The show must go on!

We will be holding our annual Natural Resources Training Workshop in conjunction with Wildlife Management Institute this March in Denver. There has been a lot of debate and discussion on the issue with travel orders forbidden until the holiday season. Now that a budget has been passed and a Defense spending bill is on the way, we might look forward to seeing travel restored across the Services.

Naturally, this has caused the typical panic and havoc with our plans as to size and depth of our offerings this year. We’d all like to have a week crammed with DoD-centric talks and meetings, but we underestimate the strain this places on our organization.

The drive to do a year’s work in one week-long conference is self-sustaining. The more people rely on the conference for their interaction, the more they come to expect of that meeting. The more time given to the meeting planning, the less time we have to do anything away from the conference. When NMFWA began, we were meeting in the back rooms of conferences everyone attended for the content that the conference itself provided. WMI’s North American was one of those conferences well attended on its own merit. Somewhere along the line, we’ve drifted in thought and attitude as we attend less and less of the meetings and offerings on the “other side” of the conference to the point where people feel that they can’t justify attending unless NMFWA offers 40 hours.

As a lucky attendee last year, I can tell you that there is substance and value to the programming WMI and its other partners put on at the annual event. AFWA meetings, national working groups, organizational awards and board meetings, and workshops are all events that NMFWA members should attend. This is where we get to meet and establish relationships with the other federal services, learn what the rest of the world is doing with our issues, and build partnerships to overcome obstacles we can’t climb ourselves.

Continued on next page
The Wildside cont’d.

I have stated that we are more than a meeting. We are an organization built on year-round endeavors to make life easier and work more effective for natural resource personnel at installations and headquarters around the world. We need to make our mark on those other 11.75 months of the year when we’re not face-to-face. Demanding a full week makes our commitment in time and dollars to the meeting and the meeting alone, and it wrecks our ability to talk and work together outside the hotel halls.

For these reasons, you will see a slightly scaled back meeting in Denver this year. It’s time the membership sits in on the conference and the conference gets to feel our presence. It’s time also that we keep our organization sustainable by reducing the overhead spent on the training workshop. We’re a community, and we need to emphasize that. Please consider pressing for travel this March so that we can rebuild our community and plan our work for 2014.

Thank you,
Dave

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!!!

2014 ANNUAL TRAINING WORKSHOP
March 10-14, 2014—Denver, Colorado


Regular registration is $410.00 through 2/24/2014. After 2/24/2014, the regular registration fee is $430.00.


Visit the NMFWA website for more information: http://www.nmfwa.net/index.php/conference

Hotel
The 2014 DoD Natural Resources Annual Training Workshop will be held at the Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel http://www.sheratondenverdowntown.com/-the largest hotel in Colorado! The Sheraton is a dynamic downtown Denver hotel, in the heart of the 16th Street Mall, a mile-long promenade of bistros, microbreweries, shopping and entertainment.

A special discounted rate of $156 + 14.75% tax is the current federal per diem (it’s true!). Meals and incidental expenses (M&IE) is $66. http://www.gsa.gov/portal/category/100120 The cut-off date for reservations is February 20, 2014.

If you are interested in sharing a room at the workshop, contact Dave McNaughton at 717.861.8408
Planning for the DoD Natural Resources Annual Training Workshop is in full swing! We have a great agenda with the following technical sessions, workshops and working group meeting scheduled:

**Half-day workshop** Applying the U.S. National Vegetation Classification on Military Lands.
Todd Keeler-Wolf (California Department of Fish and Wildlife)
Scott Franklin (Chair, Ecological Society of America Panel on Vegetation Classification; Associate Professor University of Northern Colorado)
Alexa McKerrow (USGS Core Science Analytics and Synthesis; NVC Implementation Manager)
Jill Petraglia Parsons (Program Manager Ecological Society of America)

**DoD POLICY UPDATE** Peter Boice

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS for ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE and MARINE CORPS**

**Technical Sessions**
- Climate Change
- Conservation on DoD Lands
- Endangered Species Management
- Got Forestry? Starting or restarting forestry programs
- Invasive Species Management
- Mitigation and the DoD Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program
- Terrestrial Mammals
- Vegetation Classification, Mapping, and Monitoring

Session Chairs:
- Laura Muhs
- Trish Cutler
- John Haddix
- Joe Campo
- Dawn Lawson
- Vanessa Pepi
- Michelle Cox

Bat Working Group
Conservation Law Enforcement Working Group Meeting
Department of Defense- Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (DoD PARC) Working Group
Hunting and Fishing Working Group
Invasive Species Working Group

We are still have space for presenters in some of the sessions. Please contact the Session Chair or Coralie Cobb, our Program Committee Chair, at coralie.cobb@navy.mil if you are interested in presenting a paper.

Presentations (oral) will be scheduled for 20 minutes, which includes 15 minutes for the presentation and five minutes for questions.

We partner with the Wildlife Management Institute and their annual North American Wildlife & Natural Resources conference so check their site (http://wildlifemanagementinstitute.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=407&Itemid=153) for the preliminary conference schedule (subject to change).
The DRAFT schedule for the Annual Workshop is subject to change. Check the NMFWA website for the most up-to-date schedule.
Let's Mix and Mingle!
Come To The Annual Show And Tell
Poster Session/Silent Auction/Photography Contest
Wednesday, 12 March
1845 to 2100

The time has come to showcase natural resources accomplishments on your installation. This Call for Posters is going out to installations inviting you to communicate to NMFWA and WMI community projects, surveys, cost saving tools or perhaps even interesting observations. In order to save room please contact Nicole Olmstead at (nicole.olmsted@navy.mil) with your intentions. There is no costs associated with the presentation of posters which makes one less thing to worry about.

The Silent Auction is always looking for donations for the upcoming Annual Training Workshop. It’s still the perfect opportunity to let go of that questionable Christmas gift that you are just not sure what to do with. Or think NMFWA Silent Auction while you’re out scrounging around your local flea markets, thrift stores, antique mall’s, garage sales, whatever and you come across a framed, signed and numbered 1960’s duck stamp print for 5 bucks (yeah right!!!!). Also, please do keep in mind that everyone enjoys something from someone else’s part of the country, so think about an item unique to your region. Wine from California. Cheese from Wisconsin. Beef jerky from Texas. Let’s get back into the swing of things and make this Silent Auction the best one yet. Thanks!

Contact Don George at Donald.george.1@us.af.mil with any questions or offers of help.
The annual NMFWA Photography Contest will be held in conjunction with the Show and Tell Reception. Please indicate on the pre-registration form that you wish to participate. Late registrants may enter, but advance notice is important for space requirements.

Contest rules are as follows:

1. Photos must be taken by the participant. Anyone registered at the NMFWA conference is eligible to enter.

2. Photos must be mounted on stiff backing such as photo board, art board, or foam core, etc. Matting is optional. Do not submit photos in glass frames. Each photo must have the name and address of the photographer clearly marked on the back, along with the entry category.

3. Photos must be at least 5 X 7 inches and no larger than 11 X 14 inches in size (not including mat or board). Color and black and white prints are acceptable. Slides are not allowed.

4. Each photo must qualify in one of the following categories:
   a. Wildlife (any species is acceptable)
   b. Installation field activities (photo must have been taken at a DoD installation or project site to qualify for this category)
   c. Landscapes/scenic (any location is acceptable)
   d. Humor/fun (includes wildlife or people in humorous poses, people taking part in fun activities such as NMFWA meeting, studio shots, etc.)
   e. Botany (any plant species is acceptable, this includes fungi and alga).

5. Each participant may enter up to two photos in each category. One prize will be awarded in each category. Participants at the Show and Tell Reception will vote on the winning photos.

6. Bring your photos with you and submit them before the Show and Tell Session.

The POC for the contest is Nicole Olmstead at (nicole.olmsted@navy.mil)
Updates from the 20th Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society (TWS)

Elizabeth Neipert and Rhys Evans

National Military Fish and Wildlife Association at TWS

The Wildlife Society’s 20th Annual Conference took place October 5-10 in Milwaukee, WI. The NMFWA Board of Directors once again recognized the importance of sponsoring the 2013 TWS meeting. Even with the federal budget crisis and possibility of sequestration, there were still a few that held hope to make a decent representation of NMFWA at TWS. However, as the deadline approached, shutdown became a reality just days before the commencement of TWS. While some potential attendees knew their fate prior to the announcement, some found out just prior to leaving, and a few particularly unfortunate souls were called back en route.

With the shutdown precluding most federal employees (and many others) from attending, NMFWA still managed to carve out a presence. The NMFWA-sponsored exhibit table allowed the few members that could attend the opportunity to convey their mission and message to an even more concentrated target group (students and young professionals). Thanks to the quick thinking and logistic shuffling by a number of members (those at the conference and those supporting from their home base), the table was staffed and offered an informational banner, educational literature and giveaways. The Association also subsidized a table intended for the U.S. Peace Corps and the Student Conservation Association, but the former organization had to cancel at the last minute. This was just another casualty of the shutdown.

NMFWA also sponsored a panel discussion titled, “Entry-level Federal Careers Opportunities.” However ill-timed, this discussion achieved a solid 40-50 participants for its entire 2 hours. As luck would have it, the same panel was presented in Portland and many PowerPoints were refurbished, due to the cancellation of 4 out the 5 guest speakers.

Although NMFWA did not formally sponsor the Quiz Bowl this year, it continued its tradition of affiliated support. Both the first and second place prizes were created by NMFWA associated artists. The grand prize was an oil painting of a Common Loon family group by Past-President Chester Martin. The second place team received two one-of-a-kind Cerulean Warbler drawings by Robert Fischer, son of Past-President Rich Fischer. The University of Minnesota-Crookston won this event – their first time competing at the National level! Crookston defeated defending champions Humboldt State University (California) by a razor-thin margin: 105 to 100 points in the final match.

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Updates from the 20th Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society, cont’d

Despite the federal government shutdown that affected many attendees, speakers, and exhibitors, the conference persevered by making last-minute adjustments to fill-in cancellations in the program and workshops. However, time to recognize all who could not attend was at the forefront of everyone’s mind and discussion. In the wake of all the shuffling, highlights of the program included workshops, symposia, panel discussions, the Sunday Plenary, and a second general session. The plenary session on effectively communicating science was met with rave reviews as well as the general session on wolf management. The popular Women of Wildlife reception from previous conferences transformed this year into a symposium, workshop, and panel discussion with the goal of providing information to both men and women on enhancing the effectiveness of a diverse wildlife force. In total, the numbers for this year’s conference reflected 1336 Registrants, 37 exhibitors, and over 500 presentations.

The closing night reception was also a great event: attendees explored two floors of the Milwaukee Public Museum, wherein they found microbrews and delicious regional food tucked into various corners. Rhys’s favorite was the “Brat and a Shot” table. Did you know that last sentence, “Brat” and “Shot” rhyme? Liz did because she’s a Cheesehead and didn’t realize this was news to anyone. By the way, in non-Cheesehead language, this translates to a bratwurst and a microbrew.

Next year’s meeting is in Pittsburgh, so stay tuned for additional details (and see the Military Lands Working Group article elsewhere in this newsletter...).
Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) Network Basics

The Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Network (CESU; [http://www.cesu.psu.edu/](http://www.cesu.psu.edu/)) is a partnership made up of federal agencies, universities, and nongovernmental organizations with the objective of providing: research, technical assistance, and training to federal land management, environmental, and research agencies.

The CESU Network is comprised of 17 biogeographical regions spanning all 50 states (see CESU map, home page of the CESU website).

In 1999, the signing of an interagency Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) created the Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) Network. Today 13 federal agencies participate in the CESU Network. The Department of Defense (DoD) joined the CESU Network in 2000 and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Civil Works), joined in 2005. **As of July 2013, the DoD is a member of all 17 regional units.**

For each CESU unit there are three types of members: 1) federal partners, 2) the host university, and 3) other universities and non-governmental organizations. Most universities are members of just one unit, but there are a few instances where a university has been accepted as a member of two different CESU units.

**DoD's Participation:**

The Deputy Director for Natural Resources for the DoD, Mr. Peter Boice ([l.p.boice.civ@mail.mil](mailto:l.p.boice.civ@mail.mil)), oversees all activities related to the CESU. Mr. Boice is also DoD's representative to the CESU Council.

DoD's has a designated regional coordinator for each CESU Unit. All regional coordinators work on a volunteer basis and their primary responsibility is to ensure the SOW for each potential project qualifies as a CESU project under the terms and conditions of the CESU Cooperative Agreement. Regional coordinators also assist installation managers, in developing project ideas.

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Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) Network Basics, cont’d

**DoD Regional Points of Contact** (As of May 2013)

California CESU, Dawn Lawson, Dawn.Lawson@navy.mil
Chesapeake Watershed CESU, Melanie A. Frisch, Melanie.Frisch@navy.mil
Colorado Plateau CESU, Robert Knight, Robert.N.Knight.civ@mail.mil
Desert Southwest CESU, Sheridan Stone, Sheridan.Stone@us.army.mil
Great Plains CESU, Alan Anderson, Alan.B.Anderson@usace.army.mil
Great Rivers CESU, Alan Anderson, Alan.B.Anderson@usace.army.mil
Great Lakes and Northern Forests CESU, Ray Rainbolt, Raymond.E.Rainbolt.civ@mail.mil
Gulf Coast CESU, Frank Lands, Frank.W.Lands.civ@mail.mil
Hawaii-Pacific Islands CESU, Michelle Mansker, Michelle.L.Mansker.civ@mail.mil
North and West Alaska CESU, John Haddix, John.A.Haddix.civ@mail.mil
Piedmont-South Atlantic Coast CESU, William Hunt, William.Hunt@med.navy.mil
Rocky Mountain CESU, Alan Anderson, Alan.B.Anderson@usace.army.mil
Southern Appalachian Mountain CESU, Alan Anderson, Alan.B.Anderson@usace.army.mil
South Florida/Caribbean CESU, Susan Gibson, Susan.P.Gibson.civ@mail.mil

**Support for DoD Projects:**

Mr. Jack Mobley, Ft. Worth Corps of Engineers (Jack.E.Mobley@us.army.mil) provides support on a fixed price schedule for most DoD CESU projects. Other DoD contracting offices can also process CESU contracting actions.

**Funding sources:**

The CESU Network is not a funding program. Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Funding is often the source of funding for CESU projects. Another potential source of funding is competition based funding programs like the Legacy Program, SERDP and ESTCP. Source of project funding, and authorship of a project Scope of Work (SOW) play a major role in determining the need for competition of a CESU project.

**Meeting competition requirements for CESU projects:**

In general, there are three ways to meet CESU competition requirements.

*An installation manager or other DoD individual prepares the scope of work.* In this instance, the DoD, in coordination with the Regional Coordinator and the Grants Officer, shall compete the Statement of Work (SOW). A Statement of Interest (SOI) needs to be published on the CESU Unit’s Host University Website, and as reasonably appropriate, each known Partner point of contact should be informed of the Statement of Interest. The announcement needs to be reasonably available to all partners for a period no less than 10 business days.

*The project’s Principal Investigator prepares the scope of work.* Under the terms and conditions of all current CESU Cooperative Agreements, the host university and all partner institutions within a CESU region within which DoD is a member may themselves submit a proposal to DoD. In such cases, competition is not required and an SOI is unnecessary.

*Funding for the CESU projects is from a competition based funding program.* DoD CESU Regional Coordinators are not required to issue an SOI for projects that are submitted to DoD for consideration as part of competition-based funding programs such as the DoD Legacy Program, the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program (SERDP), and the Environmental Security Technology Certification Program (ESTCP).

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Military Lands Working Group at The Wildlife Society

After becoming an official The Wildlife Society (TWS) working group in 2011, the Military Lands Working Group (MLWG) had three years to reach the necessary 50 members to continue as a sanctioned group. That milestone was announced at the 2013 meeting in Milwaukee.

Although the goal of 50 members was eclipsed, that number needs to be sustained; we want to remind everyone that membership is open to any TWS (national) member with an interest in facilitating communication with persons working on natural resources and wildlife management on military lands. To join, there’s a simple “box check” on the TWS membership renewal form, or if you’ve already renewed, you can do a separate form just for the working group membership. A key benefit of a formal working group through TWS is that we will have the opportunity to sponsor topical symposia at national and regional meetings. We are currently planning to submit a proposal(s) for symposia in Pittsburgh, PA for the 2014 meeting.

The MLWG also sponsored a whole-day workshop titled, “Monitoring Wildlife Populations - New Slants on Use of Existing Technology.” Again, even though the DoD representative that was slated to present had to cancel, the workshop pushed forward. Highlights included advances in radio telemetry, new uses for remote cameras and photo management, as well as case studies for new uses of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles.

The following Working Group officers and board members were elected earlier this year:
Chair - Rhys Evans  
Co- or Vice Chair - Robbie Knight  
Treasurer - Chris Eberly  
Secretary - Deanna McCullum  
Board Members - Janet Lynn, Liz Rave, Rick Spaulding
The military lands community, and NMFWA, lost some special people recently. We mourn the passing of Dr. Diane Drigot and Nancy Natoli. Their presence will be greatly missed.

**Dr. Diane Cecelia Drigot (1948-2013)**

Dr. Diane Cecelia Drigot died at St. Francis hospice on October 14, 2013, from complications of a stem cell transplant to treat acute myelogenous leukemia. She is survived by her mother, Genevieve Drigot, her sister, Karen Stone, her nephew, Robert Stone, his wife Kelly, and their two children, Lexi and Tyler, her grand niece and grand nephew.

Diane was born to parents Stanley and Genevieve Drigot in Chicago, Illinois in May 1948. She received an A.B. in 1969 in Conservation of Natural Resources, from Barnard College, Columbia University; and an M.S. (1972) and Ph.D. (1975) in Natural Resources (Policy, Planning, and Management) from University of Michigan’s School of Natural Resources and Environment. In 1987 she was honored with the Distinguished Alumna Award from Michigan’s School of Natural Resources and Environment.

An early feminist, Diane was one of two women in the National Park Service to first wear uniform pants instead of a skirt as a seasonal park ranger-naturalist at Katmai National Monument in Alaska. Early in her professional career Diane held positions as an environmental policy research analyst, a university professor/environmental studies program coordinator, and an environmental impact consultant. Committed to ensuring ‘practical, working knowledge’, she continued, throughout her career, to mentor students through the School of Natural Resources and Environment’s Alumni Association, and as an affiliate graduate faculty at the University of Hawai‘i. 

For 30 years Diane worked in the Environmental Department at Marine Corps Base (MCB) Hawaii. She was responsible for an integrated ecosystem approach to natural and cultural resources management, environmental restoration, and environmental documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act. Diane is widely recognized for her award-winning record of partnering with military operators, regulators, and the public to steward MCB Hawaii natural resources while sustaining combat readiness. She was instrumental in evolving the base’s Environmental Department from a staff of one (herself) and creating an award-winning department that has earned 30 national environmental awards.

She received more than 20 personal awards for her community-based conservation efforts from diverse agencies (Department of Defense, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sierra Club, Hawai‘i Audubon Society, Native Hawaiian Civic Clubs, Hawai‘i’s State Legislature, Honolulu City Council, Kaneohe Neighborhood Board (Citizen of the Year (2003)); Secretary of the Navy (Conservation Individual of the Year (2005, 1995)); and was one of six finalists for a Service to America Medal honoring the nation’s top civil servants (2004). She is remembered by many as the ‘bird lady’, an ardent protector of the native Hawaiian birds of Mokapu Peninsula, in part through an annual ‘Mud Ops’ training where U.S. Marines use 26-ton amphibious tracked vehicles to tear up pickleweed in wetlands to improve endangered waterbird habitat. Diane retired from her position as a Senior Natural Resources Management Specialist at MCB Hawaii in December 2012. She was recently awarded a Commendation for Meritorious Civilian Service from the U.S. Department of the Navy, U.S. Marine Corps (2013) for her professional and innovative approach to natural resources management.

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Throughout her career, Diane made significant contributions as a volunteer both to her profession and to the communities in which she lived. Hawai‘i became her home in 1977 and she spent the ensuing years working tirelessly to conserve the natural and cultural resources of Windward O‘ahu. She helped develop school curriculum regarding Windward O‘ahu wetlands and published over 20 articles, papers, and books regarding land use, ecosystem management and natural/cultural resources.

She was a member of the Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club, and a Founding Member and past Vice-President of Kawai Nui Heritage Foundation. Diane practiced the Hawaiian art of hula for 14 years as part of Hōlau Mōhala ‘Ilīma, continued to dance throughout the ‘isles’, and paddled for several years with the Waimanalo Canoe Club. She enjoyed traveling, walks on the beach with her German Shepherds, and staying connected with her heritage through the Lithuanian Community of Hawaii.

She leaves a legacy of integrating modern scientific understanding, Hawaiian cultural views and values, and engaged communities to further stewardship and environmental protection. She touched many directly by her work and inspired many more by her spirit. Diane truly lived ‘Aloha’. Her passion and commitment is echoed by friends and colleagues – a special person who has made a real difference and whose contributions will carry forward to make the world a better place.

A service in celebration of Diane’s life was held in January 2014. Condolences may be sent to the family via her sister, Karen Stone, 11600 Academy Rd NE, Apt 524; Albuquerque, NM 87111. The family wishes any contributions in Diane’s memory be sent to Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, 1100 Fairview Ave N, P.O. Box 19024, Seattle, WA 98109 (Online: www.fhcrc.org), or to a charity of choice.

The Hawaii Marine wrote a fitting tribute to Diane, MCB Hawaii’s Environmental Warrior.


Diane served as Natural Resources Program Manager at MCB Hawaii from 3 April 1982 to 31 December 2012. By the end of her career, Diane was probably the best known Marine Corps employee in the state of Hawaii, having left an indelible imprint on our installation with by virtue of a sustained and rigorous approach to balance stewardship of environmental resources, improved military support and collaborative civic projects that built community trust and positive public relations. She was a personality to be reckoned with, and rarely took prisoners in her dealings with USFWS and NOAA, but had the respect of everyone. The walls of the Environmental Office were covered with the many awards she earned for the installation, her team, or as an individual.

Privately, Diane was a friend to many, and had close relationships with many in the Hawaii and Marine community. She loved being outside, loved music and art, travel, and being around passionate people. She will be very greatly missed.

Sue Goodfellow, Ph.D.
Head, Planning and Conservation Section
Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps (GF/MCI-COM)
In Remembrance of Nancy Shuster Natoli

In September of 2013 the conservation community and the defense community lost a dynamic influence. At the time of her passing Nancy Schuster Natoli was the Director of the Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. The REPI Program is the military’s means of buffering mission activities from encroachment by partnering to conserve non-military lands from development that is incompatible with mission activities.

Nancy was a charismatic leader who lived a life of service, led by example and was a sincere friend and colleague to the many lives she touched. Nancy’s work supported the permanent protection of more than 300,000 acres of land conserved through the REPI program and many more that will be protected through the foundations that have been laid. These lands are habitats and working lands that support wildlife, natural resources, families and communities. These lands also support the national defense mission and Warfighters. Partnerships and relationships are the cornerstones of Nancy’s service to her country and community. Nancy is survived by her husband and three children. Her impact on the American landscape will last forever.

May 21, 1965 – September 17, 2013
Edie Jacobsen Retires!

Edie Jacobsen the Navy Region Southwest Conservation Program Manager has decided to retire at the end of January after an eventful career supporting the Navy and DoD.

Edie’s exceptional expertise, knowledge, and dedication over the years led to the growth and success of the Navy’s largest Agricultural Outlease Program. She successfully negotiated numerous controversial leases and consultations such as Dixie Valley at NAS Fallon and Detachment Fallbrook that ultimately led to a positive outcome for all parties. These programs directly support the warfighter and enhanced safety to the installation’s neighboring communities by reducing bird and wildlife hazards to the aircraft and reducing dust containing potentially harmful contaminants. Rather than costing the Navy money for maintenance of these airfield buffer areas, the program brings in funding for Natural Resource Stewardship Projects to meet regulatory requirements and builds relationships with the regulatory agencies.

Her successes also extended to the Marine Corps Agricultural and Conservation Programs. By teaming with the Marine Corps and United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to create a Biological Assessment Manual that has been used as the guidance for all Marine Corps biological consultations in the Southwest. This partnering was an important first step to building a better working relationship between the Navy/Marine Corps and the USFWS.

Recently, as the Navy Region Southwest Conservation Program manager, Edie led a program consisting of over 40 Natural and Cultural Resource Professionals responsible for over $6 million in execution over on 10 Navy Installations in six states. This covers 47 Federally Listed Threatened and Endangered Species and more than 18,000 archaeological sites covered in 21 Integrated Natural Resource Plans and 15 Integrated Cultural Resource Plans.

Good Luck in all of your new endeavors Edie!!!

Join NMFWA in wishing a Happy Retirement to Edie Jacobsen and Walter Briggs and thank them for all their hard work and dedication to conservation on military installations.
Walter Briggs Retirement Tribute

Walter R. Briggs, one of our principle conservationists, a true professional, and ambassador for the Navy retired on 25 October 2013, after 36 years of service to the Naval Facilities Engineering Command.

As one of our most prominent conservationists Walter spent his career mentoring and leading many in our community to better understand and appreciate the association between military readiness and protecting the natural resources for which we are stewards.

Walter also cultivated many successful relationships with other Federal and State Conservation Agencies, Indian Tribes, Non-Governmental Conservation Organizations, and Universities to help them better understand and appreciate the Navy’s Mission and to work out research and on-the-ground projects that facilitated testing, training, and new construction to maintain Navy readiness and the protection of valuable natural and cultural resources. Walter accomplished this better than most because he knew it could be done and was driven to make positive things happen.

Walter started with the Navy in 1978 as a Soil Conservationist with what at the time was called the Western Division of NAVFAC, in San Diego. He wasted no time improving our agricultural and grazing programs by strengthening conservation plans and instigated low-tillage practices as well as improving irrigation efficiency. At that time we were generating millions of dollars in outlease revenue. This money became available to us for salaries and projects largely through the efforts of Walter to establish our agricultural outlease fund, which over the years has funded hundreds of on-the-ground conservation projects and many natural resources billets.

Later in his career Walter relocated to the Pacific Northwest to be in his element, surveying, evaluating and managing the Navy’s significant forest landscape, and worked relentlessly at this, ultimately becoming a Senior Natural Resources Specialist/Forester with the NAVFAC Northwest Facilities Engineering Command. The Puget Sound area became and remains home to Walter and his family. It was here that Walter first saw the old-growth forest on the Naval Radio Transmitter Facility, Jim Creek, where he recognized the significance of it and became determined to preserve as much of it as he could. It took many years of negotiations with the Scott Paper Company, who owned the logging rights to the timber and Navy leadership at many levels, to work a deal. Walter caught the ear of Ms. Jacqueline Schaeffer, the first ASN for the Environment who endorsed a DoD Legacy Project to buy out the logging rights. In 1992 $3 million was provided for a Legacy Project that facilitated the protection of 275 acres of the relic forest, which contains Sitka spruce, Douglas fir, Western red cedar, and Western hemlock up to 11 feet in diameter, up to 200 feet high, and up to 1400 years old. This forest, designated the Walter R. Briggs Old Growth Forest Area in March 2005, has been a classroom where Walter taught members of Congress, military brass, hundreds of school kids, and other dignitaries and visitors about the Navy’s ability to protect and preserve our natural heritage while also testing and training to maintain military readiness.

While at NAVFAC NW Walter also dedicated much of his time and effort to the cultivation of a good working relationship with the local Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians. In a true collaboration Walter and the Stillaguamish designed and built a Legacy funded fish rearing facility to enhance the Threatened Coho salmon population. Walter also worked with the Stillaguamish to protect ancient culturally modified trees. These overtures helped to build and maintain a positive relationship with the Tribe that in turn helped to facilitate approval of Navy construction projects in the NW Region.
Walter Briggs Retirement Tribute, cont’d.

One of Walter’s passions and innate strengths was teaching, especially individuals who had little exposure to the importance of natural resource management. So in 1989 when ASN (E) appointed Walter as the Navy’s Program Manager to implement a Nationwide Cooperative Agreement with the Student Conservation Association (SCA), there was no doubt the operation would be a success. Because of Walter’s efforts, hundreds of SCA conservation interns have served at Navy and Marine Corps installations across the nation and overseas. In 2007, on its 50th anniversary, the SCA presented to Walter one of only fifty SCA Founder’s Medals for his sustained, exemplary conservation leadership and for fostering a spirit of enduring partnership between the Navy and the SCA. Thanks to Walter hundreds of conservation projects have been implemented, which help installation commanders meet their stewardship obligations and maintain readiness. More importantly, hundreds of SCA interns have been influenced with a positive conservation ethic and appreciation for the Navy mission. It has long been Walter’s hope that a Nationwide Cooperative Agreement could be executed by the Navy to facilitate SCA internships on all DoD Installations.

Walter’s retirement festivities were held on Oct 26th and included a gathering of 140 friends, colleagues and family. The ceremony started out with a traditional blessing from the Medicine Man of the Stillaguamish Indian Tribe and wonderful tributes including songs, poems, water colored slideshows, and letters from SECDEF, SECNAV, NAVFAC, colleagues and all the local commands were read. One theme rang consistently through the ceremony; Walter is definitely one of a kind, a dedicated professional and ambassador for the Navy/DoD and a steward to the resources under his charter. He will be sorely missed in our profession!

Compiled as a tribute to Walter by Lorri Schwartz, Tim Burr, Edie Jacobsen, Mitch Perdue, Tom Egeland, Cindi Kunz, and Joe Hautzenroder.
**Calling all Ansel Adams!**

NMFWA is looking for photographs for the NMFWA display. We need photos of natural resources work on military installations to show off our work. Please contact Kirsten Christopher to donate your photos.

**Committee Chairs**

We are looking for a few good

**REWARD**

If interested, contact Todd Wills.

---

**Rock the Vote!!!**

Voting is open so head over to the NMFWA website and cast your ballot!

http://www.nmfwa.net/index.php/candidates
NMFWA/DOD Conservation Listservs

We have received a lot of feedback in the past year from members who are confused or unaware of some of our communication tools and subject offerings. Becoming a member of NMFWA can be achieved by attending the NMFWA Annual Workshop, signing up at other workshops or conferences where NMFWA has a booth, registering via the website (www.nmfwa.net), or subscribing to the listserv.

Some of the confusion is when registering for NMFWA membership you are not automatically placed on the NMFWA Yahoo Distribution list. You can sign up for the distribution list easily. From the email address at which you’d like to receive messages send a request email to: nmfwa-members-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Another communication tool used by NMFWA to distribute information is Facebook. Please consider ‘liking’ us on Facebook to keep current on upcoming events. And don’t forget to check the NMFWA website often to ensure that you’re getting the most out of your membership. We hold regular webinars and often post relevant offerings from our DoD partners. The FAWN, too, is a source of information that is distributed via the NMFWA Yahoo Distribution List.

Lastly, there are a number of NMFWA and DoD Conservation groups who provide pertinent and timely information. As we face travel restrictions and pressures on our limited time, budgets, and staffs, we need to rely more on communication and knowledge sharing. To subscribe to any of the below Listservs, simply go to the appropriate site to register or contact the person indicated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Listserv</th>
<th>Primary Contact</th>
<th>Subscription Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NMFWA Membership</td>
<td>Rhys Evans</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nmfwa-members-subscribe@yahoogroups.com">nmfwa-members-subscribe@yahoogroups.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NMFWA Facebook</td>
<td>Rich Fischer</td>
<td>Search for “National Military Fish and Wildlife Association”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NMFWA Herp WG</td>
<td>Todd Wills</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Todd.wills@navy.mil">Todd.wills@navy.mil</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NMFWA Bat WG</td>
<td>Trish Cutler</td>
<td><a href="mailto:patricia.l.cutler.civ@mail.mil">patricia.l.cutler.civ@mail.mil</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NMFWA Invasive Species WG</td>
<td>Pete Egan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:peter.egan@osd.mil">peter.egan@osd.mil</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NMFWA Outdoor Fish and Wildlife Recreation WG</td>
<td>John Haddix</td>
<td><a href="mailto:john.a.haddix.civ@mail.mil">john.a.haddix.civ@mail.mil</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NMFWA Climate Change WG</td>
<td>Dawn Lawson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dawn.lawson@navy.mil">dawn.lawson@navy.mil</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NMFWA Pollinators WG</td>
<td>Jack Markham</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jack.markham@navy.mil">jack.markham@navy.mil</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NMFWA BASH WG</td>
<td>Michael Wright</td>
<td><a href="mailto:michael.f.wright@navy.mil">michael.f.wright@navy.mil</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NMFWA Law Enforcement WG</td>
<td>Chris Zimmerman</td>
<td><a href="mailto:christopher.l.zimmerman4.civ@mail.mil">christopher.l.zimmerman4.civ@mail.mil</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DoD Natural Resources/Natural Selections</td>
<td>Alison Dalsimer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:allyn.a.dalsimer.civ@mail.mil">allyn.a.dalsimer.civ@mail.mil</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DoD Partners In Flight</td>
<td>Chris Eberly</td>
<td><a href="mailto:DODPIF-L@LISTSERV.UARK.EDU">DODPIF-L@LISTSERV.UARK.EDU</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DoD Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation</td>
<td>Paul Block</td>
<td><a href="https://dodparcphotolibrary.shutterfly.com">https://dodparcphotolibrary.shutterfly.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Elizabeth Neipert
Ft. Wainwright DTA, AK

John Haddix,
Fort Wainwright, AK

Eric Britzke,
ERDC-EL Vicksburg, MS

Michele Richards,
Ft. Custer Training Center, MI

Joe Hovis,
Ft. Indiantown Gap, PA

Greg Fleming,
Ft. Belvoir, VA

Director At-Large
David Beckmann, Fort McCoy, WI
Laura Muhs, NAVFAC Headquarters, Washington DC

2013/2014 Board of Directors
President—David McNaughton, Ft. Indiantown Gap, PA
President–Elect—Todd Wills, Naval Support Activity, Monterey, CA
Vice President—Coralie Cobb, NAVFAC Southwest, CA
Yahoo Groups

If you'd like to join up, from the e-mail address at which you'd like to receive messages, send a blank e-mail to:
NMFWA-Members-subscribe@yahooogroups.com

Listserve messages from NMFWA related email has been blocked by some military IT systems. You have the option to sign up with either work or home email. If you're already getting messages from us, do nothing.

If you ever decide to leave the group, it's simple! Just send a blank message to
NMFWA-Members-unsubscribe@yahooogroups.com

If you ever need to get your NMFWA emails at a different address, the easiest thing to do is "unsubscribe" from one address and "subscribe" from another.

“OUR GREATEST STRENGTH
is the experience of our faculty.”

Dr. Carol Pollio  |  Program Director,
Environmental Science

With more than 28 years serving in the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve and 36 years as a biologist, Dr. Pollio also currently serves as the Chief of Natural Resources and Science, National Capital Region, National Park Service. Her experience fully represents the caliber of AMU faculty. Having served during the 2010 Gulf Coast Cleanup, Dr. Pollio brings her on-the-ground experience to the classroom.

NMFWA and AMU have partnered to offer members access to flexible and affordable online degrees and certificates. Learn more at www.amuonline.com/NMFWA

NMFWA is on FACEBOOK!

To follow us on Facebook, type in National Military Fish and Wildlife Association in the Facebook search bar and hit
Medical Wallet Card for Wildlife Professionals

Biologists working with wildlife may be exposed to a variety of disease agents. National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) has developed a wallet card that wildlife professionals can carry with them to alert medical personnel about potential exposure to zoonotic diseases. Contact information is provided for the Centers for Disease Control for the occurrence of zoonotic diseases in humans.

Contact the NWHC for more information on diseases in wildlife.

Download the Wallet Card or download the Wallet Card in sheet format suitable for printing on business card paper. (PDF Format)

Military Natural Resources Professional Certification Program

Details of the certification program are located on the NMF-WA website. New versions of the certification application are posted at the site and are available in both Word and PDF format.

If you have any questions, you are encouraged to contact the committee chair, Chris Eberly chris.eberly@nmfwa.org or by phone 540-349-9662.
Natural Resources Conferences Roundup

The USDA National Invasive Species Information Center has numerous conferences and training workshops:  
www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/news/calendar.php

DENIX has a list of upcoming conferences and meetings:  http://www.denix.osd.mil/conferences/

The Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting  
Sacramento, CA, August 10-15, 2014  
http://www.esa.org/esa/?page_id=127

http://wildlifesociety.org/

Society for Range Management, Orlando, FL, February 8-13, 2014  
http://www.rangelands.org/events/

Society of American Foresters National Convention October 8-11, 2014  
http://www.xcdsystem.com/saf/site13/
### NMFWA Board of Directors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>David McNaughton</td>
<td>Fort Indiantown Gap, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past President</td>
<td>Kirsten Christopherson</td>
<td>AF Civil Engineer Center (AFCEC), Travis AFB, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President-Elect</td>
<td>Todd Wills</td>
<td>Naval Support Activity, Monterey, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Coralie Cobb</td>
<td>NAVFAC Southwest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Jacque Rice</td>
<td>CPF, San Diego, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Nicole Olmsted</td>
<td>NAVFAC Southwest, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director At-Large</td>
<td>David Beckmann</td>
<td>Fort McCoy, WI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director At-Large</td>
<td>Laura Muhs</td>
<td>NAVFAC Headquarters, Washington, D.C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director East</td>
<td>Joe Hovis</td>
<td>Fort Indiantown Gap, PA</td>
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<td>Director East</td>
<td>Greg Fleming</td>
<td>Fort Belvoir, Virginia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director Central</td>
<td>Eric Britzke</td>
<td>ERDC-EL, Vicksburg, MS</td>
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<td>Director, Central</td>
<td>Michele Richards</td>
<td>Fort Custer Training Center, MI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director West</td>
<td>Elizabeth Neipert</td>
<td>USAF Fort Wainwright Donnelly Training Area, AK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director West</td>
<td>John Haddix</td>
<td>Fort Wainwright, AK</td>
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### NMFWA Committee Chairs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Chair</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Archives</td>
<td>Tom Warren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fort Carson, CO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Audit</td>
<td>Coralie Cobb</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Southwest, San Diego, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Awards</td>
<td>Jackie Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Paxtuxent River, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Government Affairs</td>
<td>Junior Kerns</td>
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<td>White Sands Missile Range, NM.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>Dan Savercool</td>
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<td>EA Engineering, Science and Technology, Inc.</td>
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<td>Nominations</td>
<td>Kirsten Christopherson</td>
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<td>AF Civil Engineer Center (AFCEC), Travis AFB, CA</td>
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<td>Outreach</td>
<td>Steven Niethamar</td>
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<td>Retired, Sugar Grove, WV</td>
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<td>Conference Coordination Committee</td>
<td>David McNaughton</td>
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<td>Certification Committee</td>
<td>VACANT</td>
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<td>FAWN Editor</td>
<td>Laura Busch</td>
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<td></td>
<td>US Fleet Forces, Norfolk, VA</td>
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<td>2013 Program</td>
<td>Coralie Cobb</td>
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### NMFWA Working Groups and Chairs

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Invasive Species</td>
<td>David Beckmann</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ft. McCoy, WI</td>
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<td>Pete Egan, AF Pest Management Board, MD</td>
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<td>Bats</td>
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<td>Matthew Moran</td>
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<td>Elmendorf AFB, AK</td>
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<td>Herpetology</td>
<td>Jay Rubinoff</td>
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<td>Nat'l Guard Bureau, Arlington, VA</td>
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<td>Steve Najjar, New Boston, NH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law Enforcement</td>
<td>Christopher Zimmerman</td>
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<td>Fish &amp; Wildlife Recreation Working Group</td>
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<td>Alan Schultz, Fort Bragg, NC</td>
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<td>Tim Hayden</td>
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<td>USACE-CERL Champaign, IL</td>
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<td>Dawn Lawson, SPAWAR, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>BASH</td>
<td>Michael Wright</td>
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<td>NAVFAC Midlant, VA</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lucas Oligschlaeger, Holloman AFB, NM</td>
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**Note:** Titles and affiliations are for informational purposes only and do not present the individuals as spokespersons of the Department of Defense or agency/installation listed.

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**FISH AND WILDLIFE NEWS (FAWN)**

**OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL MILITARY FISH AND WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION**