



# 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

*Kate Stenberg*

Greetings!

I hope that a lot of you will be joining us up in Calgary in September. Be sure to come to the working group meeting on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. It's a great way to meet other people in the group and to let us know what the working group can do for you. As an incentive to attend, the Chair may even bake some cookies... Seriously though, we would really like to know what you would like your working group to do for you. Please drop me an e-mail with your thoughts ([Kate@quailcroft.com](mailto:Kate@quailcroft.com)) if you can't make it up to Calgary.

We've got another exciting workshop scheduled for the annual conference as well. When you register, be sure to sign up for the Bow Corridor Conservation workshop. This workshop, co-sponsored by the working group, includes a field trip that is guaranteed to get you out into some of the spectacular countryside around Calgary. The workshop is the second in a provocative series of workshops sponsored by the working group to explore urban wildlife issues in the area where the annual meeting is being held. We'll need some folks to step up and put together a proposal for the 2005 conference. This workshop generally involves making some local contacts and writing up an abstract for submission to the Society. As an added bonus, many employers support travel to conferences if you

are involved in a presentation. Further details concerning the annual meeting and Calgary workshop are included elsewhere in the newsletter.

Urbanization is both a global and a local phenomenon. Our local county is currently updating its critical areas ordinance, which provides protection for a variety of sensitive areas including wildlife habitat. What laws do your local jurisdictions have in place? Have you reviewed them? Taken advantage of opportunities to comment on them? Please take the time to act locally to make a difference globally.

Thinking even more locally, I read something in a recent issue of *Conservation in Practice* (which, of course, I cannot find now) that has me thinking about all the wildlife around us—including the species we rarely see. Apparently, even in New York City, you are never more than 3 feet away from a spider!

See you in Calgary!

## Working Group Annual Meeting to Take Place at The Wildlife Society's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

The **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society** will be held **September 18-22, 2004, in Calgary, Alberta, Canada**. The Urban Wildlife Working Group will hold its annual meeting then and also is co-sponsoring a 1-day workshop.

The **annual meeting** will be held on **Sunday, September 19, 2004, from noon to 2 pm** in the Doll Room of the Hyatt Regency Calgary hotel, in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. The meeting is generally the one opportunity each year that we have to get together. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend the working group meeting and the annual conference if at all possible.

The preliminary program and other details about the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society (TWS) are available on the TWS web site ([www.wildlife.org](http://www.wildlife.org)).

### **Sponsored Workshop in Calgary**

The working group is co-sponsoring a 1-day workshop in Calgary on Saturday, September 18, titled "Habitat Conservation in the Upper Bow Corridor, Alberta." The morning session will review past and current open space planning efforts. Representatives from the towns of Banff and Canmore, Banff National Park, and select surrounding communities will present their open space design plans. The working group and wildlife students and faculty from the University of Calgary will provide input regarding wildlife considerations in the plans. The morning session will end with a panel discussion providing excellent opportunity for planners, landscape architects, and biologists to exchange views and ideas about how to better meet urban open space needs for people and wildlife.

The afternoon session will consist of a field trip to open space sites discussed in the morning session. The field trip will allow for additional interaction among workshop participants, open space planners, University faculty, students, and community residents. Go to [www.wildlife.org](http://www.wildlife.org) and click on "Conferences" or contact David Drake

[drake@aesop.rutgers.edu](mailto:drake@aesop.rutgers.edu) or Harry Zinn [hzinn@psu.edu](mailto:hzinn@psu.edu) for further information.

Advance registration is required by August 20. Workshop attendees also must register for the conference and pay the appropriate conference registration fee.

### **Hosting Urban Wildlife Symposia**

At our 1999 annual meeting in Austin, Texas, the working group agreed to assume a leadership role in continuing the international urban wildlife symposia begun by the National Institute for Urban Wildlife in 1986. The Institute organized the first three meetings (Chevy Chase, Maryland; Cedar Rapids, Iowa; and Bellevue, Washington). Bill Shaw and Lisa Harris, in association with Arizona's urban wildlife program and others, organized the fourth meeting in Tucson.

One thing the working group needs as a leader of this endeavor is an objective mechanism for selecting hosts and meeting sites. Last year at the working group's annual meeting in Burlington, Vermont, I agreed to draft a bid application for use by parties interested in hosting a symposium. As a guide, I used The Wildlife Society's application of "Bid to Host The Wildlife Society Annual Conference." Once the working group has an approved application form, parties interested in hosting the next urban wildlife symposium will complete an application and submit it to the working group, which will review all applications and make a selection. The draft bid application form is posted on our web site. Please review it and send me any comments you have for improving the document.

Thanks for your help.  
--Lowell Adams

## **Wildlife Jobs Online**

The Wildlife Society is discontinuing the job advertisement section of *The Wildlifer* and is now offering Wildlife Jobs Online. Wildlife Jobs Online offers TWS members and nonmembers a timely, accessible, and free listing of wildlife jobs, internships, and graduate school openings. Employers of wildlife professionals, technicians, and students can use it as a fast and economical means of distributing announcements of wildlife jobs, internships, and graduate school openings to a large and diverse pool of candidates.

Employers will find instructions on how to submit an ad on The Wildlife Society's web site ([www.wildlife.org/jobs](http://www.wildlife.org/jobs)). A short form is available that prompts the user to provide the information required. If you have any questions, please contact Yanin Walker ([yanin@wildlife.org](mailto:yanin@wildlife.org)). An Adobe PDF file with all the details for Wildlife Jobs Online also is available on the Society's web site.

## **Recent Events**

### Symposium on Society and Natural Resource Management

The 10<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Society and Natural Resource Management was held in Keystone, Colorado from June 2<sup>nd</sup> through June 6<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 500 papers were given over the period of the meeting's 4 days. There were as many as 12 concurrent sessions occurring at any given time, indicative of the range of issues as well as interests of the participants.

Approximately half of the more than 50 papers focusing directly on wildlife dealt with human-wildlife conflicts. Hunting and chronic wasting disease made up another

third, with the rest devoted to various other topics, including marine mammal issues.

Urban themes were notable throughout the various symposia and presentations, both with respect to wildlife as well as other resource issues. One session on human-wildlife conflicts focused closely on community-based approaches to human-wildlife conflict resolution in species as diverse as Canada geese and mountain lions.

Of special interest were several papers given on the concept of urban-wildland interface, for which increasingly sophisticated mapping and data capture technologies are being employed to address such serious social issues as wildfire management. Knowledge of this interface zone will be important for wildlife scientists as the increasing rate of contact between people and animals such as bears and mountain lions continues to raise concerns about how best to regulate unwanted interactions.

*-courtesy of Dr. John Hadidian*

### American Society of Mammalogists


The 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Society of Mammalogists, which ran from June 12-16, 2004 at Humboldt State University, California, included a symposium entitled "Habitat Loss and Fragmentation: Impacts of Urban Sprawl on Mammals." The session was chaired by Dr. John A. Yunker and speakers covered topics including mammal abundance, adaptability, and ecology in the urban-rural interface. For more information on the symposium, contact Dr. Yunker ([J-Yunker@govst.edu](mailto:J-Yunker@govst.edu)).

### Great Parks Great Cities

The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Parks/Great Cities Conference just wrapped up in London having run from July 10-13, 2004. The conference, organized by the New York-based

Project for Public Spaces in conjunction with nonprofit partners from the UK Green-space and the London Parks and Green Space Forum, brought together leaders in the field of park and public space management to exchange ideas on park quality standards and effective park policy. For more information on what was covered at the conference, visit their web site ([www.greatparksgreatcities.com](http://www.greatparksgreatcities.com)).

### Upcoming and of Interest

 A conference entitled **Emerging Issues Along Urban/Rural Interfaces: Linking Science and Society** will be held March 13-16, 2005 in Atlanta, Georgia. This conference will bring researchers, urban wildlife professionals, and policy makers together to exchange perspectives on the interaction between urbanization and natural resources and identify areas in need of additional research. Papers that address issues such as the human or eco-political dimensions of urbanization, species fragility

and protection, and urban planning and policy are of interest, and the invitation for abstracts is open through September 30, 2004. For more information, visit the conference web site ([www.sfws.auburn.edu](http://www.sfws.auburn.edu)).

### New In Print

**Best practices for nuisance wildlife control operators: A training manual** is a comprehensive “how-to” manual produced by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and Cornell University. It focuses on the best practices for wildlife control and the prevention of wildlife damage problems, offering a step-by-step approach to the practical application of the theory of integrated wildlife damage management. The publication is available online at <http://wildlifecontrol.info/> and in print. To obtain a copy, send a check for \$25 (made payable to the NYS DEC) to the NYS DEC Special Licenses Unit, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4751. Include your mailing address. Price includes shipping.

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