

NORTH DAKOTA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

The mission of the North Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society is to provide a forum for discussion of ecological issues among natural resource professionals; to enable its membership to pursue conservation of natural resources; and to inform the public on ecologically wise uses of natural resources in support of a conservation ethic.

OCTOBER 2001

Friend of the Missouri

We have lost one of North Dakota's great conservationists and one of the Chapter's finest members. Gary Raedeke passed away on October 7 after a battle with cancer. As most of you know, Gary was one of the Missouri River's most effective and passionate spokesmen. Gary lived in Bismarck for only a short time, but in that time managed to bring a new focus to preservation of the Missouri River. In honor of his work, Gary was the recipient of five major achievement awards; including the Chapter's own Special Recognition Award, which was awarded to him in 1999 for his efforts to protect the river.

I didn't know Gary well, but spent some time working with him on conservation issues and also joined him on several field trips. One weekend Gary and I were part of a group canoeing the Missouri from Garrison Dam to Washburn. It was a great trip; our group discovered ancient buffalo skulls in the sand, observed bald eagles roosting in the cottonwoods, and camped on a river island. If you knew Gary, I hope you have similar memories of times spent with him enjoying North Dakota's wonderful natural resources.

In his final months, Gary established the North Dakota Conservation Fund and North Dakota Conservation Foundation, which have been organized to help preserve the scenic, historic, and wildlife values of the Missouri River and other areas within our state. There is a lengthier article within this newsletter that describes the Conservation Fund and Foundation. Both accept monetary contributions, and I urge to give what you can to further the preservation of our state's natural resources, including the Missouri River.

It seems that the preservation and management of the Missouri River are perennial issues and the Chapter has been working on these issues on several different fronts. The US Army Corps of Engineers recently released a Revised EIS for the Missouri River Master Water Control Manual Review and Update. The Manual and corresponding EIS are available for public review through February of 2002. The Corps will consider public comments and select an alternative that will satisfy environmental regulations as well as other project purposes, such as navigation and flood damage reduction. Randy Renner, our new Missouri River committee chair, will coordinate a review of the Manual and will draft comments for the Chapter.

The Chapter also remains involved in the Missouri River Vision Group, a grassroots effort that was established to develop guidelines on several aspects of Missouri River management along the Garrison reach. This is a group made up of environmentalists, federal, state, and county government representatives, developers, realtors and others. The group has addressed issues such as riverbank erosion, development, land use, water quality, and endangered species. Local efforts like this are key to the work of the Chapter, and it is important that we stay involved in this effort to further conservation and wise management of the Missouri River.

I hope you have the opportunity to visit all of your favorite spots during this fall season, whether they are the Missouri River bottoms, the badlands, or a favored wetland on the Coteau. Enjoy!

Chapter President, Darla Lenz

A brochure giving additional information about the North Dakota Conservation Fund and Foundation is enclosed with your newsletter. Donations to either organization will be much appreciated. Please feel free to pass the brochure along to others who you think might be interested in donating to this worthy cause. If you want additional copies of the brochure or would like us to send one directly to a prospective donor give Linda or Keith a call at 223-8501.

Thanks for all you have done
and
all you will do.

North Dakota Chapter TWS - 2001

Executive Board Members:

Darla Lenz	Randy Crooke
John Schulz	Greg Hiemenz
Tim Phalen	Jon Roaldson
Jerry Heiser	Scott Kahan

President Portfolio - Darla Lenz

Secretary/Treasure: Greg Hiemenz
Newsletter: Alicia Waters
CMPS Rep: Jerry Heiser *
Student Chapter Advisor: Rick Nelson *
Natural Resources Trust Adviser: VACANT *
Resolutions & Public Statements: Darla Lenz

Past President Portfolio - John Schulz

Arrangements: John Schulz
Program: John Schulz
Audit: VACANT *
Membership: Dave Azure
Nominations: John Schulz
2002 TWS Annual Mtg: Bill Bicknell & Mike McEnroe
ND Action Group: Scott Peterson

President-Elect Portfolio - Tim Phalen

Bylaws: Paul Myerchin
Prairie Resources: Karen Smith & Darla Lenz
Legislative: Greg Link
Awards: Tim Phalen
Prairie Chicken: Greg Link

Portfolio A - Scott Kahan

Wetland Resources: Scott Peterson *
Fishery Resources: Eric Pearson *
Youth Education: Jack Lalor *
Historian: Chris Grondahl *

Portfolio B - Jerry Heiser

Western Lands: Bill Jensen *
Teaming with Wildlife: Chuck Bosch *
Education: Kristine Askerooth *
Forest Resources: John Schulz

Portfolio C - Jon Roaldson

Missouri River: Randy Renner *
Red River Watershed: Mike Eli *
Devils Lake Basin: Roger Hollevoet *
Fund Raising: Kent Luttschwager / Randy Renner

Portfolio D - Randy Crooke

Northern Great Plain Working Group: Kevin Willis
Endangered Species: VACANT *
Law Enforcement: Jackie Lundstrom *
Wildlife Damage Management: John Paulson *
Finance: Mike Goos *

* No report submitted

NORTH DAKOTA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Executive Board Meeting Minutes September 19, 2001

The Executive board meeting of the North Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society (Chapter) was called to order at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 19, 2001 at the Lonetree Wildlife Management Area office. The meeting was attended by board members: Darla Lenz, Tim Phalen, John Schulz, Scott Kahan, Jon Roaldson, Randy Crooke, and Greg Hiemenz.

President Darla Lenz asked for approval of the minutes of the July 23, 2001 Executive Board meetings. There was a motion, a second, and a unanimous vote in favor of approval.

OLD BUSINESS

Correspondence Sent - The Chapter sent a letter to the State Department of Transportation requesting that the National Grasslands be shown on the next issue of the state highway map.

Correspondence Received - The Chapter was invited to participate in a Garrison Diversion and Dakota Water Resources Act briefing for the National Wildlife Federation on September 7, 2001. The briefing was sponsored by the North Dakota Wildlife Federation and the North Dakota Water Education Foundation, and was intended to soften the National Wildlife Federation's opposition to the Dakota Water Resources Act. Bill Bicknell presented the Chapter's position.

The Chapter received a letter from Bob Schaible of the North Dakota Wildlife Federation requesting an opportunity to speak to the Board about protection of public lands. The Board agreed to invite Bob to our next meeting.

The Chapter received a letter from Steve Williams of the Dakota Prairie Grasslands Office asking if the Board would like to meet with him concerning the Northern Great Plains Management Plan Revision. The Board agreed to invite Steve to our next meeting.

Because the agenda for the Board's December meeting will be very full, the Board decided to schedule an interim meeting on November 6, 2001 to meet with Bob Schaible and Steve Williams.

Project Safe Send - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture was very pleased with the success of the program this year. The Chapter will stay in touch with the Department of Agriculture, and will assist with publicity as needed.

North Dakota Environmental Directory - Alicia Waters and Greg Hiemenz are coordinating printing and distribution of 100 copies of the Directory. In addition, the Directory will be available on the Chapter's website in PDF format.

National Grasslands Management Plan EIS - Comments on the final EIS will be accepted through late January 2002. Alexis Duxbury, Greg Link, Karen Kreil, and Bill Jensen will review the plan and draft comments for the Chapter.

The State of North Dakota has filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Forest Service in regard to the Roadless Rule and the Off-highway Vehicle Rule. The issues cited in the lawsuit include section line closures and access to oil and gas facilities.

2003 Annual Meeting Format and Date - The board decided to retain the customary three day format for the 2003 annual Chapter meeting, rather than shortening the meeting to two days as previously discussed. The meeting will be held February 11-13, 2003, in Bismarck/Mandan. Early planners should note that this will be Tuesday-Thursday rather than the normal Wednesday-Friday.

Chapter Membership Categories - The Board previously discussed a proposal by Scott Kahan to include a patron category on the registration form with an annual membership fee of \$10. After some further discussion, there was a motion, a second, and a unanimous vote in favor of the proposal.

NEW BUSINESS

Natural Resources Trust - Harris Hoistad has resigned his position as Chapter representative on the Natural Resources Trust. Thanks to Harris for his excellent work. President-elect Tim Phalen will head a search committee for a new Chapter representative. Interested individuals should refer to the announcement on page 9 of this newsletter.

Missouri River Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement - The Chapter received a summary of the RDEIS from the Corps of Engineers. The Missouri River Issues Committee, chaired by Randy Renner, will coordinate Chapter comments.

Volunteers for 2002 TWS Annual Meeting - Dave Azure and Jon Roaldson drafted memoranda to the Board requesting that \$5,000 of the \$10,000 received by the Chapter from the parent society be used to reimburse volunteers, and outlining the policy and priorities for reimbursement. Registration fee reimbursements for volunteers would be prioritized as follows: 1) students currently enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program in wildlife management, biology, botany, zoology, etc.; 2) young professionals working in the wildlife field as seasonal or temporary employees in the wildlife profession; 3) non-professionals with interest in the wildlife profession and wildlife activities; professionals lacking support from their employers. Tim Phalen asked if some of the rebate could be used to cover the additional registration fee charged to

non-members of TWS. Jon Roaldson indicated that it could be covered under the proposed policy, but would not be a high priority. There was a motion, a second, and a unanimous vote to reserve \$5,000 of the Chapter's rebate to reimburse volunteers following the above priorities.

Public Statement on September 11 Terrorist Attacks - Randy Crooke suggested that the Board should consider a public statement concerning the September 11 terrorist attacks. The Board agreed that this would be appropriate. Randy will draft a public statement for consideration by the Board at the November 6 meeting.

President Portfolio - Darla Lenz

Secretary/Treasurer Report - Total Chapter assets as of August 31, 2001 were \$41,839.00, including \$6,184.33 in checking, \$27,099.51 in money market savings, and \$8,555.16 in two life membership mutual funds. The treasurer's report was unanimously approved by the Board.

Newsletter - The deadline for the next newsletter is October 5. Please submit any items for the newsletter to Alicia Waters by this deadline.

Natural Resources Trust Advisor - Scott Peterson attended the last Natural Resources Trust Board meeting in July. See the written report on page 14 of this newsletter.

Past President Portfolio - John Schulz

Arrangements - Next years annual meeting will be held February 13-15, 2002 at the Ramada Inn in Grand Forks. John Schulz will be meeting with hotel staff to finalize arrangements.

Program - Committee members are John Schulz, Randy Kreil, Bill Bicknell, Rick Nelson, and Scott Peterson. See the announcement on page 7 of this newsletter.

Audit - Larry Lysne has accepted a new job in Alaska, so the Audit Committee chair is vacant. If you are interested in serving on the Audit Committee see the announcement on page 9 of this newsletter.

Membership - Dave Azure provided a written report. The Chapter has 323 members in good standing, which represents an increase of 21 members from last year.

2002 TWS Annual Meeting - The conference is scheduled for Tuesday through Saturday, September 24 - 28, 2002. The Arrangements Committee met on September 13 in Bismarck. See the writeup on page 6 of this newsletter.

North Dakota Action Group - See the written report on page 10 of this newsletter.

President-Elect Portfolio - Tim Phalen

Bylaws - We are still waiting for approval from TWS Council on the proposed changes to the Chapter's bylaws.

Legislative - The third annual summer grassland management tour was held on July 26, 2001. A writeup was included in the September newsletter.

Awards - See announcement on page 12 of this newsletter.

Prairie Chicken - The committee plans to meet with the Forest Service to discuss how the Chapter can assist with preparation or review of the prairie chicken management plan for the Sheyenne National Grasslands.

Prairie Resources - A successful Prairie Day event was held August 11, 2001 on the Sheyenne National Grasslands. A writeup was provided in the September newsletter. Next year's event will be held in McHenry County and hosted by staff from J. Clark Salyer National Wildlife Refuge.

Portfolio A - Scott Kahan

Website - The Chapter website has been registered, so the banners and advertisements are gone. Members who haven't visited the website are encouraged to do so.

Portfolio B - Jerry Heiser

Forest Resources - John Schulz gave a brief update on the state-federal partnership for managing forest land in the Turtle Mountains. Woodcutters are finishing up rejuvenation work on Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa land. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be involved next year.

Portfolio C - Jon Roaldson

Fundraising - Kent Luttschwager and Randy Renner have agreed to co-chair the fundraising committee for this year. Anyone interested in serving on the committee should contact Kent or Jon Roaldson.

Portfolio D - Randy Crooke

Northern Great Plains Working Group - See writeup provided in the September newsletter.



MEETINGS SCHEDULED

An interim Executive Board meeting is scheduled for 10:00 am, **November 6, 2001** at Fish and Wildlife Service Office in Bismarck.

The next regular Executive Board meeting is scheduled for 10:00 am, **December 4, 2001** at the Ducks Unlimited Office in Bismarck.



NATIONAL GRASSLANDS UPDATE

by Alexis Duxbury

The U.S. Forest Service released the Northern Great Plains FEIS and the Management Plan for the Dakota Prairie Grasslands on July 27th for public review. This public review period was created at the urging of the Congressional delegation and the instigation of the Governor's Office. The comment period ends in the latter part of January 2002. An ad hoc committee of NDCTWS members has been established to review these documents.

The Management Plan for the Dakota Prairie Grasslands is the document that will guide multiple use management on the 1.1 million acres of National Grasslands in North Dakota for the next 10-15 years. By setting objectives, management standards, and guidelines in the plan, the Forest Service established the basic framework under which the Grasslands will be managed. Sometimes these objectives, standards, and guidelines apply across an entire Grassland, while others apply to only limited areas. The importance of insuring these documents are reviewed from a biological and conservation perspective cannot be underscored enough.

A year and a half ago the NDCTWS reviewed the Draft Management Plan for the Dakota Prairie Grasslands and DEIS. An equally concerted, if not greater effort is warranted at this time. Pressure to manage the Dakota Prairie Grasslands through political means and in the same exploitative manner as in the past continues to escalate. Thus, given the mission and expertise embodied by the NDCTWS it is anticipated the Chapter's review will provide valuable input on the biological assumptions employed in the plan, analyses it may contain and the ultimate decisions these subsequently yield.

For more information on this subject please contact Alexis Duxbury at 224-9762.



TWS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 8th Annual Wildlife Society Conference was held in Reno, Nevada on September 25-29, 2001. The conference was hosted by the Western Section of The Wildlife Society at the Reno Hilton Convention Center and Casino. The Western Section did a tremendous job organizing the conference, despite a significant number of cancellations and adjustments that had to be made at the last minute. In all, 1,800 biologists, students, educators from throughout North America participated in the conference, making Reno the third largest annual event ever held by The Wildlife Society.

Bill Bicknell, Mike McEnroe, Tom Sklebar, and Rich Crawford from the 2002 Arrangements Committee attended the meeting and compiled extensive notes about preparations leading up to the conference and its organization. The Western Section's Arrangements Committee, co-chaired by Barry Garrison and Steve Juarez, California Department of Fish and Game, and all of the Sub-Committee chairs were most gracious in sharing information to assist the Chapter's efforts for 2002. The Western Section will also be preparing a final report summarizing the important aspects of each of the Arrangements Committee's 14 Sub-Committees.

The opportunity to observe the 2001 conference, ask an unending list of questions, and begin the process of formulating specific ideas that will work at the Bismarck Civic Center and the conference motels can only benefit the Chapter's planning efforts. The conference will be a great opportunity to highlight the natural resource issues of North Dakota and the work of conservation agencies and organizations from throughout the Northern Great Plains. The 2002 conference also provides the North Dakota Chapter a stage to demonstrate to colleagues from throughout North America our capabilities. The work of the Arrangements Committee is an ongoing effort that will culminate during the last week of September 2002. If you are interested in joining a focused team of Chapter members in planning the largest natural resource conference ever held in North Dakota, please contact Mike McEnroe or Bill Bicknell, Arrangements Committee Co-chairs.



ND Chapter of The Wildlife Society
ANNUAL MEETING

February 13-15, 2002

Ramada Inn, Grand Forks, North Dakota

THEME: Current Issues / Topics / Activities Affecting Natural Resource
Management in North Dakota

The 2002 annual meeting will provide a forum for Chapter members to discuss new challenges, become more informed of technological advances, and share ideas and insights on how these changes will affect natural resource management. Some of the topics will likely include:

Eco Tourism

Real world implications of the new Farm Bill

Eastern Seaboard Issues

Waterfowl / Wetland Research and Management

Wildlife disease issues

Current issues and perspectives

Current research

If you are interested in presenting a paper or poster session at the annual meeting please send a brief abstract and equipment needs to:

NDCTWS Program Committee
1926 South Grandview Lane
Bismarck, ND 58503

Abstracts may also be submitted to members of the Program Committee listed below.

Rick Nelson 250-4242 ext. 3600
John Schulz 328-6327
Randy Kreil 328-6330

Bill Bicknell 250-4414
Scott Peterson 324-2211

The deadline for abstract / poster session submittal is **NOVEMBER 30, 2001.**

North Dakota Conservation Fund and Foundation

by Keith Trego

By the time you read this article you will likely be aware that on October 7, 2001, Gary Raedeke passed away at age 42, the victim of cancer. The Chapter and all North Dakota citizens who care about things wild and free lost a dear friend. When Gary first came to North Dakota he worked and lived in Fargo. He moved to Bismarck in 1992 and immediately fell in love with our prairies and, most notably, the Missouri River. He saw with new eyes the depth and breadth of resource treasures to be found in North Dakota. His appreciation turned into a passion to accomplish more effective land use planning and more innovative and thoughtful resource protection. The rest, as they say, is history.

Gary planned carefully so his conservation work could continue through establishment of two separate but related organizations: the **North Dakota Conservation Fund** and the **North Dakota Conservation Foundation**. Gary endowed both organizations from his personal assets. Donations will increase the value of both organizations over time. Both organizations are structured using the "trust" concept of spending earnings while retaining principal.

In general, both the **Fund** and **Foundation** share a joint purpose of providing funding for worthy conservation projects throughout North Dakota. A volunteer Board of Directors exists to manage the assets of both organizations and make funding decisions.

The **North Dakota Conservation Fund** was established as a 501(c)4 organization under IRS guidelines. As such, the **Fund** is not eligible to receive tax deductible donations. Gary carefully considered this choice and made it specifically because a 501(c)4 organization can engage in lobbying. Gary was very impressed with and saw the value of the Chapter's lobbying efforts and wanted to ensure that lobbying on behalf of sound natural resource management might have a funding source. The **Fund** will do other work as well, but it was very important to Gary that a

source of money exist that aided conservation interests in working closely with elected and appointed officials and policy makers. As a lawyer, Gary understood full well the importance of the evolution of sound laws and public policy and felt that effective natural resource management required full engagement in those aspects of our governmental decision making process.

The **North Dakota Conservation Foundation**, on the other hand, was established through the North Dakota Community Foundation as a 501(c)3 entity, able to accept tax deductible contributions for conservation work. As I write this the **Foundation** has already received nearly \$53,000 in donations, with another \$50,000 pending from Kraft Foods through an employee matching program. Gary's sister Judy works for Kraft Foods and they have a wonderful program of matching employee donations to non-profit organizations. Both the **Fund** and **Foundation** are off to a wonderful start and things will only get better.

As you know, Gary's most notable conservation work revolved around his advocacy for sound management of his beloved Missouri River. In the near term the **Fund** and **Foundation** will further his vision of preserving the scenic beauty and the historic and wildlife values of the Missouri River by:

- preserving and protecting natural areas, riparian habitat, wildlife areas, backwater areas, wetlands and cottonwood forests, and
- establishing and protecting parks, trails, primitive canoe campsites, greenways and historic sites.

A project of immediate concern is protection of the viewshed from Double Ditch Indian Village north of Bismarck, a Village described as "... possibly the most spectacular archaeological site in the Northern Plains." Other Missouri River protection issues will receive attention and, in the future, the **Fund** and **Foundation**

will dedicate funding to other critical North Dakota conservation projects including such things as conservation easements, fee title acquisition or simply as an advocate or facilitator for environmental protection and conservation.

It was Gary's sincere wish to leave a legacy of accomplishment for resource protection. The **Fund** and **Foundation** are the vehicles he chose to do the work he knew he would no longer be able to do himself. Much as he committed his free time and energy to Missouri River protection over the last years of his life, the **Fund** and **Foundation** will be managed to ensure his conservation wish is carried out. During the last days of Gary's life the thing that most frequently brought a smile to his face was news of interest in or a donation to the **Fund** or **Foundation**.

I would be remiss if I did not conclude by thanking all of you, on Gary's behalf, for your help and support for his river protection work and for his personal battle. Many of you knew Gary personally. He was a Chapter member, and we recognized him for his work with a Special Recognition Award at our 1999 annual meeting. Gary held the Chapter in very high regard and believed strongly that all of you, as conservation professionals and Chapter members, were doing wonderful work. He was especially impressed with the Chapter's success at mediating resource management improvements through our lobbying efforts. In fact, that success was in large part his inspiration for the **Fund**.

And so, as you enjoy the glory of fall in North Dakota, be mindful of the gifts we have been given. As you hike your favorite trail in the Missouri River bottoms and stop to watch the last few cottonwood leaves drift earthward, or stroke polished antlers in the company of a proud and excited first time deer hunter, or perhaps as you nestle in a bed of cattails, just out of reach of sleet carried on the wings of a howling north wind, holding the last bluebill of the season gently in your hand, you might think of our friend Gary. I can assure you his indomitable spirit will be there with you and with us all as we enjoy God's bounty and do our work for conservation.

THE SEARCH IS ON....

Several opportunities are available for members to play a greater role in the activities of the Chapter. Please review the information below and consider donating your time and talents to one of the vacant committee positions.



Audit Committee

The chair of this committee is primarily responsible for reviewing the Chapter's financial records once a year, prior to the annual business meeting. If you are interested in chairing or participating on this committee please contact Darla Lenz (223-4634).



Endangered Species Committee

The chair of this committee is responsible for reviewing and commenting on Endangered Species issues that are important to the Chapter. There has also been interest in having this committee assist with the production of a revised "Rare Species of North Dakota" publication. If you are interested in this committee please contact Darla Lenz (223-4634).



Natural Resources Trust

This person acts as the Chapter's representative on the North Dakota Natural Resources Trust board (formerly the Wetlands Trust). The board serves in an advisory capacity to the staff of the Natural Resources Trust. If you are interested in this position, please contact Tim Phalen (439-2007)

NORTH DAKOTA ACTION GROUP

by Scott Peterson

The North Dakota Action Group met on August 14, 2001 at the Ducks Unlimited office in Bismarck. Several project reports were given and a summary of the projects and issues discussed follows.

Chase Lake Prairie Project Mick Erickson reported that they have been working on two grants in the past and most recently a third grant. Chase Lake III is almost complete, only some grassland easement work remains. Chase Lake IV is also essentially done and all project goals have been met or exceeded with the exception of some grassland easement work. Of the 1500 acre goal initially established, only about 100 acres remain to be enrolled. In March 2001, an application was submitted for the Chase Lake V grant. This grant will include \$2.3 million in funding and approximately 20,000 acres of grassland easements. These are perpetual easements and interest in this program remains good. The Chase Lake V grant also includes brook marsh habitat work on Mallard Island. Wind turbines remain a concern with grassland easement personnel.

Northern Coteau Todd Frerich reported on their third Northern Coteau grant. The first two grants are already completed. Grassland easements are the priority with the Northern Coteau projects but wetland restorations, wetland creations and grass seeding are also part of the Northern Coteau project. Of the 19,800 acre goal for the Northern Coteau III grant, approximately 15,000 acres are awaiting offers.

Devils Lake Basin Will Meeks reported on the Devils Lake Basin Drift Prairie projects. The Drift Prairie I project will include some habitat work on easement refuges in the Devils Lake Basin. They have cooperative agreements with DU to begin working on some wetland projects which will complete the Drift Prairie I project. Drift Prairie II grant work will focus on grassland easements in the Benson County area. Interest in the grassland easement program has been minimal in Benson County. They currently have one signed/completed grassland easement agreement. Additional grassland easements are in the process of being completed. Most of the staff time associated with this project has been spent working on grassland easements.

Mouse River Project Dan Duchscherer reported the J. Clark Salyer grant has now been completed. All goals initially established for the Mouse River II grant have been met or exceeded. Mouse River III project grant is a straight forward

grant which includes 45 acres of wetland restorations and \$375,000 for grassland easements. Wetland restoration goals will be met shortly and there is enough interest in the

grassland easement program to complete those goals shortly as well. An application for the Mouse River IV project will be submitted in 2002. There are some concerns with identifying enough matching dollars for the Mouse River IV grant.

ND Drift Prairie Jesse Lisburg reported that all goals associated with the Drift Prairie I grant will hopefully be completed yet this fall. Grassland easements have been completed with the Drift Prairie II project but some wetland creation work remains to be completed. Jesse reported that it has been a little challenging finding interested cooperators for the Adopt-A-Pothole program in that area of the state. They have received \$357,000 this past spring for grassland easement work under the Drift Prairie III grant. Interest has been good in the southeast for the grassland easement program. The Stack Slough project will likely remain as is due to funding constraints.

ND Great Plains Project Scott Collins reported that this project includes Burleigh and Emmons Counties and all counties south and west of the Missouri River. The Great Plains II project was completed this past spring. They applied for the Great Plains III grant this past spring but this project was not approved. The primary focus of this proposed project is wetland creations due to the significant interest of landowners in the southwest.

Missouri Coteau Scott McLeod reported the Missouri Coteau I project will be completed in about a month. This is primarily a grassland easement project and all acreage goals have been met or exceeded. The Missouri Coteau II is a \$1 million grant and the agreement is nearly completed so they will begin to sign up grassland easements very soon. The \$800,000 Missouri Coteau III grant was just submitted in July so it has not been approved yet.

CRP Wetland Restoration Project Paul Bultsma reported the agreement for this project was signed in 1998. They are currently about 1000 acres short of their goal. The NAWCA portion of this grant included \$300,000. They continue to consult with NRCS to complete this project in a timely manner.

Who To Call:



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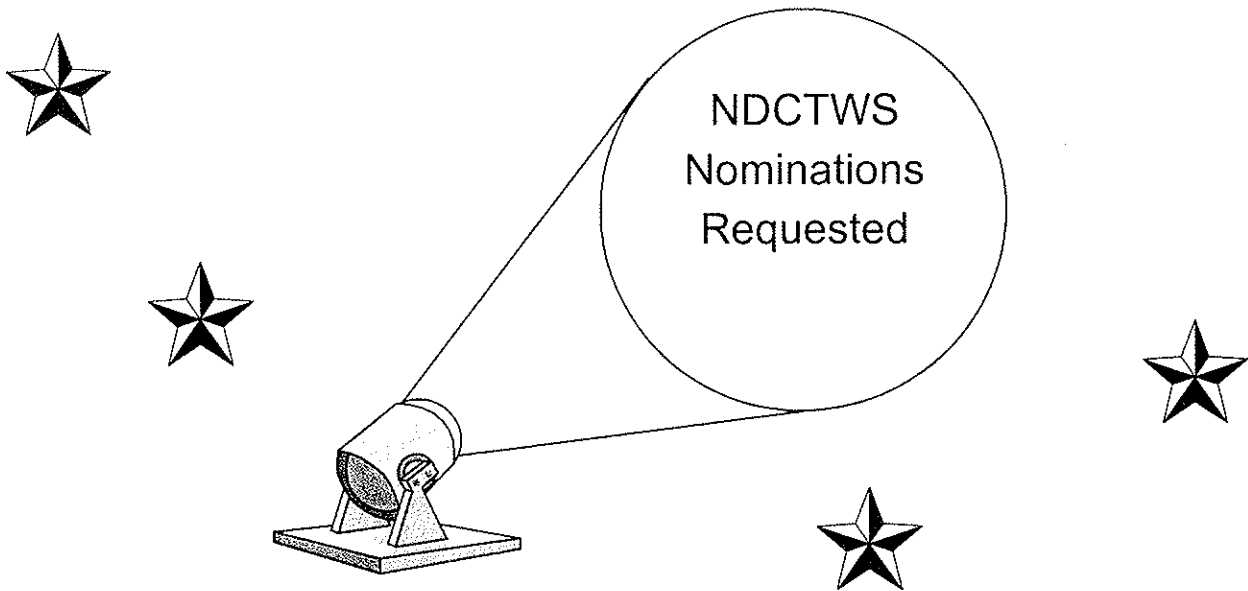
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Each year the Chapter recognizes outstanding achievements at the awards banquet. This banquet, when we pause to recognize the contributions of our peers, is truly the highlight of each annual meeting. Please take time this fall to nominate deserving candidates for **The North Dakota Award, The North Dakota Wildlife Habitat Award and Special Recognition Awards.**



The North Dakota Award (Professional Award) is presented to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution towards furthering the aims of professional wildlife endeavors in North Dakota.



The North Dakota Wildlife Habitat Award is presented to an individual or group that has made a substantial contribution toward preserving and/or establishing high quality wildlife habitat in North Dakota.



In addition, the Chapter presents **Special Recognition Awards** to individuals or groups for their commitment to special projects, issues, or ongoing programs concerning North Dakota's natural resources. During the past few years individuals have been recognized for efforts concerning prairie education, media coverage of natural resource issues, and the conservation of North Dakota's badlands.

If you know an individual or group deserving of recognition for their contribution, please submit a written nomination.

If an award candidate you nominated last year was not selected, please resubmit the nomination for consideration.

Nominations must be submitted by **NOVEMBER 30, 2001.**

Award nominations should be sent to:
Tim Phalen
PO Box 217
Wyndmere, ND 58081



**NORTH DAKOTA
CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY**



AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

Nominee: _____

Award: *Professional:* _____ *Wildlife Habitat:* _____ *Special Recognition:* _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Present position: _____

Education: _____

Professional Career: _____

Nomination statement:

A typed statement explaining why this individual or group is deserving of recognition. Please explain fully the single accomplishment or series of accomplishments that are noteworthy and should be acknowledged by the Chapter. Include information concerning other awards and honors received, involvement in Chapter and other professional and community organizations, and other relevant information that will help in the selection process. Pertinent news, clippings, letters, or documents to support the nomination may be attached.

Submitted by: _____

Address: _____ **Phone:** _____

NOMINATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY NOVEMBER 30, 2001

Return to: Tim Phalen, PO Box 217, Wyndmere, ND 58081

ND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST REPORT

by Scott Peterson

The ND Natural Resources Trust (formerly ND Wetlands Trust) Board of Directors met on July 11-12, 2001 in Carrington, ND.

Arnie Kruse reported on the Whole Farm and Ranch (WFR) Program. This program is designed to assist landowners with wildlife enhancement projects on their lands. Some of the activities include wetland restorations, cross fencing, herbaceous seeding of highly erodible land, seeding of native grass and cost sharing of no-till grass drills. There are 49 signed contracts to date involving \$336,000 and 20,230 upland acres. The program is very well received and he recommends its continuation.

Keith Trego updated the Board on the Dakota Water Resources Act (DWRA) progress with the US Bureau of Reclamation. The Bureau of Reclamation is still in the process of interpreting the language of the Act and will update the Trust sometime in the future. The Board also discussed other details of the Act such as when they should implement changes to the Trust due to the language of the Act.

Merle Bennett reported on CRP, WRP, EWP, and FWP programs. Incentive payments for wetland restorations and native grass seeding are mostly completed for the 15th and 16th sign-ups. About 80% of the restoration/seeding incentive payments are done for the 18th sign up. Contracts for the 20th sign-up are much lower than previous sign-ups, so incentive payments will also be much less. The Trust continues to help NRCS with technical field work and acts in an advisory capacity on wetland matters. To date, the Trust has paid restoration incentives on four WRP contracts. Landowners continue to contact the Trust about transferring their residual rights to tracts of land they have enrolled in EWP. Trust interest in any of these tracts, to date, has been limited to lands which adjoin other lands being pursued.

Merle Bennett also updated the Board on the Cook Slough (Wells County) acquisition proposal. The Trust has been approached by a group of landowners in Wells County who are interested in selling parts of land in the Cook Slough area. Discussions are underway about the possibility of the ND Game and Fish Department assuming management responsibility of this land once it has been purchased and developed. The Trust will proceed with the acquisition of Cook Slough property contingent upon the ND Game and Fish Department taking over land management responsibilities of the tract.

Keith Trego and Arnie Kruse discussed the possibility of developing a management agreement with the ND Game and Fish Department for management of the Dickey County Maple River property. This agreement would likely go into effect by the end of this calendar year or the beginning of the next calendar year.

The Board discussed the updated draft strategic plan. The plan was updated to reflect additional responsibilities given to the Trust under the expanded mission included in the passage of the DWRA. The Board agreed to review the plan and have comments back to Keith by August 1.

The next meeting of the Trust Board is scheduled for December 18 and 19.



NDCTWS Website

The NDCTWS' website committee would like to remind folks to sign up to the mailing list on the website if you have not done so. The Chapter will be using this mailing list to send out e-mails to the membership on items of importance to the Chapter. This is a good way to keep up on current issues (like the new farm bill legislation), and to be advised when the website has been updated.

Go to:

http://www.ndctws.homestead.com/ndctws_home.html

If you have any questions or suggestions for the website committee, give Scott Kahan a call at (701) 655-3530 or (701) 662-8611 extension 323 or e-mail him at kahan@polarcomm.com

The Wildlife Society

About The Wildlife Society

The Society's Goals

1. Develop and maintain professional standards for wildlife research and management.
2. Enhance knowledge and technical capabilities of wildlife managers.
3. Advance professional stewardship of wildlife resources and their habitats.
4. Advocate the use of sound biological information for wildlife policy decisions.
5. Increase public awareness and appreciation of the wildlife profession.

Wildlife Policy News

To learn more about these and many other topics please visit the following website:

<http://www.wildlife.org>

- Yes, I want to promote conservation in North Dakota.**

Name:
Address, City, State, Zip Code:
Phone:

For the ND Conservation Foundation:

- Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution of \$ _____ payable to the *North Dakota Conservation Foundation.*

- I give \$ _____ or _____ % of my net estate to the *North Dakota Conservation Foundation.*

For the ND Conservation Fund:

- Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____ payable to the *North Dakota Conservation Fund.*

- I give \$ _____ or _____ % of my net estate to the *North Dakota Conservation Fund.*

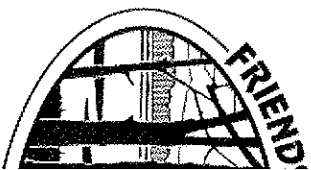
Please return to:

Keith Trego, Executive Director
ND Conservation Fund & Foundation
 1605 East Capitol Avenue, Suite 101
 Bismarck, ND 58501-2102
 Phone: (701) 223-8501

*ND Conservation Fund & Foundation
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 Bismarck, ND 58501-2102*



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Gary Raedeke, February 19, 2001
 Photo by Tom Stromme - The Bismarck Tribune

The *North Dakota Conservation Fund & Foundation* were established in 2001 by Gary Raedeke, Bismarck, ND. After being diagnosed with terminal cancer, Gary looked for a way to continue efforts toward his dream of preserving the scenic, historic, and wildlife values of the Missouri River in North Dakota. When making his estate plans, he was uncomfortable with the idea of leaving his money to a national organization because of the bureaucracy involved, changing politics, and indirect connection to North Dakota. Instead Gary, with his \$250,000 initial gift, opted to create the *North Dakota Conservation Fund & Foundation* which will promote conservation projects in North Dakota, with local direction, and ensure that his vision of Missouri River preservation will endure.

Gary's hope is that others who share his vision will contribute to the Fund or Foundation. Your support will guarantee worthy North Dakota conservation projects a permanent source of funding.

The Future:

The Fund & Foundation will thrive with your support, and into perpetuity, by only spending the income earned from donations. Each year the Board of Directors will dedicate funding to critical North Dakota conservation projects. To provide adequate funding, the goal of the Board of Directors is to raise one million dollars; which with conservative investment returns, will provide \$50,000 annually for worthy conservation projects.

Objectives:

- Preserve and protect natural areas, riparian habitat, rivers, creeks, lakes, wetlands, and wildlife areas.
- Establish and protect parks, primitive campsites, greenways, and historic sites.
- Contribute toward the purchase of conservation easements and land acquisitions.
- Advocate environmental protection and conservation.

What is the difference between the Foundation and the Fund?

- *The North Dakota Conservation Foundation* is a nonprofit, charitable 501 (C) (3) organization. *Contributions to the Foundation are tax deductible for federal income tax purposes.* Monies will be used for the charitable or educational objectives listed in this brochure.
- *The North Dakota Conservation Fund* is a nonprofit 501 (C) (4) organization. The difference from the Foundation is that the Fund's monies can also be used to lobby in support of the organization's objectives. However, contributions to the Fund are not tax deductible.



Mountaineer's Bend, Missouri River
 Overlook from Double Ditch Indian Village