

# The Washington Wildlifer

# Newsletter of the Washington Chapter of The Wildlife Society

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Danielle Munzing



Last week, while it was cold, windy, and rainy in Ellensburg, I spent the work week in a classroom taking a class called L-480. This is a leadership class that is typically taken by firefighters, but it is gaining popularity with leaders top to bottom in many

agencies and there's a reason for that. While we spent a week going over all those things you talk about in a leadership class—how do you define leadership, the qualities that make a leader, and who is a leader—it was the instructor, and his presentation of the information, that really made me pause and contemplate my role as a leader. Everyone has the opportunity to lead. All it takes is a moment when your actions have the ability to influence, and even change, someone's view of their world and experience, for the greater good.

If you are reading this and thinking, "I'm not a supervisor," "This doesn't apply to me," or something similar... think again. The Washington Chapter of The Wildlife Society offers so many levels of opportunity for you to try out or exercise those leadership skills. Here are some examples:

- Run for Vice-President and help plan the 2019 meeting—not all on your own, but with a team of folks that will show you the ropes. It will look great on your resume! It's not scary, it's fun!
- Volunteer at the registration table in Portland at our 2018 meeting and be that first smile a registrant sees in the morning. Imagine the networking opportunities!
- Sign up to moderate a session. You'll have the
  opportunity to introduce biologists and scientists in
  your field. Your poise and organizational skills will
  go a long way to keep the session running smoothly.
- Participate in a student activity. Help students learn to put together an outstanding resume or show off your entertaining skills during the quiz bowl.
- Simply register for the meeting, come to Portland, and enjoy the fellowship of four outstanding societies.

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"Leadership is not about a title or a designation. It's about impact, influence, and inspiration. Impact involves getting results, influence is about spreading the passion you have for your work...."

- Robin S. Sharma

Learn more about our 2018 conference in this newsletter. Please join us in Portland in February!



## 2018 JOINT ANNUAL MEETING

Katy Stuart

We have been hard at work planning a great Joint Annual Meeting for 2018. We are partnering with the Oregon Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Northwest Partners for Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (NW PARC), and the Society for Northwestern Vertebrate Biology (SNVB). Partnering with these other great organizations increases opportunities for networking and collaboration within the wildlife field. The theme of this year's meeting is **Regional Strategies Addressing Global Challenges for Wildlife and Habitat Conservation**.

Meeting registration is open! Register today at <a href="http://oregonchapterofthewildlifesociety.wildapricot.org/">http://oregonchapterofthewildlifesociety.wildapricot.org/</a> event-2674701.

The meeting will take place February 13 to 16, 2018, at the Red Lion Hotel on the River – Jantzen Beach, just outside Portland, Oregon. Tuesday February 13 will feature a field techniques course sponsored by NW PARC. Thomas Lovejoy, world-renowned conservation biologist, will open the meeting with a plenary talk on Wednesday February 14th. Sessions on Wednesday and Thursday will focus on invasive species, ecological responses to intensive forest management, white-nose syndrome, marine mammals, wildlife connectivity, non-lead ammunition, conservation funding, renewable energy, and forest carnivores, in addition to contributed papers and IGNITE talks. NW PARC will also be hosting a reptile symposium on Thursday.

Social events will include a mixer and poster session Wednesday evening and an awards banquet, including auctions and raffles, Thursday evening. Wednesday's festivities also feature special events for students, including an interview and resume review session and the everpopular Quiz Bowl. The Quiz Bowl has been a fun way for students to show off their wildlife knowledge at previous meetings. Students: get your team together and start brushing up on your wildlife trivia!

Friday February 16th will feature optional workshops on pollinators, white-nose syndrome, data analysis, and science talk, as well as field trips to the Oregon Zoo for a behind-the-scenes look at species recovery programs and into the field for amphibian egg mass sampling. Check out our meeting website <a href="https://ortws.wordpress.com/2018-joint-annual-meeting/">https://ortws.wordpress.com/2018-joint-annual-meeting/</a> for more details.



We have secured a special rate of \$139 per night (single or double occupancy) at the Red Lion. Visit <a href="https://aws.passkey.com/event/49240388/owner/4387/home">https://aws.passkey.com/event/49240388/owner/4387/home</a> to book your room. Students: we are offering a free student lodging incentive again this year. Fill out the application form on page 4 of this newsletter and return it to Bruce Thompson (<a href="https://bcthompson248@gmail.com">bcthompson248@gmail.com</a>) by January 8, 2018.

We are accepting abstracts for contributed papers, posters, and IGNITE presentations until **December 1, 2017**. Oral presentations will be 20 minutes, including time for questions; IGNITE presentations are 5 minutes and contain exactly 20 slides. You can submit your abstract online, via <a href="https://goo.gl/koHK8E">https://goo.gl/koHK8E</a>.

We are also accepting submissions for our photo contest. Photos must be submitted by **February 13, 2018**, and must fit into one of the following categories:

- Birds
- Mammals
- Reptiles/Amphibians
- Other Critters
- Landscapes
- Everything else

Check the meeting website at

https://ortws.wordpress.com/2018-joint-annual-meeting/for instructions on how to submit your photo.

It's not too late to volunteer! Contact Katy Stuart (katydstuart@gmail.com) to see how you can help make this a great annual meeting! We look forward to seeing you in Portland!

## **BE A MEETING SPONSOR**

Tony Fuchs

WA-TWS, OR-TWS, SNVB, and NW PARC are seeking sponsors to help us provide more opportunities for student engagement and other conservation endeavors associated with the 2018 joint meeting in Portland. Sponsors can participate at the following levels:

- Platinum (\$2,400+)
- Gold (\$1,800 \$2,399)
- Silver (\$1,200 \$1,799)
- Bronze (\$500 \$1,199)
- Supporting (\$100 \$499)
- Raffle/Auction Item Donation (any item and value)

Each level entitles the sponsor to different benefits depending on the type and amount of the contribution. Supporting sponsors may choose whether their pledge should (a) help a student attend the meeting or (b) go toward the travel expenses of a plenary speaker. All sponsors are acknowledged in program materials as well as visually and verbally throughout the joint meeting.

Please help by identifying prospective sponsors that may be contacted with more detailed information and the necessary forms. The deadline to arrange sponsorships is **December 31, 2017**, so act soon. Please send contact info (name, address, phone/email) to WA-TWS Past President Tony Fuchs (tony.fuchs@pse.com).

## FREE! LODGING! FOR STUDENTS!

Bruce Thompson

Once again, we and our joint hosts are collaborating to provide free lodging for students during the 2018 joint meeting in Portland. We are offering to pay for 3 nights of lodging (February 13, 14, and 15, 2018) at the Red Lion Hotel on the River – Jantzen Beach, the host facility for the joint meeting.

Undergraduate and graduate students in biological and natural resources programs (such as wildlife, forestry, conservation biology, zoology, or environmental communication) who are interested in attending the joint meeting are encouraged to apply for a lodging incentive. Any students selected will be expected to volunteer 4 to 6 hours of time before or during the meeting to help with the program.

This incentive is part of an effort by the partner organizations to promote student participation in the joint meeting by making the cost of meeting attendance more affordable for students.

To be considered, complete and submit the application form on the following page by **January 8, 2018**. A copy of the application form is also available at the meeting website (https://ortws.wordpress.com/2018-joint-annual-meeting/)

# NEWS OF NOTE FROM NATIONAL Student Development Working Group

Are you or is someone you know currently pursuing a degree in wildlife science or a related field? If so, you need to know about the TWS Student Development Working Group. We promote increased student awareness of TWS membership benefits, work to expand knowledge and technical capabilities of student members, and help prepare student members for professional wildlife careers. The working group facilitates networking between students and experienced TWS members by hosting meetings, workshops, poster sessions, a mentoring program, and a student chapter leaders' breakfast. The working group also selects the recipient of The Wildlife Society's Student Chapter Advisor of the Year Award.

Our working group features the latest students' news in The Student Chronicles. We actively post on our Facebook page. We deliver new topics, current student research and professional skill building.

We look forward to being the voice for students to TWS. We are always here to welcome new student members. We look forward to helping and providing for the next generation of the wildlife profession!

Questions? Contact Kristi Confortin: <u>kaconfortin@bsu.edu</u>.

Also please visit our Facebook page at the link below. All you have to do is "like" the page to get daily updates!

https://www.facebook.com/TWS-Student-Development-Working-Group-

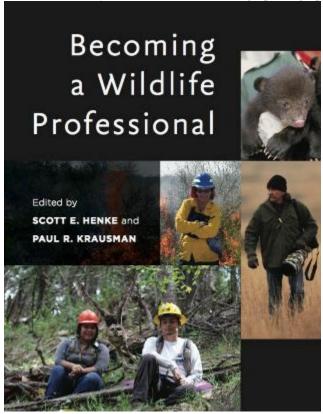
252817268125541/?ref=aymt homepage panel.

# New from TWS and Johns Hopkins University Press: A must-have book for aspiring wildlifers!

Nancy Sasavage

"Becoming a Wildlife Professional" is the first comprehensive book to describe the entry-level jobs available for the next generation of wildlife biologists and conservationists. If you are a student preparing for a wildlife career or new professional looking for career advice, this new book published by The Wildlife Society in cooperation with Johns Hopkins University belongs in your library!

You will find detailed chapters on how students should prepare for a vocation in the wildlife profession, along with pragmatic advice about applying for and obtaining a job. The book presents more than 100 diverse career options available to aspiring wildlife workers, including work in field research, forestry, rehabilitation, ranching, photography,



## **Application for Student Lodging Support**

 $(for\ natural\ resources\ students\ at\ educational\ institutions\ in\ North\ America)$ 

## **2018 Joint Meeting of Partners**

Oregon Chapter – The Wildlife Society, Washington Chapter-The Wildlife Society
Society for Northwestern Vertebrate Biology, Northwest Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation

## Portland, OR (Red Lion Hotel on the Shore – Jantzen Beach) 13-16 February 2018

Applica	int Information:				
	Name:				Gender:
	Address:				
	Telephone and E-mail:				
	Educational Institution Name:				
	Major Program of Study:				
	Advisor Name:				
	Education Program Level:				
Reason	for Requesting Support (check,	/complete all th	at apply	):	
	<ul> <li>Delivering Presentation/Poster</li> <li>Serving on Partner Committee</li> <li>Financial Challenge (explain briefly)</li> </ul>				
	☐ Other ( <i>explain briefly</i> )				
How m	ight receiving this support help	you leverage o	ther fina	ncial assistance	or professional
	unities? ( <i>explain briefly</i> ):				

#### **NOTES:**

- Recipients will be granted free lodging at Red Lion Hotel for the nights of 13, 14, and 15
   February 2018. Recipients will be responsible for their own meeting registration, meals, and incidental expenses.
- Partners anticipate providing up to 8 student rooms, with up to 4 persons (same gender) in each room.
- Any student receiving lodging support will be required to provide 4 to 6 hours of volunteer help before and/or during the course of the meeting.
- Recipients are required to attend the meeting during at least 14-15 February.

and refuge management. It also details each position's educational and technical requirements, challenges, salaries, and opportunities for advancement, and it offers advice from a range of seasoned experts who actually hold these jobs and have used these techniques to secure employment.

"Becoming a Wildlife Professional" also conveys important philosophical messages about the responsibilities and challenges of a career in wildlife conservation and management.

TWS members receive a 30 percent discount on all titles published by the Society in cooperation with Johns Hopkins University Press. Be sure to enter the discount code HTWS at checkout.

## Order your copy today.

## It's All About the Impact!

Nancy Sasavage, TWS Director of Publications and Communications and editor-in-chief of The Wildlife Professional

At the beginning of 2017, The Wildlife Society made a major commitment to increasing the impact of the Society's peer-reviewed publications: online access to TWS' three journals for all members—from students to retirees—became our newest membership benefit. This means that you can read all the latest papers in each issue of *The Journal of Wildlife Management*, the *Wildlife Society Bulletin*, and *Wildlife Monographs* on any internet-connected device, anywhere, at any time. Plus you have access to the complete archives of these journals as part of your TWS membership.

This new benefit, worth \$75 and nearly the cost of an \$81 full membership, reinforces TWS' mission to inspire, empower and enable wildlife professionals to sustain wildlife populations and habitats through science-based management and conservation. It also means that everything TWS publishes, including *The Wildlife Professional* and *Technical Reviews*, is free to all members of the national organization.

## AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Bill Vogel

Lots of great people are doing lots of great work, and their efforts deserve to be recognized. Do you know someone who makes a substantial contribution to conservation, does more than they need to, uses foresight and anticipation to address problems early, shows their dedication, makes valuable contributions, creates effective partnerships, or any number of other valuable contributions to our field? Well, tell us about them!

We are always on the lookout for people and organizations whose achievements merit recognition for any of the following WA-TWS chapter awards:

- Conservation
- Stewardship
- Partnership
- Outreach
- Foresight
- Support to the Chapter
- Special Achievement
- Leadership in Conservation

Check out the descriptions of the award categories at <a href="http://wildlife.org/washington-chapter/awards/">http://wildlife.org/washington-chapter/awards/</a>, think about the people you know, and tell us about your nominees. All it takes is a brief message to Bill Vogel, our awards committee chairperson. If you have **ANY** questions or want to discuss ideas, please call Bill at 360-753-4367 or write him an e-mail (william o vogel@yahoo.com).

# WE HAVE MONEY FOR YOU! (STUDENTS, ARE YOU READING THIS?)

The deadlines for submitting applications for scholarships, research grants, and conservation funding are fast approaching. Don't miss out on these opportunities!

## **Scholarships**

The Richard E. Fitzner Memorial Scholarship Fund provides up to \$2,500 toward tuition for wildlife-oriented biology students during the fall of their junior or senior year. The fund honors the late Dick Fitzner, a wildlife biologist, educator, artist, hunter, fisherman, naturalist, and past president of WA-TWS.

Applicants must be biology students entering their junior or senior year at a college or university in the State of Washington. Preference will be given to students with a demonstrated need for financial aid; a history of experiences, activities, and interests in the field of wildlife biology; college course work applicable to field biology; and superior grades.

An application form and instructions can be found under the heading "Scholarships" at the WA-TWS website: <a href="http://wildlife.org/washington-chapter/grants-scholarships/">http://wildlife.org/washington-chapter/grants-scholarships/</a>. College transcripts and two letters of reference from instructors or past employers must accompany the application form. Applications for Fall Semester 2018 must be received by December 15, 2017.

Please address questions and applications to the Scholarship Committee Chairperson:

John Grettenberger 3138 Wilderness Dr. SE Olympia, WA 98501 360-923-1424 grettenbergerj@gmail.com

## **Research Grants**

WA-TWS provides **grant money for wildlife research projects** in Washington State each year. Funding requests cannot exceed \$2,500. Student proposals are encouraged. The Grant Committee reviews proposals and the Board makes final funding decisions.

Proposals should be 2-3 pages in length (not including *curricula vitae*) and include the following information: Introduction, Methods, Timetable, Budget, Products to be Produced, and a *curriculum vitae* for each proposer.

Proposals will be rated based on the following criteria:

- The importance of the question.
- Adequacy of proposed methods to meet project objectives.
- Likely success of achieving objectives given question, design, funding, and time period.
- Species management priority (e.g. threatened, endangered and sensitive species, important game species, etc.).
- Publication potential.
- Researchers' experience.
- Relative importance of the TWS monetary contribution to achieving research goals.

Grant recipients will be expected to present results of their project at a future annual meeting of the Chapter and/or provide a write-up for this newsletter. Recipients are also expected to be (or become) members of the Washington Chapter at the time the funds are received. Membership information is available at <a href="http://wildlife.org/washington-chapter/washington-chapter-membership/">http://wildlife.org/washington-chapter-membership/</a>.

To Apply: Send your proposal (pdf or MS Word document) Tony Fuchs (tony.fuchs@pse.com) by December 15, 2017. The grant recipient will be announced at the 2018 joint meeting.

## **Conservation Funding**

WA-TWS will provide up to \$1,500 for a qualifying conservation project in Washington that advances interests of the Chapter. The next round of funding will be for work to be completed by end of calendar year 2018.

### Conditions to qualify:

- Project will be conducted somewhere primarily in Washington (may include portions of neighbor states immediately adjacent to the Washington border).
- Project can be new or part of a conservation effort already underway.
- Work funded must be completed by end of calendar year 2018.
- Submission must be by a WA-TWS member or clearly indicate involvement of a WA-TWS member.
- A single project effort for the available amount is preferred, but Chapter will consider funding multiple conservation efforts at lesser amounts totaling the amount available.
- Funded activity can be on-the-ground actions or communication and outreach activities.

The project description should contain:

- Project title
- Objective(s)
- Location and spatial extent of the project
- Description of how work will benefit wildlife populations and/or habitat conservation
- Species and/or habitats to be benefited
- Identity of any project partners
- Brief statement of how WA-TWS participation and funding will be acknowledged as part of project outreach or other awareness building
- Digital images may be included to illustrate project
- Contact name, address, phone, and e-mail for person submitting.

*To Apply:* Send a project description (.pdf or MS Word document, no more than 3 pages) to Tony Fuchs (tony.fuchs@pse.com) by **December 1, 2017**. Funding approval will be communicated by January 2018. If you have questions please contact Tony via e-mail or call him at 425-462-3553.

## NORTHWEST SECTION REPRESENTATIVE NEWS

Hi All,

The TWS Fall Council meeting was held in September in conjunction with the 24th Annual Conference in Albuquerque, NM, and it's clear a lot is going on at TWS!

Transitions – Ed Thompson took over as CEO and Executive Director of TWS in July 2017, following Ken Williams' retirement. John McDonald is now President of TWS and is already working on issues and plans for 2018. Darren Miller is President-elect, Gary White is Vice President, and Bruce Thompson is Immediate Past-President. Phillip Stephenson is the new Student Liaison to Council.

Fall 2017 TWS Council Meeting - Outgoing President Bruce Thompson noted a number of accomplishments for TWS in 2017: membership has increased to about 10,000; TWS members now receive free online access to all TWS journals as a basic benefit; the increase in The Wildlife Professional from 4 to 6 issues per year was successfully implemented; all TWS journals experienced increases in impact factors; 5 years of Council minutes are now available to members on the TWS website; a move to reinvigorate the Heritage Committee is underway; the more than 900 educational events offered at the 2017 conference show the value of education and networking at this annual event; new guidelines for professional behavior at the annual conference were adopted and applied to the Albuquerque conference; TWS' efforts to engage more widely have paid off and we now have about 30 formal partnerships (e.g., Ducks Unlimited, National Wild Turkey Federation, American Fisheries Society, Association of Fish and wildlife Agencies and National Wildlife Federation); and TWS has a social media audience of about 110,000.

**Finances** – Ed Thompson noted that following the huge loss experienced by TWS with the passing of Financial Manager Jane Jorgensen, there was a challenging transition. As well as the deep personal loss to TWS, it left a gap in TWS' financial accounting functions. Several improvements have been made to TWS' financial systems, with TWS now having one CPA firm doing its books, and another CPA doing the audit. He reported a positive net revenue for the year.

Council approved two expenditures of funds that had been held in contingency:

- 1) a Canadian initiative to grow TWS' presence in Canada Council approved a one-time contribution of \$12,000 from TWS, which will be supplemented with \$40,000 from the Canadian Section of TWS, to hire a term Executive Coordinator Position to focus on policy work, cooperative research, marketing TWS among Canadian agencies, and other efforts to strengthen TWS membership and activities in Canada.
- 2) \$6,000 for recovery of cutbacks in partner support (primarily cuts in the Government Affairs Program's

budget, affecting its ability to sponsor regional interagency meetings). The funds will be directed toward strategic sponsorship of regional meetings of natural resource agencies.

Mentoring – The Early Career Professional Working Group brought proposals to Council regarding mentorship and certification, with the aim of recognizing the important role of mentorship. Council approved adding a mentorship sub-category to the Certified Wildlife Biologist renewal application to allow up to 20 hours of mentorship activity for professional development requirements. Council also approved adding a mentorship sub-category to Category 1 of the professional development certificate application to allow up to 30 hours of mentorship, including language translation activities.

**Publications** – Council approved Dr. David Haukos for a second 2-year term as Editor-in-Chief of the Wildlife Society Bulletin, and also changed appointments of Editors-in-Chief to a 3-year term with the option to extend to a second 3-year term.

Government Affairs - TWS Government Affairs staff have communicated to the U.S. President and Congress on issues important to wildlife. Government Affairs Director Keith Norris continues to chair the Wild Horse & Burro Coalition, and Congressional staffers and members seem responsive to the broad representation in the coalition. Staff are also exploring ways to advance TWS' work on the Farm Bill reauthorization. TWS staff have been chairing a coalition on invasive species, exploring Lacey Act authorities that offer potential to reduce spread. Staff have been working with sections and chapters through the Conservation Affairs Network to assisting in their development of position statements consistent with TWS. The TWS Policy Library, with policy briefs and fact sheets, are all updated and online on the TWS website: http://wildlife.org/engage/policy/policyresources/.

Certification – Council approved a motion for the Certification Review Board (CRB) to accept online education as providing basic coursework requirements in TWS certification applications. The CRB can use its regular process to identify those cases where there are issues of substance, based on the principle that if the university accepts courses toward degree requirements, then TWS should as well.

**TWS International Involvement** – The ad hoc Committee on the Future of TWS International Involvement has been examining and discussing ideas for ways for TWS to engage in international involvement and what TWS hopes to achieve through international

involvements. This includes analysis of whether TWS should continue the periodic hosting of International Wildlife Management Congresses. They are currently looking at other possibilities that TWS could pursue that align with objectives for international involvement. Plans for a Congress in Chile in 2019 have been suspended due to changed circumstances in Chile. Council approved TWS applying for membership in the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in the next fiscal year, which was one of the recommendations of the Committee for TWS international involvement.

**2017 Annual Conference** – The Albuquerque conference was a great success with over 1,800 attendees; once again, nearly half were students. This follows a trend seen in the 2016 and 2015 conferences. The members of the 2017 Leadership Institute attended the conference and gave presentations to Council on whether current professional development opportunities provided by TWS meet the needs of today's wildlife professionals—and if not, ideas on what more is needed. Each year, the Leadership Institute provides leadership training to a group of 10 promising TWS members. The experience includes intensive activities and mentoring relationships that prepare participants for leadership positions, both in their workplace and in TWS. It's geared towards early-career professionals (2-3 years out of school), currently working full-time in a wildlife professional position, who have demonstrated evidence of their leadership potential. Consider applying if you fit the criteria—it's a great program!

2017 TWS Awards — A number of TWS Awards were presented at the conference, including the Aldo Leopold Award to Dr. Wini Kessler, the second woman to receive the award in its 67-year history; Lucille Stickel received the award in 1974. There was a lot of celebrating of that at the Albuquerque meeting, at the Women of Wildlife reception and several other venues. Lisette Waits of the University of Idaho became a TWS Fellow at the meeting. Please consider nominating your colleagues for national TWS awards in 2018—especially TWS Fellows and Distinguished Service Awards. It would be great to see some nominations for Washington Chapter members!

Information on the awards can be found at <a href="http://wildlife.org/engage/awards/">http://wildlife.org/engage/awards/</a>. The deadline for nominations for the Group Achievement Award and TWS Fellows is **February 1**, and nominations for Wildlife Publications Awards are due by **March 1**. All other TWS award nominations are due by **May 1**.

**Upcoming Conferences** – The 2018 TWS 25th anniversary conference will be in Cleveland, OH, with the

opening reception at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame! The Burning River Boat Tour, where the 20th-century environmental movement began, is one of the field trip offerings. In 2019, TWS will hold its joint conference in Reno, NV, with the American Fisheries Society (AFS). The two societies are working to retain their separate conference identity, while opening up sessions and events to advance cross-pollination.

TWS Strategic Plan – We have made, and are making, major strides in each of the 5 major themes in the TWS strategic plan: focusing on wildlife science, recognition and influence in the conservation community on wildlife issues, service to our members, integration of the Society's organizational units, and sound business management.

If you're not already a TWS member, there are lots of good reasons and great benefits to becoming a member of The Wildlife Society:

- Online access to all TWS journals, at no additional cost
- 6 issues per year of The Wildlife Professional
- Online member directory to facilitate networking
- The *eWildlifer* e-newsletter, sent weekly to your inbox, providing you with links to the latest news from TWS headquarters, policy issues that impact wildlife and wild places, updates on activities and conferences from our TWS Local Network of sections and chapters across North America, and wildlife news
- More than 100 TWS Talks from our most recent Annual Conference on a wide variety of wildlife topics.
   Members receive links to two presentations per week in the eWildlifer
- 25% discounts on Wiley scientific books and 30% discounts on Johns Hopkins books
- Increasing the impact of your voice on important wildlife policy issues by joining other TWS members in organized efforts to contact policymakers through our Action Alerts and Conservation Affairs Network
- Access to 27 members-only Working Groups (small additional annual fee) on a wide range of topics.

Also remember when you're renewing your membership, you can nominate someone for the **Give Back Program**, entitling them to a 6-month free membership in TWS. This is a great opportunity to share the benefits of TWS membership with your colleagues!

http://wildlife.org/giveback/

Wishing all great holidays & looking forward to seeing you in Portland in 2018,

Harriet Allen

Northwest Section Representative to TWS Council

## **UPCOMING ELECTION**

## $N_1 = N_0 + B - D + I - E$

Where  $N_1$  is the number of individuals at time 1,  $N_0$  is the number of individuals at time O, B is the number of individuals born, D the number that died, I the number that immigrated, and E the number that emigrated between time O and time 1.

Of course you don't need this refresher in population dynamics. So why did we bother to put this here? Because N is our Executive Board, E is nonzero, and B just doesn't work in this context. We need I. What is I? It's you. Or it's someone you know. I is the people who are going to stand for board positions in our upcoming elections.

If you or someone you know might be interested in running for one of the positions that will be up for election in the coming cycle—Vice President, Secretary, or one of the atlarge board positions—please contact Kristen Phillips (kphillips@quinault.org), our Nominations and Elections committee chair. She can clue you in to the roles and responsibilities of the various positions.

Take it from a former boardmember: Not only is serving on the Executive Board a great way to give back to this great organization, it's also a heckuva lot of fun!

## **REGIONAL REPORTS**

What have our colleagues been up to lately? These reports help keep us informed of the various wildlife and habitat management, habitat restoration, and research projects occurring throughout Washington. If you do not see your important work represented here please consider contributing to the next newsletter by contacting your regional representative. Contact information is on the back page of this newsletter.

# NORTHEAST REGION – Annemarie Prince, WDFW WDFW/UW Predator-Prey Project Update

Melia DeVivo, WDFW and Lauren Satterfield, UW

The Predator-Prey Project (PPP) is a 5-year research study designed to investigate the effects of recolonizing wolf populations on sympatric carnivore and ungulate species. One component of the study involves ungulate neonate monitoring. This past summer, in partnership with the UW Prugh Lab, staff from WDFW and UW captured and tagged 19 white-tailed deer fawns in Stevens and Pend Oreille counties. As of October, the mortality rate was 58%; predation was the primary source of mortality. The Prugh Lab is currently analyzing DNA swabs that were collected from carcasses to identify carnivores that visited mortality sites. In upcoming years, WDFW and UW plan to capture

additional white-tailed deer fawns and elk calves in northeastern Washington to examine the demographic characteristics of this age-class for each species. These data will be used to parameterize models designed to quantify the impacts of wolves on ungulate populations within the study area.



WDFW Research Scientist, Melia DeVivo and UW Ph.D. student, Taylor Ganz ear-tag a white-tailed deer fawn for the Predator-Prey Project. Photo: Matt Vander Haegen, WDFW.

The PPP has also partnered with the Predator Ecology Lab under Aaron Wirsing at UW to study competitive relationships between wolves and cougars. This project aims to understand whether and how (1) the recolonization of wolves in Washington State is impacting cougar resource selection, and (2) the co-occurrence of wolves and cougars affects risk landscapes for ungulate prey. These investigations are considered alongside human land use to further characterize how human presence influences movement and resource use for both predators. WDFW and UW collared 16 cougars and 1 wolf in Okanogan, Stevens, and Pend Oreille counties. Collaring of cougars and wolves, and identification of prey species from GPS collar data, began in 2016 and will continue in future years. Data will be used to model differences in resource selection by wolves and cougars along a gradient of wolf density, and to map resulting ungulate landscape risk zones across the study sites in relation to habitat and anthropogenic characteristics.

# Colville National Forest Grizzly Bear Outreach and Education

Mike Borysewicz, Colville National Forest

Colville National Forest staff conducted multiple outreach and education activities this summer to limit human-caused mortality of grizzly bears in the Selkirk Ecosystem. Over the summer, staff presented information about bear identification, ecology, and safety to 22 campground hosts, 35 local Forest Service employees, 150 firefighters assigned to the Noisy Creek Fire, and 200 4th and 5th graders. In addition, employees performed more than 25 visitor contact patrols and installed animal resistant food storage lockers in campgrounds adjacent to the recovery area.

## SOUTHWEST REGION - William Ritchie, USFWS

### Columbian White-tailed Deer

Staff at the Julia Butler Hansen Refuge for the Columbian White-tailed Deer and the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) continue to monitor Columbian white-tailed deer in Southwest Washington. The monitoring effort now includes a subpopulation that was relocated to Ridgefield NWR between 2013 and 2015. While the refuge lies within the historic range of the species, a viable herd had not been present there since the mid-1900s. With the Ridgefield subpopulation now stabilized, the overall population trends suggest a regional upswing in the population cycle. The overall lower Columbia population is currently up to 1,100.

#### Streaked Horned Lark

In the lower Columbia River, the federally listed streaked horned lark breeds on deposition islands created by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) through dredging and deposition management. Lark breeding surveys were conducted between early May and mid-June on fourteen lower Columbia River islands from Grays Bay to Kalama by staff from The Center for Natural Lands Management (CNLM) and the USACE. The survey found a decline in larks from last year on many of the islands. Several other islands had a minor gain in the number of larks counted. The total maximum number of streaked horned lark males across all islands surveyed was 55. Rice Island had the greatest abundance, with 14 males; Brown Island had 11 and Miller Sands Island had 7. If we assume that the total number of breeding larks can be found by doubling the maximum number of males, the estimated total number of larks on the Columbia River would be 110.

Adult breeding surveys were conducted at Leadbetter Point on the outer Washington Coast from May to August. The maximum total count of males was 11 and the mean number of birds observed per survey was 7. Three nests were discovered in an estimated 8 to 9 breeding territories, one of which was located outside of the survey area. The fate of these nests is unknown, but some juvenile birds were observed in the area and there was no confirmed nest predation. Of note this year was the apparent reduced amount of singing and aerial flight display behaviors observed. Also two of the discovered nests were active late into the breeding season (mid-August to mid-September).



One-week-old streaked horned lark chicks in a nest discovered at Leadbetter Point. Photo: USFWS.

Lark territory mapping was conducted on Brown and Crims islands by CLNM staff between early May and mid-June. On Brown Island, they estimate there were between 12 and 15 pairs, up from 13 pairs last year and 8 pairs in 2015. On Crims Island, 5 pairs were detected early in the season, although only 3 pairs were observed after mid-June. During the survey a banded female who was originally banded at McChord Airfield in 2016 was detected. This is the first record of a banded lark in the Columbia River region during the breeding season since the early 2000s.

Recently the USACE initiated a new project in collaboration with CLNM, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), and CoreGIS to refine a lark habitat suitability model aimed at improving our understanding of the complex relationship among deposition cycles, environmental variables (e.g., vegetation), vegetation succession, and habitat suitability for larks on the Columbia River islands. Results from this effort will improve USACE's ability to plan and manage deposition schedules to ensure suitable habitat is sufficient to maintain the region's lark population.



Female streaked horned lark. Photo: David Maloney

## North American Bat Monitoring Program (NABat)

The purpose of the NABat program is to create a continentwide program to monitor bats at local to rangewide scales that will provide reliable data to promote effective conservation decisionmaking and the long-term viability of bat populations across the continent. Willapa NWR, Ridgefield NWR, the Julia Butler Hansen Refuge, and other Pacific NW refuges, with assistance from the USFWS Region 1 Refuge Inventory and Monitoring Program, conducted a second year of acoustic bat monitoring. This year seven bat species were detected in the two NABat sampling grids located at Leadbetter Point and southern Willapa Bay, including two sampling sites on Long Island. The bats detected included four myotis species, along with big brown, silver-haired, and hoary bats. Results of the surveys at the Julia Butler Hansen Refuge and Ridgefield NWR are pending. Steigerwald NWR also conducted acoustic bat surveys, documenting six bat species including long-legged myotis.



Willapa NWR staff installing acoustic bat detector on Long Island, Photo: USFWS.

## Western Snowy Plover

Preliminary results from western snowy plover adult surveys and monitoring of breeding success indicate a mixed bag for plovers on the Washington Coast. Biologists with WDFW, the Shoalwater Bay Tribe, and USFWS coordinated efforts again this season. The Washington State wintering population totaled 66 birds, three fewer than in 2016. Plovers were observed at four locations, two of which are currently occupied breeding sites. Adult breeding surveys

were conducted three times at each breeding site between late May and June, the first of which was the rangewide adult breeding survey. The total statewide count of breeding adults was 77 birds, a reduction of 31% from 2016. Final estimation of the breeding adult population in Washington based on the results of the three surveys is pending. At just 25 adults counted during the rangewide survey at Leadbetter Point, this is the lowest number of breeding adult birds counted since 2013, and significantly fewer adults than the 45 counted last year.

Nest success appeared to be good at Graveyard Spit, showed improvement later in the summer at Midway Beach, and was poor at Leadbetter Point. Adverse weather may have been a factor in the low reproductive success. Final results won't be known until data analysis is complete, but it will likely show a decline in the success seen over the past few years.

## Goose and Waterfowl Surveys

The white pelican colony on Miller Sands Island appears to have been displaced because of disturbance, possibly from a wildlife photographer's repeated visits to the colony. The colony has relocated to Rice Island and some of the birds seem to have nested successfully there this year.

WDFW and USFWS biologists have initiated another year of dusky Canada goose surveys at various locations in the lower Columbia River Basin and Willapa Bay. This survey records dusky Canada goose numbers, any dusky collars seen, as well as other species observed, including any collared waterfowl. The data gathered are used for dusky goose population estimation and analysis of survival and movements of all collared geese.

## Columbia River, Willapa Bay, and Grays Harbor Shorebird and Waterbird Surveys

The Pacific Flyway Shorebird Survey (PFSS), a monitoring program designed by Point Blue to guide the management and conservation of wintering shorebirds in the Pacific Flyway, is scheduled to occur again this December. Data from this survey will contribute to the Migratory Shorebird Project, which is the largest coordinated survey of wintering shorebirds on the Pacific Coast of the Americas, extending from Canada to Peru. PFSS survey partners and volunteers are still being recruited. See <a href="http://www.prbo.org/pfss">http://www.prbo.org/pfss</a> for details.

The USFWS and USGS were awarded a Science Support Partnership grant to survey shorebirds and waterbirds on Willapa Bay. The goal of this project is to identify important habitat features that could be managed to maximize avian abundance and diversity and to minimize the effects from ecosystem-level stressors throughout Willapa Bay. Objectives include developing an avian survey protocol integrating traditional methods and the use of unmanned aerial systems, constructing a habitat suitability model, and producing probability density maps for Willapa NWR and the entire Willapa Bay estuary. A number of partners including, Washington State University, WDFW, and Audubon will be involved in the project.



Short-billed dowitcher feeding.

## SOUTHEAST REGION - Jason Fidorra, WDFW

Diseases for Every Season: Botulism and Cholera Outbreaks in Southeastern Washington

Jason Fidorra, WDFW

The lingering cold weather in early 2017 left waterbodies frozen, concentrating waterfowl into the remaining open water. This led to thousands of waterfowl fatalities once avian cholera began to spread through the Tri-Cities area in the lower Columbia Basin. Cholera outbreaks are typically associated with cold weather. Waterfowl can succumb to the bacterial infection 6 to 48 hours. From January to March 2017, WDFW, USFWS, and private landowners collected the carcasses of an estimated 8,000 to 10,000 birds. Herons, owls, and raptors were the most common non-waterfowl collected, and were infected by feeding upon sick or dead birds. While carcass pickup is the best way to reduce the bacteria load in the environment, the outbreak continued warmer temperatures dispersed the until birds. Unfortunately, warm temperatures are associated with another waterfowl disease, avian botulism, which was confirmed in a nearby wetland complex in July. Again, carcass collection was imperative for reducing mortalities. Still, this outbreak impacted about 800 waterfowl and various shorebirds through the late summer and fall until temperatures began to drop. It was a challenging 2017 for wetland birds and biologists.



More than 600 mallard and waterfowl carcasses collected on a day in January during an avian cholera outbreak. Photo: Jason Fidorra



A long-billed dowitcher that succumbed to the Botulism toxin.

Photo: Jason Fidorra

## NORTHWEST (Puget Sound) REGION – Steve Hall, Point Environmental Consulting, Inc.

# New Techniques Provide Much-needed Baseline Information on Puget Sound Area Bats

As reported in previous regional reports, white-nose-syndrome (WNS)—a fungal disease that has taken a heavy toll on many Midwest and East Coast bat populations—was confirmed just last year for the first time west of the Mississippi. And that confirmation was right here in Puget Sound country (King County).

Scientists from WDFW and many others are now busily studying bat populations in Western Washington to establish baseline population levels and to determine if WNS is spreading.

Until very recently, available bat detection software technology could not accurately make distinctions between different species of myotis bats. Enter TWS member and past WA-TWS president Greg Green, of Owl Ridge Natural Resource Consultants, Inc., who is among the first

researchers to deploy new technology that can identify myotis bats to species.

Greg has been deploying to the technology to study bats in King and Snohomish counties. The project, funded by the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, has included detailed surveys conducted at Saint Edward State Park in Kenmore as well as additional sites in Snohomish County. Greg conducted most of his field work this past summer, with the objective of establishing baseline data on activity levels as an indicator of population levels. Greg's results include verifying that long-legged myotis (*Myotis volans*)—once thought to be relatively rare in the Puget Sound lowlands—is actually quite common in some locations.



Wildlife biologist Greg Green using a notebook computer running the new SonoBat 4.2 bat software

Greg is using the new Pettersson M500/384 ultrasonic microphones for both passive station (auto-record) and active transect (walkabout) monitoring techniques. The microphones are linked to a notebook computer running the new SonoBat 4.2 software. The information will be used by State Parks staff in future planning. The additional surveys Greg conducted in Snohomish County are part of his continuing effort to collect as much baseline data as possible ahead of any WNS event that might reach this part of the state.

For more information on the study and techniques, contact Greg at <a href="mailto:green@owlridgenrc.com">green@owlridgenrc.com</a>. The State Parks 2017 field report is available online at

http://kenmorewa.gov/sites/default/files/20170822%20S TED%20Bat%20Survey%20Report.pdf

# Southern Resident Killer Whales May be Tipping Toward Extinction

As extreme as the headline sounds, there is a very real possibility that the Puget Sound region may be witnessing the gradual extinction of one of the most iconic populations of killer whales known in the world. As reported by Christopher Dunagan of the *Kitsap Sun* and in a study published in the open-source journal Scientific Reports (see links below), optimism about a possible Southern Resident baby boom has been challenged by the recent death of a 2-year-old male. The population—now at 76, the lowest level since 1984—is in decline. For a population thought to be entirely self-contained from a breeding standpoint, the numbers don't bode well.

The many different perspectives, facets, angles, and factors of this story make it difficult to sort out what this all means from the perspective of a wildlife professional. Clearly, many factors are in play. What seems most notable at the population dynamics level, though, is the scarcity of food—primarily Chinook salmon from the Fraser and Columbia river systems. It seems the Southern Resident population has, perhaps over the course of millennia, developed a culture that specializes on exploiting these two major food sources.

Also at play is contamination. The Southern Residents have been reported to be the most polluted marine mammals in the world. And with the known persistence of chemicals in the marine environment, combined with the ongoing input of contaminants in stormwater runoff from heavily traveled roads throughout the Puget Sound and Vancouver BC regions, the pollution of our waters has little chance of ending soon.

Faced with such a daunting problem, wildlife professionals working on the Southern Resident population decline have been investigating ways of relieving other pressures that might be more easily controlled, including vessel traffic and noise. A notable recent study is the Echo Study conducted by the Port of Vancouver, BC, which included a vessel slowdown trial between August 7 and October 6, 2017. The trial was intended to identify relationships between vessel speed, underwater noise, and effects on killer whales.

Many other studies are underway, making the Southern Resident population perhaps the most studied, as well as one of the most endangered, wildlife species in the world.



Photo (likely transient orcas) by TWS Member Kersti Muul.

#### **ONLINE**

http://pugetsoundblogs.com/waterways/2017/09/27/facing-the-possibility-of-extinction-for-the-killer-whales-of-puget-sound/

https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/environment/orcas-headed-to-extinction-unless-weget-them-more-chinook-and-quieter-waters-report-says/

Port of Vancouver Echo Program

https://www.portvancouver.com/environment/water-land-wildlife/marine-mammals/echo-program/

## DNA Tests Confirm Wolf in Puget Sound Region

As we wildlife professionals contemplate the possible demise of the Southern Resident killer whale population, a very different story is unfolding in our region for another iconic and endangered wildlife species: the gray wolf. A wolf, possibly the first wolf in our region since the 1930s, has taken up residency near the town of Marblemount in Skagit County. On October 2, the USFWS laboratory in Ashland, OR, announced that they have conclusive DNA evidence that the animal seen on multiple occasions near the confluence of the Cascade and Skagit rivers is indeed a wolf.

This story will be one to watch for wildlife professionals for many reasons. First, as an apex predator, the arrival of the wolf has the potential to cause major ecosystem-level changes, including shifts in habitat use and population sizes of deer, elk, and other prey species. And of course, with wolves come public controversy and very difficult management choices for wildlife professionals.

As has been seen recently in Oregon and Northeastern Washington, increasing wolf populations have usually been followed by state-sanctioned lethal removal, something that any state agency must do with utmost sensitivity to public values. This is particularly true within an urban region such as ours. The densely populated and politically polarized

Puget Sound region should prove to be a challenging chessboard upon which the timeless story of predator and prey, and our relatively recent profession of wildlife management, will play out across the news headlines with millions watching. Stay tuned!



A single male wolf is the first wolf known to reside in Western Washington since the 1930s. More are expected soon. Photo USFWS via Capitol Press

Muckleshoot Indian Tribe Conduct Major Black Bear Study in White River Area

Mike McDaniel, Wildlife Biologist, Muckleshoot Wildlife Program

Thanks to a USFWS Tribal Wildlife Grant awarded just this year, the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe has launched an ambitious study of black bears on commercial forest lands within the White River drainage just north of Mount Rainier National Park. The study aims to further understanding of the extensive damage black bears cause to commercial trees and to determine the most effective ways to minimize such damage, while allowing bear populations to remain healthy and part of the functioning landscape.

Specific goals of the study are to:

- Estimate bear density and abundance in the White River drainage
- Determine important habitats and home range sizes
- Evaluate impacts of bears on their habitats
- Determine sex/age class of bears responsible for peeling trees
- Measure damage individual bears are capable of doing to a stand of trees
- Investigate effectiveness of the current management approaches, including lethal removal and feeder programs.

The Tribe plans to deploy GPS collars on up to 30 bears during 2017 and 2018. They will also be using an array of

barbed-wire hair snags to collect DNA samples to estimate density. GPS point clusters will be investigated to look at tree damage caused by bears, and commercial timber stands with bear feeders will be surveyed for bear damage.



Muckleshoot Tribal members and biologists (left to right: Mike McDaniel, Leeroy Courville Jr., Mike Middleton, and Eric Anderson) with a 220-pound boar collared for the study.

Muckleshoot biologists have already collared 25 bears and are currently tracking 18 individuals. They have also collected 760 hair samples and surveyed 100 GPS point clusters and 10 timber stands for tree peeling by bears.

Study data will inform the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe's Black Bear Management Plan. The management plan will help guide the Tribe's management decisions to ensure the most efficient measures are taken to protect critical habitat and reduce tree damage by bears while ensuring the perpetuation of black bear in the study area with harvest guidelines for future subsistence and ceremonial use.

Tribal biologists will are continuing their field effort through fall of 2018, and the Tribe's bear management plan expected to be published in summer 2019.

For more information, contact Mike McDaniel at mike.mcdaniel@muckleshoot.nsn.us.

## **OLYMPIC REGION – Betsy Howell, USFS**

Olympic National Forest: Pacific Marten Surveys Betsy Howell, USFS

In spring 2017, the Olympic National Forest (ONF), Olympic National Park, and USGS began a new effort to detect Pacific martens on the Peninsula. In 2016, with funds received from the Forest Service/BLM Interagency Special Status/Sensitive Species Program (ISSSSP), we had installed

193 cameras on Park and Forest lands, only one of which detected a marten. These cameras were placed in coastal habitats and at high elevations. They were not out for long periods of time, however, and the high-elevation sites were not surveyed throughout the winter, when martens are most easily detected. Winter surveys are more difficult given access and safety issues for personnel, and have proved challenging in high-elevation habitats that we believe to be the best for martens. Therefore, we have begun a new partnership with Robert Long and Paula Mackay of Woodland Park Zoo, employing the long-term lure dispensers they developed. Those dispensers can operate for several months without maintenance and have successfully documented wolverines in the Cascade Range.



Long-term lure dispenser. Photo: Betsy Howell

From June through August, we installed six remote cameras and lure dispensers near marten sightings obtained in 2015 and 2016 (one from a photo taken by a rock climber and another from a remote camera set out to document fishers). Four of these units were installed on the National Forest and two were in the National Park. Each lure dispenser contains a hydration bag with 28 ounces of a mixture that includes propylene glycol, water, beaver castor, skunk quill, and anise oil. The bag is hooked up to a memory board, developed in partnership with Microsoft Research, that is

programmed to dispense 3 milliliters each day onto a bone (the visual attractant). The dispenser and the camera operate with lithium batteries and the camera has a 32-gigabyte memory card, both of which allow for long-term deployment. A camera is attached to a nearby tree and aligned so that each photo will include the dispenser (above the estimated snow level during the winter months), the bone, and a gunbrush collar, as well as part of the ground.

In October, *Seattle Times* environment reporter Lynda Mapes accompanied Robert, Paula, and Betsy to one of the stations in the Mt. Skokomish Wilderness. That story was published on October 7:

https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/environment/pacific-martens-are-missing-from-all-over-the-olympics-whats-going-on/. Next summer we will check these stations and will hope for more insight into the status of martens on the Olympic Peninsula.

# Olympic National Forest: Rough-skinned Newt Surveys

Betsy Howell, USFS

This year, ONF began collecting swab samples from rough-skinned newts as part of a testing program for the chytrid fungus, *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans*, also known as *Bsal*, that has devastated populations of fire salamanders in Europe. The USGS Amphibian and Research Monitoring Initiative is working collaboratively with the National Wildlife Health Center to collect 10,000 samples to determine the presence of *Bsal* in North American salamander populations in targeted locations with high biodiversity and an elevated risk of exposure to the pathogen.



Swabbing a rough-skinned newt for *BSal*. Sometimes, the subjects refused to remain inside the Ziploc bag during this process.

Photo: Betsy Howell.

With the help of seasonal employees and one Student Conservation Association intern, we were able to swab 34 animals from four different locations on the ONF. All animals swabbed appeared healthy except for one that was collected, swabbed, and then euthanized and sent to the lab in Madison for further testing. Initial tests showed this individual to be emaciated with some ulcerations on the skin. Tissue samples have been submitted for additional testing.

# Olympic National Forest: Pollinators and Habitat Improvement

Karen Holtrop, USFS

Habitat restoration continues to be a core part of the wildlife program on the ONF. We recently awarded contracts for snag, slash pile, and coarse woody debris ("log pyramids") creation in commercial thinning sale areas in the Humptulips and Matheny watersheds on the west side of the Forest. This work is being paid for from receipts from the timber sales and will continue the effort to restore structural complexity to these simplified stands.

In addition, a precommercial thinning contract was awarded that includes prescriptions for elk habitat improvement in the Sitkum (Calawah) watershed, also on the west side. This contract was partially funded by the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, but the work will also benefit pollinators such as butterflies and bumblebees. On the east side of the Forest, in the Dungeness watershed, ONF continues to work with WDFW to plan and accomplish habitat restoration for the Taylor's checkerspot butterfly. Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) crews are working this fall in Taylor's checkerspot habitat areas, removing encroaching vegetation and spreading local native seed. ONF has continued to contract with The Center for Natural Lands Management to produce seed of Taylor's checkerspot larval food and nectar plants, including Collinsia parviflora and Castillleja hispida, which have been applied at project sites.

Finally, ONF staff carried out its first bumblebee survey effort in the summer of 2017. The Forest contracted with Xerces Society to provide a 2-day field training in early July. Several permanent and temporary ONF employees, as well as one WDFW biologist, attended. What a great two days! Subsequently, in July and August, 15 sites were surveyed and 10 species of bumblebees were detected, including the rare western bumblebee at Mount Townsend. We plan to continue bumblebee surveys on the Olympic Peninsula in future years along with our agency partners.



Western bumblebee, with pollen sac and diagnostic white stripe. Photo: Karen Holtrop.

## BE A MEMBER!

For more information about the Chapter, including membership forms, please visit our <u>website</u>. If you have questions regarding your membership status, our Chapter Secretary, Noelle Nordstrom, will be happy to help you out (360-600-5834; <u>noelle.nordstrom@dnr.wa.gov</u>).

If you're a member at the National level, you can also check your chapter membership status by logging in at <a href="https://wildlife.secure.force.com/customlogin">https://wildlife.secure.force.com/customlogin</a>.

Remember: chapter membership dues are only \$10 per year (\$5 if you are a student). It's an inexpensive way to stay connected and support wildlife!



Photo: Danielle Munzing.

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