



# TWS MANITOBA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

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### Chapter Business

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### President's Corner

#### Greetings Manitoba Wildlifers

Looking to the New Year ahead we are poised to start receiving applications for a number of our awards; keep an eye on our website for all the specifics. Moreover, we are looking forward to our annual events such as the Winter Getaway and our AGM. We also did a little something different this year; we wanted to build a strong community feeling by getting members out for more than workshops and our staple events, so we set up a night at Rumours Comedy Club on January 15<sup>th</sup>. This event was a huge hit, thanks to everyone who made it out or bought tickets.

Details for all events and workshops can be found on our social media pages (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter) as well as our website.

Happy New Year to you all!

Mitch Leclaire  
TWS Manitoba Chapter President



## Financial Report

The Chapter is doing well financially. We currently have a total of \$9,930.00 in our bank account with \$5,830.79 being the total available to us as we have some of our funds in a GIC account as well as two business investor accounts. Throughout the year of 2019, the Chapter's income was \$8,652.08 and our expenses were \$12,495.37. We are currently selling our merchandise, which is helping pay back for our purchase and so far, we have sold around \$500.00 worth of merchandise. The Executive also planned a fundraiser at Rumors Comedy Club for the evening of January 15<sup>th</sup> – we were able to sell 90 tickets which brought in a total of \$642.00 for the Chapter to help lower costs for members attending the Winter Getaway in February. We look forward to our next fundraising event!

-Emily Thoroski

## Membership Report

The Wildlife Society: Manitoba Chapter currently has a total of 126 members. This has decreased by 9 members since this past fall. 11 members have renewed and we have 1 new member! 27 members will be expiring this months, so make sure you renew your membership if thats you!

Thank you to all our current members for your continuous support.

-Emma Ausen

## News from the North

Hello from the North, the grips of winter are tightening but we continue to endure despite the cold. We have had a small shake up over the last months as we transitioned from one Northern Representative to the next; we are sad to see Elizabeth Walsh move on from this position as she returns to the Maritimes having accepted a new position and continues to progress in her career. We are also very excited to have appointed a new Northern Representative; Ryan Shewchuk. Ryan has a long history in the north and is ready assist the executive on all tasks with a northern twist! As we make this transition I expect to see a rejuvenated call to all northern wildlifers creating a strong sense of community among us. I look forward to the changes on the way! In the meantime, cozy up by the fire, analyze the data that was collected over the summer and get ready for the Winter Getaway coming up!

Stay warm out there

-Mitch Leclair

## Western Update

We had a good turn out of professionals at our Westman mixer on November 14<sup>th</sup>. There were about 15 people from various organizations including Agriculture Canada, CFB Shilo, Brandon University, Assiniboine Community College, Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation, Nature Conservancy of Canada, Province of Manitoba and Matrix Solutions. We had only one student from BU, likely because the meeting coincided with reading week for both BU and ACC. The student from BU is keen to get involved with TWS though and during the networking time there was talk of hosting future events for BU and ACC students through TWS.



We'd love to have you involved in events occurring in Westman! Reach out to Allison or email [tw.s.manitoba.chapter@gmail.com](mailto:tw.s.manitoba.chapter@gmail.com) to collaborate on events or share ideas on what you'd like to see happening!

We hosted 3 presentations during the mixer. Kerianne and Luke from the University of Winnipeg presented on work they have been doing with Bill Watkins on cougars populations in Manitoba, much of which has been conducted in southwestern MB. Kathryn presented her preliminary research on detecting brain worm in ungulate droppings in Riding Mountain National Park. Finally, Melanie Dubois spoke about her work with pollinators and brought some specimens of bees for everyone to see. After the talks there was some great networking and snacks. All in all, it was a successful night!

- Allison Krause Danielsen

## Welcome to our new Northern Representative!

We extend our congratulations and best wishes to Elizabeth Walsh who has recently accepted a biologist position in her home province of New Brunswick. Thank you, Elizabeth for your work with the Manitoba Chapter of TWS! Filling in for the remainder of her term, I have a few goals I hope to accomplish in the coming months. I hope to bring awareness to the forestry sector and other industry in the North about TWS. Secondly, I hope to generate interest, membership and involvement from past and present students of the Natural Resource Program at the University College of the North in The Pas. Lastly, having attended the Northern Mixer at the University College of the North in 2018, I hope to replicate this event and help reconnect Northern Members of the Chapter. All the best in 2020!

-Ryan Shewchuk





## TWS Annual Conference Travel Award - Jessica Lang

This past fall, I was able to attend the American Fisheries and The Wildlife Society 2019 Joint Annual Conference in Reno, Nevada, which welcomed close to 5,000 fish and wildlife biologists. I was very fortunate to start the conference off by visiting the Palomino Valley Wild Horse and Burro Center, which is the largest BLM adoption center for wild equids in the United States. In the following days, I attended many great presentations and events with students and wildlife professionals from across the globe. I was so blown away by the incredible diversity of wildlife research projects that I filled my conference notebook by the second day.



In addition to attending many great presentations, I also participated in several hands-on workshops, including “Animal Capture Techniques for Researchers and Managers” and “Spatial Sampling and Study Design”. While I enjoyed every aspect of the conference, I especially loved all of the networking opportunities, such as the Canadian Section and Friends reception, the student-professional networking event, and the Women in Wildlife reception. On the last day of the conference, I presented research from my Master’s thesis (University of Manitoba), which examined the impacts of red fox denning on vegetation in the Canadian Subarctic.

I am extremely grateful to The Wildlife Society-Manitoba Chapter for awarding me with the TWS Annual Conference Travel Award, which ultimately made it possible for me to attend this conference. This conference was the highlight of my year, and I am already counting down the days until the next annual conference in Louisville, Kentucky!



Palomino Valley Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Centre in Nevada

# Awards

**Congratulations to the following award winners!**

Student Travel Award Winner:

Justine Hudson

Early Career Professional Award Winner:

Olwyn Friesen



Cody (left) presenting the Student Travel Award to Justine Hudson (right) at the TWS Fall mixer.

## Upcoming Awards

**Richard C. Goulden Memorial Award**  
January 30, 2020

**Photo Contest**  
Focus on Flora  
Focus on Fauna  
General  
March 1, 2020

**Conservation Award**  
March 1, 2020

## Upcoming Events



### Winter Getaway

The Annual Winter Getaway is coming up this Feb. 7-9 in Pinawa!

Registration is now open until midnight on February 1st.

Thank you to everyone who came out to Rumours!

The funds generated from this fundraiser have helped to bring the registration cost down.

Get ready to bundle up for a weekend full of workshops, presentations, cross country skiing, and tasty food.

Email

[tws.manitoba.chapter@gmail.com](mailto:tws.manitoba.chapter@gmail.com)  
if you have any questions!!

A promotional poster for the Annual Winter Getaway. The background is teal with white snowflake patterns on the right side. The text is in white and orange. At the top, it says "THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY MB PRESENTS THE" in white, followed by "Annual Winter Getaway" in large orange script. Below that, it lists the location, date, and prices. In the center is the Wildlife Society Manitoba Chapter logo, which features a polar bear in a circle. At the bottom, it states the registration deadline and provides the website URL.

THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY MB  
PRESENTS THE  
*Annual  
Winter  
Getaway*

**Location:** Wilderness Edge,  
Pinawa, MB  
**Date:** February 7th-9th, 2020  
**Price:** Students \$100  
Professionals \$150

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS  
FEBRUARY 1ST, 2020**  
REGISTER AT: [HTTP://WWW.TWS-MB.COM/](http://www.tws-mb.com/)

## **Annual General Meeting**

The 2020 Annual General Meeting will take place on March 20 (location to be announced shortly).

Come join us for a full day of presentations, workshops, and networking.

We will be welcoming the 2020/2021 Executive Council and celebrating all that has been accomplished over the last year.

We hope to see you there!

## **Stay Tuned!!**

The Wildlife Society  
Certification in  
Wildlife Biology  
Workshop

Coming up in March!

## Past Events

### **R Workshop**

Thank you to everyone who came out for our Fall R Workshop on November 22, 2019. Approximately 20 TWS:MB members gathered at the University of Manitoba and were led by the incredible Dr. Steffi Lazerte from Brandon University.

We had a balance of students and professional, encompassing all difference levels of R experience and knowledge. Let us know if you'd like to see more frequent R workshops and how we can improve them in the future.

Thank you again to all our participants and to Dr. Steffi Lazerte for her expertise.

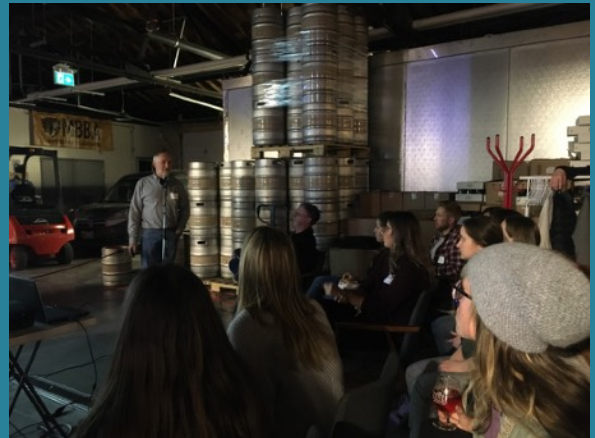


# Past Events



## Fall Mixer

On November 7th we held our Annual Fall Mixer, but this year we mixed up our mixer and held it at Little Brown Jug Brewery in the exchange district. In the beer taproom, alongside beer brewing we were happy to welcome new faces wanting to learn more about the Manitoba Chapter of The Wildlife Society, as well were happy to see familiar faces of current student and professional members of the chapter. The new location allowed a greater turnout from University of



Winnipeg students and the event brought in 50 attendees who enjoyed a video presentation from Elise Couillard about an acoustic workshop she attended in the fall. Dale Wrubelski a long time TWS member also did a presentation titled "Restoring a Large Freshwater Coastal Wetland on the Prairies; Common Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) Exclusion at Delta Marsh, Manitoba" on his work in Delta Marsh. Thank you to all who were able to make it out for such a great evening and hope to see you at upcoming events with the chapter.

## Upcoming Elections

### **Are you interested in becoming involved with the TWS:MB Executive Council?**

There are several positions that are voted in at the Annual General Meeting. If you're interested in putting your name on a ballot, reading more about these positions, or reading our bylaws, email Brain Kiss ([Brian.Kiss@gov.mb.ca](mailto:Brian.Kiss@gov.mb.ca)) or Don Sexton ([sextonda@mymts.net](mailto:sextonda@mymts.net)).

Additionally, info can be found on our website <http://www.tws-mb.com/learn-more-button>.

Deadline to add your name to the ballot is **February 12!**

#### Positions

- President Elect
- Secretary
- Member at Large
- Treasurer
- Western Representative
- Northern Representative

Feel free to reach out to current members of the Executive about their experience on TWS:MB at our next event!



## New TWS:MB Clothing



Ball cap



Travel Mug

Come check it out at our next event!



Baseball Tee



Hoodie



Check out this recent article featured on CBC by one of our chapter members!

## Retracing the step of a misunderstood predator: A biologist's search for a wayward wolf - Daniel Dupont

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/manitoba-wolves-nopiming-provincial-park-1.5412884>



Daniel Dupont says every species plays an important role in the overall health of the boreal forest. (Trevor Lyons/Radio-Canada) (Source: CBC)

Also in the News....

## Grizzly bear death prompts call for changes to Wildlife Act (B.C.)

<https://vancouverisland.ctvnews.ca/grizzly-bear-death-prompts-call-for-changes-to-wildlife-act-1.4764126>

## Once proposed as ski resort: B.C.'s Jumbo Glacier turned over to First Nation (B.C.)

<https://cfjctoday.com/2020/01/18/once-proposed-as-ski-resort-b-c-s-jumbo-glacier-turned-over-to-first-nation/>

## Province makes move to keep spring black bear hunt (Ontario)

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/sudbury/black-bear-spring-hunt-1.5430971>

## Climate change: Australia fires will be 'normal' in warmer world

<https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-51094919>

## Will our marine protected areas adapt to a changing climate?

<https://blog.wwf.ca/blog/2019/12/20/will-marine-protected-areas-adapt-changing-climate/>

## Feral Pigs Are Invasive, Voracious and Resilient. They're Also Spreading

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/feral-pigs-are-invasive-voracious-and-resilient-theyre-also-spreading-180973824/>

## Watercraft Inspector Position

<https://jobsearch.gov.mb.ca/generateBulletin.action?ID=58866>

