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Group Newsletter

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2009

Newsletter of The Wildlife Society Wildlife Damage Management Working Group Interactions: Volume 15 Issue 3 Summer 2009

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INTERACTIONS

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Click Here to

**VOTE
NOW!**

Special points of interest:

- Call for papers for Canada goose issue of HWC
- Special Elections Issue
- Be sure to see the Voting Instructions on Page 7
- Upcoming VPC, TWS, and Bird Strike conferences

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

AND NOW...A WORD FROM THE EDITOR LETTERS FROM JOE

Hello Everybody. You may remember me from such newsletters as *Interactions*, the *Vector*, and the *Indiana Wildlife Disease News*. Fall is coming and college football will be here soon (go Dawgs!), and it is election time again.

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 (and because I have been swamped with my day job). But hold on campers...you don't get off that easy. They will be back starting next issue. While we are on

Continued on pg. 2



CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

2010 WILD PIG CONFERENCE



For the 2010
Wild Pig Conference
April 11-13th, 2010
www.WildPigConference.com

Damage caused by wild pigs is one of the greatest concerns to wildlife biologists and managers today. Wild pigs have the potential to cause ecological and economical destruction far surpassing any other invasive exotic vertebrate. The adaptive and prolific nature of these animals along with their capabilities for widespread devastation places their management as one of the top priorities for wildlife scientists. The International Wild Pig Conference is the only forum in the world that provides federal, state, and private stakeholders a venue to discuss biological, financial, and social implications specific to wild pig subsistence in our ecosystems. The conference will assemble experienced managers as well as those new to the wild pig industry in a professional, educational atmosphere.



Please visit the website links to find out how to participate in the 2010 International Wild Pig Conference! If you would like to help sponsor the event or need more information, please contact us at (662) 325-1000. We look forward to seeing you in Pensacola!

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

24TH VERTEBRATE PEST CONFERENCE

INVITATION TO ATTEND

You are cordially invited to attend and participate in the Twenty-Fourth Vertebrate Pest Conference. This Conference is an educational event for discussing and exchanging information on human-wildlife conflicts. The Conference will be held February 22-25, 2010 at the Holiday Inn Sacramento-Capitol Plaza. The hotel is located within easy walking distance to historic Old Sacramento, which includes tourist attractions, excellent dining, and captures the historic atmosphere of California's Gold Rush era. The hotel is adjacent to the Sacramento Capitol Mall and many historic state buildings, including the State Capitol. It is only 10 miles from Sacramento International Airport. More information about the hotel can be found at: <http://holidayinn.sacramento.ihotelsgroup.com>



The Vertebrate Pest Conference, which is held every two years, is the largest and most recognized Conference of its kind. Participants and attendees include leading authorities on vertebrate pest management from the United States, Canada, and throughout the world. All papers are presented in English.

This announcement is intended to alert you to the next Conference and encourage you to participate. Set aside these dates on your calendar and make plans to attend. A preliminary program for the Conference will be available to you in November 2009. If you are not on the mailing list for this Conference, contact Terry Salmon at (858) 694-2864 or email: <tpsalmmon@ucdavis.edu>. For

additional information on the Conference as it develops, refer to the VPC web site: <http://www.vpconference.org>

The pre-registration fee for the three-day self-supporting Conference is \$275, which includes a copy of the Proceedings to be published following the Conference. Student pre-registration is only \$25, while retirees can pre-register for \$100. The optional Feb. 22 all-day field trip fee is \$50, which includes lunch. The last day for pre-registration is January 22.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Simultaneous (concurrent) sessions will be held at the Conference to maximize information exchange to satisfy all interests in vertebrate pest management (i.e., birds, rodents, predators, etc.). Presentations range from practical management to more technical papers concerning research or new technology.

FROM THE EDITOR (CONT. FROM PG. 1)

that subject, I really need you folks to submit articles. If you have read previous issues, the article from Miha on Wild Boar in Slovenia in an issue from last year 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 and get an article about your wildlife damage management research or current project.

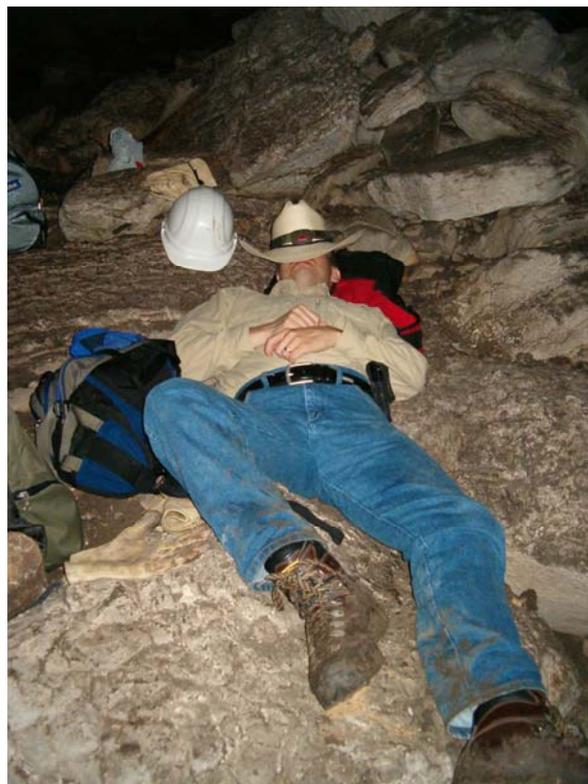
So back to this issue. Be sure to take the time to read about the candidates and VOTE. We have made it super easy to vote this time. All you have to do is open this Newsletter in electronic format and click on any of the boxes that read VOTE NOW! Those boxes will take you directly to the Internet to 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.

Also, I hope everyone is preparing for the upcoming Wildlife Society Annual Meeting. There is an exciting line-up for us in California. There is a preliminary schedule later on in this issue. Although I won't be there this year, I am looking for stories for *Interactions* about the meeting (but nothing that would get anyone in hot water).

Be sure to put the next Vertebrate Pest Conference and the Feral Swine Meeting on your calendar as well.

Thanks, *Joe*

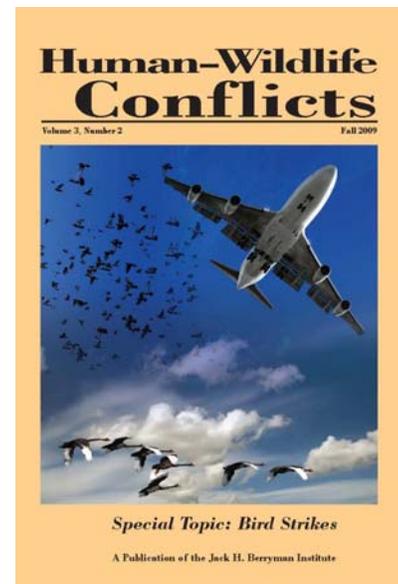


Interactions Editor: Joe Caudell

LATEST AND NEXT ISSUE OF HUMAN WILDLIFE CONFLICTS

Managing Bird–Aircraft Collisions and Airport Safety

The fall 2009 issue of *Human–Wildlife Conflicts (HWC)* journal features the timely topic of bird–aircraft collisions and aviation safety. Bird strikes (and bat strikes) cause millions of dollars in damage and hundreds of human lives world-wide. Twelve peer-reviewed articles describe a range of aspects of the problem of managing bird strikes. Paper topics cover topics of forensic bird-strike identification techniques, risk assessment models, hazards of near-miss bird strikes, personal and corporate liabilities in the aftermath of bird strikes, and ways to manage vegetation around airports to minimize attractiveness to birds. The papers were originally presented at the 2008 Bird Strike Committee USA and Canada meeting. The journal articles should interest anyone involved in wildlife management and airport safety. To obtain a copy of this issue of *HWC* and to subscribe to *HWC*, contact the managing editor at <hwc@aggiemail.usu.edu>.



Call for Papers for Next Issue of HWC

The peer-reviewed journal, *Human-Wildlife Conflicts*, will have a future issue focusing on the ecology and management of North American geese. The style for this journal is similar to *Journal of Wildlife Management*. Add that manuscripts must be received by October 1, 2009 to make the issue. They should be emailed to mike.conover@usu.edu.

Authors can find back issues and a Guide to Authors at the website: www.BerrymanInstitute.org.

For more information, contact the editor, Mike Conover, at mike.conover@usu.edu.



CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

BIRD STRIKE NORTH AMERICAN CONFERENCE

REGISTRATION IS OPEN for the 2009 Bird Strike North America Conference!

The next conference will be September 14-17, 2009 at the Delta Victoria Ocean Pointe Resort in Victoria, BC Canada.

2009 will be the 11th combined meeting of Bird Strike Committee USA and Bird Strike Committee Canada. Previous separate meetings of the two organizations have occurred over the last decade throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Presentations have included papers, posters and demonstrations on wildlife control techniques, new technologies, land-use issues, training, engineering standards, and habitat management. These presentations have all contributed to an enhanced awareness of the bird hazard issue.

Who attends a Bird Strike Conference?

- Airline personnel
- Aircraft owners and airline pilots
- Aircraft & aircraft engine manufacturers
- Airport operations personnel
- Land-use planners
- FAA and Transport Canada airport inspectors
- Military aviation groups
- University researchers
- Waste management operators
- Wildlife agencies
- Wildlife control specialists

To register visit:
www.birdstrikecanada.com

CANDIDATE FOR BOARD MEMBER

DAVID DRAKE

I am an Extension Wildlife Specialist and Associate Professor in the Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. I received my Ph.D. in Forestry from North Carolina State University, my M.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from Texas A&M University, and my B.A. degree from Macalester College (St. Paul, MN). I have been a long standing member of TWS and the wildlife damage working group, and was a co-chair of the fundraising committee for this year's wildlife damage management conference in Saratoga Springs, NY. I have published numerous extension and research articles on wildlife damage management-related topics, given over 100 extension presentations about managing wildlife damage, and co-teach a wildlife damage management class with biologists from Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources and USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services.

In the broadest sense, wildlife damage management affects everyone, and will only increase in scope given land development trends to satisfy human needs. Wildlife damage to other natural resource bases is also a growing issue, although overlooked by many. My vision for the TWS Wildlife Damage Management working group is to continue providing leadership and research-based guidance to proactively manage wildlife damage.

The biennial wildlife damage conference is a great avenue to provide visibility for the working group, exchange timely and relevant information, and generate a profit for the working group's treasury. I will continue to fully support the wildlife damage conference, but would also like to encourage the working group to seek other opportunities to exchange information and provide leadership in the field of wildlife damage management. One example would be to conduct a workshop in conjunction with the annual TWS conference in order to showcase wildlife damage efforts within the geographic area hosting the conference. I'd also like to encourage more collaboration with other TWS working groups where natural overlap occurs.



CANDIDATE FOR BOARD MEMBER

MIKE MENGAK

I hold an outreach and teaching appointment (50% each) in the Warnell School. My duties include wildlife outreach and training, graduate and undergraduate teaching, and service activities. I earned the Ph.D. (1987) in Forest Wildlife Management from Clemson University and joined the UGA Faculty in August 2001. Prior to joining the UGA faculty, I was Professor of Forestry and Wildlife in the Environmental Science Program at Ferrum College, Ferrum, VA. My work experience includes time with the Corps of Engineers, USDA Forest Service, National Park Service, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and forest industry. Recent research activities have been with armadillo, Key Largo woodrat, Key Largo cotton mice, white-tailed deer, small mammals, environmental education, forest management, and the Allegheny woodrat. I have over 25-refereed publications and numerous extension/outreach publications. I am active in numerous professional societies including The Wildlife Society (VA Chapter President 1997; GA Chapter President-elect, 2009; SE Section-Publication Award Committee Chair, 2008-2009), Virginia Acad-



emy of Sciences (Chair, Biological Sciences, 1998), American Society of Mammalogists and Virginia Natural History Society.

I have been an active member of the Damage Working group since 2001. The role of the working group should be to facilitate communication among members and provide professional opportunities for mentoring and advancement such as annual meetings at the TWS Annual Conference and the Biennial Wildlife Damage Conference as well as support of other meetings as appropriate. The working group should continue to bring together biologists, students and other professionals with an interest in wildlife damage management. Nuisance wildlife issues will increase with an increasingly urban population and rural issues will continue to need our expertise in finding solutions. Communication with diverse groups having an interest in damage management and a need for economic and feasible solutions to nuisance and damage issues is a vital function of the working group. The future role of the working group should be to continue a strong tradition of leadership in wildlife damage management education. In addition,

the working group should be open to and actively seek avenues for increasing our participation in resolving wildlife damage issues and to working within the framework of TWS to provide leadership on this broad topic.



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CANDIDATE FOR BOARD MEMBER

SCOTT C. BARRAS

I am the State Director of the USDA APHIS Wildlife Services Program in Virginia, where I have served for the last two years. As State Director, I oversee a wide array of wildlife damage management issues ranging from livestock protection, bird strike prevention, urban/suburban work, to migratory bird damage mitigation. Prior to my move to Virginia, I served as Station Leader for the National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC) Field Station in Starkville, Mississippi and Adjunct Assistant Professor at Mississippi State University Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, where I worked on fish-eating bird impacts to aquaculture and natural resources. Prior to moving to Starkville, I was a research biologist at the NWRC Sandusky Ohio Field Station, where I worked primarily on habitat management methods to reduce bird strikes at airports.



I am a member of The Wildlife Society, Southeastern Section of TWS, Virginia State Chapter, and Wildlife Damage Working Group. I served as President of the Mississippi Chapter of TWS and President of the MSU Student Chapter of TWS. I currently serve as Associate Editor of The American Midland Naturalist and am a member of the Virginia Invasive Species Advisory Group. I was a Berryman Fellow at Utah State University and currently serve on the Berryman Institute East Scientific Advisory Panel which rates the wildlife damage research proposals received by the Berryman Institute. I completed my B.S. in Forestry with a Wildlife Option at Mississippi State University, M.S. in Wildlife Ecology at Mississippi State, and Ph.D. in Fisheries and Wildlife at Utah State University.

Wildlife management successes and the urbanization of the nation have led to incredible growth of the wildlife damage management discipline. Given the diversified group of stakeholders and practitioners with an interest in wildlife damage management, The Wildlife Society will need to take a leadership role in the advancement of the discipline to protect the wildlife resource as a public trust, ensure that the positive values of wildlife are maintained, effectively manage the conflicts, and ensure professionalism in the approach. I hope to draw upon my experience in administration, policy, research, management and education to help guide the working group, as the technical experts within the Society, to this end.

CANDIDATE FOR BOARD MEMBER

JAY BOULANGER



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension

I am a Certified Wildlife Biologist living in Ithaca, New York with my wife. I have 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, I spent three years in Vermont as a Wildlife Specialist with USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services and two summers with the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department. I received my Ph.D. from Cornell University, M.S. from South Dakota State University, and B.S. from the University of Vermont. My dissertation research focused on developing a novel bait station to control raccoon rabies in suburban landscapes. In my current position, my research efforts focus on controlling overabundant suburban deer populations via sterilization and hunting. In addition to wildlife damage management issues, my research interests include wildlife ecology, disease, and human dimensions. I am a member of the Wildlife Damage Management Working Group, Editor of the Thirteenth Wildlife Damage Management Conference Proceedings, and 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 Executive Board is comprised of dedicated wildlife professionals and I am honored to be nominated as a Board candidate. The leadership role of the WDMWG during these challenging times is vital as ever. As society increasingly moves towards urbanization, so to does the need for human-wildlife conflict resolution. In the future, traditional state jurisdiction over game animals such as deer may be relaxed as these animals continue to become overabundant beyond the means of resource agencies, opening new opportunities for wildlife damage management personnel. Another challenge for WDMWG is how to interact with an expanding private wildlife industry for responsible management that is line with the core values of the WDMWG and its members. 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 these challenges and continue to help strengthen and streamline the WDM Conference and Proceedings. It would be an honor to serve TWS and WDMWG.

CANDIDATE FOR BOARD MEMBER

JASON SUKOW

I am seeking support to become a TWS WDMWG Board Member. I believe that I am well suited to help the WDMWG continue to be a strong and successful part of TWS. I have extensive knowledge of wildlife damage management from nearly 20 years of working with USDA APHIS Wildlife Services. Throughout that time I have conducted work in eight states helping resolve conflicts with a wide range of species. I have worked in many different positions from the field to management. I was previously the Pennsylvania State Director until being selected as the Wisconsin State Director in 2005. I am an active member of The Wildlife Society, a member of the Wildlife Damage Management Working Group, Certified Wildlife


WS Wildlife Services

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Biologist, and the chair of WI TWS Wildlife Damage Issues Committee. I was an active member of the 2009 13th Wildlife Damage Management Conference, Fund Raising Committee. I received my Bachelor of Science degree in Wildlife Management from the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point. My farming background combined with a long standing hunting heritage in my family has instilled a strong land ethic in my value system. I would look forward to the opportunity to apply those ethics, along with the joy of resolving human wildlife conflicts, and the leadership and communication skills I have developed throughout the years to assist TWS as a WDMWG Board Member.

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:

- 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=JCIY7ILz93ykg7GsHJ8Omw_3d_3d

WDM WORKING GROUP MEETING

TWS Wildlife Damage Management Working Group Business Meeting

Monday, September 21, 2008

7:00 - 8:30 am, Ironwood Room

Please make plans now to attend the TWS Wildlife Damage Management Working Group annual business meeting. It will be the first working group meeting of the Annual Conference. Please join us at the meeting to discuss important issues for the upcoming year.

SAVE the DATE
The Wildlife Society 16th Annual Conference
MONTEREY, CA - September 20-24, 2009

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

TWS CONFERENCE PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Plenary Session

Sunday, September 20 at 1:30 pm: The Use and Abuse of Science in Wildlife Policy Decisions

Workshops

All workshops will be held on Thursday, September 24

- Conducting Effective Peer Reviews for Manuscript Submissions
- Wildlife Applications of Bayesian Survival Analysis Using WinBUGS
- Landing a Wildlife Job
- Map Your Study Area – Intro to GIS
- Introduction to Spatial Analyst Tool Box
- Urban Wildlife and Parks in the San Francisco Bay Area
- Avian Interactions with Power Lines
- Yes We Can: Achieving Biologist Diversity Within Our Profession
- Wildlife Communication Workshop
- Developer/Land Trust Partnerships for Conservation: The Santa Lucia Preserve

Breakfast Round Table

Educational Institutions as Distance Learning Publishers: Real World Challenges and Learning Copyright Law the Hard Way

Panel Discussion

Integrating GIS Ground-truthing into Habitat Surveys

Symposia

- Improving Wildlife Habitat Through the Effective use of Plants
- Trophic Matches and Mismatches for Wildlife in Changing Environments
- Broad-scale Wildlife Dynamics: A System Perspective
- Diseases Affecting Marine Wildlife: Causes, Conflicts, and Solutions
- Climate Change: Effects on Western North America Avifauna
- Greater Sage-Grouse: A Landscape Species and its Habitats
- Conservation Reliant Species: Our New Relationship with Nature
- Department of Defense Lands – Islands of Biodiversity

- Sea Level Rise and Impacts on National Wildlife Refuges
- The Cultural and Ecological Significance of American Bison Restoration
- The Challenges of Conserving Wildlife in a Changing Climate
- Interaction between Economic Growth and the North American Wildlife- Conservation Model
- Non-lethal Methods to Manage Wildlife
- Predator Management for Threatened and Endangered Species Protection
- Cross Border Issues In The Conservation of Wildlife
- Advocacy, Science, Policy and Professional Societies

Contributed Paper and Poster Session Topics

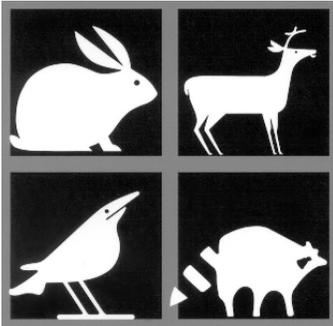
- Conservation and Management of Birds
- Ecology and Habitat Relationships of Birds
- Population Dynamics of Birds
- Conservation and Management of Mammals
- Ecology and Habitat Relationships of Mammals
- Population Dynamics of Mammals
- Reptiles and Amphibians



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

September 2009

The 16th Annual Meeting of The Wildlife Society will be held in Monterey, California on September 20-24. Visit www.wildlife.org or see conference information in this issue of Interactions.

The 2009 Bird Strike North America Conference will be held September 14-17, 2009 at the Delta Victoria Ocean Pointe Resort in Victoria, BC Canada. Visit www.BirdStrikeCanada.com for more information.

February 2010

You are cordially invited to attend and participate in the Twenty-Fourth Vertebrate Pest Conference. This Conference is an educational event for discussing and exchanging information on human-wildlife conflicts. The Conference will be held February 22-25, 2010 at the Holiday Inn Sacramento-Capitol Plaza.

March 2010

The deadline for submitting papers to the 2010 Wild Pig Conference is March 1, 2010. Both oral presentations and posters are being sought for the conference from state agencies

to discuss problems, issues, successes, and current management as well as traditional feral swine research and management papers. Details for paper and poster submission can be found at www.WildPigConference.com.

April 2010

The next Wild Pig Conference will be sponsored by the Jack H. Berryman Institute and will be held in Pensacola, Florida on April 11-14, 2010. More information be sure to keep an eye on this publication and the conference website (www.WildPigConference.com) for more information on submitting papers and attending the meeting.

Click Here to

***VOTE
NOW!***