

From the Eagle's Nest

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WINTER 2011

ONR Working Group Meets in Denver

by: Karen Lynch, NAFWS

For the past two years, a collective group of 23 natural resource organizations called ONR (Our Natural Resources) have been meeting to advance a national natural resources strategy for Indian country. In August, this group met in Denver, CO with at least 23 attending the meeting.

How the strategy is implemented served as key focus of the group. They have formed in response to

multi-faceted needs and demands as a result of factors enroaching upon tribes' natural resources, culture, and way of life. Factors such as economic conditions, suffering trust relationship, encroachment, poverty, health and social ills. In previous meetings, the working group identified goals and are establishing Subgoals and Objectives.

Essential areas in the strategy include climate change, protection of sacred sites, youth initia-

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LONG TIME NAFWS MEMBER TO BE MISSED

The NAFWS loses long-time member of the organization, David Martinez. He worked with the Colorado River Indian Tribes and served as Chief Game Warden for many years until his retirement in 2009. He served with the CRIT for 31 years.

He will be remembered for his participation at the NAFWS national and regional conferences where he volunteered his time and skills to help out with the fundraising auctions.

He will be missed by many for his kindness and good natured humor.



OBITUARY

David M. Martinez, 66, died on Thursday, December 8, 2011, as the result of long-term cardiovascular illness.

He leaves his wife of 44 years, Dina Martinez; his daughter, Debra Martinez Hernandez; his daughter, Davina Martinez and her husband, Glen Harelson;

his son, David Tylan Martinez and his wife, Yadira Martinez, and his daughter, Diandra Martinez; his three grandchildren, Meagan and Justin Santos, and Elijah

(- see p.5 -D.Martinez -)

NAFWS PREPARES FOR 2012 NATIONAL CONFERENCE



Greetings!

We are pleased to invite you to the 30th annual National Conference which will be co-sponsored by the Society's Northeast and Southeast Regions. The conference dates are April 30 – May 3, 2012. Our Host Tribes will be the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and we know that they will bring a lot of respect, knowledge and generosity to this conference. Very shortly you will be able to see the agenda and register on-line on our website.

LOCATION & LODGING

This year's conference will be held at the beautiful Harrah's Cherokee Casino & Hotel in Cherokee, North Carolina. The hotel and conference center is located at 777 Casino Drive in Cherokee. The folks @ Harrah's are giving us the awesome conference rate of \$77/night but, as always, you must make your reservations well in advance. The cut-off date is March 30 and after that day, all rooms will be released for sale and you may not be able to get a room at the \$77 rate.

TRANSPORTATION

The nearest airports are in Asheville, NC which is about 54 miles away and Knoxville, TN which is around 75 miles. Major car rental agencies are available at both airports. We have been informed that there will be some Tribal bus service from and back to Asheville (not Knoxville) and we will have information on that in the near future on our website.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

The pre-registration fee for the conference is \$250 and the on-site fee is \$300. As we always want students to attend, the conference fee this year is \$100. The easiest way to register is to visit our website. By registering and paying on-line, you can get a registration receipt right away and that way, you can keep your accounting people happy. If you need a hard copy of the pre-registration form, let us know and we'll fax you one. However, the on-line process is better.

The National Conference Committee will be offering a "Pre-Registration Incentive" for those conference attendees who pre-register before March

(see p. 9 - Conference -)

224 MEMBER TRIBES

Agdaagux Tribal Council/Akiachak Native Community/Akiak Native Community/Akutan Traditional Council/Alakanuk Traditional Council/Alderville Indian Band/Allakaket Village Council/Arapaho Business Council/Asacarsamit Tribal Council/Atmaituak Traditional Council/Barona Band of Mission Indians/Bay Mills Indian Community/Beave Tribal Council/Big Sandy Rancheria/Birch Creek Village Council/Blackfeet Tribe/Bois Forte Reservation/Bridgeport Indian Reservation/Caddo Indian Tribe of Oklahoma/Catawba Indian Nation/Chalkyistik Village Council/Chemehuevi Indian Tribe/Cherokee Nation/Chevak Traditional Council/Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma/Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe/Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy Reservation/Chippewa of Navash Band/Chistochina Village Council/Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana/Citizen Potawatomi Nation/Clarks Point Village Council/Coeur d'Alene Tribe/Colorado River Indian Tribes/Colville Confederated Tribes/Comanche Tribe/Confederated Tribes of Coos/Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians/Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes/Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation/Confederated Tribes of Grande Ronde/Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians/Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation/Crow Creek Sioux Tribe/Eastern Band of Cherokee/Eastern Pequot/Ekwok Village Council/Elk Valley Rancheria/Ely Tribe/Evansville Tribal Council/False Pass Tribal Council/Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa/Fort Belknap Community Council/Fort Independence Paiute Tribe/Fort McDowell Mohave Apache/Fort Mojave Indian Tribe/Fort Sill Chiricahua Warm Springs Apache/Fort Peck Assiniboine Sioux Tribe/Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa/Hannahville Indian Community/Hoop Valley Tribal Council/Hopi Tribe/Hopland Band of Pomo Indians/Houlton Band of Maliseets/Husla Tribal Council/Hyaburg Cooperative Association/Iowa Tribe of Kansas & Nebraska/Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma/Iqurmiut Traditional Council/Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe/Jicarilla Apache Tribe/Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians/Karuk Tribe/Kaw Nation of Oklahoma/Kenai'tze Indian Tribe/Ketchikan Indian Corporation/Keweenaw Bay Indian Community/Kickapoo Nation of Kansas/Klamath Tribe/Klawock Cooperative Association/Kodiak Tribal Council/Kotlik Traditional Council/Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewas/Lac du Flambeau Chippewa/Lac Vieux Desert Chippewa Tribe/Leech Lake Chippewa Tribe/Little River Band of Ottawa Indians/Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians/Louden Village Council/Manokotak Village Council/Manzanita Band of Mission Indians/Marshall Traditional Council/Mashantucket Pequot Tribe/McGrath Native Village Council/Menominee Indian Tribe/Mentasta Tribal Council/Mescalero Apache/Miccosukee Tribe/Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians/Modoc Tribe of Oklahoma/Morongo Band of Mission Indians/Nambe Pueblo/Nanawake IIRA Council/Narragansett Tribe/Native Village of Atka/Native Village of Barrow/Native Village of Deering/Native Village of Eklutna/Native Village of Elim/Native Village of Eyak/Native Village of Fort Yukon/Native Village of Goodnews Bay Traditional Council/Native Village of Kotzebue/Native Village of Kwinhagak/Native Village of Mekoryuk/Native Village of Shaktoolik/Native Village of Shishmaref/Native Village of St. Michael/Native Village of Wales/Native Village of White Mountain/Navajo Nation/Nenana Native Council/Nez Percé Tribe/Nightmute Traditional Council/Ninilchik Traditional Council/North Fork Mono Rancheria/Northern Cheyenne Tribe/Notawaseppii Huron Band of Potawatomi/Nulato Tribal Council/Oglala Sioux Tribe/Ojibway 1850 Treaty Council/Oneida Indian Nation/Oneida Tribe of Indians/Organized Village of Kwethluk/Osage Nation/Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma/Passamaquoddy Tribe/Pedro Bay Village Council/Penobscot Indian Nation/Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians/Pilot Point Traditional Council/Pilot Station Traditional Council/Poarch Band of Creek Indians/Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians/Ponca Tribe of Nebraska/Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe/Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation/Pueblo of Acoma/Pueblo of Cochiti/Pueblo of Isleta/Pueblo of Jemez/Pueblo of Laguna/Pueblo of Juaque/Pueblo of San Ildefonso/Pueblo of Santa Ana/Pueblo of Santa Clara/Pueblo of Bos/Pueblo of Esuque/Pueblo of Zia/Pueblo of Zuni/Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe/Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska/Quapaw Tribe/Ougan'Evagangin Tribe/Quileute Tribe/Rainy River Band/Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewas/Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians/Redwood Valley Little River Band of Pomo Indians/Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community/San Carlos Apache Tribe/San Pasqual Band of Indians/Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska/Santo Domingo Tribe/Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Band/Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians/Seminole Tribe/Seneca-Cayuga Tribe/Shoalwater Bay/Shoshone-Bannock Tribes/Shoshone-Paiute Tribe of Duck Valley/Shuswap Nation/Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Tribe/Sitka Tribe of Alaska/Six Nations of Canada/Soboba Band of Mission Indians/Southern Ute Tribe/Spirit Lake Sioux Tribe/Spokane Tribe/Squaxin Island Tribe/St. Croix Tribal Council/St. Regis Mohawk Tribe/Standing Rock Sioux Tribe/Swinomish Tribal Community/Stevens Village Council/Stillaguamish Tribe/Summit Lake Paiute Tribe/Swinomish Tribal Council/Inana Tribal Council/Three Affiliated Tribes/Tlingit & Haida Central Council/T'hono'O odham Nation/Tribal Government of St. Paul/Tsawwassen Indian Band/Tuolumne-Mek-Wuk Tribal Council/Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians/Ugaski Traditional Village/Unga Tribal Council/Upper Sioux Community/Ute Indian Tribe/Ute Mountain Ute Tribe/Walker River Paiute Tribe/Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head/White Earth Reservation of Minnesota/White Mountain Apache Tribe/Wichita & Affiliated Tribes/Winnemago Tribe of Nebraska/Yakuta/Tlingit Tribe/Yankton Sioux Tribe/Yavapai-Apache Nation/Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo/Yupit of Adrealski/Yurok Tribe

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*We extend a big
THANK YOU to the
following individuals for
contributing to our
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Resources Corporation,
NAFWS president*

*Northeast Regional
Directors, Sue Young and
Dinalyn Spears*

*Global Wildlife
Resources*



FROM THE EAGLE'S NEST
Is a communication tool
to inform and facilitate the
exchange of NAFWS news
and information nationally.
We seek relevant informa-
tion from our members and
others who are interested.
However, at times we do
have limitations, so please
understand if we should
select another vehicle for
your valued information.

President's Message

Since the last newsletter, NAFWS President, Arthur "Butch" Blazer accepted a position with USDA Forest Service as Deputy Under Secretary in Washington, DC; and NAFWS Board Vice President, Ida Hildebrand (Alaska) has assumed the duties of President of NAFWS.

We congratulate Butch in his new role and look forward to working with him on behalf of tribes. Butch assumed that role officially on October 2, 2011; and since then, Ida has been actively participating in national issues on behalf of the Society.

We continue our work in tandem with tribes and tribal organizations to pursue the national strategy for Our Natural Resources (ONR) and are preparing to draft a grant application in that effort.

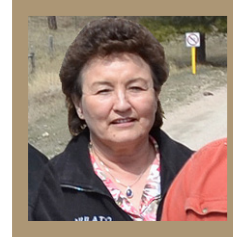
As we prepare the proposal, we urge NAFWS regions and tribes to support the proposal with Tribal Resolutions in

support of NAFWS seeking grant applications to develop the national strategy on ONR, on behalf of tribes who are otherwise busy putting out fires and addressing more immediate and urgent needs that Tribal governments are required to attend to on behalf of their respective membership in social and economic needs and problems.

In an effort to coordinate issues and efforts to find solutions to Tribal problems; Ida and Fred Matt, NAFWS Executive Director, attended the NCAI Conference in Portland, OR, October 30 – November 4, 2011. This was a very full schedule that covered numerous tribal issues and Resolutions, with Regional caucuses that discussed and planned for regional needs; and to speak with a united Tribal voice as tribes prepare for the Tribal meeting with President Obama on December 2, 2011 in Washington, DC. In addition, to these meetings, I have also attended the

Alaska Federation of Natives Conference (AFN); the National Indian Education Association Conference (NIEA) and the Exchange for Local Observation and Knowledge of the Arctic or ELOKA conference. The latter conferences were at the expense of my employer and not the Society.

However, all conferences had common themes: Unity of Tribes; Working from the local Tribal base; Preservation of Indigenous cultures, traditions and languages. The united effort and vision for a united Tribal base is overwhelming. It is truly invigorating to hear and participate in so many venues that hold this vision of a united Tribal community; speaking in one voice to promote tribal governance, management; and programs that meet



local tribal needs. This is the focus and mission of the Society in addressing Natural Resources issues on behalf of Tribes.

In addition, the Alaska Regional conference was held; and preparing for NAFWS Board meetings and the NAFWS national conference in April/May 2012 in Cherokee, North Carolina.

Please do plan to attend; and if you have presenters or student or youth issues, do not hesitate to forward those to the national office.

In closing, thank you for your time, attention, support and continued involvement with the Society.

Take care, and Happy Holidays.

Ida Hildebrand

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE...

Greetings everyone, as our winter is in full swing and the holidays here, again each of you are in my thoughts and prayers. I pray that our Creator has blessed all the activities you've been working on for Indian people.

As for me, the activities I've been involved with have kept me very busy. I just want to mention a few highlights that deserve mentioning. Of course the Great Lakes and the Pacific Regional Conferences are always high points. Seeing the progress in the regional activities and innovation



that our professional folks are accomplishing through improving the habitat for wildlife and fisheries has been inspiring.

Once again, my hat goes

off to the hard work and dedication of the Regional Directors. In the Great Lakes I learned that you can mix a little work with fun by getting me on stage with a microphone and tambourine, (thanks to Donny Reiter and Butch Blazer.)

The Pacific Regional Conference had a small turn-out this year due mainly to budget restrictions, however it was a very well put together Conference and they are committed to putting on a Youth Practicum for the next two years. Our thanks goes out to the Northwest Area Director, Stan Speaks who committed \$20,000 to help with the expenses for the

next two years.

Lastly, as most of you know, there is a bitter/sweet situation that has happened with our President Butch Blazer. He has stepped down from his position with us to take a high level position with the Obama Administration (Deputy under Secretary in the Natural Resources and Environment Department). GOOD LUCK BUTCH and way to go...we are all proud of you.

Until next time,
Lem Lemch, (Thank You)

Executive Director
NAFWS,
D. Fred Matt

SOUTHWEST REGION

LEARNING BY PARTICIPATING: SOUTHWEST REGION YOUTH PRACTICUM

by: Ida Hildebrand, NAFWS Acting President and Alaska Region Board Director

In planning for an Alaska Youth Practicum, I attended the June 19-24, 2011 Southwest Regional NAFWS Youth Practicum at the Ted Turner Ladder Ranch out of Hermosa, NM. To say the least, it was impressive both in student involvement, and in staff and presenter involvement.

Norman Jojola, BIA Natural Resource Manager, and Jeannie Lubbering, Adjunct Professor, SIPI Natural Resource Dept.; as Co-coordinators of the Practicum did an excellent and outstanding job. Their dedication to the Practicum and students was manifested both in their presentation of class materials; and in their attention to every detail of student activity and involvement. They were like Eagles caring for their young.

15 students attended from throughout the Southwest tribes, high school age and some preparing to enter college programs in the fall. Class materials both in writing and oral presentations focused extensively on various scientific fields that students could pursue; and still maintain cultural ties as they seek ways to assist their tribes in natural resource management. In addition, cultural values, tribal ties; and Practicum exercises encouraged students to retain their respective tribal cultural values, while seeking solutions to local tribal problems involving natural resources.

In general session, three times a day, every day of the Practicum, cultural values, stories; examples of Native American youth success; and Elder statements were presented to reinforce the cultural values and tribal ties of the students. Students were quizzed about the cultural values; and volunteered to lead presentations and prayers.

Of the youth practicum and summer youth activities that I have attended throughout my life; I was most impressed with the quality of instruction in the Southwest Practicum in the various scientific fields that exposed youth to their own local

environments and environmental and natural resource issues. The link between these scientific fields; and the tribal and cultural issues that students could endeavor to address through degrees and certificates in any of these fields – ecology, native plants and nutrition, bison management; wildlife rehabilitation; aquatic ecology and fisheries tech-



niques; water quality analysis and benthic surveys; fish population and stream habitat assessment; herpetology; range and forestry inventory; utilization of biomass; soil analysis; big game habitat evaluations; bat monitoring and identification and their importance to environment; National Environmental Policy Act and Indian Laws and court cases regarding natural resources and Indian lands; restoration of river ecosystems; game and fisheries biology, forestry, aviary management; and natural resource management – was emphasized and encouraged.

Another impressive point was that most the instructors were Native American, and some even attended Youth

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NAFWS Northeast Region Update

The 2011 Northeast Regional Conference was hosted by the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe (Akwasasne) at the Hawkins Point Visitor Center in Massena, NY, from August 30 – September 1, 2011. The theme of the conference was “Hear the Wind, Voice of Wisdom”.

The conference planning committee included the N.E. Regional Directors, Jim Snyder, Alternate

Director, DJ Monette, USFWS Tribal Liaison, and Sarah Williams (NAFWS National Office). Agenda topics included Tribal presentations on Turtle Species Management, Natural Resource Damage Assessment, Wildlife Management planning, Cultural and Ecological Aspects of Muskrat Root, Black Ash Management, Introduction to WISER (Wireless Informa-

tion System for First Responders) and USFWS Tribal Wildlife Grant presentations by the Narragansett Indian Tribe’s New England Cottontail Study and a video was shown about the Wampanoag Tribe of Gayhead Aquinnah on their Scallop Restoration Project. Federal Agencies were invited to present on Species Recovery, Wildlife Diseases, Forest Pests, and Animal Disease Traceability.

During the Business meeting Sue Young was re-elected as the Regional Director and Jim Snyder re-elected as Alternate Director. Sgt. Robin Spears was also elected as an Alternative Director. The Northeast Region now has a full executive board. An update on the 2012 National Conference was presented.

The 2012 National Conference will be jointly held by the Northeast and

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(- Practicum - cont. fr. p. 4 -)

Practicum within the Southwest Region as youth prior to seeking their various degrees and careers. Two of the most enjoyable highlights were the observation of students in their participation; expressing their ideas on how to address and find solutions to various natural resource problems; and the Student Talent Show night. This latter event was rewarding as it demonstrated the confidence gained by the students that was not evident at the beginning of the session on day one; and the camaraderie and trust that the students developed among themselves and their staff.

In closing, I highly recommend that parents and NAFWS Board members make an effort to participate as volunteers; and observe the wonder and potential of our Native youth in action for our natural resources. To Norm and Jeannie, thank you for a wonderful experience even though I almost melted.



(- Northeast - cont. fr. p. 4)

the Southeast regions. The Southeast Region's Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians will host the conference at their Harrah's Cherokee Casino in Cherokee, North Carolina from April 30 to May 3, 2012. More information can be obtained by contacting the Regional Directors and by visiting the National website.

An overview of "Our Natural Resources", which

is an alliance of tribal natural resources and tribes committed to develop and advance a national tribal resource strategy was presented to the members as part of the regional business meeting. Members were encouraged to obtain more information by visiting the website www.ournaturalresources.org.



(- D. Martinez - Cont. fr. p. 1 -)

Martinez; and his brothers, Ray Martinez and Steve Martinez.

Born and raised in Parker, AZ, the son of David "Dick" and Jane Martinez, he was a lifelong resident of Poston (Parker Valley) and member of the Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT). He was well liked and formed many strong

relationships with native people of the Mohave, Chemehuevi, Hopi and Navajo tribes on the Colorado River Indian Reservation.

David, or "Davey" as many knew him, was Chief Game Warden of the CRIT Fish and Game, and retired in 2009 after 31 years of service. Davey loved his

see next column

FORMER NAFWS PRESIDENT TAKES NEW POSITION AS HEAD OF USDA FOREST SERVICE

Arthur "Butch" Blazer is the USDA Deputy Under Secretary for the Natural Resources and Environment (NRE). In this position, Blazer will have responsibility for the U.S. Forest Service, which manages 193 million acres of National Forest Systems lands and provides assistance to more than ten million family forest landowners in this country. Blazer brings to the USDA a rich natural resources background, stemming from more than 30 years of experience in working with federal, state and tribal natural resources management programs across the country.

Blazer previously served as the Director of the Forestry Division of the State of New Mexico's Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department. A member of the Mescalero Apache Tribe and a graduate of New Mexico State University, B.S. '75, Butch was the first Native American to have been appointed as "State Forester" for New Mexico.

In September 2009, Blazer was named as Chair of the Council of Western State Foresters, an organization that fosters forest management assistance to landowners, managing state

trust lands and supplying wildfire and forest health protection services. Additionally, he served as Co-Chair for the Western Forestry Leadership Coalition, which promotes



science based forest management that serves the values of society and ensures the health and sustainability of western forests.

Up until his appointment with USDA, Blazer served on the board of directors for the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society, a national 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization which he helped establish in 1983. Butch served as the national President of that organization from 1996-2000 and from May, 2011 through September, 2011.

Butch and his wife Joyce enjoy traveling and spending quality time with family.

"big smile" and loving heart.

A funeral service was held on December 17 at the Grace Assembly of God Church in Parker, AZ.



work as a game warden and was considered to be a highly skilled tracker within his community. Davey also enjoyed hunting; the cowboy and ranching lifestyle; fishing; cooking; having coffee with his many friends and family members; talking; laughing and joking. Many who knew Davey will never forget his

see next column



NATIVE AMERICAN FISH & WILDLIFE SOCIETY

8333 Greenwood Blvd. Ste. 260 Denver, CO 80221
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INVITATION to the 30th Annual National Conference
of the

NATIVE AMERICAN FISH & WILDLIFE SOCIETY

A National Native Non-Profit Organization
Dedicated to the Conservation, Protection and Enhancement
Of Tribal Fish, Wildlife, Habitat and Cultural Resources

Jointly Sponsored by the
NORTHEAST & SOUTHEAST REGIONS
Hosted by The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and
The Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians

April 30 – May 3, 2012

Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort / Conference Center – Cherokee, NC
"Weaving Together the Strands of Creation"

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NAFWS MEMBER JOHN ANTONIO RECOGNIZED

Arlington resident John Antonio Sr. recently received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from New Mexico State University.

Antonio graduated from the university with a degree in wildlife science in 1974, and went on to work as a wildlife biologist for the Bureau of Indian Affairs. He also worked as director of the Navajo Fish and Wildlife Department, and served two terms as governor of the Laguna tribe in Laguna Pueblo, N.M.

Antonio helped to found the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society, and currently works as the national climate-change coordinator for the Bureau of Indian Affairs. He also serves on the American Eagle Foundation's Bald Eagle Grant Advisory Team.

Reprinted from Sun Gazette Newspapers, 12/17/11.

CALL FOR PAPERS AND PRESENTERS - NAFWS NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Native American Fish & Wildlife Society requests paper submissions / presentation abstracts for its 30th Annual National Conference to be held at Harrah's Resort / Casino / Conference Center in Cherokee, North Carolina, April 30 – May 3, 2012. The theme of the conference is "Weaving Together the Strands of Creation". This conference is meant to be inclusive of all work by or on behalf of Tribes, acknowledging the value of Traditional Tribal Knowledge and modern cutting-edge science.

We want to see how Tribes are incorporating this knowledge both in present day management all the

while preparing to pass that responsibility and philosophy on to future generations. Paper submissions from all areas of natural resource management are welcome with consideration given to submissions focusing on issues such as climate change, invasive species, and emerging fish and wildlife health concerns. In addition, we are asking for presentations of programs addressing youth development, education, and empowerment. Submissions will be divided for presentations according to topic.

We invite papers from all natural resource managers, leaders, as well as educators and students. For

more information and to submit paper abstracts contact:

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2012 TEAMING WITH WILDLIFE FLY-IN

2012 Teaming With Wildlife Fly-in. Next Year's Fly-In will be held February 28th-29th, 2012 in Washington DC. The purpose of the annual Fly-In is to communicate the importance of the State and Tribal Wildlife Grants program to members of Congress and their staffs. The Fly-In includes training, opportunities to meet with congressional members and/or their staffs, coalition and congressional receptions and awards. For more information, http://www.teaming.com/2012_fly_in_event/2012_fly_in_home.htm

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tives, treaty rights, water rights, litigation, habitat protection, jurisdiction, consultation, environmental regulations, traditional ecological knowledge, and subsistence protection.

"The degradation of natural resources is taking place everywhere," said Arthur Blazer, who at the time of this meeting was president of the board of directors with the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society. He is now USDA Deputy Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment. He has been involved with ONR since its beginning.

Of those involved, the importance of working together could not be overstated and important.

In the Pacific Northwest, salmon is life for Native people.

"With treaty rights at risk and salmon habitats being lost, we are still fighting to bring the salmon home," said Billy Frank, a Commissioner with the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission. "Our natural resources are our culture, our way of life, our sovereignty."

"And what about our Native American youth, this

population is a core area and one that is inherently tied to Mother Earth," said Arthur Blazer.

"We have young people that may not be alive next year," said Patrick Durham, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Tribal Liaison. "At Cheyenne River, kids were killing themselves. There are immediate and long-term concerns."

In the area of treaty rights, "educating Congress about their obligations is a concern," said Wilbur Slockish, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.

As the group examines its goals and strategy, they are also maximizing their efforts. With funding, the group agrees that they need to be ready with funding cuts throughout Indian country.

"With the strength of all the organizations involved, Blazer said, "ONR is also learning to utilize the organizations we are working with and not trying to develop a new organization. Our purpose is to help Indian country and tribal leadership with natural resources."

As the group continues

to establish a working direction, several goals were identified: 1) Establish and advance tribal government involvement in the development and implementation of laws, programs and policies that affect tribal interests in natural resources; 2) Obtain increased base funding and equitable participation in funding, programs, and initiatives that affect tribal interests in natural resources; 3) Establish and advance the role of Tribal wisdom and beliefs in natural resources research and management; 4) Identify, enhance and establish educational programs that promote the participation of all sectors of the tribal community in natural resources management programs and professions; and 5) Support 'ONR Our Natural Resources' alliance's work in the service of tribal governments and communities.

Participant organizations in ONR include:

National Congress of American Indians, United South and Eastern Tribes, Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, Columbia

River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, National Tribal Environmental Council, Intretribal Timber Council, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Native American Fish and Wildlife Society, National Wildlife Federation Tribal Lands Program, Red Lake Nation Department of Natural Resources, Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, Indian Land Tenure Foundation, Yukon River Intertribal Watershed Council, U.S. Department of Agriculture - Tribal Relations, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Fisheries, and USDA - National Resource Conservation Service.

The meeting was one of at least a dozen since the group formed in 2009. For more information about the ONR working group, or for more information about how to get involved, visit the ONR website: <http://www.ournaturalresources.org>



VIDEO: HUMAN BOX TRAPPING OF DOGS AVAILABLE.

The Global Wildlife Resources, Inc., a non-profit organization has produced a NEW training video for box trapping dogs! The DVD, "Humane Box Trapping of Dogs" is a great training tool for animal control officers, disaster responders, dog rescue groups, animal shelters, and spay/neuter programs. It is packed with tricks and details for successfully catching the most difficult dogs.

You can see the trailer for this DVD at our website store: GWR Products: <http://www.wildliferesources.org/g-w-r-products/>



The ONR working group met in August in Denver, CO. More than 15 intertribal and federal agency partners met at this meeting.

NAFWS ADDRESSES BROAD SPECTRUM OF INTERESTS: FISHERIES, WILDLIFE, CONSERVATION ENFORCEMENT

by: Tanya Aldred, GLIFWC

Keshena, Wis. -- The Smokey Town and Red River Drums opened the 24th Annual Regional Great Lakes Native American Fish and Wildlife Society (GL - NAFWS) conference. The Drums were followed by the presentation of the Colors carried by the Menominee and Mohican veterans and an opening prayer by Dave "Nahwaquaw" Grignon.

This set the stage for a broad spectrum of events for the September 12 - 16, 2011 conference at the Menominee Nation Casino, Bingo and Hotel Convention Center. Co-hosted by the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin and the Mohican Nation Stockbridge-Munsee Band, the annual GLNAFWS event drew tribal natural resource and enforcement staff to a program that featured hands-on training as well as diverse educational opportunities.

Break-out sessions featured Conservation Enforcement Training, Environmental Protection/ Training, Tribal Trust Issues, and Fisheries and Wildlife Issues/Diseases. Presentations covered a variety of research topics which focused on species as lake sturgeon (name'), walleye (ogaa), elk (omashkooz),

moose (mooz), marten (waabizheshi), bear (makwa) and wolves (ma'iinganag). There were also presentations discussing issues related to wild rice (manoomin) management, fish and wildlife habitat restoration projects, and climate change.

Jennifer "Gigi" Modrich, Indian Law Practice Group, Holland and Night;; Jeannine Brooks, BIA Office of Trust Services, and Garrit Voggeser, Tribal Lands Conservation Program, National Wildlife Federation, presented information regarding Congressional funding levels, discretionary, and non-discretionary funding.

A particular highlight this year was a presentation on bald eagle (migizi) management and handling raptors. Marge Gibson, the executive director and one of the original founders of the Raptor Education Group, Inc. (REGI), brought two live raptors for her presentation, a red-tailed hawk (mishkwan naniisi) and a

bald eagle. REGI is a non-profit organization that rehabilitates orphaned or injured native birds and educates the public on various wildlife issues.

Gibson discussed key points on handling raptors, such as remaining calm and reminding people they don't need to try and "overpower" the eagle; it is simply a matter of getting them to cooperate with us and is not a matter of strength. There is a quote she likes to use which says, "Nothing is so strong as gentleness, nothing so gentle as real strength."



Other events at this year's conference included a director's reception, Red Lake walleye fry, a softball game followed by a traditional feast, and natural resources tours.

During the awards banquet, a silent auction raised money for the Great Lakes region with items such as paintings, t-shirts, birch bark baskets and wild rice bundles. The raffle, golf tournaments and the silent auction provided funding for Great Lakes Native American Fish and Wildlife Society scholarships.

2011 Scholarship award winners:

-Wade Reiter, Menominee, freshman,

natural resources major, University of Wisconsin Stevens Point

- Kayln Sargeant, Red Lake, junior biology major, Bemidji State University

- Jamie Brown, Pokagon Band, sophomore, natural resources major, Grand Valley State University

- Gary R. Auginash, Jr., Red Lake, junior, forest technology major, Northwest Technical College, Bemidji

- Richard Isham, Lac du Flambeau, junior, zoology and environmental conservation major, University of Wisconsin-Madison

2011 regional GLNAFWS award winners

- Patricia Zakovek Conservation Officer of the Year Award - Roger Willis, Little Traverse Bay

- Glen T. Miller Tribal Leadership Award - Derek Bailey, Grand Traverse

- William Eger Biologist of the Year Award - Brett Fessell, Grand Traverse

- Great Lakes Technician of the Year Award - Joseph Poupart, Lac du Flambeau 2011 shoot team

winners
- 1st - Eric Chapman, Lac du Flambeau

- 2nd - Mike Bailey, Grand Traverse

- 3rd - Bill Cox, Menominee

- 4th - Terry Carrick, Bay Mills

- 5th - Ray Wolf, Lac du Flambeau

Reprinted from Mazina'igan, Winter 2011-2012 Issue.

WHERE ELK ROAM

A BOOK THAT TAKES A FASCINATING LOOK AT THE CONSERVATION OF ELK

Where Elk Roam provides an inside look at the field studies and conservation work of a federal wildlife scientist

who served as the National Elk Refuge's biologist, coordinating winter feeding of 8,000 elk and tracking their births,

deaths, and annual migrations throughout the Great Yellowstone Ecosystem.

As one of the world's largest and most social deer species, elk are of immense interest to wildlife enthusiasts. Their 500-800 pound tawny bodies, sweeping

antlers, and fascinating behaviors draw millions to seek them in national parks and other public lands. So valued are elk for viewing, sport, and table fare, that over the past 25 years elk were transplanted from the

(- see next page, Elk -)

30. More information on this will also be coming in the near future.

EXHIBITS

Exhibitors and Vendors are also welcome to come set up your displays, tables, merchandise, etc. The fees are: Corporate Sponsors \$400, Federal / State Agencies \$250, Non-governmental & Tribal Organization \$250 and Native Vendors \$75 with an auction/raffle donation item worth at least \$50. You can download an Exhibitor Application from our website and send payment in with the application to the national office or register your booth on line. For more information, contact Karen Lynch in our office.

AGENDA

We hope to be posting the first Agenda on our web site in the next two weeks as we know many of you need to have the agenda in order to attend. There will be some really good presentations this year.

We are putting out a Call For Papers/Presenters. To be a presenter, we ask that you submit a short abstract to DJ_Monette@fws.org or to the national office (swilliam@nafws.org). As always, we support our youth and our students. We hope to have a one-day education session for presentations like we did at our 2011 conference. The Agenda will be updated on the website on a regular basis.

TRAININGS

There will be CO LE Training during the conference as well as Workplace Safety Training during our conference. Details will also follow.

SPECIAL EVENTS AT THE CONFERENCE

The Planning Committee has planned special events for this conference.

Sunday and Monday: The National Board of Directors will hold its quarterly meeting in the Birch Room at Harrah's.

Monday: Plans are coming along for pre-conference tours and activities on Monday. Again, we will have information available soon.

Monday Evening: Southeast Regional Meeting.

As the Southeast Region is one of the co-sponsors for this year's conference, it will be holding its Regional Meeting and Regional Director Election Monday evening. You may contact current Regional Director, Ken "Buff" Maney for information at buffmane@nc-choke.com for information as the time draws near.

Tuesday: The conference will kick off Tuesday morning. The Society is an organization founded on Respect. Part of that Respect is demonstrated by our annual Parade of Colors at the conference's beginning. We need as many officers as possible to participate in this and to do this in full uniform. Please bring your Tribal Flags.

There is still room for exhibits and vendor booths and Karen in our national office is the coordinator. We will have the Silent and Live Auction so donations are appreciated and valued.

The NAFWS Annual National Business Meeting will be held Tuesday. As a member, it is your right and responsibility to participate. If you have an issue or a resolution that you would like addressed, please contact your Regional Director/Board Member to get it on the agenda.

Wednesday: As you know, the Traditional Feast is always a conference highlight with the host Tribes and Region providing amazing, delicious food and entertainment. This year's Feast

and Cultural entertainment will be held Wednesday evening at the Cherokee Ceremonial Grounds and transportation will be provided (sign up at Registration if you need a ride).

Thursday: On Thursday will be the annual National Conservation Officer Shoot Competition at a range located about 15 minutes from Cherokee. The Regional Shoot Teams will see which Region will have the best team for 2012. The Mandatory Shoot Meeting's time and location will be announced at a later date. For more information on the Shoot, please call Buff Maney at 828.497.1785.

Thursday night will see our annual Banquet / Awards Presentation / Auction as well as the official conference closing.

NATIONAL AWARDS
Remember the NAFWS National Awards: The Chief Sealth Award, The National Biologist of the Year Award and the national Conservation Officer of the Year Award. Award Criteria will be available on our website: <http://www.nafws.org/events/national-conference.html>. Please get your nominations in to the national office ASAP. **Deadline, March 30, 2012.**

CONCLUSION

As I always say, Dear Members, we are all spread out over the country; we don't get to see one another very often; and we love getting together. We haven't seen some of you for a long time and we really want you to come to our conference. Plus, things change and we never know whether we'll see each other the next time. We'll treat you well and feed you even better. As always, feel free to contact us here at the national office, the National Conference

Planning Committee members, or any of your Regional Directors. Again, come join us!

2011 EAGLE SUMMIT ON-LINE

http://www.fws.gov/nativeamerican/News_National/Eagle%20Summit%20II.html

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT SHORT COURSE

A five-day short course on Wildlife Management will be held at Colorado State University, March 26 - 30, 2012.

This popular course was developed for laypersons and agency personnel with non-wildlife training. A number of agencies have sent administrators, commissioners, planners, information, environmental education personnel, legislators, and other staff to this course to obtain a broad exposure to wildlife conservation, management and issues.

The short course is limited to 50 participants. Academic credit is available for participants pending approval. For more information about registering for the course, please contact the Office of Conference Services at 970-491-3568 or email to Eugene Decker at gdecker@cnr.colostate.edu.

West to five Eastern states and Ontario, Canada. These reintroductions helped restore a treasured animal that as recently as two centuries ago roamed from Atlantic to Pacific coasts and Alaska to Mexico.

In this intimate account, Smith brings to life the joys and rewards of working

with elk and other magnificent species, including wolves, bears, and mountain lions. The book entertains and educates while also moving readers toward active participation in conservation to avert a deadly disease's looming threat to the elk.

Bruce Smith retired from

the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in 2004 after a 30-year career as a wildlife manager and scientist. During that time, he worked with every big game species in the western United States, conducting research on wildlife population dynamics, habitat ecology, diseases, migratory behavior, and

predator-prey relationships. He earned a B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in wildlife biology and zoology and has written extensively about his experiences. He resides in southwest Montana. Visit him at his website: <http://www.brucewsmithwildlife.com>