

Board Elections 2022

President Elect

Sarah Hatt

As an aspiring wildlife biologist, Sarah is currently a second year undergraduate student at Lethbridge College. With an extensive background in administration, client relations, and working with non-profit organizations, she is experienced with fundraising, event planning, and public relations. Outside of academics, Sarah spends much of her time volunteering with numerous organizations including Helen Schuler Nature Centre, and Ducks Unlimited Canada, where she conducts field work and delivers public programming. She strives to share her passion for the outdoors and wildlife with others. Sarah also has vast experience serving on committees and board of director roles; within TWS she is currently the Lethbridge College Chapters Vice President and has been elected to be next years President, she is the student representative on the CSTWS membership committee, has previously met with the ACTWS membership committee to provide a students perspective, and is an active member of the Student Development Working Group (SDWG). If full time studies and endless volunteering wasn't enough, she also works as an Ecology Student with Matrix Solutions Inc., is a mom of two very active children, and is an avid runner herself.

Secretary-Treasurer

Samantha Stamler

Samantha is a Wildlife Disease Technician with Alberta Environment and Parks in Edmonton. She began her career with Fish and Wildlife as a lab technician with the Chronic Wasting Disease program and has been fortunate to contribute to a variety of field and lab work opportunities over her career with the Government of Alberta, including; caribou DNA surveys throughout northern Alberta, pond surveys in the Kananaskis and Canmore area, electrofishing surveys in the Peace region, back country golden plover banding surveys in the Wilmore Wilderness area, contaminant projects in wildlife with Environment Canada and Echinococcus work in muskrats with the University of Calgary. Her work is noted as a contributing author on two publications. Having worked with Parks Canada as a summer student with Jasper National Park's Invasive Plant crew, Samantha learned about both invasive and native planet species in the park, and used various treatment methods to eradicate them. In addition, she had the opportunity to participate in bird call playback surveys, mountain pine beetle tree assessments, trail maintenance and prescribed burn assessments. Samantha has a deep-rooted love for the outdoors that stems from childhood summers spent with family, camping and canoeing around southern Ontario. She has nurtured that passion into a career and interest in conservation ever since. She currently holds an advanced diploma from Fleming College, specializing in Biotechnology Forensics. In her off time, she enjoys back country camping, hiking, mountain biking, snowboarding, yoga, music, travel and photography.

Student Director

Remington Bracher

Remington is a third-year Conservation Biology student at the University of Alberta and a recent graduate from NAIT's Technical Conservation Biology program. After finishing his undergrad, he hopes to pursue a graduate program focusing on wildlife management and species reintroduction. As an avid hunter, angler, and registered trapper, you will continually find him out exploring the backcountry of Alberta. In his spare time, he's an active volunteer for Alberta Conservation Association and Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association. Remington also serves as a committee member of The Parkland Pintails Chapter of Delta Waterfowl.

Director

Robb Stavne

Robb B. Stavne M.Sc. P.Biol., R.P. Bio. Principle & Wildlife Specialist Sora Ecological Consulting. Robb completed his M.Sc. at the University of Alberta in 2005 examining effects of cattle grazing on wetland bird communities in the Aspen Parkland. Since then, Robb has accumulated almost 20 years of experience as a wildlife ecologist, serving with Ducks Unlimited, Sustainable Resources Development (now AEP), Alberta Conservation Association, and Mercer International, and has most recently become a founding member and co-chair of the Boreal Nature Network. Robb works and volunteers with his community in Peace River to engage them in citizen science initiatives, and to promote awareness of wildlife and associated issues. Robb currently lives in Peace River from where he operates his consulting venture; Sora Ecological Consulting.

Glenn Mack

Glenn has a B.S. in Wildlife Management from the University of Nebraska and a MSc. in Biology from the University of Saskatchewan. Glenn has extensive experience leading, planning, coordinating, and implementing waterfowl research projects. He is currently the Provincial Wildlife Habitat Specialist for Environment and Parks where he works to ensure there are policies in place to conserve wildlife habitat throughout Alberta. Glenn's professional interests include developing and improving policies that conserve wildlife habitat, waterfowl and upland game bird breeding ecology, and conservation planning. Outside of work, he spends as much time as possible hunting, fishing, backpacking, canoeing, x-c skiing, dog training, traveling and taking photos.

Emily Herdman

Dr. Emily Herdman is currently a researcher at InnoTech Alberta working on a variety of programs involving biological monitoring. Prior to her current role, she was the Science Director for the Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute and worked for Alberta Environment and Parks in a variety of roles. Emily is passionate about ecological research, monitoring, management and policy. Her experience leading staff has motivated her to provide mentorship to those entering the field and looking to make a difference. While she has a diverse background in wildlife biology, she has always worked best with cranky or smelly animals including delightful species like marten and Turkey Vultures.

Ashlyn Herron

Ashlyn is currently in her final year of her Bachelor of Ecosystem Management Degree- majoring in Fish and Wildlife Management from Lethbridge College. She previously completed her Renewable Resource Management diploma from Lethbridge College in the spring of 2020. Ashlyn has been an active member of the Lethbridge College Chapter of The Wildlife Society since 2018, serving two consecutive terms as Vice President. She became involved with the Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society in the fall of 2020, serving as the current student representative on the CWB® Certification Committee. Ashlyn's favourite part of being involved with TWS is fostering connection and growth for fellow students entering the field of wildlife biology. Through seasonal work as Conservation Intern for Nature Conservancy of Canada and as a Seasonal Wildlife Technician with Alberta Conservation Association on the MULTISAR project, Ashlyn has discovered her passion for grassland species at risk conservation. This passion inspired her to study how grassland restoration changes edge effects experienced by avifauna in the south east portion of the province for her capstone independent study. She plans to turn her love for the grasslands into a professional career upon completion of her schooling. Ashlyn is also an active member of the Prairie Conservation Forum where she serves on several committees. Outside of her academics, Ashlyn is an avid hunter, (very) amateur angler and full-time plant mom.

Brianna Lorentz

Brianna is a MSc. student approaching the end of her program studying the management of Columbian ground squirrels in Jasper National Park. The main focus of her thesis is determining whether translocation is an appropriate method of mitigating human-wildlife conflict for this species and testing the validity of other methods (e.g. deterring squirrels from burrows and allowing them to disperse on their own). She has also completed 2 research projects during her BSc.; one on the winter habitat selection of muskrats in Miquelon Lake Provincial Park and another on the inter-individual differences in behavioural responses (i.e. personality) in domesticated Mongolian gerbils. She has worked in environmental education (2 years following her undergraduate degree) where she created and delivered programs for people of all ages and refined her science communication abilities. She has also worked in environmental consulting (1 year) where she worked with Indigenous Nations on building their environmental monitoring capacity. Notably, she worked on a really neat project with the Lubicon Lake Band that aimed to bridge Indigenous Knowledge and scientific practice by pairing about 1000 years of data from sediment core samples with stories from the community's Elders and Knowledge Keepers about the history of the land. She is also currently the VP of the University of Alberta Chapter of the Wildlife Society and has sat on the board of other clubs during her undergraduate studies. Her current interests are wildlife biology, ecology, wildlife management, and animal behaviour.

Donovan Currie

Donovan got his BSc from Macewan University and from there he started volunteering almost immediately for different organizations. He's done various projects for the Edmonton Urban Coyote

Project and over the summer worked as an intern for WildNorth to rehabilitate injured creatures, and raise orphaned baby animals. Afterwards, he joined the conservation affairs committee and hasn't been happier. It is through his need to help nature and wildlife that he has joined these voluntary ventures, and it is that need to help and assist that he will be bringing to the position of Director. As for recreational activities, he enjoys the usual things most other people do: hiking, camping, photography, sculpting, miniature building/painting and gaming, along with video gaming, planting, card games like Magic the Gathering and building his own businesses. He's the nerd king of West Edmonton, and the most passionate conservationist you'll ever know. He intends on becoming the greatest conservation biologist in the world, so you better watch for Donovan, because he's about to skyrocket in this industry and he always makes sure to give a darn good show.