neil W. Dyer, Dept. of Veterinary and Microbiological Sciences, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND, George M. Linz, USDA Wildlife Services, National Wildlife Research Center, Bismarck, ND, and William J. Bleier, Dept. of Biological Sciences, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND  
 shannon.gaukler@ndsu.edu

Kansas is a major producer of livestock and has an abundance of over-wintering European starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*). Roosts size for over-wintering starlings can exceed 5 million individuals. Starlings cause a substantial amount of economic damage to farmers. *Escherichia coli* O157 and *Salmonella* can cause illness in both livestock and humans and cattle with Johne's disease must be culled. Crohn's disease in humans is suspected to be caused from *Mycobacterium paratuberculosis*. We banded, leg-flagged, and radio-tagged starlings using feedlots near Great Bend, KS. Our objectives were to track daily movements of starlings visiting feedlots and screen starlings for *E. coli* O157, *Salmonella* spp. and *M. paratuberculosis*. Our data show that starlings in Kansas move among feedlots rather than remaining at one feedlot. The results may be used to develop plans for the management of transmissible diseases carried by starlings.

Name  
 Mailing address  
 Phone

## RECENT WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT RESEARCH

This section will highlight current research in our field each quarter. Articles are located by conducting a search of periodical databases which contain possible relevant content. If you have wildlife damage management related article that has been accepted for publication and want to ensure that your peers are aware of its publication, please send a copy of the article to the editor at [joe.n.caudell@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:joe.n.caudell@aphis.usda.gov). Nothing is inferred by an articles exclusion or inclusion in this column. Articles that appear in *Human-Wildlife Conflicts* do not appear in this column because the entire journal is available on open-access by contacting the Jack H. Berryman Institute at [www.berrymaninstitute.org](http://www.berrymaninstitute.org). Many of these articles can be found on-line at the APHIS USDA Wildlife Services National Wildlife Research Center web site (<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ws/nwrc/is/publications.html>).

Baxter, A. and J. R. Allan. 2008. Use of lethal control to reduce habituation to blank rounds by scavenging birds. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 72:1653-1657.

Abstract - Scavenging bird deterrence frequently fails due to habituation. We demonstrated such habituation by gulls and corvids to blank rounds used in a dawn-to-dusk regime at a landfill site in southern England. We then combined blank rounds with live rounds and shot birds whenever they attempted to land. Gull numbers declined significantly despite only 1.9% of the population being shot. Corvid numbers returned to precontrol levels despite 52.7% of the population being shot. We suggest that shooting reduces gull habituation to blank rounds but is ineffective at reducing habituation by corvids.

Berger, K. M., E. M. Gese, and J. Berger. 2008. Indirect effects and traditional trophic cascades: a test involving wolves, coyotes, and pronghorn. *Ecology* 89:818-828.

Carlson, D. A., and E. M. Gese. 2008. Reproductive biology of the coyote (*Canis latrans*): integration of mating behavior, reproductive hormones and vaginal cytology. *Journal of Mammalogy* 89:654-664.

Casabon, C. and D. Pothier. 2008. Impact of deer browsing on plant communities in cutover sites on Anticosti Island. *Ecoscience* 15:389-397.

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Dorr, B. S., L. W. Burger, and S. C. Barras. 2008. Evaluation of aerial cluster sampling of double-crested cormorants on aquaculture ponds in Mississippi. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 72:1634-1640.

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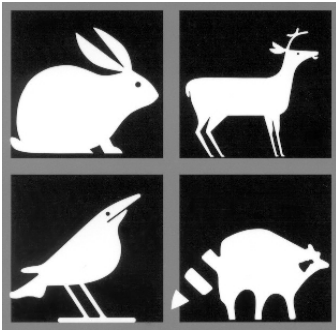
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Wildlife Damage Management Working Group

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## The Wildlife Society Wildlife Damage Management Working Group

**Our Mission:**

The mission of the Wildlife Damage Management Working Group is to promote better understanding of the challenges of managing human-wildlife conflicts and to provide a forum for TWS members to advance their skills and knowledge of wildlife damage management practices.

**Our Goals:**

- Enhance understanding within the profession and various stakeholder groups of the need for responsible wildlife damage management activities.
- Facilitate information transfer to wildlife management professionals and various publics.
- Serve as a professional catalyst, clearinghouse, and conduit for wildlife damage management information.
- Assist TWS Council and resource management agencies with wildlife damage management policy formulation, analysis, and decision making.
- Promote development of new technologies and maintenance of existing cost-effective management tools.

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## UPCOMING MEETINGS, CONFERENCES, AND EVENTS

**October 2008**

PestWorld 2008 is being held October 22-25 at the Gaylord National™ Resort & Convention Center on the Potomac. Visit their website at <https://www.npmapestworld.org/Events/> for more details.

**November 2008**

Make preparations early for The Wildlife Society 15th Annual Conference. Visit [www.wildlife.org](http://www.wildlife.org) for more information on the conference.

National Pest Management Associations' first ever Nuisance Bird and Wildlife Management Conference will be held November 19-21, 2008, at the Westin St. Louis in St. Louis, MO. For hotel reservations, call 314-621-2000 by November 4 and mention "NPMA" to receive the group rate of \$119 per night. If you are interested in exhibiting [click here](#) e-mail Alexis Wirtz at [awirtz@pestworld.org](mailto:awirtz@pestworld.org).

**January 2009**

The 15th Annual Wildlife Control Technologies/National Wildlife Control Operators Association Training Seminar will be held on January 26-28, 2009, in Indianapolis, Indiana. Visit the WCT web site at <http://www.wctech.com/> for more details.

**May 2009**

The 13th Annual Wildlife Damage Management Conference will be held on May 4-8, 2009, in Saratoga, New York. See this issue for details.

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