May! Violets are blooming, trout are rising, turkeys are gobbling...and I'm sitting here trying to write my first Wild Side column. (Sometimes a dose of self-pity can help overcome writer's block.) We have all been busy with budgets, work plans, A-106 reports, and a host of other administrative duties since we left Oklahoma a month ago. I still haven't absorbed all the input from Tulsa. One of my personal goals this month is to sit down under a tree, apply a liberal amount of black fly repellent, and read this issue of the FAWN from cover to cover. A lot of people worked very hard to produce our 1996 conference. I feel I owe them the courtesy of an hour or so of thoughtful reflection on their efforts.

Those of you who did not attend the annual meeting can do so vicariously with the help of the FAWN and a telephone. Our association has always encouraged communication among members. The technical paper abstracts presented in this issue are the tips of the informational icebergs. If the subject matter presented in an abstract appeals to you, follow up with phone, fax or e-mail dialogues. There are new committees for communication, by-law changes and financial expenditure issues. Any member with an interest in these subjects and a desire to participate in association activities can contact their regional directors for further information about serving as a committee member.

One fixture in any bureaucracy is the rapid robedex redux syndrome, i.e., the sudden change of address, phone number, job title, and other vital statistics associated with organizational identity. Please tell somebody if this happens to you. Kyle Rambo is the membership committee chair. He updates the mailing list. If you can't find Kyle, contact your regional director. If all else fails, call me. We need to keep our internal lines of communication open.

This leads me into the last paragraph of my first attempt at pounding on the bully pulpit. It's not too soon to be thinking about the next issue of the FAWN and the 1997 annual training session in Washington DC. Send some Field Notes to your regional director. Marge McHenry and Thomas Wray need assistance with the program and host committees. They are already talking with WMI about expanding our schedule. We are also looking for alternate facilities in the DC area for our award banquet. Feel free to leave your input on my answering machine. I'll get back to you as soon as I finish practicing with my new turkey call.
It seems an opportune time to update you on various issues I discussed in Tulsa. I'll touch on other issues, as appropriate, in future issues.

First, my thanks to the Association for providing our office an opportunity to reach so many of the people who are responsible for the day-to-day management of our resources. I'm very encouraged by the enhanced communications between the Association and various "Headquarters" offices.

Drum roll and flourishes—the Conservation Instruction was signed by Under Secretary of Defense Paul Kaminski on May 3. It will be issued as DoD Instruction 4715.3 as soon as Admin. types process it. The new policy includes may "firsts," including the formalization of ecosystem management guidance; integration of military mission and conservation requirements; recognition of the importance of biodiversity conservation; designation of DoD Executive Agents; programming and budgeting guidelines for Conservation, including a new "Class O," establishment of "measures of merit," and principles and guidelines for consultations with Native Americans.

On what may be seen as less encouraging news, the more detailed draft regulations on integrated natural resources management planning has been withdrawn, and the draft manual on implementing volunteer and partnership programs is on hold pending further evaluation. What happened? First, it became obvious that the regulation had become superfluous with the pending release of the last product of the Biodiversity initiative, "Conserving Biodiversity on Military Lands: A Handbook for Natural Resources Managers." Second, the handbook has raised a number of legal questions. In addition, we may have discovered broader, existing guidance which would eliminate the need for Conservation-specific guidance. In the meantime, Ms. Goodman's interim guidance of January 12, 1994 remain in effect.

Returning to Biodiversity, the partnership initiative with The Nature Conservancy and The Keystone Center has been extremely successful. In addition to the Handbook, the "DoD Commander's Guide to Biodiversity" was also released on Earth Day. Previously, the Final Report on the Policy Dialogue was published in late January.

The Sikes act continues to frustrate us, because we feel we have been extremely close to a solution for months, and because the proposed amendments would clearly benefit all interested parties. We have again offered in writing to discuss our differences with the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. However, we are still awaiting a reasonable counterproposal.

We continue to look at various policy options concerning wildland fire management. To assist in evaluating whether we should adopt the uniform wildland firefighting policies being developed by Interior and Agriculture, we issued a data call asking for information on number of wildfires, and total acres burned, by class.

We expect Secretary of the Interior Babbitt to announce a national Recreational Fishers Resource Conservation Plan by early June. DoD is supporting this Plan, to the extent practicable. We are developing a DoD Annex to the Plan, which, if approved, would request the following information -- acres of riparian habitat restored, number of installation fishing licenses, installations which sponsored "aquatic-related" outreach days, number of employees who attended recreational boating safety courses, and a narrative of success stories. We hope to finalize the DoD Annex by mid-summer.

I have additional information on some of the ways those interested could work temporarily at OSD. First, the Professional Enhancement program is a year-long program which requires a home office sponsor, and recommendation from your immediate supervisor through the chain-of-command. OSD issues an annual data call for this program around September 1. Second, there are several structured Executive Development programs backed by the Office of Personnel Management, and including the Federal Women's Executive Leadership program, and a non-restrictive Leadership Development program. You can apply for these anytime. I'm trying to get more information. Third, those of you in the Reserves should know the procedures you need to follow to request a specific office for your annual training. I've not mentioned short-term "details," because, contrary to my earlier understanding, these are generally no longer feasible. I'll continue to search for more information on these and other possibilities.

For those who are wondering, where's my Natural Resources brochure?? The sign up sheet vanished from the Association table before I could pick it up, so if you'd like a copy (or more), drop me a note to:

OSUSD(ES) EQ-CO
3400 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-3400
Phone: (703) 604-0524
FAX: (703) 607-4237
bolce@osiris.cso.uiuc.edu

MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL MILITARY FISH AND WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
24 MARCH 1996

The National Military Fish and Wildlife Association (NMFWA) Board of Directors meeting was held in the Oklahoma Room of the Adams Mark Hotel, Tulsa, Oklahoma. The meeting was called to order by President Rich LeClerc at 1330 on 24 March 1996.

It was noted that a quorum of the BOD was not present. Rich LeClerc went through the correspondence he had received since the last BOD meeting. He received a questionnaire from Utah State University regarding wildlife damage. He stated that the NMFWA had no policy and stated such on the survey. A nonprofit organization from Mexico requested information about the NMFWA and copies of newsletters that Jim Gallagher had sent to them. The Game Conservation International invited the NMFWA to join their organization
and receive the Game Coin Newsletter. Rich LeClerc took no action on behalf of the NMFWA regarding this invitation. The Florida Department of Transportation requested the NMFWA to cohost a meeting on wildlife mortalities. Rich LeClerc responded that the NMFWA was not interested in cohosting a meeting. The National Wildlife Federation (NWF) sent a letter to Rich LeClerc stating they had recognized the work of the NMFWA. The Certificate of Recognition will be placed on the poster board. Junior Kerns has copies, available upon request, of the Keystone Center Biodiversity Report. He also has the Army Environmental Center (AEC) Commander's Guide to Environmental Excellence. Letters were sent out to everyone on the FAWN mailing list regarding the National Shooting Range Symposium. Mailing labels were sent out since this is an International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA) sponsored event. The Natural Resource Careers Foundation has requested the NMFWA become a member. The cost for membership is $100.00 and no response was provided.

Mark Hagan has sent out minutes of the 30 March 1995 Board of Directors meeting to all BOD members. There were no additions or correction to the minutes. Since the BOD currently only has 11 members, six members represent a quorum of the BOD. Therefore, Bob Wardwell motioned to accept the minutes of the 30 March 1995 BOD meeting. Julie Eliason seconded the motion. The motion to accept the minutes of the 30 March 1995 BOD meeting was passed.

Rich LeClerc requested a report from the Secretary/Treasurer. Mark Hagan provided a brief synopsis of income and expenses over the past year. The NMFWA basically broke even on the conference held in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Four hundred dollars were spent on a television display for the NMFWA poster board. The Law Enforcement Training course made a profit which helped defray the normal operating expenses. The FAWN costs have been approximately $700.00 for each printing and mailing. The NMFWA account was approximately $11,000 prior to this conference. The greatest expense throughout the year was for mailings. Bob Wardwell motioned that some record of annual income and expenses be published. Mark Hagan seconded the motion. The motion to publish some record of annual income and expenses was passed.

Rich LeClerc interrupted the normal BOD meeting so that a guest speaker could address those in attendance. Mr. Bruce Blanchard, a Deputy Director of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) briefed the BOD on the National Education and Training Center (NETC) and provided the BOD members with a folder containing information.

Rich LeClerc asked for reports from the committee chairpersons. Junior Kerns reported on the Nominations Committee and provided a handout with details. Junior went over the list of persons on the Nominations Committee. All the director positions were contested and only a couple of the officer positions were open. Junior Kerns provided a second handout which listed the new Board of Directors.

Tom Poole provided a report on the Program Committee. The program this year will contain the largest number of technical sessions and so there will be experimental, concurrent sessions on Thursday. There will be many good presentations and some will be provided by corporations, such as one from Arc Info on GRASS.

Jim Gallagher briefed the Board of Directors on the status of the Newsletter Committee. Three issues of the FAWN were published last year. The problem of getting enough material to print in the FAWN still persists. The style of the FAWN continues to evolve and any suggestions for change would be welcome. There is a possibility of having color printing for the FAWN, which will be discussed later. Anyone can provide submissions for the FAWN at any time throughout the year.

Doug Lister, as proxy for Kyle Rambo, provided a report and handout on the Membership Committee. There are 750 members of the NMFWA, which is short of the 800 members projected.

Doug Lister also provided a report and handout on the Awards Committee. He mentioned that 8 people were needed to judge papers/presentations. There were four nominations for Achievement Awards, all for the volunteer category. There will be a certificate for Bob Progulske and an award for the best paper presented during the NMFWA sessions. There will also be an award for the guest speaker at the banquet. The award recipient was notified, but it was not known if any of them would be present to accept the awards. Rich LeClerc mentioned that the new BOD at the next meeting may want to consider paying travel costs for award winners. Doug Lister will continue as the Awards Committee Chair, but would also like to hand over the duties to someone else.

Chris Bandy provided a report on the Poster Committee. He mentioned the TV monitor with a built in VCR for the NMFWA poster should be here at this conference. He also requested photographs and updated information for the NMFWA poster.

Jeff Bossart provided a report on the Law Enforcement Committee. Jeff Bossart mentioned that the Department of Treasury, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) has agreed to provide a refresher course during FY 98. He also said he would look into the possibilities which Mr. Blanchard spoke about earlier in the meeting. An installation willing to host the FY 97 Law Enforcement Training Course has not been identified. A cost of $600.00 per person for the FY 97 course was brought up. Glen Wampler provided a report and handout on the 1995 NMFWA Law Enforcement Training course held at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. He reported the course made almost $4000.00 last year.

Gene Stot provided a report on the Archives Committee. Updated copies of the NMFWA history are available at the conference this year. He also mentioned that since he is no longer a member, his only source of information comes from the FAWN.

Junior Kerns, as proxy for Valerie Morrill, provided a report on the Development Committee. An opinion poll was sent out with the election ballots. Junior Kerns handed out a report and summarized the results. A majority of respondents to the opinion poll indicated they favored a change in voting membership to include DoD natural resources staff. Junior Kerns motioned that a committee be developed by the President to develop bylaw changes to include DoD natural resource personnel as voting members. Julie Eliason seconded the motion. The motion that a committee be established by the President to develop bylaw changes to include DoD natural resource personnel as voting members passed.

Junior Kerns reported that there was no consensus on changing the name of the NMFWA. Therefore, the Development Committee has no recommendation on changing the NMFWA name. There was a sixty percent majority on changing the name, but no consensus on what the name should be. A majority of respondents to the opinion poll favored the circle of life concept for the NMFWA logo. Junior Kerns motioned that a contest be held to design the circle of life logo. There was no second to the motion. Tom Poole motioned that the President establish an Ad Hoc Committee to develop two logo concepts, at a minimum, so that the BOD could present these informally to the membership. There
was no second to this motion. Junior Kerns went on to say that the Mission/Vision Statement could involve an expansion of the existing preamble to include natural resources. Some members mentioned the possibility of expanding it to cultural resources as well. The opinion poll indicated that some mission or vision statement is needed, but what that should be was not clear from the poll taken. Junior Kerns motioned that the incoming BOD establish a procedure for drafting an organizational mission/vision statement. There was no second to this motion. This concluded the work assigned to the Development Committee. Junior Kerns motioned that the Development Committee be dissolved as a standing committee. Bob Wardwell seconded the motion. The new incoming BOD could establish a new committee. The motion to dissolve the Development Committee as a standing committee passed.

Rich LeClerc reported that Ann DeBevec wanted to relinquish her responsibility for the Brochure Committee. Rich LeClerc said he would volunteer to lead the Brochure Committee efforts.

Junior Kerns briefed the BOD on the status of the Sikes Act. There are problems with getting the Sikes Act passed. The language of the Sikes Act is essentially unchanged. None of the proposed changes to the Sikes Act have been adopted yet. The IAFWA strongly endorses the original version of the Sikes Act adopted by the House of Representatives. Junior Kerns and Gene Stout have been trying to discuss the Sikes Act issues with the IAFWA and NWF. The Bill is in the Senate Committee on Environment, Drinking Water, Fisheries, and Wildlife. The committee has taken no action and none is expected until there is no hint of dissension. Committee members are contemplating waiting until after the elections to work on the Sikes Act. There may need to be letters written to Senator Kempthorne and other personal Senators asking them to take action on the Sikes Act. There was discussion on the value and impact of form letters versus individualized letters. Any letters should say action is required regarding mandatory management plans.

Ester Hutchinson and Julie Eliason are continuing to work on the experience database. Ester Hutchinson just got a home PC so this effort can be facilitated. Julie Eliason received a call from someone in Norway requesting information regarding wildlife studies on training lands. She sent this person copy of abstracts from the NMFWA meeting two years ago. Tom Poole said he would also like to respond to this request for information.

Rich LeClerc called for any items under new business.

Junior Kerns mentioned that it might be appropriate to have awards or tokens of appreciation outside of the normal awards program. Junior Kerns had some nice ironwood carvings made in Mexico. These are available in quantity for less than ten dollars each. The NMFWA could obtain any quantity, or acquire them individually at a future date. Gene Stout added that it would be handy to have these with a generically worded plaque. Junior Kerns motioned that the BOD approve the purchase of up to 10 carvings for the NMFWA. The motion was seconded by Bob Wardwell. There was discussion whether there should be just one carving (i.e. falcon) or several types of carvings. Junior Kerns amended the motion to put a $200.00 limit on the purchase of the carvings and shipping costs; and to have generically worded plaque made. Bob Wardwell seconded this amendment. The motion to purchase up to 10 carvings, with a $200.00 limit on the purchase and shipping of the carvings; and have generically worded plaques made was passed.

Julie Eliason announced that she and Jim Hessell were still working on arranging the poster session. They can be contacted if anyone should need assistance.

The 22nd Environmental Symposium and Exhibition was recently held in Orlando, Florida. The Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) and American Defense Preparedness Association (ADPA) sponsored this symposium in Florida.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1620.

MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL MILITARY FISH AND WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING
28 MARCH 1996

The National Military Fish and Wildlife Association (NMFWA) Business Meeting was held in the Promenade Room of the Adams Mark Hotel, Tulea, Oklahoma. The meeting was called to order by President Rich LeClerc at 1345 on 28 March 1996.

Mark Hagan provided a synopsis of the Board of Directors (BOD) meeting held on Sunday, 24 March 1996. Rich LeClerc went through the correspondence he received since the last BOD meeting. He indicated whether or not action was taken for each item. The minutes of the 30 March 1995 BOD meeting were accepted without additions or corrections.

Junior Kerns reported on the Nominations Committee. He was the Committee Chair and Rich LeClerc, Mark Hagan, Chester Martin, Bob Wardwell were committee members. A total of 476 ballots were mailed of which 25% were filled out and returned. Ballots which were faxed had to be signed, but those that were mailed did not have to be signed. Forty-seven percent of the ballots were returned by fax. The new officers of the BOD will be introduced later in the meeting. Rich LeClerc explained why Tom Poole was going to be President. The BOD appointed Tom Poole as President-Elect from Vice President when Bob Progulske resigned. All the BOD members participated in the appointment of Tom Poole to President-Elect.

Tom Poole provided a report on the Program Committee. He took responsibility for producing the program brochure instead of the Host Chair. The Program Chair typically concentrates on program content and this year there are approximately 30 presentations, which does not include the Tuesday night presentations and policy sessions. Tom Poole officially requested concurrent sessions with Wildlife Management Institute (WMI) for Wednesday morning. A negative response was received from WMI personnel, but the NMFWA will make the same request again next year. Tom Poole said that he hoped next year the program would be equally large. He will be asking for comments on the program, soliciting new ideas, and suggestions for improvements. Chester Martin thanked the Tulsa District, Army Corps of Engineers, for providing support. He also extended a special thanks to Everett Langley for his logistical support. The NMFWA members in attendance also showed their appreciation. Rich LeClerc also thanked Tom Poole for his efforts with the 1996 program.

Jim Gallagher said that three issues of the FAWN were published
last year. He requested items for the FAWN and asked they be submitted early. The problem of getting enough material to print in the FAWN still persists. The style of the FAWN continues to evolve and any suggestions for change would be welcome. Rich LeClerc thanked Jim Gallagher for all his work on producing FAWN.

Kyle Rambo provided a report on the Membership Committee. There were 746 members as of the meeting last year in Minneapolis, MN and there are approximately 750 members of the NMFWA as of this meeting. More new members are being listed under general environmental or natural resources positions versus specific biologist positions. There are also more National Guard, Coast Guard, university, and private sector people joining the NMFWA. He also mentioned the distribution of the mailing labels when not being used for a commercial venture. Kyle Rambo is trying to refurbish the membership list and anyone not receiving a FAWN should contact him. The membership list is available to the BOD and is in dBASE. Rich LeClerc asked that a list of attendees to this conference be provided to Kyle Rambo so that it can be compared with the membership list. Kyle Rambo will provide this comparison upon request. The new BOD will be investigating membership issues, such as including the Coast Guard which is a department of Transportation agency. The NMFWA membership should provide input on these types of membership issues.

Doug Lister provided a report on the Awards Committee. He mentioned that there were four nominations submitted, all for the volunteer category. Papers/presentations were judged at the conference this year. Judging papers/presentations was a challenge with the concurrent sessions. Doug Lister recommended having two awards for papers/presentations; one award for technical and one award for nontechnical papers/presentations. Providing speakers with judging criteria were also recommended. Doug Lister reminded everyone to nominate people for awards in recognition of the work they are doing. Whether they are military, civilian, etc. these people can be recognized for their accomplishments.

There were no resolutions proposed or discussed.

Jeff Bossart provided a report on the Law Enforcement Committee. Mr. Peter Walsh signed out a letter to the Department of Treasury, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC). Jeff Bossart mentioned that FLETC has tentatively agreed to provide a refresher course during FY 98. Brian Hostetter, NAS Oceania, Virginia has agreed to host the FY 97 NMFWA Law Enforcement Training Course. The FY 97 course will probably be held during the second week in July 1997. Perhaps the FY 98 course will be held at the FLETC.

Chris Bandy provided a report on the Poster Committee. He mentioned the TV monitor with a built in VCR for the NMFWA poster had been added. Chris Bandy requested photographs and updated information for the NMFWA poster. Videos for the poster were also requested. The possibility of creating a NMFWA video was suggested. New information is needed for the poster, especially if it will be displayed at the Wildlife Society conference in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Gene Stout provided a report on the Archives Committee. Updated copies of the NMFWA history were made available at the business meeting.

Junior Kerns provided a briefing on the status of the Sikes Act. The prediction made last October that the Sikes Act would be out of Congress has proven to be incorrect. The Sikes Act is still in Senate committee, chaired by Senator Kempthorne. Last May, a revised version was drafted which contained mostly cosmetic changes. H.R. 1141 is the number of the Sikes Act and was out of the House of Representatives last July. Dispute resolution language has been inserted into the current version of the Sikes Act and several unofficial proposals are circulating around. These proposals need to be sent through the Department of Defense (DoD), Department of Interior (DoI), and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The BOD discussed these proposals and sent a letter stating that dispute resolution clauses should be part of the implementing regulations (32 CFR). The International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA) also sent a letter endorsing the same position as the NMFWA. The Sikes Act is continuing to go through some small changes, including dispute resolution. The Secretary of Defense would consider changes to installation management plans based on military requirements. This would essentially ensure DoD maintained control over installation management plans. This was and is of concern to the states because they might lose control of resources within their boundaries. The BOD will be discussing strategy and future direction regarding the Sikes Act. Rich LeClerc mentioned he had lunch with Ms. Goodman and told her that the NMFWA endorsed the joint DoD and DoI position as stated in the October letter, should that document ever go forward.

Rich LeClerc reported on the Brochure Committee. He said that Ann DeBevec wanted to relinquish her responsibility for the Brochure Committee. Rich LeClerc said he would assume those duties for the Brochure Committee. A draft brochure has been developed but still lacks pictures. Rich LeClerc asked everyone to send pictures directly to him. Chris Bandy also needs pictures for the NMFWA poster display. If enough pictures are submitted they could be used on a rotating basis for the poster display. The best medium for pictures are 5x7 or 3x7 prints, although larger pictures and negatives may be used. Chris Bandy also said that some narrative accompanying the pictures would be very helpful.

An Ad Hoc Fisheries Committee has been established. Jim Beemer will chair this committee and has placed a fisheries survey form at the NMFWA registration desk. Jim Beemer asked everyone to fill out this survey form and send it to him. He also pointed out that there were several technical papers on fisheries at the conference this year.

The BOD dissolved the Development Committee during the meeting held on Sunday. An opinion poll was sent out with the election ballots and the report summarizing the results is available at the registration desk. The new BOD will investigate what direction this effort will take from here.

Rich LeClerc opened the new business by reading a letter sent to him by Diane Drigot which was available at the NMFWA registration desk.

Thomas Wray mentioned the Natural Resource Communications Workshop will be held 10-14 June 1996 at Indian Head, MD. This is the third and last communications workshop and will run Monday through Friday afternoon. There are no registration costs for the workshop. Thomas Wray said he would send a course outline upon request.

The NMFWA has been granted a full symposium at the Wildlife Society (TWS) Conference to be held in Cincinnati, Ohio. Dave Tazik, Chester Martin, and Rich LeClerc have reviewed the 30-35 papers which were submitted. Not all of these papers made the final selection. The NMFWA will have excellent papers and presentations for TWS conference.

Thomas Wray informed everyone that there was a call for papers...
in support of the Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance (LRAM) conference. Information on this LRAM conference was available at the NMFWA registration desk. This conference will provide information on restoration techniques.

Rich LeClerc will be the new Chair of the Nominations Committee. New people are needed to serve on the BOD.

Chris Bandy suggested producing a video program or slide program with a tape as a way of presenting the NMFWA message. He asked that submissions be sent directly to him.

Bert Bivings spoke about game warden training and the possibility that military police may not be able to support game warden programs because of their involvement in Bosnia. He mentioned the possibility of having Habeas Granum authority, so installations can have game wardens. Bert Bivings will work on this effort.

Tammy Shepherd suggested touring nearby military installations during the NMFWA conference. Rich LeClerc pointed out that the NMFWA conference is held in association with the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, so there may not be a military installation close by. The logistics of transportation and political sensitivity of NMFWA members leaving during the Wildlife Management Institute (WMI) sessions have to work out.

Marjorie McHenry mentioned the LRAM and ITAM conference is not limited to just Department of the Army personnel and other people are welcome to attend. These conferences are held every year and near a military installation which is toured. She asked for people to submit papers for presentation at the LRAM conference. It was mentioned that the NMFWA conference cannot fulfill all training needs in one conference and that other meetings can provide information and training.

Bill Fisher said that letters from headquarters which justify attending the NMFWA conference would be helpful. And if headquarters could send letters out earlier, this would help justify attending the NMFWA conference. Bert Bivings mentioned that individual commands could also send out letters endorsing the NMFWA conference. Overseas installations should also be considered when sending out conference information. Rich LeClerc said that a Development Committee could look into these ideas.

Rich LeClerc announced the new BOD as follows:

- Don Pitts - Western Region Director
- Wanda Deal - Western Region Director
- Rick McWhite - Eastern Region Director
- Scott Smith - Eastern Region Director
- Bill Woodson - At-Large Director
- Chester Martin - At-Large Director
- Jim Gallagher - Newsletter Editor
- Mark Hagan - Secretary/Treasurer
- Marjorie McHenry - Vice President
- Rick Griffiths - President-Elect
- Tom Poole - President
- Rich LeClerc - Past President

Rich LeClerc turned the gavel and President over to Tom Poole. President Tom Poole said he had enjoyed working with Rich LeClerc over the years and looked forward to continuing this in the future. The next BOD meeting immediately following the Business Meeting was announced. Tom Poole mentioned that Fort Devens was going to have the name changed and telephone numbers may also change.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1539.

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**MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL MILITARY FISH AND WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**28 MARCH 1996**

The National Military Fish and Wildlife Association (NMFWA) Board of Directors meeting was held in the Oklahoma Room of the Adams Mark Hotel, Tulsa, Oklahoma. The meeting was called to order by President Tom Poole at 1610 on 28 March 1996.

Tom Poole will be speaking with BOD members, especially Rick Griffiths and Marjorie McHenry. He will pass on to Marjorie McHenry, the Program Chair for the meeting next year, on his experiences with arranging the program. Tom Poole will also be meeting with the Host Chair, both this year and next year Chairs, after this BOD session. Marjorie McHenry asked the BOD members and others present for input on the program for next year.

Tom Poole asked each BOD member what could be done to facilitate the duties associated with each position. Mark Hagan said that receipts were needed for any expenses being claimed. He also said that copies of any correspondence should be sent to him for inclusion into the records. Handouts at BOD meetings are extremely helpful in producing the minutes. Mark Hagan also said that he will need help at the registration desk next year. Using the home or office addresses for Mark Hagan is satisfactory. It was mentioned that using the telephone or fax was all right if approved by the installation or command. Rick Griffiths said that no installation mailings or commercial phone calls should be accomplished. Costs for using the telephone or mail are reimbursable expenses. Reducing mailing costs is encouraged when possible, but one of the NMFWA functions is to facilitate communication amongst Department of Defense (DoD) biologists and natural resources personnel. Jim Gallagher will continue to serve as the Newsletter Editor. He asked that any FAWN submissions greater than one page be sent on disk using ASCII format. Gene Stout, Jim Gallagher, and Mark Hagan have copies of the FAWN. Jim Gallagher usually has the FAWN reviewed by the NMFWA President prior to publication. Tom Poole said he should be able to review and provide comments on the FAWN within one week. The three issues of the FAWN are published in May, September, and January. Submissions received after the first of these months are difficult to include in that issue of the FAWN.

Chester Martin said he would try to help with the conference to be held in Washington, D.C. There was a nearly complete change in Regional Directors. The Mississippi River divides the western and eastern regions. The eastern regional directors can decide on the north-south dividing line. Kyle Rambo will provide an updated
membership list to the BOD members. Tom Poole would like to have the regional directors to contact each installation, if not each individual, at least once during the year and would prefer twice per calendar year. The regional directors should be soliciting FAWN articles from the NMFWA members. They should also be soliciting assistance for the Program Chair. Tom Poole would like to see the Field Notes section of the FAWN continue. The FAWN is distributed to all NMFWA members. The BOD discussed distributing extra copies to installation commanders and other agencies, such as the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), The Wildlife Society (TWS), etc. Jim Gallagher said he usually orders approximately fifty extra copies of the FAWN. Rich LeClerc motioned that the BOD approve up to $100.00 to print extra copies of each FAWN issue and send these to State resource agencies, TWS, conservation organizations, etc. Chester Martin seconded the motion. The motion to spend $100.00 for each issue and to send the FAWN to other organizations passed.

Tom Poole asked for new business on the standing committees. The Immediate Past president serves as Chair of the Nominations Committee. The Vice President serves as the Program Chair and the regional directors should provide assistance. The Newsletter Editor serves as Chair of the Newsletter Committee.

Kyle Rambo is the Chair of the Membership Committee. He will be asked what he needs to carry out his functions. The membership is currently on dBASE and is available in hard copy or on disk. The NMFWA mailing list is usually not provided to other requesters. Chester Martin mentioned that he had met some younger biologists on installations that held the NMFWA in disregard. The BOD discussed the possibility that the right messages are not getting to the right places or people. Tom Poole said the NMFWA brochure might help getting the right messages to the right places and people. The regional directors should be helping Kyle Rambo keep the membership list updated. Kyle Rambo sends the mailing labels to Jim Gallagher for FAWN mailings. Tom Poole said promoting EMail use might facilitate these membership efforts.

In the past, all resolutions have been sent directly to Peter Boice. There are no resolutions currently pending.

Jeff Bossart will continue as Chair of the Enforcement Committee. Brian Hostetter will be the lead for the 1996 Law Enforcement Course. Rich LeClerc reminded the BOD that the Law Enforcement Chair was not to rotate annually with the Law Enforcement Course.

Chris Bandy will continue to serve as Chair of the Poster Committee. It was suggested that a list of accomplishments be developed in addition to the pictures and videos. The NMFWA poster display is available to members attending other meetings. The NMFWA poster is not just for the NMFWA conference, but can be customized for display at other meetings. It was suggested that this availability be announced in the FAWN.

Gene Stout has agreed to continue his efforts with the Archives Committee. He is basically only receiving the FAWN and picking up information at the annual NMFWA conference. The conference information from the various speakers needs to be sent to Gene Stout. The papers should be kept on disk and hard copy. The abstracts from many organizations are on computer programs (i.e. ABSEARCH). The NMFWA has a permanent address, but not a permanent computer.

The BOD discussed the Special Ad Hoc committees. Chester Martin spoke about the Resolutions Committee and that resolutions are what led to where the NMFWA is currently. Chester Martin agreed to serve as Chair of the Resolutions Committee.

Ann DeBevec is no longer able to support the Brochure Committee efforts. The NMFWA still needs a brochure. The basic layout and text have been completed, but pictures are still needed. Rich LeClerc will work on this effort and see if the BOD wants any additional input after the review.

It was mentioned that recreational fishing and fisheries are not always the same. Jim Beamer will be pursuing an effort to place more emphasis on fisheries. He will chair a session on freshwater aquatics at the next NMFWA conference. Rick McWhite will chair a session on biodiversity at the next NMFWA conference.

Mark Hagan read the minutes of the last BOD meeting regarding the Development Committee. The report summarizing the opinion poll results was passed out to the new BOD members. Tom Poole provided a brief history on the issue of changing membership, changing the NMFWA name, and changing voting membership criteria. This issue was not discussed further during this NMFWA BOD meeting.

Tom Poole provided a brief background on the Sikes Act. This has been a long, drawn out issue which has been worked by the NMFWA Sikes Act Committee. The Sikes Act is a key piece of federal legislation which is reauthorized approximately every five years. There have been major congressional and presidential changes since the latest reauthorization effort began. The NMFWA BOD and members have been working hard on this effort. Tom Poole will be talking to someone to see if they will chair this Ad Hoc Committee. The NMFWA will continue to work on this issue before the next Congress.

Tom Poole called for any items under new business.

Rich LeClerc motioned that the BOD establish an expenditure committee to make recommendations on spending levels and authorities. Don Pitts seconded the motion. In the past, the BOD and NMFWA members have been spending funds without any approvals. The motion to establish an expenditure committee to make recommendations on spending levels and authorities passed. Rick Griffiths agreed to chair this committee and Barbara Wilson will provide assistance.

Rich LeClerc motioned that the BOD establish a by-laws Committee to review the entire by-laws and make recommendations as necessary. Jim Gallagher seconded the motion. The unresolved items from the Development Committee could be included in this effort. One example was cited, the President-Elect moving directly into the position of President is not specifically in the by-laws. The motion passed to establish a by-laws Committee to review the by-laws and make recommendations as necessary.

Rich LeClerc motioned that the BOD establish a Communications Committee to formulate recommendations on possible opportunities to improve communications. Wanda Deal seconded the motion. This would be a special Ad Hoc committee established by the BOD. The motion passed to establish a Communications Committee to formulate recommendations on possible opportunities to improve communication.

Rich LeClerc motioned that the President be allowed to appoint chairs to the committees without BOD approval. Wanda Deal seconded the motion. The motion to allow the President to appoint committee chairs without BOD approval passed.

Chester Martin met with Dr. Paul Thies of the Army Environmental Center (AEC). They discussed the possibility of having the NMFWA become part of the American Defense Preparedness Association.
(ADPA). Dr. Thies would like the NMFWA to become part of the ADPA.

Wanda Deal asked what the BOD could do, or have to do, to change the order of BOD and Business meetings to allow greater participation by members. The by-laws would have to be checked to see what is required. If there is greater participation in the BOD meetings they would be much longer. The agenda could be printed and distributed, or short BOD meetings with the new board members could be held prior to the Business Meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1816.

ABSTRACTS OF THE TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS AT THE ANNUAL TRAINING SESSION
TULSA, OKLAHOMA

TECHNICAL SESSION 1 - Perambulating the Bounds - Conservation Easements
Session Chairs: Steve Getlein & Scott Belfit


The second largest red-cockaded woodpecker (Picoides borealis) (RCW) population in the world is located in the Sandhills physiographic region of North Carolina. Fort Bragg is working towards species recovery by conducting intensive cavity enhancement, RCW tree monitoring, REC breeding surveys, growing-season burns, and mldstoy reduction. Significant barriers to recovery still exist. The RCW occurs in two smaller-than-possible populations, one primarily on FT Bragg and surrounding private lands, the other on Camp Mackall and the State-owned Sandhills Game Lands. Camp Mackall is separated from FT Bragg by a 13-km gap of private and State land holdings. Cooperation among private, state and Federal landowners is necessary to re-establish and maintain habitat for linkage between the Camp Mackall and FT Bragg populations. A regional working group consisting of personnel from Federal, State and private conservation organizations has been established to develop and coordinate a conservation strategy for the North Carolina Sandhills. Current initiatives include: 1) safe harbor habitat conservation plan, 2) public outreach programs, 3) cooperative research agreement between the Army and the National Biological Survey and 4) cooperative agreement between the Army and the Nature Conservancy. The future of military training at FT Bragg is linked to recovering endangered species, precluding the need to list additional species as endangered, and sustaining the longleaf pine-wiregrass ecosystem of the region. This project is driven by the need to ensure the perpetual availability of land for soldiers to train in the Sandhills region.


The US Air Force is entrusted with the stewardship of a wide diversity of natural and cultural resources on installations throughout the United States. For many years the management approach to those resources was commodities-based with an emphasis on multiple use and sustained yield and the protection of single species as regulated under the Endangered Species Act. Beginning in 1992 Air Force policy makers and field personnel recognized a need for a new policy that adopted an ecosystem approach to making, implementing and evaluating decisions affecting the management of its natural resources. This paper summarizes the changes that brought about the transition to an ecosystem management approach in the Air Force.


While Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) is merely part of the Upper Chesapeake Bay watershed system, the water quality of the bay directly affects APG resource management and often mission achievement. Therefore, the "health" of the watershed is of paramount importance to the installation. In order to insure the health of the system, it has proved necessary to work off the installation. The easiest way to do this was to create a partnership among agencies with like interests. The Swan Creek Restoration Partnership was created to achieve a specific watershed objective but also to gather together agencies/groups with particular responsibilities to see how well they could work together for the betterment of the watershed. Methods of analyzing watershed conditions and prioritizing problems were developed relying on the capabilities of the organizations in the partnership. APG and the communities of Aberdeen and Havre de Grace represented the principal land users in the watershed. Hartford County provided local government responsibility. The State of Maryland's Departments of Natural Resources and the Environment and Baltimore District Corps of Engineers were the regulatory agencies for the watershed. Inclusion of all these agencies and individual landowners in a partnership provided each with a sense of ownership and responsibility for the watershed restoration.


The Louisiana National Guard will offer "Safe Harbor" to Red-Cockaded
Woodpeckers (RCW) at its major training site, Camp Beauregard. The agreement between the Guard and USDA Fish and Wildlife Service will facilitate increased stewardship of RCW and increased training intensity on the camp. Specific techniques will include monitoring of a proposed longleaf pine demonstration area, FWS access to the training site for translocating RCW as necessary and banding of RCW should they be found at Camp Beauregard. The Guard has also considering an innovative agreement with the Nature Conservancy regarding the Cypress Island Preserve. The Guard is seeking to conduct fire simulation, light vehicle and Stinger missile and other training at the preserve.

FISH PASSAGE PROJECT ON DICKERSON CREEK AT SUBBASE BANGOR. PAVLICEK, B., NSB Bangor, PWO, Silverton, WA 98315. Phone: Com (360) 396-5094, Fax-7196, DSN 744-5095.

For decades, the US Navy has invested in its natural resources conservation program to ensure continuing use of the land and water resources it trains on. In pursuing this objective, the Navy has sponsored diverse and unique projects and programs which seek to combine Navy resources with non-governmental and public support for long-term success in maximizing the possibilities for conservation of military lands and the regional ecosystem. An example of this is a recently completed effort at Naval Submarine Base Bangor to correct an engineering design of the 1940s which had an unintentional impact on the environment. When the Navy took over the land for the base during World War II, there was an immediate need for construction. At that time, few environmental considerations were placed in construction design. For example, construction of a railroad to move munitions in and out of the Base during the war caused a restriction to upstream spawning habitat for coho and chum salmon at one site along Dickerson Creek. With funding provided by the Legacy Resource Management Program, the obstruction caused by the narrow and elevated WW II culvert was replaced, with no effect on the Navy's use of the area. Already, the project is showing positive results. Over 1,000 salmon used the culvert in the first three months to reach pristine spawning grounds which had been inaccessible for 50 years. The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, the naive American Squamish Tribe, and neighboring landowners have been enthusiastic supporters and cooperators of this project and the Base's accomplishments. It is estimated that the economic return to the community will be great enough to repay the cost of the project within five years, providing a local Navy contribution to the solution of a regional problem of environmental, cultural, and economic importance.


The Maryland DNR and the Army Research Laboratory (ARL) worked cooperatively during the 1993 and 1994 white-tailed deer hunting season to provide a positive hunting experience for individuals under the age of sixteen. Twenty-five (25) people were selected to participate in a "junior hunt" at the Blossom Point Field Test Facility. Selected junior hunters, and a responsible adult who would accompany the junior during the hunt, were required to attend a one-day pre-hunt safety and education session sponsored by the DNR. On the day of the hunt, the junior hunters arrived at 5:30 am and received a detailed briefing by ARL Wildlife Conservation Officers on the conduct of the hunt. They were transported to their assigned stands, where they waited with their responsible adult (who was not armed) for daylight. Numerous local and regional news articles and even one national press story were published about the program. The authors believe that there are other managed hunting situations which could easily adapted for Junior Hunts.

LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES ON TWO DoD INSTALLATIONS.
HUNNICUTT, W. M. ATTN: AFZA- PW-DW, FT Bragg, NC 28307-5000 and ROGERS, W. H., MCAS Cherry PT, NC.

The levels of law enforcement effort at two southeastern military installations are presented. Statistics on natural resources protection efforts and enforcement actions are discussed as are authorities, job descriptions, training equipment and case loads. Similarities and differences between the installations' law enforcement missions are discussed.
ARC-INFO GIS PRESENTATION
Presenter: Ms Laura Hall, ESRI, Inc.

ARC-INFO and ARC-VIEW are presented in a multi-media format. There are several natural resource management applications in use or in development on DoD installations utilizing these products. The recently executed partnering agreement between ESRI Inc. and CERL will be discussed. This presentation may be of particular interest to NMFWA members transitioning from the GRASS GIS system.

TECHNICAL SESSION 3 - Exotic Species on DoD Lands
Session Chair: Kim Mello

RESULTS FROM A SURVEY OF EXOTIC SPECIES ON DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE LANDS. MELLO, J.K. and D.J. Beckmann. Directorate of Public Works, Environmental and Natural Resources Division, 2160 South J Street, Fort McCoy, WI 54656-5162. Phone: (608) 388-5766; Fax (608) 388-5459.

An exotic species survey was prepared for distribution in the October 1995 edition of the NMFWA newsletter (FAWN). Ten questions were asked regarding exotic species on DOD lands. To date, 27 surveys, representing 30 DOD sites, have been received. All services within DOD were represented including the National Guard and Army Corps of Engineers. Twenty-six sites reported having exotic species. Of the 130+ exotic species reported, 115 (88%) were plants. Active control of exotics was being conducted on 18 sites with chemical and mechanical techniques being the most widely used. Respondents indicated that exotic species have their greatest impact on biodiversity. Impacts include habitat degradation, competition, and predation of native plant and animal species. Lack of funding and staff were cited as the primary obstacles in controlling exotics. This survey will be available to attendees at the 1996 conference who did not respond to the initial data call. The final survey results will be reported in a future edition of the FAWN.

AIR FORCE - THE NATURE CONSERVANCY COOPERATIVE

The Air Force, working in cooperation with the Science Division of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and TNC's Wildland Weeds Management and Research Program at the University of California - Davis, has established a program to include Air Force weed species of concern into a national priority list of exotic species. Air Force involvement includes the funding of a TNC intern to determine which exotic plant species are broadly considered problem pests on Air Force land. Results of the study will be summarized in TNC's central scientific databases. From that effort a report of species of concern on Air Force bases will be compiled that will contain summary data on general characteristics, distribution, invasiveness and methods of control. We believe this study will improve awareness of USAF needs for management and monitoring information on invasive exotic plant species and influence TNC's overall research priorities, leading to increased sharing of experience and expertise among the Air Force, TNC, and other

NOXIOUS WEED MANAGEMENT AT FORT CARSON AND THE PI ON CANYON MANEUVER SITE. CO. LINN, J.C., HQ Fort Carson, AFZC-ECM-NR, Bldg 302 (Linn), Fort Carson, CO 80913-5000. Phone: Com (719) 526-3975; DSN 691; Fax (719) 526-1705.

The Directorate of Environmental Compliance And Management (DECAM), is responsible for the development and implementation of a Noxious Weed Management Program. It ensures that Fort Carson is in compliance with the mandates of federal, state and local weed laws/legislation. DECAM's noxious weed program is dedicated to utilizing integrated management strategies which include education and awareness, prevention, biological, chemical, cultural and mechanical controls and monitoring. These applications will continue on both installations along with the development of new methods of controlling noxious weed introduction and spread are being introduced.

EXOTIC PLANT SPECIES AT CAMP PENDLETON. GRIFFITHS, R. AC/S/ES, Camp Pendleton, CA 92055-5008. Phone: (619) 725-9730, Fax -3528, DSN 365-9730, email: griffiths@pendleton.usmc.mil

Nine exotic plant species are displacing the native riparian species on Camp Pendleton. Most of these provide neither food nor habitat for wildlife. Control is essential if the Base is to conserve its riparian habitat and the endangered species that habitat supports. The problem will persist until all upstream sources of seeds and vegetative propagules are eliminated. Once the current areas of exotic species on Base are eliminated, an annual control program will minimize re-infestation. Control will focus first on eliminating recent infestations that are capable of rapid expansion, second on infestations where native riparian vegetation is still dominant, and finally on mature stands of predominantly exotic species. This approach will minimize the further deterioration of the lightly and partially infested areas while expanding the native habitat base. Cooperation with other agencies and private organizations will be pursued to eradicate upstream sources of the propagules that are brought aboard the Base during winter runoff and flood events. Since control methods must be adapted to the actual field conditions, we will promote studies of these species biology, cooperate in field tests of new control methods, and keep abreast of current and developing technology. The ultimate goal is elimination of exotic plant species from the Base.

GLOBAL INVASIONS BY NON-INDIGENOUS SPECIES: MECHANISMS AND CONSEQUENCES OF SPECIES TRANSFER. RUZI, G.M., A.H. Hines, L.D. Smith, and J.T. Carton. Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, P.O. Box 26, Edgewater, MD 21037. Phone: (301) 261-4190, Fax (301) 261-7954, email ruzi@serc.si.edu

The transfer and introduction of non-indigenous species (NIS) into aquatic and marine habitats is occurring on a global scale as a result
of many human activities. The relative importance of these various transfer mechanisms in promoting NIS invasions has changed over time, and movement of ballast water by ships is now the primary mechanism in many coastal habitats. Annually, commercial ships release > 50 million metric tons of biota rich ballast water from foreign ports into U.S. waters. Although ballast-mediated invasions have occurred frequently, sometimes significantly altering resident communities and habitats, many species do not survive transit or successfully colonize sites when released. With funding from the Department of Defense, we are now measuring the volume, source regions, and content (i.e., species density and diversity) of ballast water arriving to Chesapeake Bay via U.S. Navy vessels. Also measured was the effectiveness of the Navy’s mid-ocean ballast exchange policy in removing foreign species from ballast tanks. This research, together with other aspects of our research program, will enhance the ability to predict the risk of future invasions and help develop management approaches to this threat.

ZEBRA MUSSELS IN OKLAHOMA. LANEY, E.E., US Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District, PO Box 61, Tulsa, OK 74121-0061. Phone: (918) 669-7411, Fax (918) 669-7373.

The Tulsa District maintains and operates 3 locks and 2 hydropower dams on the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System. Zebra mussels (Dreissena polymorpha) were discovered at locks 14, 15, and 16 in late January 1993. They were found in lock 17 in mid-June and lock 18 in mid-January 1994. Initial populations were few and widely scattered. Monitoring in 1995 showed they were reproducing and growing over 0.5mm/week during early summer in the Arkansas River. In the Verdigris River they grew about 0.3mm/week and only 0.1mm/week in late summer. They were also found in the powerhouses in 1995. Adults representing various age classes were attached to concrete and steel in the penstocks. By fall 1995 they had been located in the raw water strainers. Control measures are being investigated that will keep them from infiltrating and jeopardizing the continued operation of the powerhouses.

BRAZILIAN PEPPER CONTROL. HOFFMAN, R.J., 6 CES/CEVN, 7621 Hillsborough Loop Dr., MacDill AFB, FL 33621-5207. Phone: (813) 828-2567, Fax (813) 828-2212.

The Brazilian Pepper (Schinus terbinthifolius) is an exotic invasive plant species that has infested wetland and disturbed areas in South and Central Florida. MacDill AFB has over 1000 acres of this species which grows up to 6 feet in one year and chemically suppresses flowering in other plants. These factors give Schinus the ability to dominate areas once inhabited by native plants. Approximately 85 acres of Schinus have been removed from MacDill AFB since 1992. Three different methods of removal were used: 1) chemical; 2) a combination of chemical and mechanical; and 3) chemical and mechanical removal, with continued chemical treatment for 3 years. This paper compares the cost of each program with its effectiveness of controlling Schinus and allowing native species to reestablish. A fourth removal method, use of mechanical and chemical removal in combination with prescribed fire, is discussed.


Most feral pigs (Sus scrofa) are descendants of domestic swine that have gone wild and their reproduction is uncontrolled by man. A few populations may be descendants of European wild boar or crosses between wild boar and domestic stock. Disease control officials report that 23 states have established populations of feral pigs and that the total feral pig population in the United States is believed to be in excess of two million animals. A population of feral pigs was documented in the fall of 1993 on the FT Riley Military Reservation in northeastern Kansas. Biologists from the Fort Riley Natural Resource Division and the Kansas Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit assessed the situation and recommended that the pig population be eradicated because of the potential for disease, crop damage, erosion, competition for food with native wildlife, and depredation on native wildlife. United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Animal Damage Control (ADC) was asked to continue the control efforts in the fall of 1995. ADC plans to integrate a variety of control techniques emphasizing cage traps, leg and neck snares with the possible addition of radio telemetry and aerial hunting.

DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS OF WILD HOGS AT AVON PARK AIR FORCE RANGE, FLORIDA, 1957-1995. WALSH, P.B., DET 1, 6 SPTG/CEVN, 29 South Blvd, Avon Park Air Force Range, FL 33825-5700. Phone: (941) 452-4119; Fax (941) 452-4161.

Thirty-eight years of wild hog (Sus scrofa) harvest records at Avon Park Air Force Range (APAFR) indicate cyclic harvests that have ranged from 29 to 405 hogs. Although influenced by non-population factors, harvest numbers appear to have value as a population trend indicator. There is evidence that physical condition of white-tailed deer is inversely related to the population size of APAFR wild hogs. Two measures of population abundance are used at APAFR: an ongoing bait-station survey initiated in 1992 and a mark-recapture census begun in 1995. Population density is higher in non-hunted areas than in hunted areas, but the current level of hunting effort does not cause sufficient mortality to affect the hog's capacity to increase. Abundance in any given year is strongly influenced by productivity within the same year. The distances hogs traveled from mark to recapture locations ranged from approximately 1000 feet to more than 12 miles. APAFR hog home ranges are larger than those reported for other areas in the United States.

CAN HILLSIDE BOGS AND FERAL HOGS COEXIST ON FORT POLK? PATE, J.P. HQ Fort Polk/JRTC, AFZK-PW-E, FT Polk, LA 71459-7100. Phone: (318) 531-6013, Fax (318) 531-4864.

Many hillside bogs, better known as Pitcher plant bogs, exist on Fort Polk. The bogs are important habitat for as many as 100 species of plants. Bogs are sensitive to encroachment by many invasive plant species as a result of disturbance. Fort Polk also has a resident population of feral hogs (Sus scrofa). Feral hogs forage in the bog
areas, severely disturbing the soil as well as the plant community. These disturbances cause soil erosion, reduce fuel for fires, and provide invader plants an opportunity for encroachment. Personnel at Fort Polk are currently examining areas from which hog hunters are excluded to determine the need for hog removal. Bogs within hunter exclusion areas are compared to those in hunted areas. Historical data is referenced for comparison of habitat damage and recovery. Preliminary results indicate a need for hog removal from Fort Polk due to their destructive nature. However, complete eradication is not a politically viable option due to the popularity of hog hunting on the reservation.


Feral goats (Capra hircus) were eradicated from the 44 square mile Kahoolawe in the Hawaiian Islands using a novel "Judas Goat" approach. Five goats were captured, fitted with radio collars, and distributed singly around the island. The collared Judas goats were tracked using a Hughes 500 D helicopter with a Telonics TR-2 receiver wired directly into the communication system. On a monthly basis, the collared goats were located by air and uncollared goats found with the Judas goats were shot. During the first 24 months, 88 goats were shot. The Judas goats were monitored monthly for the next 29 months, but no uncollared goats were found. In May of 1993, the last of the collared goats was shot and the island was declared goat free.

TECHNICAL SESSION 4 - Field Notes (General Topics)
Session Chair: COL Robert McGuire

_A SCHEME FOR MANAGING, PRIORITIZING AND EVALUATING FISHING PONDS._ GALLAGHER, J. HQ USAFACFS, ATTN: ATZB-NN, Fort Sill, OK 73503-5100. Phone: Com (405) 442-4648, Fax -7207, DSN 639-4646.

Each year, data on population status, fish stocking, aquatic weed control, angler pressure, physical status of bodies of water and other characteristics of ponds and lakes are entered into a custom designed computer program. Pond priorities are established according to a formula which includes acreage, turbidity, road access, distance from the cantonment area, aesthetics, drought resistance, aquatic weeds, shoreline access and special angler conveniences or problems. Ponds are then assigned to a general category based on this priority score with some qualitative adjustments based on experience or special situations.

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND BASH AT WESTOVER ARB. ROSSI, G.L., and S. Melvin, 493 SPTG/GEV, 250 Patriotic Ave., Suite 1, Westover ARB, Chicopee, MA 01022-1638. Phone: (413) 557-2484, Fax (413) 557-330, e-mail: grossi@cev.afees.af.mil

Bird Aircraft Strike Hazard (BASH) habitat management recommendations conflict with state agency grassland bird habitat management recommendations for two State-listed endangered species at Westover Air Force Reserve Base. Westover contains the largest contiguous grassland in New England, comprising 1600 acres surrounding the airfield. Annual breeding bird surveys, with emphasis on the Upland sandpiper (Bartramia longicauda) and the Grasshopper Sparrow (Ammodramus savannarum), began in 1986. The surveys suggest a rapid rise in species population due to implementation of State management recommendations followed by a population plateau as the habitat reached carrying capacity. BASH recommendations by the regional APHIS Animal Control Agent specify mowing practices that reduce overall bird populations around the airfield. The State wants the Air Force to provide site-specific scientific evidence focused on the contribution of grassland bird populations to the BASH potential at Westover. Conflict resolution efforts have produced limited success to date. An ecosystem analysis is proposed to provide better understanding of the interaction between grassland bird species and BASH considerations on Westover ARB.

EFFECTS OF BOTTOMLAND HARDWOOD FOREST THINNING ON NEOTROPICAL MIGRANT LANDBIRDS. HAGERTY. K. H., Dpt. of Biological Sciences, Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, LA 71270. Phone: (318) 257-4573, Fax (318) 257-4574.

Point counts were used to quantify neotropical migrant landbird abundance in untreated and thinned bottomland hardwood forests at the Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant (LAAP) from 1993-1995. At each point, avian occurrence and abundance were related to different habitat features. The baseline population estimates of 25 migrants and 21 resident species, detected in the pretreatment years of 1993 and 1994, were compared to the 1995 estimates of 22 migrant and 27 resident species to quantify the effects of the mid-story forest thinning which took place in the fall of 1994. A significantly greater number of species (39) and individuals (137.5) occurred in the treatment areas compared to the control areas (36 and 115.5, respectively). Treatment also significantly increased the size of most avian guilds including canopy, mid-story and shrub foragers, shrub, ground and cavity nesters, interior/edge species and migrants and residents. Numbers of Acadian flycatchers (Empidonax virescens) and American crows (Corvus brachyrhynchos) decreased. Brown-headed cowbirds (Molothrus ater) were only observed in treated areas.

SHALLOW WATER MANAGEMENT FOR MIGRATORY BIRDS. WESLEY, D., Ducks Unlimited, Southern Regional Office, Suite D, 101 Business Park Drive, Jackson, MS 39213. Phone: (601) 956-1936, Fax -7814.

Current political and conservation priorities charge public agencies with the responsibility of enhancing and restoring wetland habitat on their properties. This stewardship has been taken seriously by virtually all public entities including the Department of Defense (DoD). Cooperative projects with Ducks Unlimited have been completed on DoD lands in Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland and California. Five thousand (5,000) acres of wetlands were enhanced and restored at a cost of approximately $600,000. These wetlands provide critical habitat for a
variety of waterfowl, wading and shorebirds, as well as endangered species. These DoD wetland projects play a significant role in accomplishing the goals of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. Additional opportunities exist for cooperative efforts on DoD installations. Ducks Unlimited, Inc. has cooperated with public, commercial and private landowners to restore and enhance 825,000 acres of habitat throughout North America. A variety of habitat projects are examined in the presentation.

GENETIC MANAGEMENT OF SWAINSON'S WARBLER. WINKLER, K.

Swainson's Warbler (Limnothlypis swainsonii) is one of the least known migrant birds in the United States. Scattered populations breed in deciduous floodplain forest on the coastal plain of the SE United States, and winter primarily in Cuba, Jamaica and along the Atlantic slope of Mexico and Belize. It is listed as a species of special concern in states along the northern edge of its breeding range (e.g. Illinois, Missouri, Maryland), and there is concern that populations are declining elsewhere. The species is perceived as a canebreak specialist and an uncommon to rare member of southeastern avian communities. It is not restricted to canebreaks. Optimal habitat appears to be dense second growth forest along low floodplains, where it can be locally common. The species is not threatened in the core of its historic breeding range. Sizable, viable populations exist and are in need of protection and management in VA (Great Dismal Swamp), NC, SC, GA, AL, FL, LA, MS, eastern AR, eastern TX and western TN. Our genetic analyses, using allozymes, mitochondrial DNA and microsatellites, are revealing the levels of genetic variation in the species and enabling us to construct a geographic map of this variation. Thus far, we can demonstrate that the species shows high genetic variability (good news), and that gene flow among populations is moderate. However, a rather sharp geographic partitioning of genetic diversity is apparent.

THE ANALYSIS OF LCTA DATA: A GIS-BASED DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEM. PUTRAW, K., T. van Niel and E. Olsen. College of Natural Resources, Utah State University, Logan, UT 84322-5200 & Environmental Programs Directorate, Army National Guard, 111 S George Mason Dr., Arlington, VA 22204-1382. Phone: (601) 797-3767.

The Land Condition Trend Analysis (LCTA) program is the Army National Guard (ARNG) standard for land inventory and monitoring. The monitoring program should accomplish two fundamental objectives: 1) provide a baseline against which land managers and decision makers can compare future inventories as they continue to monitor land conditions; and 2) evaluate the effectiveness of management activities. To date, the first of these has been the focus of large comprehensive natural resources monitoring programs. However, it is the second objective that will take monitoring beyond simply a requirement of environmental compliance and make it part of adaptive resource management in support of the military training mission. To this end, ARNG's National Environmental Database and Camp Williams projects have developed a LCTA analysis package which is a powerful environmental database manager and decision support system used to capture, store, analyze and display information about land resources and activities. Work at Camp Williams (Utah ARNG) promises to be a model for LCTA data analysis for over 54 ARNG installations nationwide.

RESTORING BIG SAGEBRUSH TO A DESERT MILITARY TRAINING AREA BY HAND-BROADCASTING OF SEED. McHENRY, M., Idaho Military Division, PO Box 45, Gowen Field, Boise, ID 83707-4507. Phone: Com (208) 389-5285, DSN 941-5285.

Range fires in Orchard Training Area (OTA), Idaho have eliminated big sagebrush (Artemisia tridentata wyomingensis) from large acreage. Sagebrush is desirable wildlife cover and stands up well to tracked vehicle use. Low, variable precipitation makes sagebrush restoration difficult. Seeding big sagebrush by conventional methods is often unsuccessful, and the resulting soil disturbance facilitates invasion by exotic weeds. In 1993 sagebrush seed was hand broadcast in twelve old burns on OTA. Local traditional asserts that sagebrush cannot be successfully seeded into stands of a common grass, Sandberg bluegrass. Transects in seeded and adjacent unseeded areas suggest hand-broadcasting of sagebrush seed can be a successful technique in areas dominated by Sandberg's bluegrass and in areas dominated by weeds.

GUAM - ISLAND PARADISE FOR EXOTIC BROWN TREE SNAKES. HIRSCH, H. 36 CES/CEV, Unit 14007, APO AP, 96543-4007, Andersen AFB, Guam, USA. Phone: (671) 366-2549, Fax (671) 366-5056, email: hirshh@hq.36cev.andersen.af.mil

Most residents have never seen a brown tree snake (Boiga irregularis) even though it has reached every location on the 32 mile long by 8 mile wide island of Guam since its accidental introduction about 50 years ago. Outside its native range of north Australia and Papua New Guinea, the snake has no population controls on this little island and has extirpated all but three native forest birds and a small population of fruit bats. Recovery efforts have been futile. Development of control techniques is underway, with evaluations of permanent and temporary barriers, biological controls and chemical toxicants, fumigants, attractants and repellents. The only effective tools currently available are traps baited with live mice at high risk dispersal locations and snake detection dogs inspecting outbound cargo. A long term eradication solution is needed. In the mean time, continuous efforts must be directed at keeping this snake from spreading to other islands.

NATIVE PLANT LAND RESTORATION. IMLAY, M. NGB-ARE, 111 S. George Mason Drive, Arlington, VA 22204. Phone: (703) 607-7989, Fax (703) 607-7993.

The Army led the Native Plant Land Restoration Working Group of the Federal Native Plant Conservation Committee. Our objectives were to coordinate with State Natural Heritage Programs, the Center for Plant Conservation and other agencies on economically obtaining and propagating native plants for revegetation, land restoration and ecosystem management. Five methods for restoration with native
species were explored. The National Park Service reported on means to obtain, increase and propagate native plants. The Army joined this successful program which is assisted by the Natural Resources Conservation Service through an interagency agreement. Over 20 Army installations reviewed Waterways Experiment Station's first version (Windows) of a noxious weed control information system. The Native Plant Land Restoration Working Group added ecosystem management, citing Camp Guernsey's control of thistle and cheat grass by preemptory restoration with a native species mix. Ecosystem based prescribed burning and grazing were also included. It is particularly important to prevent wildfires on military training land by controlling non-native fire supportive noxious plants such as cheat grass and love grass.

PLAN AHEAD FOR 1997!
Marjorie McHenry

I know it probably doesn't seem that long ago we were at the Tulsa meeting, but you need to be thinking about our March meeting in Washington D.C. now. As your Program Chair for 1997, I would encourage you to come as early as possible in the week to attend the WMI sessions and have time to share experiences with other installation personnel. We are planning an Ice Breaker on Monday evening to help new DoD staff meet other NMFWA members. Most of the feedback I received from our last meeting was not favorable toward concurrent sessions. Please contact me if you have any strong feelings on the matter.

At the present time we have two session topics and chairs. Rick McWhite will be chair of a session on Biodiversity/Ecosystem Management and Jim Beemer will be chair of an Aquatics Session. Jim wanted me to be sure everyone understands that this includes much more than just fisheries management. Amphibians, reptiles, aquatic plants, and wetlands could be included.

We have asked WMI to allow us to have a concurrent session with them on Wednesday morning; it will probably be designated "Politics of Conservation." At this time we have not had a definite response from them.

Wanda Deal has agreed to help organize our "Show and Tell" evening. The participation in this event has been wonderful, with almost more items to be shared than we had time for this last meeting. For next year you need to contact Wanda as to what it is you want to share so we can get the videos and available space a bit more organized.

Included below are the points of contact for these activities. Please contact them or myself if you have information you would like to share at our next meeting.

Rick McWhite
AFDTC-EMS
501 DeLeon St. Suite 101
Eglin AFB, FL 32542
DSN: 872-4435, ext 388
COM: (904) 882-4435

Wanda Deal
Environmental Management
Bldg. 2650A
5 East Popson Ave.
Edwards AFB, CA 93524
DSN: 527-1426
COM: (605) 277-1426

Jim Beemer
Nat. Resources Branch, DHPW
West Point, NY 10996-1592
DSN: 688-2314
COM: (914) 938-2314

Marjorie McHenry
4715 S. Byrd St., Bldg. 518
Boise, ID 83705
DSN: 422-5285
COM: (208) 422-5285

COMMUNICATIONS WORKSHOP FOR 1997

A one-day workshop entitled "Verbal Victories: A System for Surviving Difficult Communication Situations" can be scheduled during our March meeting in Washington D.C. For a mere $80, one can learn how to make more effectively deal with verbal confrontations. Instead of responding defensively and "standing your ground", learn to defuse tension and resolve whatever conflict exists.

The workshop would be held on Sunday, 16 Mar 97 at the Shoreham Hotel. Participation will be limited to 30 individuals. A final decision on the prospects of this workshop must be made by Oct 96. Please contact Thomas Wray (DSN 249-4186, COM 540/653-4186, FAX x2339) if interested. This is a valuable training opportunity that you should not miss.

GOOD NEWS, THERE REALLY IS A SANTA CLAUS!
Bob Wardwell

I know that I am guilty of being cynical when confronted with "something for nothing" and I am sure that most of you have experienced solicitations that can honestly be characterized as too good to be true. So when Chester Martin told me about the Installation Natural Resources Assistance Program (INRAP) during the Tulsa meeting, I was more than a bit skeptical. He said that the program was offering "technical expertise" from individuals employed at the Corps of Engineers Laboratories free of charge to Army Installations. I thought that this must be an offer that had more strings attached to it than a bass fishing tournament. I am very happy to report that I was wrong!

I returned to work with a brochure describing the program and anxious to see if what was being offered was actually going to be delivered. I sent a letter to John Tingle, the INRAP coordinator at the Army Environmental Center (AEC), requesting assistance for a site specific wetland delineation at the Blossom Point Field Test Facility. The letter was sent on April 11th and by May 2nd the project was completed! This was done at no cost to the installation. The delineation was conducted by four (4!) individuals from the Waterways Experiment
Station at Vicksburg. We received a comprehensive delineation on over 50 acres of forested habitat free of charge to the installation.

INRAP is in danger of being terminated. AEC is funding INRAP for now. The missing component for its survival is the lack of requests from installations to keep this program going. Your help is urgently needed. Now is the time to ask yourself what type of assistance you need. Types of natural resources activities available using INRAP include: Aquatic and riparian ecosystem management; fish and wildlife conservation; and recreation resource management.

Contact the INRAP Manager at (410) 671-1592, FAX: (410) 671-1680 for complete information about this invaluable service. You can contact me at (301) 394-1060, DSN: 290-1060, or E-mail: Rwardwell@emh3.army.mil.

A NOTE FROM THE AWARDS COMMITTEE CHAIR

It was great to see everyone in Tulsa in March! I hope all those who attended the Awards Banquet enjoyed themselves as much as I did. Now, to make next year's banquet even better than last year's, I need everybody's help. How can I help, you ask? It's very simple. Nominate that special someone who has helped your program for a NMFWA Special Achievement Award. I know you're all saying, "Doug, that sounds great. I have at least one person that has gone above and beyond to help my program. What are the awards categories and criteria?" The awards categories are as follows:

1. SUPPORT: For persons who indirectly assist natural resources.
   a. Military Support of Natural Resources. "This area is for military personnel who, through their position, have given support to natural resources program above the norm.
   b. Civilian Support of Natural Resources. This area is for civilians who have supported natural resources above the norm. Individuals may be employed by DOD or a supporting agency.

2. VOLUNTEER: For a group or an individual assisting in natural resources programs.
   a. Education. This area is to recognize efforts in natural resources education. Includes interpretation, hunter education, troop training by individuals, groups or interagency cooperation.
   b. Management. This area recognizes volunteer efforts on installations which assist program managers in a variety of natural resource projects. Includes research, revegetation, fish/wildlife habitat enhancement, and endangered species management by interns, private citizens, groups or organizations.

3. PROFESSIONAL: For persons working in natural resources conservation. Includes both DOD and non-DOD employees.
   a. Management. This area covers all aspects of natural resources management. Includes lifetime achievements, special projects, or anything showing dedication above and beyond normal duties.
   b. Law Enforcement. This area recognizes any of the wide variety of professions dealing with fish and wildlife law enforcement. Includes game wardens, JAG officers, lawyers, judges, etc.
   c. Technical. This area recognizes people who are critical to natural resources management but who often go unrecognized. Individuals may include tractor and heavy equipment operators, biological technicians, clerical, laborers, or others who provide technical services to the program.

Deadline for nominations submissions is 15 December. This does not mean wait until 14 December to think about submitting an award nomination. Please give me a nomination form and send it to my address. If you have any questions, please call at (301) 342-5456 or DSN 342-3670. Remember, if we want to have those folks that are volunteering or supporting our programs continue to do so, we owe it to them to recognize and appreciate their efforts.

MEETINGS OF INTEREST

NATIONAL SHOOTING RANGE SYMPOSIUM

For those who are concerned about lead management, better range design and operation, community relations, and encroachment problems, this is the place to be! This symposium is being sponsored by the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Wildlife Management Institute, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Hosted by the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, the symposium will be held in Orlando, Florida from 23-25 June, 1996.

Time is short, so make your plans now! For more information contact Hannah Kirchner:

National Shooting Range Symposium
P.O. Box 192
Amisville, VA 22002
Phone: (540) or (703) 937-3737
FAX: (540) or (703) 937-8278

CALL FOR PAPERS: ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT FOR WILDLIFE CONSERVATION IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

This workshop is being sponsored by The Washington Chapter of The Wildlife Society, and will take place 24-25 October 1996 at the Olympic National Forest Headquarters in Olympia, Washington. Preliminary session topics include:

Ecosystem Management and Conservation Biology
Wildlife Research in Ecosystem Management
Wildlife Planning Project Applications in Ecosystem Management
Poster Session
Vendor Demonstrations of Software, Modeling and Mapping Technologies

Send presentation proposal with author(s), title, short description (less than 400 words), session preference and point of contact by May 1, 1996 to: Becky Herbig, Board Member, Washington Chapter of The Wildlife Society, 14118 73rd Pl., #L-108, Bothell, WA 98011, Phone: (206) 821-1004, FAX: (206) 821-1004*51, E-mail: bherbig@aol.com
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Program: Marjorie McHenry, Idaho ARNG, ID (COM 208/422-5285, DSN 422-5285, FAX -5782)
Resolutions: Chester Martin, USA WES, MS (COM 601/634-3658, FAX -4242)
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Address Correction Requested

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