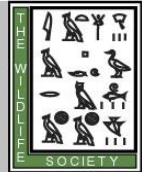




NC Wildlifer



**A New
Direction for
Conservation
Affairs**

NCTWS 2015

**Contemplating
Our Profession**



And more!

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Position	Officers	Phone	E-mail
President	Katie Greenberg	828-667-5261 x 118	Scrown9990@gmail.com
President Elect	Kelly Douglass	919-621-3317	kelly.douglass@ncwildlife.org
Past President	Kendrick Weeks	919-609-7605	kendrick.weeks@ncwildlife.org
Secretary	Sue Cameron	828-258-3939 x 224	susan_cameron@fws.gov
Treasurer	Colleen Olfenbuttel	919-920-6302	colleen.olfenbuttel@ncwildlife.org
At-Large Board Member	Gary Marshall	704-948-8025	gary.marshall@mecklenbergcountync.org
At-large Board Member	Joe Tomcho	828-713-1109	joseph.tomcho@ncwildlife.org
SE Section Rep	Steve Grodsky	973-222-7380	smgrodsk@ncsu.edu

Greenberg's Greetings

Greetings and Happy New Year, NCTWS members! I hope all had a relaxing holiday season, and wish you a happy and productive and 2015.

The program committee is lining up a wonderful program for the 2015 annual meeting of NCTWS at Lake Logan, near the Cold Mountain Game Lands in western North Carolina. The first day will include a field trip to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians to discuss their collaborative deer and elk projects with the NC Wildlife Resources Commission and Great Smoky Mountains National Park. For the remainder of the meeting, speakers will be presenting on a wide diversity of topics, all related to the “Partnerships in Recovery” theme. In his keynote address, Keith Norris, Assistant Director of Government Affairs & Partnerships for national TWS will be talking about National Perspectives on Partnerships. Other topics offered so far include Management–Research Partnerships from a Manager’s Perspective, partnerships in herpetology, the Leopold Education Project, mountain bogs, restoring fire-adapted ecosystems, and the E-mammals Citizen Science camera trapping project. Board members Kelly Douglass and Steve Grodsky are planning a presentation on “Getting to Know your NCTWS Chapter,” with an introduction of board and committee members and a brief description of what they do and how members can get involved. There are still speaker slots available, so please contact Josh Parris (jdparris@haywood.edu) if you have an interesting topic related to the “Partnerships” them you’d like to offer!

Planning is in progress for The Wildlife Society National Conference to be held in Raleigh October 15-20, 2016. John Ann Shearer, head of the Arrangements Committee, has lined up several subcommittees, and will soon be holding a “white board session” with subcommittee chairs, advisers, and local and national TWS leadership to launch the official planning. The Arrangements Committee is responsible for coordinating fundraising, local information, field trips, volunteers, student activities, networking and engagement, and public relations for the national meeting. If you are interested in helping with any aspects of this exciting endeavor, please contact John Ann at johann_shearer@fws.gov and many thanks to those of you who are already involved!



Greenberg's Greetings

NCTWS is holding a logo competition for the TWS national conference, as well! The winning logo will be used to identify and advertise The Wildlife Society's 2016 national conference, and will be displayed on web sites, t-shirts, banners, pens, and other items. The competition is open to anyone. It is open now through March 16, 2015. Please visit our NCTWS website for more information on this competition.

Our NCTWS Mentoring Committee is actively recruiting professional mentors for wildlife students. The goal of this program is to pair wildlife professionals with students interested in gaining field experience and learning more about careers in wildlife ecology, management, and conservation. Mentors serve as a role model, gain leadership experience, and receive assistance on wildlife conservation projects. Even opportunities for a "one time" wildlife experience, such as participation in deer check stations, wildlife surveys, or assisting in research, provides students the chance to get experience and meet wildlife professionals. If you are interested in serving as a mentor or offering a "wildlife experience" to students, please contact Lara Pacifici (lara_pacifici@ncsu.edu).

As always, thanks to everyone for your contributions to wildlife conservation and the NCTWS.

Have a wonderful winter!

Sincerely,

Katie Greenberg

NCTWS Chapter President



2015 NCTWS Executive Board Candidates



JAMES (JAMIE) SASSER

OFFICE: President-Elect

PRESENT CAREER POSITION: Coastal Region Biologist, NC State Parks; Lieutenant Colonel, (Brigade Operations Officer) NC Army National Guard

FORMER CAREER POSITIONS: Director/Wildlife Biologist, Howell Woods Environmental Learning Center (1998-2012); Wildlife Specialist, USDA-Wildlife Services (1995-1998)

EDUCATION: BS, Fisheries & Wildlife Sciences w/ Minor, Environmental Science -1995, NCSU

TWS ACTIVITIES: Active member since 1999; TWS Certified Wildlife Biologist; State Chapter-two separate terms as an At-Large Executive Board and as the Chapter President in 2009; National level-currently serve as an At-Large Board member of the Invasive Species Working Group

AFFILIATIONS: TWS, NC Prescribed Fire Council, Ecological Society of America, Natural Areas Association and past affiliations with several ornithological societies. Active participant with the Cape Fear Arch Conservation Partnership



2015 NCTWS Executive Board Candidates

Jamie Sasser con't...

VIEWS: North Carolina's natural resources and heritage face many challenges; urban/suburban sprawl, invasive species, fire suppression/altered fire regimes, wildland conversion to plantations and agriculture and a general disconnect from the land. As professional scientists/researchers/managers, it is our duty and responsibility to educate the public and other professionals of the importance of conserving and restoring the natural resources of our State. And as professionals working in a challenging budget environment it is also critical that we work and coordinate across agency lines as often as possible to accomplish the goals of all of our agencies, the conserving and restoring the natural resources of our State.



2015 NCTWS Executive Board Candidates



COLLEEN OLFENBUTTEL

OFFICE: Treasurer

PRESENT CAREER POSITION: NC Wildlife Resources Commission Black Bear and Furbearer Biologist (2007-present)

FORMER CAREER POSITIONS: Massachusetts Division of Fish and Wildlife Furbearer Project Leader; Virginia Tech Research Associate (Co-leader on Cooperative Alleghany Bear Study, Co-leader for Center for Ursid Research); Teaching Assistant for 4 courses, Virginia Tech; Wildlife Biologist, Institute for Wildlife Studies (San Clemente Island, CA); Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Northern Rocky Mountain Wolf Recovery Project (Helena, MT); Wildlife Technician, Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources (Crystal Falls, MI); Wildlife Technician, U.S. Geological Service (Ely, MN); Crew Leader, Hiawatha National Forest (Munising, MI); Biological Technician, National Biological Service (Kodiak, AK); Lab Assistant, Ohio University.

EDUCATION: B.S. Wildlife Biology, Ohio University (1996); M.S. Wildlife Management, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (2005)

TWS ACTIVITIES: NC-TWS Treasurer (2013-present), TWS-Wildlife Damage Management Working Group Treasurer/Secretary (2014-present), NC-TWS and TWS-Southeast Section since 2007, TWS-National Chapter since 1997, TWS-North Central (2006-2007), Representative for TWS-Southeast section Fur Resources Committee, TWS-Urban Wildlife Working Group since 2007, TWS-Wildlife Damage Management Working Group since 2007, TWS Certified Wildlife Biologist



2015 NCTWS Executive Board Candidates

Colleen Olfenbuttel con't...

AFFILIATIONS: Current chair of SEAFWA Furbearer Working Group, SEAFWA Large Carnivore Working Group, Southern Appalachian Black Bear Study Group, Organizing co-chair for Eastern Black Bear Workshop (2011 & 2013), Southeast representative for U.S. Furbearer Technical Working Group, North Carolina representative for AFWA Sustainable Use of Wildlife Committee, International Bear Association (2001-present)

VIEWS: I was elected NC-TWS treasurer in 2013 and appreciate the opportunity I have been given to serve the chapter for these last two years. I would like to be re-elected as Treasurer so that I can continue being active on the NC-TWS board. One reason I wanted to be involved on the board is that I strongly believe the NC-TWS chapter serves an important role for the wildlife resources of North Carolina, as it allows professionals the opportunity to collaborate, to identify issues, and to provide science-based recommendations and facts to the decision-making process. Over the last year, North Carolina has witnessed several proposals that would impact our wildlife populations. I am proud to be part of a board that has been active in addressing these proposals by providing information to the decision-makers. However, I feel there is still more to be done to advocate for wildlife educate the membership on current issues and proposals, and the opportunities available for members to comment on those issues. I strongly believe a more active chapter and more active membership can serve a vital role in influencing the future stewardship of our wildlife resources and I would like to play a part in that role. If re-elected, I would like to spend the next 2 years trying to find ways to increase membership engagement in the chapter and membership participation on the various chapter committees.



2015 NCTWS Executive Board Candidates



JOHN HENRY HARRELSON

OFFICE: At-large Board Member

PRESENT CAREER POSITION: Coastal Technical Assistance Biologist, N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

FORMER CAREER POSITIONS: Technical Assistance Biologist, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

EDUCATION: M.S. in Wildlife Science, Louisiana State University (2009-2011); B.S. in Fish and Wildlife Science concentration Wildlife, North Carolina State University (2002-2006)

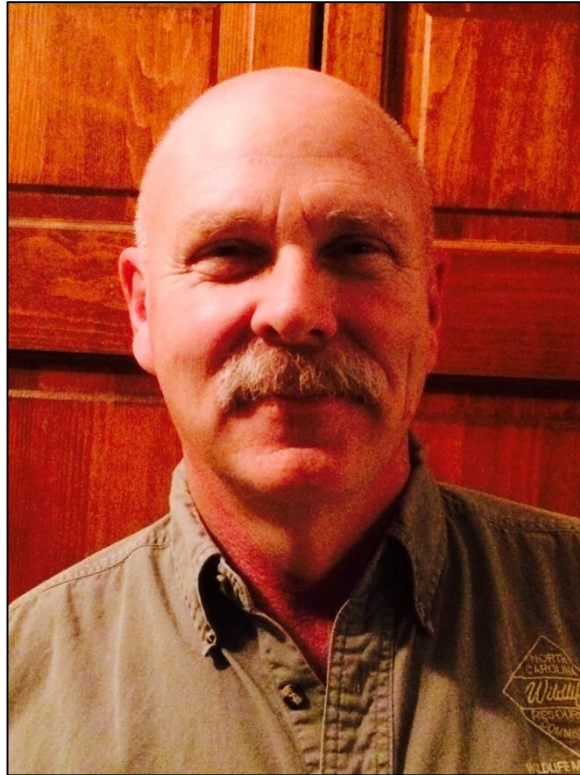
TWS ACTIVITIES: National-member, NC Chapter-member, LA Chapter-member, LSU Student Chapter-member, Leopold Wildlife Club-member

AFFILIATIONS: Quality Deer Management Association, Ducks Unlimited, National Wildlife Turkey Foundation, NC Prescribed Fire Council

VIEWS: Being a new resident back in North Carolina, the NC chapter offers a great opportunity for me to interact with other professionals, to assist in educating professionals on the most recent conservation issues. Becoming more involved with the chapter will hopefully allow me to serve my fellow biologist and to contribute to the organization that plays such a key role in our profession.



2015 NCTWS Executive Board Candidates



KEN KNIGHT

OFFICE: At-large Board Member

PRESENT CAREER POSITION: Supervising Wildlife Biologist, NCWRC

FORMER CAREER POSITIONS: District Wildlife Biologist, NCWRC; Endangered Species Biologist, WVDNR

EDUCATION: B.S. Wildlife Management, NCSU; M.S. Wildlife Management, WVU

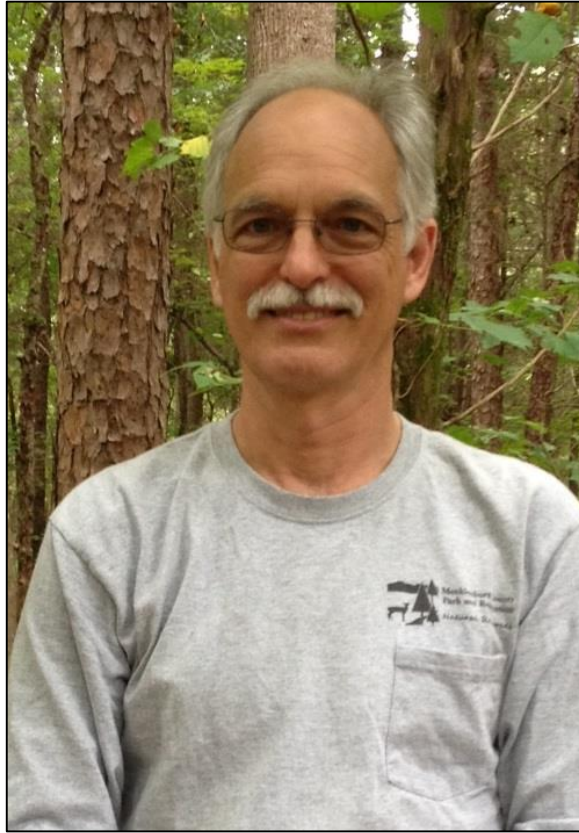
TWS ACTIVITIES: Have served as Secretary and Board Member in the past, plus Program Committee several times.

AFFILIATIONS: NCTWS, The LandTrust for Central North Carolina, Boone and Crockett Club

VIEWS: I see the NCTWS as a voice of reason in this era when politics plays such a big role in the decision making process regarding conservation. The environment and wildlife management are under assault by extremists on both sides of the political aisle and NCTWS must weigh in with science on our side. I hope to be a part of this effort.



2015 NCTWS Executive Board Candidates



GARY MARSHALL

OFFICE: At-large Board Member

PRESENT CAREER POSITION: Natural Resources Coordinator/Supervisor: Mecklenburg County Parks Natural Resources

FORMER CAREER POSITIONS: Park Ranger, Mecklenburg County; Ecological restoration team leader, Ecohorizons, Inc.; Turkey Trapper, Wetlands Restoration Aide, Natural Resources Aide, Iowa DNR.

EDUCATION: BS Fisheries and Wildlife Biology, Iowa State University, 1988

TWS ACTIVITIES: Former President, Former At Large Board member, Former Program Committee Chair

AFFILIATIONS: NCTWS, NC Invasive Plant Council Board Member

VIEWS: I feel it is important to be involved in the Chapter. I'm proud to be a part of this Chapter and associated with the fine group of professionals represented here. Wildlife management continues to be important in this state as various political and environmental changes occur. I believe it is important for this Chapter to be a positive part of these change. If elected, I will be happy to serve as board member.



2015 NCTWS Executive Board Candidates



BRENDAN SHERRILL

OFFICE: At-large Board Member

PRESENT CAREER POSITION: Mammalogist, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

FORMER CAREER POSITIONS: Curator of the Naturalist Center, North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences; Regional Biologist, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources; Lead Research Technician, North Carolina State University

EDUCATION: M.S. - Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology, North Carolina State University (2010); B.S. - Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences, North Carolina State University (2006)

TWS ACTIVITIES: National - member; Southeastern Section - member; NC Chapter – member, Finance & Fundraising Committee; Leopold Wildlife Club - member (as a student NCSU)

AFFILIATIONS: American Society of Mammalogists, Quality Deer Management Association, North Carolina Bat Working Group

VIEWS: I have been a member of NCTWS for several years but have not taken the opportunity to truly become an “active” member. Our chapter provides excellent opportunities for members to connect with a diverse group of wildlife professionals within our field, increase our knowledge of current wildlife conservation and management issues, and disseminate new scientific research. Therefore, I feel it is important for me to contribute to an organization that provides me with such invaluable resources. I am excited to have the opportunity to run for an At-large Board Member position and become more involved in NCTWS.



2015 NCTWS Executive Board Candidates

2015 NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY BALLOT

President-elect (please vote for 1)

_____ Jamie Sasser

Treasurer (please vote for 1)

_____ Colleen Olfenbuttel

At-large Board Member (please vote for 2)

_____ John Henry Harrelson

_____ Ken Knight

_____ Gary Marshall

_____ Brandon Sherrill



**The National Meeting of
The Wildlife Society is coming
to the *City of Oaks* in 2016!**



John Ann Shearer has generously agreed to take on the position of Arrangements Committee Chair. The Arrangement Committee is the primary workhorse for the conference at the state level.

There are opportunities for all chapter members to help with the national meeting in 2016. If you have a keen interest in serving as a leader, please contact John Ann (johnann_shearer@fws.gov or [919-856-4520 ext. 17](tel:919-856-4520)).



The Conservation Spectrum: Diverse Efforts and the Sum of All Parts

The wildlife profession consists of research, monitoring, management, enforcement, and education. Employers are primarily local, state, and federal governments, universities and colleges, and non-governmental groups. Although these divisions are often thought of as separate entities, their integration is important for effective conservation. This is apparent in the many North American collaborations and partnerships (and beyond) that have evolved over the years since the great exploitation era. A multitude of organizations formed to address the steep decline of wildlife populations and wild places, including government agencies and non-governmental organizations such as the United State Forest Service (1876), United States Fish and Wildlife Service (1885; 1905), National Audubon Society (1896), National Park Service (1916), National Wildlife Federation (1936), Ducks Unlimited (1937), The Nature Conservancy (1951), and the National Wild Turkey Federation (1973), just to name a few. The Wildlife Society was one of the first of many partnerships to facilitate wildlife conservation by integrating the disciplines of the burgeoning profession in 1936. Since then, many successes have been achieved through the hard work of every component of the conservation community – the recovery of waterfowl and other game populations, down-listing and de-listing of Endangered species, and protection, restoration, and conservation of land for wildlife habitat. The appreciation of wild places and nature has increased among the public and much more has been discovered about species and habitat relationships. But, the threats to wildlife populations and complexity of wildlife conservation issues also have increased immensely. For example, habitat loss continues, wildlife disease is becoming more prevalent, energy development poses new risks, climate change is a looming challenge, and all the values associated with nature have diversified and specialized creating some conflict and disagreement of management and priorities. Partnerships that incorporate many different interest groups and stakeholders have formed over the past several decades, including Partners in Flight (1990), Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (1999), and Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (2010) to address current conservation threats and challenges. One partnership that will be absolutely critical for the future of wildlife conservation is wildlifers partnering, working with, educating, and recruiting the other disciplines of conservation, including plant conservationists and the environmentally conscious community in general, to provide diverse habitats and biota. Let's face it – habitat is dwindling for most wildlife. Even where wildlife and wild lands are a significant part of the economy and landscape, places that conserve wildlife and other natural resources are becoming more and more crowded with diverse stakeholders. Human population growth and urbanization continues to chip away at remaining wildlife habitat, leaving isolated islands of habitat within a sea of impervious surfaces, domestic animals, and intense cultivation that creates conflict between stakeholders. Don't get me wrong, housing and food are things that people need and can provide wildlife habitat as well, but it is apparent that unless most people begin to understand the value of the entire spectrum of conservation, certain special interest values will continue to confuse the landscape of conservation. *Con't on page 13.*



The Conservation Spectrum: Diverse Efforts and the Sum of All Parts

Interest in outdoor activities has become more prevalent and the ways to enjoy wild places have become more diversified and specialized. As such, much outdoor recreation has become disconnected with wildlife and biodiversity. In the spectrum of our profession, from nuisance wildlife to endangered species, we work to keep native species populations more centered and balanced by techniques that aren't always understood by some of these stakeholders and their associated professions. More and more, a special interest group's position on a conservation issue is based upon one set of values, while erroneously using wildlife conservation as an additional justification for the position. Sportsmen and sportswomen are the original conservationists and the reason for the firm foundation of much of what is protected and appropriately managed today. But the diversity of stakeholders and wildlife interests has increased exponentially. Although interest in protecting nature has built upon that foundation by protecting more and more acres across North Carolina and the globe, much of the interested public also has little understanding of the importance, utility, and value of all sectors of our profession. Animal rights organizations and others with similar ideologies are quickly becoming stakeholders that we need to include in our education efforts. It is easy to dismiss stakeholders that are emotional or use information in a disingenuous manner, but we have to rise above it and continue to use science and education to broaden the views of the uninformed. The fact that not all conservation lands are managed the same is actually an asset over managing them all the same. And, working together to provide a consistent and welcoming message is paramount to effective conservation that builds bridges and tears down walls. Conducting our work in a humane manner to bring balance to the negative impacts humans have on natural resources and providing access to those resources, regardless of stakeholder, is our charge. Best management practices for trapping are a prime example of the science-based approach that can be used to achieve this and educate the public; research clearly indicates that certain species suffer more injuries in cage traps versus foot hold traps and foot hold traps shouldn't be dismissed because of some preconceived notion based solely on perception.

The profession of wildlife conservation has matured, increased in complexity, and is little understood by even some of our most ardent supporters. Considering the advanced degrees required to work in our profession, this should come as no surprise. Current conflicts between different stakeholders highlight the need for protecting and managing more land in all forms of management to maximize stakeholder enjoyment of diverse natural resources. We also need to align with those who enjoy nature completely separate from biodiversity conservation, so that they can appreciate the need for wildlife conservation and management given humankind's ubiquitous and unbalanced impact upon the landscape. In the spectrum of habitat conservation, from urban development and agriculture to managed forests and wilderness, there is a need for our profession to bring balance. *Con't on page 14.*



The Conservation Spectrum: Diverse Efforts and the Sum of All Parts

Within developed areas, we know that landowners can take steps to make their property and community more wildlife friendly, but there also is the need to provide ecological functions that keep nuisance animals in balance. For instance, managing hunting pressures in human populated and agricultural areas is similar in ecological function to restoring predator populations in wilderness. What methods are used depends upon a lot of societal factors that we have no control over, highlighting a disconnect between wildlife as a public trust and its required habitat on lands that are privately held. All approaches will be important as landscape scale conservation becomes a dominant force and wildlife corridors a significant part of conservation and municipal planning. Partnerships statewide, regionally, and globally continue to collaborate on research, monitoring, management, education, and enforcement to protect as much wildlife habitat, public and private, as possible. Integration provides a powerful force in conservation. Regardless of your professional specialization, the North Carolina Chapter of the Wildlife Society and its committees are in a unique position to work together towards a robust and diversified conservation future. *We are more than the sum of all parts.*

-- Kendrick Weeks



Kendrick is the Mountain Wildlife Diversity Supervisor with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission.

Conservation Affairs Committee – A Call for Action

Notice that the headline highlights our new name. You are familiar with our old name, the *Conservation Review Committee*. As we are trying to transition to a more proactive stance on conservation issues, last year our name was changed to *Conservation Affairs Committee* (CAC). This was done to reflect some new directions coming down to us from national TWS, which is promoting the establishment of a [*Conservation Affairs Network*](#) that will provide better communication among state and regional TWS chapters and facilitate work on policy and conservation issues. *Not only do we want to continue to provide good well-researched scientific information about proposals, issues and legislation that affect wildlife, we wish to begin to take more advocacy positions on important policy issues, in the state, regionally, and nationally.*

Since the last annual meeting, actions have been taken in several areas on behalf of the Chapter. The Chapter joined the NC letter circulated and coordinated by the NC Wildlife Federation in support of the [*Waters of the USA*](#) proposals to clarify stream and wetland protections in the Clean Water Act. Letters were written to state legislators in opposition to a Senate Bill [*regarding Pesticide Use for Moles*](#) and to the NC Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) supporting its opposition to a re-classification of moles as pests. A comprehensive letter of opposition was sent to the NCWRC and presented at public hearing in opposition to proposed rule changes allowing for the issuance of new captivity licenses for cervids. Comments concerning proposed revisions for the Chronic Wasting Disease Response Plans were submitted to the NCWRC. We were not able to offer comments about red wolf program continuance, mostly because of perceived ‘conflicts of interest’ on the part of committee members. *This difficulty is something that can be overcome if the Committee can begin to work within the Conservation Affairs Network.* Con’t on page 16.



Conservation Affairs Committee – A Call for Action

Give some thought to how you may contribute to the efforts of the Conservation Affairs Committee in advocating for conservation issues and the welfare of wildlife and habitat. The Committee is currently investigating ways to solicit interests and assistance from the membership. Be on the lookout for future announcements asking for submission of your ideas about issues for engagement and your areas of expertise that you can volunteer to the Committee in its work. Please come to the annual meeting at Lake Logan prepared to hear more about the new directions of the *Conservation Affairs Committee* and to participate in some discussion about the role of the *Committee* in the NC Chapter of the Wildlife Society.

-- Mike Baranski



Mike is Chair of the Conservation Affairs Committee and Professor Emeritus of Biology at Catawba College.

**What other issues will emerge to affect NC wildlife?
Will you be ready to answer the call of duty and
advocate for our valuable wildlife resources?**



NCTWS 2015 Annual Meeting **Lake Logan, North Carolina**

The Executive Board of the NC Chapter of the Wildlife Society is pleased to announce that plans are well underway for our annual meeting. We are excited to announce that we will be holding our annual meeting at Lake Logan in the mountains of North Carolina, April 8th and 9th, 2015, with an optional field trip on April 7th. Please be sure to mark your calendars to join us!

This year's annual meeting theme is: **Partnerships to Recovery**. Oral and poster presentations will be featured, and field trips(s), chapter awards, an auction and raffle, and social mixers are awaiting you! Come out and support your Chapter!

Meeting Highlights:

- Field trip with the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indian
- Keynote Speaker → Keith Norris – “National Perspectives on Partnerships”
 - Diverse and interesting oral presentations
 - Passing of “The Goat”
- Socials sponsored by Haywood Community College Student Chapter
 - Student poster session
- Interactive session on how to get involved in your chapter



NCTWS 2015 Annual Meeting **Lake Logan, North Carolina**

Preliminary Agenda

Tuesday, April 7th

1:00 – 4:00 PM Field Trip - Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indian - Meet at Haywood Community College (HCC) at 1:00 PM (space is limited; first come first served)

4:30 PM Registration

6:00 PM Dinner

7:00 PM Social (*Hosted by the **HCC Student Chapter***)

Wednesday, April 8th

7:00 AM Registration

8:00 AM Breakfast

8:45 AM Welcome and *door prizes*

9:00 AM Keynote Speaker: Keith Norris – “National Perspectives on Partnerships”

9:45 AM Steve Grodsky and Kelly Douglass – “Committing to Committees”

10:30 AM Break

10:55 AM *Door prizes*

11:00 AM Caleb Hickman – “Partnerships to Develop a Cherokee Wildlife Action Plan”

11:30 AM Dean M. Simon – “Management–Research Partnerships from a Manager’s Perspective”

12:00 PM Lunch

12:50 PM *Door prizes*

1:00 PM Rob Hawk & Randy Senzig - “Aldo Leopold Speaks”

1:30 PM Jeffrey Hall - “Reptile and Amphibian Partnerships”

2:00 PM Sue Cameron – “Mountain Bogs National Wildlife Refuge: Conserving some of the Mountain's Rarest Places and Species”

2:30 PM Break

2:50 PM *Door prizes*

3:00 PM Lisa Jennings – “The Grandfather Restoration Project: Leveraging Partnerships for Landscape-scale Restoration”

3:30 PM John Ann Shearer – “2016 Annual TWS Conference”

4:00 PM Justin McVey – “Elks in North Carolina”

4:30 PM Announcements

6:00 PM Dinner

7:00 PM Social and student poster session (*Hosted by the **HCC Student Chapter***)



NCTWS 2015 Annual Meeting **Lake Logan, North Carolina**

Preliminary Agenda

Thursday, April 9th

8:00 AM	Breakfast
8:55 AM	<i>Door prizes</i>
9:00 AM	Roland Kays – “eMammal Citizen Science Camera Trapping: Collecting Big Data to Answer Wildlife Questions”
9:15 AM and	NCTWS Business Meeting – Awards presentation, student chapter updates, passing of The Goat
10:45 AM	Break
10:55 AM	<i>Door Prizes</i>
11:00 AM	Richard McDonald – “Beetles Saves Needles: Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, <i>tsugae</i> , Annand, Successfully Controlled as a Native Invader with Native Predators in Northwest North Carolina”
<i>Adelges</i>	
11:30 AM	Joe Yarkovich – “Great Smoky Mountains National Park”
12:00 PM	Lunch/Adjourn



NCTWS 2015 Annual Meeting **Lake Logan, North Carolina**

2015 NCTWS Annual Meeting – Call for Student Posters

We invite students to submit a research poster to display at the 2015 Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Chapter of the Wildlife Society at Lake Logan in Canton, NC. The conference will be held 7-9 April 2015. Posters provide an opportunity for authors to participate in one-on-one communication with attendees and is an excellent opportunity for professional interaction, growth, and development.

Posters will be displayed the evening of 8 April 2015. Each poster/presenter will be judged based on clarity and content and how well the presenter explains the project and answers questions. During the business meeting on 9 April 2015, a **2015 Best Student Poster Award** will be awarded to the best poster/presenter.

Also, we would like presenters to attend the complete meeting including the talks, social, and business meeting.

If you are interested in presenting a poster, please send an abstract to Dr. Chris DePerno, chris_deperno@ncsu.edu, 919-513-7559.





NCTWS ANNUAL MEETING

"Partnerships to Recovery"

Lake Logan

Canton, NC

April 7th-9th, 2014

REGISTRATION FORM

Registration must be postmarked by March 20th, 2015 for early registration

Return To: Colleen Olfenbittel
NCTWS Treasurer
1293 Laurel Bluffs
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Name: _____ Affiliation: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Please mark which options you prefer and add the appropriate \$ amounts in the subtotal.

****Make checks payable to NCTWS****

	NCTWS REGISTRATION			Subtotal
One night only (Tues. or Wed.)	Specify night: _____ Tuesday only _____ Wednesday only			
	Dorm: \$85 <i>Bedding not included in dorm, please bring your own</i>			\$
	Double occupancy: \$140 Specify roommate: _____			\$
	Single occupancy: \$175			\$
	Meals provided for 1 night stays: If arriving before noon, you will receive lunch, dinner and breakfast If arriving after 1pm, you will receive dinner, breakfast and lunch			
Both nights (Tues. and Wed.)	Dorm: \$170 <i>Bedding not included in dorm, please bring your own</i>			\$
	Double occupancy: \$245 Specify roommate: _____			\$
	Single occupancy: \$310			\$
	Meals provided for staying both nights: Tues. dinner, Wed. B/L/D, Thurs. B/L			
NC-TWS Commuters: Registration only (\$20 total)				\$
Commuter meals (<i>Check all that apply</i>) (Breakfast=\$10.50, Lunch=\$12.50, Dinner=\$18.50)	Tues. D__	Wed. B__L__D__	Thursday B__L__	\$
Annual NC-TWS Chapter Dues (\$10)				\$
Subtotal				\$
NC-TWS Late Registration: Add \$10 to subtotal if registering after March 20 th				\$
NC-TWS Meeting Registration Total				\$

If paying for registration by credit card, please note that there will be a 2.2% plus \$0.30 transaction charge added to the registration amount.

Registration table will be open the following hours:

- Tuesday afternoon: 4:30-5:30 pm
 - Wednesday morning: 7:00-8:45 am
- During morning and afternoon breaks

The NCTWS Annual Meeting will begin at 8:45 AM on Wednesday, April 8th, with our keynote speaker.

Field Trip to Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indian on April 7th

1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Field trip meeting location at Haywood Community College

This field trip will discuss the collaborative efforts of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indian, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park Service with respect to on-going white-tailed deer and elk projects. The field trip will include a tour of the soft release facility for housing the deer from Morrow Mountain State Park, as well as visits to some of the elk areas either on the reservation or in the park.

Contact Josh Parris: jdparis@haywood.edu for further information.

☐

Please check box if you plan on attending the field trip (limited to 1st 30 people).
(Please make sure your phone number is listed above)

Dietary Restrictions

Please indicate any dietary concerns here: _____
(Vegetarian, Vegan, Gluten Free, No Red Meat, No Pork, No Chicken, No Fish/Shellfish, No Dairy, No Peanuts, other)

Silent Auction Donation

I will bring a silent auction item to the meeting: Yes _____ No _____

Item(s): _____ Value: _____

Management in our state...

Getting Wicked on the Woolly



Joe Tomcho

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

The NC Wildlife Resources Commission recently released 50 Laricobius nigrinus (Lari) predator beetles in an eastern hemlock stand on the Sandy Mush Game Land in an attempt to combat the effects of the hemlock woolly adelgid. The Lari beetles, native to the Pacific Northwest are a winter feeder on both adult and larva HWA. They lay their eggs in the HWA sacs and when hatched they can consume a couple hundred HWA eggs a day. They have adapted well to the North Carolina climate and are being released in strategic watersheds in Western NC.

Commission land managers have chemically treated ~700 hemlocks on state owned game lands since 2009 and now with the release of the Lari beetles is employing biological control as well. On Sandy Mush, the hemlocks that were initially chemically treated show a low HWA infestation, are growing vigorously and retain 80-90% needle retention and have more healthy lower limbs than the untreated hemlocks, which have a high HWA infestation, ~50% needle retention and have lost almost all lower limbs. Hemlocks on the game lands are approaching a critical state where hemlock die off is almost inevitable. We hope that the Lari beetles can do their thing and reproduce and spread across the game lands to consume as many HWA as possible and allow the hemlocks to recover.

The Commission has partnered with numerous government, private and NGO's to help acquire and release the Lari beetles in suitable locations on its' state owned game lands. Dr. Richard McDonald of Symbiont Biological Pest Management is one of the leading research scientists who has been studying the release of Lari beetles for the last decade in the Grandfather Mountain area. His research has shown that in the original 2003 Lari release sites hemlocks have been growing vigorously since 2008 and that the Lari beetles have spread out 40 miles in every direction. *Con't on page 22.*

Management in our state...

Getting Wicked on the Woolly

Although the Lari beetles won't eliminate the HWA, they can help keep them in check to help prevent hemlock die off. This is great news for areas that still have relatively healthy hemlocks. If chemical control can be implemented on trees within a stand to stabilize them and then a biological control like the Lari predator beetles can be released, this two prong approach may ultimately save the hemlocks. That's the goal that Commission land managers are striving to accomplish on its mountain game lands.



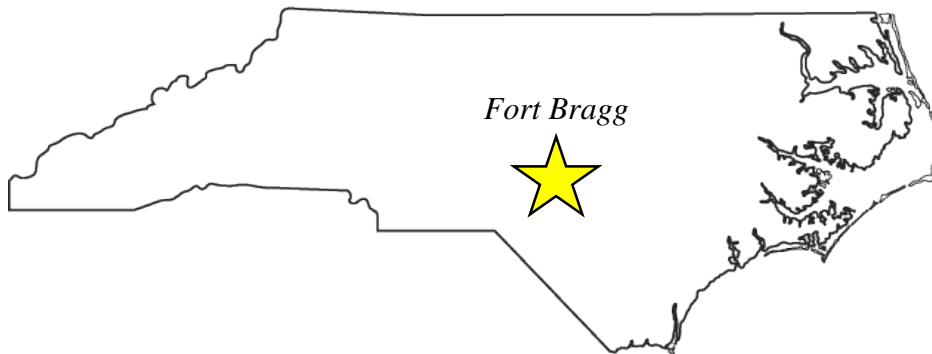
An up-close look at the predatory Lari beetle (*left*) and Lari beetles in action as biological control agents for the hemlock woolly adelgid (*right*). Photo credit: Richard McDonald.

The Blue Ridge Resource Conservation and Development Council in Bakersville has been given a \$25,000 Award through the Hemlock Restoration Initiative to provide workshops to educate constituents about the predator beetle program including proper collection and release techniques. One workshop was recently conducted at the NC Arboretum in early December and others will be planned in the near future. Folks who are interested should try to attend one of the workshops. Members who attend the NCTWS Annual Meeting at Lake Logan will have the opportunity to hear about the predator beetle program in a presentation from Dr. McDonald and his colleagues.

For more information about the beetle release program and the hemlock woolly adelgid, visit www.drncbug.com/. For more information about the Hemlock Restoration Initiative, visit the [WNC Communities' website](#).

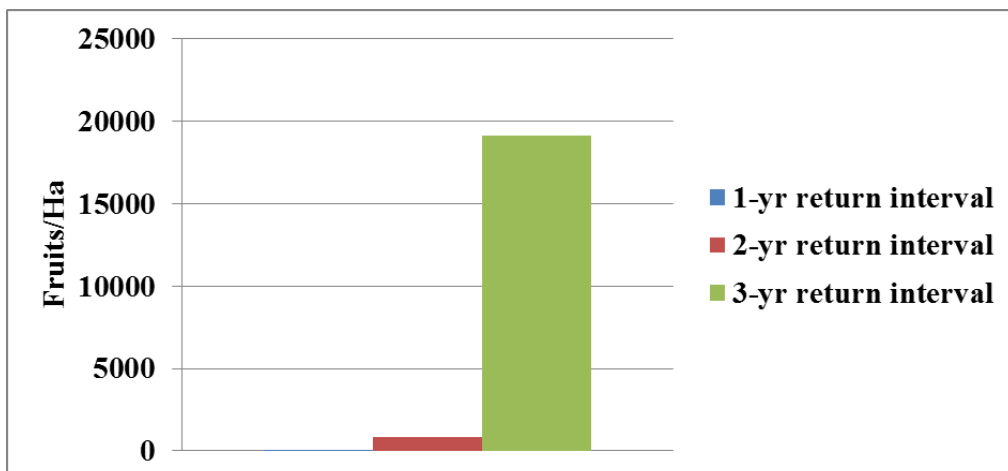
Research in our state...

Fire and Fruits



Marcus A. Lashley, M. Colter Chitwood, Christopher S. DePerno, and Christopher E. Moorman
North Carolina State University – Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology Program

We recently completed a study designed to evaluate the effects of fire-return interval on understory soft mast production at Fort Bragg Military Installation. Along transects, we counted fruits each month (May-September) in areas that were burned on 1-yr, 2-yr, and 3-yr fire-return intervals. The objective was to determine if the more frequent fire-return intervals, which have been suggested in recent literature, would yield similar fruit production to the 3-yr fire-return interval currently being applied in much of the longleaf pine ecosystem. In comparison to the 3-yr fire-return interval, cumulative fruit production was 96% less following the 2-yr fire-return interval and 99.8% less following the 1-yr fire-return interval (Figure 1). Therefore, burning on <3-yr fire-return intervals may negatively affect reproduction by fruiting plant species and the wildlife that consume understory soft mast. Other studies have demonstrated several advantages of more and less frequent intervals; thus, a mosaic of fire-return intervals is necessary to maximize ecosystem functions.



In your chapter...

NCTWS Award Nominations

The deadline for nominations for the NC TWS Chapter and Conservation Awards has been extended to **February 10, 2015**. Since the annual meeting is in early April, we have the opportunity this year for a later award nomination deadline. Please consider the many worthy professionals and submit a nomination. Award descriptions, nomination forms, and past winners are available at:

<http://wordpress.nctws.org/awards>

TWS Fellows Program

Members of the Southeastern Section of The Wildlife Society, The Wildlife Society Council is soliciting nominations for TWS Fellows. See description and link for the Fellows Program below. Each Section may nominate 2 candidates; nominations are due in February. If you would like for the SE-TWS Executive Board to consider nominating someone for this honor, please provide a name and contact information to Eric Pelren, Southeastern Section President, at epelren@utm.edu or [731-881-7263](tel:731-881-7263). Names should be provided by 31 January. Southeastern Section members who are currently

TWS Fellows Program

This award recognizes current TWS members who have distinguished themselves through exceptional service to the wildlife profession and have been members for at least 10 years. TWS Fellows serve as ambassadors of The Wildlife Society and are encouraged to engage in outreach and other activities that will benefit and promote both TWS and the wildlife profession. TWS Fellows are appointed for life.

<http://wildlife.org/tws-fellows-program/>

Previous SE-TWS recipients of the TWS Fellows Award:

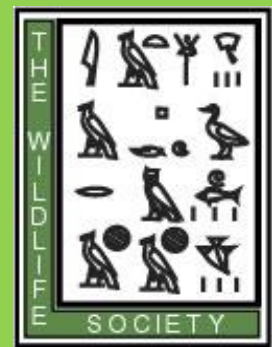
Fred Kinard	Jeanne Jones
Bill Healy	Bill Giuliano
Bick Lancia	Bob Brown
Nova Silvy	Bob Warren
Pete Bromley	Steve Demarais
Ron Labisky	Billy Minser
David Guynn	Bruce Leopold
Rick Kaminski	E. J. Williams
Monty Whiting	Wes Burger
Mike Conner	Sarah Schweitzer





Chapter Vision Statement

To guide and promote the conservation
and management of wildlife resources
throughout North Carolina



Visit us online at:
www.nctws.org

