In my last Wild Side, I alluded to the tough times that we are facing in our profession – and that certainly has not improved since June. Because DoD is cracking down on travel to conferences and training, we are unlikely to get the OSD Endorsement Memo for our 2013 Training Workshop in Arlington, Virginia. We absolutely do still plan to have the Workshop, and we hope that many of you are still able to attend. Your NMFWA Board of Directors understands that the training, lessons learned, and networking that we share at the meeting are invaluable. I know that when I leave the Workshop every year, I feel much more energized about my job than when I arrived there.

My daughter’s favorite book (and movie) right now is *The Lorax*, so we often read it together at bed time. When I was in elementary school, we got to watch the movie on rainy days. When I look back on it now, I remember how inspired I felt by the story’s message: “UNLESS someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not.” Ask yourself which of your NMFWA colleagues comes to mind when you hear that line…? Now nominate that person for a NMFWA Award! This issue of the FAWN is devoted to our 2012 Award winners and all of the amazing work they have accomplished through partnerships and volunteers, but mostly, through many hours of hard work and dedication. The one thing that all of our winners have in common is that they cared a whole awful lot about making a difference in our profession. I know we have many more professionals out there doing amazing things, so please take the time to recognize them. ([http://nmfwa.net/awards/](http://nmfwa.net/awards/))

And in order to keep NMFWA moving forward into the future, we need some people that care a whole awful lot to help on the Board of Directors and/or Committees. If you or someone you know would be interested in getting more involved in our organization, please contact Richard Fischer, NMFWA Past President, at Richard.A.Fischer@usace.army.mil to submit a nomination for yourself or a colleague.

Happy holidays to you and your families!

Kirsten Christopherson
ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET 2011-2012

Rich Fischer, NMFWA President, 2011-2012 presented awards at the NMFWA Annual Awards Banquet in Atlanta Georgia.

The keynote speaker, Dr. Debbie Crouse, spoke on “Collaborative USFWS/DoD Efforts for the Recovery of T&E Species”

Military Natural Resource Conservation Research: Fish & Wildlife

TIM HAYDEN, PHD

Program Manager, Threatened and Endangered Research for the Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC)

Natural Resource Conservation Management: Model Programs and Projects

CHRIS EBERLY

DoD Partners in Flight Program Manager since 1997

Continued on next page
Natural Resource Conservation Management: Model Programs and Projects

JACQUELINE BRITCHER

Endangered Species Branch Chief, Fort Bragg, NC

David McNaughton accepts the Natural Resource Conservation Communication Military Involvement Award on behalf of Michael Ney.

Natural Resource Conservation Communication Military Involvement

MICHAEL NEY

Integrated Training Area Management Coordinator at Fort Indian-town Gap (FIG), PA

David McNaughton accepts the Natural Resource Conservation Communication Military Involvement Award on behalf of Michael Ney.

Continued on next page
Conservation Partnerships

Restoration of Seabirds on San Nicolas Island (SNI) by Eradication of Feral Cats


Natural Resource Conservation
Communication: Promoting Public Awareness

BURNY HUFF

Outstanding volunteer at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM), Washington

Continued on next page
Natural Resource Conservation Management Enforcement

Anthony Lani

Conservation and Federal Police Officer Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH), HI

Cory Campera accepts the Natural Resource Conservation Management Enforcement award on behalf of Officer Lani

Officer Lani was presented his NMFWA award at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam by Commanding Officer Captain Jeffrey W. James.
Laurence R. Jahn Award

Recognizes individuals or organizations that are not directly affiliated with NMFWA, but have donated time and energy toward making significant contributions to benefit natural resources policy and programs on DOD lands in support of the military mission

ERNIE GARCIA

Military Veteran and Career Wildlife Biologist for United States Forest Service

NMFWA LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Recognizes those who have contributed significantly over the course of their career to NMFWA’s progress as an organization and to conservation on DoD lands in support of the military mission

WILLIAM “BILL” SPICER

Distinguished career supporting all Navy Commands, including Naval Surface Center White Oak, Carderock Division Naval Surface Warfare Center, Naval District Washington, and Commander Navy Installations Command
NMFWA Awards Nominations

"Action is the foundational key to all success."

_— Pablo Picasso_

All of us in the natural resources fields care deeply about our work. It inspires us and exasperates us and sometimes discourages us, but we keep showing up.

"Always listen to the experts. They'll tell you what can't be done and why, Then do it."

_— Author Unknown_

Honor your friends and colleagues, the ones who keep showing up every day. The ones that strive to make a difference…the ones that inspire us to do even better. The ones who help make the world a better place and our country more secure.

"Nothing is impossible, the word itself says I'm possible!"

Please join the National Military Fish & Wildlife Association in honoring those among us who support the military mission by preserving the natural heritage of our country on our rich and diverse DoD lands – nominate them for a NMFWA award. Who knows, you may make a difference in their life.

"Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far they can go."

_— T.S. Eliot_

The deadline for submissions is 27 November 2012. Awards will be presented at the 2013 Annual Workshop at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, Virginia.

"Nothing will ever be attempted if all possible objections must first be overcome."

_— Samuel Johnson_

Any individual can make a nomination (not just NMFWA members) and awards can go to any individual or group fitting the nomination categories. For more information, please see the NMFWA website and application at [http://nmfwa.net/awards/](http://nmfwa.net/awards/).
The upcoming Annual Training Workshop will be held on our Capital City in 2013. Well, Crystal City to be exact, but the monuments and Smithsonian are just across the river. So make sure to check the NMFWA website for more information.

March 25-29
Crystal City Gateway
Arlington VA

Registration opens in December of 2012.

The NMFWA Workshop of 2013 is fast approaching and 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.olmstead@nmfwa.org) with your intentions. There is no costs associated with the presentation of posters which makes one less thing to worry about.

Just a note to membership about the March 2013 NMFWA Workshop Silent Auction. With Christmas just around the corner, we all know we’re going to get something that will make you scratch your head and say “huh”???. Now, before you get all upset and start a holiday family feud, remember the oft-used term of “RE-GIFTING” and think about bringing that lavender hippopotamus-shaped bird feeder with you in March and donating it to the Silent Auction. That way, you won’t be embarrassed to tears when you forget where it came from and re-gift it next Christmas to the same person that gave it to you this year. See....problem solved! And, 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. Please use discretion, i.e. as much as I’d like it, Steve Niethamer please don’t bring a jug of ‘shine from West Virginia (“HIC”). Anyway, I know it always helps to have a little "incentive" to kick us into overdrive, so this year there will be a VERY special gift for the person who donates the single item that brings in the most money to the NMFWA Silent Auction. Believe me, you WILL NOT be re-gifting this prize! Last March’s Silent Auction was outstanding because of you all, so let’s keep up the good work. Thanks!

Don George
Don.george@nmfwa.org
The Wildlife Society – Military Lands Working Group Update
Rhys Evans

We’re official!! Our first step was getting our foot in the door. The next major goal was enticing 50 members to sign up for the Military Lands Working Group. Now, we need to keep those members interested enough to drop that massive $5 fee each year… So, for those of you who have become members (thanks!), and those of you who might (you must also be a member of The Wildlife Society at the “national” level), here’s what we’ve been doing:

- Sponsored a Symposium at the TWS annual meeting, “Monitoring and Managing Wildlife Populations on Military Lands.” We had ten speakers, several hundred people in the audience at various times (a lot of in and out, with 7 other sessions to choose from).
- Co-sponsored a Panel Discussion “Entry-Level Federal Career Opportunities” with speakers representing USFWS, the Student Conservation Association, the Peace Corps and The Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands.
- Held a Working Group “organizational” meeting, at which ideas for next year are already in development, probably including a repeat of the “Early Career” panel. We’re also hoping to co-sponsor a session with the “Human Dimensions Working Group.” WE have the guts to discuss a few topics others are too scared to talk about, like feral cat colony (mis)management.

We need to conduct formal elections of officers, thus nominations are welcome! That most definitely includes potential “self-nominations.” Chris Eberly has agreed to officially keep control of our (intentionally) sparse funds (we have about $200 in the bank) until we decide in more detail what we want to do with our group. If you’re a current member of TWS and a current member of “MLWG,” great, and thanks! If you’re a member of one, but not the other, please consider joining.

Portland TWS Happenings

NMFWA was once again an important partner and sponsor of the 2012 annual meeting of The Wildlife Society in Portland. In addition to support informally provided to the Military Lands Working Group (see related article), NMFWA hosted a high-traffic table in the exhibit hall. As with prior events, you can’t begin to imagine the number of people who passed by thinking “military” and “natural resources management” in the same sentence. So many people still don’t know the great work our members are responsible for doing on a daily basis. As always, “Partners in Flight” maps were a hit.

NMFWA also sponsored the challenging and entertaining Quiz Bowl, a “Jeopardy” like competition among undergraduate students in the wildlife arena. With 14 teams competing, the evening was fun, educational and yes, humbling. A strong second-place performance by SUNY-College of Environmental Science and Forestry (Syracuse, NY) resulted in excitement as returning champions Humboldt State University (Arcata, CA) once again took home the grand prize (and yet another masterful piece of original artwork by NMFWA Past-President Chester Martin).

Overall, the Portland meeting was nearly a record-breaker, with nearly 1950 participants, more than 600 papers and posters, two plenary sessions, great socializing, career assistance to students, networking opportunities for all…along with gourmet food, amazing microbrew, regional wine, and rainy weather (except for the farewell reception, which had been daringly scheduled for an outdoor venue). Next year, TWS goes to Milwaukee, the same location as NMFWA’s workshop a few years ago, and for “Hogs,” this might be your chance to get in a repeat visit to the Harley Davidson Museum (or a first visit if you missed it).
GONE FISHIN’
The NMFWA/Sierra Club/Zebco partnership
Don George

After receiving Zebco rods and reels from the Sierra Club in conjunction with NMFWA and "Take me Fishing" (Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundations program) we have conducted three 45th Space Wing fishing tournaments. Since my office, Natural Assets, falls under the Civil Engineering Squadron (CES), two of the tournaments were primarily focusing on and attended by Air Force military engineering personnel, many of whom have been deployed to Iraq and/or Afghanistan. As you might expect, a number of these Airmen do not have their own personal rods and reels, so having fishing equipment available for their use has not only made these events more successful but also introduced a number of "first-timers" to the sport. The third tournament was conducted specifically for the dependent children of military members and a second kids tourney is currently in the planning/scheduling stage. Patrick Air Force Base offers a perfect setting for these activities since it is located on a barrier island on the central east coast of Florida. During the fishing tournaments, military personnel and their children who wanted to fish but did not own rods and reels were allowed to use those provided by Zebco. Having grown up in this area, and fished all of my life, I find it extremely rewarding to support fishing as a sport/hobby and to introduce someone to fishing who has always wanted to fish, but for whatever reason had not previously had the opportunity to "wet a line". It is especially gratifying to help a child catch his or her first fish and to see them enjoy being outdoors and experiencing its rewards. I encourage all NMFWA members to get engaged in this program and further support our military, their dependents, and conservation on our respective bases. If you do not have this resource available on your installation, I'm sure there's a "fishin' hole" nearby.

Continued on next page
Sierra Club/ZEBCO has many more Rods/Reels to donate to military installations. Please contact your Regional Director if you are interested.
FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

ALEXANDRIA, VA, October 25, 2012—The Department of Defense’s (DoD) Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program (SERDP) is seeking to fund environmental research and development in the Resource Conservation and Climate Change program area. SERDP invests across the broad spectrum of basic and applied research, as well as advanced development. The development and application of innovative environmental technologies will reduce the costs, environmental risks, and time required to resolve environmental problems while, at the same time, enhancing and sustaining military readiness.

The Resource Conservation and Climate Change program area supports the development of the science, technologies, and methods needed to manage DoD’s installation infrastructure in a sustainable way. SERDP is requesting proposals that respond to the following two focused Statements of Need (SON) in Resource Conservation and Climate Change:

⇒ Recovery of Ecological Processes Impacted by Non-Native Invasive Species in the Pacific Islands
⇒ Climate Change Impacts to Built Infrastructure in Alaska

Proposals responding to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 SONs will be selected through a competitive process. All pre-proposals are due to SERDP by Tuesday, January 8, 2013.

The SONs and detailed instructions are available on the SERDP web site at www.serdp-estcp.org/Funding-Opportunities/SERDP-Solicitations.
Gopher Tortoise Conservation on Cape Canaveral AFS, Florida

Don George

Due to the known presence of Gopher Tortoises (*Gopherus polyphemus*) on Cape Canaveral Air Force Station (CCAFS), 45th Space Wing Natural Assets personnel always conduct site inspections for tortoises prior to commencing projects where ground disturbing activity will occur. Since the Gopher Tortoise is a State of Florida listed threatened species and a candidate for Federal listing, the Air Force is obligated to identify and protect them from potential harm as a result of our actions in their habitat, which, as it turns out, is pretty much everywhere on CCAFS! Recent land clearing projects to extend the airfield clear zones have revealed Gopher tortoise habitation in forested areas previously believed to be too dense to allow and support occupation, grazing and burrow excavation by these animals.

A current Installation Restoration Program (IRP) project to remove soil contaminated with PCB-laden paint at abandoned Launch Complex 19, a National Historic Landmark where the two manned Gemini launches occurred, required site reconnaissance for Gopher tortoises. That survey revealed over 85 burrows, of which, 25 were determined to be active based on observations of fresh tortoise tracks and/or finding a tortoise in the burrow as seen through a burrow camera. Air Force biologists Angy Chambers and Martha Carroll closed off unoccupied burrows and used bucket traps to "snag" tortoises exiting occupied burrows. All captured tortoises were "marked" by numerically sequential scute drilling and released unharmed in suitable habitat elsewhere on the installation. As you might imagine, this is a "monumental" task that encompassed 23 acres with a potential to impact the cleanup project schedule. Consequently, the effort was prioritized with removal initially focused on
roadways to facilitate equipment access without crushing or entombing tortoises in burrows under the 50+ year old roads and pavements. Secondarily, areas with higher levels of soil contamination (red zones) requiring excavation to depths of 18 inches were targeted to expedite soil removal. The last priority was tortoise burrows in all remaining areas within the project boundary that only required surface soil removal. Regardless of prioritization, areas previously surveyed required follow-on inspections and burrows scoped with the camera, and a tortoise captured in a bucket trap required rescoping to ensure only one tortoise was in that burrow. This was necessary because a number of tortoises were found to be using the same burrow. Oddly enough, some buckets trapped up to four tortoises on different days, indicating significant movement by tortoises throughout the project area.

As of this writing, 27 tortoises have been relocated and Martha and Angy are still busy installing new, and checking existing bucket traps daily, and marking and relocating tortoises to ensure maximum protection of the species without interrupting the project schedule which ultimately supports sustainability of America’s space launch program on CCAFS.

Looking for old NMFWA Water Bottles! If you have an extra NMFWA Nalgene Large Mounthed Blue Water bottles from 2009 please contact Tammy Conkle at tamara.conkle@navy.mil.
Wildlife Management Short Course
Colorado State University - March 2013

The Department of Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Biology, Colorado State University, will again offer the annual Wildlife Management Short Course on the campus during the week of March 25 – 29, 2013. This popular course was developed for *laypersons* and *agency personnel with non-wildlife training*. A number of agencies have sent administrators, commissioners, planners, information and environmental education personnel, legislators, and other staff to this course to obtain a broad exposure to wildlife conservation, management and issues. Citizen conservation organizations have also sent staff members.

This five day short course is designed to provide an overview of principles of wildlife (including fisheries) ecology and management. Current programs and issues related to natural resources conservation will also be discussed. The short course consists of presentations by University faculty and personnel from various agencies and organizations.

For more information on registering for this course, please contact the Office of Conference Services (970) 491-6222/FAX (970) 491-3568.

For information about course content please contact program coordinator, Eugene Decker (970 491 5656; gdecker@cnr.colostate.edu).
Yahoo Groups

Through "Yahoo Groups," we created a "moderated list-server" a few years ago. We wanted to provide some follow-up instructions so you can easily join, quit or change your e-mail address. We have typically sent no more than two messages per month (perhaps just a few more in the 2-3 months immediately before our annual training workshop). It is not causing any spam that we're aware of. It is NOT a typical listserver that anyone can post messages to. It will only allow messages to be posted by a few board members, and most of the time, it will require approval of two moderators to send every message, so you will not get flooded with e-mail. Your address is only viewable by a small number of moderators. Your e-mail address will NOT be shared with any other organization (unless the Board approves the request, which we've only done twice in more than ten years).

And please think about where you want to receive NMFWA related e-mail – at work or home. We have still not been able to get certain work e-mail domains to accept these messages, so many members can only get our messages at a personal e-mail account (the Air Force seems to be the most challenging). If you're already getting messages from us, do nothing (unless you want to change your address).

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@yahoogroups.com

If you ever decide to leave the group, it's simple! Just send a blank message to

NMFWA-Members-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

... and if you ever decide that you want to get your NMFWA e-mails at a different address, the easiest thing to do is "unsubscribe" from one address and "subscribe" from another, which can literally be done in about two minutes (albeit from two different e-mail accounts or two different computers). Thanks!

Have the Happiest of Holiday Seasons!!!
2012/2013 Board of Directors

Back Row (left to right): Eric Britzke, Bob Schallmann, David Beckmann, Don George, and Richard Fischer.

Front Row (left to right): David McNaughton, Jacque Rice, Nicole Olmsted, Coralie Cobb, and Kirsten Christopherson.
**NMFWA Workshop 2013**

Since 1983 NMFWA has worked to bring the military services together and build a unified understanding of natural resources and how best to work together and meet the military mission. The annual workshop represents the best opportunity to bring DoD, Service HQs, Regional Commands, and installation staff together into one room to discuss the pressing issues, help shape guidance and identify ways to meet the goals of sustainability during times when funds are lacking.

Tentative session topics for the 2013 Training Workshop include Endangered Species Management, Funding Opportunities, Litigation Strategies and working group meetings.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact:

Todd Wills  
NMFWA Vice President and Workshop Program Chair  
Todd.wills@navy.mil  
831 656-2850

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**NMFWA is on FACEBOOK!**

To follow us on Facebook, type in National Military Fish and Wildlife Association in the Facebook search bar and hit Like.
DoD Natural Resources Funding Manual Now Online

The Natural Resources Funding Manual identifies funding resources for which the Department of Defense may apply, directly or through partnerships with other federal, local, state, or tribal governments; non-governmental organizations; commercial organizations; or private landowners. The Manual identifies potential funding sources for conserving natural resources near installation borders, but is by no means a comprehensive list of all available funds. The organizations presented in the Manual are associated with land use, endangered species, habitat conservation, environmental quality, and other forms of conservation. By forming partnerships with neighboring landowners or other stakeholders, installations can support testing and training objectives as well as conservation goals by improving environmental quality, preventing encroachment, relieving mission restrictions, and establishing buffers around installations, thereby protecting and increasing the installations' effective training space.

www.dodnaturalresources.net/files/AEC_EcoFunding_Manual_082010_FINAL_VERSION.pdf

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 http://www.esa.org/meetings/

The Wildlife Society Annual Meeting  Milwaukee, WI

Oct 4-9, 2013

Meeting of Society for Range Management, Feb 3-7, 2013 http://
www.rangelands.org/spokane2012/amsymposia/amsymposia_addrequest.php


RESILIENT FORESTS
SAF 2012 National Convention
October 24 - October 26, 2012  -  Spokane, Washington
### NMFWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name and Affiliation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Kirsten Christopherson, Beale AFB, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Past President</td>
<td>Rich Fischer ERDC-EL, Vicksburg, MS</td>
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<tr>
<td>President-Elect</td>
<td>David McNaughton, Fort Indiantown Gap, PA</td>
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<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Todd Wills, NSA Monterey, CA</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Jacque Rice, CPF, San Diego, CA</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Coralie Cobb, NAVFAC Southwest</td>
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<td>Director At-Large</td>
<td>David Beckmann, Fort McCoy, WI</td>
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<td>Jackie Smith, Paxtuxent River, MD</td>
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<td>Director East</td>
<td>Joe Hovis, Fort Indiantown Gap, PA</td>
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<td>Director East</td>
<td>Don George, Patrick AFB, FL</td>
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<td>Director Central</td>
<td>Eric Britzke, ERDC-EL, Vicksburg, MS</td>
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<td>Director West</td>
<td>Nicole Olmsted, NAVFAC Southwest, CA</td>
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<td>Bob Schallman, NWS Seal Beach, CA</td>
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### NMFWA COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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<tr>
<td>Archives</td>
<td>Tom Warren, Fort Carson, CO</td>
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<td>Audit</td>
<td>Coralie Cobb, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Southwest, San Diego, CA</td>
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<td>Awards</td>
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<td>Government Affairs</td>
<td>Junior Kerns, White Sands Missile Range, NM.</td>
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<td>Membership</td>
<td>Dan Savercool, EA Engineering, Science and Technology, Inc.</td>
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<td>Rich Fischer ERDC-EL, Vicksburg, MS</td>
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<td>Outreach</td>
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<td>David McNaughton, Fort Indiantown Gap, PA</td>
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<td>Certification Committee</td>
<td>Chris Eberly, DOD Partners in Flight, VA</td>
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<td>FAWN Editor</td>
<td>Laura Busch, US Fleet Forces, Norfolk, VA</td>
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<td>2013 Program</td>
<td>Todd Wills, NSA Monterey, CA</td>
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<td>2013 Local Host</td>
<td>Tammy Conkle, NAVFAC Headquarters, Washinghton, DC</td>
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### NMFWA WORKING GROUPS AND CHAIRS

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<td>Invasive Species</td>
<td>David Beckmann, 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, Elmendorf AFB, AK</td>
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<td>Herpetology</td>
<td>Jay Rubinoff, Nat'l Guard Bureau, Arlington, VA</td>
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<td>Steve Najjar, New Boston, NH</td>
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<td>Law Enforcement</td>
<td>Christopher Zimmerman, Fort Carson, CO</td>
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<td>Dawn Lawson, SPAWAR, CA</td>
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<td>Pollinators</td>
<td>Nicole Olmstead, Jack Markham, NAVFAC Atlantic, VA</td>
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<td>BASH</td>
<td>Michael Wright, NAVFAC Midlant, VA</td>
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<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.