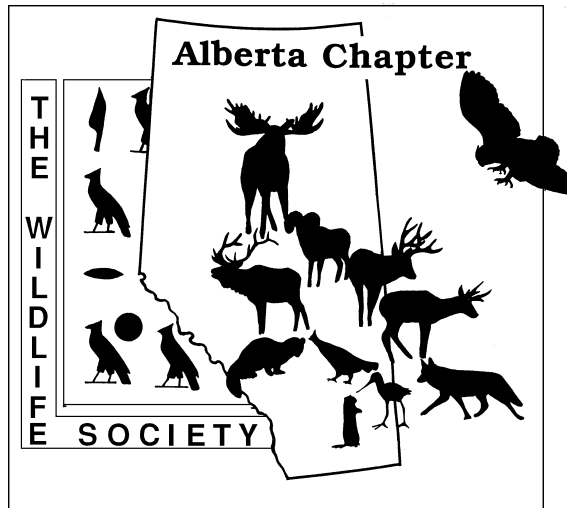


A History of the Alberta Chapter of The Wildlife Society

[25 years and going strong]



Alberta Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Box 4990, Edmonton AB, T6E 5G8

www.actws.ca

1988-1989

Founding Committee:

Morley Barrett, Mike Dorrance, Bill Glasgow, Bill Samuel

1989

The charter was proclaimed in April 1989 at the Northwest Section TWS meeting in Banff, Alberta.

The Founding Committee conducted the business of the Chapter through 1989, established Bylaws for the Chapter, provided a slate of nominees for the 1990 Executive, arranged for the development of our logo, and organized the first Annual Meeting of ACTWS.

Nominees for the Executive:

President:	Bill Glasgow, Arlen Todd
President-Elect:	Bill Hall, Bill Samuel
Secretary-Treasurer:	Rick Bonar, Jon Jorgenson, Michael Raine, Kevin Wingert
Director:	Michael Dorrance, Rick Kunelius, Luigi Morgantini, Don Thomas, Paul Woodard

November 1989: the first issue of the *Alberta Wildlifer* was published (M.J. Pybus, Editor). There were 61 registered members.

1990

First Annual Meeting ACTWS: January 19 & 20, Black Knight Inn, Red Deer

First Elected Executive:

President:	Bill Glasgow
President-Elect:	Bill Samuel
Secretary-Treasurer:	Jon Jorgenson
Directors:	Mike Dorrance, Rick Kunelius, Don Thomas

Committees:

Nominating & Elections:	Mike Dorrance
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Membership:	Don Pattie
Program:	Bill Samuel
Conservation Review :	Kirby Smith
Education and Information:	Margo Pybus
Newsletter:	Margo Pybus
Resolutions & Public Statements:	Blair Rippin
Awards:	Don Thomas
Setting Chapter Goals:	Arlen Todd
Professionalism:	Gilbert Proulx

1991

Second Annual Meeting ACTWS, March 23 & 24 – Convention Centre, Edmonton.
Meeting held in conjunction with the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference.

Establishment of the William Rowan Award for Distinguished Service
First Recipient: William Fuller, University of Alberta (retired), Edmonton.

Nominees for the Executive: **(elected)**

President:	Bill Samuel
President-Elect:	Rick Bonar, Gilbert Proulx, Blair Rippin
Secretary-Treasurer:	Jon Jorgenson, Michael Raine
Director:	Bill Hall, Martin Jalkotzy, Luigi Morgantini, Gerald McKeating, Tony Nette
Newsletter Editor:	Margo Pybus

Draft Discussion Papers regarding Bison Management and Game Farming were presented at the Business Meeting. The Executive was directed to refine the papers and provide for full membership in the New Year.

1992

Third Annual Meeting ACTWS, March 20 & 21, Glenmore Inn, Calgary.

Establishment of the ACTWS Student Scholarship Fund. Initially, this was to be a Northwest Section project. However, the Section withdrew and the Chapter carried on. The first fund raiser was a raffle for a male Widgeon carved by Blair Rippin. Slightly less than 1800 of 2000 tickets were sold, generating \$1785 for the fund.

Nominees for the Executive: **(elected)**

President: Blair Rippin
President-Elect: **Ken Crutchfield**, Gilbert Proulx
Secretary-Treasurer: Bob Acorn, **Bob McFetridge**
Director: **Ron Bjorge**, Roger Creasey, **Lorne Fitch**, Martin Jalkotzy, **Jack Nolan**

Newsletter Editor: Margo Pybus

William Rowan Distinguished Service Award presented to John Stelfox, Canadian Wildlife Service (retired), Vernon.

Game Farm Position Paper circulated to and ratified by membership.

Bison Management Position Paper proved contentious and there was no consensus among members. Membership voted to drop this issue.

1993

Fourth Annual Meeting ACTWS, March 19 & 20, Nisku Inn, Edmonton.

William Rowan Distinguished Service Award presented to Bill Wishart, Alberta Fish and Wildlife (retired), Edmonton.

Establishment of Student Presentation Award (\$100) to recognize the best student presentation at the ACTWS Annual Meeting. Recipient: Doug Collister, University of Calgary.

First ACTWS Auction. Proceeds (\$1024.75) deposited in Student Scholarship Fund.

Nominees for the Executive: **(elected)**

President: Ken Crutchfield
President-Elect: Ron Bjorge, **Brad Stelfox**
Sec-Treas.: **Mike Dorrance** (acclamation)
Director: **Lorne Fitch, Beth MacCallum, Dave Poll**
Newsletter Editor: Margo Pybus

As of June 1993, there were 93 regular members in good standing and 17 student members.

ACTWS was represented by Blair Rippin on a Citizen's Advisory Committee dealing with

the issue of feral horses at Canadian Forces Base Suffield.

ACTWS sent congratulations to Ernie Kuyt for his appointment to the Order of Canada, recognizing his many years of dedication to conservation and management of Whooping Cranes.

ACTWS membership reported to be 121 members.

1994

Fifth Annual Meeting ACTWS, March 25 & 26, University of Calgary., Calgary. Co-sponsored by the Department of Environmental Design, University of Calgary

Second Annual ACTWS Auction generated \$1079 for the Student Scholarship Fund.

Student Presentation Award (\$100) to recognize the best student presentation at the Annual Meeting. Recipient: Lisa Crampton, U. of Calgary.

William Rowan Distinguished Service Award presented to Ed Telfer, Canadian Wildlife Service (retired), Edmonton.

First ACTWS Dedicated Service Award presented to Margo Pybus, Alberta Fish and Wildlife, Edmonton.

First ACTWS Student Scholarship (\$500) was offered to students entering 4th year of a university program in the fields of Environmental Design, Biological Sciences, Forest Sciences, Animal Sciences, Zoology, or a related field.

Nominees for the Executive: **(elected)**

President:	Brad Stelfox
President-Elect:	Beth MacCallum, Margo Pybus
Sec.-Treas.:	Mike Dorrance (acclamation)
Director:	Bob Acorn, Ken Crutchfield, Janet Edmonds, Dave Poll , Arlen Todd
Newsletter Editor:	Jan Edmonds & Dave Hobson

As of September 1994, there were 158 registered members of ACTWS.

1995

Sixth Annual Meeting, ACTWS, March 24 & 25, Environmental Training Centre, Hinton. Pre-conference field trips were offered.

Annual ACTWS Auction netted \$1893 for the Student Scholarship Fund. First ACTWS Student Scholarship (\$500) was awarded to Phil McLoughlin, 3rd Yr, Honours Zoology, U. of A.

William Rowan Award for Distinguished Service presented to Morley Barrett, Alberta Fish and Wildlife, Edmonton.

ACTWS Dedicated Service Award presented to Mike Dorrance, Alberta Agriculture, Food, and Rural Development, Edmonton.

Student Presentation Awards (\$200 each) to recognize the best student oral and poster presentations at the Annual Meeting. Recipients: Ainsley Sykes (oral), Ken Kranrod (poster).

A committee was established to develop protocols for a scholarship for students enrolled in a technical field of the profession.

A promotional brochure was developed for ACTWS and the Chapter display was upgraded.

Committee guidelines and protocols were developed.

Nominees for the Executive: **(elected)**

President:	Margo Pybus
President-Elect:	Ron Bjorge (acclamation)
Sec.-Treas.:	Jack Nolan (acclamation)
Director:	Ernie Ewaschuk , Michael Raine, John Kansas, Kirby Smith, Richard Quinlan
Newsletter Editor:	Jan Edmonds & Dave Hobson

1996

ACTWS hosted the Northwest Section TWS Conference, in conjunction with the Seventh Annual Meeting, ACTWS, March 29-31, Banff Park Lodge, Banff; co-hosted by Alberta Natural Resources Service (Fish and Wildlife). A Student/Mentor program was incorporated into the conference.

First offering of a scholarship for students in a wildlife technical program, The Bob Goddard Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Melissa Richholt, currently enrolled in

Biological Sciences Technology, Red Deer College. Note: tribute to Bob Goddard contained in AW 7(2) 1996

The ACTWS University Student Scholarship was awarded to Ben Olsen, University of Alberta.

The William Rowan Award for Distinguished Service was awarded to David Boag, University of Alberta (retired), Edmonton.

ACTWS Dedicated Service Award was presented to Bill Glasgow, Alberta Fish and Wildlife, Calgary.

Extended membership drive within a wide range of organizations/industries/ businesses throughout Alberta, B.C., Yukon, and Northwest Territories. As of November 6, 1996, ACTWS current membership is 240, including 79 students. Approximately 70% of the members are male and 33% list government as their primary affiliation. University, college, and consultants were listed in similar proportions (□1(15%).

ACTWS Executive

President:	Ron Bjorge
President-Elect:	Ian Ross
Sec.-Treas.:	Jack Nolan
Director:	Ernie Ewaschuk, Larry Roy.
2nd term:	Richard Quinlan, Kirby Smith
Newsletter Editor:	Dee Ryerson

1997

Eighth Annual Meeting, ACTWS, March 21 & 22, Nisku, Alberta.

The Bob Goddard Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Susan Skinner, Lethbridge Community College.

The ACTWS University Student Scholarship was awarded to Andy Bezener, Univeristy of Alberta.

The William Rowan Award for Distinguished Service was awarded to Ernie Kuyt, Canadian Wildlife Service (retired), Edmonton.

ACTWS Dedicated Service Award was presented to Brad Stelfox, Alberta Environmental Centre, Vegreville.

Nominees for the Executive: **(elected)**

President: Ian Ross
President-Elect: **Beth MacCallum**, Robert McFetridge
Sec.-Treas.: **Jon Jorgenson** (acclamation)
Director: **Dave Hobson**, Gord Stenhouse, **Arlen Todd**
2nd term: **Ernie Ewaschuk**, **Larry Roy**
Newsletter Editor: Laurie Hunt & Dan Farr

1998

Ninth Annual Meeting, ACTWS, March 13 & 14, Best Western Inn, Calgary.

Best Student Oral Presentation winner was Rebecca Titler, University of Alberta.

Best Student Poster Presentation was awarded to Huey Chong and Karla Magnusson, both from the University of Alberta.

The Bob Goddard Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Julia Landry, Lethbridge Community College.

The ACTWS University Student Scholarship was awarded to Lindsay Tomy, University of Alberta.

The William Rowan Award for Distinguished Service was awarded to Bill Samuel, University of Alberta, Edmonton.

ACTWS Dedicated Service Award was presented to Blair Rippin, Alberta Fish and Wildlife, St. Paul.

ACTWS was involved in establishing a working committee on Endangered Species in Alberta, review of a development strategy for the Bow Valley, review of proposed federal endangered species legislation and proposed provincial policy towards public lands .

Nominees for the Executive: (elected)

President: Beth MacCallum
President-Elect: **Mike Dorrance**, Kirby Smith
Sec.-Treas.: **Jon Jorgenson** (acclamation)
Director: **Steve Brechtel**, **Doug Collister**, Lorne Fitch, Ed Telfer.

2nd term:

Dave Hobson, Arlen Todd

1999

Tenth Annual Meeting, ACTWS, March 12 & 13, Nisku Inn, Nisku.

The meeting was a resounding success, as were all previous meetings. Fundraising for student scholarships continued and the annual auction netted \$4066! Attendance was in the range of 250 people, including many students from universities and colleges across the province. There is continued strong representation from government, industry, consulting, and academic realms of the profession. Nine of the ten previous presidents were in attendance. A history of the first ten years of ACTWS was prepared. There is obvious growth and continued energy in the Chapter and the outlook is good for the next ten years.

Best Student Oral Presentation was awarded to Simon Dyer and Jeff Hoyt, both from the University of Alberta.

Best Student Poster Presentation was awarded to S. Kurulok, University of Alberta.

The Bob Goddard Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Angela Scheiderman, NAIT.

The ACTWS University Student Scholarship was awarded to Amy Leach, University of Alberta.

The William Rowan Award for Distinguished Service was awarded to Ian Stirling, Canadian Wildlife Service.

ACTWS Dedicated Service Award was presented to Jon Jorgenson, Alberta Fish and Wildlife, Canmore.

Nominees for the Executive: **(elected)**

President:	Mike Dorrance
President-Elect:	Elston Dzus , Gordon Stenhouse
Sec.-Treas.:	Garry Hornbeck, Chris Shank
Director:	Cormack Gates , George Hamilton , Dave McKinnon,
2nd term:	Steve Brechtel , Doug Collister

2000

Eleventh Annual Meeting, ACTWS, March 9-11, Lethbridge Lodge, Lethbridge

Due to past successes, increased participation and interest, and □by demand□the Annual Meeting was extended to two full days. This meeting was coordinated with the Lethbridge Community College Student Chapter of TWS. Establishment of a student chapter TWS at the University of Alberta also was recognized. Fundraising for student scholarships broke new ground by including a fun casino in conjunction with the traditional auction. Auction proceeds were \$4107. The first-ever photo contest was added to the fun. Registered attendance was 201, including 68 students.

Best Student Oral Presentation was awarded to Stephanie Kurulok and Erin MacFarlane, both from the University of Alberta.

Best Student Poster Presentation was awarded to Jon Hornung, University of Alberta.

The Bob Goddard Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Chris Garrett, LCC.

The 1999 ACTWS Undergrad Student Scholarship was awarded to Stephanie Kurulok, University of Alberta.

The 2000 ACTWS Undergrad Student Scholarship was awarded to Nadine Reynolds, University of Calgary.

[note: two scholarships were given within this calendar year. One scholarship will now be given in September of each year]

The William Rowan Award for Distinguished Service was awarded to Valerius Geist, U. of Calgary (retired).

ACTWS Dedicated Service Award was presented to Ron Bjorge, Alberta NRS - Fish and Wildlife, Red Deer.

ACTWS Charter Member Bill Wishart was recognized for receiving the Provincial Bighorn Award.

The ACTWS website was upgraded and contains all ACTWS newsletters, ACTWS brochure, A History of ACTWS (the first ten years), job notices, links to a wide range of wildlife-related sites including TWS, and ACTWS membership application.

Nominees for the Executive: **(elected)**

President:	Elston Dzus
President-Elect:	Arlen Todd , Dee Ryerson
Sec.-Treas.:	Dave McKinnon
Director:	Evelyn Merrill, Dave Prescott
2nd term:	Cormack Gates, George Hamilton

2001

Twelfth Annual Meeting, ACTWS was held in conjunction with the Northwest Section Meeting, March 2-4, Banff Park Lodge, Banff. The conference was co-hosted by Alberta Environment, Natural Resources Service. Over 300 registered participants, many of whom were students from Alberta and Montana, took part in the two and a half day event. Activities kicked off with a pre-conference tour of the Bow Valley that set the stage for the wide range of plenary and contributed papers across the gamut of wildlife research and applied management programs.

Best Student Oral Presentations were awarded to Kari Stuart-Smith, Oregon State University (1st) and L.M. Ciarniello, University of Alberta (2nd).

Best Student Poster Presentations were awarded to Gerry Kuzyk (1st) and Cheryl Chetkiewicz and Christine Rice (each 2nd), all from the University of Alberta.

The Bob Goddard Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Brad Taylor, LCC. (\$1000)

The 2001 ACTWS Undergrad Student Scholarship was awarded to Kathy St. Laurent, University of Alberta. (\$1000)

The first ACTWS Post-graduate Scholarship was awarded to Curtis Stambaugh, University of Alberta. (\$1000)

The William Rowan Award for Distinguished Service was awarded to Don Thomas, Canadian Wildlife Service (retired).

ACTWS Dedicated Service Award was presented to Kirby Smith, Alberta NRS - Fish and Wildlife, Edson.

The ACTWS Executive Guide was completed. The document provides an overview of the structure and function of ACTWS, summary of previous Executive decisions, current ACTWS bylaws, and documented history of the chapter. Copies were made available to incoming Executive members as well as to general members (on request). It is intended that the document be updated each year. The current version is posted on the ACTWS website.

Nominees for the Executive: **(elected)**

President:

Arlen Todd

President-Elect:

Jack Nolan, Dee Ryerson

Sec.-Treas.: **Dave McKinnon**, Michael Raine
Director: Don Albright, Christine Found, **Anne Hubbs, Blair Rippin**
2nd term: Evelyn Merrill, Dave Prescott

2002

Thirteenth Annual Meeting, ACTWS was held March 7-9, in downtown Edmonton. The meeting included approximately 190 registered participants, 30+ presentations, and 15 posters covering a wide range of backgrounds and topics. The meeting kicked off with a “Wildlife Improv Evening” hosted by the U of A Student Chapter, which generated considerable fun for all and funds for the student chapter. The auction generated \$3623 for student scholarships.

ACTWS received notification that the Chapter bid to host the 2004 TWS meeting was accepted. The meeting will be held September 18-22, 2004 in Calgary. ACTWS is responsible for finding a site acceptable to TWS and looking after the myriad of local arrangements for this large international meeting that provides a showcase for the pinnacle of the wildlife professions.

Best Student Oral Presentations were awarded to Christine Rice, UofA (1st) and Nicola Koper, University of Alberta (2nd).

Best Student Poster Presentations were awarded to Elsabe Kloppers (1st) and Judy Muir (2nd), each from the University of Alberta.

The Bob Goddard Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Jacqueline Kostal, Lakeland College. (\$1000)

The 2001 ACTWS Undergrad Student Scholarship was awarded to Stephen Taerum, University of Alberta. (\$1000)

The ACTWS Post-graduate Scholarship was awarded to Paul Frame, University of Alberta. (\$1000)

The William Rowan Award for Distinguished Service was awarded to Ludwig Carbyn, Canadian Wildlife Service (retired).

ACTWS Dedicated Service Award was presented to Jack Nolan, Alberta Research Council, Vegreville.

Nominees for the Executive: **(elected)**

President: Jack Nolan
President-Elect: **Mark Boyce** (acclamation)
Sec.-Treas.: **Chris Shank** (acclamation)
Director: **Ron Bennett**, Cal Clark, Paul Jones, **Mike Norton**
2nd term: Anne Hubbs, Blair Rippin

2003

Fourteenth Annual Meeting, ACTWS was held February 27 to March 1 in Red Deer, location of the first ACTWS meeting so long ago. There were approximately 190 registered participants, 32 presentations (including 4 keynote addresses), and 18 posters covering a wide range of backgrounds and topics. The meeting kicked off the ever-popular evening mixer on Thursday Feb 27. The Friday evening auction was accented with the tunes of the Magnificent Boreal Sting Band, which no doubt helped rouse folks into a bidding frenzy to generate over \$5800 for student scholarships.

The Chapter conducted yet another successful year of business and moves forward with anticipation of hosting the international TWS meeting September 18-24, 2004. Preparations are well underway, although it will be necessary to get down to brass tacks and specific details during the coming spring and summer. Noteworthy business this past year included recognition of two ACTWS members who received Northwest Section Awards for 2003: Lorne Fitch (Fish and Wildlife Division, Lethbridge) received the Einarson Award for Wildlife Administrator for his tireless efforts in teaching us all how to be better stewards of aquatic habitats; and Dr Morley Barrett (currently Ducks Unlimited Canada) received the Einarson Award for the cumulative wisdom shared and contributions made during his illustrious career.

Best Student Oral Presentations: Jackie Frair, UofA (1st) and Jesse Dunford, UofA (2nd).

Best Student Poster Presentations: Mark Hebblewhite (1st) and Cathy Shier (2nd), each from UofA.

Bob Goddard Memorial Scholarship: Robert Wesley, Lethbridge Community College. (\$1000)

ACTWS Undergrad Student Scholarship: Corey Scobie, University of Alberta. (\$1000)

ACTWS Post-graduate Scholarship: Kimberly Pearson, University of Lethbridge. (\$1000)

William Rowan Award for Distinguished Service: Gordon Kerr, Canadian Wildlife Service (retired).

ACTWS Dedicated Service Award: Arlen Todd, Alberta Fish and Wildlife, Calgary.

Nominees for the Executive: **(elected)**

President:	Mark Boyce
President-Elect:	Kirby Smith (acclamation)
Sec.-Treas.:	Chris Shank (acclamation)
Director:	Dale Eslinger, Christine Found , Karen Stroebel, Jonathon Thompson
2nd term:	Ron Bennett, Mike Norton

2004

For the first time since its inception, the Alberta Chapter did not hold an annual chapter meeting. However, there was good reason for this: from September 18-22, the Chapter hosted the 11th Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society in Calgary – the first time this meeting has ever been held outside of the USA. This massive undertaking, headed up by TWS staff and Local Co-Chairs Terry Kowalchuk and Arlen Todd, required years of planning and concerted effort by many volunteers. Staff from TWS looked after many of the conference details, but the Chapter was responsible for local arrangements, field trips, audiovisual arrangements, media relations, local information, meals, entertainment, photo contest, and supplemental staff for a long list of duties. One and all concerned did a masterful job and deserve resounding accolades for their efforts.

The conference attracted some 1300+ delegates to downtown Calgary and provided a somewhat bewildering array of 49 sessions of Symposia (invited speakers) or Contributed Papers, in addition to three separate poster sessions of 60 at a time. There was information here for anyone with an interest or stake in the full range of wildlife topics and issues. Various ancillary meetings and events were held, but one of the most popular was an inaugural performance by the ACTWS Basement Boogie Band consisting of Kirby Smith, Ken Ambrock, Al Boechler, Kim Lisgo, Shawn Leroux, Scott Harrison, Lee Foote, and Dave Snow. They had the place rockin' and the dance floor full.

The Chapter held its annual business meeting on September 21. Despite the heavy commitments to the TWS conference, a busy slate of business was conducted through the year. The Conservation Committee was active with issues associated with public access management and a questionable land deal made by the provincial government involving potato farms [spudgate]. In recognition of his significant contributions to the Chapter, the Scholarship Committee awarded the first Ian Ross Memorial Scholarship (formerly the ACTWS Undergraduate Scholarship). Members of Ian's family watched as the first recipient accepted her reward. The Executive also accepted a recommendation from the scholarship committee that each of the three scholarships be raised from \$1000 to \$1500.

In deference to the larger student competition, the ACTWS Best Student Oral and Best Student Poster Presentations were not awarded in 2004.

Bob Goddard Memorial Scholarship: Myra Chubak, Lakeland College (\$1500)

The first Ian Ross Memorial Scholarship: Erin Cameron, University of Alberta (\$1500)

ACTWS Post-graduate Scholarship: Lalenia Neufeld, University of Alberta. (\$1500)

William Rowan Award for Distinguished Service: Detlef Onderka, Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (retired).

ACTWS Dedicated Service Award: Ian Ross (posthumous). Accepted by Andrew Ross, Ian's brother, on behalf of the Ross family.

Executive:

President:	Kirby Smith
President-Elect:	Ernie Ewaschuk (acclamation)
Sec.-Treas.:	Jan Ficht (acclamation)
Director:	Brett Calverley, Lisa Wilkinson
2nd term:	Dale Eslinger, Christine Found,

2005

Sixteenth Annual Meeting, ACTWS was held March 10-12 in Nisku.

Best Student Oral Presentations: Landon Shepherd (1st) and Maria Didkowsky (2nd).

Best Student Poster Presentations: Cathy Shier, University of Alberta (1st), and S. Mullen (2nd)

Bob Goddard Memorial Scholarship: Ian Gazely. (\$1500)

Ian Ross Memorial Scholarship: Sarah Trefry (\$1500)

ACTWS Post-graduate Scholarship: Jackie Frair, University of Alberta. (\$1500)

William Rowan Award for Distinguished Service: Steven Herrero, University of Calgary (retired)

ACTWS Dedicated Service Award: Beth MacCallum, Bighorn Environmental

Executive:

President:	Ernie Ewaschuk
President-Elect:	Terry Kowlachuk
Sec.-Treas.:	Jan Ficht
Director:	Jim Allen, Dave Scobie
2nd term:	Brett Calverley, Lisa Wilkinson

2006

Seventeenth Annual Meeting, ACTWS was held March 9-11 in Lethbridge.

Best Student Oral Presentations: (1st) and (2nd). [[if anyone can fill in the recipients, please send email to ACTWS webmaster]]

Best Student Poster Presentations: (1st) and (2nd) [[if anyone can fill in the recipients, please send email to ACTWS webmaster]]

Bob Goddard Memorial Scholarship: S. Morrison. (\$1500)

Ian Ross Memorial Scholarship: J. Arsenau (\$1500)

ACTWS Post-graduate Scholarship: Nate Webb, University of Alberta. (\$1500)

William Rowan Distinguished Service Award: Eldon Bruns, Alberta Fish and Wildlife, Rocky Mtn House.

ACTWS Dedicated Service Award: Ken Crutchfield, Alberta Fish and Wildlife, Edmonton.

Executive:

President:	Terry Kowalchuk
President-Elect:	Anne Hubbs
Sec.-Treas.:	Shane Roersma
Director:	Simon Dyer, Robin Gutsell
2nd term:	Jim Allen, Dave Scobie

2007

Eighteenth Annual Meeting, ACTWS was held March 18-21 in Canmore.

Best Student Oral Presentations: Matthew Pyper, University of Alberta.

Best Student Poster Presentations: Nate Webb, University of Alberta..

Bob Goddard Memorial Scholarship: Jason Calvert, Lakeland College. (\$1500)

Ian Ross Memorial Scholarship: not awarded

ACTWS Post-graduate Scholarship: Justin Pitt, University of Alberta. (\$1500)

William Rowan Award for Distinguished Service: Margo Pybus, Alberta Fish and Wildlife, Edmonton.

ACTWS Dedicated Service Award: Dave Hobson, Alberta Fish and Wildlife, Edson.

Executive:

President:	Anne Hubbs
President-Elect:	Brad Taylor
Sec.-Treas.:	Shane Roersma
Director:	Tammy McMillan, Dave Scobie (3rd term)
2nd term:	Simon Dyer, Robin Gutsell

2008

Nineteenth Annual Meeting, ACTWS was held February 28 – March 2 in Red Deer. The conference theme was “Hunting” Archaic or Conservation Necessity?” The ACTWS website took on a brand new look and was incorporated into the parent TWS template.

Best Student Oral Presentations: Matthew Pyper, UofA.

Best Student Poster Presentations: Matthew Pyper, UofA.

Bob Goddard Memorial Scholarship: Vince Herron. (\$1500)

Ian Ross Memorial Scholarship: Amy Wilker (\$1500)

ACTWS Post-graduate Scholarship: Kyle Knoff (\$1500)

William Rowan Award for Distinguished Service: Mark Boyce, University of Alberta.

ACTWS Dedicated Service Award: Jan Ficht, Alberta Fish and Wildlife, Edson

Executive:

President:	Brad Taylor
President-Elect:	Evie Merrill
Sec.-Treas.:	Karl Zimmer
Director:	Joe Litke, Jason Young (left for BC) Robin Gutsell (re-elected)
2nd term:	Tammy McMillan

2009

The twentieth Annual Meeting, ACTWS was held March 6-8, 2009 in downtown Edmonton at the Delta Edmonton Centre Suite Hotel - the first chapter meeting to take place within a shopping mall (Edmonton Centre)! However, the interesting and well-balanced program easily kept the audience engaged and the mall was not a distraction.

The Chapter was thoroughly energized and participants were offered a full slate of papers and posters. One of the highlights was the panel discussion exploring the Land Use Framework and the changing roles of fisheries and wildlife professionals. The panel members were well prepared, spoke eloquently about the topic, and fielded questions well. It was one of the best panel discussions we have ever had. Dr Ed Bangs, US Fish and Wildlife Service, gave an interesting and entertaining update on the ongoing efforts to re-establish wolves in the Yellowstone region. Indeed, the day before the presentation, the US government downlisted the status of gray wolf and is evidence of the success of the original transfer (which included wolves from Alberta). The banquet evening was topped off with lively music from The Old Hippies and a successful auction. The UofA Student Chapter also was fully engaged in the meeting, including a mentor session (complete with a wildlife quiz) and movie screening. Activities were rounded out with a photo contest. All this in addition to a wide range of excellent presentations.

Best Student Oral Presentation: Sarah Lord, University of Alberta.

Best Student Poster Presentation: Bogdan Cristescu, University of Alberta

Bob Goddard Memorial Scholarship: Adam Moltzahn, Lethbridge Community College (\$1500)

Ian Ross Memorial Scholarship: Randi Newton, University of Alberta (\$1500)

ACTWS Post-graduate Scholarship: Bogdan Cristescu, U ofA (\$1500)

William Rowan Award for Distinguished Service:

For the first time in Chapter history, the Awards committee saw fit to bestow two Rowan Awards in 2008:

Steven (Steve) Brechtel, Alberta Fish and Wildlife, Edmonton
AND
Robert (Bob) Hudson, University of Alberta.

ACTWS Dedicated Service Award: Anne Hubbs, Alberta Fish and Wildlife, Rocky Mountain House.

Executive:

President:	Evie Merrill
President-Elect:	Dave Scobie
Sec.-Treas.:	Karl Zimmer
Director:	Scott Neilsen, Tammy McMillan (re-elected)
2nd term:	Joe Litke, Robin Gutsell
Student Director:	Corey Scobie

2010

The twenty-first Annual Meeting, ACTWS was held March 12-13 in Red Deer. Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Chapter was highlighted throughout the conference. All former ACTWS Presidents and William Rowan Distinguished Service Award recipients were invited to attend and many were able to make it. Those who could not generally sent their regrets as well as their congratulations to the Chapter for an auspicious first 20 years. It was an amazing opportunity to recognize the breadth and depth of wildlife professionals who plied their trade in Alberta over the last 50 years. Many are still making valuable contributions. Two history posters provided 1) photos and capsule summaries of William Rowan and our 20 Rowan Award recipients, and 2) lists of previous chapter presidents, dedicated service recipients, newsletter editors, web masters, all student scholarship winners, and previous conference topics. The 2010 conference Plenary Session focused on disease threats to wildlife and their habitats in Alberta - topics included chronic wasting disease, white-nose syndrome, and pine beetles. There was a lively Student/ Mentor session in a 'speed-dating' framework that certainly got everyone talking and thinking. The annual auction netted over \$ 4700 for the student scholarships. The meeting was well attended and as always provided a comfortable setting to exchange ideas, learn what is happening in Alberta, and chat with wildlifers from across the province and from all stages of a wildlife professional career.

Best Student Oral Presentations (\$100): Andrea Morehouse, University of Alberta.
Honourable Mention: Tom Habib, University of Alberta

Best Student Poster Presentation (\$100): Bogdan Cristescu, University of Alberta

Bob Goddard Memorial Scholarship (\$1500): Kalista Pruden, Lethbridge Community College

Ian Ross Memorial Scholarship (\$1500): Kayla Balderson, University of Alberta

ACTWS Post-graduate Scholarship (\$1500): Rob Found, University of Alberta

William Rowan Award for Distinguished Service: Stan Boutin, University of Alberta

ACTWS Dedicated Service Award: Hugh Wollis, Alberta Fish and Wildlife, Spruce Grove

Executive:

President:	Dave Scobie
President-Elect:	Jim Allen
Sec.-Treas.:	Karl Zimmer
Director:	Mark Edwards, Richard Quinlan
2nd term:	Scott Neilsen, Tammy McMillan
Student Director:	Corey Scobie

2011

The twenty-second Annual Meeting, ACTWS was held March 11-13 in Camrose. The meeting saw a nice mix of old and new faces – always a good sign of success in the Chapter. There was an abundance of great posters and papers, good food and entertainment, and excellent opportunities to chat with colleagues and potential colleagues. New this year, a snowtracking workshop was booked up and by all accounts was very successful.

Of note beyond the Chapter meeting, a strong effort from Chapter members in Lethbridge saw the initiation of a series of public information sessions entitled *Wildlife in the Wind*. The series is hosted by the Chapter and looks to be quite popular.

Of note also, the UofA Chapter of TWS was the first Canadian university to attend the TWS Western Student Conclave. In addition the UofA Chapter also attended the first-ever TWS Conclave for Canadian Student Chapters. The Alberta Chapter provided financial assistance for both efforts.

Best Student Oral Presentations (\$100): W Peters, University of Montana; M. Murray, University of Alberta

Best Student Poster Presentation (\$100): Simon Slater, University of Alberta

Bob Goddard Memorial Scholarship (\$1500): TJ Rempel, Lakeland Community College

Ian Ross Memorial Scholarship (\$1500): Corey Scobie, University of Alberta

ACTWS Post-graduate Scholarship (\$1500): Tobias Tan, University of Alberta

William Rowan Award for Distinguished Service: Brad Steflox, ALCES Group

ACTWS Dedicated Service Award: Evie Merrill, University of Alberta.

Executive 2011/12:

President:	Jim Allen
President-Elect:	Dave Hobson
Sec.-Treas.:	Karl Zimmer
Director:	John Stadt, Shevenell Webb
2nd term:	Mark Edwards, Richard Quinlan
Student Director:	Steve Olson

2012

The twenty-third Annual Meeting, ACTWS was held March 16-18 in Medicine Hat. Attendance was ~125 registered participants with the usual good mix of students and those who continue to learn beyond the bounds of formal education. Students from University of Regina made the trip and were welcomed into the fold. A field trip to Cypress Hills to learn about an ongoing cougar research project was one of many highlights of the conference, capped off with a beautiful sunset. Fun and fury at the auction netted ~\$4100. Next year's conference will be held in conjunction with the Canadian Section, TWS. The Chapter entered the world of social media by initiating a Facebook site.

Best Student Oral Presentation (\$100): Rob Found, University of Alberta

Best Student Poster Presentation (\$100): Andrea Morehouse, University of Alberta

Bob Goddard Memorial Scholarship (\$1500): Laurent Nikolaiczuk, Lethbridge Community College

Ian Ross Memorial Scholarship (\$1500): Carly Lynch, University of Alberta

William (Bill) Wishart Post-graduate Scholarship (\$1500): Melissa Thomson, University of Lethbridge

William Rowan Award for Distinguished Service: Lorne Fitch, Student of Life

ACTWS Dedicated Service Award: Lisa Wilkinson, Alberta Fish and Wildlife, Edson

Executive 2012/13:

President:	Dave Hobson
President-Elect:	Dee Patriquin
Sec.-Treas.:	Curtis Stambaugh
Director:	Jason Fisher, Melissa Thomson
2nd term:	John Stadt, Shevenell Webb
Student Director:	Angela Rideout

2013

The twenty-fourth Annual Meeting, ACTWS was held March 8-10 in Canmore. It was a joint meeting with the Canadian Section of TWS and included the 2013 Canadian Student Conclave and Quiz Bowl. The conclave included student teams from British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and various locations in Alberta. The student Green Team from Lakeland College took the win. This team was pitted against 4 volunteer professional wildlifers who barely held their own against the strong LCC students. Conference attendance was 170 registered participants with a strong component of students and wildlife professionals from across the country.

Special guests included banquet speaker Winifred Kessler, current President TWS and Vice President Rick Baydack – both are Canadians! Wini's topic hit close to home as she provided her insights into Canadians in TWS: Challenges and Opportunities.

Conference went fully green with electricity provided by BullfrogPower and all conference materials printed on recycled paper.

The conference provided the opportunity to recognize the career contributions of Bill Samuel. Among many other things Bill was a driving member of the Alberta Chapter Founding Committee in 1988/89. He was the Canadian Section TWS Distinguished Service Award recipient for 2012.

Fun and fury at the auction netted ~\$5808 (split between ACTWS & CSTWS). The chapter outreach committee came up with a new initiative for added fun and proceeds by selling Species At Risk beer and T-shirts. They were a big hit and generated \$346

from the beer raffle and over \$1000 from T-shirts sales with images of caribou or bull trout.

Blair Rippin has been a mainstay of the chapter since its inception. Over the years he served in all Executive positions and led the Conservation Committee through most of its existence. He officially resigned the position in 2013 and passed the torch to Ken Crutchfield. In light of his tremendous service to the Chapter, Blair was presented with the ACTWS Special Recognition Award. This is a discretionary TWS award that each chapter can use as deemed appropriate. There was no doubt that Blair met the criteria.

A whopping 50% of the platform presentations were presented by students. ACTWS. Student presentation awards were split for the first time into graduate and undergrad categories.

Best Student Oral Presentation (\$100): [no undergrad presenters so two graduate awards presented] Jared Merkel, Université Laval; Luis Cruz-Martinez, University of Calgary

Best Student Poster Presentation (\$100): Elizabeth Beck, University of Alberta

Bob Goddard Memorial Scholarship (\$1500): Erin Lowe, Northern Alberta Institute of Technology

Ian Ross Memorial Scholarship (\$1500): Angela Rideout, University of Alberta

William (Bill) Wishart Post-graduate Scholarship (\$1500): Andrea Moorhouse, University of Alberta

ACTWS Publication Awards:

Popular Publication: Glynnis Hood, *The Beaver Manifesto*

Technical Publication: Michael Proctor, *Population fragmentation and inter-ecosystem movement of grizzly bears in western Canada and the northern United States*

William Rowan Award for Distinguished Service: Evelyn Merrill, University of Alberta

ACTWS Dedicated Service Award: Bill Samuel, University of Alberta (retired)

TWS Dedicated Service Award (2012): Bill Samuel, University of Alberta (retired)

Executive 2013/14:

President:	Dee Patriquin
President-Elect:	Kashif Sheikh
Sec.-Treas.:	Curtis Stambaugh

Director: Larry Roy, Troy Muhly
2nd term: Jason Fisher, Melissa Thomson
Student Director: Angela Rideout

2014

The twenty-fifth Annual Meeting, ACTWS was held March 7-9 in Jasper. The meeting kicked off this year with a new twist – a Student Conclave immediately preceding the annual conference. Student run and student organized, the conclave was well-attended, with informative and interactive presentations covering a wide range of topics. Field trips to look for caribou and Athabasca rainbow trout, or at least see the habitats of these threatened species, were provided. Students apparently had a great time and learned many new aspects of wildlife management.

Best Student Oral Presentation (\$100): Jodi Berg, University of Alberta

Best Student Poster Presentation (\$100): ????

Bob Goddard Memorial Scholarship (\$1500): Marla Anderson, Lakeland College

Ian Ross Memorial Scholarship (\$1500): Kelsey Cartwright, University of Lethbridge

William (Bill) Wishart Post-graduate Scholarship (\$1500): Clayton Lamb, University of Alberta

William Rowan Award for Distinguished Service: David Schindler, University of Alberta

ACTWS Dedicated Service Award: Jim Allen, Alberta Fish and Wildlife, and Shevenell Webb, Alberta Conservation Association

ACTWS Publication Awards:

Popular Publication – Alberta Conservation Association for ongoing publications

Technical Publication – Hervieux et al., *Widespread declines in woodland caribou (Rangifer tarandus caribou) continue in Alberta.*

Outreach Award – new for 2014 this award recognizes outstanding efforts in presenting science-based wildlife management to a general audience. The first recipient is Lorne Fitch, Alberta Fish and Wildlife (retired) for his commitment to fisheries and wildlife resources through effective and tireless communication to the public.

Executive 2013/14:

President:	Dee Patriquin
President-Elect:	Kashif Sheikh
Sec.-Treas.:	Curtis Stambaugh
Director:	Tyler Muhly, Larry Roy
2nd term:	Jason Fisher, Melissa Thomson
Student Director:	Angela Rideout

2015

25th Anniversary of the Alberta Chapter TWS !!!!!!!

The Chapter gathered in downtown Edmonton March 20-22 2015 to celebrate 25 successful years of our existence. Past Presidents as well as previous William Rowan Distinguished Service, chapter Dedicated Service, and student scholarship recipients were invited to join the clan gathering. Over 225 participants, including a large contingent of students, attended the formal conference. To commemorate the event a two forms of a 25th Anniversary belt buckle were struck: pewter buckles as mementos given to all Presidents, and Distinguished and Dedicated Service recipients; brass buckles offered for sale to ACTWS members.

Celebrations kicked off on Friday March 20 with courtesy access to the Royal Alberta Museum, a pre-conference communications workshop, and a smashing Student Conclave full of opportunities to mix and mingle, and listen, laugh, and learn. The Plenary Session focused on *Conservation Advocacy: Turning Research into Real Change* set the stage for a program jam-packed with information and updates of the state of wildlife conservation and research in Alberta. A new element of conference planning – participants could *Live Tweet* their thoughts and apparently the conference was a hot topic. It was readily apparent that the chapter is full of life and well set to forge ahead for another quarter century.

The Chapter has long considered students a key component of the chapter and the future of a broad range of wildlife professions. In recognition of our 25 years of achievements, the 2014-15 Executive generously offered a one-time 25th Anniversary Student Scholarship (\$1500, Anne Loosen, UofA), a significant boost to the Best Student Oral presentation (\$1500 [includes support to attend 2015 TWS conference in Winnipeg], Anjolene Hunt, UofA), and an expanded number of student recipients recognized for their oral and poster presentations at the 2015 conference.

Best Student Oral Presentation (\$1500): Anjolene Hunt, University of Alberta
 Also: Janet Ng UofA (\$200), Melanie Dickie UofA (\$100)

Best Graduate Student Poster Presentation (\$250): Anne Loosen, University of Alberta
Also: Eric Neilsen UofA (\$150), Scott Wilson UofA (\$100)

Best Undergraduate Student Poster (\$250): Kaitlynn Visser, Kings University
Also: Hanna Britton-Foster UVictoria (\$150), Alyssa Bohart UofA (\$100)

Bob Goddard Memorial Scholarship (\$1500): Michael Kelly, Lethbridge Community College

Ian Ross Memorial Scholarship (\$1500): Breton Saunders, University of Lethbridge

William (Bill) Wishart Post-graduate Scholarship (\$1500): Jodi Berg, University of Alberta

25th Anniversary Scholarship: Anne Loosen, University of Alberta

William Rowan Award for Distinguished Service: Ed Struzik, Yale School of Forestry, and Independent Author

ACTWS Dedicated Service Award: Larry Roy, Alberta Research Centre (retired)

ACTWS Publication Awards:

Popular Publication – no nominations

Technical Publication – no nominations

Outreach Award – Michael Sullivan, Alberta Fish and Wildlife

Executive 2014/15:

President:	Jason Fisher
President-Elect:	Larry Roy
Sec.-Treas.:	Curtis Stambaugh
Director:	Elston Dzus, Brian Kopach
2nd term:	Cole Burton, Andrea McGregor
Student Director:	Kerri Krawchuk