



NORTH AMERICAN WILDLIFE AND NATURAL RESOURCES CONFERENCE

March 5 -10, 2017
The Davenport Grand : **Spokane, WA**

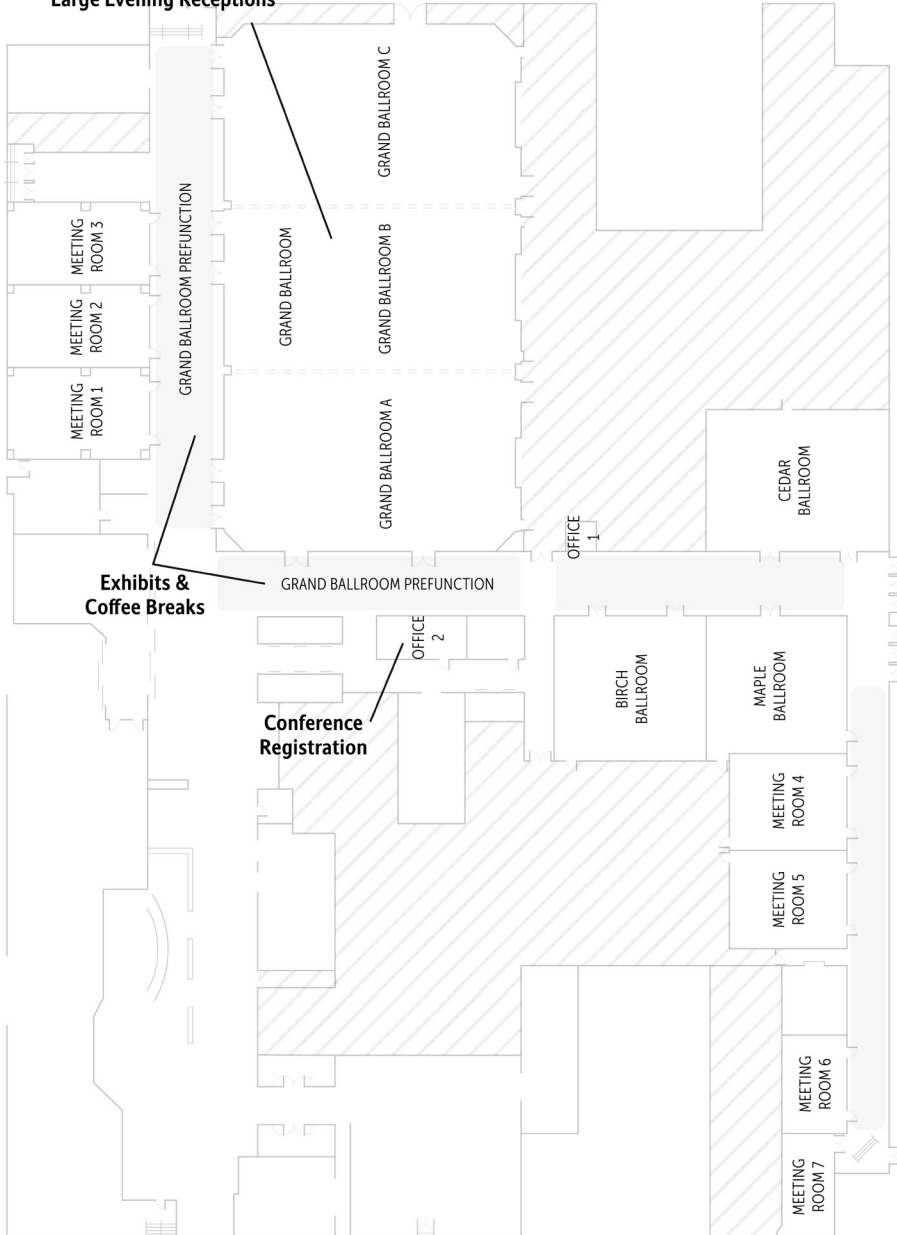
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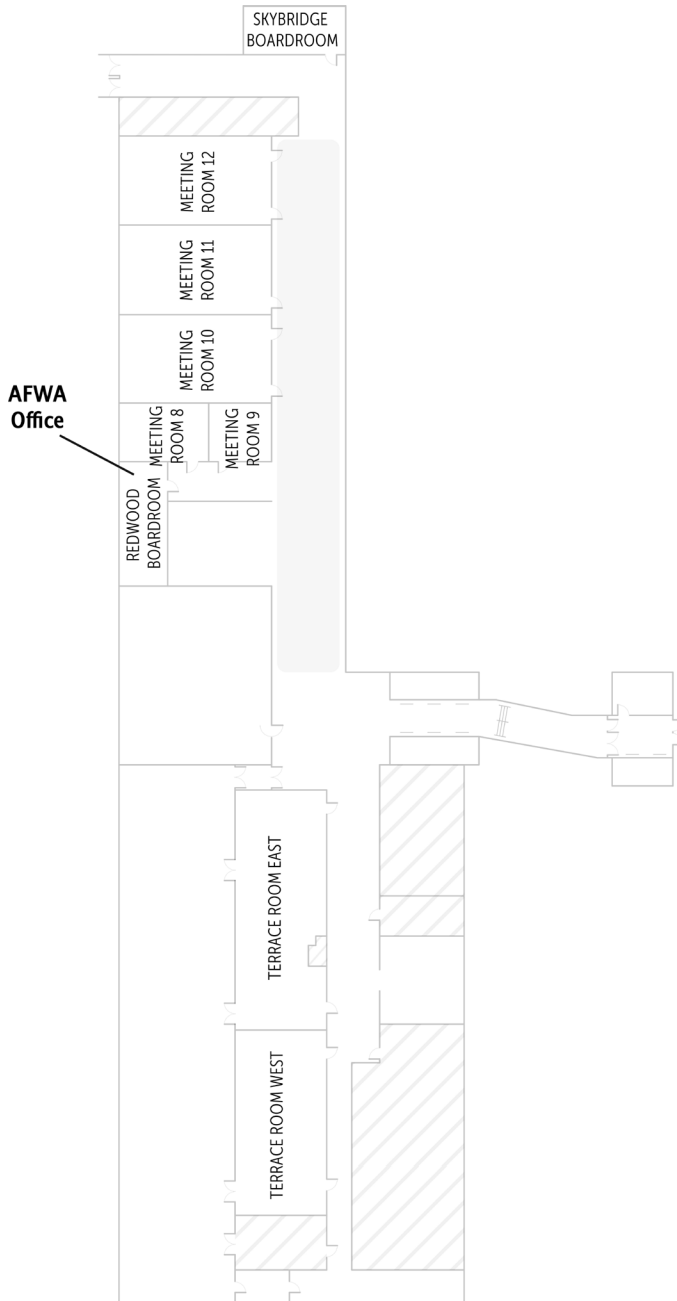
Cover photo courtesy of Doug Kuehn

HOTEL MAP - FIRST FLOOR

Welcome Reception, Plenary Session &
Large Evening Receptions



HOTEL MAP - SECOND FLOOR



OFFICERS, COMMITTEE & STAFF

Wildlife Management Institute Officers	
STEVEN A. WILLIAMS <i>President</i>	SCOT J. WILLIAMSON <i>Vice President</i>
Conference Steering Committee	
MATT DUNFEE , <i>Chair</i> <i>Wildlife Management Institute</i>	CHRIS SMITH <i>Wildlife Management Institute</i>
BECKY HUMPHRIES <i>National Wild Turkey Federation</i>	STEVEN A. WILLIAMS <i>Wildlife Management Institute</i>
THOMAS FRANKLIN <i>Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership</i>	DAVID McNAUGHTON <i>National Military Fish & Wildlife Association</i>
KARL MALCOLM <i>U.S. Forest Service</i>	JOHN ORGAN <i>USGS Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Units</i>
RON REGAN <i>Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies</i>	JORDAN BURROUGHS <i>Michigan State University</i>
STEPHANIE HUSSEY <i>Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation</i>	
Conference Staff	
CONFERENCE CHAIR <i>Matt Dunfee, Wildlife Management Institute</i>	
CONFERENCE COORDINATION, REGISTRATION & SUPPORT <i>Delaney Meeting & Event Management: Cindy Delaney, Caitlin Gaborow, Meg Boera, Jacey Garceau, Kim Neiditz, Marie Romanelli, Victoria Rust, Elise Pecue, Karen Forbes, Kimberly Caron</i>	
FLOOR MANAGERS / WMI CONFERENCE STAFF <i>Noe Marymor, Kayte Dunfee</i>	
CONFERENCE INTERN <i>Noelle Moen, Fisheries and Wildlife Science Major; Oregon State University</i>	

GENERAL INFORMATION

This program includes all of the activities associated with the 82nd North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, including the Plenary Session, Special Sessions, special events, related meetings and workshops. Please review carefully; there are several changes from the schedule posted on the conference website along with additional information. Any changes that occur after the printing of this program will be posted on bulletin boards located near the conference registration desk.

Event Location

The conference meetings and social events, with the exception of Pub Night, will be held at the Davenport Grand Hotel, first floor and the second floor meeting rooms. Pub Night will be held at Nectar Catering & Events, 120 North Stevens Street, 2 blocks from the Davenport Grand.

Registration Desk Hours

- **Sunday, March 5** - 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- **Monday, March 6** - 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- **Tuesday, March 7** - 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- **Wednesday, March 8** - 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- **Thursday, March 9** - 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- **Friday, March 10** - 7:00 AM - 2:00 PM

NMFWA: The National Military Fish & Wildlife Association will staff a separate registration desk in the exhibit area for additional information and to answer questions specific to their conference activities.

All conference attendees, including those attending or speaking at workshops, Special Sessions or related meetings must be registered. Anyone not wearing an appropriate conference name badge will not be admitted.

Partner Displays and Exhibitors

Displays and exhibits will be located in the **Grand Ballroom Prefunction** and are open during the following hours:

- **Wednesday, March 8** - 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- **Thursday, March 9** - 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- **Friday, March 10** - 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Please note: exhibits are located in a high traffic area. Please be courteous to those leaving sessions, receptions, or events from rooms closest to the exhibitors.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Coffee Breaks

Coffee will be provided in the exhibit area on the first floor of the Davenport Grand starting on Tuesday morning through Thursday from 7:00 AM – 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM, and 2:30 PM – 3:30 PM. Friday coffee service will be available from 7:00 AM – 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM.

Business Center

Take care of your administrative needs during the conference in the 24-hour business center, equipped with printers and computers. The business center is located on the first floor next to the front desk.

Internet Service

Complimentary Wi-Fi high-speed internet access is available in the hotel guest rooms, meeting space and lobby. Choose the "Davenport Grand" network. No password necessary.

Parking

Self parking is available in the hotel garage for \$17.00/day for overnight night guests, and valet parking is available for \$22.00 per day.

AFWA Office

The Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies will staff a business office from Tuesday at 8:00 AM through Friday at 2:00 PM. The office will be located in the **Redwood Boardroom** on the second floor of the hotel. Look for signs.

Special Notice

Wildlife Management Institute, Delaney Meeting & Event Management, and the Davenport Grand Hotel will not assume responsibility for the personal and property safety of individuals attending the 82nd North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference. Reasonable measures have been taken to ensure the welfare of all conference attendees, but the above assume no liability for personal injury or inconvenience or for property loss or damage encountered by those attending the conference or while en route to or from.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

AFWA = Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies Meetings
 NMFWA = National Military Fish & Wildlife Association Meetings
 ☒ = Invitation Only ☆ = Social Event

PLEASE NOTE: The conference schedule, exhibitor & partner directory, and more are available in mobile format through the free GUIDEBOOK app. Download "guidebook" from the app store.

Sunday, March 5

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM	The Wildlife Society Council Meeting	<i>Meeting Room 3</i>
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Conference Registration Desk Open	<i>Office 2</i>

Monday, March 6

7:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Conference Registration Desk Open	<i>Office 2</i>
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Sagebrush Executive Oversight Committee	<i>Maple Ballroom</i>
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM	NMFWA: ESA Training	<i>Birch Ballroom</i>
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM	The Wildlife Society Council Meeting	<i>Meeting Room 3</i>
12:15 PM - 4:30 PM	NMFWA: Pest Management Session/ SERDP/ESTCP	<i>Meeting Room 1</i>
1:00 PM - 3:30 PM	National Association of University Fisheries and Wildlife Programs	<i>Meeting Room 6</i>
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	NAWMP IIC/USC Meeting	<i>Meeting Room 7</i>
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	WORKSHOP: Women's Wildlife Conservation Network <i>[Pre-registration required]</i>	<i>Cedar Ballroom</i>
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	WAFWA Joint Executive/Budget Committee Meeting ☒	<i>Meeting Room 11</i>
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Coffee Break	<i>Ballroom Prefunction</i>
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	National Pheasant Plan Management Board Meeting	<i>Maple Ballroom</i>
4:30 PM - 5:30 PM	NMFWA: TWS Military Lands Working Group	<i>Meeting Room 1</i>
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	☆ Women's Wildlife Conservation Network Happy Hour	<i>Cedar Ballroom</i>

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM	National Flyway Council	<i>Meeting Room 12</i>
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Colorado State University Alumni Reception	<i>Meeting Room 6</i>
5:45 PM - 7:30 PM	NMFWA: Board of Directors Meeting (NMFWA Members Welcome)	<i>Meeting Room 11</i>

Tuesday, March 7

7:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Conference Registration Desk Open	<i>Office 2</i>
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Breakfast Sponsored by: National Rifle Association ☒	<i>Cedar Ballroom</i>
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Coffee Break	<i>Ballroom Prefunction</i>
8:00 AM - 9:45 AM	NMFWA: Welcome & DoD Policy Update	<i>Birch Ballroom</i>
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	American Fisheries Society – Fisheries Administration Section	<i>Terrace Room East</i>
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM	Central Flyaway Council	<i>Meeting Room 11</i>
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	American Wildlife Conservation Partners (AWCP) Meeting	<i>Grand Ballroom B</i>
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	PARC Joint National and Federal Steering Committee Meetings	<i>Meeting Room 12</i>
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Pacific Flyway Council	<i>Meeting Room 10</i>
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Atlantic Flyway Council	<i>Meeting Room 5</i>
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Mississippi Flyway Council	<i>Meeting Room 6</i>
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM	SOBA Board Meeting ☒	<i>Skybridge Boardroom</i>
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	Coffee Break	<i>Ballroom Prefunction</i>
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	NMFWA: Annual Member Meeting	<i>Birch Ballroom</i>
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	AFWA/USFWS: Monarch Meeting ☒	<i>Meeting Room 3</i>
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	National Fish and Wildlife Health Initiative Steering Committee	<i>Meeting Room 8</i>
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Black-Footed Ferret Advisory Council	<i>Meeting Room 2</i>
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Listening Session: What Do the States Need From WSFR?	<i>Maple Ballroom</i>

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	AFWA Annual Meeting/Awards	<i>Meeting Room 7</i>
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Lunch Sponsored by: Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation ☒	<i>Cedar Ballroom</i>
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	AFWA: Finance Committee Meeting	<i>Terrace Room West</i>
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Lesser Prairie-Chicken Programs Update	<i>Meeting Room 4</i>
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	BLM Partners Meeting	<i>Grand Ballroom A</i>
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	NMFWA Sessions:	
	• Army	<i>Meeting Room 2</i>
	• Air Force	<i>Maple Ballroom</i>
	• Navy	<i>Birch Ballroom</i>
	• Marines	<i>Meeting Room 7</i>
	• National Guard	<i>Meeting Room 3</i>
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Workshop: Bridging Science and Management: Maintaining Relevancy Through Organization Transformation and Professional Development	<i>Meeting Room 1</i>
1:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Exhibitor Set up	<i>Ballroom Prefunction</i>
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Coffee Break with Exhibitors	<i>Ballroom Prefunction</i>
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Lesser Prairie-Chicken Initiative Council ☒	<i>Meeting Room 4</i>
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Forest Service Partners Meeting	<i>Grand Ballroom A</i>
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	AFWA: Directors' Forum ☒	<i>Terrace Room West</i>
4:30 PM - 6:00 PM	AFWA: Harvest Information Program Meeting	<i>Meeting Room 11</i>
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM	AFWA: Directors' Meet & Greet Reception ☒	<i>Terrace Room East</i>
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM	University of Montana Alumni & Friends Reception	<i>Meeting Room 9</i>
6:00 PM - 8:30 PM	☆ Welcome Reception Supported by: Brandt Information Services <i>All Welcome to Attend!</i>	<i>Grand Ballroom B & C</i>
6:30 PM - 9:00 PM	☆ NMFWA: Welcome Mixer	<i>Offsite</i>

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

Wednesday, March 8

7:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Conference Registration Desk Open	<i>Office 2</i>
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	NMFWA: Newcomers Breakfast ☒	<i>Meeting Room 5</i>
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Breakfast Sponsored by: National Wild Turkey Federation ☒	<i>Cedar Ballroom</i>
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Coffee Break	<i>Ballroom Prefunction</i>
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Exhibits Open	<i>Ballroom Prefunction</i>
8:15 AM - 9:45 AM	82nd North American Wildlife & Natural Resources Conference Plenary Session	<i>Grand Ballroom A & B</i>
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	Coffee Break with Exhibitors <i>Sponsored by: Izaak Walton League of America</i>	<i>Ballroom Prefunction</i>
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	WMI 2017 Special Sessions:	
	• Making Relevance a Reality	<i>Grand Ballroom A</i>
	• Conservation in the Face of a Changing Energy Development Landscape	<i>Maple Ballroom</i>
	• Insights to Inform Marketing Efforts in State Fish and Wildlife Agencies	<i>Birch Ballroom</i>
	• Wildlife Successes in Optimum Funding Scenarios: Exxon Valdez and Deepwater Horizon Restoration	<i>Grand Ballroom B</i>
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Wildlife Management Institute's Conservation Administrator's Luncheon ☒ <i>{Ticket required; non-transferable}</i>	<i>Cedar Ballroom</i>

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

1:00 PM - 4:30 PM	NMFWA Sessions:	<i>Birch Ballroom</i>
	• Bat Working Group (1:00 - 2:00)	
	• Bird Conservation Working Group (2:15 - 3:30)	
1:00 PM - 4:30 PM	NMFWA Sessions:	<i>Maple Ballroom</i>
	• Rare Plant Session (1:00 - 2:30)	
	• Collaborative Conservation Session (3:00 - 4:30)	
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	SOBA Board Meeting ☒	<i>Skybridge Boardroom</i>
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	INRMP and Climate Adaptation Workshop	<i>Meeting Room 7</i>
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	AFWA Committee Meetings: <i>(please take note of specific meeting times)</i>	
	• Agriculture Conservation	<i>Meeting Room 10</i>
	• Angler & Boating Participation (1:00 - 4:00)	<i>Grand Ballroom B</i>
	• Bird Conservation Part 1	<i>Grand Ballroom C</i>
	• Education Outreach & Diversity Committee (1:00 - 3:00)	<i>Meeting Room 6</i>
	• Executive Committee (1:30 - 5:00)	<i>Terrace Room East</i>
	• Human Wildlife Conflict (3:00 - 5:00)	<i>Meeting Room 2</i>
	• Invasive Species Committee	<i>Meeting Room 11</i>
	• Lead and Fish & Wildlife Working Group (3:00 - 5:00)	<i>Meeting Room 4</i>
	• Legal Committee Working Group	<i>Meeting Room 3</i>
	• Outreach Subcommittee (3:30 - 5:30)	<i>Meeting Room 6</i>
• Science & Research (1:00 - 3:00)	<i>Meeting Room 12</i>	
• Woodcock Task Force (1:00 - 3:00)	<i>Meeting Room 2</i>	

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

1:30 PM - 5:30 PM	Prairie Pothole Joint Venture Management Board	<i>Meeting Room 1</i>
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	CAHSS Plan Advisory Workgroup ☒	<i>Meeting Room 5</i>
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Coffee Break with Exhibitors	<i>Ballroom Prefunction</i>
3:15 PM - 5:00 PM	National Cooperators Coalition	<i>Meeting Room 12</i>
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	National Flyway Council	<i>Birch Ballroom</i>
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM	☆ BLM/Forest Service Natural Resources Awards Reception (PIF/NABCI Awards Included) <i>All Welcome to Attend!</i>	<i>Grand Ballroom A</i>
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	NMFWA: Awards Banquet and Hall of Fame Introduction	<i>Offsite</i>
6:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Boone & Crockett Club Spring Meeting Dinner ☒ <i>Cocktails 6:00 PM, Dinner 7:00 PM</i>	<i>Cedar Ballroom</i>

Thursday, March 9

7:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Conference Registration Desk Open	<i>Office 2</i>
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Breakfast Co-Sponsored by: Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever and Union Sportsmen's Alliance ☒	<i>Cedar Ballroom</i>
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Coffee Break	<i>Ballroom Prefunction</i>
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Exhibits Open	<i>Ballroom Prefunction</i>
8:00 AM - 10:00 AM	NBCI Management Board	<i>Meeting Room 4</i>
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	AFWA Committee Meetings: <i>(please take note of specific meeting times)</i>	
	• Amphibian & Reptile Subcommittee (8:00 - 10:00)	<i>Meeting Room 2</i>
	• Education Subcommittee (8:00 - 10:00)	<i>Meeting Room 11</i>
	• EQIP and CSP Working Group (9:30 - 12:00)	<i>Meeting Room 3</i>
	• Federal and Tribal Relations Committee	<i>Grand Ballroom C</i>
	• Fisheries & Water Resources Policy	<i>Grand Ballroom B</i>

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forestry Working Group (8:00 - 9:30) 	<i>Meeting Room 3</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Relations Committee (10:00 - 12:00) 	<i>Meeting Room 5</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal Committee Business Meeting 	<i>Meeting Room 6</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Grants Committee (10:00 - 12:00) 	<i>Meeting Room 2</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PIF Shorebird Waterbird Working Group (10:00 - 12:00) 	<i>Meeting Room 12</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaming with Wildlife 	<i>Terrace Room East</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waterfowl Working Group 	<i>Grand Ballroom A</i>
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	NMFWA Meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DoD PIF (8:00 - 9:00) • DoD PARC (9:15 - 10:15) • MBTA/Avian Protection Plans (10:30 - 12:00) 	<i>Birch Ballroom</i>
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	NMFWA Meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change Working Group (8:00 - 9:00) • Fish and Wildlife Recreation Working Group (9:15 - 10:15) • Invasive Species Working Group (11:00 - 12:00) 	<i>Maple Ballroom</i>
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Boone & Crockett Club Spring Meeting ☒	<i>Terrace Room West</i>
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	AFWA Regional Coordinators Meeting	<i>Meeting Room 8</i>
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	Coffee Break with Exhibitors <i>Sponsored by: Ruffed Grouse Society</i>	<i>Ballroom Prefunction</i>
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	CWD Alliance Meeting	<i>Meeting Room 4</i>
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Lunch Sponsored by: National Shooting Sports Foundation Inc. ☒	<i>Cedar Ballroom</i>
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Partners in Flight Council	<i>Meeting Room 2</i>

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

1:00 PM - 4:30 PM	NMFWA Meetings:	<i>Birch Ballroom</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bat Conservation Session (1:00 - 2:15) 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bash Working Group (2:30 - 4:30) 	
1:00 PM - 4:30 PM	NMFWA Meetings:	<i>Maple Ballroom</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pollinators Working Group (1:00 - 2:15) 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Herpetology Working Group (2:30 - 3:30) 	
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	AFWA Committee Meetings: <i>(please take note of specific meeting times)</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bird Conservation Committee Grassland Work Group (2:30 - 3:30) 	<i>Meeting Room 3</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diversity Subcommittee (3:30 - 5:00) 	<i>Meeting Room 5</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy & Wildlife Policy (1:00 - 5:00) 	<i>Meeting Room 10</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executive Committee (1:30 - 5:00 PM) 	<i>Terrace Room East</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farm Bill Easements Working Group (1:00 - 3:00) 	<i>Meeting Room 6</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fish and Wildlife Health (2:00 - 5:00) 	<i>Meeting Room 1</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hunting and Shooting Sports Participation 	<i>Meeting Room 4</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legislative Federal Budget (1:00 - 3:00) 	<i>Meeting Room 12</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Migratory Shore & Upland Game Bird Working Group (1:00 - 2:30) 	<i>Meeting Room 3</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ocean Resources Policy Committee (1:00 - 3:00) 	<i>Grand Ballroom A</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident Game Bird Working Group (3:30 - 5:00) 	<i>Meeting Room 3</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable Wildlife Use (2:00 - 5:00) 	<i>Meeting Room 11</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Resources Policy Subcommittee (3:00 - 5:00) 	<i>Grand Ballroom A</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WNS Executive and Steering Committee (1:00 - 3:00) 	<i>Meeting Room 5</i>	

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Coffee Break with Exhibitors	Ballroom Prefunction
4:30 PM - 5:45 PM	NMFWA: Board of Directors Meeting	Meeting Room 12
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Fresh Air Educators Reception ☒	Cedar Ballroom
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM	☆ National Fish & Wildlife Foundation/ U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Awards Reception <i>All Welcome to Attend!</i>	Grand Ballroom B
6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	☆ NMFWA: Show and Tell	Grand Ballroom C

Friday, March 10

7:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Conference Registration Desk Open	Office 2
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Breakfast Sponsored by: Ducks Unlimited ☒	Cedar Ballroom
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Coffee Break	Ballroom Prefunction
7:30 AM - 11:30 AM	NMFWA Pollinator Training Session	Meeting Room 4
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Exhibits Open	Ballroom Prefunction
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	AFWA Committee Meetings: <i>(please take note of specific meeting times)</i>	
	• Bird Conservation Committee Part 2 (8:30 - 10:30)	Meeting Room 5
	• Climate Change (10:00 - 12:00)	Maple Ballroom
	• Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)	Birch Ballroom
	• Fish and Wildlife Trust Funds	Meeting Room 6
	• Leadership & Professional Development (8:00 - 10:15)	Meeting Room 3
	• NCLI Alumni/Fellow/ Board Meeting (10:15 - 11:30)	Meeting Room 3
	• Technology & Data Committee (8:00 - 10:00)	Meeting Room 2
	• Threatened & Endangered Species Policy	Meeting Room 1
• Wildlife Resources Policy Committee (8:00 - 10:00)	Maple Ballroom	

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	Coffee Break with Exhibitors	<i>Ballroom Prefunction</i>
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Midwest Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies Executive Committee Meeting	<i>Meeting Room 2</i>
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Lunch Sponsored by: American Sportfishing Association ✉	<i>Cedar Ballroom</i>
1:30 PM - 5:00 PM	AFWA Business Meeting	<i>Grand Ballroom C</i>
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM	<p>☆WMI Pub Night <i>(Tickets are required and included with a full conference registration fee.)</i></p> <p>All registered conference attendees are invited to attend the closing social festivities in order to toast the conference partners and to celebrate another successful North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference. This casual evening includes favorite pub food, a selection of popular beer, and a chance to unwind after a week of meetings. Casual attire. A limited number of guest tickets are available for purchase (\$45 per person) for any non-registered attendees. Inquire at the conference registration desk during the listed hours of operation.</p>	<p><i>Nectar Catering & Events</i> <i>120 North Stevens St.</i> <i>(2 short blocks from the Davenport Grand)</i></p>



PLENARY SESSION

Wildlife Management Institute's Plenary Session

Wednesday, March 8, 2017

8:15 AM - 9:45 AM | Grand Ballroom A&B

Featured Speakers

- 8:15 AM **Jim Unsworth**, *Director, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife*
Welcome to Washington
- 8:25 AM **Steven Williams**, *President, Wildlife Management Institute*
Opening Address
- 8:45 AM **Dave Case**, *President, DJ Case & Associates*
The Nature of Americans: Results From a National Study to Understand and Connect Americans and Nature
- 9:10 AM **Special Guest Speaker**, *Invited*

The Plenary Session will be followed by four concurrent Special Sessions focusing on key issues facing natural resources management. No other events are scheduled during this time and all registered attendees are encouraged to attend.

Concurrent Special Sessions:

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

☆ Making Relevance a Reality	<i>Grand Ballroom A</i>
☆ Conservation in the Face of a Changing Energy Development Landscape	<i>Maple Ballroom</i>
☆ Insights to Inform Marketing Efforts within State Fish and Wildlife Agencies	<i>Birch Ballroom</i>
☆ Wildlife Successes in Optimum Funding Scenarios - Exxon Valdez and Deepwater Horizon Restoration	<i>Grand Ballroom B</i>

SPECIAL SESSION 1

Making Relevance a Reality

Grand Ballroom A

Co-Chairs:

Dan Decker, *Cornell University*

Ann Forstchen, *Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission*

Cynthia Jacobson, *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*

Overview:

Sustaining and growing public support for wildlife conservation and management is a high priority on state and national wildlife conservation agendas. Without public support, little meaningful conservation is likely to occur; with it, much is possible.

Last March, the Blue Ribbon Panel on Sustaining America's Diverse Fish and Wildlife Resources issued its final report, "The Future of America's Fish and Wildlife." The Blue Ribbon Panel recommended: (1) Congress markedly increase funding for fish and wildlife conservation and (2) a subset of the panel continue as a working group on improving relevancy of fish and wildlife conservation and to "make recommendations on how programs and agencies can transform to engage and serve broader constituencies." The second recommendation coming from the Blue Ribbon Panel emphasized the urgency of making relevancy a reality for public fish and wildlife programs and agencies nationwide.

Previous presentations at the North American and the Blue Ribbon Panel meetings have emphasized that fish and wildlife programs and agencies need to connect with and be valued by a larger proportion of society or risk losing public support for conservation. Progress in fulfilling public trust responsibilities to all citizens, regardless of the nature of their interest in fish and wildlife, has been slow for a variety of reasons. At this session, these and other issues impacting agency relevance will be addressed by a line-up of experienced professionals from a variety of sectors in the conservation community.

SPECIAL SESSION 1

AGENDA: *Making Relevance a Reality*

10:00 AM	Welcome and Audience Survey Ann Forstchen, <i>Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission</i>
10:10 AM	Opening Remarks Sara Parker Pauley, <i>Missouri Department of Conservation</i>
10:20 AM	Relevancy in Context: What Does It Mean to Us and for Us? Dr. Cynthia Jacobson, <i>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service</i>
10:32 AM	Moving Wildlife Conservation Forward: Let's Get Real About Relevance Dr. Daniel Decker, <i>Cornell University</i>
10:44 AM	Connecting Nature and Culture to Increase Conservation Relevancy: A Case Study of The Monarch Butterfly Dr. Abigail Derby Lewis, <i>Chicago Field Museum</i>
10:56 AM	Who Cares? Brand Renewal and The Ducks Unlimited Canada Experience Nigel Simms, <i>Ducks Unlimited Canada</i>
11:08 AM	Moving Towards Conservation Relevancy Together Dave Chanda, <i>New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection</i>
11:20 AM	Panel Discussion: What Action is Needed to Make Conservation More Relevant to Society? Panelists: Wendi Weber, <i>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service</i> , Tony Wasley, <i>Nevada Department of Wildlife</i> , and Dr. Julie Kunen, <i>Wildlife Conservation Society</i>
11:50 AM	Closing Remarks Nick Wiley, <i>Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission</i>

SPECIAL SESSION 2

Conservation in the Face of a Changing Energy Development Landscape

Maple Ballroom

Co-Chairs:

Mona Khalil, *U.S. Geological Survey*

Davia Palmeri, *Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies*

Overview:

Energy development in the United States continues to grow and evolve as economic, political, and societal pressures shape national energy policy. The past decade has seen tremendous growth in renewable energy development and use of unconventional methods for oil and gas extraction. As a result, conservation alongside energy development is becoming a top priority for a growing number of natural resource and wildlife management agencies

State wildlife agencies vary in their authorities to influence how and where energy infrastructure is developed. This special session will provide examples of how state natural resources agencies have approached the complexity of land-use planning and decision-making for energy development in their states. Speakers from Texas, Wyoming, Pennsylvania, California, and Utah will provide insights about how their agencies have cooperated with other state regulators, federal agencies, utilities, and energy developers to help inform energy development. Speakers will describe how their states are leveraging scientific knowledge and decision-support tools as a springboard for landscape planning designed to promote energy development and effective conservation.

SPECIAL SESSION 2

AGENDA: Conservation in the Face of a Changing Energy Development Landscape

10:00 AM	Opening Remarks, Session Overview, and Objectives Mona Khalil, <i>U.S. Geological Survey</i> Davia Palmeri, <i>Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies</i>
10:10 AM	Wyoming's Core Area Strategy for Greater Sage-Grouse Management Tom Christiansen, <i>Wyoming Game and Fish Department</i>
10:30 AM	Decision Making Processes Associated with Energy Development and Rare Plant Conservation Thomas Edwards, <i>Utah Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit</i>
10:50 AM	Using Science to Inform the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan of Southern California Todd Esque, <i>U.S. Geological Survey</i>
11:10 AM	Charged with Conservation: Consideration of Natural Resources in Transmission Line Routing in Texas Julie Wicker, <i>Texas Parks and Wildlife Department</i>
11:30 AM	Pennsylvania Game Commission Wind Energy Voluntary Cooperative Agreement John Taucher, <i>Pennsylvania Game Commission</i>
11:45 AM	Panel Discussion: All Presenters Moderator: Mona Khalil, <i>U.S. Geological Survey</i>
11:55 AM	Closing Remarks Davia Palmeri, <i>Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies</i>

SPECIAL SESSION 3

Insights to Inform Marketing Efforts within State Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Birch Ballroom

Co-Chairs:

Kristin Phillips, *Michigan Department of Natural Resources*

Stephanie Hussey, *Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation*

Overview:

Over the past decade, state fish and wildlife agencies have seen opinion shift on the value and importance of marketing. Originally considered a luxury or something state agencies don't do, now state agencies are turning to marketing experts to implement strategies and utilize today's technology, to understand customer behaviors and motivations, and to help their work be more relevant to an ever-changing public.

Marketing – when it's done correctly – is an art and a science driven by research and metrics. Understanding customers' interpretation of messages and actions is key to implementing successful marketing strategies. The language and channels used can shape perceptions of the work state fish and wildlife agencies do and influence attitudes and behaviors. We hold and manage resources in public trust for our citizens and now, more than ever, it is important that they understand our 'products' and the value they bring to everyone.

Many state agencies have implemented successful marketing approaches. In this session, marketing experts from these agencies will relay their experiences with enhanced marketing efforts for state fish and wildlife conservation programs.

SPECIAL SESSION 3

AGENDA: *Insights to Inform Marketing Efforts within State Fish and Wildlife Agencies*

10:00 AM	Opening Remarks <i>Kristin Phillips, Michigan Department of Natural Resources</i>
10:10 AM	Digital Marketing Efforts that Generate R3 Results and Revenue <i>Jenifer Wisniewski, Georgia Wildlife Resources Division</i>
10:35 AM	Mobile Outreach: How Impactful Mobile Marketing Can Reach New Conservationists <i>Joanie Straub, Missouri Department of Conservation</i>
11:00 AM	The Art and Science of Successful Communications: Key Steps to Reaching New Audiences <i>Deb Horak and Chelsea Maupin, Gŭd Marketing</i>
11:25 AM	Aligning Marketing with the Customer Experience <i>Greg Sallis, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife</i>
11:50 AM	Closing Remarks <i>Stephanie Hussey, Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation</i>

SPECIAL SESSION 4

Wildlife Successes in Optimum Funding Scenarios: Exxon Valdez and Deepwater Horizon Restoration

Grand Ballroom B

Co-Chairs:

Tim Richardson, *Government Affairs Consultant*

Ross Melinchuk, *Texas Parks and Wildlife Department*

James Cummins, *Wildlife Mississippi, Gulf Coast Land Trust*

Overview:

"A fully loaded supertanker has run hard aground on Bligh Reef in Prince William Sound, Alaska." That March 24, 1989 news was followed by agonizing images of millions of gallons of oil gushing from the Exxon Valdez. On April 20, 2010, a nighttime explosion aboard the Deepwater Horizon from an oil well blowout 20,000 feet below the surface of the Gulf of Mexico seared this catastrophe into the public's psyche. While everyone is aware of the nation's two worst oil spills and has vivid memories of impacted wildlife and wetlands, few Americans or resource professionals know of the experiences of hundreds of biologists responsible for restoring these ecosystems.

This session will feature presentations by professionals experienced in the aftermaths of America's two worst oil spills. Panel speakers will detail the challenges and opportunities when disasters create billions of dollars in fines amidst an aroused public and aggrieved stakeholders. These two examples of meeting restoration goals in the context of funding abundance are especially instructive in 2017 as a new President and Congress address daunting responsibilities and states face budget shortfalls.

SPECIAL SESSION 4

AGENDA: *Wildlife Successes in Optimum Funding Scenarios - Exxon Valdez and Deepwater Horizon Restoration*

10:00 AM	<p>Opening Remarks and Introduction James Cummins, <i>Boone and Crockett Club and Wildlife Mississippi</i></p>
10:05 AM	<p>Panel Discussion: The Exxon Valdez Experience Moderator: James Cummins, <i>Boone and Crockett Club and Wildlife Mississippi</i></p> <p>Panelists: Steve Kallick, <i>Pew Charitable Trusts, The Precedent Setting Exxon Valdez Consent Decree</i>; Jim Kurth, <i>U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Comprehensive Exxon Valdez Restoration Plan</i>; Tim Richardson, <i>Wildlife Forever, Stakeholder Dynamics in Wildlife Habitat Agreements</i></p>
10:50 AM	<p>Panel Discussion: the Deepwater Horizon Experience Moderator: Ross Melinchuk, <i>Texas Parks & Wildlife Department</i></p> <p>Panelists: Rachel Jacobson, <i>WilmerHale, Inside the Deepwater Horizon Restoration Funding</i>; Robin Reichers, <i>Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, Gulf State Approaches to Deepwater Horizon Restoration</i>; Tom Kelsch, <i>National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, NFWF's Role in Deepwater Horizon Restoration</i></p>
11:40 AM	<p>Panel Summary Tim Richardson, <i>Government Affairs Consultant</i></p>
11:45 AM	<p>Questions & Answers</p>
11:55 AM	<p>Closing Remarks Ross Melinchuk, <i>Texas Parks & Wildlife Department</i></p>

WORKSHOP

Women's Wildlife Conservation Network Workshop: You're Worth It! Getting What You Deserve Through Negotiation

Monday, March 6 | 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM | Cedar Ballroom

Workshop Organizers & Facilitators:

Mary Hughes, *Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies*

Gina Main, *Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies*

Workshop Sponsors:

Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies - Management Assistance Team ·
Wildlife Management Institute · Women's Wildlife Conservation Network

Overview:

This workshop provides knowledge, skills and practice on how women can successfully negotiate on their own behalf in the workplace. It explores why women wildlife professionals should negotiate more often and helps women overcome the fear of asking for what they want. It also focuses on strategies for setting and achieving one's goals while circumventing conflict through interest-based negotiation that can not only preserve, but even strengthen relationships.

The first section of this workshop provides information on the negotiation distinction between women and men and the impact these distinctions have on women's earning power and access to career opportunities.

During the next section, a toolbox of negotiation skills will be shared and practiced. The workshop culminates with scenario-based negotiation practice, where participants have the opportunity to rehearse and receive constructive feedback on negotiating for their own self-interests in the workplace.

AGENDA: *Women's Wildlife Conservation Network Workshop:
You're Worth It! Getting What You Deserve Through Negotiation*

1:00 PM	Introduction and Icebreaker
1:25 PM	How Women and Men Negotiate
2:00 PM	Break
2:15 PM	Negotiation Toolbox
3:45 PM	Break
4:00 PM	Scenario-Based Negotiation Practice
4:45 PM	Wrap-Up and Close Out

WORKSHOP

Bridging Science and Management: Maintaining Relevancy Through Organization Transformation and Professional Development

Tuesday, March 7 | 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM | Meeting Room 1

Workshop Organizers:

Byron Williams, *The Wildlife Society*

Doug Austen, *American Fisheries Society*

John Organ, *U.S. Geological Survey Cooperative Research Units*

Jonathan Mawdsley, *Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies*

Keith Norris, *The Wildlife Society*

Workshop Sponsors:

Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies · American Fisheries Society

The Wildlife Society · USGS Cooperative Research Units ·

Wildlife Management Institute

Overview:

Building upon a 2016 workshop regarding barriers and bridges between science and management, this workshop will focus on the many social, demographic, and resource changes facing organizations, and prospects for transformation to sustain organization relevancy and effectiveness through workforce training and professional development.

There is a broad recognition that organizations are facing ever-expanding demands for expertise in public communication, team-building, conflict resolution, organization leadership, new and constantly evolving scientific understanding and management approaches, and other issues as they confront social, environmental, and resource changes.

Expected outcomes of the workshop will be the identification of key impediments and challenges in sustaining relevance in the future, along with potential approaches to meet these challenges through professional training and development and next steps in building the necessary institutional, social, and educational linkages to secure relevancy through science-based decision making.

AGENDA: *Bridging Science and Management: Maintaining Relevancy Through Organization Transformation and Professional Development*

1:00 PM	Introduction – Continuing to Build Bridges Between Science and Management Jonathan Mawdsley, <i>Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies</i>
1:10 PM	Transformation to Maintain Organization Relevancy Steve Williams, <i>Wildlife Management Institute</i>
1:25 PM	Developing a “Learning Organization” Philosophy Nick Wiley, <i>Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission</i>
1:40 PM	Continuing Education: an Investment in Your Staff and a Bridge to Relevancy Jack Buckley, <i>Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife</i>
1:55 PM	Audience Discussion
2:10 PM	Adaptation and Staff Development in Resource-Constrained Organizations Paul Johansen, <i>West Virginia Division of Natural Resources</i> Chris O’Bara, <i>West Virginia Division of Natural Resources</i>
2:25 PM	Strategizing Professional Development Needs For You and Your Staff Kelley Myers, <i>Eastern Tallgrass Prairie LCC, USFWS</i>
2:40 PM	Audience Discussion
2:55 PM	BREAK
3:15 PM	Challenges and Opportunities in Organization Transformation John Organ, <i>USGS Cooperative Research Units</i>
3:25 PM	Blue Ribbon Panel and Organization Transformation Collin O’Mara, <i>National Wildlife Federation</i>
3:45 PM	Professional Development in Transforming Federal Agencies Rob Harper, <i>U.S. Forest Service</i>
4:00 PM	Challenges, Options, and Gaps in Continuing Education and Leadership Development Gina Main, <i>National Conservation Leadership Institute</i>
4:15 PM	Roles of Professional Societies in Professional Development and Transformation Doug Austen, <i>American Fisheries Society</i>
4:30 PM	Audience Discussion
4:50 PM	Synthesis Remarks and Next Steps Ken Williams, <i>The Wildlife Society</i>
5:00 PM	Adjourn

PARTNERS

Legacy Partners

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Anya Rushing
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www.fws.gov

Thursday Awards Reception Co-Sponsor



As the nation's principal federal agency dedicated to fish and wildlife conservation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works in partnership with state, federal and local governments, tribes, conservation organizations and private landowners to address the resource management challenges of the 21st century. We're working to deliver effective, partnership driven fish and wildlife conservation at a landscape scale that is guided by rigorous biological planning and conservation design. Working together, we can ensure that America's conservation legacy is there for future generations to enjoy.

U.S. Forest Service

Sandy Frost
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www.fs.fed.us



The USDA Forest Service manages 193 million acres of national forests and grasslands across 44 states. The mission of the Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the nation's natural resources. The Forest Service implements and supports quality land and resource management, locally and globally. Our partnerships are critical in our mission to sustain world-class natural resources and diverse recreation, for the use and enjoyment of all.

PARTNERS

Platinum Partners

Boone and Crockett Club

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www.boone-crockett.org



BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB
Fair Chase and Conservation
SINCE 1887

Founded by Theodore Roosevelt in 1887, the Boone and Crockett Club promotes guardianship and visionary management of big game and associated wildlife in North America. The Club maintains the highest standards of fair-chase sportsmanship and habitat stewardship. Member accomplishments include protecting and enlarging Yellowstone and establishing Glacier and Denali national parks, founding the National Forest Service, National Park Service and National Wildlife Refuge System, fostering the Pittman-Robertson and Lacey Acts, creating the Federal Duck Stamp program, and developing the cornerstones of modern game laws. The Boone and Crockett Club is headquartered in Missoula, Montana.

National Shooting Sports Foundation Inc.

Tisma Juett
11 Mile Hill Road
Newtown, CT 06470
Phone: 203-426-1320 x 219
Email: tjuett@nssf.org
www.nssf.org

Thursday Lunch Sponsor



The National Shooting Sports Foundation is the trade association for the firearms industry. Its mission is to promote, protect and preserve hunting and the shooting sports. Formed in 1961, NSSF has a membership of more than 10,000 manufacturers, distributors, firearms retailers, shooting ranges, sportsmen's organizations and publishers.

NRCS

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www.nrcs.usda.gov



PARTNERS

NRCS uses conservation planning and financial assistance to help agricultural producers and private forest landowners benefit soil, water, air, plants, and animals, resulting in productive lands and a healthy environment. The Working Lands for Wildlife partnership is one example of NRCS's commitment to wildlife habitat enhancement.

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

Blake Henning
5705 Grant Creek Road
Missoula, MT 59808
Phone: 406-523-0273
Email: bhenning@rmef.org
www.rmef.org

Tuesday Lunch Sponsor



The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) is a hunter-based wildlife organization with a mission to ensure the future of elk, other wildlife, their habitat and our hunting heritage. In support of that mission, RMEF's 222,200 members and 11,000 volunteers have already protected or enhanced more than 7.1 million acres of vital habitat, opened or secured more than 1.1 million acres for public access, helped restore elk to 7 states, and reached thousands of youth and adults with conservation and hunting heritage outreach projects. At RMEF, "Hunting is Conservation."

USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services

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Riverdale, MD 20737
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www.aphis.usda.gov



United States Department of Agriculture

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Wildlife Services

Wildlife Services (WS), a program within the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, provides federal leadership and expertise to resolve conflicts and create a balance allowing people and wildlife to coexist. As wildlife damage evolves and occurs more frequently, WS' knowledge and skills are increasingly required. Among WS' programs are units for airport wildlife hazards, feral swine management, rabies management, and wildlife disease surveillance and emergency response, as well as the National Wildlife Research Center. Its trained professionals respond to requests from national, state and local agencies and individuals.

PARTNERS

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

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www.wdfw.wa.gov



The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is the state's principal steward of fish and wildlife resources. State law directs WDFW to conserve native fish and wildlife species and their habitats, while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities. Millions of Washington residents and visitors enjoy fishing, hunting and wildlife viewing. Outdoor recreation is part of the state's culture, generating \$22 billion in annual economic activity and almost 200,000 jobs across the state. Our goals include promoting that economy and high quality of life through community outreach and customer service.

Gold Partners

Bureau of Land Management

Geoff Walsh
BLM Washington Office
20 M Street SE
Washington, DC 20003-3503
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www.blm.gov



The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages more than 245 million acres of public lands - all supporting a diversity of fish, wildlife and plants, including threatened, endangered, and "at risk" species. In fact, the BLM manages more wildlife and plant habitat than any other federal or state agency in the country. When authorizing land use activities such as recreation, livestock grazing, energy development, and forest management, the BLM must ensure the needs of wildlife, fish, and plants are taken into consideration. The BLM manages these resources in cooperation with state and other federal agencies. The BLM also works to improve the health of entire watersheds to sustain and enhance a variety of biological resources.

PARTNERS

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

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Thursday Awards Reception Co-Sponsor



Chartered by Congress, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation protects and restores our nation's fish and wildlife and their habitats.

National Wild Turkey Federation

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Edgefield, SC 29824
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www.nwtf.org

Wednesday Breakfast Sponsor



The National Wild Turkey Federation is a 501 (c) (3) non-governmental organization dedicated to the conservation of the wild turkey and preservation of our hunting heritage. The NWTf is a grassroots, volunteer organization governed by a volunteer member board of directors. Its volunteers are organized in a state and local chapter system.

U.S. Geological Survey

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The U.S. Geological Survey serves the Nation as an independent fact-finding agency that collects, monitors, analyzes, and provides scientific information and understanding about natural resources conditions, issues, and problems. USGS supports and manages a robust and broad portfolio of biological research, monitoring, modeling, and information dissemination. Visit the USGS booth to learn more about the role biological science plays in conservation and natural resource decision-making and policy.

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Silver Partners

Bass Pro Shops

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www.basspro.com

Bass Pro Shops®, which specializes in outdoor fun, operates 99 stores and Tracker Marine Centers across America and Canada that are visited by more than 120 million people every year. Bass Pro Shops stores, many of which feature restaurants, offer hunting, fishing, camping and other outdoor gear while their catalogs and website serve shoppers throughout the world. The company's Tracker Marine Group® (<http://www.trackermarine.com>), a leading brand of fishing boats for more than 37 years, manufactures and sells a variety of boats for fishing and cruising. Family fun is on tap at Bass Pro Shops resort Big Cedar Lodge® (<http://www.bigcedar.com>), voted by Travel + Leisure as one of the top 50 Best Hotels for Families in the U.S.

Brandt Information Services, Inc.

Welcome Reception Supporter

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Brandt Information Services develops customized recreational licensing and vessel registration systems for state fish and wildlife agencies. We offer unique marketing opportunities and a customer centric approach to all our solutions and services, backed with reliable technology and superior project execution. Brandt has provided organizations with cutting edge technology solutions that empower users and streamline business processes for over 31 years. Call Tiffani Santagati at (404) 698-1900 or via email at tiffanis@brandtinfo.com. Visit us online at www.brandtinfo.com.

PARTNERS

Mule Deer Foundation

Miles Moretti

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www.muledeer.org

The Mule Deer Foundation is a national non-profit 501(c)3 organization, with over 15,000 members. MDF's mission is to ensure the conservation of mule deer, black-tailed deer and their habitat. MDF is dedicated to restoring, improving and protecting mule deer habitat (including land and easement acquisitions) resulting in self-sustaining, healthy, free ranging and hunt-able deer populations; encouraging and supporting responsible wildlife management with government agencies, private organizations and landowners; promoting public education and scientific research related to mule deer and wildlife management; supporting and encouraging responsible and ethical behavior and awareness of issues among those whose actions affect mule deer; and acknowledging regulated hunting as a viable component of mule deer and black-tailed deer conservation.

Vista Outdoor

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www.federalpremium.com

Vista Outdoor is a leading global designer, manufacturer and marketer of consumer products in the growing outdoor sports and recreation markets. Vista Outdoor is headquartered in Utah and had manufacturing operations and facilities in 13 U.S. States, Canada, Mexico and Puerto Rico along with international customer service, sales and sourcing operations in Asia, Australia, Canada, Europe and New Zealand.

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American Sportfishing Association

Friday Lunch Sponsor

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The American Sportfishing Association is committed to looking out for the interests of the sportfishing industry and the entire recreational fishing community.

Archery Trade Association

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www.archerytrade.org

The Archery Trade Association is an organization comprised of manufacturers, retailers, distributors and others working in the bowhunting industry and dedicated to increasing participation in archery and bowhunting.

Cabela's

Scott Williams
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www.cabelas.com

Cabela's Inc. is a direct marketer and specialty retailer of hunting, fishing, camping, shooting, and related outdoor recreation merchandise, based in Sidney, Nebraska.

Camp Fire Conservation Fund

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www.campfireclub.com/conservation

PARTNERS

The Camp Fire Conservation Fund was established as a 501(c) 3 organization in 1977 to fund projects related to the goals of the Camp Fire Club of America, founded in 1897, which are conservation of forests and wildlife.

Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation

Gary Kania
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www.sportsmenslink.org

The Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation's (CSF) mission is to work with Congress, governors, and state legislatures to protect and advance hunting, angling, recreational shooting and trapping.

Dallas Safari Club

Ben Carter
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www.biggame.org

DSC is a 501(c)(4) international hunting & conservation organization based in Dallas, Texas with approximately 6500 members whose mission is conservation, education & protecting hunters' rights.

DJ Case & Associates

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www.djcase.com

Conservation through Communication...djcase.com. Websites, mobile applications, video production, social media, marketing and communications planning, human dimensions and market research, public engagement and facilitation.

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Ducks Unlimited

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www.ducks.org

Friday Breakfast Sponsor

Ducks Unlimited is a nonprofit conservation organization dedicated to the conservation, restoration, and management of wetlands and other waterfowl habitats. Our mission is to conserve waterfowl, and the wetland ecosystems we protect and restore also benefit the fish, other wildlife and people that share and enjoy those habitats.

Fresh Air Educators

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www.freshaireducators.com

Thursday Reception Sponsor

At Fresh Air Educators, we use the power of online education to help people around the world get on the water, in the field and on the trail faster, easier and safer than ever before.

National Park Service

Elaine Leslie
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www.nps.gov

A century of conservation, stewardship, restoration, and enjoyment of our nation's special places.

National Rifle Association

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www.nra.org

Tuesday Breakfast Sponsor

PARTNERS

The NRA, with over 5 million dedicated members, is America's foremost defender of Second Amendment rights and the premier firearms education organization in the world.

Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever

Thursday Breakfast Co-Sponsor

David E. Nomsen
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www.pheasantsforever.org

Pheasants Forever is dedicated to the conservation of pheasants, quail and other wildlife through habitat improvements, public awareness, education and land management policies and programs.

The Conservation Fund

Kelly Reed
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Arlington, VA 22209
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Email: kreed@conservationfund.org
www.conservationfund.org

We make conservation work for America by creating solutions that make environmental and economic sense. Since 1985, we've protected over 7.5 million acres of land.

The Nature Conservancy

Jessica Houston
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www.nature.org

Our mission is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends. The Nature Conservancy is the leading nonprofit conservation organization working around the world to protect ecologically important lands and waters for nature and people.

PARTNERS

The Wildlife Society

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www.wildlife.org

The Wildlife Society represents nearly 10,000 wildlife professionals, inspiring, empowering, and enabling them to sustain wildlife populations and habitats through science-based management and conservation.

Union Sportsmen's Alliance

Thursday Breakfast Co-Sponsor

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Phone: 615-831-6787
Email: scottv@unionsportsmen.org
www.unionsportsmen.org

The Union Sportsmen's Alliance is a union-dedicated nonprofit conservation organization with members dedicated to hunting, fishing and shooting. These members also dedicate their skills to build the future of conservation in North America.

USDA Veterinary Service

Tania Haby
2150 Centre Ave, Bldg B, Mail Stop 3E13
Fort Collins, CO 80525
Phone: 970-494-7356
Email: tania.s.haby@aphis.usda.gov
www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth

USDA Veterinary Services (VS) improves the health, productivity and quality of life for animals and people, and maintains and promotes the safety and availability of animals, animal products, and veterinary biologics.

PARTNERS

Coffee Break Partners

Izaak Walton League of America

Wednesday Morning Coffee Break Sponsor

Scott Kovarovics

707 Conservation Lane

Gaithersburg, MD 20787

Phone: 301-548-0150

Email: skovarovics@iwla.org

www.iwla.org

The Izaak Walton League of America and our over 240 local chapters conserve, restore, and promote the sustainable use and enjoyment of our natural resources.

Ruffed Grouse Society

Thursday Morning Coffee Break Sponsor

Brenda Donegan

P.O. Box 2

Rice Lake, WI 54868

Phone: 715-234-8302

Email: brenad@ruffedgrousesociety.org

www.ruffedgrousesociety.org

The Ruffed Grouse Society is North America's foremost conservation organization dedicated to preserving our sporting traditions by creating healthy forest habitat for ruffed grouse, American woodcock and other wildlife.

Signage Partner

Voss Signs

Tom Tenerovicz

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Jon Adsem
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Isanti, MN 55080
Phone: 763-444-3604
Email: mrandall@atstrack.com
www.atstrack.com

Advanced Telemetry Systems (ATS) offers innovative and reliable wildlife tracking products designed for researchers worldwide. Visit ATStrack.com for product details and request a same-day quote.

AG-Renewal

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Phone: 580-772-7059
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www.ag-renewal.com

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Amec Foster Wheeler

Dawn Johnson
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Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc. provides environmental, engineering and project management services with more than 7,400 professionals globally. We offer experienced biologists with regional knowledge and understand natural resources management and challenges of large-scale planning efforts.

CarVaTech USA

Joe Daigneau
2208 Martlet Lane
Virginia Beach, VA 23456
Phone: 757-705-0412
Email: joe@carvatechusa.com
www.carvatechusa.com

Our product "RecAccess" is a web-based service for your hunting/fishing/outdoor program. RecAccess allows you to create permits/licenses, harvest surveys, safety briefs, lotteries, check-in/out and more.

F4 Tech

Tom Walthousen
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Tallahassee, FL 32301
Phone: 850-385-3667
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Email: joshm@gsrcorp.com
www.gsrcorp.com

GSRC is a certified economically disadvantaged woman-owned small business that specializes in providing environmental and natural and cultural resources planning services to Federal agencies.

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Institute for Wildlife Studies

David Garcelon
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Arcata, CA 95518
Phone: 707-822-4258
Email: garcelon@iws.org
www.iws.org

We are a non-profit, science-based conservation organization. As part of our efforts we conduct outreach to hunters about nonlead ammunition through our huntingwithnolead.org web site.

Invasive Plant Control, Inc.

Steven Manning
P.O. Box 50556
Nashville, TN 37205
Phone: 615-969-1309
Email: steve@ipc-inc.org
www.invasiveplantcontrol.com

IPC's travel teams roam the United States targeting invasive species in fragile natural areas focusing on selectivity through proper timing and application methods.

iSportsman

Douglas Howlett
209 Business Park Dr., Suite 200
Virginia Beach, VA 23462
Phone: 757-498-0100 x155
Email: dhowlett@ascismail.com
www.isportsman.net

iSportsman is the leading Software as a Service (SaaS) provider of recreational operations management offering solutions in permit sales, access control, harvest reporting and more. iSportsman is the leading provider of cloud-based recreational management software. Our online service offers solutions for permit sales, access control, automated data collection and more.

Management Assistance Team

Bettina Fiery
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Shepherdstown, WV 25425
Phone: 304-876-7988
Email: bettinaf@matteam.org
www.matteam.org

The Management Assistance Team (MAT) is a six-person, high-performing team that is part of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. Think of MAT as an internal training resource on retainer for all fifty state fish and wildlife agencies across the country. MAT's products and services concentrate on the agency administration—the people part of the equation.

National Conservation Leadership Institute

Gina Main
698 Conservation Way
Shepherdstown, WV 25425
Phone: 304-876-7988
Email: ginam@matteam.org
www.conservationleadership.org

The National Conservation Leadership Institute (NCLI) is one of the most far-reaching professional development initiatives ever undertaken within the natural resource conservation community. Each year 36 individuals from across the conservation community are nominated by their organization's senior leadership to participate in this intensive, nine-month, world-class leadership development program developed around the tenants of Adaptive Leadership™. Ten years after its inception, and now 318 graduates strong, the increasing impact of the NCLI program is being felt across

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conservation, broadening the network of individuals who share a powerful leadership language and deepening inter-organizational connections that will help those working in natural resource management to successfully navigate evolving environmental, political, and economic challenges.

Responsive Management

Mark Duda
130 Franklin Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801
Phone: 540-432-1888
Email: mark@responsivemanagement.com
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Responsive Management is an internationally recognized public opinion and attitude survey research firm specializing in natural resource and outdoor recreation issues. We conduct harvest studies, user surveys, needs assessments, programmatic evaluations, and marketing analyses using telephone surveys, mail and online surveys, focus groups, stakeholder meetings, and personal interviews.

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Southwick Associates is a market research, statistics, and economics firm, specializing in the hunting, shooting, sportfishing, and outdoor recreation markets. For more than 25 years, Southwick Associates has delivered comprehensive insights that have advanced strategic decisions across the entire outdoor community; from resource agencies, industry associations and non-profit organizations, to utilities, outdoor manufacturers and businesses. Better Information for better decisions.

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- ☆ *Voss Signs*
- ☆ *Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife*

ABOUT THE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE

The Wildlife Management Institute (WMI) was founded in 1911, just three years after President Theodore Roosevelt held the 1908 Conference of Governors. This meeting was the first national meeting on the conservation of our nation's natural resources. Roosevelt was one of the first advisors to the American Game Protective and Propagation Association, the direct precursor of WMI. On September 19, 1911, Roosevelt wrote these words to John Burnham, the Association's first president, "I have read the Constitution and By-Laws of the American Game Protective and Propagation Association. I need hardly say that I unqualifiedly believe in the purpose of this association, and it should have the backing of all good citizens. ... They should be backed up by every sportsmen worthy of the name, and by every lover of Nature, and every good citizen." With that legacy, WMI continues to provide national leadership to conserve, restore, and enhance North American wildlife populations and habitats by promoting professional and scientific conservation of wildlife resources.

WMI staff are currently driving leading edge conservation at national and regional levels in the following areas: hunter recruitment and retention program design and evaluation, early successional habitat research and management, scientific and administrative reviews of agency management programs, innovative uses of Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration funds, enhancement of the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program through engagement of industry and agency leaders, Regional Conservation Needs, and Landscape Conservation Cooperatives' administration.

2016 Highlights Include:

- Lead the implementation of the Young Forest project in the Northeast, northern Appalachian Mountains, upper Great Lakes, lower Great Lakes and the mid-Atlantic Coast regions. The project involves more than 30 partners and is designed to meet habitat restoration goals identified in the American Woodcock Conservation Plan, New England Cottontail Conservation Strategy and Golden Winged Warbler Conservation Plan.
- Completed independent program evaluations for the Fish and Wildlife Service and 2 state fish and wildlife agencies that identified program strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for program enhancement.
- Assisted the North Atlantic, Gulf Coast Prairie, Great Plains, Appalachian, Arctic, Aleutian Bering Sea Islands, Western Alaska, and Northwest Boreal Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCC) with identification of the highest priority science needs as the basis for allocation of over \$3 million in research grants administered by WMI.
- Provided formal advice to the Secretaries of the Agriculture and Interior on natural resource management issues for the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management,

ABOUT THE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE

and Fish and Wildlife Service. WMI is a member of the Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council, a Federal Advisory Committee for the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior.

- Served as the Vice-Chair of the Council to Advance Hunting and Shooting Sports, an organization focused on enhancing the Wildlife Restoration Act Program and promoting the hunting and shooting sports.
- Coordinated efforts to ensure uniform applicability of the Federal Excise Tax (Pittman-Robertson & Dingell-Johnson) across all manufacturers. Lead discussions with industry representatives, Internal Revenue Service and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to develop strategies to provide fairness and equity among taxpayers while also ensuring state fish and wildlife agencies receive the accurate amount of PR/DJ dollars.
- Conducted multi-day training and information workshops for state wildlife agency staff and administrators on hunter recruitment and retention program development, evaluation and best practices. These workshops were presented to state and federal agencies, AFWA regions, NGO's and other sportsmen's education groups.
- Administered the Northeast Regional Conservation Needs Grant program that allowed Northeast states to create regional collaborations to address priority topics identified in State Wildlife Action Plans. WMI developed this unique program that provides interstate coordination of fish and wildlife research funding.

Where We've Been:

2002: Dallas, TX

2003: Winston-Salem, NC

2004: Spokane, WA

2005: Arlington, VA

2006: Columbus, OH

2007: Portland, OR

2008: Phoenix, AZ

2009: Arlington, VA

2010: Milwaukee, WI

2011: Kansas City, MO

2012: Atlanta, GA

2013: Washington, DC

2014: Denver, CO

2015: Omaha, NE

2016: Pittsburgh, PA

Where We're Going - Plan Ahead!

2018: March 25-30, Hilton Norfolk, The Main Hotel - Norfolk, VA

2019: March 4-9, Sheraton Denver Downtown - Denver, CO

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Making Conservation Relevant in a Changing World

Our biggest challenge is to make wildlife conservation relevant to a rapidly changing and urbanizing America. That's why we're working with our partners to help families forge and strengthen personal connections with nature, and to enable young people to explore careers in wildlife biology and other STEM subjects - regardless of their background or where they live.

Together, we're laying the foundations for conservation in the 21st Century.



Photo/USFWS

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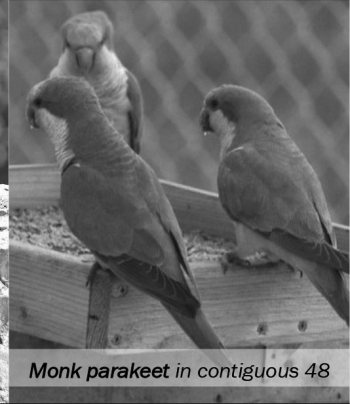
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The U.S. Geological Survey provides reliable scientific information on a variety of topics. Our work includes research and monitoring on freshwater, terrestrial, and marine ecosystems and the fish and wildlife within them. USGS scientists are also working to understanding how our world is changing and how this impacts our natural resources, our livelihoods, and our communities.

Learn more about specific USGS programs that focus on fish, wildlife, ecosystems, climate change, and natural resources:

National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center: <https://nccwsc.usgs.gov>

Ecosystems Mission Area: www.usgs.gov/science/mission-areas/ecosystems

Ecosystems Cooperative Research Units:
www.usgs.gov/science/mission-areas/ecosystems/cooperative-research-units

U.S. Department of the Interior
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Washington's Wild Future: A Partnership for Fish and Wildlife

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The Bureau of Land Management

www.blm.gov

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productivity of the public lands for the use and
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THROUGH NSSF'S MESSAGE,
'OWN IT? RESPECT IT. SECURE IT.'



OWN IT?



RESPECT IT. SECURE IT.

ProjectChildSafe.org

The National Shooting Sports Foundation encourages the nation's fish and wildlife agencies to help promote responsible gun ownership through Project ChildSafe's new "Own It? Respect It. Secure It." campaign.

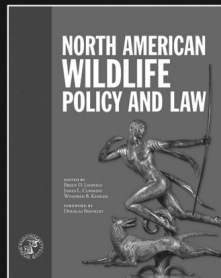
This simple message helps educate and remind all firearm owners how to keep themselves and their families safe. Since the campaign's launch in June 2014, more than 3,200 industry companies, media outlets, conservation organizations, retailers, shooting ranges and supporters are participating in the effort by using the Own It? Respect It. Secure It. logo and optional tagline: "Store your firearms responsibly."

Learn how to get involved at NSSF.ORG/ORS



COMING THIS FALL FROM THE BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB

The Definitive Text Book on North American Wildlife Policy and Law



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"This book fills an important gap in educating wildlife students and professionals about significant legal underpinnings in natural resources that

give wildlife necessary management standing for public interests. The comprehensive topic inclusion will help university-level training to fulfill professional certification requirements established for wildlife biologists by The Wildlife Society."

— BRUCE THOMPSON, PhD
PRESIDENT, THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

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