

The AFWA Strategist

Update for Members and Partners of the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies

October 2014

2014-2015 AFWA Officers & Executive Committee

Larry Voyles, Director of the Arizona Game and Fish Department, was elected AFWA's 2014-2015 President on 9/24 during the Association's 104th Annual Meeting. The full slate of officers and Executive Committee members include:

2014-2015 AFWA Officers & Executive Committee

Officers

President: Larry Voyles (AZ)

Vice President: Carter Smith (TX)

Secretary/Treasurer: Glenn Normandeau (NH)

Past President: Dan Forster (GA)

Executive Committee

Chair: Dave Chanda (NJ)

Vice Chair: Nick Wiley (FL)

Members

John Arway (PA-FBC)

Jim Douglas (NE)

Virgil Moore (ID)

Ed Carter (TN)

Marc Miller (IL)

Bob Ziehmer (MO)

Ex Officio Voting Members

Canada: Mike Sullivan (NB)

Northeast: Cathy Sparks (RI)

Western: Terry Steinwand (ND)

Midwest: Ed Boggess (MN)

Southeast: Gordon Myers (NC)

Business Meeting Resolutions

AFWA's voting membership passed four resolutions during its 9/24 Business Meeting:

SUPPORT FOR MONARCH BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION Supports voluntary and incentive-based efforts to address threats of loss, fragmentation and modification of monarch breeding habitat and encourages a continental approach within the context of the annual life-cycle needs of the monarch butterfly.

RAISING AWARENESS OF E-15 (ETHANOL FUEL BLEND) AND IMPACTS ON BOATING Recognizes the importance of educating boaters in the use of a maximum of E-10 Ethanol blend fuel in their boat motors and that AFWA remain steadfast in mandating that E-10 remain available in the marketplace.

ENCOURAGING PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES BETWEEN THE SOUTHERN WINGS PROGRAM AND DOI's NATURAL RESOURCES DAMAGE ASSESSMENT AND RESTORATION (NRDAR) PROGRAM Encourages the NRDAR Program to collaborate with the Southern Wings Program when assessing NRDAR compensation strategies as well as encouraging natural resource trustees to include the annual life-cycle needs of migratory birds when assessing NRDAR compensation strategies.

IN APPRECIATION OF THE MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION Extends gratitude to the Missouri Department of Conservation for hosting an immensely successful, enjoyable and relevant 2014 AFWA Annual Conference.

The complete text of the resolutions can be found at www.fishwildlife.org.



Blue Ribbon Panelists Announced

On 9/22, Johnny Morris and Dave Freudenthal--co-chairs of the national *Blue Ribbon Panel on Sustaining America's Diverse Fish & Wildlife Resources*--announced the names of 20 Panelists that will help develop a 21st century model for funding conservation:

Kevin Butt: Toyota Motor Engineering and Manufacturing North America, Inc.

Jeff Crane: Congressional Sportsman's Foundation

John Doerr: Pure Fishing, Inc.

Jim Faulstich: Daybreak Ranch

John Fitzpatrick: Cornell Lab of Ornithology

Greg Hill: Hess Corporation

Rebecca Humphries: National Wild Turkey Federation

Dr. Stephen Kellert: Yale University School of Forestry & Environmental Studies

Jennifer Mull: Backwoods Equipment, Inc.

John W. Newman: LLOG Exploration Company, LLC

Margaret O'Gorman: Wildlife Habitat Council

Glenn Olson: National Audubon Society

Collin O'Mara: National Wildlife Federation

Connie Parker: CSPARKERGROUP

Charlie Potter: Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation

Steve Sanetti: National Shooting Sports Foundation

Lynn Scarlett: The Nature Conservancy

John Tomke: Ducks Unlimited de Mexico

Dr. James Walker: EDF Renewable Energy

Dr. Steve Williams: Wildlife Management Institute

Bob Ziehmer: Missouri Department of Conservation



www.fishwildlife.org
@fishwildlife



AFWA 2014 Annual Awards Recipients

Gary Taylor received AFWA's top honor, the **Seth Gordon Award**, for lifetime achievement in conserving North America's natural resources in the public trust and contributing to the programs of the Association.

Congressman John Dingell, Jr. was named the recipient of the John L. Morris Award for lifetime stewardship by a citizen conservationist.

The Big Hole CCAA Program, a collaboration of state and federal agencies, NGOs and landowners received the Ernest Thompson Seton Award for their work to conserve Arctic grayling in Montana's Big Hole Valley.

Christopher Penne, Aquatic Biologist with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, received the Mark Reeff Memorial Award for outstanding young wildlife management professional under the age of 35.

Gio Martorana, owner of the Martorana Family Vineyards, was recognized with AFWA's Private Lands Fish and Wildlife Stewardship Award for helping to protect native steelhead and salmon populations on his property in Sonoma, CA.

Wildlife Conservation Officer Lee Lawshe with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission received AFWA's Conservation Law Enforcement Award for exceptional achievement in fish and wildlife resource enforcement.

The Association also presented Special Recognition Awards to Senator Debbie Stabenow (MI), Steve Leggans, Mike Harris and Cindy Delaney for their commitment to conservation excellence.

Photo (l-r): Dan Forster, Gary Taylor and Curtis Taylor

North America's Wildlife Conservation Legacy Video

For AFWA's recent Business Meeting, the Arizona Game & Fish Department produced an engaging video entitled "*North America's Wildlife Conservation Legacy*" about the great story of conservation to ensure healthy fish and wildlife populations and their habitats as well as abundant opportunities for wildlife-related recreation.

The video features interviews with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Executive Director, Carter Smith; National Wild Turkey Federation Chief Conservation Officer, Becky Humphries; and Lowell Baier, President Emeritus of the Boone and Crockett Club. The video also describes the roots of the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies and urges all who care about the conservation of fish and wildlife to "always look to the future." The video can be viewed at <http://bit.ly/ConservationLegacyVideo>.

North American Model/Herpetofauna Concept Paper

Native amphibians and reptiles (i.e., herpetofauna) have long been used in unique ways relative to other vertebrates in the public trust—for research, education, food consumption, skins and live uses such as pets, bait, hobbyist collection, captive breeding and photography. However, many of these uses are not closely tracked, and thus, sustainability of such harvest may not be known.

Given that the global human population is still growing, and in combination with continued habitat loss and fragmentation and the emerging threats of disease and climate change, state, provincial and territorial fish and wildlife agencies need more tools to ensure the sustainability of herpetofaunal species and communities.

One such tool already exists in the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation. AFWA's Amphibian and Reptile Subcommittee created a concept paper, *Applying the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation to Herpetofauna*, which provides guidance, using the framework of the Model, to ensure sustainable use of these resources. Following review by seven AFWA committees, the paper was advanced to AFWA's Business Meeting and unanimously approved. The paper is available at www.fishwildlife.org.

New AFWA Staff & More

The Association welcomed two new staff members in September. Dr. Jonathan Mawdsley joined AFWA as our new Science Coordinator to serve as the liaison to state fish and wildlife agencies and federal partners to improve science delivery and ensure coordination and collaboration on priority science and research needs.

Greg Moore came on board AFWA's Management Assistance Team (MAT) as the Manager of Professional Development Programs to help research, design, develop, facilitate and evaluate MAT's online and in-person professional development opportunities. Greg also supports the National Conservation Leadership Institute.

The decision has been officially made... AFWA will be moving ahead to secure new office space at 1100 First St, NE in DC's NoMa neighborhood. More details to come.

The Fellows of Cohort 9 of the National Conservation Leadership Institute completed their first residency on 10/15. Thank you for your continued support of the NCLI!