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THE WILD SIDE

DON PITTS – NMFVA President
(DONALD.PITTS@ERDC.USACEARMY.MIL)

The field successes of our armed forces in the war against terrorism have been nothing short of phenomenal. Quite obviously, we in natural resources have been equally astute at providing realistic, natural training environments. As well, we have provided training opportunities while maintaining legal status with the laws and regulations that protect the resources. Without our successes, the military successes would have been questionable at best.

I have a personal interest in this because my first experience with the military was as a Marine Corps combat engineer officer. I did have my degree in range science when I entered the Corps, and carried with me not only a vital interest in becoming a formidable warrior, but my keen respect for the natural world around me. I was not disappointed.

The Marine Corps, like the other services, provides its people with excellent training for their respective assignments. While I trained in Quantico, VA, then Camp Lejeune,

NC, I also kept one eye on the natural resources. They were nothing short of incredible. I spent much of my spare time hiking and enjoying those resources, and quickly learned that the Marine Corps bases were the place to hike. They were far more natural and pristine than the region surrounding them, including parks.

My final military days were at Camp Pendleton, CA. I spent several nights in the Anzio Borrego desert, but tired of seeing all the destruction by dirt bikes and four wheel drive vehicles. Many of the visitors were nothing more than vandals, their activities unchecked by any authority. In contrast, my Marine Base offered a wonderful and natural recreation area for myself and my young family.

I remember in 1973, driving south from Los Angeles - it was all concrete and development. Then, thankfully, there was Camp Pendleton. Keep going south, off the base, and we're into concrete again. The Marine Corps

ATTEND NMFVA ANNUAL TRAINING SESSIONS

DALLAS, TX

1-5 APRIL 2002

The Wild Side — continued

had preserved the last remaining natural coastline in Southern California.

Today, the contrast is even more dramatic. The Army is being questioned about expansion around Ft. Irwin? One needs to look no farther than the desert tortoise population on Ft. Irwin, then on the adjacent BLM land. 'Nuff said. Where are the luckiest gopher tortoises in the world? Camp Shelby, Eglin AFB, etc.

Granted, with our successes are problems. Population goals for endangered species were set when our installations had, say, 20% of the available habitat. But encroachment continued unabated. Nobody squawked at the strip mall here, the housing development there. Why would they? The nearby military installation had plenty of habitat. And then, we had all the habitat, the rest gobbled up in the face of a sleeping government. And now they look to us as the species' last stand.

We can take pride in providing this last stand, but still must remind the regulators that 20% of the former habitat can't meet 100% of the goals. We're proud to do our part and our commanders are great citizens, but landscape biology is the only viable solution to species extinction and an installation is hardly 100% the landscape.

It is no wonder that military installations must maintain a professional natural resources staff. Encroachment has us and the species backed into a corner, forcing us to face every direction, that of protecting the environment, protecting the species, protecting the training, protecting the military. Its sometimes enough to make me miss the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Ok, not really.

We're the only natural resource professionals out there having to deal with endangered species in an impact area. Harder still, even with a handful of confirming data, is understanding that the training is actually helping the species, which is why they're there.

Yes, we face a myriad of problems, and our job is to protect our military services and their training, to include keeping out installations on the right side of the law.

Ok, this is all a big pitch to make sure you come to the annual meeting at Dallas. Chester Martin, Dennis Herbert, and a heckuva lot more of our dedicated professionals have been busting their buns to make this the best meeting ever. The sessions are the best, well, the ONLY training you'll be offered anywhere on our special problems of natural resource management on military lands. We have some of the strongest sessions available anywhere, and the extra features like the newcomers breakfast, and a REAL Texas awards dinner should give us the strongest showing ever.

Professionals go to their most important professional conferences. For you, this one is it.

See you there. - Don



NMFWA EMAIL ADDRESSES NEEDED!!!!

Reminder: Please send your E-mail address to: Mike Passmore, Membership Committee Chair at: Michael.F.Passmore@erdc.usace.army.mil for your address and other information to be included in the NMFWA database. You can update your data by completing the application on the www.nmfwa.org website.

This will aid Regional Directors and other BOD members facilitate improved communication with the membership.

THANKS!!

**2002 NATIONAL MILITARY FISH AND WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION
MEETING PROGRAM — HYATT REGENCY TOWER, DALLAS, TEXAS**
Monday, 1 April

0700-1000 Board of Directors Meeting (Moreno, Atrium Level)

Tuesday, 2 April

0800-1000 Herp working Group Meeting (Moreno A, Atrium Level)

1000-1200 Bat Working Group Meeting (Moreno A, Atrium Level)

0900-1100 Invasives Working Group Meeting (Moreno B, Atrium Level)

0800-1200 BASH Meeting (Windsor, Atrium Level)

1300-1430 DOD Conservation Planning Session (Reunion Ballroom G&H, Lobby Level)

1430-1730 Service Breakout Sessions

U.S. Army (Pegasus B, Lobby Level)

U.S. Air Force (Windsor A, Atrium Level)

U.S. Navy (Pegasus A, Lobby Level)

U.S. Marine Corps (Moreno B, Atrium Level)

1830-2000 Committee Meetings

New Board of Directors Meeting (Crockett, Atrium Level)

Government Affairs Committee Meeting (Baker, Atrium Level)

Wednesday, 3 April

0630-0730 Newcomer's Breakfast, Ferris Plaza Restaurant (directly across from Hyatt Regency)

0800-1000 Technical Session A – *Encroachment and Military Natural Resource Management* (Reunion Ballroom G&H)

1015-1200 Technical Session B – *Ethics in DOD Natural Resources Management* (Reunion Ballroom G&H)

1315-1515 Technical Session C – *Forestry and Wildlife Management – Where do we Stand?* (Reunion Ballroom G&H)

1530-1730 Technical Session D – *Range and Prairie Restoration Efforts on Military Installations* (Reunion Ballroom G&H)

1900-2200 Show and Tell Reception (Reunion Ballroom G&H)

Thursday, 4 April

0900-1200 WMI Plenary Session

1230-1400 Partners in Flight Meeting (Sanger B, Atrium Level)

1400-1600 NMFWA Business Meeting (Reunion Ballroom G&H)

1600-1730 Technical Session E – *Coastal Challenges on DOD Installations* (Reunion Ballroom G&H)

1830-2200 Awards Banquet, Shadow Creek Ranch

Friday, 5 April

0800-1000 Technical Session F – *Field Notes (Miscellaneous Topics)* (Reunion Ballroom G&H)

1015-1200 Technical Session G – *Managing Ecosystems into the Future* (Reunion Ballroom G&H)

1330-1600 Board of Directors Meeting (Bryan-Beeman, Atrium Level)

Comments: Note that there have been several time and room changes since the preliminary WMI brochure was published. Dennis and I will continue to coordinate our program and activities with WMI and hotel personnel over the next two months. Any additional changes will be announced via updates to the NMFWA and WMI web pages, so plan on checking these periodically. NMFWA members are encouraged to preregister with WMI and NMFWA as soon as possible

(Tammy has requested that registration forms be faxed to 858-676-0469 only after 7:00 a.m. Pacific Standard Time (10:00 EST); this is her home phone/fax number and she's had several 4:00 a.m. wake-up calls).

Our registration desk at the Hyatt Regency will be in the Pegasus Ballroom Alcove.

Chester O. Martin, Program Chair, (601) 634-3958; chester.o.martin@erdc.usace.army.mil

2002 SILENT AUCTION

A Silent Auction will again be held during the Show and Tell Reception at the annual meeting. Please consider donating useful or attractive items (such as artwork, books, CDs, etc.) to raise money for NMFWA.

If you have something to give, contact Hildy Reiser at (505) 572-3931, DSN 572-3931, or hildy.reiser@holloman.af.mil.

NMFWA 2002 SHOW&TELL

What lessons have you learned? What words (or pictures) of wisdom do you have to share? Why is your INRMP the greatest thing since sliced bread? Participate in this year's Show and Tell reception and let everyone know.

The Show and Tell is a great opportunity to network with natural resource professionals in an informal atmosphere. We need **YOU** to share the insight and wisdom of your installation's successes, lessons learned, high (or low) points, achievements, accolades, good deeds, unique programs, partnerships, new ventures, pet projects, money saving techniques and/or how not to reinvent the wheel!!!! This is the time to share with your counterparts so we can learn what is going on in your part of the world. In years past the Show and Tell presentations have come in all sorts of format: poster boards, video presentations, computer demonstrations, slide shows and combinations thereof. Installation contractors can contribute their achievements as well.

If you would like to participate, please fill out the on-line application on our website at http://www/nmfwa.org/2002_Meeting/index.htm. If you have any questions, please contact me at: Coralie Cobb, Southwest Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command; telephone (858) 577-6238 or DSN 267; fax (858) 577-6212; e-mail: cobbch@efdswn.navy.mil.

NMFWA WORKING GROUPS - 2002

This year's NMFWA program will include Working Group meetings on Herps, Bats, and Invasives, all scheduled for Tuesday, April 2 (see Program Summary). The Herp and Bat working groups will share the same room (Moreno A. Atrium Level); the Herp session will be held from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m., and the Bat meeting will be from 10:00 to 12:00 a.m. Note that this is a correction to the times published in the WMI brochure. The primary objective of the bat meeting will be to present and discuss the draft charter. Some time will be allowed to discuss ongoing bat studies and management efforts, but there will be no formal presentations. Contact Chester Martin at (601) 634-3958 or chester.o.martin@erdc.usace.army.mil if you have any questions regarding the Bat Working Group.

John Lamb is in charge of the Herp Working Group paper session; he can be reached at (931) 454-5387 or john.lamb@arnold.af.mil. The session will include several presentations on herp work being done on DOD installations.

The Invasive Species Working Group meeting will be held from 9:00 to 11:00 in Moreno B, Atrium Level (see notice from Kim Mello, page 5). A special BASH session will also be held Tuesday morning, 8:00 to 12:00 a.m. in the Windsor room, Atrium Level (see notice from Matthew Klope, page 6).

PARTNERS IN FLIGHT SESSION

We invite you to attend the DOD Partners in Flight update at the NMFWA meeting in Dallas. Date: Thursday, 4 April; Time: 12:30-2:00 p.m.; Location: Sangor B (Atrium level). Copies of the 2002 update of the PIF Strategic Plan will be handed out and discussed. We will also introduce the DoD Bird Conservation Database, provide guidance on how to submit your installation's data, and show how to query the database to find information on projects relating to birds and their habitats on military lands. We look forward to seeing you in Dallas. For more information, visit <http://www.dodpif.org>, or contact Chris Eberly at ceberly@dodpif.org or 540-253-5675.

2002 NMFVA PHOTO CONTEST!!!

You've seen the photos. You've seen the prizes. Don't sit back and be an observer any longer. Join in the fun and participate in the **Fourth Annual Photography Contest** at the NMFVA Conference in Dallas. Here are the rules:

1. Photos must be taken by the participant. Anyone registered at the NMFVA conference is eligible to enter.
2. Photos must be mounted on stiff backing (photo board, art board, foam board, etc.). Each photo must have the name and address of the photographer clearly marked on the back, along with the entry category. Matting is optional. Do not submit photos in glass frames.
3. Photos must be at least 5 X 7 inches and no larger than 11 X 14 inches. Color and black and white prints are acceptable. Slides will not be accepted.
4. Each photo must qualify under one of the following categories: (a) wildlife, (b) installation field activities (photo must have been taken at a DoD installation to qualify for this category), (c) landscapes (any location is acceptable), and (d) humor/fun (includes wildlife or people in humorous poses, people taking part in fun activities, studio shots, etc.).
5. Each participant may enter up to two photos in each category. One prize will be awarded in each category. Winners will be honored at the annual banquet.
6. Bring your photos with you and submit them to Julie Eliason before the show and tell reception. Advance notification of entries on your pre-registration form is helpful, but not required.

Keep that camera handy and keep snapping!

Julie Eliason (julie.eliason@ca.ngb.army.mil)

INVASIVE SPECIES WORKING GROUP (ISWG)

A subcommittee is currently working on a website for the ISWG for the NMFVA's web page. Another committee is working on an invasive species database. Jeanne Dye is the Chair of this group.

I shamefully hate to admit that I have not sent out the minutes from the DC meeting yet but.....They'll be out before our Dallas meeting! Speaking of which: the ISWG meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, April 2 from 0900-1100. If you have topics for our meeting, please contact me or Mark Dutton.

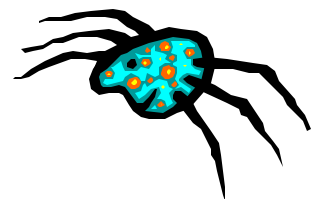
I've been trying to keep the membership advised on a number of topics via email but one that is worth mentioning here again is the CD that Dr. Al Cofrancesco and his colleagues have put out on invasives---it's excellent. Al can be reached at 601-634-3182 or cofrana@wes.army.mil.

Heads-up: one-day invasive plant courses/workshops on purple loosestrife and garlic mustard are tentatively being planned in early June at Cornell University. I'll get more info out on these as soon as I know more details.

I gave a presentation at the SERDP meeting in December in DC on "Invasive Species: An Installation Perspective". I thought it was received well and want to thank those of you that had responded to a six-question survey I did last spring. I used some of the results to show what other perspectives were at other installations regarding invasive species.

Happy New Year!

Kim Mello and Mark Dutton, Co-chairs
(mellok@emh2.mccoys.army.mil;
duttonm@jackson.army.mil)



AT-LARGE DIRECTOR REPORT

As usual, my report will primarily deal with our website. In November, we reached an all-time high in visits! I've written in each of probably my last six reports that the website changes regularly. You really should "stop by" to see what's there. For those who don't have it bookmarked, our site can be found at www.nmfwa.org.

If you haven't visited the site lately, you've missed the Jobs Bulletin Board and the relatively new employment links. You may not know about the herpetology project database -- the idea of this thing is, if you're planning a project focused on species x, check to see if someone else has done work on the same species or a close relative. If so, contact the Principal Researcher to learn about tricks of the trade, mistakes made or brilliant, perhaps unpublished developments.

Speaking of brilliant things, you really should see the presentation by two valued Herp Working Group members (Tessa Martin-Bashore and Terry Bashore) that has recently been posted. It goes into incredible detail on safe techniques for implanting radio transmitters in venomous snakes. Like that Australian idiot on Animal Planet says, "Don't try this at home, kids!" But you can watch in detail as some noted experts in the field present their methods. This is a long, very detailed presentation, so don't rush through it.

Information on the Dallas meeting is presented in quite a bit of detail, and there will be more added probably every week for the next three months. One of the new things in Dallas will be a "newcomer's breakfast." We learned a few years ago that some first-time meeting attendees were a bit intimidated by not knowing anyone, like who to talk to during the breaks and who to sit with during our sessions (or who to hang out with in the bar later that night). We never intended to be "cliquish," but there are some strong friendships within our organization and we might only see each other once or twice a year, so...

Anyway, most of the Board, a few of the old fogies, and newcomers will have breakfast together on Wednesday.

That's about it from the Mojave Desert. I hope to see everyone in Dallas!

Rhys Evans (EVANSRM@29palms.usmc.mil)

BASH TECHNICAL SESSION

During the upcoming Dallas meeting, a special technical session has been organized to present the DoD BASH Program. This session has been developed by the Air Force and Navy BASH coordinators to present the many aspects of the BASH program for cooperative management between the natural resources managers and the military aviation community. Many aspects of the BASH program will be presented including: NEPA, permits, training requirements, wildlife strike identification, and recent scientific research programs. Examples of installation programs will be presented detailing the various practices and methodologies incorporated into an effective BASH program.

The session will be held on Tuesday, 2 April, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, in the Hyatt Regency (Windsor, Atrium Level). Plan on attending this informative and entertaining look into the DoD BASH Program. For additional information on this technical session or the DoD BASH Program, please contact Matthew Klope, (Navy) at 360-257-1468 (DSN 820-1468) or Eugene LeBoeuf (Air Force) at 505-846-5679 (DSN 246-5679). For periodic updates, refer to the NMFWA web site.

DEADLINES FOR SUBMITTING ARTICLES TO EDITOR FOR UPCOMING FAWN EDITIONS:

30 MAY 2002 for JUNE '02 edition
15 SEPTEMBER 2002 for OCTOBER '02

(Michael.F.Passmore@erdc.usace.
army.mil)

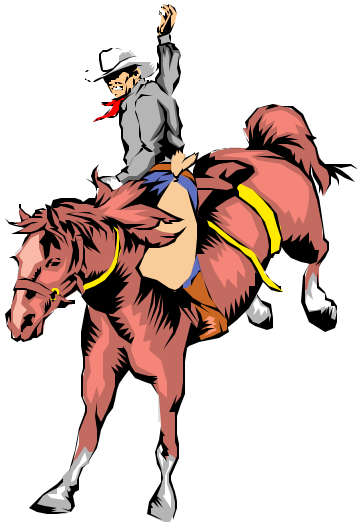
NMFWA MEETING AND AWARDS BANQUET

It's only weeks until the association meets again, as you well know by now, in Dallas, Texas and things are coming together.

The upcoming meeting will be held in Dallas at the Hyatt Regency Reunion Tower, April 1-5, 2002. Chester Martin has a great program lined up and there are numerous sites and activities available in the downtown area during your free time. An off-site location for our awards banquet has been arranged. This and other information is now available on the association web site (<http://www.nmfwa.org/>), so visit it soon. Also check the web site for information on transportation, other hotels in the area, and extracurricular activities.

The Awards Banquet is scheduled for Thursday evening, 4 April 2002, at Shadow Creek Ranch (Old Fort Dallas) - A replica of an 1800's old Texas town (very authentic). They provide transportation to and from the Hyatt downtown. A Texas style catered Bar-B-Q meal is arranged.

RIDE!EM COWBOY!!



I need your help as soon as you can. To get a preliminary count of those attending the banquet please email me if you plan to attend the awards dinner - dherb254@vvm.com or (dennis.Herbert@hood.army.mil). I would like to save association funds by having as accurate a count as possible of the attendance. Also, please express your desire, via the same means, of attending a potential field trip on Saturday 6 April to the Dallas Nature Center. Watch the web site for further information it's a good birding area, among other things, Black-capped Vireo that time of the year.

Dennis M. Herbert
 Host Chariman
 2002 NMFWA Conference
Dennis.herbert@hood.army.mil

TEXAS WILDFLOWERS WILL BE IN SEASON -- ENJOY!!



PROPOSED BY-LAW AMENDMENTS

Fellow NMFVA Members:

An *ad hoc* By-Laws committee was appointed following the Association's Annual meeting in Washington, DC last March. The committee was specifically tasked with examining the current by-laws and develop proposals to amend the bylaws, addressing:

1. the establishment of staggered terms of office for the Secretary and Treasurer positions;
2. making the *ad hoc* website committee an official standing committee by creation of an "OUTREACH" committee that combined responsibilities for the NMFVA poster, the brochure, the website and other methods of disseminating information to NMFVA members and the public at large;
3. amending sections where needed to recognize the *de facto* necessity of conducting Association business via electronic means; and,
4. to grant voting rights to certain non-DOD employees working for states, universities and the Dept. of Interior involved in the direct management of natural resources on US military installations.

Because of the potentially controversial nature of that last issue, the proposed amendments to the Association's by-laws/constitution were separated into two proposals, each of which shall be voted on by the Association's voting membership present at the Annual Business meeting in Dallas, TX in April. It is important that all NMFVA members that desire to comment on the proposals below be given full opportunity to do so. Therefore, any NMFVA member unable to attend the meeting in Dallas can mail or e-mail their comments to me NO LATER THAN 20 March 2002 and their comments will be read into the record during the discussion phase of the motion during the Annual Business Meeting.

The address to send comments via US Postal Service is: James Beemer, 20 Roxanne Boulevard,

Highland, NY 12528-2827. E-mail address is: ravenwindrider@earthlink.net

Voting NMFVA members unable to attend the Annual Meeting may cast their votes via the same addresses. Absentee votes must reach me by 20 March 2002.

Respectfully submitted by the members of the NMFVA *ad hoc* By-Laws Committee,

James Beemer, Chair
Dave Tazik
Rhys Evans

PROPOSAL #1 TO AMEND THE BY-LAWS OF THE NATIONAL MILITARY FISH & WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION

Currently, Article IV-Committees contains 12 separate Sections covering 11 standing committees and a section on special *ad hoc* committees. The standing committees are: Nominations; Program; Newsletter; Membership; Awards; Resolutions; Law Enforcement; Poster; Archives; Audit; and, Government Affairs. Three *ad hoc* committees are currently in operation: Web Site & Advertising Guidelines; By-Laws; and, Reserve Fund.

The advent of the NMFVA website has shown that it is an important communication tool not only to NMFVA members but also to the public at large. Similarly, the work required to keep the website a functional tool has proved to be more than a temporary event, requiring a permanent establishment within the organizational structure of NMFVA.

In another vein, the organization's other methods of public outreach involve the NMFVA Poster and the NMFVA brochure. Therefore, a formal, standing committee that deals with outreach to the public and potential members would result in an efficient coordination of disseminating the organization's message and information pool. This would be more efficient than establishing a separate standing committee that only dealt with the NMFVA website while leaving the Poster Committee intact.

As no committee is limited to just the Chairperson, the effort required for the effective operation of this committee can be spread among several individuals so that one person is not over-whelmed.

Therefore, the NMFVA By-laws Committee recommends that the current Article IV - Committees, Section 8 - Poster Committee be repealed and be replaced with a new Section 8 - Outreach Committee which shall read:

Section 8. Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee Chairperson shall be appointed by the President. The President and Immediate Past-President shall serve as ex officio members of the committee. The Chairperson is responsible for obtaining additional committee members as required. The committee is responsible for preparing and presenting the Association’s poster at the Annual Training Workshop. The committee shall work with other NMFVA members to arrange display of the Association’s poster at other conferences/venues. The committee is responsible for working with the individual/business contracted to be the NMFVA Webmaster to maintain the Association’s website including but not limited to content, links, bulletin boards and advertising, in accordance with current Association guidelines. The Chairperson will coordinate with the President and Treasurer regarding any business details between the Association and an internal or external webmaster. The committee shall develop policy with Board approval that will: 1. govern distribution of Association membership lists; and, 2. what form of advertising may appear in the Association newsletter, on its website and at Association workshops. The committee shall distribute the Association’s brochure to members and other individuals that may request a copy. The committee shall also periodically review the brochure to determine whether its content needs to be updated.

Currently, Article V - Meetings, Section 2 reads: “Section 2. The Board may meet physically, through correspondence, or by telephone to conduct business of the Association, as deemed necessary by the President.”

In recognition of technological advances in electronic forms of communication, the By-Laws Committee believes that Article V, Section 2 be amended to further clarify how the Board may conduct business. Therefore the Committee recommends that Article V - Meetings, Section 2 be amended to reads as follows (new wording in ***bold italics***):

“Section 2. The Board may meet physically, through correspondence (***hardcopy or electronic***), or by telephone to conduct business of the Association, as deemed necessary by the President.”

Currently, Article VI - Elections and Voting, Section 1 reads (in part):

“Section 1. The election of officers, Regional, and At-Large Directors shall be by mail. Voting...”

The advances in electronic communication (e-mail, fax machines, Internet websites) have created a gray area with regards to voting procedures. In order to clarify this gray area, the By-Laws Committee recommends that Article VI - Elections and Voting, Section 1 be amended to read as follows (new wording in ***bold italics***):

“Section 1. The election of officers ***and*** Regional ***and*** At-Large Directors shall be by ***U.S.*** mail, ***facsimile transmission, or via the Association’s Internet website.*** Voting members may submit ballots to the Immediate Past President (or his/her representative). Ballots must be received at least two weeks prior to the date of the ***Association’s annual*** business meeting. Each voting member is entitled to one vote.”

Currently, Article VI - Elections and Voting, Section 2 reads (in part): “...The terms of office for the Secretary, the Treasurer and the Board members (Directors) shall be through two consecutive business meetings...”

In order for the Association to transition efficiently during the instatement of new individuals as Secretary and Treasurer, the Board and other

**PROPOSED BY-LAW AMENDMENTS —
CONTINUED**

NMFWA members have recognized that it would be most efficient if only one of the two positions be elected in any given year.

Therefore, the NMFWA By-laws Committee recommends that Article VI, Section 2 of the NMFWA By-laws be amended to read (new section in ***bold italics***; some other minor changes [capitalization] were added for document consistency):

“Newly elected members of the Board shall be announced at the first Board meeting of the Annual Training Workshop and the election results posted at the registration desk. All newly elected members shall take office immediately following the ***Business Meeting***. No person shall serve on the Board for more than ten (***10***) consecutive years. The term of office shall be until the conclusion of the next Business Meeting for the President, President-elect, Vice President and Past President. The terms of office for the Secretary, Treasurer and the Board members (Directors) shall be through two consecutive ***Business Meetings***. One half of the Board members (one eastern and one western Regional director and one At-Large Director) shall be elected annually or prior to each Business Meeting in the event that the interval between Business Meetings exceeds one year. ***The Secretary shall be elected in odd-numbered years and the Treasurer shall be elected in even-numbered years.***”

This section shall take effect for the election immediately following this amendment’s adoption by the membership. Of the Secretary and Treasurer, whoever’s office is not scheduled for election in that given year, the current office holder shall be appointed by the Board to serve a one-year term until the next election. If the current office holder is not willing to serve, then the Board in accordance with Article VII, Section 8, will fill the vacancy.

All other proposed amendments listed above in Proposals 1 & 2 shall take effect at the close of the Annual Meeting if approved by the membership.

**PROPOSAL #2 TO AMEND THE BY-LAWS OF
THE NATIONAL MILITARY
FISH & WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION**

Currently, Article III - Membership, Section 3 reads: “Membership in the Association shall be open to all persons dedicated to the objectives of the Association. Voting members are limited to persons employed as full-time DoD personnel involved in natural resources management on military installations. Membership shall be by written application to the Membership Committee.”

As originally envisaged, the voting membership defined above was crafted to insure that the actions of the Association were made in the best interests of the natural resources on DoD lands. Also, the voting membership composed of such individuals would be bound by the public trust responsibilities that were part and parcel to being public servants charged with the stewardship of the natural resources found on DoD lands.

However, it has been recognized that as currently defined, only NMFWA members that were employed by DoD as natural resources professionals at the installation were eligible for voting membership privileges. This precluded voting membership to those individuals that were state agency employees & university personnel that similarly had responsibilities for the management of natural resources on DoD lands.

Such individuals would therefore be prohibited from serving as officers in the Association or determining Association policies. Therefore, the By-Laws committee recommends that Article III - Membership, Section 3 be amended to read as follows (new text in ***bold italics***):

“Section 3. Membership in the Association shall be open to all persons dedicated to the objectives of the Association. Voting members are limited to: ***1. Persons involved in natural resources management on military installations and employed as full-time DoD personnel or full-time Dept. of Interior personnel; 2. Persons employed***

full time by a state agency directly involved in natural resources management on military installations; and, 3. Persons employed full-time by an accredited university and directly involved in natural resources management on military installations. Membership shall be by written application to the Membership Committee.”

★ **NEW WETLAND LINK** ★

The Environmental Laboratory of the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (WES) has added an informative document to their website entitled “Delineation of Wetlands and other Regulated Waters.” The publication is a planning level delineation prepared for Pelham Range, Alabama, in accordance with an Interservices Support Agreement (ISSA) between the Army National Guard Readiness Center and the Environmental Laboratory (ISSA 2172040).

Preparation of this planning level document included development of a field map that was compatible with the installation’s GIS. The map was field verified utilizing the Corps of Engineers delineation procedures. Finally, the finished map, which incorporated field corrections, was produced. In addition, electronic files were generated including: a summary report documenting flora, soils, and other descriptive natural features; sample point images characterizing wetland features; full and complete metadata for all layers developed; linear data depicting Regulated Waters of the U.S.; polygonal data depicting wetland boundaries; point data indicating field verification sample point locations; data layers collected from GIS clearinghouse Internet web sites; installation-developed data layers; and digital products developed or purchased from the United States Geologic Survey, i.e. roads, railroads, elevation contours, digital raster graphic (DRG) data, digital orthophoto quarter quad (DOQQ) image data, etc. The GIS data set was delivered in multiple coordinate/projection systems to accommodate the installation’s

Geographic Information System as well as addressing the mandate for all Department of Defense developed digital data (Executive Order 12906, “Coordinating Geographic Data Acquisition and Access: The National Spatial Data Infrastructure”).

Thus far, over 100 National Guard bases have been delineated under this agreement. See the sample report at <http://www.wes.army.mil/el/wetlands/delineation/>.

This project provides an integral INRMP component, a delineation of jurisdictional waters, including wetlands, at the installation. But equally important, the electronic data provides a platform for the development of an Ecosystem Management Strategy. In the planning stages, the visual representation of data can help guide Managers in locating crucial ecosystem components. As the metrics are collected and entered, with geospatial attributes, into the system a holistic image of the installation’s natural resources emerges. Finally, the visual representation of temporal changes in data is an important tool for analyzing the success of management strategies. This dynamic electronic product can become the heart of Natural Resources Management planning, implementation and evaluation.

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