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Group Newsletter

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INTERACTIONS: Newsletter of The Wildlife Society Wildlife Damage Management Working Group, Volume 16 Issue 3, Summer 2010

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INTERACTIONS

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***Be sure to read
the candidate's
bios and
VOTE!***

Special points of interest:

- Upcoming conferences and meetings
- WDMWG elections
- Advisory committee to aid NWCOA

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

LETTERS FROM GARY FINAL COLUMN..... IT'S BEEN FUN.

The Wildlife Damage Management Working Group annual business meeting will be held in conjunction with the TWS Annual Conference on Wednesday, Oct. 6, 2010, from 7:00 to 9:00 am in Superior A. A light breakfast will be available for attendees. I am looking for a great turnout at the conference and our working group meeting.

I will be turning the Chair's position over to Kurt VerCauteren at this meeting. The past two years has been interesting and rewarding. I think we have made progress in a number of areas, but still need work in other areas. We had a successful Wildlife Damage Management Conference in Saratoga, NY despite a poor economy. We had tremendous support from the private sector, federal and state agencies. A special evening session sponsored by Craig Coon on White Nose Syndrome in Bats was web cast. This is a serious problem biologically and economically. Thanks to speakers and organizers for putting together this important session. The concern helped gained visibility for this critical topic, which continues to spread across the nation.

The working group helped support two Workshops at the University of Nebraska. Stephen Vantasel indicated the Goose Damage Management and the Shooting in Sensitive Environments Workshops were a success. Kurt VerCauteren is putting together an advisory committee to assist the National Wildlife Control Operators on a variety of issues. Continued on pg. 2



WDMWG Chair—Gary San Julian

AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

ADVISORY COMMITTEE BEING FORMED TO AID NWCOA

The National Wildlife Control Operators Association (NWCOA) has requested that the WDMWG form an Advisory Committee to help ensure that NWCOA members adhere to their principles and membership criteria of supporting sound scientific wildlife population management. The Advisory Committee will review and provide feedback on questions, policies, and position statements that are submitted to it by NWCOA. Examples of activities include reviewing position statements on animal relocation/translocation,

migratory birds in buildings, and euthanasia. The Advisory Committee will be ad hoc and not always have a full agenda; it will not require a large commitment of time. The Board of the WDMWG feels the formation of this Advisory Committee will not only allow us to assist NWCOA in a meaningful way but that it will also aid in establishing improved communication between NWCOA and the WDMWG. If you are interested in serving on this Advisory Committee, please contact Kurt VerCauteren.

REBIRTH OF A LEGEND

THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY
BULLETIN IS BACK....

TWS Council has approved a proposal to re-launch the *Wildlife Society Bulletin* (WSB) as an online, peer-reviewed journal featuring articles about the application and techniques of wildlife management. The editor will be Warren Ballard of Texas Tech University. First launched in 1973, WSB was discontinued for a complex suite of reasons in 2005. At Council's request, the TWS Publications Committee, headed by Gary White, surveyed TWS membership, studied the financials, and summarized findings of broad-based support for re-launching the journal.

As a management-focused peer-reviewed journal for wildlife practitioners, WSB will greatly enhance the published offerings of TWS by filling a niche not currently filled by the more academic *Journal of Wildlife Management* and TWS' member magazine *The Wildlife Professional*. When it re-launches in 2011, WSB will pick up where it left off in volume, number, and mission—to provide wildlife managers with the latest science-based applications and techniques in their field.

If you have questions or submissions, send them to wsb@wildlife.org

WSB CALL FOR PAPERS

SPECIAL ISSUE ON
DEER MANAGEMENT

The *Wildlife Society Bulletin* seeks papers for a special issue on deer management. Dr. Clay Nielsen of Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and Dr. Bill Porter of Michigan State University are serving as special editors for a planned issue of the *Wildlife Society Bulletin*, which will re-launch as a peer-reviewed online journal in 2011. Titled "Ecology and Management of Deer in Developed Landscapes," the issue will focus broadly on deer-management techniques and the practical application of science to deer management.

Papers can address any deer species in any developed landscape—urban, suburban, or exurban. All accepted papers will be rigorously peer-reviewed. A new WSB submission website will be available on ScholarOne very soon, so stay tuned via TWS media outlets (e-mail blasts, the listserv, the *Wildlifer*, and *The Wildlife Professional*) for updated submission information.

Meanwhile, you can submit papers to wsb@wildlife.org. We prefer that all articles be submitted by 1 January 2011. If you have any questions about the potential applicability of your research for this volume, please e-mail Clay Nielsen at kezo92@siu.edu.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

17TH ANNUAL WILDLIFE SOCIETY CONFERENCE

Registration is now open. You can register on-line at www.wildlife.org or download the full or daily registration form (PDF) and send it with payment to The Wildlife Society, 5410 Grosvenor Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda MD 20814, Fax 301-530-2471.

All conference participants, including speakers, must register for the conference. Name badges are required to gain admittance to all sessions and events.

CHAIR'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED FROM PG. 1)

Scott Hygnstrom is the local chair for our next Wildlife Damage Management Conference to be held in Nebraska in 2011. This will provide those who would like to get involved in planning and implementing a national conference a great opportunity.

Our standing committee structure was energized and individuals are filling slots in all of the committees. The membership committee is trying a new recruiting tool at the TWS meeting to recruit new members of the working group. Committee membership is an easy way to get involved with the working group and the Society. It does not require very much work and is rewarding. If asked to serve or volunteer, please give it considerable thought and if possible agree to serve.

If you are new to the Society or the working group, the committee role is a great way to network and help steer the organization's future progress. Serving on committees as a member or providing leadership will help create a more rounded resume and give you the chance to work with leaders in the profession. The Working Group can provide additional links to other working groups and we are realizing the benefits of greater coordination.

This issue of the newsletter will provide the biographies of individuals

running for leadership position in the working group. Becky McPeake has done a yeoman job in finding a slate of candidates and it was not an easy assignment. The nominations' committee is tasked with finding candidates to run. The elected positions are very important to the functioning of the working group or any organization. A number of the individuals that had leadership roles in the early history of the group are getting close to retirement. We need a greater willingness in our membership to agree to run for offices and serve the working group in a leadership capacity.

Our working group is one of the largest in the Society and often viewed as an example for other working groups. I believe the work and professionalism of our members have been instrumental in raising the visibility and stature of the profession. We have collaborated with the other working groups to help create a critical networking structure. Thank you for a great two years, I appreciate your help and would ask that you continue your involvement in the working group and the Society.

Article by Gary San Julian, Chair WDMWG

1ST ANNUAL NWCOA CONVENTION

The first annual NWCOA Convention will be held at the Astoria Crowne Plaza in New Orleans, Louisiana from January 13-18, 2011. Full details about the conference, registration, and accommodations can be found at the NWCOA website (<http://www.nwcoa.com/>).



Seminar Topics

- State of The Industry
- Marketing and Advertising Opportunities
- Hiring Employees
- Pond Management & Aquaculture
- How to write insurance friendly proposals.
- Ground Dwelling Mammals - Trapping & Control Methods
- Commensal Rodents
- Safe Capture and Control of Wildlife, Nuisance Bear, or Mammals
- Grant Money Programs and support for to small business.
- Zoonotic Disease Prevention
- Stinging Insects
- Airport Wildlife Control
- Feral Cat Impacts
- USDA - Wildlife Services
- White Nose Syndrome Report
- Bio-Hazard Remediation in Structures
- How to justify capital expenditures.

NOTE: Topics are not limited to those listed and are subject to change.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

17TH ANNUAL WILDLIFE CONTROL INSTRUCTIONAL SEMINAR



Wildlife Control Technologies is proud to announce the

17th Annual Wildlife Control Instructional Seminar

Las Vegas, Nevada - January 17-19 2011

"Improving Professionalism in the Wildlife Control Industry"

Co-Sponsored by the National Pest Management Association

As urban and rural wildlife populations continue to rise, so do human and animal conflicts. The professional manner in which these problems are handled is becoming increasingly more important. As this industry expands, the need for continuing education is imperative.

The 17th Annual W.C.T. Wildlife Control Instructional Seminar will be an opportunity for private, municipal, state, and federal wildlife and pest control personnel to obtain practical, hands-on training in resolving human and animal conflicts. We've brought together

the top Wildlife Damage Control instructors, nationally recognized educators and researchers that are experts in their field, and top Governmental officials working in Wildlife Damage Management. Attendees will qualify for instruction that can be used toward receiving or recertification of NWCOA's Certified Wildlife Control Professional program. Pest Management Professionals may also receive State continuing education credits.

W.C.T. is very excited about having the National Pest Management Association (NPMA) co-sponsor this year's Seminar. The wildlife control and pest control fields are overlapping more and more, and this Seminar will give both fields an opportunity to meet, share knowledge, and ask any questions or voice any concerns to each other.

After 16 consecutive years of W.C.T. Seminars, the 2011 Seminar has the makings of being the best one yet. We have a number of vendors and exciting speakers already committed. Agenda will be announced as it develops. We are anticipating a very large crowd, so book early. Visit <http://www.wctseminars.com/> for details.

*CANDIDATE FOR CHAIR-ELECT***MICHAEL MENGAK**

I was born in Northeastern Pennsylvania a few years back. I hold a Bachelor's Degree in Forestry and Wildlife from Virginia Tech and a Master's and Ph.D. in Forestry and Wildlife Management from Clemson University.

I taught at a private, liberal arts college in Virginia for 13 years in the Environmental Science program. I taught Forestry, Wildlife Management, Ecology, Natural History, and General Biology. I have been at UGA – Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources since August 2001. I currently hold the position of Professor and Wildlife Specialist. I have been a Faculty Affiliate with the Berryman Institute. Currently, I teach classes in Wildlife Damage Management, Nongame and Endangered Species Management, Natural Resources Management for Teachers, and Introduction to Natural Resource Conservation. My research projects include work with deer repellents, armadillo ecology, small mammals, the Endangered Key Largo Woodrat, and the Allegheny woodrat. My outreach program involves working the county agents, Master Gardeners, Master Naturalists (I serve as state coordinator), and landowners on wildlife management and wildlife damage educational opportunities. I co-advise the UGA Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society. I serve as wildlife publication award chair for the SE Section-TWS. I was President of the Virginia Chapter-TWS and I am the President-elect of the GA Chapter-TWS.

My wife has her PhD in Parks and Recreation from Clemson and just had her first book accepted for publication. It is on the history of the National Park Service under Pres. Johnson and Nixon. My son is an Eagle Scout, NOLS graduate and law enforcement ranger with the National Park Service. His bachelor's degree is in wilderness leadership from Brevard College in North Carolina. My daughter is a Gold Award Recipient with the Girl Scouts, past president of Boy Scout Venture Crew 149, a woodrat trapper, and a freshman in the Honors Program at the University of Georgia.

I have been involved with the WDMWG since 2001 when I first joined the faculty at UGA. I have attended the biennial conferences, presenting papers and posters (along with my students) at most of them. I have twice been nominated for Treasurer of the WG. I believe that membership is not to be taken lightly – paying dues and ignoring all other activities. Membership should be something one is committed to including attending meetings and serving – if asked – as an officer. I have served TWS as member and officer and committee chair since 1979 and will continue to serve in whatever capacity I can. This is something I do and encourage in others especially the members of our student chapter.

*CANDIDATE FOR CHAIR ELECT***JAY BOULANGER**

Jay Boulanger is a Certified Wildlife Biologist living in Ithaca, New York with his wife. He has worked for Cornell University since 2001, including seven years as a Wildlife Biologist at the College of Veterinary Medicine and as an Extension Associate and Deer Program Coordinator with the Department of Natural Resources since 2007. Prior to that, he spent three years in Vermont as a Wildlife Specialist with USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services and two summers with the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department. Jay received his Ph.D. in Wildlife Science from Cornell University, M.S. in Wildlife Sciences from South Dakota State University, and B.S. in Natural Resources from the University of Vermont. His dissertation research focused on developing a novel bait station to control raccoon rabies in suburban landscapes. In his current position, Jay's research efforts focus on controlling overabundant suburban deer populations via sterilization and hunting. In addition to wildlife conflict and fertility issues, his research interests include wildlife ecology, disease, and human dimensions. Jay is a Board Member of the Wildlife Damage Management Working Group and Editor of the Thirteenth Wildlife Damage Management Conference Proceedings. He has been a member of TWS since 1999.



I have enjoyed my career helping to manage human-wildlife conflicts as well as my involvement with TWS. The WDMWG Officers and Board Members are comprised of dedicated and accomplished wildlife professionals, and I am honored to be nominated as Chair-elect. The leadership role of the WDMWG during these challenging times is vital as ever before. As society becomes more urbanized, there are increasing needs for addressing human-wildlife conflicts. In the future, conventional management of game animals such as deer and geese may be relaxed as populations become overabundant. This will open new opportunities for wildlife damage management personnel. How we interact with an expanding private wildlife control industry for responsible management that is consistent with the core values of the WDMWG and its members will be a challenge. We must continue to improve science-based solutions to reduce animal threats to human safety and agriculture, prevent the spread of zoonotic diseases, and manage overabundant species and their associated impacts, to name a few. If elected to this position, I would enjoy working together towards solutions to these challenges.

CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY / TREASURER

CHRIS CROSON

Thank you for the opportunity to introduce myself to the wildlife damage management enthusiasts. It is an honor to be considered for Secretary/Treasurer of this Working Group. I received my B.S degree in Wildlife Science from Virginia Tech and have spent most of my career working for USDA Wildlife Services. My early years were spent working as a field technician for the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, Virginia Tech, and the National Park Service. Starting in 2001, I developed my career with Wildlife Services in Pennsylvania as a technician, biologist, and district supervisor. The past three years have found me in West Virginia serving as the State Director of Wildlife Services. I also proudly serve as an Officer in the Air National Guard, and recently returned from a deployment in the Afghanistan campaign. My career has earned me experience in wildlife damage management associated with a variety of mammalian and avian species, as well as working with stakeholders from the aviation community to rural farmers. I am currently the Eastern Region Wildlife Services representative on the Birdstrike-USA steering committee that provides recommendations to the FAA on wildlife mitigation regulations. Finally, my role as State Director manages one of the largest live-stock protection programs in the east.



As a Certified Wildlife Biologist, I have been involved with TWS (national and state) and the WDMWG for several years. Attendance at TWS functions, such as the Wildlife Damage Management Conference, has provided an excellent forum to network and share knowledge with colleagues. In September 2010, my program will be administering a Predation Management Workshop at our semi-annual TWS meeting. I look forward to continuing this collaboration with state and federal partners as we are all tasked with solving more problems with fewer resources.

Serving on the WDMWG board will bring experience and dedication in wildlife management innovation, collaboration, and understanding of the great variety of stakeholder views. I wish to promote our field of expertise while respecting all wildlife interests that result in win-win solutions. I look forward to working with you in the near future as a fellow TWS member.

CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY / TREASURER

JOHN EISEMANN

As a biologist, I believe the field of wildlife damage management is poised to be one of the most important aspects of wildlife management in the coming decades. While this field of research and management remains less glamorous than that of traditional wildlife conservation, the importance of what we do carries equal if not more importance today as society becomes more urbanized and further separated from the land. It is even apparent when you examine our own professional organization. The Wildlife Damage Management Working Group (WDMWG) is one of the TWS's most active. Our field provides needed solutions to problems occurring in people's back yards.

My professional and educational experiences make me well suited to the position of Secretary/Treasurer of the WDMWG. I earned my B.S. in Wildlife Biology from Colorado State University, and an M.S. in environmental/wildlife toxicology from the University of Maryland. With the exception of a 3-year tour with the Peace Corps, my employment since college has all been related to wildlife management. I have counted ducks and built wetlands for the Fish and Wildlife Service Refuge system. I worked in a chemistry lab at Patuxent Wildlife Research Center developing physiological biomarkers for wildlife exposure to contaminants. I worked for the US Environmental Protection Agency conducting environmental risk assessment for agricultural pesticides. For the past 12 years, I have been the Product Registration Manager at the Wildlife Services, National Wildlife Research Center for the past 12 years. During that time, I have been involved in developing products and tools to meet issues ranging from increasing populations of geese and deer in urban situations, rodents and birds in agricultural production and predator control for the protection of threatened and endangered species. I have been active in the leadership of professional organizations and organized conferences and symposiums focused on vertebrate pest issues. More important for the position I am seeking with the WDMWG, working in the regulatory world for more than a decade has given me the skills and appreciation for managing paperwork. A skill I never dreamed would be useful as a budding wildlife biologist!

I believe the work done by the WDMWG is highly relevant to society, it will be even more important tomorrow. The WDMWG needs to continue advocating this field and bringing in fresh faces and ideas. I am excited to serve as Secretary/Treasurer of this work group if elected.





CANDIDATE FOR BOARD MEMBER

WENDY ARJO

Wendy Arjo is a wildlife biologist and program manager for AGEISS Inc. and environmental and engineering consulting firm. She received her B.S. degree from Southern Oregon State and her M.S. degree in biology from Northern Arizona University. She received her doctorate degree from the University of Montana in 1998. Her dissertation research involved documenting behavioral responses of coyotes to wolf recolonization in Glacier National Park. From 1998-2001, Wendy worked as a wildlife biologist and program manager for AGEISS Environmental, Inc., a contractor for the Department of Defense, documenting competition and interactions between pronghorn and feral horses, and kit fox and coyotes in the Great Basin Desert.

Wendy moved over to government employment when she moved out of the Utah desert to Olympia, where she was a research wildlife biologist for the National Wildlife Research Center's Olympia Field Station. While at the station, she conducted several projects to increase our understanding of mountain beaver biology and damage issues. In addition, Wendy worked cooperatively with Alabama Wildlife Services and Auburn University, where she is an adjunct professor, to understand raccoon population demographics and movements and the use of natural barriers and the potential influence on rabies transmission. She currently serves on two graduate student committees at Auburn University where students are studying

coyote movements in an urban-rural area and coyote genetics. Wendy has made the transition back into private consulting over the last two years where she conducts natural resources projects, assists DoD installations with their Integrated Natural Resource Management Plans, and is thoroughly entrenched in NEPA compliance.

Wendy has been a member of The Wildlife Society since 1996 and has been a Member of The Wildlife Damage Management Working Group (WDMWG) since 2002. She is currently the President of the Washington Chapter of TWS. Wendy was fortunate to serve as a board member previously with the WDMWG and looks forward to the opportunity to serve the working group in the future.

CANDIDATE FOR BOARD MEMBER

TRAVIS DEVAULT

Currently I serve as the Field Station/Project Leader at the USDA Wildlife Services, National Wildlife Research Center's Ohio Field Station in Sandusky. At the Ohio Field Station, I lead a team of 12 scientists and support staff in a research program dedicated to developing methods to reduce wildlife strikes with aircraft. Formerly, I was a Research Wildlife Biologist with NWRC in central New York, where I 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. I earned a B.S. and M.S. in biology from Indiana State University and a Ph.D. in wildlife ecology from Purdue University. My current professional interests include researching wildlife hazards to aviation, ecology and management of fish-eating birds, and vertebrate food habits and foraging behaviors. I am a Certified Wildlife Biologist and have been a member of The Wildlife Society since 2001. Away from the office, I enjoy bow hunting, bass fishing, blues guitar, and playing video games with my two kids.



I view participation with the WDMWG as an excellent way to provide service to the wildlife profession. As the largest working group in TWS, the WDMWG is a leading voice in wildlife damage issues. One responsibility of the WDMWG is to ensure that the stature of the wildlife damage subdiscipline within the broader wildlife community is commensurate with its true importance. As wildlife and human populations expand and interact more often, issues surrounding human-wildlife interactions will only increase in number and significance. If elected to the WDMWG board, I hope to work with the membership to continue the working group's efforts in highlighting the importance of understanding proper management of human-wildlife interactions, both for human and wildlife interests.

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CANDIDATE FOR BOARD MEMBER

LAURIE MARKER

As Founder and Executive Director for the Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF) since 1990, Dr. Laurie Marker pioneered new ideas in cheetah conservation, and has formed cooperative alliances on behalf of the cheetah that had never before been possible. She began her *in situ* research in Namibia, Africa, in 1977, where she first learned about the conflict between livestock farmers and cheetahs that resulted in hundreds of cheetahs being killed annually.

Laurie founded CCF in Namibia to reduce this conflict between humans and predators, using education, research, and conservation methods to stabilize the dwindling wild cheetah population.

Laurie spent two years surveying livestock farmers and game ranchers about their predator control methods. Most simply shot cheetahs on sight as a preventative measure, but others were using humane methods. Learning from them, and based on her survey, she began helping farmers devise a plan to *prevent* predation. She introduced known predator control methods, such as livestock guarding dogs, breeding seasons, and kraaling newborns close to the homestead. She also helped

devise location-specific methods, including swing gates in game-fenced areas and allowing wild game to mix with livestock. Laurie successfully introduced the Anatolian shepherd, used for thousands of years in Turkey to protect livestock, to Namibian farmers.

CCF conducts courses for farmers and youth in Namibia to teach these practices as well as the importance of predators to a balanced ecosystem. Thousands of farmers have taken CCF's courses and adopted its measures. Tens of thousands of Namibia's youth have attended camp at CCF.

For the past two years, CCF has conducted courses for conservation biologists, wildlife managers, extension agents, and park personnel, mainly from cheetah-range countries on CCF's methods for predator conservation. Thus far, CCF has graduated 137 participants from approximately 25 countries.

Laurie completed her doctorate in zoology at the University of Oxford in 2002, has published over 50 scientific papers, and has been written up in several hundred popular press articles. She has been a member of the World Conservation Union's (IUCN) Species Survival Commission's Cat Specialist Group since 1988, as the vice-chair from 1992 to 2001 and currently as one of their core members.

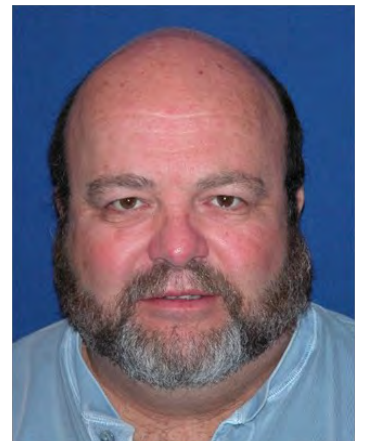
Laurie joined the Wildlife Society because she appreciates their mix of applied conservation management. She looks forward to serving on the board of the Wildlife Damage Management Working Group so that she can provide guidance on human wildlife conflict from a successful, international perspective.



CANDIDATE FOR BOARD MEMBER

PHILIP MASTRANGELO

I welcome the opportunity to be a candidate for a Board Member of the Wildlife Damage Management Working Group (WDMWG). I've been a member of The Wildlife Society since 1980 and a member of the WDMWG since its inception. I'm willing to accept the challenge of being a more active member of the largest and most active of all the TWS' working groups. I've worked in the field of wildlife damage management since the mid-1980's after earning a B.S. Degree in Wildlife Management and an M.S. Degree in Biology at Eastern Kentucky University. I've been the State Director of the USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services program in North Dakota since 1999. Previously I served as the State Director of the Wildlife Services programs in Mississippi and West Virginia. While working in Mississippi I also served as an adjunct professor at Mississippi State University where I developed and taught a course in wildlife damage management. Other duty locations within Wildlife Services include Texas, Tennessee, and Kentucky. I'm a TWS Certified Wildlife Biologist and have earned the TWS Professional Development Certification.



CANDIDATE FOR BOARD MEMBER

Dale Rollins



Title: Professor & Extension Wildlife Specialist, Texas Agrilife Extension Service, (1987 – present)
Director, Rolling Plains Quail Research Ranch (since 2007)

Education: B. S., Field Biology, Southwestern Oklahoma State University (1977)
M.S., Wildlife Ecology, Oklahoma State University (1980)
Ph.D., Range Science, Texas Tech University (1983)

TWS activities:

Member since 1978

President – Texas Chapter (1998)

Statement: I have worked with wildlife damage management-related issues most of my career, including coyotes, feral swine, and mesocarnivores relative to game bird management. I am interested in serving as a Board member for the WDMWG to (1) use my experience to enhance communication and conflict-management skills for wildlife professionals and related stakeholder groups, and (2) continue to develop my professional skills set as an educator and researcher.

Two consequences of an increasing human population are inevitable: (1) increasing levels of “ecological illiteracy” and (2) increasing frequency of human-wildlife conflicts. The WDMWG can be an effective voice for wildlife professionals as we dissect/discuss wildlife-human conflicts to our own profession and to wildlife professionals outside TWS. Whatever successes I have enjoyed over my career came about because of seeking/employing the opinions and actions of talented individuals, and being creative enough to package such ideas into workable solutions. If elected, I would be proud to serve TWS in this capacity.

CANDIDATE FOR BOARD MEMBER

EDWARD “ZAK” ZAKRAJSEK

I earned a B.S. in Wildlife Management from West Virginia University (1990). I have been a member of The Wildlife Society since 1995 and published one paper in The Wildlife Society Bulletin. I worked 3 years with the USFWS in the refuge system before accepting a position on a team developing Bird Avoidance Models to manage bird strikes at several US Air Force installations. After several years working in the field of bird hazards to aircraft, I returned to graduate school and earned a M.S. in Wildlife Biology from Utah State University (2001). My graduate research involved development of a Bird Avoidance Model for a US Navy installation. At Utah State I was exposed to a broader range of wildlife damage management and policy, and I am an alum of the Berryman Institute for Wildlife Damage Management. Since completing my graduate education I have been working with an environmental consulting company developing radar systems for detecting bird hazards at airports. Although bird hazards to aircraft has been a growing field over the past 15 years, the *Miracle on the Hudson* in January 2009 threw the issue into the national spotlight. I am pleased to offer my expertise to the WDMWG and I look forward to see everyone at Snowbird, UT.



WDMWG ELECTION

VOTE NOW!!!

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/B62JYGX>

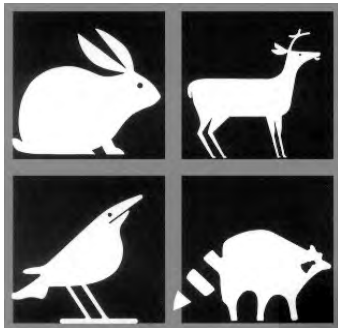
Now that you have read all the bios....and you have read all the bios haven't you....you are probably wondering how to vote. Voting is easy as pie...actually easier. All you have to do is click on the VOTE NOW!!! link or enter the following Survey Monkey web site into your favorite internet browser and follow the instructions on-line. You will be asked for your e-mail address on the ballot. This is to verify your working group membership and won't be associated with your vote. Voting will be closed at high noon (CST) September 22. Questions? Contact Becky McPeake, RMcPeake@uaex.edu, 501-671-2285. If you do not have Internet access, you can write your favorite candidate's name (1 for chair-elect, 1 for secretary-treasurer, and 3 for board members) on the tail gate of an F-350 diesel 4wd extended cab truck with towing package, class IV hitch, Sirius / XM satellite radio, and signed title, and send it to the editor of Interactions (me) at the address on the back page of this issue.

**VOTE
NOW!!!**

Newsletter of The Wildlife Society
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.

UPCOMING MEETINGS, CONFERENCES, AND EVENTS

October 2010

Begin making your plans now for the 2010 Annual TWS Meeting in Snowbird, Utah. The conference this year will be from October 3-7, 2010. Be sure to check back with the TWS website (www.wildlife.org) for details.

The Wildlife Damage Management Working Group annual business meeting will be held in conjunction with the TWS Annual Conference on Wednesday, Oct. 6, 2010, from 7:00 to 9:00 am in Superior A. A light breakfast will be available for attendees.



January 2011

The first annual Nuisance Wildlife Control Operations Association (NWCOA) Convention will be held at the Astoria Crowne Plaza in New Orleans, Louisiana from January 13-18, 2011. Full details about the conference, registration, and accommodations can be found at the NWCOA website (<http://www.nwcoa.com/>).

The Wildlife Control Technologies' (WCT) 17th Annual Wildlife Control Instructional Seminar will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada on January 17-19 2011. The theme of this year's meeting is "Improving Professionalism in the Wildlife Control Industry". This meeting is co-sponsored by the National Pest Management Association. For details about this meeting, visit the WCT website at <http://www.wctseminars.com/>

April 2011

The next Wildlife Damage Management Control Conference to be held in Nebraska City, Nebraska from April 18-21, 2011. Details will be provided in future issues of *Interactions*.

**VOTE
NOW!!!**