



FAWN



FISH AND WILDLIFE NEWS

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THE NATIONAL MILITARY FISH AND WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION

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THE WILD SIDE

Thomas M. Poole, NMFWA President

"Thirty days hath September"... and this is about 10 days too few for yours truly. The transition from summer to autumn is a busy time around the home and the office. The kids go off to school and the 1996 fiscal year goes into a tailspin. End of the year projects are dusted off and paraded before the boss in hopes of last minute approvals. The A-106 submittal is suddenly the primary programming effort instead of a routine update so we have to plan for the outyears while closing out the current one. Making every dollar count is the name of the game.

The Sikes Act amendments did not (as of this writing) get passed. Eleventh hour negotiations failed to produce language acceptable to all parties. Their are times when I believe Falstaff was right. The lack of an updated version of the Sykes Act has an adverse effects beyond the funding and law enforcement issues debated by Association members over the past four years. The interaction among state, USFWS and DoD entities mandated by the Act helps to defuse natural resources controversies that can affect the military mission.

A recent example is the

language contained within a state law that effects users of public lands in New Mexico. Non-residents who wish to enter permit lotteries for certain big game species on public lands must agree to contract the services of an outfitter (guide). The enacting legislation contains the following language: "... however, that this requirement shall not apply to lands under the control of the federal military if the military objects to it." The existence of the Sykes Act may not be the primary reason for such language appearing within a state law,

but I believe the professional relationships and information flow developed as a result of Sykes Act implementation had an impact. Marge McHenry and Thomas Wray need all the help they can get to insure a top quality training session in Washington DC next March. Marge is the program committee chair and Thomas is the host committee chair. Please assist them in any way you can. The military session at The Wildlife Society annual meeting is on track. If you can get to Ohio, look up Dave Tazik and company. They may appreciate some volunteer assistance. Speaking of volunteer assistance,

IN THIS ISSUE

TWS Third Annual Conference	2
NMFWA Financial Summary	3
View From OSD	4
1997 DoD Training Session	4
Meeting in Cicinnati	5
Congratulations!	5
Feedback Requested	5
Exotic Species Session	6
OFWIM Meeting	6
NMFWA Poster Update	6
NMFWA Law Enforcement Course	6
Help is on the Way	6
Notes From the West	7

the Army recently signed an agreement with the Student Conservation Association. This authorizes the use of a wide variety of talented people for natural resources tasks on Army Installations.

I have one more exhortation before you turn the page. This is an election year. Get out and vote! Take a long hard look at the ballot. There are several natural resources management laws and referendum questions appearing on state and local ballots. Get a copy of the entire proposal *before* you step into the voting booth. Read the fine print. Be an informed citizen.

**THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY THIRD
ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 1-5, 1996**

Session 16: Symposium

Wildlife Research on Military Lands: Contributions to Science and Conservation Organizers: David J. Tazik, US Army Construction Engineering Research Laboratories, Champaign, IL; Chester O. Martin, US Corps of Engineers Waterways Experiment Station; and Richard LeClerc, Fort Drum, NY

Room: Continental Friday, October 4 1996

DOD's conservation program: Supporting the military mission while protecting a wealth of national resources. L. Peter Boice

Red-cockaded woodpecker landscape productivity and habitat quality in the North Carolina Sandhills. Roger P. Barr and P.D. Doerr

Estimation of available habitat and population carrying capacity for the endangered black-capped vireo on Fort Hood, Texas. Robert H. Melton, H. J. Weinburg, T.J. Hayden and J.D. Cornelius

Movement and behavior of the brown-headed cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) at Fort Hood, Texas -- spatial and temporal analysis. Terry L. Cook

High incidence of mortality in a southeastern black bear population. Carmen A. Lombardo, D.M. Brandenburg and M.R. Pelton

Quality deer management on military lands: the Camp Peary experiment. Walter D. Hampton III

Effects of aircraft noise on desert tortoise. Michael C. Carter, A.E. Bowles, and S.A. Eckert

Application of GIS mapping to wetland delineation and impact assessment on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune. J.J. Campo, D. James and D. Drury

Modeling bird hazards to aircraft on a continental scale. Russell P. Defusco

Fort Bragg: Utilizing a regional strategy to alleviate conflicts between Army training and threatened and endangered species recovery. Bryan Gorsira, S.C. Belfit and M. Cantrell.

A multi-species approach to management of threatened and endangered species in southern pine woodlands on DoD military installations. R.A. Fischer, M.G. Harper, A. Trame and C.O. Martin

Biodiversity and landscape planning: Alternative futures for the region of Camp Pendleton, California. D.A. Mouat, C. Steinitz, S. Ervin and A.R. Kiester

***Session 20: Contributed Posters
Poster Session II***

Room: Caprice Saturday, October 5

San Joaquin kit fox population dynamics at Camp Roberts. William H. Berry, Julie J. Eliason

Joint management of bear populations on military lands. David P. Bostick, A.P. Richmond, K. Wedemeyer, M. MacDonald, R. Sinott

Effects of military training on red-cockaded woodpecker productivity. Lawrence D. Carlile, E.W. Spadgenske, T.A. Beaty

Radar ornithology as a new conservation tool. Sidney A. Gauthreaux, Jr., Carroll G. Besler

Prescribed burning and bird diversity. Mary A. Elfner

Effects of bottomland hardwood forest thinning on neotropical migrant landbirds. Karen H. Hagerty, H.E. Hunt

Population dynamics of a pocket mouse at Edwards AFB, California. David M. Laabs, M.L. Allaback, D.R. Mitchell

Development and evaluation of an endangered plant species prioritization system for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Alison Hill, J.W. Briede

Demography, behavior and diet of sea otters at Adak Naval Reservation, Alaska. Martin T. Tinker, J.A. Estes, J. Meehan

Delineating clay pans and playas in the arid southwest using unconventional indicators. Robert W. Lichvar, Steven W. Sprecher, William N. Brostoff

Patterns in age-specific antler size and response to mineral supplementaion in white-tailed deer. Harmon P. Weeks, Jr., S.S. Weeks

Wildlife-arroyo habitat relationships of small mammals at Fort Bliss, TX/NM. Eric E. Jorgensen, Stephen Demaris

Digital imaging technology applications in wildlife studies. Bruce M. Sabol, Brian Keeley

Effects of habitat fragmentation on golden-cheeked warblers. Deborah S. Maas-Burleigh

Wildlife management on Avon Park Air Force Range. Ann Marie Holmes, Pat Walsh

Status and biology of Aleutian green-winged teal on the Adak Naval Reservation, Alaska. Lisa Scharf

An ecosystem approach for managing biodiversity in the Mojave Desert. Anthony J. Krzysik

Helicopter installation of osprey nesting platforms. Kirk G. Piehler, D. Jones, R. Knotts, J.M. Fowles

Waterfowl habitat development and managment plans at Fort Gordon, GA. K.C. Jensen, L.A. Reynolds, K.G. Boyd

Assessment of effects of military fog oil obscurant on red-cockaded woodpecker. Keturah A. Reinbold, W. Grethen, J. Day, M. Stees, K. Charleston

NATIONAL MILITARY FISH AND WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION

Financial summary for 1996

Beginning Balance	\$10636.54
Ending Balance	\$13894.48

Expenditures

Postage	\$558.28
FAWN (Printing & Postage)	\$2227.38
TV Monitor (NMFWA Poster)	\$392.91
Printing (Nominations, Misc.)	\$395.16
Pins (NMFWA, 95/96 Conference)	\$594.16

1995 Conference

WMI Payments	\$14345.00
Awards	\$287.69
Banquet/Breaks	\$8229.66
Guest Speaker	\$812.41
Miscellaneous (Includes Postage)	\$1603.55

Conference Subtotal	\$25278.31
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<u>1995 Law Enforcement Course</u>	<u>\$1500.00</u>
Total Expenditures	\$31946.20

Income

1995 Conference	\$25890.00
Pin Sales	\$313.30
Miscellaneous	\$100.00
Conference Subtotal	\$26303.30
1995 Law Enforcement Course	\$5406.94
1994 Law Enforcement Course Adj.	\$2696.99
Rick Griffiths Deposit	\$450.00

<u>Interest</u>	<u>\$429.74</u>
Total Income	\$35286.97

THE VIEW FROM OSD

L. Peter Boice

The past few months have resulted in the culmination of several long-anticipated efforts which should help many of our natural resources managers. Most importantly, the new Environmental Conservation Program Instruction (DoD Instruction 4715.3) was approved on May 3. This new policy document provides guidance on many important conservation issues for the first time, including:

- Implementation of ecosystem management on DoD lands.
- Integration of biodiversity conservation with the military mission.
- Establishment of measures of merit and programming and budgeting priorities.
- Use of cooperative agreements to establish volunteer and partnership programs.
- Access to and protection of Indian sacred sites.
- Designation of Executive agents for specific conservation programs.
- Curation of significant cultural resources.
- Description of a consistent process for natural and cultural resources management.
- Consultation guidelines for working with Native Americans.

Also, the Biodiversity Initiative was recently completed. DoD, working in collaboration with The Nature Conservancy and the Keystone Center, developed three products as a result of this Initiative:

- a *Keystone Center Policy Dialogue on a DoD Biodiversity Management Strategy*.

This report, developed with the assistance of more than 40 participants who represented a wide range of conservation interests both within and outside DoD, provides policy recommendations for the conservation of biodiversity on DoD lands in a manner consistent with the ongoing conduct of the military mission.

- A *DoD Commanders' Guide to Biodiversity*, which provides key decisionmakers with a summary of the importance of biodiversity conservation to DoD.
- A *Handbook for Natural Resources Managers: Conserving Biodiversity on Military Lands*, which provides DoD's resources managers with detailed information about promoting conservation of

biodiversity on military lands while supporting the military mission.

Another important new document is the Army's revised *Guidelines for the Red-cockaded Woodpecker on Army Installations*. These new guidelines balance the need to protect the endangered RCW with the Army's need for access to its lands to conduct mission essential training. The biological assessment states that these revised guidelines should result in RCW population stabilization and expansion on most affected installations.

1997 DoD TRAINING SESSION

by Marjorie McHenry

By the time you receive this edition of the FAWN there will be only six months to plan for the next training session. There are numerous changes which Thomas Wray and I are working on for the next meeting, and we would still appreciate any input you might have. The first big change will be our first session. WMI has decided to end their meeting on Tuesday evening. Thus, our session will begin on Wednesday morning. This will allow us additional time for presentation. Our banquet this year will be held off site rather than at the Omni Shoreham. Hopefully this will reduce a bit of the expense. Also, don't forget the Ice Breaker which will be held Monday evening.

Thomas Wray informs me he has only heard from three people regarding the one-day workshop entitled "Verbal Victories: A System for Surviving Difficult Communication Situations." I am sure all of us have found ourselves in situations where we wish our communication skills were greater. Please contact Thomas and take advantage of this valuable opportunity.

The topic session chairs have told me they are still seeking volunteers for papers. Jim Beemer, who is in charge of the Aquatics Session, asked me to let you know that this session could also include topics like water quality, bio-containments, and the relationship of aquatics management to the health of other components of the ecosystem. Rick McWhite is still seeking papers on Biodiversity/Ecosystem. Those of you who have entered "partnering" agreements with other agencies should also consider this session, or perhaps it might become another sub-session if there is enough interest and response. Kim Mello has agreed to chair a session on Exotics again. Although this topic was addressed last year, the response was positive and this is definitely not an issue which is near resolution. Wanda Deal has some

wonderful ideas for our "Show and Tell" session, and would appreciate hearing from those of you who wish to contribute as soon as possible. I am sure everyone has highlights to share regarding the events of the past year.

Included below are current addresses and phone numbers. Please be a participating NMFWA member and let us hear from you.

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MEETING IN CINCINNATI

NMFWA has made arrangements to have a meeting room during the TWS meeting in Cincinnati. The Mayflower Room (1 and 2) will be available on 03 Oct, from 1800 - 2200hrs. Hopefully there will be enough Board members attending the TWS meeting to have a Board of Directors meeting. If not, the room will be available for other meetings.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Heidi Hirsh and Brian Hostetter for their recent achievements. Each was an individual winner of awards for Natural Resources Conservation.

Brian's story (not to be confused with the movie) was featured in the May 13 issue of the Federal Times. Since assuming the position of natural resources manager at Naval Air Station, Oceana, Brian has been involved in such projects as reducing air strike hazards, teaching youth hunting classes, establishing wildflower plots, and wetlands creation. For his efforts, Brian was selected for the Navy's top individual natural resources conservation award.

Heidi works as the natural resource planner for the 36th Civil Engineer Squadron Environmental Flight at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. In addition to being the liaison to a number of governmental and private concerns, Heidi has been involved in establishing a marine resources preserve, controlling brown tree snakes, re-establishment of the ifil tree, and a study of prehistoric Chamorro lifestyle on Guam. Heidi was recognized this year by winning the Thomas D. White Natural/Cultural Resources Management Award for individual excellence, and the DoD Natural Resources Conservation Award for an individual.

FEEDBACK REQUESTED

We are considering having either an informal or formal session at our next NMFWA training session in D.C. on matters or questions that you (the members) think are important. This session would hopefully be of value to both new natural resources employees as well as old timers. However, we'll need feedback from the membership as to how many of you think this is a good idea and what type of topics or questions you would like addressed. We'd also like to know how many of you old timers would be available to help on addressing some of the questions the members may have. If there is enough interest, we'll have representatives from all Services available. Please take a few minutes to give me a call and let me know your thoughts on this. My office number is (608) 388-5766 or DSN 280-5766. Thanks, Kim Mello, Ft. McCoy, WI (CST)

EXOTIC SPECIES SESSION

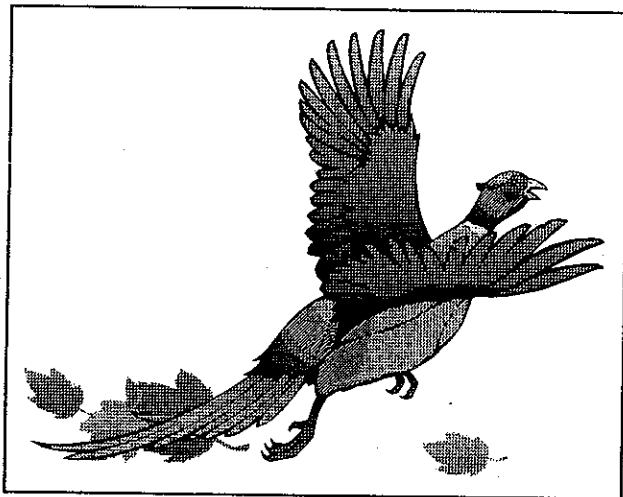
Because of the success, support, and importance of our exotic species technical session in Tulsa, we are planning another exotic session at our next NMFWA workshop in D.C. Response from our members at last year's meeting and from the survey that was conducted, indicated that there are concerns with the impacts of exotics and awareness is important. I would appreciate if you'd give me a call and let me know if you would or might be interested in giving a presentation. Thanks, Kim Mello, (608)388-5766 or DSN 280-5766.

ORGANIZATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE INFORMATION MANAGERS

The Organization of Fish and Wildlife Information Managers (OFWIM) is a nonprofit organization whose goals are to promote the management and conservation of natural resources by facilitating technology and information exchange among fish and wildlife information managers. In addition to publishing its own newsletter, OFWIM,

NMFWA POSTER UPDATE

If you have a technical project you would like to have represented on the Association's Poster at the Wildlife Society meeting in October please contact Mr. Chris Bandy at (719) 576-8074, FAX 8016. You must have supporting slides or photo's and a narrative. If none of you contact Chris the Poster will have a strong Fort Carson slant.



HELP IS ON THE WAY!

The Student Conservation Association (SCA), a nonprofit organization that has been recruiting and fielding volunteers to assist land and resource managers since 1957, has just signed a Cooperative Agreement with the Army! This now allows SCA to offer its cost sharing volunteer services to Army natural resource managers in all commands.

The SCA has been providing services to the National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the National Biological Service, and to state and private organizations for many years. Even the Navy's Resource Management Program has been involved, so someone near you probably knows all about the program.

SCA operates several programs to provide volunteers. The Resource Assistant Program (RA) provides individuals, 18 or older, who volunteer their services anytime of year for approximately 12 weeks in exchange for training and experience. Conservation Associates (CA) are like RA's, but positions last from 6 to 12 months. The National High School Program (NHSP) provides individuals 16-18 years old, who work during the summer months on SCA supervised crews of 6 - 10 people on labor-intensive projects such as trail building and site restoration. The Conservation Career Development Program (CCDP) is like SCA's other programs, but primarily recruits people of color and women to assist during the summer months.

The Army's program is being handled through AEC and Fort Detrick. Requests are accepted at any time, but there are some limitations to the recruiting operation. The SCA can provide flyers describing all of their programs. Contact them at (603)543-1700 or fax (603)543-1828.

FLASH! NMFWA LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING HELD DESPITE THREAT OF IMPENDING NATURAL DISASTER

by Brian Hostetter

Even with Hurricane Bertha taking dead aim on the Virginia and North Carolina coast, most of the 39 participants attending the annual NMFWA Wildlife Law Enforcement Refresher held at Naval Air Station Oceana stuck it out and received some valuable training and experience. During the 40 hour course held on 8-12 July, eleven speakers representing seven agencies

NOTES FROM THE WEST

by Don Pitts

provided information on Federal wildlife law, wildlife forensics, courtroom procedures, officer safety, hunter harassment, self defense and waterfowl identification. An abbreviated scenario training continued despite the hurricane threat. Even with the busy schedule, most participants managed to find time to enjoy some of the sights and flavor of Virginia Beach!

State and Federal personnel who provided the training were very impressed with the quality of individuals responsible for the enforcement of fish and game laws on military installations. In return, critique comments from the participants indicated that the speakers were uniformly interesting and topics relevant and informative. Most attendees felt that the class notebook, assembled by our staff from information provided by the speakers, provided an extremely valuable source of information on wildlife law. As the organizer, I was impressed with the turnout and interaction between class and instructors.

Future suggestions? First, I would recommend all installations which have active wildlife programs or are tasked with management of natural and/or cultural resources require specific training for their law enforcement personnel (read as FLETC training). Second, NMFWA, EFDs or Major Claimants should consider funding reprints of our training manual as this source provides concise and relevant information to those administering wildlife law enforcement programs. Third, based on registration requests, interest in this training was very high. Some method of selection of participants or limiting representation from agencies and departments should be considered.

Other comments? I wanted to thank Jeff Trousil and Jeff Bossart who helped me through the organization of this event and provided their comments and experience (and appreciation to the former for the six boxes of materials I am now storing!). Thanks also to Pam Couch who handled registration, information mailings and phone calls and special recognition to my staff - Aileen Smith, Natural Resources Specialist; AOC Scott Miller and DCC William Carter for making this training a success. By the way, Bertha spent most of her fury on the Wrightsville Beach area of North Carolina. Virginia Beach received sustained winds of 40-60 mph, but these did not arrive until late Friday night after most attendees were safely out of the area. See you all next year!

As a Western Director, I see the FAWN and our organization as excellent mediums for technology exchange.

First, I'll offer help. I recently revised my Air Force base's Bird Aircraft Strike Hazard Plan, and rather than the standard kill, pillage and destroy tactics, we embraced an ecosystem management philosophy which avoids all that nasty killing and habitat destruction. It has proven more effective than the Conan the Barbarian methods, and is downright enjoyable. The plan or a derivative of the plan just might work for you too. If you've got good, current fauna and habitat surveys and an open-minded command, you're on the way. Just write or call and I'll send a copy. Admittedly, mine is a prairie landscape, but it might give you a few ideas. Sorry to offend, but I'm a protector.

Another one that worked for me ended rodenticide on the golf course. Put up a bunch of cavity nesting boxes (I use barn owl and screech owl) along the peripheries of the golf course roughs. They love gophers. The coyotes and bobcats help a lot too, but the owls are fun. Owls, because of their short, direct and low flight habits, are unlikely aircraft hazards (at my base since 1985, zero strikes). You decide what to do when bees take over the boxes. I left 'em alone. They'll leave in a year or two.

Next, I need help. Every winter we have numerous vehicles in the housing area receive extensive damage from tree squirrels eating the wires. Bullsnares hibernate, red-tailed hawks are over the grasslands knocking of the easy rabbits and hares, harriers aren't interested, and urban squirrel hunts are unpopular. All suggestions, no matter how stupid, will be appreciated. They can't be as stupid as some of my ideas already in practice.

And finally, you folks are quiet! I know you're busy, but I'd like to help you if I can. Most of all, I'm here to represent you. Don't make it so easy! Don Pitts
7CES/CEVA, 710 Third Street, Dyess AFB, TX 79607
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NMFWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

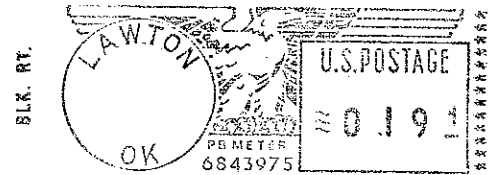
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Address Correction Requested



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