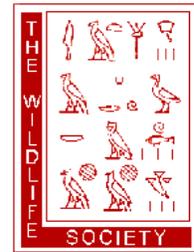




The Alaskan Wildlifer

Newsletter of the Alaska Chapter of
The Wildlife Society

May 2008



Highlights in This Issue

- *Message from new president Howard Golden*
- *New Executive Board takes reins*
- *News from around the state*
- *Annual Chapter Meeting summary*
- *Should we modify the rotation of our annual chapter meeting locations? Vote!*

Message from the President

Many Thanks

I want to thank the members of the Alaska Chapter for giving me the chance to serve as your president for the next two years. Your professionalism and dedication to the conservation of Alaska's wildlife and habitats are an inspiration. It will be my great pleasure to work with all of you.

Speaking of professionalism and dedication, I want to recognize and thank Tom Paragi for the outstanding job he did as our president during the past two years. He served with seemingly tireless enthusiasm to move the Chapter forward in addressing a host of issues affecting wildlife and their habitats in the state, implemented new programs to bolster membership, encouraged student participation, established outreach programs to inform legislators and others about TWS, and conducted many other activities.

Highlights of events that Tom presided over were:

- The Alaska Chapter hosted the 13th Annual TWS Conference in Anchorage in 2006
- Achieved record Chapter membership and largest state Chapter in 2006
- The Chapter prepared an old-growth forest position statement that was adopted by TWS national in 2007
- Received the Chapter of the Year award for 2007

Fortunately, Tom will remain on the Executive Board for two more years as Past-President, where I'm sure

he'll continue to apply his considerable energy and guidance. Thanks again, Tom!

I also want to thank the other members of the 2006-2008 Executive Board for their great service to the Chapter: Eric Taylor (Past-President), Mark Udevitz (Secretary-Treasurer), Carol McIntyre (Northern Representative), Robin West (Southcentral Representative), Steve Lewis (Southeast Representative), Jim Herriges (Newsletter Editor), and Cortney Pylant (Student Representative). Jim volunteered to prepare our newsletter for another two years, and Cortney will stay on through the summer until another student representative is chosen. Liz Solomon also volunteered to serve as our webmaster for another two years and deserves big thanks for moving us into the cyber age. Many thanks as well to all members of the standing and ad hoc Chapter committees working behind the scenes!

Executive Board Elections

For the second time, voting for Executive Board officers occurred electronically through our website. This year, we were the first test case on the new national server. It worked, although a server failure at TWS national required a re-vote and there was some confusion about voting only for the representative in your region. The new system clearly has room for improvement, and the problems may have contributed to lower voter participation at 31 members this year compared with nearly 90 in 2006. We expect the system to be running smoothly the next time we need it.



The final vote tally resulted in the election of the following new officers:

- Kris Hundertmark (President-Elect)
- Karyn Rode (Secretary-Treasurer)
- Dave Person (Southeast Representative)
- Todd Rinaldi (Southcentral Representative)
- Kyle Joly (Northern Representative).

Congratulations to all new board members and thanks very much to the other candidates who ran: Meg Hahr, Susan Oehlers, Liz Jozwiak, and Christine Hunter!

Chapter Goals

Fortunately for me and all our members, Tom Paragi passed along a well-run, active Chapter. My first goal as your new president is to keep that up. My other goals fall in line with the efforts by Tom and the previous Executive Board:

- **Strive to make the Chapter relevant to all members.** This is difficult to achieve because we all have different jobs and professional needs. However, being relevant is fundamental to recruiting and maintaining a membership that is engaged as a professional society. We need our Chapter to represent us and reflect our profession in all its diversity. It seems to me that part of the solution is for the Chapter to provide something our members want. The other part is for the members to provide what the Chapter needs to thrive. Please send me your ideas for things the Chapter can do to be more relevant to you, and please consider ways that you can help the Chapter be relevant to its members.
- **Encourage participation at any level.** I am constantly amazed and humbled by the time and dedication many of our members devote to the Chapter. I am also impressed with the number of members who help in whatever capacity they can. Any level of participation you can offer will be a big help to the Chapter and, I predict, will be a satisfying experience. Running for a seat on the Executive Board is a great way to participate, but if that isn't your thing, consider working on a committee, giving a presentation at the annual meeting, or even offering your opinions in the quarterly newsletter. I'll try to alert you through the newsletters or by e-mail when a regular or ad hoc committee needs help. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have a desire to participate.
- **Address important wildlife issues.** I will work with the Executive Board and other members to continue to apply the Chapter's scientific and educational capacity to important wildlife issues in Alaska. Our Chapter has demonstrated our

commitment to developing and promoting sound stewardship of wildlife resources and their habitats. I invite you to visit the Chapter's website to see the position papers and technical reviews members have produced.

2008 Annual Meeting

We had a terrific gathering in Anchorage with 127 attendees. Many thanks are in order for this year's organizing committee: Aaron Christ, Gino DelFrate, Grant Hilderbrand, Cindi Jacobson, Becky Kelleyhouse, Kalin Kellie, Kim Klein, Thomas McDonough, Chris McKee, Joe Meehan, Tom Paragi, Todd Rinaldi, Gretchen Roffler, Marian Snively, Liz Solomon, Dave Tessler, Mark Udevitz, and Robin West. I want to give special recognition to Kalin Kellie for organizing and moderating the moose workshop, Tom Paragi for orchestrating the plenary session, Cindi Jacobson for leading the program committee, and Aaron Christ for running the A/V shop. I also want to thank all those who participated by presenting papers during the technical sessions. Well done by all!

Highlights of the business meeting (summarized in this newsletter) are:

- Discussion to increase student participation at the annual meeting
- Proposal to change the location schedule for the annual meeting
- Vote to increase dues from \$5 to \$10 and to earmark the increase for students
- Establishment of a committee to examine the polar bear issue and its recent listing

I hope you enjoy this quarterly newsletter!

Howard Golden

News from Southeast:

By Dave Person, Southeast Representative

People

Matt Kirchhoff accepted a job as Director of Bird Conservation with Audubon Alaska. He will be retiring from Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) after more than 25 years of service. **Dale Rabe** was hired by ADFG Division of Wildlife Conservation as Region 1 Supervisor. **Neil Barten** will replace Dale as regional management coordinator for the Division. **Tricia O'Connor** (USFS) was appointed acting Assistant Forest Supervisor for the Tongass National Forest and will work in that position until a new Assistant Forest Supervisor is hired.



News

Tongass Conservation Planning

The Tongass National Forest encompasses about 80% of the land area of Southeast Alaska. Land management decisions made by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) play a very important role with respect to wildlife management and conservation of biodiversity within the region. Consequently, wildlife biologists, managers, and conservationists paid close attention to the changes made to the Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP) signed by Regional Forester Denny Bschor in early 2008. The revised plan incorporated scientific input from Alaskan wildlife professionals representing ADFG, USFS, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Audubon Alaska, and The Nature Conservancy. The allowable sale quantity of timber to be harvested annually remains the same as that specified in the 1997 version of TLMP, but implementation of harvest goals will be phased in gradually depending on market demand for timber. The ADFG and the USFS signed a memorandum of agreement that recommit both agencies to work cooperatively to monitor effects of the plan on wildlife and to address important gaps in biological and ecological knowledge important for the conservation of biodiversity.

Dave Albert of The Nature Conservancy and John Schoen of Audubon Alaska collaborated with area wildlife scientists to develop an alternative conservation plan for the Tongass that emphasizes preservation of watersheds with high ecological values while allowing sustainable harvest of timber. They envision their effort as a complement to TLMP that identifies important areas for wildlife that may not be adequately protected in the revised forest plan. As part of their process, Dave and John convened a panel of scientists to review the TNC-Audubon plan and discuss conservation issues involving the Tongass National Forest. The panel included Barry Noon, Gordon Orians, Paul Alaback, Andrew MacKinnon, Joe Cook, Martin Nie, and David Secord. In mid May, panel members traveled to Juneau where they were briefed by staff from the USFS, USFWS, ADFG, and The Nature Conservancy. Subsequently, they embarked on the research vessel *Sundance* for a cruise that included visiting important watersheds on Chicagof Island. The panel will take part in a TNC-Audubon sponsored conference to discuss Tongass conservation issues that will take place during February 2009.

Wolverine research

Wolverines are currently a hot research topic in Southeast Alaska, where little is known about their ecology or populations. Audrey Magoun (ADFG) and Pat Valkenburg have pioneered a project that

successfully radiocollared wolverines on the mainland near Petersburg. Their multi-year study should provide important biological information. Similarly, Steve Lewis (ADFG) has also collared wolverines in Berners Bay as part of a comprehensive series of wildlife studies funded by the Alaska Department of Transportation. Those studies include mountain goats and moose (Kevin White-ADFG), brown bears (Rod Flynn-ADFG), and wolves (Steve Lewis).

Estimating deer numbers

Todd Brinkman, a Ph.D. student at UAF, completed his last field season counting and collecting deer poop on Prince of Wales Island. Todd's project, funded by USFS Wildlife Information System program and ADFG, is comparing pellet counts with DNA-based population estimates derived from sampling pellets. He amplified and sequenced DNA from pellets and used those data to genotype individual deer. Using mark-recapture methods he eventually will estimate local populations, which will then be compared to pellet counts from the same areas. Todd's productive work has already resulted in two publications in scientific journals and a third that is in review.

News from Southcentral:

By Robin West, former Southcentral Representative

People

Doug Staller, Deputy Refuge Manager of Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge has accepted the position as Deputy Refuge Manager at Kenai National Wildlife Refuge. Doug will move with his family from Bethel to Soldotna in June.

News

April 2008 has been declared "*Alaska Bear Awareness Month*". Work by the Kenai Brown Bear Committee, Anchorage Bear Committee, Kodiak Unified Bear Subcommittee, Juneau Bear Group, Sitka Bear Working Group, and the Talkeetna Bear Necessities Coalition have helped generate state-wide support in educating the public to help keep neighborhoods safe and bears wild. Radio and TV announcements are being made by Governor Sarah Palin, fly-fishing guide Pudge Kleinkauf, musher Martin Buser, Alaskan humorist Mr. Whitekeys, homeowners, and kids to help get the messages out. Key points include taking down bird feeders by April 1, keeping garbage stored properly, storing pet food indoors, using electric fences to deter bears around certain attractants, and properly securing and disposing of fish waste. For more



information contact Bobbie Jo Skibo of the Kenai Brown Bear Committee at (907) 240-0539 or go to www.alaskabears.alaska.gov.

The State Legislature recently appropriated \$200,000 to the Department of Natural Resources for an Public Use Study along the Kenai River to evaluate impacts to water quality, fish and wildlife and habitats, and recreationists using the area. Study design will be undertaken by State Parks in the near future. Expected results should include recommendations for management options that might be considered for this growing high public use area.

The Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge completed an Environmental Assessment and is proceeding with the proposed elimination of non-indigenous Norway rats (*Rattus norvegicus*) from Rat Island in the Aleutians. The island is almost 7,000 acres in size and is believed to have had rats for over 200 years - the result of a shipwreck. Proliferation of rats has resulted in much of the island not supporting native seabird production. The proposal includes the application of a rodenticide from a helicopter. The work will not proceed until October 1 to time the operation for the best opportunity for success. Partners with the Refuge in the eradication effort include Island Conservation and The Nature Conservancy.

Congressional hearings continue on HR 2801, a bill that would exchange less than 300 acres of land within designated wilderness of Izembek National Wildlife Refuge for over 61,000 acres of State of Alaska and King Cove Corporation land. The proposal would facilitate building of a road between the villages of King Cove and Cold Bay. The area is well known for caribou and brown bears and is internationally important for such waterfowl species as black brant and Steller's eiders.

News from the North:

By Jim Herriges, Newsletter Editor

People

Kyle Joly, wildlife biologist with BLM's Central Yukon Field Office, recently took a position with the Yukon-Charley/Gates of the Arctic office of the National Park Service. Kyle is also a newly-elected TWS Executive Board member representing the northern region.

News

Koyukuk Moose Project

An interagency partnership initiated a moose telemetry project in north-central Alaska. Kanuti National Wildlife Refuge, Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game worked together to radiocollar 58 moose (10 bulls and 48 cows) in March. Collaring efforts were concentrated in two main areas: the Kanuti National Wildlife Refuge and the Middle Fork Koyukuk River valley between Coldfoot and Wiseman. The project should provide managers important information on moose movements and seasonal distribution. Biologists are particularly interested in determining the origin of moose that concentrate in the Middle Fork Koyukuk River valley during winter. Moose congregate along the river when snow gets deep in the surrounding mountains, but no one knows where they come from. Having cow moose collared will also help biologists locate animals during calving so they can conduct spring twinning surveys—an index of population nutritional status.

Chapter Members Awarded

Larry Aumiller was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Science degree from the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) at the 11 May 2008 Commencement. This honor was given to acknowledge Larry's establishment of the McNeil River State Game Sanctuary some 30 years ago as a world-class bear viewing area. His nomination to UAF for this honor was endorsed by numerous individuals representing UAF, ADFG, the National Park Service, the Audubon Society, the National Wildlife Federation, the International Association for Bear Research and Management, and others. This is truly a significant award as few are given each year and only to individuals who through their careers have made substantial contributions to society. Other biologists who have been awarded this honor by UAF include George Schaler, William Pruitt and Jim King, all of whom have contributed significantly to the understanding and management of natural resources in the North and worldwide through their careers in science. Now retired from ADFG, Larry and his wife Colleen and daughter make their home in Missoula, Montana. They traveled to Fairbanks to attend the ceremony and a celebration afterwards as did relatives and many friends from Alaska.

Nora Rojek was recognized by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a 2007 Recovery Champion. This award recognizes employees and partners who are



making significant contributions to the recovery of endangered or threatened species. Since 2003, Nora Rojek has coordinated the Steller's eider recovery project near Barrow, Alaska. Under Rojek's guidance, scientific knowledge of Steller's eider breeding ecology has substantially advanced, and she has accomplished numerous high-priority tasks identified by the Steller's Eider Recovery Team, including support for the Alaska SeaLife Center's efforts to establish a captive breeding flock. Rojek's efforts have brought together diverse organizations and individuals to work towards the recovery of the species. Dr. Tuula Hollmen was also recognized as a 2007 Recovery Champion for her pivotal role in efforts to establish a captive flock of Steller's eiders for use in future reintroduction. In 2007, the first Steller's eider raised in captivity in North America, if not the world, was hatched at the Alaska SeaLife Center.

Meetings and Announcements

2008 Alaska Park Science Symposium and Beringia Days 2008 International Conference, 14-16 October 2008, in Fairbanks, Alaska.

The "Park Science in the Arctic" symposium will focus on scientific and scholarly research, natural and cultural resource inventories, and monitoring relevant to parks, preserves, monuments, refuges and heritage resources. The geographic scope of this International Polar Year symposium stretches from the Lena River in Siberia to the Mackenzie River in Canada, and from the North Pole to the Aleutian Islands. For more information go to <http://nps.arcus.org/index.html> or contact Lois Dalle-Molle, lois_dalle-molle@nps.gov, 907-455-0635.

Preliminary symposium sessions include:

- Geology, paleontology, and cryosphere of Greater Beringia
- Climate change and its effects on natural and cultural heritage and resources
- History, cultural connections, archaeology, ethnography, and languages
- Coastal and marine parks, refuges, and heritage resources in the Bering Chukchi and Beaufort Seas
- Wildlife and Fisheries biology and ecology
- Subsistence and management
- Recreation, tourism, and visitor experience
- Preserving natural and cultural heritage in resource development areas

The Tongass Conservation Science Conference is sponsored by Audubon Alaska and The Nature Conservancy (in cooperation with the Alaska Chapter of The Wildlife Society) and will occur in Juneau 17-19 February 2009. Currently in the early planning stages, this conference will include invited papers, general presentations, and poster sessions on Tongass-oriented conservation science with an emphasis on synthesis research and applied conservation. Conference proceedings will be published. Invited scientists from outside Alaska include: Paul Alaback, Joe Cook, Jerry Franklin, Andy MacKinnon, Martin Nie, Barry Noon, and Gordon Orians. A general call for papers and posters will follow at the end of the summer. For more information, contact John Schoen at Audubon Alaska (jschoen@audubon.org) or David Albert at TNC (dalbert@tnc.org).

Possible sessions may include:

- New concepts in forest ecology on the Tongass
- Habitat diversity and landscape-scale conservation
- Ecology and conservation of birds, mammals, and fish on the Tongass
- Biogeography and conservation of endemism
- Forest Fragmentation and ecological linkages
- New tools in landscape ecology and conservation science
- Restoration ecology on the Tongass
- Balancing conservation and sustainable economic development on the Tongass

Annual Chapter Meeting Summary

The 2008 Alaska Chapter Annual Meeting was widely considered a great success. The meeting began with a well-attended one-day workshop on *Current Moose Management and Research*, with a full agenda of presentations. The annual meeting started with a plenary session on dual management of fish and game in Alaska which continued all morning. Paper sessions included a diverse set of topics such as: *Perspectives on Intensive Management, Human/Wildlife Interactions, Statistical Approaches in Wildlife Management, and Invasive Species Management*. The Chapter Business Meeting was held over the lunch period on the third day and is summarized below. Complete minutes from the Business Meeting can be found at <http://joomla.wildlife.org/alaska>. The meeting concluded with a banquet which featured a presentation by TWS past-president John Organ, who described experiences and perspectives on the east coast with predator/prey management. The complete meeting program with abstracts of workshop and



program presentations can be found at <http://joomla.wildlife.org/alaska>.

Chapter Business Meeting Summary

(Excerpted from the minutes)

Major Chapter activities during the previous year:

Activities included preparation of comments on the Tongass Land Management Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement for National TWS; completion of an interview with John Burns for the "*Conserving Our Wildlife Conservation Heritage*" program; *Chapter of the Year* recognition for our Chapter; formation of a committee and initiation of work to develop a position statement on disease risk of using pack goats in alpine areas of Alaska; completion of a financial review and development of policy for funding the Chapter's student programs; preparation of comments on the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the NPR-A lease sale in the Teshekpuk Lake area; establishment of a committee and initiation of work to update the Chapter's position statement on oil and gas development in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (the committee submitted a draft for review by the membership); preparation of a letter of support for the University of Alaska, Fairbanks Wildlife Program (the program has since been officially recognized as a separate program within the Department, thus securing its future); and preparation of comments on the proposed Izembek National Wildlife Refuge land exchange for national TWS. More details on all of these and other activities are available in the Chapter newsletters.

National TWS review of predator control in Alaska

At the request of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the scope of this review was expanded by TWS Council to include black bear control in Newfoundland and coyote control in Maine. The Technical Review Committee has been selected and includes one Alaska Chapter member, Bruce Dale.

UAF Student Chapter Report - Micah Miller

Current Student Chapter membership includes about 60 undergraduate and 10 graduate students. Income for 2007 was about \$1200 and expenses were about \$800. The Chapter held regular meetings with speakers; held movie nights that were not very successful and may be discontinued; raised funds by conducting receptions for a University seminar series; conducted a job fair; provided additional announcements of relevant employment opportunities as they became available; helped with the Ruffed

Grouse Society dinner, Fairbanks Fall Festival, Spring Migration Festival, and the Farthest North film Festival; and conducted the Annual Wild Game Dinner. The chapter has also entered into contractual arrangements to provide assistance at the Yukon Flats NWR Arctic Science Camp.

State legislative update

State legislative issues this year included restoration of the ADFG Habitat Division; Board of Game rejection of the proposal to create a Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge, SB 67 to create Jay Hammond State Game Refuge (no action); HB346 to expand Stan Price State Game Refuge (no action); SB 176 and HB256 to amend statutes for Intensive Management and same day airborne taking of predators (did not pass); ballot initiative to prohibit aerial shooting of wolves and bears except by government agents during biological emergencies (to be voted on by public in next election); and SB306 (passed and sent to Governor) and HB348 (still being considered) to codify the Alaska Supreme Court ruling that designated game as a state asset not subject to allocation or appropriation by citizen initiative.

Federal legislative update

Federal legislative issues this year included HR 3663 to ban aerial shooting except by government agents to counter irreversible predator caused declines in prey (being considered); MMS sale of oil and gas leases in the Chukchi Sea; Stevens/Murkowski bill to develop oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (being considered); USFWS delay in making a listing decision for polar bears under the Endangered Species Act; status reviews of ribbon bearded, spotted, and ringed seals initiated by NOAA with respect to possible listings under the Endangered Species Act; HR 2801 to exchange land in the Izembek NWR (being considered); and a potential Yukon Flats NWR land exchange (public comment period was extended for 30 days).

It was also noted that NOAA announced it will delay an ESA listing decision for Cook Inlet Belugas for six months.

It was suggested that maybe the Chapter should respond in some way to the polar bear listing issue. Matt Kirchhoff and Erich Follmann agreed to begin investigating this possibility with an organization that has expertise in marine mammals.



Outgoing President recognized

In recognition of his outstanding service as Chapter president, the other members of the outgoing board presented Tom Paragi with a commemorative plaque and a piece of tile artwork by artist Nancy Hausle Johnson. It was noted that his tenure was characterized by extensive efforts to encourage student participation and develop outreach projects such as the Legislative reception.

Student incentives for participation in the annual meeting

There was a discussion of possible ways to increase student participation in the annual meeting. Ideas included: schedule to avoid the week before finals, offset travel costs, offset registration costs, subsidize membership upgrades from student to regular, provide an annual scholarship to offset costs of attending the National meeting, provide workshops with hands-on experience, include a student forum in the quarterly newsletter, and provide prizes for the best student paper and poster at the meeting. Many of these ideas have already been implemented with less than hoped for results. Kalin Kellie suggested the Chapter consider modifying the meeting location schedule to Fairbanks every other year (inexpensive venue at UAF, location of most wildlife students) and Anchorage and Juneau every fourth year (more costly venues, fewer students). Other ideas are solicited.

Raise dues to \$10 to support student participation

Currently the chapter budgets \$1320 annually in support of student programs. This includes \$1000 for travel to the Chapter meeting and 10 member category upgrades at \$32 each. With annual dues bringing in about \$1150 per year (230 members at \$5 each), this level of funding will result in a slow net loss from the treasury. A raffle was used at the 2006 National meeting to raise additional funds for the Chapter, but raffles carry a high regulatory burden, require lots of work by lots of volunteers, and returns on future raffles are likely to be relatively small (compared to proceeds from the National meeting raffle). Student programs also compete with other Chapter programs and projects for our funds. It was suggested that a solution might be to raise dues to meet the funding requirements. Following discussion (see minutes), a motion to raise dues to \$10 annually, with the increase to go towards student programs, was approved.

Should We Modify the Rotation of Our Annual Chapter Meeting Locations?

by Tom Paragi

At the 2006 annual meeting we discussed potential reasons for the decline in Chapter enrollment from 226 members in 2000 to 187 in 2006. In an effort to increase participation in annual meetings, Chapter members voted in summer 2006 to hold the annual meeting every other year in the region where most of our members reside (Southcentral), instead of the earlier policy of rotating annually among the three regions of the state. (In addition, an aggressive membership campaign was initiated in the lead-up to the 2006 national meeting in Anchorage which helped the Chapter grow to our current 230 members.)

We had 127 registered attendees at our 2008 meeting in Anchorage, which was impressive (and possibly a record for a meeting that was not held in conjunction with another organization). However, there were a disturbingly low number of student attendees (13). On querying a few students, they noted the cost of registration (\$80) and travel/lodging/meals as being a major deterrent. Timing of the meeting just prior to final exams at UAF did not help this year either; we intended it to be a week earlier but the hotel was already booked. This low student attendance, despite our joint funding effort with the Institute of Arctic Biology to provide a free van shuttle from Fairbanks, is a strong concern given our recent efforts to provide incentives for student participation.

At the business meeting, Kalin Kellie suggested that the Chapter consider modifying the meeting location schedule to hold the meeting in Fairbanks every other year (inexpensive venue at UAF, location of most Alaskan wildlife students) and hold meetings in Anchorage and Juneau every fourth year (more costly venues, fewer students). Someone pointed out that many agency members have their travel and per diem paid by their employers, which often requires presentation of a paper or poster (which is a good thing!). It is likely that the rising cost of travel inhibits participation in the annual meeting by students more severely than by working professionals. In considering Chapter finances, the money saved in holding the meeting at UAF could be used to offset registration costs (especially for students) when we have to hold the meeting at more expensive venues in Anchorage and Juneau.



The 2009 meeting will occur in Fairbanks next April.

Please send your vote either to maintain or to modify the meeting rotation schedule for future meetings (options below) to tom.paragi@alaska.gov by 15 June:

- Option 1--Maintain the Alaska Chapter TWS Annual Meeting rotation as follows :
Year 1 Fairbanks, Year 2 Anchorage, Year 3 Juneau, Year 4 Anchorage, [repeat rotation].
- Option 2--Modify the Alaska Chapter TWS Annual Meeting rotation as follows:
Year 1 Fairbanks, Year 2 Juneau, Year 3 Fairbanks, Year 4 Anchorage [repeat rotation].

Please make note of upcoming events, personnel changes, issues and projects, or anything of interest to other AK-TWS members, and pass them on to your regional representative by the 25th of October, January, April, or July. Thanks. Editor

2008-2010 Alaska Chapter Executive Board

President: Howard Golden, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518-1599, howard.golden@alaska.gov, phone (907) 267-2177, fax (907) 267-2433

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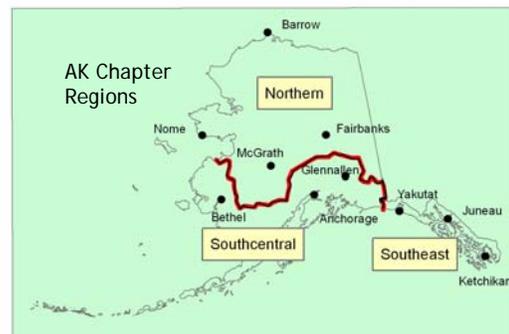
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UAF Student Chapter TWS Representative (non-voting): Cortney Pylant, 5 Dead End Alley, Fairbanks, AK 99709, fsc1p17@uaf.edu



2008 Membership Subscription and Renewal--Online

New memberships and renewals for the 2008 calendar year are available on-line at The Wildlife Society's store (<https://store.wildlife.org/>). An individual may renew their TWS membership (\$66 regular, \$33 student/retired; \$107 family) as well as their NW Section (\$5.00) and Alaska Chapter (\$5.00) memberships (rising to \$10 for 2009). Membership in TWS is required in order to be a member of the Alaska

Chapter. In addition, journals can be ordered (delivered on-line or on-line and print) and TWS members can join one or more of the 18 TWS working groups. All members will receive *The Wildlife Professional* magazine in addition to *The Wildlifer* newsletter.