

Southwest Section Newsletter

Fall 2012 - Vol. 2 Issue #2



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President's Message

Stu Tuttle 2012 President Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society



Many of you attended the National TWS Conference in Portland. I was not able to attend due to federal travel restrictions, but I know it was a great conference commemorating the 75th Anniversary of TWS. I hope you all had the time to say hello and give a big thank you to Carol and board members Misty, John, and Selma. I thank them for all their hard work, especially by Carol Chambers, SW Section Rep to Council. She continues to go far beyond the call of duty and keeps the rest of us on track.

Keeping on track was definitely a challenge for me this year. The balancing of job, family and volunteer activities such as The Wildlife Society seems to get tougher as I sometimes take on more than I can handle. I am sure these are common challenges for all of us, as I hear the same from many of you. We had very lofty goals for the Section this year, and although some things simply were not done, we did accomplish a lot.

So what did we do?

- 1) The executive board tackled the job of completely **rewriting the Section bylaws**; the membership will vote on our proposed changes soon.
- 2) The Section hosted a very successful **cross-border symposium** on wild-life issues at the Texas state chapter meeting in February.
- 3) Also at the Texas meeting, we held the first **SW Section membership meeting** in a number of years. With your help and attendance, we plan to hold another Member's meeting in Albuquerque at the Joint Annual Meeting of AZ/NM TWS.

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4) We are preparing to **host a Wildlife Photography Workshop by Bruce Taubert** at the AZ/NM joint annual meeting this coming February (see his spotted Bat Photo). Bruce has photographed wildlife all over the world, including bats in Nicaragua with Carol Chambers.

5) We provided two more **certification scholarships** for Section members applying for AWB/CWB with TWS.

6) Upcoming Section President, Misty Sumner, attended the **Trilateral Conference** in Alb, making new connections with international members. We expect to expand on those connections this next year to greatly increase participation and opportunities for Mexico and Costa Rica members. Anyone up for a trip to Costa Rica for a membership drive?

7) The SW Section is one of the many **co-sponsors of the WOW!** (Women Of Wildlife) gathering at the TWS Conference in Portland.

8) This is the **second of our newsletters** for 2012.

I am sure I missed a few highlights; look for more information on our activities in this newsletter. It has been an honor serving as President this year. I will look forward to assisting Misty and the new team next year as Past-President.



Spotted Bat, by Bruce D Taubert





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What's Happening with TWS

Carol Chambers, Southwest Section Rep to Council

I received the news of my re-election to Council and am excited to serve the Southwest Section for another 3 years. Thank you for your support – in the coming 3 years I want to increase the coffers of the Southwest Section and be able to provide more support for students and professionals, especially to foster diversity outreach in our section. Jim Ramakka was our other candidate for the Section Rep position and a fantastic person – he continues to serve TWS in many ways, including in the International Wildlife Management Working Group.

For those of you who have not yet heard, Michael Hutchins has left TWS (more info will be forthcoming in upcoming communications from TWS). Michael contributed greatly to TWS and his contributions were appreciated. TWS has advertised for a new Executive Director (ED). Until a full time ED is hired, the President Paul Krausman is Acting ED and Darryl Walter is Chief of Staff.

We are 10,500 members strong so far this year! This represents over 500 new members over last year. Not only are we increasing membership, we have also greatly increased services. This year, for the first time in over 10 years, TWS is requesting an increase in dues: \$10 increase in regular and family membership and \$5 increase in all other categories. TWS is doing a lot more and an increase in revenue will support outreach, publications, and other services that have increased in the last decade. Our dues are still one of the best deals around! TWS is also seeking external funding and has commitments of support from USDA Wildlife Services, National Park Service, Forest Service, and Bureau of Land Management. TWS' Native American Professional Development Program has received pledges totaling \$37,000 from USGS, National Park Service, USFWS, USDA APHIS, and Forest Service this year, making this program possible.

The IV IWMC took place in Durban, South Africa in July. Around 400 delegates from 42 countries attended the Congress. News from the Congress that hit the press included stories on a proposal to sell rhino horns and saving tigers in China. The debate on rhino horn trade sparked a lot of interest and is being covered on the new news.wildlife.org site – join in!

The fall 2012 issue is out and commemorates the 75th anniversary of The Wildlife Society with articles documenting the history of TWS, its pioneers, its contributions to the literature on wildlife management and conservation, and its accomplishments in policy, international outreach, and student outreach. Celebrate the 75th Anniversary meeting in Portland this year at our annual conference (<http://wildlifesociety.org/>). Don't forget to support our publications by subscribing to them and making sure your institution subscribes to them - especially the *Wildlife Society Bulletin*!

As always if you have questions or comments for me, please contact me: Carol.Chambers@nau.edu or 928-523-0014 (office).





Southwest Section News



Candidates for SW Section Board

Candidates for the Office of President-Elect and Secretary-Treasurer of the Southwest Section of TWS for 2013

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.

PRESIDENT ELECT NOMINEES

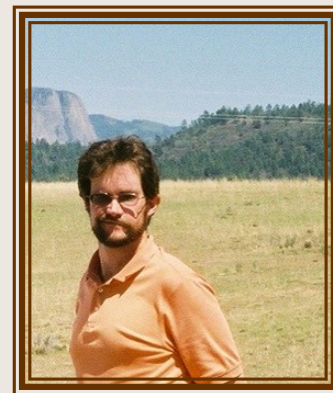
RENAE HELD - Vision Statement

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.



LELAND PIERCE - Vision Statement

While there are important roles to be played at the scale of state TWS chapters as well as the national TWS, the role of a regional infrastructure is needed too. Drought, courtesy of climate change, is a looming issue, and wildlife are notorious for ignoring state boundaries. They are notorious for ignoring management boundaries as well. Along with communication across borders and stakeholder interests, a need exists for thinking in terms of regional solutions, as opposed to solutions that have to meet the square peg of a national agenda or the circle of state ones. The Southwest Section can provide the infrastructure for filling those niches, up to and including regional solutions that include Mexico. If elected president, I would focus on exploring how the public and private sides can create regional solutions for funding, publication of pertinent research, and bringing together relevant policymakers with relevant researchers. With a strong regional infrastructure that cuts across stakeholder agendas and includes improved funding opportunities, we can better meet the goals of student and professional development, as well as finding sound, scientific solutions to the regional issues of our day.



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SECRETARY/TREASURER NOMINEES

JOHNATHAN C. O'DELL - VISION STATEMENT

Resurrecting the Section over the past four and a half years has been a long road and there is still much to be done. I have enjoyed the role I have had in it. If re-elected, I hope to be able to continue investing our funds in the profession and professionals as well as building a financially sound Southwest Section.



ANALIESE K. SCOGGIN - VISION STATEMENT

I believe this Section is poised to become an integral part of the professional development resources available to wildlife professionals in the Southwest. By increasing communication between student chapters, state and national chapters, and our parent society, we serve as an important hub of information exchange. I believe we should pursue new ways to involve and mentor the wildlife students in our section that will form the future foundation of our profession.

The joint Southwest Section and Texas Chapter of TWS meeting last year was a milestone in the growth of this section and a positive sign of things to come. I applaud the work and dedication of our past and present leadership to resurrect the Southwest Section and re-envision how it can serve our membership. I look forward to working with our section's leaders and members to build upon our current membership benefits (newsletter, website, social media, and symposia) to increase our relevance to potential members.





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Candidates for SW Section Board

RENAE HELD

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
Assistant Chief for Non-Game and Endangered Species, NM Department of Game and Fish, 2007–2008
Program Coordinator for Tern and Plover Conservation Partnership at University of Nebraska – Lincoln, 2002–2007
Private Wildlife Consultant for Nebraska Game and Park Commission, 2006
Graduate Assistant for the College of William and Mary, 1999–2002
Assist. to the Dir. 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

Wildlife Society Participation-Chapter, Section, National Involvement

Member of the New Mexico Chapter, 2007–present
Member of the Nebraska Chapter, 2002–2007
Member of the Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society, 2010–present
Member of The Wildlife Society, 2002–present
New Mexico Chapter, Secretary, 2010
New Mexico Chapter, President, 2009
New Mexico Chapter, President-Elect, 2008
Nebraska Chapter, President, 2007
Nebraska Chapter, President-Elect, 2006
Nebraska Chapter, Secretary, 2004, 2005
Nebraska Chapter, Board Member, 2003
New Mexico Chapter, Editor, Quarterly Newsletter, 2008–present
Southwest Section, Editor, Newsletter, 2011–present
New Mexico Chapter, Bylaws Committee, 2009–2010
New Mexico Chapter, Joint Annual Meeting Planning Committee, 2009 and 2013 Meetings
New Mexico Chapter, Co-chair Planning Committee One-Day Chapter Meeting, 2011
Nebraska Chapter, Chair, Awards Committee, 2002–2007
Nebraska Chapter, Member, Programs/Student Workshop committee, 2003–2007
Nebraska Chapter, Member, Membership Committee, 2002–2003

Other Professional Involvement

Member, International Waterbird Society, 1999–present

Principal Professional Interests:

Outreach, Student Involvement, Human-Wildlife Interactions, Conflict Resolution, Waterbirds.

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Candidates for SW Section Board

LELAND PIERCE

Education

Bachelors Degree, Biology, University of New Mexico, 1989
Masters Degree, Biology, University of New Mexico, 1996

Current and Past Positions

Terrestrial Species Recovery Coordinator, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, 2005-Present
GIS administrator, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, 2003-2005
GIS Analyst, Natural Heritage New Mexico, University of New Mexico, 2002-2003
Contract Field Biologist, 1994-2002
Field Biologist, Los Alamos National Laboratories, 1990-1994
Contract Field Biologist, 1989-1990

Wildlife Society Participation-Chapter, Section, National Involvement

Member since 2005
New Mexico Chapter Board Member 2007-2008
New Mexico Chapter, President-elect 2009
New Mexico Chapter, President 2010-2011
New Mexico Chapter, Past-president 2012

Other Professional Involvement

New Mexico Geographic Information Council, Board member 2008-Present
New Mexico Geographic Information Council, President 2009-2010, 2012
National States Geographic Information Council, Board member 2011-Present

JOHNATHAN C. O'DELL

Education

B.S. in Applied Biological Sciences from Arizona State University

Current and Past Positions

Small Game Biologist, AZ Game & Fish Department, Feb 2011 – Present
Wildlife Specialist, AZ Game & Fish Department, July 2006 – Feb 2011

The Wildlife Society – Chapter, Section, National Involvement

Member of the Arizona Chapter of TWS, 2008 – Present
Member of the Southwest Section of TWS, 2008 – Present
Member of The Wildlife Society, 2008 – Present
Co-Chair of the Feral Swine Position Statement Team, 2010/2011
Graduate of TWS Leadership Institute, Class of 2011

Arizona Chapter of The Wildlife Society

AZTWS President, 2011
AZTWS President-Elect, 2010

Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society

Secretary / Treasurer, 2008 – Present

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Candidates for SW Section Board

ANNALIESE K. SCOGGIN

Education

B.S. Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University, 2008
M.S. Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University, 2008

Current and Past Positions

Private Lands Biologist, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, 2009–Present
Biologist, Ranch Logistics, 2009
Biology Instructor, Blinn College, 2009
Teaching Assistant for Texas A&M University, 2008
Student Worker at Texas A&M University, 2005–2007
Student Conservation Association Intern at Gulf Islands National Seashore, Mississippi, 2005

The Wildlife Society - National Involvement

Member of The Wildlife Society, 2006–present
Member, Renewable Energy Working Group, 2010–present
Member, Steady State Economy Working Group, 2010–present
Webmaster, Renewable Energy Working Group, 2011–present
TWS Leadership Institute Participant, 2010
Associate Wildlife Biologist®, 2010

Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society (SWTWS)

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

Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society (TCTWS)

Member of the Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society 2004–present
Co-Chair of the Student Activities Committee 2011–2012
Member of the Student Activities Committee 2010–2011
Recipient of the Colin Caruthers Memorial Scholarship, 2007

Texas A&M University Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society (TAMU-TWS)

President of the Texas A&M Chapter of The Wildlife Society, 2006–2007
Member of the Texas A&M Chapter of The Wildlife Society, 2004–2008
Conclave (Quiz Bowl) Chair of the Texas A&M Chapter of The Wildlife Society, 2005–2006

Other Professional Involvement

Society for Conservation Biology (SCB) 2005–2008
President of the Texas A&M University Chapter of SCB 2007–2008
Secretary of the Texas A&M University Chapter of SCB 2006–2007
Texas Wildlife Association 2007–Present
The American Society of Mammalogists 2007–2009

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Council Special Award of Appreciation Award for Ted Bookhout

Ted Bookhout's outstanding contributions to The Wildlife Society garnered him TWS Council's Special Award of Appreciation. Ted made a major contribution this year as the Technical Review editor for TWS where he has already edited 4 technical reviews and may have an additional review before the year comes to a close. His efforts have significantly increased the quality and expedited the completion of these reviews. TWS Council is very grateful for Ted's continuing commitment.

Incoming Officers of the Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society

Misty Sumner is the incoming Southwest Section President for 2013. She will take office 1 January 2013.

Squirrels of the World

Squirrels of the World provides the reader with a comprehensive overview of 285 species of squirrels recognized by the authors. The book begins with a short overview of the taxonomy, paleontology, anatomy, ecology, behavior and conservation of the family Sciuridae, followed by species descriptions of all squirrels within each of the five subfamilies Ratufinae, Siurillinae, Sciurinae, Callosciurinae, and Xerinae. Each species account includes the scientific and common names, name of the individual who described the species and description date, and a brief description of the species, its morphological measurements, overall distribution, and preferred habitats. The authors include a brief summary of the conservation status (IUCN status) and natural history of each species. Geographic variation within the species is addressed through a description of each recognized subspecies including its defining characteristics and geographic range. At the end of each species account is a general reference section that includes brief citations of references used to describe the species, with the full citations of all references being found in the extensive bibliographic section at the end of the book. The text includes excellent photographs of 231 of the species described. Photos of skulls of most of the genera are provided in an appendix. As a comprehensive guide, the book is quite informative, easy to use, beautifully designed, and an excellent resource for anyone interested in this family of mammals.

Selma Glasscock, Ph.D.

2012. Thorington, Jr., R.W., J.L. Koprowski, M.A. Steele, and J.F. Whatton. *Squirrels of the World*. The Johns Hopkins University Press. Baltimore, MD. 458 pp. ISBN 978-1-4214-0469-1





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The Wildlife Society Distinguished Service Award

The Wildlife Society Distinguished Service Award is designed to recognize TWS members who have made a long-term commitment to the Society based on membership longevity and TWS service. The award recognizes individuals who have worked throughout their careers in a variety of ways to further the mission of the Society but have not been previously recognized with other TWS awards. The nominee should be someone who is "always there" and could be counted on to serve the Chapter, Section, or International organization. This award is not intended to continue to recognize members that have already received other TWS awards.

The Southwest Section recipient for the **Distinguished Service Award for 2012** is **Frank M. Baucom**.

"Frank is an energetic and committed professional who is always there for the Chapter, literally serving 28 years in the post of chair of the Chapter Membership Committee. Frank's dedication, attention to detail and professionalism are truly an example to others in the membership and those who know him personally."

-- Thomas D. Hildebrandt, Past President and Current Treasurer, AZTWS

The quote above is just one example of why Frank Baucom was selected 2012 Distinguished Service Award for the Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society. Frank retired from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 2004 and this year stepped down from the job of Membership Chair. Frank served the Arizona Chapter spanning almost 5 decades; 28 years as Membership Chair. Frank always encouraged those in the wildlife profession to join The Wildlife Society. He organized the first 'field' meeting of the Chapter in 1979 to bring members closer together and invited resource professionals to talk about wildlife issues and share research findings. In 2007, he was a Committee Member and Volunteer for the Local Information Desk for the TWS Annual Conference in Tucson.

Frank has served the Arizona Chapter and been a TWS member for 48 years, joining as a student at the University of Minnesota in 1964. Over the years he has served as Board Member, President-Elect, and President (1979) of the Arizona Chapter. Since 1984, he has served as Membership Chair. In this role, Frank has performed an outstanding job managing the Chapter membership base as it evolved from generating a run of address labels to the current system of electronic messaging. He was the first to use personal computers and databases for membership records. In 2001, the Arizona Chapter established an "AzTWS Alert" email message system to provide an "instant" method of contacting the Chapter membership about important wildlife issues including State and National legislative actions, Chapter activities, job announcements, and other information of benefit to the membership. He willingly accepted the additional task of the AzTWS Alert system while diligently maintaining the membership email list.





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Upcoming Meetings

46th Joint Annual Meeting of the New Mexico and Arizona Chapters of The Wildlife Society and Arizona/New Mexico Chapter of the American Fisheries Society



**Ecosystem Thresholds:
Fire, Water, and Climate**

Save the Date !

7-9 February 2013
 Sheraton Albuquerque Uptown
 Albuquerque, NM



Excellence in Wildlife Stewardship Through Science and Education

For more information keep checking <http://joomla.wildlife.org/NM/>

**DON'T MISS THE
 SOUTHWEST SECTION MEETING
 AT THE 46TH
 JOINT ANNUAL MEETING**

**JOIN US FROM 8-8:45 AM
 FEBRUARY 8, 2012**





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Upcoming Meetings

Call for Papers

46th Joint Annual Meeting of the New Mexico and Arizona Chapters of The Wildlife Society and

Arizona/New Mexico Chapter of the American Fisheries Society.

Albuquerque, NM, Feb. 7-9, 2013. Ecosystem Thresholds: Fire, Water and Climate.

Individuals interested in presenting a paper or poster on pertinent applied management or research involving fisheries and wildlife resources in the southwest U.S. are invited to submit abstracts to the Program Chair for the 46th Annual Conference. Abstracts must be submitted:

- **via e-mail (no paper accepted) in Microsoft Word**
- **by December 15, 2012**
- **send abstracts to the Program Committee at nmtwssubmissions@gmail.com**

Clearly designate in your subject line whether it is a paper or poster presentation and whether it is a wildlife or fisheries abstract.

Priority will be given to talks which present applicable results or lessons learned, as opposed to planned or in-progress projects. The abstract should be a single paragraph, 12-point type, single-spaced, 1/2 page or less (300 words). Capitalize presenter's name. Insert address after each author's name. Abstracts should be short and informative. Authors alone are responsible for correct spelling and grammar in their abstracts. Other than italics for scientific names, do not use any formatting such as tabs, bold, etc.

Indicate student presentations, by placing the words STUDENT PAPER or STUDENT POSTER above the title of the paper or poster. The name of the student(s) presenting the paper should be capitalized, followed by the words "Graduate Student" or "Undergraduate Student" in parenthesis. Please contact Ken Boykin, NM-TWS Chapter President at kboykin@nmsu.edu or (575) 646-6303 with questions.

Example submission:

STUDENT PAPER

Mexican spotted owl habitat characteristics in Zion National Park

JANE, G.I. (Graduate Student), and S.O. Lucida, Department of Fishery and Wildlife Sciences, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM 88003.

We studied Mexican spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis lucida*) distribution, density, and habitat characteristics in Zion National Park from 1989–1991. We detected 28 owls (12 pairs and 4 single males) at 16 different locations throughout the park. Estimated crude density ranged from 0.018–0.042 owls/km² while estimated ecological density ranged from 0.216–0.738 owls/km² over 3 years. Owls were associated with narrow canyons that usually contained a water source. Spotted owls used canyons that had greater absolute humidity and more vegetation strata than canyons selected at random. The geomorphology of these canyons may provide conditions compensatory to the complex forest structure associated with the owl elsewhere within its range by providing cool microclimates and roost and nest sites.

Paper





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International Big Game Trade between New Mexico and Old Mexico Completed!

Eric M. Rominger, Wildlife Management Division, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, Santa Fe, NM

Stewart G. Liley, Wildlife Management Division, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, Santa Fe, NM

Darrel L. Weybright, Wildlife Management Division, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, Santa Fe, NM

In 2008 a trade between Old Mexico and New Mexico was worked out on paper. An agreement was signed that proposed New Mexico would capture 300 pronghorn (*Berrendo* in Spanish) and send them to Mexico in exchange for 10 desert bighorn sheep rams (*Borrego Cimarron* in Spanish) from Mexico.

Mexico has made the restoration of pronghorn a priority and in fact 2009 was declared Año Del Berrendo (Year of the Pronghorn). New Mexico Department of Game and Fish was interested in increasing genetic diversity in the desert bighorn sheep housed at the captive breeding facility at Red Rock, New Mexico. The Red Rock herd was established in 1972 with founders from the San Andres Mountains of New Mexico and the State of Sonora, Mexico. To the best of our knowledge, the bighorn to New Mexico in 1972 and a group of bighorn to Texas circa 1978 are the only previous translocations of desert bighorn sheep out of Mexico.

However, as in much of life, theory and reality can rapidly diverge once the rubber makes contact with the bitumen. It was hoped that all 300 pronghorn could be captured during a single operation in the winter of 2009. However, this ultimately took the winters of 2009, 2010 and 2012 to complete. On the eastern plains of New Mexico 277 of the 300 pronghorn were captured in large operations during the winters of 2009 and 2010. A final 21 were captured during the winter of 2012. These pronghorn were transported to Mexico and released at 3 separate locations in the state of Coahuila.

The 10 desert bighorn rams were captured in December 2010 in the Pilares captive breeding facility adjacent to the Sierra del Carmen Mountains of Coahuila. This area is south of Big Bend National Park. These rams were net-gunned inside the nearly 12km² facility owned and maintained by CEMEX, a large privately held cement company based in Monterrey, Mexico. A helicopter from Santa Fe and a New Mexico Department of Game and Fish capture crew caught the 10 rams for the exchange and an additional 15 bighorn sheep. A portion of these were released into the Sierra del Carmen with the remainder sent to another captive breeding facility in Mexico.

The original plan was to capture the rams, load them into horse-trailers and return to the United States. However, USDA rules required that these rams be held in a pre-embarkation quarantine facility in Mexico for 60 days prior to crossing into the United States where they again had to undergo a 60-day quarantine at Red Rock. In addition, NMDGF held these rams for 3 more weeks to mix them with Red Rock rams to assess the risk of a catastrophic disease event to the larger Red Rock population. The odds that all 10 would eventually be released into the extant population at Red Rock were very long. However, in May 2011 all 10 had survived 140 days in quarantine and hundreds of miles in horse-trailers and were released into the Red Rock herd.





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An How does the Endangered Species Act apply to Native American tribal lands?

Serra Hoagland - - Biological Scientist, Forest Service Southern Research Station, North Carolina (NAU PhD Student)

Ask any wildlife professional who has worked with threatened and endangered species and you will likely get a range of responses. Even the experts are trying to sort out this question. That's the problem.

Over 56 million acres are owned and managed by 566 federally recognized Native American tribes. Native Americans make up approximately 1.6% of the total American population yet they own a significant portion of land. Individual treaties define the government-to-government relationship but conflict arises when ESA regulations collide with Indian self-determination.

Furthermore, with a growing human population there is an increased need for resources, which means less land for wildlife, except the trend is reversed on Indian lands. This leaves tribes with a disproportionate responsibility to protect, manage and conserve many threatened and endangered species. Even more importantly though, many indigenous cultures maintain strong connections to the natural world, making the dire state of imperiled species even more doomsday-like because for many tribal communities, the health of wildlife is a direct reflection of the health of their people. To further complicate the issue, the average amount of financial assistance provided to tribes is disproportionately less than what other federal agencies receive for accomplishing the same task¹. With limited funding and resources combined with immense cultural and ecological responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species, tribes face a difficult task in protecting remaining wildlife.

What do tribes do?

Secretarial Order #3206 entitled *American Indian Tribal Rights, Federal-Tribal Trust Responsibilities, and the Endangered Species Act*, hereafter mentioned as SO 3206 "strives to ensure that Indian tribes do not bear a disproportionate burden for the conservation of listed species, so as to avoid or minimize the potential for conflict and confrontation." SO 3206 recognizes tribal self-governance and outlines five principles that establish guidelines for protection of tribal resources, cultural sensitivity, and working relationships between tribes and federal agencies. As nice as SO 3206 sounds, there are many instances where the text is contradicting and circular arguments are made throughout the document², which has contributed to the confusion about how threatened and endangered species are managed on tribal lands.

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An How does the Endangered Species Act apply to Native American tribal lands?

Serra Hoagland - Biological Scientist, Forest Service Southern Research Station, North Carolina (NAU PhD Student)

Do tribes have to abide by the ESA?

YES and NO. If tribes receive federal funding, which most tribes do then they must abide by the same ESA and NEPA processes as any other group. However many of the federal regulations (including the ESA) are in direct conflict with Indian self-determination. Only tribes that have successfully taken advantage of SO 3206 and under Indian self-determination are they able to manage threatened and endangered species with complete autonomy.



Serra Hoagland and Don Motanic (ITC representative and Umatilla Tribal member) - American Indian Science & Engineering Society (AISES) National Conference

Currently Native and non-native groups are collaborating to better understand the legalities behind SO 3206 to ensure that tribes are given proper authority over their own lands and resources. As more tribes utilize their sovereignty and continue their traditional land management practices hopefully it results in a win-win for society and wildlife.

References:

Gordon, J., Franklin, J., Johnson, K., Patton, D., Sedell, J., Sessions, J. and E. Williston. 1993. An Assessment of Indian Forests and Forest Management in the United States. Intertribal Timber Council. Available online at: www.itcnet.org

Schmidt, P. and M. Peterson. 2008. Biodiversity Conservation and Indigenous Land Management in the Era of Self-Determination. *Conservation Biology* 23 (6): 1458-1466.





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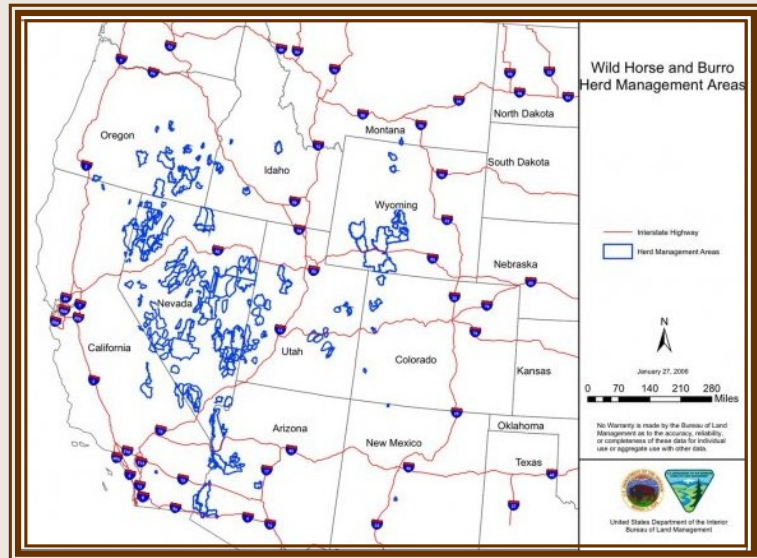
An Overview of Feral Horse and Burro Management and Economics and Biological Removal Options by Permit

Jon Hanna - Retired - Arizona Game and Fish Department

In an attempt to control the growing populations of feral, free-roaming horses and feral burros, in the west the Federal Public Law 92-195 was passed in 1971, incorporating a variety of management strategies including capture and removal, sales and adoption, euthanasia, and contraception. Despite this law, populations continue to grow.

No specific amount of acreage was "set aside" for the exclusive use of wild horses and burros under the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act.

The Act directed the BLM to determine the areas where horses and burros were found roaming, and then to manage the animals within the boundaries of those areas. There were an estimated 25,000 plus wild horses and burros in 1971, and those numbers rose to a peak of more than 60,000 before the BLM was authorized and able to effectively use helicopters for gathers. The BLM is seeking to achieve the appropriate management level of 26,600 wild horses and burros on Western public rangelands, or nearly 12,000 fewer than the current West-wide population.



BLM statement - "We have to manage these animals; the purpose of the act is to manage wild mustangs on wild lands, not to have thousands of them in corrals."

Wild horses and burros have an average recruitment rate of 18% per year, so their populations double about every five years. The Secretary shall make determinations as to whether and where an overpopulation exists and whether action should be taken to remove excess animals; and determine whether appropriate management levels should be achieved by the removal or destruction of excess animals, or other options (such as sterilization, or natural controls on population levels).

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An Overview of Feral Horse and Burro Management and Economics and Biological Removal Options by Permit

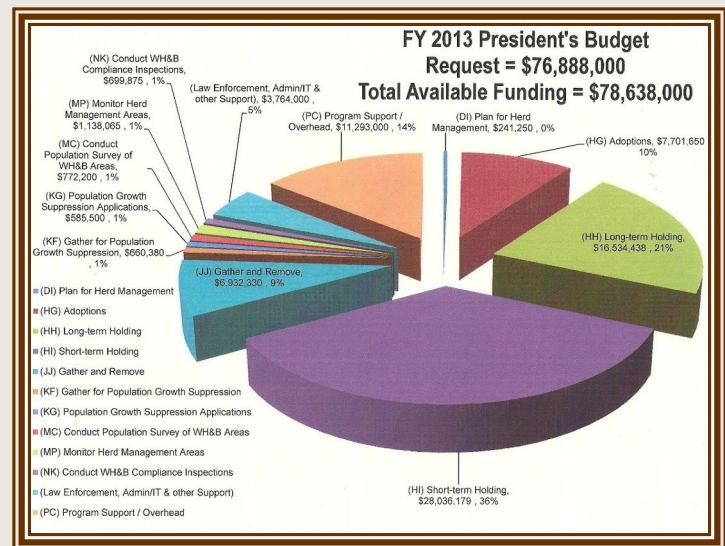
Jon Hanna - Retired - Arizona Game and Fish Department

The BLM envisions healthy wild horses and burros on healthy rangelands in the West forever – but to achieve this goal, cost-effective, sustainable solutions are needed. The FY 2011 program cost to run this program is over 75 million dollars.

Roundups – costly and controversial. Requires perpetual capturing and unsustainable long term pasture cost.

Fertility Control - In order to significantly reduce herd growth rates and achieve meaningful cost-savings, development of a longer-acting agent is needed. This method is also costly and controversial.

Adoptions – the numbers of animals removed has exceeded the animals adopted over the last decade.



The Wildlife Society's official position regarding feral horses and burros in North America recognizes both as an invasive species and provide the following policy statements on these management strategies.

- Support the use of roundups to remove feral horses and burros from rangeland while simultaneously seeking opportunities to improve the knowledge and use of the best and most humane capturing and handling methods.
- Recognize that adoption programs are a socially acceptable method for removal and relocation of feral horses and burros, but that the pool of possible adopters is declining and adoption is not a viable long-term solution to overpopulation.
- Support euthanasia as a humane method for removal of old, ailing, or unadoptable feral horses and burros and as a possible method to control population size.
- Recognize that no feral horse or burro management plan should depend solely on fertility control given the uncertainty, logistical difficulty, and great expense that still exist regarding these methods.

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Carol Walker

Permit System – allows public to make a decision on method of removal. Cost effective, sustainable, although also controversial, this management action unlike all ongoing management actions can be put into practice by the public.

The permit system can be used by individuals for removing animals from the range through capture and possession (adoption) or through harvest. Horses and burros are not managed as wildlife by state agencies; however state game

departments manage hunting. Instead of a hunt permit tag a “take” permit would be needed for removal of a horse or burro. Options for take by an individual could be through capture or shooting and would need to be administrated through the federal land management agency. Public opinion will always be an issue when managing horse and burro herds. Policy makers need to put the best biological and economic realities in place to move forward with a practicable and long term management strategy. Moving to a take permit system for the general public meets these objectives.

Acknowledgements

- National Wild Horse and Burro Program BLM web site
- Wild horse and Burro Program USFS web site
- Information on Wild Horse and Burro Management AGFD web site
- Arizona State Veterinarian – Perry Durham
- Arizona Game and Fish Department – Bob Henry, Rod Lucas, Tim Holt
- National Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board – Dr. James Dale Stephenson, Mr. H. Paul Durbin
- Bureau of Land Management – Roger Olyer
- Wild Horse and Burro Program Budget Overview – Holle’ Hooks
- National WHB Advisory Board Briefing - October 13, 2011



Bureau of Land Management





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TWS Leadership Institute

The Wildlife Society established its Leadership Institute 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. With nearly 70 percent of leaders in the wildlife profession projected to retire in the next decade, TWS has a responsibility to prepare its members to meet the pressing need for well-prepared professionals.

2012 Participants - Southwest Participants in Bold:

- Christopher Ayers, Graduate Research Assistant, Mississippi State University
- Dominic Bachman, Refuge Wildlife Biologist, Modoc National Wildlife Refuge, California
- Megan Cook, Assistant to the Science Advisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington D.C.
- **Megan Dominguez Clayton, Assistant Professor and Extension Range Specialist, Texas AgriLife Extension Service**
- Richard Gerhold, Post-doctoral Research Associate, University of Tennessee
- **Serra Hoagland, Biological Scientist, Forest Service Southern Research Station, North Carolina (NAU PhD Student)**
- **Aletris Neils, PhD Student, University of Arizona**
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- Peer connections through new Listserv and [Facebook](#)



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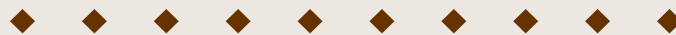
Mailing Address

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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



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