

Southwest Section Newsletter

Fall 2011 - Vol. 1 Issue #2



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Doing More with Less -

Selma Glasscock, 2011 President Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society



This seems to be everyone's mantra in 2011 and it looks to be so in 2012 and beyond. Unfortunately, agencies and organizations have not only downsized budgets, but they have been forced to cut staff. Where it will end, no one knows, but we do know that the future of wildlife and their habitats are at stake if we are not able to continue to carry out important conservation practices. How do we do more with less and keep a positive mindset about it?

Our first reaction is to say "We have no choice, we simply will just have to do more!". Unfortunately we have trained ourselves to think we are superhuman, that we can do it all, and there is no end to the number of tasks we can accomplish. The leadership books tell us we can do this if we follow their steps, and the technology advertisements guarantee that this or that gadget or software will keep us organized and more productive. However, there IS a limit to our capabilities! It seems one of the most difficult challenges we have is to learn is to say "No", because saying no is somehow perceived as a weakness. I challenge this perception. I believe it takes personal strength to say no and here is my reasoning. Multi-tasking is an admirable skill up to a point, but juggling too many responsibilities will ultimately cause us to become inefficient and ineffective. If you find yourself not having the time to spend with your family and friends, you have likely over-committed yourself. Eventually this WILL affect your job, your health, and your relationships.

So how do you decide when to say "Yes"? I believe by asking yourself three questions. Are you saying yes because (1) you deeply believe in, or are passionate about the project with which you are considering involvement; (2) you truly have the time to do a good job; and (3) you perceive it could benefit you in some way through career advancement or salary increase. If you collectively answer no to the first two questions and yes to the last, you should pass on the request.



But if we say no, how do we accomplish those important things for wildlife that we believe necessary? I suggest passing that opportunity on to another individual who might just do a better job than you or I because they are deeply interested in the project and truly have the time to spend on it. You can likely make a personal recommendation of a colleague who would do a good job. By engaging others, you will be able to accomplish more than by attempting to do it yourself. Many young professionals are looking for such opportunities and projects with which to be involved.

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79	65	117	9	21

+52 members since April 2011

Doing More with Less (continued)



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This is exactly what we have done within the Southwest Section (SWS) this year. The Bylaws of the Southwest Section TWS lists only four committees: Nominating, Membership, Audit, and Resolutions and Bylaws. To accomplish what we planned and by working from a model of the Texas Chapter TWS, we created a number of ad hoc committees to assist us. These included newsletter, internet technologist, awards, diversity, education, awards, scholarship, local arrangements, program, and legislative committees. I hope these will one day become permanent committees in the Southwest Section. Here are some of their 2011 accomplishments:

- Establishment of SWS newsletter and SWS listserv
- Revision of bylaws to include electronic voting
- Set aside 10 scholarships for certification (see p. 6)
- Partial sponsorships of meetings
- Development of SWS website: joomla.wildlife.org/SW
- Planning for joint meeting of SWS and Texas Chapter TWS February 23-25, 2012 in Ft. Worth, TX.



I don't have space to list all our accomplishments this year, and at the risk of leaving someone out, I'd like to mention the folks who have stepped up and helped out. Alan Cain, Leland Pierce, Maria Araujo, Brian Hanson, Carol Chambers, Alfonso Ortega, Sophia Toledo, Terry Blankenship, Renae Held, Analiese Scoggins, Tyler Campbell, Elise Goldstein, Megan Dominguez, Misty Sumner, Amy Turner, Ashley Exendine, and Jesse Oetgen—thank you for your hard work.

The SWS Executive Board was of great assistance in all endeavors. President-Elect Stu Tuttle and Secretary-Treasurer Johnathan O'Dell have been instrumental in helping to carry out many of our activities. And although the past president is not officially a SWS officer, Courtney Conway has participated in phone conferences and assisted with guidance through the year. Thanks to each of you for your support.

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to give kudos to our Southwest Section Representative to TWS Council, Carol Chambers. Folks, if you don't know Carol, you should get to know her. She is one amazing person. Carol is responsible for many of the things surrounding the SWS you have seen happening this year. She established the SWS newsletter, listserv, and Facebook page. She helped identify potential candidates for office, attended three state chapter meetings, helped establish and fill a Certification Review Board position for the SWS, wrote articles for all three state chapter and SWS newsletters, helped to identify professionals from Mexico who would be important in development of a Section in Mexico, has promoted diversity in TWS by leading the organization of a Women of Wildlife mixer at the 2011 TWS meeting in Hawaii, and is assisting with the 4th International Wildlife Management Congress to be held in South Africa in July 2012. I could go on, but there simply isn't enough space! I highly recommend you take the time to introduce yourself to Carol and thank her for all she has done for the SWS. She has been there for the SWS and I can say without a doubt that without her leadership and dedication, the SWS would not have accomplished what it has this year! Thanks, Carol, for your hard work!

We hope to see you at the Joint Meeting of the Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society and the Texas Chapter of the Wildlife Society in Fort Worth, Texas February 23-25, 2012. This will be a great meeting. For more information on the meeting, visit the [Annual Meeting](#) page of the TCTWS website.

Selma Glasscock - (361) 364-2643 - sglasscock@welderwildlife.org



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New Beginnings

Bill Block, Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Wildlife Management



As some of you might know, I am the new Editor-In-Chief (EIC) for the *Journal of Wildlife Management*. Just to get acquainted, here are a few tidbits about me. I am the Program Manager for the Wildlife and Terrestrial Ecosystems Science Program with Rocky Mountain Research Station of the U.S. Forest Service. I consider myself a generalist, having worked on reptiles, amphibians, birds, and small mammals and in a variety of vegetation types ranging from brush fields to old-growth forests. I have put in a couple stints as an Associate Editor for the

Journal and a short-term stint as co-EIC with Mike Morrison when the *Journal* and *Wildlife Society Bulletin* were merged. So, I guess that I know what I'm getting into!

I replace Frank Thompson, latest in a long line of top-notch EICs. The transition from Frank to me coincides with the resurrection of the *Bulletin*. The change in EIC and decoupling of the *Journal* and *Bulletin* provide a great opportunity for tweaking things a bit and exploring new directions.



Bill Block is a Forest Service Program Manager and Wildlife Biologist with Rocky Mountain Station in Flagstaff, Arizona.

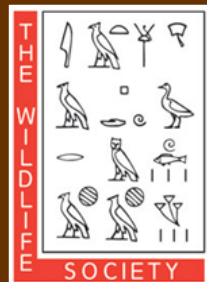
For one, I plan to emphasize special sections. Indeed, the *Journal* has had special sections in the past, but these tended to be sporadic and opportunistic rather than a regular feature. Special sections should emphasize topics that are visionary and timely, and elevate wildlife science to new levels. The way it will work is that a lead person can provide me with a prospectus of the topic and its relevance, and a list of papers to be included. If I accept the idea, the lead will act as Associate Editor for manuscripts as they go through peer review. Papers must meet the same standards as regular *Journal* submissions, so there is no guarantee of publication just because a manuscript is part of a special section. Several people have approached me already and I encourage you to contact me if you have a good idea.

Another change that I would like to initiate is to involve advanced students as referees and even as Associate Editors. I view this as a training opportunity to involve more students in the publication process. The *Journal* can certainly benefit by their energy and new perspectives.

Another idea I would also like to explore is to include both Spanish and French abstracts with papers. Carol Chambers, Southwestern Section Representative, brought this idea to my attention and I think it offers a great chance to increase international exposure.

Any ideas or feedback, feel free to get in touch!

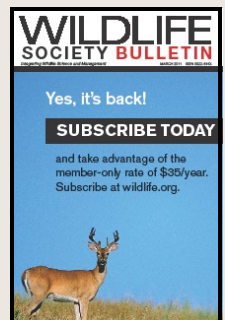
[Bill Block](mailto:WBlock@fs.fed.us) - WBlock@fs.fed.us



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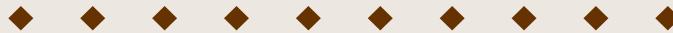
Happenings in the Southwest

Leadership Institute



The Wildlife Society established its [Leadership Institute](#) (LI) in 2006 to provide a select group of TWS members with basic leadership training that will prepare them to move into leadership positions, both in their workplace and in the Society. LI participants are early-career wildlife professionals.

This year's participants included two Southwest Section members: Jonathan Derbridge (*photo left*), University of Arizona (Ph.D. Candidate) and Johnathan O'Dell (*photo right*), Arizona Game and Fish Department. The program has been popular and growing since its introduction. Look for an announcement in early 2012 for details about applying for the 2012 class.



Introducing the Newest Member of the CRB - Scott Lerich



The Certification Review Board (CRB) serves TWS in evaluating applications submitted by members for Associate Wildlife Biologist (AWB) and Certified Wildlife Biologist (CWB). The CRB is made up of five volunteer members approved by Council to serve in this capacity. No member of the Southwest Section has served on the CRB in recent times. However, that has changed as I have recently been accepted to serve on the CRB.

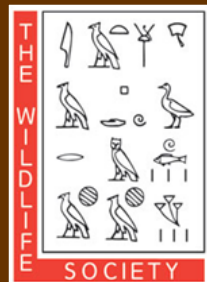
A CWB since 2003, I work as a Senior Regional Biologist for the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) in Arizona and New Mexico. I have worked in the Southwest for nearly 20 years, at the US Army's White Sands Missile Range in NM and also for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, before joining NWTF in 2005. I received a bachelor's degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences from Texas A&M University (1992) and a master's degree in Natural Resource Management from Sul Ross State University (2002). I previously served TWS as Vice-President and President of the Southwest Section.

My interest in serving on the CRB has evolved from working and getting to know Dr. Raymond C. Telfair II, a former member of the CRB from Texas, and listening to him talk of the work the CRB was involved in; of visiting with Dr. Jack Ward Thomas, former President of TWS a couple of times at TWS meetings and hearing a bit of historical information on evolution of the Certification Program; and my own experience of applying for and becoming certified, first as an AWB and then a CWB. I look forward to serving TWS on the CRB and am proud to represent the Southwest Section.



Scott P. Lerich, CWB - slerich@nwtf.net

If you are interested in TWS certification as a CWB or AWB, check out the SWS scholarship program on page 6.



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Upcoming Meetings

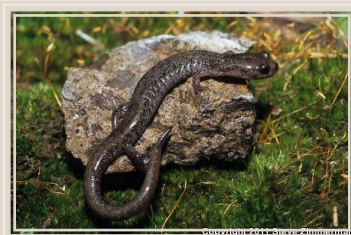
Southwest Section and Texas Chapter TWS Joint Meeting

A joint meeting of the Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society and the Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society (TCTWS) will be held Feb 23-25, 2012 in Fort Worth, Texas. This will be the first meeting of the SWS since 2005.

The theme for this meeting is *"The North American Model, Is It Still Relevant?"* A special session will be sponsored by the SWS entitled *"Wildlife Research and Management along the Southwest Border"*. The hotel and meeting site is the [Radisson at Fossil Creek](#). For additional information on the meeting visit the [Annual Meeting page](#) of the [TCTWS website](#).



Southwest Section at Southwest Fire Ecology Conference



Organizers for the Association for Fire Science asked the Southwest Section to partner with their [Southwest Fire Ecology Conference](#) "Fire Landscapes, Wildlife, and People: Building Alliances for Restoring Ecosystem Resilience" (Feb 27-Mar 1, 2012) in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Given impacts of large fires, this is a timely collaboration. Southwest Section members Shaula Hedwall (AZ), Leland Pierce (NM), Ken Cearley (TX), Rachel Jankowitz (NM),

and Ken Boykin (NM) are developing a roundtable discussion on wildlife and fire sponsored by the Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society. The session will include three invited speakers covering fire effects on species at risk (Mexican spotted owl, Jemez Mountain salamander, and lesser prairie chicken) and an hour-long facilitated discussion with meeting participants.

Any member of the fire community can apply for a [SW Fire Science Consortium](#) travel stipend. Submit all applications to swfireconsortium@gmail.com. Click [here](#) to download an application. Deadline is December 9, 2011.



Registration for the meeting of the Arizona and New Mexico Chapters of TWS and the Arizona - New Mexico Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is now open. The meeting will be held February 2-4, 2012 at the Phoenix Crowne Plaza Hotel in Phoenix, Arizona.

Early registration will be open until January 10, 2012 and late registration from January 11-31. After January 31, you must register at the conference (rates increase). Check the [registration website](#) for more information. By email, contact ArizonaTWS@gmail.com.



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Opportunities

Wildlife Certification Scholarship Program

The SWS has developed a Wildlife Certification Scholarship Program (WCSP) to foster and promote professional development among members of Southwest Section and to recruit new members in TWS.

The SWS has set aside \$1,000 (~10 scholarships) for SWS members to offset fees associated with applying for Associate Wildlife Biologist or Certified Wildlife Biologist through TWS Certification Program.

The SWTWS has set up the following guidelines for applying for a scholarship in the WCSP:

- Applicant must be a current member of SWS (retroactive membership allowed).
- Applicant must be a current member of their state chapter of TWS (e.g., Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Costa Rica, Mexico; retroactive membership allowed).
- Applications must adhere strictly to the guidelines set by TWS. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.
- Certification applications will be prescreened by the SWS Certification Screening Committee (mail to address below).
- Once applications have cleared the SWS Certification Screening Committee, they will be forwarded to TWS for review by the Certification Review Board (CRB). SWS will pay for application fees. **Note:** Forwarding applications to the CRB does not imply certification, only that they have met the minimum standards as set by SWTWS.
- Preference will be given to student applicants.
- Preference will also be given to first-time applicants.
- Applications and subsequent funding will be reviewed on a first-come, first serve basis starting 1 January 2011 and ending 31 December 2012.

Please forward a cover letter and a **complete** application to:

Stuart Tuttle
SWS Scholarship Committee Chair
3391 S Gillenwater Dr
Flagstaff, AZ 86001

Questions may be directed to Stu.Tuttle@az.usda.gov

Winner of the Cottam House Stay

Jon Hanna joined or renewed his membership in the Southwest Section last spring between Jan 1 and May 15. His name was drawn for the 3-night stay in the Cottam House on the Welder Wildlife Refuge near Corpus Christi Texas. Jon currently serves as Chairman of the Continuing Education Committee for the Arizona Chapter of TWS. Congratulations, Jon!

Who would you hire?

Being a TWS Certified Wildlife Biologist (CWB®) gives you:

- Increased job potential
- Increased credibility
- Recognized training & expertise
- A network of expert colleagues

The Wildlife Society is the *only* organization to offer peer-reviewed wildlife biologist certification.

APPLY TODAY!



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Incoming Officers of the Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society

Stuart Tuttle will be the incoming Southwest Section President for 2012, and the Secretary-Treasurer will be **Johnathan O'Dell**. These individuals will take office 1 January 2012.

Candidates for the Office of President-Elect of the Southwest Section of TWS for 2012

In accordance with Southwest Section Bylaws, the Nominations Committee has identified two candidates to run for the office of President-Elect. The Bylaws require that the slate of officers be submitted to the membership by November 15 or at least 30 days before the election. In addition to candidates nominated by the Section Nominating Committee, others may be nominated for the same offices by a written petition to the Secretary-Treasurer signed by at least 30 active members no later than 1 July in the year of the elections. Prior approval shall be obtained from all candidates before nomination and all nominees shall be full members of the Section and voting members of the Society. Balloting will be carried out by electronic vote. Each member will receive a ballot on or before November 15 or at least 30 days before the election accompanied by an announcement of the slate of officers. Candidates and biographies are included on the following pages.



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- Increased job potential
- Increased credibility
- Recognized training & expertise
- An unsurpassed network of expert colleagues

APPLY TODAY!

See program and application at:
wildlife.org/certification
or contact
shannon@wildlife.org

President-Elect Nominees:

Renae J. Held

Misty L. Sumner



Check out the Southwest Section's new website joomla.wildlife.org/SW It is now in its fledgling stage, but it will be growing exponentially over the next few weeks. If there is anything you would like to see on the website, please contact Annaliese Scoggin or Selma Glasscock."

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MISTY L. SUMNER, PRESIDENT-ELECT NOMINEE



Education

B.S. in Wildlife Management; Texas Tech University, 1984
 B.S. in Range Management; Texas Tech University, 1984
 M.S. in Wildlife Management; Sul Ross State University, (In Progress)

Current and Past Positions

Natural Resource Specialist, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, 2000-present
 Conservation Scientist, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, 1996 - 2000.
 Ranch Manager/Wildlife Biologist, La Zorra Ranch, 1990-1996.
 Wildlife Consultant (company owner/operator) 1992-1996.
 Seasonal Wildlife Biologist, Chaparral WMA, 1986-1988, 1989, 1990.
 Guide, Nunley Brother's Junco Ranch, 1988, 1989
 Research Technician, Texas Tech University, 1982-1986, 1989

The Wildlife Society - Chapter, Section, and National Involvement

Member of the Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society, 1982-present
 Member of The Wildlife Society, 1982-present
 Member of the Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society, 1982-present.

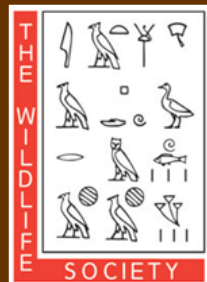
The Wildlife Society

Fellow, The Wildlife Society, 2009 (awarded)
 Member, James McDonough Committee, 2003, 2004
 Member, Annual Conference Planning Committee for Annual Conference, 1999
 Member, Spatial Ecology and Telemetry Working Group
 Member, Ethnic and Gender Diversity Working Group
 Assisted in organizing Women of Wildlife Event at TWS Conference, 2011
 Co-organizer Panel Discussion on Diversity in the Wildlife Profession, at TWS Conference, 2008
 Co-organizer Wildlife Conservation Camp Workshop at TWS Annual Conference, 2004
 Helped establish TWS mentor program, 1994 TWS Annual Conference
 Helped initiate the National Student Shadow Program

Texas Chapter TWS

TCTWS Secretary, 2001
 TCTWS Board Member at Large, 1997
 Chair, Wildlife Conservation Camp, 1999, 2002, 2008
 Chair, Nominations Committee, 2003
 Chair, Membership Committee, 1998
 Chair Student Affairs Committee, 1993, 1994, 1996

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Elections

RENAE J. HELD, PRESIDENT-ELECT NOMINEE

Education

B.S. in Biology from the University of North Dakota, 1998

M.A. in Biology from the College of William and Mary, 2003

Current and Past Positions

Environmental Enforcement Specialist, NM Environment Department, Air Quality Bureau, 2008–Present

Program Coordinator for Tern and Plover Conservation Partnership at University of Nebraska – Lincoln, 2002–2007

Assistant Chief for Non-Game and Endangered Species, NM Department of Game and Fish, 2007–2008

Graduate Assistant for the College of William and Mary, 1999–2002

Assistant to the Director of Research/Research Assistant Wetlands Institute, 1998–1999

Research Field Technician for the College of William and Mary/U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, 2000–2001

Private Wildlife Consultant for Nebraska Game and Park Commission, 2006

The Wildlife Society - Chapter, Section, and National Involvement

Member of the Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society, 2010–present

Member of The Wildlife Society, 2002–present

Member of the Nebraska or New Mexico Chapters of TWS, 2002–present

Nebraska Chapter of The Wildlife Society (NCTWS)

NCTWS President, 2007

NCTWS President-Elect, 2006

NCTWS Secretary, 2004, 2005

NCTWS Board Member, 2003

Chair, Awards Committee, 2002–2007

Member, Programs/Student Workshop committee, 2003–2007

Member, Membership Committee, 2002–2003

New Mexico Chapter of The Wildlife Society (NMCTWS)

NMCTWS Secretary, 2010

NMCTWS President, 2009

NMCTWS, President-Elect, 2008

Editor, NMCTWS Quarterly Newsletter, 2008–present

Editor, Southwest Section Newsletter, 2011

Bylaws Ad Hoc Committee, in charge of developing and implementing major bylaws changes for the NMCTWS, 2009, 2010

Co-chair Ad Hoc Organization Committee NMCTWS One-Day Chapter Meeting, 2011



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MISTY L. SUMNER, PRESIDENT-ELECT NOMINEE CONTINUED ...

Member, Finance Committee, 2004, 2010
 Member, Wildlife Camp Committee, 1993-1998, 2001, 2003, 2004, 2008
 Member, Excellence in Wildlife Conservation Committee, 2005
 Member, Activities Committee, 1998
 Member, Publication Review Committee, 1992
 Created TWS 'Student Shadow Program' and 'Meeting Mentor' Program, 1993

Other Professional Involvement

Society for Range Management
 Texas Section Society for Range Management

Vision Statement

I am committed to putting conservation on the ground, improving conservation literacy and promoting not just our natural resources but our natural resource professionals as well. I believe that the Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society can do this by bringing professionals together to collaborate on wildlife habitat, management, and research projects. We can and should create opportunities for professionals and students to present their work and opportunities for members to participate in work projects and improve their skill sets. I am committed to promoting TWS programs, student involvement in the Southwest Section of TWS, as well as growing and diversifying the professional membership to help both TWS and the Southwest Section of TWS continue to be relevant throughout the future. I want to help the Southwest Section be more than just the link between members of the Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas State Chapters, Costa Rica and Mexico. I believe that together we can make the Southwest Section known for the best professional development of any society through dynamic symposia and workshops.

RENAE J. HELD, PRESIDENT-ELECT NOMINEE CONTINUED ...

Other Professional Involvement

Member, International Waterbird Society, 1999-present

Vision Statement

As President, I would like to increase communication with National and Student Chapters or clubs and between State Chapters within the Southwest Section. In addition, I welcome the opportunity as President to discover and communicate the tangible benefits of being a member of the SW Section. Most importantly I would strive to keep the SW Section membership aware of board decisions and activities through the newsletter, email updates, and posting of updates on the new SW Section website.



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What's Happening with TWS

Carol Chambers, Southwest Section Rep to Council

Membership and Annual Conference Highlights

Our membership numbers continue to grow – this year we are on track to hit 11,000. This is again a record for TWS. One of the best ways to keep our membership healthy and growing is to encourage new student members to join. For only \$35 you can support a membership for a student. This is as a great way for a student to see what's happening at the larger scale. Please support a student when you renew your membership. There are more benefits than ever to being part of TWS.

The Hawaii Meeting was well attended (1400 registered) and a great success. The weather was lovely and in between meetings and presentations, many people hit the beach to enjoy a change from the cooler fall temperatures most of us experience this time of year. This year marked a new mixer at the conference. Designed to encourage networking and career-development among women at all career levels, the event is called Women of Wildlife (WOW). Section Representative Carol Chambers, President-Elect Wini Kessler, three Working Groups (Ethnic and Gender Diversity, Native Peoples' Wildlife Management, Student Professional Development) and a core group of other professional women conceived this idea and planned the kick-off reception. The national office designed a WOW button for attendees and >100 student and professional wildlifer women provided pictures that were displayed during the mixer to show the different ways women are working in wildlife research, conservation, and management. The mixer was a huge success with >350 attending. Look for it next year at TWS's 75th Anniversary meeting in Portland.



Introducing the 2011 TWS Fellows for the Southwest Section - Bill Block and Selma Glasscock

The [Wildlife Society Fellows Program](#) recognizes members who have distinguished themselves through exceptional service to the wildlife profession. TWS Fellows serve as ambassadors of The Wildlife Society and as such are encouraged to engage in outreach and other activities that will benefit and promote TWS and the wildlife profession. Fellow appointments are for life and are announced at the Annual Conference. TWS Fellows are appointed for life.

Our 2 new Fellows for the Southwest Section are Bill Block and Selma Glasscock.
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Help our Web Site!

We are trying to fill in the gaps in historical records of past Southwest Section officers. If you served, or know someone who served as an officer of the Section, please contact Selma Glasscock (sglasscock@welderwildlife.org).



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What's Happening with TWS

Carol Chambers, Southwest Section Rep to Council

Bill has been a research wildlife biologist for the Forest Service for over 20 years. His career has focused on wildlife conservation and management. Bill has over 100 publications in peer-reviewed journals including 20 in Journal of Wildlife Management and Wildlife Society Bulletin. He has received over a dozen awards recognizing academic achievement, leadership, excellence in research, service, and partnerships. Bill has twice served on the editorial board for Journal of Wildlife Management as an Associate Editor, and then served as Co-Editor-In-Chief of the Journal. He is our current Editor-In-Chief.

Selma's professional career has focused on wildlife management and conservation education. She currently works at the Welder Wildlife Foundation (WWF) where she reached over 8,000 people last year. She works with other conservation organizations to coordinate, develop, and lead education programs. She has raised over \$620,000 in grants for development or establishment of local, regional, state, and national conservation education programs. Selma is a Professional Member of the Boone & Crockett Club and has served on boards and committees of other conservation organizations including the Conservation Legacy Board of the Texas Wildlife Association, Audubon Texas, and Texas Outdoor Education Association. In addition, she served as Chair of the Advisory Board for *The Wildlife Professional*. She has received 5 awards for her work in wildlife conservation.

Call for nominations for 2012 will be out soon. Do you know a deserving wildlifer? If so, review the nomination procedure and criteria linked above. **Nominations must be received by February 15th to be considered by TWS Council.**

Nominees must meet the following criteria:

1. TWS member (current) for at least 10 years,
2. Active in TWS at section, chapter, working group, or international level,
3. Distinguished professional record that includes significant contributions to wildlife resources and the profession, and
4. Not a sitting member of council.



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New Mexico's 1-Day Meeting

Leland Pierce, President, New Mexico Chapter TWS

The New Mexico Chapter held a single-day meeting about the status of the wildlife of the Land of Enchantment, as well as a workshop to develop a wildlife corridor linkages assessment. These meetings were held on October 18th in Albuquerque, NM. We had everything from great talks, great attendance (~120 registered), a dog in attendance, great food, to a klutz almost wiping everything out by tripping over a cable (that would be me). TWS Southwest Section Representative to National TWS, Carol Chambers, made the trip all the way in from Flagstaff and showed that she could sell a double bed to a holy man, landing several new members to the Section.



I want to discuss how we got here and how this relates to the Joint Annual Meeting held in conjunction with the chapters of the Arizona TWS and the New Mexico-Arizona American Fisheries Society (AFS). Past and present boards of the NM Chapter have been growing concerned over the lack of attendance by the profes-

sional biologists at the Joint Annual Meetings. The biologists out of the NM Dept. and Game and Fish, US BLM, USFWS Ecological Services Offices, and the USFS in particular, are the people everyone wants to hear from; those are also the people students need to meet and to build connections with. Out-of-state travel and even travel to Gallup, NM have proven too distant to get many of the biologists there. Last year's board voted to put on this meeting to reinvigorate professional biologist participation-and it seems to be a great first step. I wish to emphasize this meeting was *not* intended to replace our attendance at the Joint Annual Meeting-rather, we see it as an additional benefit for our members. We remain committed to keeping up our relationship with AFS and with the AZ chapter of the TWS. There is too much benefit to our members and students to lose the interaction with Arizona, too much history to give up on the Joint Annual Meeting. My personal pitch would be to use the event to energize regional wildlife management efforts that cut across borders. Time Magazine referred to the last decade as the "Decade from Hell," and everyone is being tested during these hard days. We need more interaction, more conferences, not fewer.



[Leland Pierce](mailto:Leland.Pierce@state.nm.us), (505) 476-8094 - Leland.Pierce@state.nm.us



Current Members

AZ	NM	TX	Int	Ot
79	65	117	9	21

+52 members since April 2011



Southwest Section News



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Student Chapters

Carol Chambers, Southwest Section Rep to Council

Facebook Page – “The Wildlife Society Southwest Section Chapters Hub”

The new [Facebook page](#) for SW Section up and running - will you be a friend? The name for the new page, “The Wildlife Society Southwest Section Chapters Hub” is courtesy of Woodrow Crumbo, Arizona State University Student Chapter. Check out the Section updates and photo gallery.

TWS Mentoring Program

Become a mentor today! The [Wildlife Society’s Online Mentoring Program](#) provides a platform for mentees to realize their potential by facilitating professional relationships with mentors, who act as role models and provide guidance to them. The program offers opportunities to develop business contacts, access industry information, and gain valuable insights from experienced and successful professionals. In addition, the TWS also provides a TWS Mentoring Program for Native Americans.



Student Memberships

[Student membership](#) is only \$36 and includes:

- [The Wildlife Professional](#), [The Wildlifer](#), [Wildlife Policy News](#), etc.
- Expert Networks
- Meetings and Conferences
- State-of-the-art [Online Mentor/Mentee Program](#) to foster knowledge sharing
- Our new blog, [Making Tracks: The Wildlife Society Blog](#), and multiple Listservs to discuss pressing wildlife issues.
- A better way to connect with peers through [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#)
- Job resources through [Wildlife Careers Center](#)
- Access to funding for research through our [wildlife grants database](#)
- Opportunities to kick-start your career through [internships](#), [assistantships](#) and [temporary jobs](#)
- Access to TWS membership directory of colleagues and experts in the profession



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Sponsor a Student Membership
Challenge to SWSTWS—support a student or 10.
 Donate \$35 to national to provide a free membership to a student.
 The student can be in our section or state organizations.



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Student Chapters

Selma Glasscock, Southwest Section President

Student Conclaves

Has your Student Chapter ever participated in a Student Conclave? If not then you should definitely explore the possibility! These events are excellent opportunities to learn new techniques and concepts, meet other wildlife students and their professors, and simply have fun. TWS Student Chapters host regional Student Conclaves each year that provide valuable hands-on training in wildlife management and conservation and networking opportunities with wildlife professionals.

Some activities include field trips, workshops (e.g., telemetry, trapping, chemical immobilization, mist-netting), field competitions, local tours, game-calling competitions, quiz bowls, banquets, photography contests, and guest speakers.

TWS proudly supports each Student Conclave with a \$1000 grant.

2012 Student Conclaves dates, locations, and contacts:

Northeast Student Conclave: hosted by California University of Pennsylvania, April 13-15, 2012. More details TBA.

Midwest Student Conclave: hosted by University of Central Missouri Student Chapter, April 14, 2012 at the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge. Contact Ashley Mertz at amm18370@ucmo.edu.

Southeastern Student Conclave: hosted University of Tennessee, March 15-18, 2012. Contact Dave Buehler at dbuehler@utk.edu.

Western Student Conclave: hosted by University of Idaho, March 9-12, 2012. Contact Cody Bear-Sutton at bear2796@vandals.uidaho.edu.

Canadian Student Conclave: hosted by Lakehead University Student Chapter, Sept. 23-25, 2011 in Thunder Bay, Ontario Canada at Camp Duncan. Contact Timothy Sobey, Conclave Committee Chair, at tsobey@lakeheadu.ca.

We would like to introduce our new Newsletter Editor, Renae Held. Renae has been the Newsletter Editor for the New Mexico Chapter of the Wildlife Society since 2008. Thank you, Renae!

Renae can be contacted at rheld@hotmail.com.



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Join!

Membership benefits for the Southwest Section TWS

- SWS TWS Newsletter (new this year!)
- Scholarship opportunities
- Section-level meetings and conferences
- Strengthen your connections to national TWS
- Peer connections through new Listserv and [Facebook](#)



Membership Application

Membership Fee \$5.00

 First Name Middle Name Last Name Suffix

 Mailing Address

 City State Zip Code Country

 E-mail address Work Phone

Member Type (Please circle one): Student Regular Retired

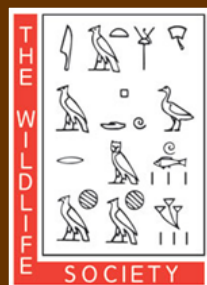
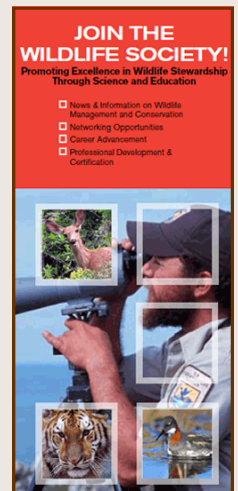
Please include this form with your payment and mail to: Johnathan O'Dell, Secretary/Treasurer, Southwest Section of TWS, Wildlife Specialist - Game Branch, Arizona Game and Fish Department, 5000 W Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086



Membership benefits for The Wildlife Society

- Expert networks, wildlife science and policy
- Professional certification development
- Job resources through Wildlife Careers Center
- Online [Mentor/Mentee Program](#) to foster knowledge sharing
- Peer connections through [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#)
- TWS publications (*The Wildlife Professional*, *The Wildlifer*, *Wildlife Policy News*)

And much more! You can [Join Online](#) or you can fill in the [Membership Application form](#) (pdf) and send it with payment to: The Wildlife Society, 5410 Grosvenor Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda MD 20814, Fax 301-530-2471.



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