



40th Annual Native American Fish & Wildlife Society National Conference

April 24-27, 2023

Hilton - Anchorage

Sponsor: Alaska Region, NAFWS Host: Chugach Regional Resources Commission

THEME: "Celebrating 40 Years of Success: The Past Holds the Power. The Future Holds the Promise"

National Conference Agenda

Sunday, April 23, 2023

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location:

NAFWS Board of Directors Meeting

Coordinator: Elveda Martinez, President – NAFWS

—SEE ATTACHED AGENDA—

Monday, April 24, 2023

8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location:

*Transportation Available

National CLEO Competition Shoot

Coordinators: Robert Romero, Deputy Executive Director—NAFWS

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location:

Exhibitors/Vendors Set-Up

Coordinators: Sean Cross, Fish & Wildlife Biologist - NAFWS

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location:

Registration

Coordinators: Heidi McCann, Office & Membership Coordinator—NAFWS
Jennifer Bills, Financial Advisor – Management Partners

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Location:

Meeting: NAFWS Research/Publication Committee

Coordinator: Ashley Carlisle, Education Coordinator – NAFWS

-SEE ATTACHED AGENDA-

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location:

Workshop: Tribal Climate Resilience Workshop

Coordinator: Heather Bartlett, Fish & Wildlife Biologist – NAFWS

Tess Hostetter, Assistant Tribal Climate Resilience - NAFWS

—SEE WORKSHOP AGENDA—

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Workshop: Biologist Training – Wildlife Disease

Location: *Coordinator: Tolani Francisco, DVM, MPH – Native Healings, LLC – NAFWS Wildlife Disease Consultant*
—SEE WORKSHOP AGENDA—

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Location: **Workshop: Project Management**
Coordinator: First Nations Development Institute
—SEE WORKSHOP AGENDA—

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Location: **Workshop: Hazmat Awareness**
Coordinator: Roy Stover, Alabama Fire College
—SEE WORKSHOP AGENDA—

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Location: **Meeting: NAFWS Alaska Region Business Meeting**
Coordinators: Orville Huntington, AK Regional Director—NAFWS
Hope Roberts, AK Regional Director—NAFWS
**Hot Hors D’ Oeuvres Will Be Served*
—SEE MEETING AGENDA—

Conservation Law Enforcement Officer (CLEO) Training Session

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Location: Conservation Canine Teams have Benefits Beyond Natural Resources
Presenter: Peter Coppolillo, Executive Director – Working Dogs for Conservation
Coordinator: Robert Romero, Deputy Executive Director – NAFWS

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Location: **Registration – All Day**
Coordinators: Heidi McCann, Office & Membership Coordinator – NAFWS
Jennifer Bills, Financial Advisor – Management Partners

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Location: **Exhibitors/Vendors**
Coordinators: Sean Cross, Fish & Wildlife Biologist - NAFWS

General Session

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

Location:

Opening Ceremony

Master of Ceremonies – AK Regional Director – NAFWS
Posting of the Colors – Conservation Law Enforcement Officers
Invocation - TBD

Welcoming Remarks:

NAFWS Executive Director – Julie Thorstenson, Ph.D.
NAFWS Vice President, SE Region Director – Mike LaVoie
NAFWS AK Region Director
Chugach Regional Resources Commission Representative – Willow Hetrick, Executive Director

9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Location:

Conference Overview

Speaker: Willow Hetrick, Executive Director, Chugach Regional Resources Commission
Moderator: AK Region Director – NAFWS

10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Location:

Keynote Address:

Speaker: TBD
Moderator: – NAFWS

Break 10:45 – 11:00 am.: Sponsored by the Northern Latitudes Partnerships

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location:

Presentation: Chugach Regional Resources Commission – Fisheries and Wildlife Management Overview

Speaker:
Moderator: Willow Hetrick, Executive Director, Chugach Regional Resources Commission

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Location:

Panel Discussion: Funding Opportunities for Tribal Fish and Wildlife Programs

Panelists: TBD
Moderator: Julie Thorstenson, Ph.D., Executive Director – NAFWS

2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Panel Discussion: Legislative updates for Tribal Fish and Wildlife Programs –

Location: *Panelists:* Gloria Tom, Director - Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife
Don Reiter, Wildlife Biologist - Menominee Nation
Mike LaVoie, Natural Resources Director - Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Moderator: Julie Thorstenson Ph.D., Executive Director – NAFWS

Break 3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

3:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Presentation:** Our Voice. Our Ways of Life. Our Wellness

Location: Tanana Chiefs Conference

Presenters: Ben Stevens, Tribal Resources Stewardship Program

Moderator: AK Region Director – NAFWS

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Presentation:** Federal Partner Updates

Location:

Presenter: TBA

Moderator: AK Region Director – NAFWS

Adjourn 5:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. **Traditional Feast**

Location: Alaska Native Heritage
Center
(Limited Transportation Provided)

Host: Chugach Regional Resources Commission

Entertainment: Traditional Dancing

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location:

Registration

Coordinators: Heidi McCann, Office & Membership Coordinator – NAFWS

Jennifer Bills, Financial Advisor – Management Partners

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location:

Exhibitors/Vendors

Coordinators: Sean Cross, Fish & Wildlife Biologist - NAFWS

Conservation Law Enforcement Officer (CLEO) Training Sessions

9:00 am – 5:00 p.m.

Location:

Training: CLEO Training –

Presenter: TBD

Coordinator: Robert Romero, Deputy Executive Director

Concurrent Sessions I

Topic	Fisheries Management	Biodiversity	Wildlife Management	Outreach
<i>Moderator</i>	<i>Regional Director – NAFWS</i>	<i>Regional Director – NAFWS</i>	<i>Regional Director – NAFWS</i>	<i>– NAFWS</i>
Location				
9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Spatial and Temporal Variability of Mercury in Upper and Lower Red Lake Walleye <i>Tyler Orgon, Biologist</i> Red Lake DNR Water Resources	All-Taxa Biodiversity Inventory in Nanih Waiya Wetlands <i>Jess Lewis, Environmental Scientist Supervisor</i> Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians	Estimating abundance and density of bears in Alaska Game Management Unit 13 <i>Sterling Spilinek</i> <i>Research Coordinator/Wildlife Biologist – Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission</i>	The Tribal Intertidal Digital Ecological Survey (TIDES) project 3D models of California coast <i>Rosa Laucci, Marine Program Manager/Marine Biologist</i> Tolowa Dee-ni’Nation
9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Sockeye Salmon Reintroduction in the Yakima Basin: Monitoring a Population Undergoing Naturalization <i>Andrew Matala</i> Yakama Nation Fisheries	Manoomin (Wild Rice) Stewardship in the 1854 Ceded Territory <i>Darren Vogt, Resource Management Division Director</i> 1854 Treaty Authority	Navajo Nation Big Game Management & Research Program <i>Jessica Fort</i> Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife	Our Stories Show Us Connectedness “Stakeholder Perspectives of Culturally Important Species of the Blackfoot” <i>Celina Gray, Graduate Student</i> University of Montana

10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	An Overview of the Navajo Nation Fisheries Program <i>Glenn Selby, Fish Biologist</i> Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife	Native Bees: Multi-scale Monitoring to Conserve Traditional Resources <i>Casey T. Burns, Wildlife Program Lead</i> Bureau of Land Management - Alaska	Moose Abundance and Calf Recruitment on the Blackfoot Indian Reservation and Glacier National Park <i>Landon Magee, Student/Wildlife Technician</i> Blackfeet Fish and Wildlife	New Contributed Volume on Tribal Wildlife Stewardship <i>Serra Hoagland, Tribal Relations Specialist</i> USDA Forest Service R&D
--------------------------------	---	---	---	--

BREAK – 10:30 – 11:00 AM

Concurrent Sessions I (cont.)

Topic	Fisheries Management <i>Regional Director – NAFWS</i>	Biodiversity <i>Regional Director – NAFWS</i>	Wildlife Management <i>Regional Director – NAFWS</i>	Education & TEK <i>– NAFWS</i>
Moderator				
Location				
11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	TBD	Flora of Wolf Springs Ranch, CO <i>Adriano Tsinigine, Fish & Wildlife Biologist</i> U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	Evaluating the use of thermal infrared drones and camera traps for determining population sizes of Sitka black-tailed deer on Afognak Island, AK <i>Shannon Finnegan, Wildlife Biologist.</i> <i>Koniag Native Corporation</i>	Feedback: the ups and downs of writing a climate scoping report and Tribal youth curriculum <i>Kendra Zamzow, Environmental Program Manager</i> Chickaloon Village Traditional Council
11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Restoration of Eklutna River <i>Carrie Brohpil</i> Native Village of Eklutna	Habitat Restoration at the Tar Creek Superfund Site	How many black bears and what are they eating?	Coalescences: Carnivore Coexistence Curriculum that Braids Indigenous & Western

	<i>Summer King, Environmental Scientist Quapaw Nation</i>	<i>Benjamin Simpson, Wildlife Resource Manager Penobscot Nation Department of Natural Resources</i>	<i>Ecological Knowledge into a Relevant and Experiential Learning Opportunity for youth</i>
			<i>Stephanie Barron, Graduate Student University of Montana</i>

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. NAFWS NATIONAL BUSINESS MEETING
 Location: *Coordinator: Mike LaVoie, Vice President, SE Regional Director – NAFWS*
LUNCH PROVIDED
 —SEE MEETING AGENDA—

Concurrent Sessions II

Topic	Invasive Species	Co-management/Authority - NAFWS	Habitat Connectivity	Climate
<i>Moderator Location</i>	<i>Regional Director – NAFWS</i>		<i>Regional Director – NAFWS</i>	<i>Regional Director – NAFWS</i>
2:00 p.m.– 2:30 p.m.	<i>Makah Management Strategies for Invasive European Green Crab</i> <i>Cole Svec, Green Crab Technician II Makah Tribe</i>	<i>The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Wildlife Department: The Beginning</i> <i>Matt Gamble, Senior Manager of Wildlife Conservation The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma</i>	<i>Highway 160 Wildlife Crossings – First Year Successes and Challenges</i> <i>Aran Johnson, Wildlife Division Head Southern Ute Indian Tribe</i>	<i>TEK for Climate Adaptation and Workforce Development</i> <i>Ali Meders-Knight, Executive Director California Open Lands</i>
2:30 p.m.– 3:00 p.m.	<i>The National Early Detection Rapid Response Information System: Learning from past efforts to inform the future of EDRR management</i>	<i>Tribal representation in Local Government for Fish and Wildlife work in the Mat-su</i>	<i>Fish Passage Restoration Training for Alaska Tribes</i>	<i>Adapting to Climate Change on the Navajo Nation</i> <i>Jamie Begay, Wildlife Technician</i>

*Aimee Agnew,
Biologist/Program
Coordinator
US Geological Survey*

*Kendra Zamzow,
Environmental Program
Manager
Chickaloon Village Traditional
Council*

*Jessica Winnestaffer,
Environmental Stewardship
Director
Chickaloon Native Village*

Navajo Nation Fish & Wildlife
Climate Change Program

Break 3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions II (cont.)

Topic	Threatened & Endangered Species	Co-management/Authority	Wildlife Health	Education
	<i>Regional Director – NAFWS</i>	<i>NAFWS</i>	<i>Regional Director – NAFWS</i>	<i>– NAFWS</i>
Moderator				
Location				
3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	<p>Bull Trout Restoration and Monitoring Project</p> <p><i>Russ Byington, Fisheries Biologist Yakama Nation</i></p>	<p>Co-stewardship Initiatives and Models Abroad</p> <p><i>Crystal Miller, PhD Student University of Arizona</i></p>	<p>Is a new way better? Sampling winter tick densities on Tribal Land in Maine</p> <p><i>Benjamin Simpson, Wildlife Resource Manager Penobscot Nation Department of Natural Resources</i></p>	<p>2022 SYP Student Wildlife Management Plan Contest Winners</p>
4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	<p>Hatchery Production Methods for the Endangered Kootenai River White Sturgeon Conservation Aquaculture Program</p> <p><i>Nate Jensen, Aquaculture Program Supervisor</i></p>	<p>Chugach Imaq</p> <p><i>Raven Cunningham, Marine Mammal Program Manager Chugach Regional Resources Commission</i></p>	<p>Zoonotic Disease Concerns for Tribal Hunters and Harvesters</p>	<p>Summer Youth Practicum – National and Alaska Region and Youth Opportunities</p> <p><i>Ashley Carlisle, Education Coordinator and Kaitlyn Demoski, Asst. Tribal Climate Resilience Liaison NAFWS</i></p>

Kootenai Tribe of Idaho

Tolani Francisco, DVM, MPH
Native Healing, LLC

4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Population and Habitat
Monitoring on Spotted Owls
within Tribal Lands

*Xavier Lovato, Graduate
Research Student*
University of Montana

From Sovereignty to Seabeds:
Phased Approaches to Native-
led Marine Resource
Protection

*Mary Adelzadeh, Interim
Program Director of
Stewarding Native Lands*
First Nations Development
Institute

“Research and Strategies for
communicating Native natural
resource science” Ryan
Comfort, PhD – Assistant
Professor – Indiana University

Adjourn 5:00 p.m.

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Location: Top of the
World – Hilton
Anchorage

Tribal Student and Professional Mixer and Poster Session

Poster Presentations and Student Recognition

Moderator: Ashley Carlisle, Education Coordinator – NAFWS

*Hors d'oeuvres will be served

Thursday, April 27, 2023

6:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Location: Coastal Trail

5K Salmon Run/Walk

Coordinator: Ashley Carlisle, NAFWS Education Coordinator & Rosie Sanchez, NAFWS Public Information Officer

Instructions: TBA

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location: Varies

Leave hotel at 8 am

*Limited Transportation available

Natural Resources Tours: Highlighting Alaska Tribal Natural Resources

Coordinators: Willow Hetrick, CRRC and Kaitlyn Demoski, NAFWS

6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Location:

BANQUET

Master of Ceremony: AK Board of Director – NAFWS

Retire the Colors

Invocation: TBD

Award Announcements:

National Tribal Student Poster Session Awards

Regional Awards

Emerging Professional of the Year Award

Conservation Officer of the Year Award

Biologist of the Year Award

Chief Sealth Award

National Conservation Officer Shoot Team Awards

Live and silent auction

Thank you to our sponsors:

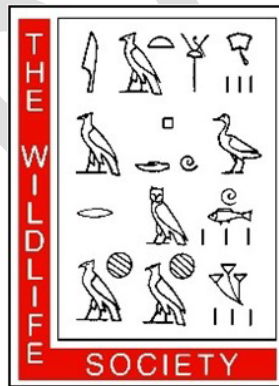
Platinum Sponsors



Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsors

