

INDIANA CHAPTER



Indiana Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Volume 2, Issue 1

January 2016

Items of note:

- ICTWS dues are \$12 in 2016. Dues can be paid in person at the spring meeting.
- ICTWS is now on Facebook and Twitter! See page 6 for info on how to connect with us!
- Upcoming event? New publication? Successful hunt? We want to know about it! See page 5 for info on how to contact us.

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Fellow Wildlifers,

It is my privilege to begin this new year as president of our Indiana Chapter of TWS; thanks for the confidence you have shown in me. I'll try not to disappoint.

As wildlife professionals, I hope this is a successful year for us in advancing our career goals and those of our Society of sustaining and preserving Indiana's diverse wildlife for our children and posterity. I suspect that all of us echo the vision of TWS's president Rick Baydack, who conveyed his hope in Winnipeg last fall "that the importance of wildlife becomes central to the wants, needs, and aspirations of human societies..." I would like to think that our diverse wildlife do matter not only to people like us who work with them, observe them every single day, and occasionally hunt them, but also to the general public. It is critical that this public realize what life would be like without wildlife, and fos-

tering that revelation is a critical part of our professional responsibilities.

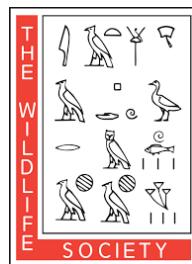


Sharing our passion should not be difficult. Just yesterday, I drove by the Wabash River and watched a crow that was perched on a tree branch in a belligerent stare-down with an adult bald eagle that was not far from it near the top of the same tree. Like watching our flying squirrels fight at our suet feeders, it was better than watching a movie – both make me chuckle. Life would be very boring without wildlife.

We have an exciting spring conference planned, this time joining up with the Society of American Foresters as well as the American Fisheries Society. My hope is for great weather on Lake Monroe for lots of water-side chats. Hope to see you all at the meeting March 1 and 2nd.

Cheers,
Sally

**2016 SPRING CONFERENCE
DETAILS ON PAGE 2!**



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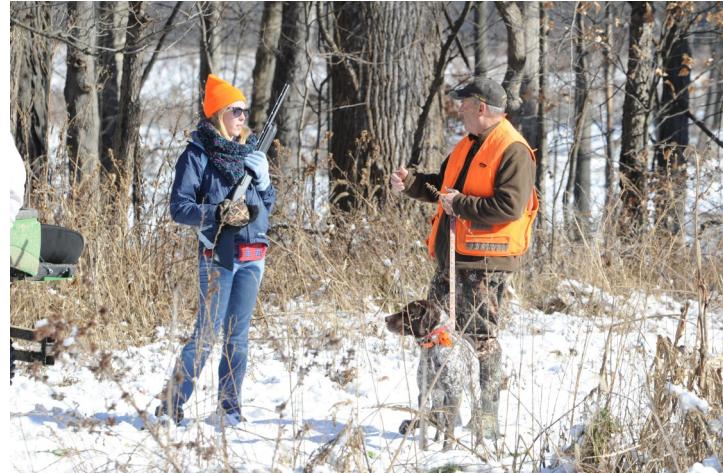
Society of
American Foresters

Student Hunt Success Continues

The Wildlife Student Hunting program conducted by IDNR, Division of Fish and Wildlife and sponsored by the Wildlife Student Hunting Fund administered by ITWS, had another successful year of hunting workshops. The goal of the program is to provide future wildlife professionals with a positive first time hunting experience and educate them on the important role hunting plays in wildlife management.

Students from Ball State and Purdue's TWS student chapters participated in firearms training, a dove hunting workshop and a put-take pheasant hunting workshop. A total of 31 hunting opportunities were offered in 2015 to wildlife students and the majority of these opportunities were first time hunting experiences.

Plans for 2016 include again offering a put-take pheasant hunt and additional hunting opportunities as they arise. Plans also include assisting Universities with firearms training activities.



Students learn firearm safety, dog handling, and more at hunting workshops.

For more information about the program, please contact **Sam Whiteleather** at swhiteleather@dnr.IN.gov

2016 Spring Meeting Details



The 2016 spring conference details have been announced, and it promises to be another great opportunity for ICTWS members to learn about important management issues and network with other professionals.

The 2016 meeting will be a joint meeting with The Wildlife Society, The Society of American Foresters, and The American Fisheries Society. The conference will be held on March 1st and 2nd at FourWinds Resort & Marina in Bloomington. The topic of the conference is *Indiana Species on the Edge: Management Issues*

and Implications. The conference will focus on some of Indiana's species living on the edge of their ranges, challenges researchers face, and solutions being proposed.

Some of the highlights will include: a Plenary Program with talks from Indiana's most knowledgeable biologists, a concurrent session covering both wildlife/forestry and aquatic topics, and the ever popular evening social and raffle. There will also be business meeting for all 3 professional societies.

Registration is \$110 for AFS, TWS, or SAF members, \$135 for non-members, and \$55 for students. Online registration is available at www.indianaafs.org.

A block of rooms has been reserved at FourWinds under the group name "Wildlife Society". You can reserve a room by calling 812-824-2628.

Hope to see everyone there!!

Student Chapter Updates



PURDUE - The Purdue Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society has had a very busy and successful fall semester! This fall

our members were able to attend the 22nd Annual TWS Conference in Winnipeg, Canada, gain hands on experience in the field, and become more educated in hunting and conservation.

The clubs biweekly meetings focused on material not strongly covered in the classroom, enabling students to broaden their wildlife knowledge. Our first meeting of

the spring semester we used Anabats to find the most bat active places on campus! Later in the semester we organized telemetry tag and had a naturalist from Prophetstown State Park come give a presentation on scat identification. Telemetry Tag was also a very successful meeting, where students were able to practice their telemetry skills while competing against their fellow classmates!

We had 5 of our club members attend the Annual TWS Conference, where 4 of the students presented their research in the poster symposium. While at-

tending the conference members gained great professional experience and learned about new wildlife research. Attending the conference has led to potential graduate student opportunities and great professional experience.

Some other important club events our chapter participated in was a DNR organized dove hunt and pheasant hunt. We participated in an invasive species workshop to help raise money for our club.

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BALL STATE - The Ball State Chapter of TWS had a successful fall semester! Our fall semester meetings had many excellent guest speakers. Dr. Richard Fischer with USACE gave a presentation about avian research on lands owned by the Department of Defense. USFWS Private Lands Biologist, Susan Knowles, presented about habitat

restoration on private lands. In addition to our many speakers, we held an internship and CV night in which we educated our members about the importance of obtaining an internship and how to get one.

Our chapter also participated in a dove hunt and a pheasant hunt sponsored by the Indiana Division of Fish and Wildlife. Members got the chance to network

with wildlife professionals while also learning about dove and pheasant management and biology, and also getting the chance to learn how to shoot and clean/prepare doves and pheasant for the table. A big thank you to all of the coordinators of these events!

Our chapter has been active in volunteering with the local community this fall. In November, members spent a day at White River Woods with Red-tail Land Conservancy eradicating bush honeysuckle from the entire property. Members also helped with manning deer check stations around the state in order to help the Indiana Division of Natural Resources. We are excited to continue our volunteering into the spring semester!

You can stay connected with the BSU Student Chapter on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/groups/BSUTWS/



Purdue Student Chapter Update Continued.....

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3....

Participating in the DNR led hunts has increased hunting awareness in our chapter, while also leading to many of our members finding a new interest in hunting and conservation!

Purdue's Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society has working groups that focus on specific taxa. Our working groups include, herps, mammals, birds, hunting, and photography. This semester our bird and hunting working groups have been very active, providing many activities for our members! The hunting working group organized multiple squirrel hunts for experienced and non-experienced hunters. Our bird-working group organized an urban bird walk, for students to become familiar with birds that may be around campus. Our members also had the opportunity to attend two trips to assist with saw-whet owl banding. While saw-whet owl banding we learned about their migration, how to age, and gained more experience with mist netting!

Some of our spring semester events will include a trip to Cook's County Forest Preserver in Illinois where we will be trapping deer and coyotes. Our members are very excited about this opportunity and the chance to test their wildlife technique skills! In March we plan to conduct herp assessments at Lake Maxinkuckee, to help gain a better understanding of the different herpetofauna species present. In April we



Purdue Student Chapter members had the opportunity to travel to the national TWS conference in Manitoba.

will be attending the Midwest Student Conclave at Tree haven!

Our chapter members are very appreciative for all of these fun and exciting opportunities and for the funding we received from various groups and organizations. We are enthusiastic about this spring semester and excited for all of the fun events planned!

"Like" the Purdue Student Chapter on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/pages/Purdue-Student-Chapter-The-Wildlife-Society/402744159863568



Students participated in lots of hands-on events the past few months, including saw-whet owl banding (left), pheasant hunting (below), and squirrel hunting (right).





Indiana Chapter of The Wildlife Society

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Contributors to this issue include: Jason Wade, Sam Whiteleather, Rob Chapman, Sally Weeks, Bridget Stancombe (BSU Student Chapter President), and Sarah Meronk (Purdue Student Chapter President). **Thanks to everyone that contributed!**



Not a member but interested in joining? We have many ways to join!

- Visit our website at www.intws.org to find the membership form. Send the completed membership form to the address at the top of this page, or via email to IndianaTWS@gmail.com
- Send \$12 via check (along with your membership form) to the address at the top of this page, or pay via PayPal using the link on our website.
- You can also join at any of our conferences or workshops.

Yearly dues are used to support ICTWS conferences and workshops, support student chapters with travel to national conferences and conclaves, support youth wildlife education programs, and much more!

The Wildlife Society (TWS), founded in 1937, is an international non-profit scientific and educational association dedicated to excellence in wildlife stewardship through science and education. The Indiana Chapter of The Wildlife Society, was founded in 1968, under the parent society, as the professional organization of trained wildlife ecologists, biologists, and managers in the state

Our mission is to enhance the ability of wildlife professionals to conserve diversity, sustain productivity, and ensure responsible use of wildlife resources for the benefit of society. The Wildlife Society encourages professional growth through certification, peer-reviewed publications, conferences, and working groups.