

AWF

*Organized in 1914 to protect
and perpetuate our wildlife
and natural resources.*

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation--PO Box 1234--Albuquerque, NM 87103

GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2003, 7:30 P.M.

Bear Canyon Senior Center - 4645 Pitt NE, Room 6
(North from Montgomery & Eubank, right on Lagrima De Oro
left on Pitt. BCSC is one block down on the left)

**** ** * JANUARY 9 PROGRAM * ** ** ***

THE BARK BEETLE INVASION IN NEW MEXICO

US Forest Service volunteer at the Sandia Ranger District, Shelly Stevens, will make a presentation on the bark beetle invasion in NM. She has composed a display board describing what is happening with this invasion. She will give us an over-view and have handout materials to take home.

NOXIOUS WEEDS IN NEW MEXICO

Frannie Decker Miller, Noxious Weed Program Coordinator with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture will give us a presentation on noxious weeds as a threat to our wildlife.

Talk to your family, your neighbors, Bring someone to our first meeting in 2003. Let's show these people that we care about wildlife, forests, fish, and rivers.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

At our December 2002 Annual Meeting the following were elected to serve our organization in 2003:

President-Richard W. Becker, PhD

Vice-President-Bill Zeedyk

Treasurer Lois Jones

Secretary Cecil Haas.

Our Board Members are:

Chris Chadwick

Jeff Davis

Dale Jones

Jim Hines

Jim Hubert

Randy Isler

Luke Shelby

After much discussion, we decided to continue our present schedule of monthly meetings on the **SECOND** Thursday of each month at Bear Canyon Senior Center. Our **BOARD MEETINGS** begin at 6pm. The General Membership Meeting begins at 7:30pm and concludes about 8:50pm.

Cliff Mendel agreed to continuing to serve as our newsletter editor. Lois Jones is assisting with mailing. We need someone to chair our **PROGRAM** Committee.

Also we welcome suggestions from our members as to program presentations. We all agreed we would like to see more people in attendance. We have had outstanding programs. It was noted that while members of AWF also hold membership in New Mexico Wildlife Federation, there are folks who belong to NMWF who are not members of AWF, therefore they do not get our newsletter where we announce our monthly programs. SO, if you know of someone who belongs to NMWF talk to them about joining AWF, coming to our meetings and participating in our TEAM UP WITH WILDLIFE PROJECTS under the guidance of Bill Zeedyk. Bill announced some changes in our format for work projects this year which he will discuss with us at our January 9, 2003 meeting.

Finally, we noted the passing in December of Ed Machin. Ed held the position of President of the NMWF for several years. He was an advocate for wildlife in NM and for the sportsmen-women community everywhere. We will miss him.

Richard W. Becker, PhD, President

Membership application for Albuquerque Wildlife Federation, PO Box 1234, Albuquerque, NM 87103

Name _____

Address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ date _____

family membership* (\$25) _____

name of person to be NMWF member _____

additional NMWF member (\$10/member) _____

single membership* (\$20) _____

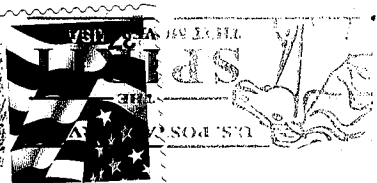
* includes one NMWF membership

NMWF ANNUAL MEETING
 FEBRUARY 14-15 & 2003 TULSA, OKLA.

87112+3446

2003 10 F
 David Weingarten
 12413 Placid NE
 Albuquerque, NM 87112

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 Albuquerque, NM 87103



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GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2003, 7:30 P.M.

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**** ** * FEBRUARY 13 PROGRAM ** ** ***

Larry Bell, director of the NM Department of Game and Fish, will give us an update on legislation impacting the Department during the legislative session in progress.

Cliff Sanchez, American Indian Liaison and Outreach Coordinator for the Natural Resource Conservation Service, will review the new Farm Bill and programs available that affect wildlife.

**** ** * PRESIDENT'S REMARKS ** ** ***

Making "DEPOSITS" for Wildlife

Each of us have gone to the bank to make a deposit into our savings account. We learned early in life to save a little now so we could spend it later on something we really valued. Over the years, AWF volunteers have "invested" personal time, energy and resources in AWF wildlife habitat projects. We have been making "deposits" that accrue to the benefit of our wildlife. Our efforts can make a critical difference in times of drought. Again this year Bill Zeedyk has planned projects. So mark your calendars! Invite your family and friends to join us! It's time to plan your wildlife investment strategy for 2003.

Richard W. Becker, PhD, President.

Associated With The National Wildlife Federation and The New Mexico Wildlife Federation

AWF ISSUES FORUM

Jeff Davis

The AWF Board of Directors plans to establish a procedure (protocol) for addressing one of the missions of our organization, to wit: "... provide a forum for addressing resource issues of concern to members."

A draft protocol, which will be reviewed at the next Board of Directors meeting (February 13, 2003) has been prepared by Jeff Davis. This draft follows.

Comments by AWF members are welcome and can be made to:

Jeff Davis
2 Nizhoni Ct.
Sandia Park, NM 87047
(505) 286-6185

Richard Becker
1005 Indiana SE
Albuquerque, NM 87108
(505) 255-7156

AWF ISSUES FORUM

- PROTOCOL -

To fulfill one of the missions of AWF which is to provide a forum for addressing natural resource and ecological issues, the following is proposed.

I. The member of the Board of Directors (BoD) with the current responsibility of defining and directing issues (currently J. A. Davis) shall present to the full BoD a list of issues he/she believes to be important and relevant, with emphasis on NM and the Southwest.

II. The BoD will, by vote if necessary, determine which, if any, issues on the list will be brought up for discussion.

III. Said issues will be discussed/debated with the intent of finding a "proactive" resolution to the matter, a resolution thought to advance the cause of wise resource management and ecological land health.

IV. If a consensus (by vote if necessary) on the best resolution of the issue is reached, then an AWF Position Statement (PS) will be prepared and published. This is the product of the effort to find resolution. The PS shall have a "target" to which the resolution is directed.

- 1) The PS shall be concise, direct, and authoritative;
- 2) it shall state the issue;
- 3) it shall give a short historical background;
- 4) it shall present a concise argument;
- 5) it shall present a "be-it-resolved" conclusion;
- 6) it shall give its major references;
- 7) the PS shall be made available to the general membership.

V. Finally, each AWF Board member and general member (who supports the position taken), at his/her own discretion and according to his/her own means, may lobby for the adoption of the resolution by its targeted party/parties. Said lobbying is the "faithful implementation" of the AWF mission as regards issues.

(Continued)

SPONSORSHIP OF ISSUES

SPONSORSHIP: Any Board member can propose an issue for discussion/resolution. The Director of Issues sponsors issues of his/her primary concern in the initial list (see step I). Members can advance issues they believe should be given priority by the BoD. The BoD (by vote if necessary) decides which issues should be taken up, that of the Issues Director or that of someone else.

The stated sponsor of the active issue (the Director of Issues or other BoD member) is the author of the PS. He/she prepares the draft(s) of the PS. The Director of Issues in all cases is editor, coordinator, and production manager of an issue scheduled for publication.

All efforts concerned with this PROTOCOL are conducted within the volunteeristic framework of AWF.

REFERENCE: "Issues management: part and parcel of wildlife management." Donna L. Minnis. Wildl. Soc. Bull., 2001, 29 (3): 988-994.

BECOMING AN OUTDOORS WOMAN WORKSHOP TO BE HELD IN MAY

from a NM Game and Fish news release

RATON, N.M. - The New Mexico Becoming an Outdoors Woman, or BOW, workshop will be held May 2 - 4, 2003, at the NRA-Whittington Center near Raton. More than 25 classes are offered in four half-day workshops. In addition to shooting and fishing, classes include survival skills, camp cooking, map and compass, plant and wildlife identification, nature photography, tracking and wild game sausage-making.

"Every class is taught by an expert in that field and these men and women really make the workshop outstanding," said Coralie Carrier, coordinator for the workshop.

The BOW program began in 1991 in Wisconsin by Dr. Christine Thomas and has expanded to 42 states and seven Canadian provinces. New Mexico has conducted workshops since 1995. Despite the name, men are welcome at the workshop.

The New Mexico Friends of NRA offer 50 percent scholarships for women needing financial assistance to attend. To get on the mailing list, contact Coralie Carrier at (505) 382-9087 or at safe@zianet.com

STATE GAME COMMISSION APPOINTED; DIRECTOR BELL ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

from a NM Game and Fish news release

SANTA FE, N.M. - Gov. Bill Richardson announced the appointment of seven new members to the State Game Commission Wednesday in Santa Fe. Dr. Tom Arvas of Albuquerque, who previously served on the commission for three other governors, was elected chairman during a special meeting of the commission. Dr. Arvas, a retired optometrist, has been a resident of New Mexico since 1948 and is on the Executive Committee of the National Rifle Association and the board of the Amateur Trap Shooting Association. Alfredo Montoya of Alcalde, director of financial aid at Northern New Mexico Community College, was elected vice-chairman. Mr. Montoya served 10 years on the as Rio Arriba County Commission and is an active hunter.

Also named to the commission are:

* Peter Pino, tribal administrator from Zia Pueblo, who said he wants to be a voice for those who cannot speak for themselves;

* David Henderson, executive director of Audubon New Mexico, supports wildlife education and nongame issues as well as traditional wildlife resource uses;

* Guy Riordan, Albuquerque financial advisor, farmer, rancher and sportsman, advocates rural economic development;

* Jennifer Atchley Montoya, director of the Chihuahuan Desert Field Office of the World Wildlife Fund in Las Cruces, is a member of the Native Plant Society and the Mesilla Valley Audubon Society;

* and Leo Simms, a farmer and rancher from Hobbs.

The commission voted to support legislation to permit two elk licenses for children with terminal illnesses through the Hunt of a Lifetime Foundation; capital outlay of \$500,000 for a conservation education center at the Department's headquarters in Santa Fe; and the Department's operating budget request.

Director Larry Bell presented a brief overview of the Department's activities and funding. He said that after 2005, the Department will no longer be able to survive on its traditional source of revenue: license fees from hunters and fishermen.

"Additional funding would need to come from people other than sportsmen and women if we are to continue the mission of protecting and managing New Mexico's wildlife resources," said Bell.

Director Bell announced his retirement in July 2003, vowing to work diligently with the transition to a new administration.

The commission voted to hold its next meeting March 6 in Santa Fe. Details on the time and location will be announced.

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NMWF Annual Meeting
February 14 & 15 Los Cruces
More Info. 345-0117

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**** ** * MARCH 13 PROGRAM * ** ****

UPDATE ON CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE and REPORT ON HABITAT STAMP PROJECT

Dr. Kerry Mower, Wildlife Health Specialist, NM Dept of Game and Fish, will give us an update on CWD. Additional cases have been found in NM.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTEERS

Mr Dale Hall, State Coordinator of the Habitat Stamp Program, NM Dept of Game Fish will identify projects constructed under this program that need follow-up volunteer assistance.

**** ** * PRESIDENT'S REMARKS * ** ****

WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU

Several AWF members attended the NM Wildlife Federation Annual Wildlife Convention and the 83rd Annual Meeting in Las Cruces, NM Feb.15 &16,2003.

Dr. Tom Arvas, Chairman, NM State Game Commission and Jennifer Atchley Montoya, State Game Commission member were present. Mr. Larry Bell, Director, NM Dept of Game and Fish and Agency personnel presented a variety of programs pertaining to wildlife in New Mexico. Oscar Simpson was elected President of the NMWLF and Ellery Worthen elected NWF representative.

Of particular significance to AWF/NMWF members is the newly elected Board of Directors agreed to holding a two-day retreat to engage in discussions about strategic planning for NMWF. Questions to be addressed include: what are the goals and objectives of NMWF? What programs should we sponsor? How to we budget for our activities? In the past there have been discussions about hiring an executive director. As your AWF President, I am asking each of you to send me your suggestions about NMWF which I can take to this retreat. Please send to: crbecker@swcp.com or call me at (505) 255-7156.

Richard W. Becker, PhD, President

Associated With The National Wildlife Federation and The New Mexico Wildlife Federation

An Invitation to Join the Radical Center

For more than thirty years, environmentalists and ranchers have fought over the heart of the American West – the wide open spaces that stretch from our cities to the “purple mountain majesties” we sang of in school.

The combatants have fought long and hard, but as their struggle over the working landscapes of the West pulled in citizens, agency officials, attorneys and judges, one consequence is clear: during the fight, millions of acres of the West’s open spaces and biologically rich lands were broken by development.

There have been other unintended consequences. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management officials who once physically managed our purple mountain majesties now mostly manage mountains of paper. Endangered species hang on by claw or beak despite hundreds of lawsuits. Rural towns simply hang on.

Meanwhile, human communities divide into factions. Most tragically, the stewards of working landscapes are surrendering their lands at unprecedented rates to the pressure which tears the quilt of nature into rags.

Perhaps, the fight had to happen. The West’s grasslands and streams and wildlife were in trouble from a century or more of hard use when this fight was joined. The nation had to debate the use of 420,000 square miles of grazed public land across eleven states.

But the fight has gone on far too long. In recent years, the American West has witnessed tremendous positive changes, including the rise of models of sustainable use of public and private lands; the shift of conservation and scientific strategies from ‘protection’ alone to include restoration; and the expanding role of cooperative efforts to move beyond resource conflicts.

As a consequence of these crises and trends we believe it is time to cease hostilities and enter a new era of cooperation.

We believe that how we inhabit and use the West today will determine the West we pass on to our children tomorrow; that preserving the biological diversity of working landscapes requires active stewardship; and that under current conditions the stewards of those lands are compensated for only a fraction of the values their stewardship provides.

We know that poor management has damaged land in the past and in some areas continues to do so, but we also believe appropriate ranching practices can restore land to health. We believe that some lands should not be grazed by livestock; but also that much of the West can be grazed in an ecologically sound manner. We know that management practices have changed in recent years, ecological sciences have generated new and valuable tools for assessing and improving land, and new models of sustainable use of land have proved their worth.

Finally, we believe that the people of the West must halt the further conversion of working landscapes to uses that destroy this wellspring of ecological, aesthetic, and cultural richness which is celebrated around the world.

Time is short. The cost of delay is further irrevocable loss.

We therefore reject the acrimony of past decades that has dominated debate over livestock grazing on public lands, for it has yielded little but hard feelings among people who are united by their common love of land and who should be natural allies.

We pledge our efforts to form the ‘Radical Center’ where:

The ranching community accepts and aspires to a progressively higher standard of environmental performance;

The environmental community resolves to work constructively with the people who occupy and use the lands it would protect;

The personnel of federal and state land management agencies focus not on the defense of procedure but on the production of tangible results;

The research community strives to make their work more relevant to broader constituencies;

The land grant colleges return to their original charters, conducting and disseminating information in ways that benefit local landscapes and the communities that depend on them;

The consumer buys food that strengthens the bond between their own health and the health of the land;

The public recognizes and rewards those who maintain and improve the health of all land; and

All participants learn better how to share both authority and responsibility.

As the ranks of the Radical Center swell with those who are committed to these goals, the promise increases that "America the Beautiful" may become an image of the future as well as of the past and, with the grace of good fortune, the West may finally create what Wallace Stegner called "a society to match its scenery."

In the expectation that we face a better future for the West we hereby sign our names and invite others to add their own:

You can sign on to this at www.quiveracoalition.org or by sending your concurrence to:

Tamara E. Sherburn
Projects Manager
The Quivira Coalition
551 Cordova Rd. #423
Santa Fe, NM 87505
Phone: 505-820-2544
Fax: 505-955-8922

TEAM UP WITH WILDLIFE PROJECTS for 2003

Our project coordinator, Bill Zeedyk, has scheduled the following projects for this year. As he told us at the annual meeting, we will concentrate on a few areas, and try to make a big differences in these locations.

- May 2,3:** Wet meadow restoration at Cienegita in Cibola National Forest.
June 27, 28, 29: Fence building, wet meadow restoration, Cebolla Springs, Bureau of Land Management.
July 18, 19, 20: Burn rehabilitation, Hart Canyon, Valle Vidal, Carson NF.
August 15, 16, 17: Wet meadow restoration, Cebolla Springs, BLM.
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VIEWING PDF FILES

I was recently asked to send a file of the February newsletter to someone who wanted to send it to several people as an email attachment. I sent him a .pdf file, because that is what I send Lois Jones who does the mailing. The requester later asked if I could send it in another form because several people could not open the file. This was not practical because I use WordPerfect (for a good reason) whereas most people use Word (also for a good reason). There are graphic boxes in the WordPerfect file, and these often do not get handled correctly by Word. PDF files (or more properly .pdf files) are almost always viewed using Adobe Acrobat Reader, and almost all computers have one. Adobe developed the postscript and compressed postscript (.pdf) files, and it is a rare computer that does not have the ability to read the files.

It is very likely that all of those people had what they needed to open the file. Here are three ways to do it. One is to find Acrobat Reader, start it running, go to "file," and open the desired file. Another is to start your internet browser (e.g. Microsoft Internet Explorer), go off line, and write "file:///C:\path\filename.pdf" (where path\filename.pdf is the directory path and name of the .pdf file) on the line at the top where you usually write in a URL address. Hit "enter" and the browser will call up the Acrobat Reader and open the file.

The third, and I believe the best way, is to set your computer to call the Adobe Acrobat Reader automatically whenever you double-click on the name of a .pdf file. To do this in Windows 95/98 you need to

run Windows Explorer, click "View," click "Options," and in Options click the "File Type" tab. You then add a new file type, .pdf, and in the boxes tell it to open with the Acrobat Reader. You can see what the boxes should look like by using the edit button to look at a file type you are familiar with. With Windows 2000 Professional you go to "My Computer, Control Panel, Folder Options," and do a similar thing. To view a known type, single-click it in the list, and push the "advanced" button. XP is probably similar to 2000, but I haven't used it.

Of course this explanation is probably not useful to people who get the newsletter in a .pdf file. They either can read it and don't need to do anything, or they can't read it and can't read this explanation. Oh well, I had a little extra space to fill. ---Cliff Mendel

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**** ** * MARCH 10 PROGRAM * ** ** ***

THE REST OF THE STORY:

A Personal History of the Valle Vidal Acquisition

Join us on April 10, 2003 at 7:30pm to hear from an actual participant who helped with the addition of the Valle Vidal Unit to the Carson National Forest. Mr. Fred Galley, US Forest Service, Retired, will share his true life adventure. After listening to Fred's report, you will have a deeper appreciation for "the Yellowstone of NM."

**** ** * PRESIDENTS REMARKS * ** ** ***

AWF CELEBRATES OUR NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM

In 2003, Americans are celebrating the 100th anniversary of the National Wildlife Refuge System managed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Some AWF members (Jim Hubert, Larry O'Brien, and others) devoted their professional careers in the USF&WS. If you have worked or volunteered in the NWRs then please join us at our April 10, 2003 meeting. Bring any favorite photos, newspaper clippings and true life stories to share. We want to recognize your dedication to our wildlife and natural heritage.

Richard W. Becker, PhD, President

**** ** * CIENIGETA WORK PROJECT * ** ** ***

May 2,3 and 4

Our first work project of 2003 will be held as a weekend outing at Cienigeta wet meadows on the Mountainair Ranger District, Cibola National Forest. The work will consist of clearing encroaching trees, Pinyon, Junipers and Ponderosa pines from the meadow, installing rock dams and water spreading devices and removing overstory pines that compete with remnant willow patches along Ox Creek. This is the same area where we worked in 2001. We have chosen Friday and Saturday so that a crew of Forest Service fire folks can assist us with felling and bucking the trees. Those who wish to camp out at a lovely area and enjoy some extra time in the Forest can make a weekend of it. Otherwise just come for whatever time suits your schedule, Friday or Saturday. We'll mark the route to the undeveloped, tailgate campsite. Bring everything you'll need, water, stoves, food, camping gear, etc. By the way, it will be spring hunting season for wild turkey and there are turkeys in the area.

Access is via NM 55 to the town of Manzano, then south on Forest Road 253 past Red Canyon campground, left on Forest Road 275 for about a mile, then left (north) on Forest Road 522 to the campsite. We'll have route markers along the way. You can also get there via county road 050 and FR 275. Volunteers can take firewood home from the work site. We'll have wood hauling permits available. Bring a hand saw, axes or a chainsaw if you feel proficient with such things. If not, come as you are. There will be plenty to do. Don't forget hat, gloves, sunscreen, water, etc. This will be a great family project.

Bring your kids and grandkids. Invite all your friends and relatives. But please let Bill Zeedyk or Richard Becker know when and if your are coming so they will not panic over lack of attendance at the last moment. Phone numbers are 281-9066 and 255-7156 respectively. See you there!

Bill Zeedyk

**** ** * TEAM UP WITH WILDLIFE PROJECTS for 2003 * ** ****

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single membership \$20; includes one NMWF membership: _____

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additional NMWF member; \$10/NMWF member: _____

contribution to AWF: _____

Total: _____

Thank you!

Name of NMWF member(s): _____

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**** ** * MAY 8 PROGRAM * ** ***

Mike Hatch, fishery biologist with the US Bureau of Reclamation will present a two-part program. Part One will involve issues involved with the Rio Grande Silvery Minnow; Part Two will be about Mike's exotic adventure safari to locate Mexican Trout in a remote location south of our borders.

**** ** * JUNE 12 PROGRAM HEADS-UP ** ** ***

Heads up on our June 12, 2003 AWF program. We have invited the new director of the NM Department of Game & Fish, Dr. Bruce Thompson, to meet with us. Mark your calendars.

**** ** * PRESIDENTS REMARKS * ** ***

DEER HUNT STRATEGIES NEED YOUR INPUT

In the Spring 2003 edition of New Mexico Wildlife magazine, Barry Hale and Mark Gruber, NM Department of Game & Fish, outlined three management options for deer populations in NM. Public input is asked for over the next eighteen months as the Department drafts regulations for the 2005-2006 deer hunting season. Please read this draft carefully and respond accordingly. The AWF Board of Directors will also review it. Let us know what you think. Send your comments to the Division of Wildlife, P.O. Box 25112, Santa Fe, NM 87504 or via website: www.gmfish.state.nm.us.

Richard W. Becker, PhD, President

WILDLIFE BILLS SIGNED INTO LAW BY GOV. RICHARDSON

SANTA FE, N.M. - Hunters and others soon may encounter artificial wildlife, or decoy, operations by Game and Fish officers during the daytime as well as at night. Gov. Bill Richardson signed Senate Bill 59 April 2, making it illegal to shoot at artificial game or birds. The governor signed several other wildlife-related bills early this month, providing new opportunities for the public and assistance for wildlife management.

New Mexicans will be able to buy "designer" wildlife license plates and support non-game wildlife at the same time. House Bill 656 requires the Motor Vehicle Division to issue special license plates featuring wildlife artwork. A portion of the original fee for the plates provides funding for Share with Wildlife programs benefiting species that need more attention.

Other wildlife-related bills signed by Gov. Richardson include House Bill 560, which allows the Game Commission to designate areas of the state in which bear-proof garbage containers are required on public and private lands to reduce potential human-bear interactions.

Senate Bill 560, signed by Gov. Richardson March 21, requires the Commission to authorize two deer enhancement permits each year to raise funds for deer management programs and projects.

(Continued)

Associated With The National Wildlife Federation and The New Mexico Wildlife Federation

Fishermen may use two fishing rods for game fish during open seasons by purchasing a second rod validation for a \$3.00 fee, under House Bill 516 signed April 6.

House Bill 650 allows two elk licenses for certain individuals.

The New Mexico whiptail lizard and the New Mexico spadefoot toad now are the official state reptile and amphibian, respectively. House Bill 430 was signed April 6, adding the two animals to the Sandia hairstreak's designation as the official state butterfly.

Gov. Richardson vetoed Senate Bill 660, which would allow the donation of wild game products to charitable, religious and non-profit organizations for human consumption. Three more wildlife bills were pocket-vetoed by the governor, including Senate Bill 737, which would redefine the definition and property-posting requirements for Criminal Trespass violations; and Senate Bill 812, which would eliminate size restrictions for game parks. House Bill 860, which would provide for bighorn sheep habitat improvement, also was pocket-vetoed.

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**** ** ** NO PROGRAM OR BOARD MEETING FOR JULY 2003 ** ** ****

We generally do not have a July meeting due to our annual Valle Vidal project which is on the July 18, 19, 20 weekend this year. Please come to this project, and the Saturday night barbeque. See below for more details.

**** ** ** HEADS UP ON AUGUST 14, 2003 ** ** ****

**** ** ** AWF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ** ** ****

Our AWF Board Meeting (6pm) and General Membership Meeting (7:30pm) will be at The NM Dept of Game and Fish Office in Albuquerque, located at 3841 Midway Place NE, 87109. The program speaker will be Mike Hatch, Fisheries Biologist, US Bureau of Reclamation. He will continue his fascinating discussion about water, minnows, economics, and rural communities, and how we are all intertwined with water, the limiting factor in the Southwest. NOTE: Bear Canyon Senior Center is closed the week of August 14. Therefore we are meeting at the Game and Fish Office in Albuquerque.

President's Remarks

THE ROAD MAP TO THE FUTURE IN NEW MEXICO

There has been a considerable amount of press coverage recently on a proposed fee increase for hunting and fishing licenses in NM. The NM Department of Game and Fish is looking "down the road" (the financial pathway) to generate revenue to sustain its operations. At some point in time we will learn of the actual increase being proposed. As outdoor enthusiasts, we need to be considering this proposal, not just in terms of additional costs to us, but also in terms of the benefits we gain from the services provided by the Department. We can help shape the "road map," then use the map to get us to our destination (continued opportunities to enjoy our natural heritage).

Richard W. Becker, PhD

2003 VALLE VIDAL TEAM-UP WITH WILDLIFE PROJECT

With few (one?) exceptions, we have been holding work projects at Valle Vidal since 1982. This is a favorite of those of us who enjoy these great projects and opportunities to spend time in some of the most beautiful parts of New Mexico. No place is more beautiful than this one, and no project is more fun and satisfying.

Our project coordinator, Bill Zeedyk has arranged for another project on the July 18, 19, and 20th weekend. We will do the work mostly on Saturday the 19th. We will again camp near Shuree Lodge. We can get to the camping area on Friday the 18th, and need not leave before the morning of Monday the 21st.

We will again have a barbeque on Saturday, the 19th. AWF will supply hot dogs and hamburgers. Bring a dish to share at the potluck dinner on Saturday night, if you can. Call Richard Becker (255-7156) to RSVP. You might also let him know your preference...HOT DOGS or HAMBURGER! If Richard is away, as he often is, you can call Cliff Mendel (299-6785) and he will get the information to Richard.

Bill was unable to firmly establish what we will work on, because George Long is away on vacation. We may work on exclosures on Comanche Creek to protect willows. Whatever we do, it will be worthwhile.

**** ** ** TEAM UP WITH WILDLIFE PROJECTS for 2003 ** ** ****

August 15, 16, 17: Wet meadow restoration, Cebolla Springs, BLM.
September 12, 13: Wet meadow restoration, Cienegita in Cibola NF.

CEBOLLA CANYON PROJECT, 27-29 JUNE

Project leader, Bill Zeedyk, led the wetlands restoration project in Cebolla Canyon, near the El Malpais south of Grants. This area was one of AWF's projects two years ago. A number (perhaps two dozen) of one-rock structures were built to spread water and to fill in eroded stream beds.



This area was drained to permit raising crops in the early 20th century. Later, it was badly eroded due to abusive grazing practices. It appears a great deal can be done to reclaim much of the meadow. There are some areas with very (25') deep channels that will take a lot of time. About 20 people participated in the work.

BLM provided hot dogs and hamburgers for a Saturday night barbeque.

Right: Bell Zeedyk leads a few of the volunteers who stayed to work on Sunday morning.

Membership application for Albuquerque Wildlife Federation, PO Box 1234, Albuquerque, NM 87103

Name _____
Address _____
city, state, zip _____
phone _____ email address _____
single membership \$20; includes one NMWF membership: _____
family membership \$25; includes one NMWF membership: _____
additional NMWF member; \$10/NMWF member: _____
contribution to AWF: _____
Total: _____

Thank you!

Name of NMWF member(s): _____

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Associated With The National Wildlife Federation and The New Mexico Wildlife Federation

GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY, August 14, 2003, 7:30 P.M.

New Mexico Department of Game & Fish Office
3841 Midway Place NE

NOTE THE CHANGE IN VENUE

**** ** * August 14th PROGRAM * ** * ****

Mike Hatch, Fisheries Biologist, US Bureau of Reclamation

Mike will continue his presentation about water, minnows, economics and rural communities and how we are all intertwined with water, the limiting factor in the southwest.

NOTE: BEAR CANYON SENIOR CENTER is CLOSED the week of the 14th.

**** ** * PRESIDENTS REMARKS * ** * ****

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!! Thursday August 28, 2003 from 6:30 to 8:30pm...Rio Rancho High School Performing Arts Center Auditorium (301 Loma Colorado, NE). Why is this date important??? Read on, dear AWF members. The US Army Corps of Engineers, Albuquerque District has issued a Draft Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact (DEA/FONSI) for the proposed relocation of the Al Black Recreation Area at the Cochiti Dam Outlet to Pena Blanca. The public comment period runs from August 1 through September 2, 2003. A copy is available on the web-site www.spa.usace.army.mil.

I encourage you to come, invite all your friends, family, any one who fishes. I attended the public meeting on the Otero Trails Closure several weeks ago. There were 600 folks there!!! Send out an email alert on this to anyone who is interested.

Richard W. Becker, PhD, President

JUNE TEAM-UP WITH WILDLIFE PROJECT

The August work project is scheduled to return to Cebolla Canyon on BLM lands southwest of Grants on August 15, 16, and 17. We will continue work on a variety of wetland restoration projects at Cebolla Springs, a beautiful remote cienega containing approximately 400 acres of restorable wetlands used by deer, elk, migratory birds, waterfowl, etc. We worked at this area in June and also two years ago.

Participants can plan to camp Friday and Saturday nights or just drive over for the day. The camp site will be several miles from the work site and we will car pool in for those without high clearance vehicles. It's a tough road! As usual, we will clearly sign the route to the campsite and work site. Please sign up ahead of time and let us know about what time you plan to arrive if you will need transport to the site. Bring the usual work gear---gloves, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, etc. There will be workers at the site on Friday and Saturday, and perhaps Sunday morning.

As an added bonus the folks from BLM will again throw us a party Saturday evening, barbeque, etc. Don't miss it!

To get there take I-40 west from Albuquerque, exit south on NM 117 toward Quemado, go past La Ventana natural bridge and past The Narrows trail head. At about mile marker 31 you will see a lone windmill on the left, go

about a quarter mile past the windmill and turn left (South) and head across the flat and up the canyon. We'll have the route clearly marked at the turnoff and there on to the site.

If weather demands, the camp site may be changed. If so, people may be informed ahead of time, but in any case the new location will be marked.

Again, this is a beautiful, very unique area. Bring all your family and friends, but please sign up ahead of time. Call Richard Becker at 255-7156 or Cliff Mendel at 299-6785. Leave a message if necessary.

Bill Zeedyk

Friday, June 28th through Sunday, June 29th, 15 AWF members worked on restoration of the Cebolla Canyon Riparian Area located in the Cebolla Wilderness portion of the El Malpais National Conservation Area. This was the second year AWF have worked in the area. The returnees were pleased to see the changes in the creek resulting from their efforts. The BLM hosted a cookout on Saturday evening. Learning about riparian processes from Bill Zeedyke, beautiful surroundings, rewarding hard work, and good company were shared by all. The weekend of August 15th, Bill Zeedyke is returning to Cebolla Creek to continue the restoration work. The BLM will host a cookout after work on Saturday. Your participation is appreciated. Please contact Richard Becker or Cliff Mendel (phone numbers above) for more information and to sign up.

Gene Tatum, BLM 791-8902

**** ** * TEAM UP WITH WILDLIFE PROJECTS for 2003 * ** ****

September 12, 13: Wet meadow restoration, Cienegita in Cibola NF.

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GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2003, 7:30 P.M.

Bear Canyon Senior Center - 4645 Pitt NE, Room 6
(North from Montgomery & Eubank, right on Lagrima De Oro
left on Pitt. BCSC is one block down on the left)

**** ** * SEPTMBER 11 PROGRAM * ** * ***

Rick Winslow: Update on Bear Management in New Mexico

Rick Winslow, Large Carnivore Biologist, NM Dept of Game and Fish will give us an Update on Bear Management Issues in NM.

Note that we are back at the Bear Canyon Senior Center.
The Board of Directors convene at 6 pm.

**** ** * PRESIDENTS REMARKS * ** * ***

Question: To what extent do people-wildlife interactions (positive/negative) reflect the decisions we make?

Newspapers throughout New Mexico have publicized encounters between people and wildlife (often black bears) at the urban-forest interface. Citizens have been asked to manage their garbage, dog food, bird feeders, and orchards in ways to reduce potentially dangerous encounters..."a fed bear is a dead bear."

Transplanting animals to other remote locations is not always a good solution. For those folks who live in these "at risk" areas, have you considered your decisions to act or not act responsibly in how you manage "edible" items? If you belong to a neighborhood association, a church, a civic group...have they discussed this issue? As we all know life-long learning goes on and on. We are all learners and sometimes doers.

Richard W. Becker, PhD, President

**** ** * CIENIGETA WORK PROJECT * ** * ***

Friday and Saturday, September 12,13

Our last work project of 2003 will be held as a weekend outing at Cienigeta wet meadows on the Mountainair Ranger District, Cibola National Forest. The work will consist of clearing encroaching trees, pinyon, junipers and ponderosa pines from the meadow, installing rock dams and water spreading devices and removing overstory pines that compete with remnant willow patches along Ox Creek. This is the same area where we worked in 2001, and in April of this year. We have chosen Friday and Saturday so that a crew of Forest Service fire folks can assist us with felling and bucking the trees. Those who wish to camp out at a lovely area and enjoy some extra time in the forest can make a weekend of it. Otherwise just come for whatever time suits your schedule, Friday or Saturday.

We'll mark the route to the undeveloped, tailgate campsite. Bring everything you'll need, water, stoves, food, camping gear, etc. Access is via NM 55 to the town of Manzano, then south on Forest Road 253 past Red

Canyon campground, left on Forest Road 275 for about a mile, then left (north) on Forest Road 522 to the campsite. We'll have route markers along the way. You can also get there via county road 050 and FR 275.

Bring a hand saw, axes or a chainsaw if you feel proficient with such things. If not, come as you are. There will be plenty to do. Don't forget hat, gloves, sunscreen, water, etc. This will be a great family project.

Bring your kids and grandkids. Invite all your friends and relatives. But please, before 10 September, let Bill Zeedyk or Richard Becker know when and if your are coming. We will need at least ten volunteers, so be sure to leave Bill or Richard your phone number. If there are too few the project will be cancelled, and they will need to call you to let you know. Their phone numbers are 281-9066 (Bill) and 255-7156 (Richard). See you there!

Bill Zeedyk

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Name _____

Address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ email address _____

single membership \$20; includes one NMWF membership: _____

family membership \$25; includes one NMWF membership: _____

additional NMWF member; \$10/NMWF member: _____

contribution to AWF: _____

Total: _____

Thank you!

Name of NMWF member(s): _____

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GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2003, 7:30 P.M.

Bear Canyon Senior Center - 4645 Pitt NE, Room 6
(North from Montgomery & Eubank, right on Lagrima De Oro
left on Pitt. BCSC is one block down on the left)

**** * * * OCTOBER 9 PROGRAM * * * * ***

PENNY ELLISON: WILDLIFE RESCUE

Penny Ellison of Wildlife Rescue of New Mexico will give us an overview of this noteworthy volunteer organization and how we can help the wildlife of New Mexico.

The AWF board will convene before the general meeting, at 6:00 pm.

**** * * * PRESIDENTS REMARKS * * * * ***

CALL FOR PROGRAM IDEAS FOR 2004

The AWF Board of Directors have worked diligently this year to provide our membership with informative, relevant, interesting speakers at our monthly gatherings. Thinking ahead to 2004, we are inviting you to submit suggestions on who or what you would like hear from or know more about. Consider giving a presentation yourself. Give me a call (505) 255-7156 or send email to crbecker@swcp.com.

Richard W. Becker, PhD, President

REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS: OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Mr. Jim Hubert will chair the October 9, 2003 Board Meeting (6pm) and convene the general membership meeting at 7:30pm. Jim will ask for members to volunteer to serve as an officer or director. We need your help. Our annual meeting/election and year-end potluck will be held on December 11, 2003.

NEW WILDLIFE LICENSE PLATE GOES ON SALE OCT. 15

SANTA FE, N.M. -Wildlife supporters may order the New Mexico Wildlife License Plate beginning on Oct. 15. The plate features a colorful Gambel's quail and revenues will help generate additional, much-needed funds for Share with Wildlife, a program that helps New Mexico's "species-in-need."

Species-in-need include a wide variety of wild animals - mostly nongame. Share with Wildlife, which is supported by voluntary donations, state income tax check-off donations, and interest return on its principal with the New Mexico State Investment Council, is a component of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. The plate will cost \$25 for the first year, in addition to regular annual renewal costs. Share with Wildlife will receive \$15 of that amount to help species-in-need, and the remaining \$10 will go to Taxation and Revenue/New Mexico Motor Vehicle Division. Renewal stickers for subsequent years will cost \$10 in addition to the standard license renewal amount. All of the additional \$10 will go to Share with Wildlife.

If your registration is about to expire and you want to exchange it for a wildlife plate, call the MVD toll free number 1-888-683-4636 for instructions. "Step forward and be counted!" urges Don MacCarter, chief of Public Affairs for the Department of Game and Fish. "Buy a New Mexico Wildlife License Plate on behalf of our nongame species statewide. Help make this plate a success in New Mexico, providing much-needed, new funding for species that really need it."

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GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2003, 7:30 P.M.

Bear Canyon Senior Center - 4645 Pitt NE, Room 6
(North from Montgomery & Eubank, right on Lagrima De Oro
left on Pitt. BCSC is one block down on the left)

**** ** * NOVEMBER 13 PROGRAM * ** ***

REVISED DEER MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES HUNT OPTIONS

R. J. Kirkpatrick, NM Department of Game and Fish

R. J. Kirkpatrick, Big Game Manager for the Northwest Area Operations, NM Department of Game and Fish, will present the revised Deer Management Strategies Hunt Options for public review and comment. The NM Dept of Game and Fish is asking for your feedback. Bring your friends and hunting companions.

**** ** * PRESIDENTS REMARKS * ** ***

It's Time to Celebrate THANKSGIVING Again

As your President I am taking this opportunity to "give thanks" to you, our officers, directors, members for your commitment to serve this organization with your time, talent, energy and resources. Our combined efforts over many years have had a positive benefit for our wildlife. I am sure "all the critters" out there share the sentiment.

Richard W. Becker, PhD

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE SLATE OF OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Nominations committee Jim Hubert reports the following slate of nominations:

President: Dale Jones	Directors: Chris Chadwick	Jeff Davis
Vice-President: Bill Zeedyk	Cecil Haas	Jim Hubert
Treasurer: Lois Jones	Randy Isler	Luke Shelby
Secretary: R. W. Becker, PhD.	Gene Tatum	

At the annual meeting/election and year-end potluck nominations from the floor will not only be accepted, but encouraged. Your not out of the race yet! The annual meeting will be held on Thursday, December 11, 2003, so come and enjoy comradery along with every one having a hand in preparing the meal.

***NEW MEXICO WILDLIFE FEDERATION ANNUAL MEETING April 25, 26 2004.
MARK YOUR CALENDERS***