



Urban Wildlife News

The Newsletter of the Urban Wildlife Working Group
of The Wildlife Society

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Editors: Lowell Adams and Jennifer Cotting

A Word from the Chair

John Hadidian

It has been my great pleasure to serve as chair of the Urban Wildlife Working Group and to have been involved in the group's accomplishment these past months. With a number of notable involvements behind us in sponsoring symposia and national events such as the 2nd Arbor Day Conference on Urban Wildlife, I look to the upcoming 10th Annual Conference of TWS in Burlington as a capstone to our recent efforts to raise awareness concerning urban wildlife.

Kate Stenberg, our incoming chair, and David Drake of Rutgers University will kick things off in Burlington with a special session focused on open space design in Burlington that we hope will be the prototype for a regular and continuing contribution the group can make at future conferences. Steve DeStefano, Rob Deblinger, and Craig Miller will lead a symposium entitled "Suburban Wildlife: Lessons, Challenges, and Opportunities" on the morning of September 8th, to be followed by an afternoon session organized by Kathy Converse and Milt Friend on "Wildlife Disease in the Urban/Suburban Environment."

All of this will take place in the context of our elections, and the installation of new officers or confirmation of the old. The slate of candidates proposed by the Nominating and Elections Committee is

presented in this newsletter. Please review the candidates and be prepared to vote. A ballot will be mailed to you in early August with a request for a quick response. My thanks to committee chair Charlie Nilon and Dave Trauger and Allan O'Connell for their work on this committee.

I would like to thank all of you who have worked to make this group as active and productive as it has been. We have more work ahead of us, including more committee activity, something I freely admit I have let slip. I urge anyone who would like to work on a committee and can devote even a little time to the effort to contact Kate and volunteer your services.

I am sure this group will continue to grow and become an even more active part of TWS as urbanization continues to be a dominant influence on people and the world outside. As professionals we will certainly have something to say about the nature of that influence and an obligation to continue the sort of work typified by the contributions to our upcoming annual conference.

Fall Elections

Election of officers and board of the working group will take place soon, and winners will be installed at the annual meeting of the working group in September 2003. The working group charter calls for a slate of candidates proposed by the

Nominating and Elections Committee to be circulated to working group members 30 days before the election (which will be by mail ballot in accordance with the charter). The charter calls for two candidates to run for each of the elective positions. At this point, we have one candidate each for Chair-Elect and Secretary-Treasurer and eight candidates agreeing to run for the six board positions. If you know of someone willing to serve as an officer or board member (and who has agreed to be a candidate), please consider nominating the individual. To submit the name of an additional candidate you need the signed support of six or more members of the working group. Please review (and save) this slate of candidates and look for an official ballot from the Nominating and Elections Committee in about 30 days. Please direct any questions or comments to committee chair Nilon.

The Nominating and Elections Committee offers this proposed slate of candidates:

Chair-Elect (will vote for one)
Seth Riley

Secretary – Treasurer (will vote for one)
Kelly Bender

Board Members (will vote for six)
Running for re-election
Clint Boal
Laurie Brown
Lisa Harris
Craig Johnson

First-time candidates
Jeff Azerrad
Mark Hostetler
Lesley Kordella
John Triana

Brief resumes of candidates follow.

Jeff Azerrad

Jeff Azerrad is a biologist with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and currently serves as the editor of a series of agency publications that are designed to provide guidance for managing habitat for state and federally listed species in Washington. Prior to his current job, Jeff held a position with WDFW providing technical assistance to cities and counties that were developing regulations to protect fish and wildlife habitat through managing urban growth. He has served as a project coordinator with The Nature Conservancy's Arkansas Field Office and holds a M.S. in Wildlife Biology from the University of Missouri at Columbia, where he studied the characteristics and management of bird communities inhabiting urban greenspaces. Jeff also holds a B.S. in Wildlife Conservation from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Kelly Bender

Kelly has enjoyed working at Texas Parks and Wildlife for 7 years and is currently the Urban Wildlife Biologist for the Austin metropolitan area. She earned her undergraduate degree in Experimental Psychology from Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas, and her M.S. in Zoology at Emporia State University in Emporia, Kansas. Her current research interests include assessing the effectiveness of "Wildscape" programs in providing viable wildlife habitat in urban areas, and the effect of exotic plant species on the nesting success of endangered bird species in the urban-rural interface. She also spearheads the Kids Urban BioBlitz in Austin. This project provides long-term mentoring opportunities for professional biologists to 6th through 8th grade stu-

dents in economically disadvantaged areas, and fosters the students' in-depth learning in the fields of biology, technology, and general science. In her former position as Texas Wildscapes Coordinator, she co-authored the book *Texas Wildscapes: Gardening for Wildlife* with Noreen Damude. Kelly also serves as an executive board member for the Austin Xeriscape Advisory Board and the Capital Area Master Naturalists (steering committee Chair).

Clint Boal

Clint Boal received his M.S. and Ph.D. in wildlife science from the University of Arizona. He is currently the Assistant Unit Leader for wildlife at the USGS-BRD Texas Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, with a concurrent appointment to the faculty of Texas Tech University. In this position, he advises graduate students, teaches, and conducts research. His primary research interest is in how human land use patterns, especially urban areas, influence the dynamics of wildlife populations and their habitat use. Among his urban-related research, he studied the population ecology and habitat use of Cooper's hawks in Tucson, Arizona, and the nesting habitat and productivity of loggerhead shrikes in Tucson, Arizona. He also developed and taught a course in urban wildlife and fisheries management while at the University of Minnesota. He is a member of The Wildlife Society and a charter member of the TWS Urban Wildlife Working Group. He welcomes the opportunity to support the Urban Wildlife Working Group by serving as a board member.

Laurie Brown

Laurie Brown is currently a Conservation Ecologist for Patti Banks Associates, a Landscaping Design and Planning Develop-

ment consulting firm based in Kansas City, Missouri. She is involved in several different natural resources-related projects including native landscaping of development projects, stream inventories for municipalities and counties, and a regional natural resources inventory for the Kansas City region. Prior to this, Laurie was the Urban Wildlife Biologist for the Missouri Department of Conservation's Kansas City region for 8 years. There she worked with diverse groups from individual landowners to county and municipal planners, developers, and local politicians, all in an effort to conserve, manage and enhance wildlife and habitats in the urbanizing Kansas City region. Laurie is currently working on her Masters in Urban Planning at the University of Kansas – Lawrence. She has a B.S. in Zoology from the University of Washington, Seattle. Laurie is interested in working with urban issues that have a direct impact on our natural resources and in trying to protect those resources whenever possible. She believes that the TWS Urban Wildlife Working Group can provide critical resources and unique perspectives to other wildlife and natural resource managers in a society that is increasingly urban in nature.

Lisa Harris

Lisa Harris is President of the Harris Environmental Group, a natural resource consulting company in Tucson, Arizona. She is also an adjunct research scientist at the University of Arizona's School of Renewable Natural Resources. Lisa has been involved with many urban conservation projects on a local, regional, and national scale. She was the co-chair of the 1999 4th International Symposium on Urban Wildlife Conservation and has moderated urban wildlife workshops at the last several TWS meetings. Her research focuses

on integrating development with wildlife conservation and she has published widely in peer-reviewed journals on this subject. Many of her projects include management of endangered species in an urban setting. Lisa is active with Arizona conservation groups and is a Trustee of the Arizona-Sonoran Desert Museum. She earned a Ph.D. in Wildlife Ecology from the University of Arizona, a M.B.A. in Marketing and a B.A. in Economics, both from the University of Chicago.

Mark Hostetler

Mark Hostetler received his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Zoology from the University of Florida. He is currently Extension Wildlife Specialist and Assistant Professor in the Department of Wildlife Ecology & Conservation at the University of Florida. Mark's responsibilities include developing, researching, and implementing educational programs about wildlife issues of public interest; conducting public workshops and in-service training programs; and conducting research on wildlife in human-impacted environments. He is particularly interested in working with developers to design and manage "green" developments in Florida, creating unique outreach programs that address urban wildlife and conservation issues, designing urban landscapes for wildlife, citizen participation in wildlife monitoring efforts, landscape ecology, and scale-dependent responses to landscape structure by animals.

Craig Johnson

Craig Johnson joined the Utah State University Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning faculty in 1966. He received a B.L.A. degree from Michigan State University and a M.L.A. degree from the University of Illinois. In 1983, he

earned a M.S. degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Biology from South Dakota State University. Craig's area of expertise includes: land reclamation, urban forestry, and urban wildlife planning. He has authored books on urban forestry, land reclamation, planning, and design for urban wildlife and conservation corridors. In 2001, he received The Wildlife Society's book category award for his Natural Resources Conservation Service publication on conservation corridors.

Lesley Kordella

Lesley Kordella is a wildlife biologist for the Wildlife Habitat Council, a non-profit group of corporations, conservation organizations, and individuals dedicated to protecting and enhancing wildlife habitat. Prior to starting this position she was a senior conservation aide at the National Zoological Park.

Seth Riley

Seth Riley grew up in Washington, D.C. where he first got interested in wildlife by way of snakes. He graduated in 1988 from Stanford University with a B.A. in Human Biology, concentrating in Animal Behavior and Ecology. From 1988-1990, Seth worked as a wildlife biologist for the National Park Service at the Center for Urban Ecology in Washington. He worked on a number of urban wildlife issues there, focusing particularly on the behavioral, population, and disease ecology of urban raccoons. Seth then went to the University of California, Davis for graduate school, where he graduated with a Ph.D. in Ecology in 1999. His dissertation work was on the ecology of bobcats and gray foxes in urban and rural areas of Golden Gate National Recreation Area, just north of San Francisco. After graduating, Seth worked as a post-doctoral fellow at Davis, using molecular genetic tech-

niques to study hybridization between native and introduced tiger salamanders in California. At the beginning of 2000, Seth began his current position as Wildlife Ecologist with the National Park Service at Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area in southern California. His current projects, all related to the impacts of urbanization and fragmentation on wildlife, include a bobcat and coyote study that addresses home range and habitat use, reproduction, food habits, and genetics, a mountain lion GPS telemetry study, stream surveys for amphibians, pitfall/drift fence trapping to determine terrestrial reptile and amphibian distribution and abundance, and bat inventory and monitoring.

John Triana

John Triana is a Natural Resources Technician for the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority. He is responsible for the stewardship of the forested lands owned by the Authority in and around New Haven, Connecticut. Prior to starting his current position he was an environmental educator for the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority. He has a B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology from the University of Massachusetts, and a M.S. in Fisheries and Wildlife from the University of Missouri-Columbia. He is married with 2 daughters and is president of the New Haven Bird Club.

-- Submitted by the
Nominating and Elections Committee:
Charles Nilon, chair
(nilonc@missouri.edu)
Allan O'Connell
David Trauger

National Arbor Day Foundation's 2nd Annual Conference on Urban Wildlife Management

The National Arbor Day Foundation hosted its second conference on urban wildlife management May 5-7, 2003 at the Lied Conference Center and Lodge in Nebraska City, Nebraska. The meeting attracted approximately 75 attendees representing a variety of public and private agencies and organizations.

The first afternoon of the conference focused on integrating community planning, the role of wildlife rehabilitation in urban wildlife programs, and wildlife and human corridors. The underlying theme was the importance of wildlife-based infrastructure to the success of wildlife management, especially in urban and urbanizing areas. Society as a whole needs to shift from a rural, consumptive harvest/management perspective to one of planning and integration. Wildlife habitats and management should become as much a part of infrastructure planning for communities as roads, sewer, water, and utilities.

The second morning's presentations began with case studies on wildlife management in urban areas (including retirement homes) followed by concurrent sessions addressing "Urban Deer Management" and "Education and Attitudes." Speakers in the deer management session discussed the importance and practicality of science-based technologies for managing urban deer and human-deer conflicts. Speakers in the education session discussed an in-depth educational opportunity for teachers to integrate wildlife and urban ecosystems, and youth and adult attitudes towards urban wildlife and feral cats.

The afternoon session of the second day focused on alternative resources for managing human-wildlife conflicts and the importance of effectively communicating with the public, interested stakeholders, city staff and policy makers, and businesses. The session closed with a presentation focusing on another key element of effective communication, choosing effective outreach personnel.

Presentations on the final morning of the conference provided a broader approach to urban wildlife management through "Public Involvement and Community Support." Speakers provided examples of local, site specific, community involvement, and statewide nature-based tourism programs, all designed to gain public support while protecting valuable wildlife resources.

Conference attendees were invited to participate in a group discussion Tuesday evening regarding the next Urban Wildlife Management conference. Everyone present at the meeting agreed that we should continue to hold a conference at the Arbor Day Foundation every 2-3 years, and we need to continue to look for ways to broaden conference participation to include more city planners, developers, engineers, etc. It was also suggested the conference be shifted earlier or later to avoid university finals week. Anyone with suggestions on participant contacts, speakers, or presentation topics is encouraged to contact the Urban Wildlife Working Group www.rw.ttu.edu/urbwlf or Steve Pearson at the National Arbor Day Foundation www.arborday.org.

-- Summary contributed by Laurie Brown & John Davis

Houston Joins Interior Department in Urban Conservation Treaty for Migratory Birds

Houston, Texas became the fourth city in the nation to sign an Urban Conservation Treaty for Migratory Birds. The treaty is a partnership between six Houston-based community organizations, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and ConocoPhillips. It is designed to enhance migration habitat for birds. Houston's location near the upper Texas coastline is in the path of the heaviest bird migration on the Central Flyway. During peak migrations, up to 30,000 birds per hour cross each mile of shoreline. More than 250 species of birds that migrate between North and South America regularly move through the Houston area.

The Urban Conservation Treaty program was started in 1999 when New Orleans became the first Urban Conservation Treaty city. Chicago followed in 2000 and Philadelphia in 2002. The Fish and Wildlife Service hopes to use these agreements as models for bird conservation in other cities in the future.

The Wildlife Society's 10th Annual Conference

The 10th Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society will be held in Burlington, Vermont, September 6-10, 2003. UWWG will offer three special sessions during the conference.

On Saturday, September 6th, UWWG Chair-Elect Kate Stenberg of Quailcroft Environmental Services in Seattle, Washington and David Drake of Rutgers University Cooperative Extension will host a morning workshop entitled *Open Space Design in Burlington and South Burlington, Vermont*. This workshop enables the wildlife biologists at the annual conference to truly benefit the host city by work-

ing with the City of Burlington and students from the University of Vermont to analyze the city's current urban wildlife management plans and suggest implementation priorities and possible alternative strategies.

On Monday, September 8th, UWWG will sponsor two half-day symposia—*Suburban Wildlife: Lessons, Challenges, and Opportunities* and *Wildlife Disease and the Urban/Suburban Environment*. Please highlight these events in your program booklet.

For more conference information go to: <http://www.wildlife.org/conference/PreliminaryProgram03.pdf> or contact Lisa Moll, The Wildlife Society, 5410 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814 for a hard copy of the Registration and Preliminary Program Booklet (Phone: 301-897-9770, e-mail: lisa@wildlife.org).

TWS Membership Poster Contest

The Wildlife Society is sponsoring a membership poster contest to give members a chance to create a poster that invites membership in The Wildlife Society. Winning posters will be used around the world to help attract new members to the Society. This is a great way for members to help promote The Wildlife Society and have the chance to win up to \$500 in gift certificates redeemable for TWS books, merchandise, registration, or membership fees.

All entries should highlight the benefits of membership in The Wildlife Society. The winning poster will be selected at the 10th Annual Conference in Burlington, Vermont. A downloadable Adobe Acrobat version of the Poster Contest Guidelines is available on the TWS website at

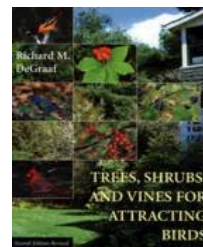
http://www.wildlife.org/about/Membership_Poster_Contest.pdf. Additionally, TWS Membership Applications can be found at www.wildlife.org/about/index.cfm?tname=membership.

New In Print



Human Dimensions of Wildlife is a new international journal that focuses on the human dimension of fish and wildlife management. This quarterly, peer-reviewed journal is co-edited by Jerry J. Vaske and

Michael J. Manfredi of Colorado State University's Department of Natural Resources and seeks to further the consideration of human dimensions in wildlife management decision-making processes. For more information or a free sample copy, contact the publisher Taylor and Francis, Inc. at 800-354-1420 or via e-mail at customerservice@taylorandfrancis.com



University Press of New England has developed a new edition of the classic guide to habitat enhancement for birds **Trees, Shrubs, and Vines for Attracting Birds** by

Richard M. DeGraaf. The book includes detailed information on more than 160 plant species preferred by North American birds for their food, cover or nesting potential as well as suggestions on landscape designs that attract specific bird species. The book is available on-line for \$14.00. To order call 1-800-421-1561 or visit: www.dartmouth.edu/acad-inst/upne/NE-1-58465-215-2.html

In Memory of Daniel Loney Leedy

Dan Leedy, friend, colleague, and mentor, died January 20, 2003. He had a long and distinguished career in the wildlife profession. After obtaining his Ph.D. degree in zoology (wildlife conservation) from Ohio State University, Dan served as Leader of the Ohio Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit. He later held several other positions in the U. S. Department of the Interior, including Chief of the Wildlife Research Branch of the Fish and Wildlife Service. He was President of The Wildlife Society in 1952 and received the Society's Aldo Leopold Award in 1983.

Dan made most of his contributions in urban wildlife following his "retirement" from

the federal government in 1974. From 1974 to 1994, he served as Research Director and Senior Scientist of the Urban Wildlife Research Center and its successor the National Institute for Urban Wildlife. Dan authored or co-authored many of that organization's publications. It was a privilege to work with him during those years. From the late 1970s, Dan was an active member of the Urban Wildlife Committee and its successor the Urban Wildlife Working Group of The Wildlife Society, where he served as board member until 2001. In addition to his top-notch professional career, Dan was a gentleman's gentleman. He was one of the finest human beings I have known. He will be missed.

--Lowell Adams

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