



AWF Newsletter

JANUARY 2007

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation ■ PO Box 1234 ■ Albuquerque, NM 87103
Affiliated with The National Wildlife Federation and The New Mexico Wildlife Federation

GENERAL MEETING

DATE: Thursday, January 11, 2007

WHEN: 7:30 pm (following AWF Board Meeting)

WHERE: Manzano Mesa Center, 501 Elizabeth SE

PROGRAM: Riparian Restoration for Wildlife Benefits

GUEST SPEAKER: David Krueper



Join us for a great presentation by Dave Krueper, Avian Biologist with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, on a key AWF interest: "Riparian Restoration for Wildlife Benefits." Riparian ecosystems are among the rarest and most sensitive habitat types in the western United States, critical for most terrestrial vertebrate species, and especially important in the arid West. Estimates have placed riparian habitat loss at greater than 95% in most western states. It will be very interesting to hear about Dave's riparian work, largely in Arizona, and how it relates to the habitat work of AWF and our own Bill Zeedyk here in New Mexico.

Dave joined the USFWS in 2001, as the Region 2 Assistant Non-game Migratory Bird Coordinator, following 15 years with the Bureau of Land Management as a wildlife biologist on the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area in southern Arizona. He is a top-notch birder widely recognized for his long-term monitoring of bird populations following removal of livestock from the San Pedro River, where elimination of cattle led to a spectacular rise in the density and diversity of breeding birds there.

NOTE: NEW MEETING LOCATION!!!!

**Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center
...See page 3 for details and map.**

Jim Hubert's
NOTABLE QUOTE
of the month

"If future generations are to remember us with gratitude rather than contempt, we must leave them more than the miracles of technology. We must leave them a glimpse of the world as it was in the beginning, not just after we got through with it."

*—President Lyndon B. Johnson,
signing the 1964 Wilderness Act*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A new year begins with many of the same challenges looming on the horizon. Alas, it is hard to see the horizon for the air pollution. What do you think of global warming? I guess it is hard to think about global warming when you have over a foot of snow to move from your driveway and the temperature is in the single digits; while in other areas of the US, like Chicago and NYC, temperatures are, so far this season, too warm for snow.

The effects of global warming are widespread. Last month, it was announced that the Fish and Wildlife Service will propose listing the polar bear as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. "The primary threat to polar

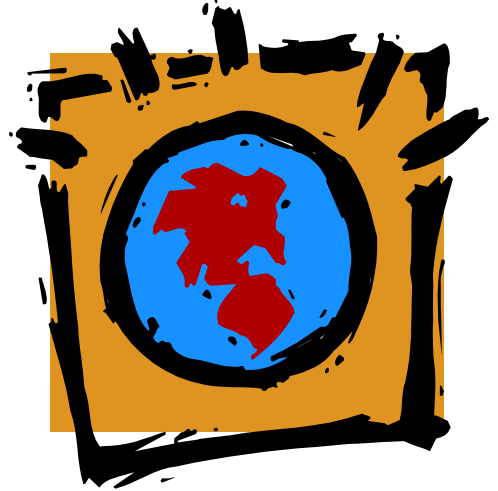
(continued)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - *continued*

bears is the decrease of sea ice coverage due to climate change" (www.fws.gov/Endangered/). For additional information, see National Wildlife Federation's E-magazine article "On Thin Ice" at www.nwf.org/nationalwildlife.

Inefficient consumption of resources is a major factor affecting global climate change. I am a consumer just like all of us in the wealthiest nation in the world. The developments of our society and economy have been based on consumption, and we will never escape consumerism...I just have to look at my waistline to see that I am a good consumer. Did you know that the second largest New Year's resolution is to lose weight? I choose, however, to join the largest resolution group who vow to become better people.

There are many ways your resolve could help the habitat of large carnivores like the polar bear. For example, check your monthly electric bill for your KWH used and compare it to your prior usage. Attempt to reduce your usage to less than last year. Do your own research and find out ways to reduce energy consumption within your current standard of living. PNM now offers units of electricity generated by wind farms. For a very small cost, you can purchase renewable units and support renewable forms of energy that don't produce greenhouse gases. If you have any suggestions or information regarding energy-saving techniques, please let us know so we may include them in future newsletters.



Politics are important, too – stay informed and be political. Make your opinion heard and your vote count. When most people step up to the ballot box they vote with their heart, not their head. To me this is a symptom of an uninformed populace. If you find the facts, your heart and head will be connected.

For your consideration, the current administration shortly after entering office opted to change the rules governing air quality standards to favor industry. Even though these changes have not been implemented, at least nine major energy producers consider they have political backing, and have decided to litigate rather than invest in cleaner air. This, however, is not the whole story. There are at least 12 coal-fired power generating companies that have complied with the rules. Virginia's Dominion Power has reported a 40% reduction in harmful emissions and projects a further improvement to 80% reduction in the Virginia and West Virginia area in the next three years without rate increases. Virginia's Department of Environmental Quality reported that unhealthy air days in Richmond decreased from 25 in the late '90s to nine in 2006, and the EPA is considering removing Richmond from the nation's list of most smoggy cities. Dominion Power chose to spend their dollars on cooperation instead of lawyers and litigation, and estimates that the current cost of installing equipment to comply with the EPA rules has doubled since the late '90s. *(The above information was derived from National Public Radio Morning Edition news broadcast on November 1, 2006, "Power Plant Modernization Pays Quick Dividends" by Elizabeth Shogren.)*

Another suggestion is to stay involved with organizations like the National Wildlife Federation, who provide factual information regarding wildlife issues and have lobbying staff. Form opinions based on facts and communicate those opinions to your elected officials. Finally, stay involved with the AWF. Attend our programs and bring a friend along to help on a restoration project. As you probably already know, the Valle Vidal Protection Act was passed by the last Congress. This July will be AWF's 25th year of projects on the Valle Vidal. At this year's event, we hope to celebrate the legislation and our organization's long-term commitment to this special place.

— Gene Tatum, President

**RENEWED MEMBERS
THANKS!**

Richard W. Becker, PhD – Family
Dall Hall
Linda Patterson
Toby Rosenblatt
Jim Wilson

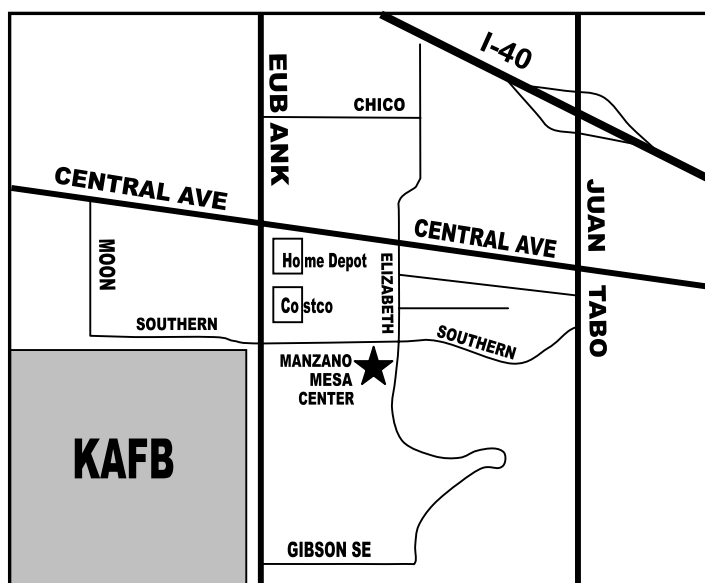
DON'T FORGET — DUES ARE DUE!!
Membership fees are now payable, and are due by January 31st. *(Questions? Call Glenda at 281-2925.)*

**Thank you for your involvement with AWF in 2006.
We look forward to bringing you more great programs and projects in 2007!**

NEW MEETING LOCATION!!!

After much deliberation, the AWF Board has decided on another change of meeting space. While meeting at REI gave us greater exposure – and even brought us some new members – the venue was not ideal. Though several factors contributed to this decision, one key issue was the appalling traffic situation encountered around 6:00 pm, when officers and directors convened there for monthly Board meetings.

We are hoping to find a new home at the Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center, a City of Albuquerque facility located at Elizabeth and Southern, south of Central between Eubank and Juan Tabo. Our first meeting of 2007 will be held here, in one of the multi-purpose rooms. As there will be a class in the room until 7:30 pm, we ask for your patience as we set up for our event. Enter through the front doors, and turn right; we'll have a sign to direct you to the room.



COME CHECK IT OUT!

UPCOMING PROGRAMS 2007

FEBRUARY 8: Brian Miller, Wind River Ranch Mgr – *Ranch Management for Livestock & Wildlife*

MARCH 8: Barbara Coulter, AWF VP – *Wetland Restoration with Beavers*

APRIL 12: Bill Zeedyk, AWF Board – *Turkey Management, Biology, and Hunting*

A

NUAL MEETING & DINNER HELD DEC 14

AWF Board Elected – Familiar Faces, New Faces

Twenty-five AWF members gathered at Bear Canyon Center for the Annual Potluck Dinner and Meeting, enjoying excellent food and camaraderie, electing the 2007 Board of Directors and officers – and, for many lucky attendees, winning gifts!

AWF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Gene Tatum

Vice-President: Barbara Coulter

Secretary: Linda Patterson

Treasurer: Glenda Muirhead

Directors: Larry Dwyer, Patricia Hester,
Jim Hubert, Dennis Muirhead, Kurt
Nolte, Jon Schwedler, Luke Shelby,
Bill Zeedyk

Ex-Officio: Richard W. Becker

Among the tantalizing and delicious foods were several game dishes, including (if memory serves) bighorn sheep stew, elk chili, and dove breasts in wine sauce. Many thanks to the hunters among us, and to everyone for the terrific array of wonderful goodies.

In addition to food and festivities, the business of the evening involved elections: last year's officers were reelected, as were all members who served on the Board in 2006. And some new faces were added – members Kurt Nolte and Jon Schwedler agreed to join AWF's Board of Directors, and were resoundingly welcomed in their new role. Thank you, Jon and Kurt: we look forward to your fresh insights and ideas.

Let's resolve to make it a great new year for AWF!

Here's something fun for all you photographers out there!

**NEW MEXICO MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY & SCIENCE
PHOTOGRAPHY SALON
CALL FOR ENTRIES**

Who: Amateur photographers

What: Naturescapes 2007 Photography Salon
This year's theme—Creepy, Crawly Critters: Native New Mexico Insects, Reptiles & Amphibians

Where: The New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science

When: Entries must be delivered or mailed to the Museum of Natural History & Science between February 12-18, 2007, only.

Contact: Annie Campagna (505) 841-2837

Awards will be presented for First Place, Second Place, and Third Place. Judges will select up to 30 photographs, including the winning entries, for display in the Museum from March 6, 2007 through April 29, 2007.

We want to attract entries from all over the state, so please spread the word! Thanks!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION — Albuquerque Wildlife Federation, PO Box 1234, Albuquerque, NM 87103
An Affiliate of New Mexico Wildlife Federation

➔ Please choose between **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** or **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP**. **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** does **not** include membership in NMWF. **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP** includes **one** voting membership in NMWF, for which \$10 of your dues payment goes to NMWF. For Family Membership, if a second person* desires NMWF voting rights, an additional \$10 payment is required.

name(s) _____

address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ email _____

Gift membership from: _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES :

- Student [under 18].....\$10 ◀ [AWF Membership Only]
- Individual.....\$25
- Family\$35
- Sustaining.....\$50-\$99
- Patron\$100
- Lifetime\$500 ◀ [One-time Payment]

Dues \$ _____

*Second NMWF Member \$10 _____

Contribution \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

THANK YOU!

➔ **PLEASE SELECT ONE :**

- AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY
- AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP : Designate NMWF member(s*) _____



AWF Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2007

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation ■ PO Box 1234 ■ Albuquerque, NM 87103
Affiliated with The National Wildlife Federation and The New Mexico Wildlife Federation

GENERAL MEETING

- DATE:** Thursday, February 8, 2007
WHEN: 7:30 pm (following AWF Board Meeting)
WHERE: Manzano Mesa Center, 501 Elizabeth SE (map p3)
PROGRAM: Ecological Restoration for Conservation
and Educational Benefits
GUEST SPEAKER: Brian Miller, Wind River Ranch

Join us in welcoming Dr. Brian Miller, Executive Director of Wind River Ranch near Las Vegas, NM. The ranch has a wide-reaching program of working with youngsters and adults in conservation education, conducting research on endangered species such as the black-footed ferret, and helping to develop watershed management methods.

The Wind River Ranch Foundation, a private nonprofit group, was founded by philanthropist Eugene Thaw as an experimental field station, one where questions about land and range management can be answered for the good of other lands in the Southwest. The mission of the foundation is simple: "To further conserve the wild landscapes through ecological restoration, research and education." As Director, Brian wants to enable school kids from Mora and Las Vegas to make hands-on discoveries at the ranch, and he wants graduate students to be able to conduct long-term field studies of wildlife habitats there. He also hopes to organize a watershed association to safeguard the integrity of the Mora River, a project he predicts could involve monitoring 250,000 acres of adjacent land.

Brian received a Ph.D. from the University of Wyoming in 1988 and then was awarded a Smithsonian Institution Post-doctoral Fellowship at the Conservation and Research Center of the National Zoological Park. From 1992 to 1997, he lived and worked in Mexico as a professor at the National University of Mexico.

Brian's main research interest concerns the role of top carnivores in regulating ecosystem processes, and how to improve protection for carnivores when designing reserves. He has co-authored several books, including *Prairie Night: The Recovery of Black-footed Ferrets and Other Endangered Species*; *Endangered Animal*; and *A Southern Rockies Wildlands Network Vision*. He has served on the Board of Directors for several conservation groups, including The Wildlands Project (1994-2001).

**Jim Hubert's
NOTABLE QUOTE
of the month**

**"We do not inherit this land
from our ancestors;
we borrow it from
our children."**

—Haida Indian saying

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

One of the last people denying global warming must be Sen. James M. Inhofe, Oklahoma Republican, former chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, and advocate for the idea that Global Warming is one of the greatest hoaxes of all times. At long last, Senator Inhofe can no longer stop reasoned debate in this important committee.

Also, the President in his State of the Union address last week acknowledged global climate change and proposed energy policy to reduce green-house emissions. However, I am doubtful that Democrats have enough control in the Senate or fortitude to hold the President to any significant shift in reduced dependency on fossil fuel. I hope that I am in error.

(continued)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - *continued*

We do need the government's help in adapting our economy to reduced dependency on fossil fuels. Our government is often slow, so please keep in touch with your US Congress people regarding developing a conservation-oriented energy policy. If our governments had spent as much money on developing alternative forms of energy as we have on promoting competition among US companies and OPEC, we would be farther along in the development of solutions to our current dilemma. Perhaps even our government would not be so preoccupied with the Middle East.

But, let's not hold our breath waiting. There are many actions we can take in the interim to reduce consumption. The article on Page 4 is excerpted from MSN's Home Page in mid-January 2007. Many of these are not new ideas, so as conservation-minded people we probably already have taken action. Of course, I got my tongue stuck to my cheek when I made that last statement; we still have many things that need to be done at our home.

– Gene Tatum, President

RENEWED MEMBERS THANKS!

Larry Blair & Matthew Blair
Ken Brudos & Family
Nancy & Ian Carrillo and Dave Huberty
Barbara Coulter
Larry Dwyer
Charles Easton
Robert & Marge Gerber
Jim Hubert
Dean Kuehl
Cliff & Joyce Mendel
Larry Miller
Dennis & Glenda Muirhead
Jack Pardee
Kent Salazar
Luke Shelby
Oscar Simpson
Lawrence Smith
Gene Tatum & Pat Hester – *Sustaining*
Philip & Aija Thacher
Dave & Joan Weingarten
Bill Zeedyk – *Sustaining*

...and thank you to the many members who included a generous contribution with their dues payment!

FOREST SERVICE TRAVEL PLANNING

– Jon Schwedler, AWF Board Member

Between 1993 and 2003, the number of All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) and motorbike users on Forest Service lands nearly tripled, from 2.9 million to 8 million people. The use of these vehicles has serious implications for wildlife, as studies have shown that ATVs can push animals out of preferred habitat. Motorized vehicles on National Forest lands can also erode trails, create excess sediment in streams, spread non-native weeds, spark wildfires, and degrade the outdoor experience of other Forest recreationists.

Now the public has its first opportunity to weigh-in on the use of these vehicles on our National Forest lands, through the Forest Service "Travel Planning" process. As directed by former Forest Service Chief Dale Bosworth, all National Forests across the country will go through a process of designating specific trails for motorized use. This designation process is now occurring in the Cibola.

This is the first and only time the Forest Service will intensively evaluate all of its trails for motorized designation – so it's important for the public to be involved. It is unlikely any other public process will have a greater effect on wildlife and recreation than this Travel Planning process. **We need your participation!**

The Sandia Ranger District of the Cibola Forest will be holding at least one more public meeting this winter to receive feedback. To find out when that meeting will occur, or to submit written comments, visit the Cibola Forest website, www.fs.fed.us/r3/cibola/

If you have any questions, please email me at jonschwedler@gmail.com.

NOTE: Additional information about the Travel Management Plan may be obtained at www.fs.fed.us/r3/projects/travel-mgt/index.shtml.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY

Oscar Simpson of the New Mexico Wildlife Federation is seeking volunteers to greet and converse with folks at the NMWF table at the Bob Gerding Outdoor Show in February. To inquire please contact Oscar at oscarsimpson3@yahoo.com.

Sportsman's Paradise Outdoor Hunting and Fishing Show 2007 – February 9, 10 & 11

Hours are Friday 12:00 noon to 7:00 pm, Saturday 9:00 am to 6:00 pm, Sunday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Admission \$7.00 Adults, Children under 12 Free

Exhibitors can begin setting up Thursday at 8:00 am to 5:00 pm or Friday at 8:00 am.



Following his presentation, Guest Speaker Dave Krueper, right, answers a question from AWF member Kent Salazar.

YOU CAN LEARN A LOT FROM AWF'S MONTHLY PROGRAMS!

If you missed AWF's January meeting, you missed avian biologist Dave Krueper, now with the US Fish & Wildlife Service, and his fascinating presentation about the effects on bird populations of eliminating cattle grazing in riparian areas along the San Pedro River in southern Arizona. Not surprisingly, bird numbers and species variety increased quite significantly in a few short years, once natural vegetation was allowed to flourish, providing cover and food. The proof was in the impressive photos!

Don't miss the great presentations that our hard-working Program Chair Jim Hubert has arranged for coming months (below). There's so much to learn... and there are always refreshments, too!

UPCOMING 2007 PROGRAMS

MARCH 8	<i>Wetland Restoration with Beavers</i> ▶ Barbara Coulter, AWF VP
APRIL 12	<i>Turkey Management, Hunting, and Biology</i> ▶ Bill Zeedyk, AWF Board Member
MAY 10	<i>Conservation & Restoration of Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout in NM</i> ▶ Kirk Patten, NM Dept of Game & Fish
JUNE 14	<i>Travel Management in the National Forests</i> ▶ Mary Bean, Cibola NF Travel Management Team Leader

AWF MEETING LOCATION

Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center
501 Elizabeth SE at Southern
(south of Central between Eubank and Juan Tabo)



2007 FIELD PROJECTS — COMING UP SOON!

February 24 – Rio Grande Bosque Restoration – 9:30 am to 3 pm

To kick off the 2007 project season, we will return to the Bosque where last June, thanks to the combined efforts of many groups led by City Open Space, we planted dozens of shrubs to promote turkey habitat. Join us on Saturday for more planting and installing drip irrigation. Meet at Shining River parking area at 9:30 am (located on the west side of Rio Grande Blvd, just south of where Paseo del Norte crosses underneath—not accessible from Paseo). Max participants: 25. Contact Gene Tatum at 255-1960 or gtatum3@msn.com to sign up or for more information.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS		
SOME OF THE PROJECTS PLANNED FOR 2007		
FEB	24	ABQ Open Space Bosque
MAR	10	Las Huertas Creek
	17-18	Cedro Creek
APR	6-8	San Mateo Mountains
	13-15	Rio de las Vacas I
	21	Rio Puerco
MAY	18-20	Cebolla Canyon
JUNE	1-3	Northern Pecos Wilderness
	15-17	Rio de las Vacas II
JULY	20-22	Valle Vidal - East side
AUG	17-19	Valles Caldera
SEPT	14-16	Wind River Ranch
OCT	13	Taos area road-to-trail

Schedule includes projects of Albuquerque Wildlife Federation, New Mexico Wilderness Alliance, Amigos Bravos, Forest Guardians, and others.

March 10 – Las Huertas Creek Restoration - 10 am to 2 pm

This project is hosted by Forest Guardians. Las Huertas Creek drains a large portion of the northern Sandia Mountains before joining the Rio Grande near Algodones. Learn about the significant riparian values found at Las Huertas Creek while participating in on-going efforts for its protection and restoration. RSVP required to participate. Max participants: 35. Contact Gene Tatum at 255-1960 or gtatum3@msn.com by February 28 to sign up, so that details can be forwarded to you.

March 17 & 18 – Cedro Creek Restoration - 9 am to 4 pm

Cedro Creek is one of the major drainages to Tijeras Creek before it heads down the canyon that separates the Sandias from the Manzanos, and AWF, led by our own Bill Zeedyk, has made this a favorite project locale...and it's close to home! Come one day or both. Activities will involve building in-creek rock structures to divert and decelerate water flow. Max participants: 35.

Contact Glenda Muirhead at 281-2925 or g.muirhead@usfamily.net to sign up or for more information.

It may be a cliché, but the best way to be Earth-friendly is to cut down on what you consume and recycle whenever you can. The U.S. generates about 208 million tons of municipal solid waste a year, according to the National Institutes of Health. That's more than 4 pounds per person per day. Every little bit helps; recycling just one glass bottle saves enough electricity to light a 100-watt bulb for four hours.

HERE ARE 10 MORE EASY WAYS TO GREEN YOUR HOME:

1. GREEN UP YOUR APPLIANCES. Getting rid of that old refrigerator in the garage could save you as much as \$150 a year, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. Appliance use comprises about 18% of a typical home's total energy bill, with the fridge being one of the biggest energy hogs. If any of your appliances is more than 10 years old, the EPA suggests replacing them with energy-efficient models that bear their "Energy Star" logo. Energy Star-qualified appliances use 10%-50% less energy and water than standard models. According to the Energy Star site, if just one in 10 homes used energy-efficient appliances, it would be equivalent to planting 1.7 million new acres of trees.

Also, consider what you put in that energy-efficient refrigerator. Pesticides, transportation and packaging are all things to consider when stocking up. Buying local cuts down on the fossil fuels burned to get the food to you while organic foods are produced without potentially harmful pesticides and fertilizers.

2. WATCH THE TEMP. Almost half a home's energy consumption is due to heating and cooling.

- Turn down the thermostat in cold weather and keep it higher in warm weather. Each degree below 68°F (20°C) during colder weather saves 3%-5% more heating energy, while keeping your thermostat at 78°F in warmer weather will save you energy and money. A programmable thermostat will make these temperature changes for you automatically.
- Clean your furnace's air filter monthly during heavy usage.
- Consider a new furnace. Today's furnaces are about 25% more efficient than they were in the 1980s. (And don't forget to check out furnaces carrying the Energy Star label.)
- To keep your cool in warmer weather, shade your east and west windows and delay heat-generating activities such as dishwashing until evening.
- Use ceiling fans instead of air conditioners. Light clothing in summer is typically comfortable between 72°F and 78°F. But moving air feels cooler, so a slow-moving fan easily can extend the comfort range to 82°F, according to *Consumer Guide to Home Energy Savings* by Alex Wilson.

3. SAVE WATER. The Web site "Water—Use it Wisely," created by a group of Arizona cities, lists 100 simple ways to save water. We'll share just a few here:

- Put an aerator on all household faucets and cut your annual water consumption by 50%.
- Install a low-flow toilet. They use only 1.6 gallons per flush, compared to 3.5 gallons per flush for pre-1994 models. If you have an older model, adjust your float valve to admit less water into the toilet's tank.

Of course, you don't need products to save water — behavioral changes also add up quickly: using a broom instead of the garden hose to clean your driveway can save 80 gallons of water and turning the water off when you brush your teeth will save 4.5 gallons each time.

4. CLEAN GREEN. Stop buying household cleaners that are potentially toxic to both you and the environment. In his book, *The Safe Shopper's Bible*, David Steinman suggests reading labels for specific, eco-friendly ingredients that also perform effectively. These include grain alcohol instead of toxic butyl cellosolve, commonly found in carpet cleaner and some window cleaners as a solvent; coconut or other plant oils rather than petroleum in detergents; and plant-oil disinfectants such as eucalyptus, rosemary or sage rather than triclosan, an antifungal agent found in soaps and deodorant. Or, skip buying altogether and make your own cleaning products. Use simple ingredients such as plain soap, water, baking soda (sodium bicarbonate), vinegar, washing soda (sodium carbonate), lemon juice and borax and save money at the same time. Check out these books by Annie Bertold-Bond for cleaning recipes: *Clean and Green* and *Better Basics for the Home*.

5. LET THERE BE ENERGY-EFFICIENT LIGHT. Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs (CFLs) use 66% less energy than a standard incandescent bulb and last up to 10 times longer. Replacing a 100-watt incandescent bulb with a 32-watt CFL can save \$30 in energy costs over the life of the bulb.

6. SAVE A TREE, USE LESS PAPER. You can buy "tree-free" 100% post-consumer recycled paper for everything from greeting cards to toilet paper. Paper with a high post-consumer waste content uses less virgin pulp and keeps more waste paper out of landfills. Other tips:

- Remove yourself from junk mail lists. Each person will receive almost 560 pieces of junk mail this year, which adds up nationally to 4.5 million tons, according to the Native Forest Network. About 44% of all junk mail is thrown in the trash, unopened and unread, and ends up in a landfill. To stem the flow into your own home, contact the Direct Marketing Association's Mail Preference Service at P.O. Box 643, Carmel, NY 10512, or download the online form. Opt out of credit card or insurance offers at OptOutPrescreen.com or by calling 888-567-8688, a single automated phone line maintained by the major credit bureaus.
- Buy unbleached paper. Many paper products, including some made from recycled fibers, are bleached with chlorine. The bleaching process can create harmful byproducts, including dioxins, which accumulate in our air, water and soil over time.

Finally, here's a third answer to the old "paper or plastic" question: No thanks. Carry your own cloth bags to the store to avoid using store bags.

7. WANT HARDWOOD FLOORS? OPT FOR BAMBOO. Bamboo is considered an environmentally friendly flooring material due to its high yield and the relatively fast rate at which it replenishes itself. It takes just four to six years for bamboo to mature, compared to 50-100 years for typical hardwoods. Just be sure to look for sources that use formaldehyde-free glues.

8. REDUCE PLASTICS, REDUCE GLOBAL WARMING. Each year, Americans throw away some 100 billion polyethylene plastic bags — from grocery and trash bags to those ultra-convenient sandwich bags. Unfortunately, plastics are made from petroleum — the processing and burning of which is considered one of the main contributors to global warming, according to the EPA. In addition, sending plastics to the landfill also increases greenhouse gases. Reduce, re-use and recycle your plastics for one of the best ways to combat global warming.

9. USE HEALTHIER PAINT. Conventional paints contain solvents, toxic metals and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that can cause smog, ozone pollution and indoor air quality problems with negative health effects, according to the EPA. These unhealthy ingredients are released into the air while you're painting, while the paint dries and even after the paints are completely dry. Opt instead for zero- or low-VOC paint, made by most major paint manufacturers today.

10. GARDEN GREEN. First, use compost instead of synthetic fertilizers. Compost provides a full complement of soil organisms and the balance of nutrients needed to maintain the soil's well-being without the chemicals of synthetic fertilizers. And healthy soil minimizes weeds and is key to producing healthy plants, which in turn can prevent many pest problems from developing to begin with.

- Use native plants as much as possible. Native plants have adapted over time to the local environment and support native animals. They also use less water and require less of your attention.
- Focus on perennials. Gardening with plants that live for more than one year means you don't have to pay for new plants every year; it also saves the resources used commercially to grow annuals.
- Stop using chemical pesticides. American households use 80 million pounds of pesticides each year, according to the EPA. These toxic chemicals escape gardens and concentrate in the environment, posing threats to animals and people, especially children. A better alternative is to try a variety of organic and physical pest control methods, such as using diatomaceous earth to kill insects, pouring boiling water on weeds or using beer to bait slugs. You can find more non-chemical pest control tips at the National Audubon Society's site.

Finally, consider using an old-fashioned push mower. The only energy expended is yours.

MEET OUR MEMBERS

LARRY DWYER

Larry has been serving as an AWF Board Member for several years.

BORN/GREW UP WHERE? I was born here in Albuquerque and grew up in the Jemez Mountains.

AGE: 51

MARITAL STATUS: Janet and I met in 1976 and dated for about a year. We just kinda drifted apart and thirteen years later we got back together and fell in love all over again. We are celebrating our 16th wedding anniversary on Valentine's Day.

CHILDREN: No children other than our two cats we treat like our kids.

EDUCATION: Graduated from University of New Mexico with a B.S. in Education and went on to obtain a Masters of Science Teaching degree from New Mexico Tech.

OCCUPATION: For the past twenty years I have been the Technologies Instructor at Jackson Middle School. I also was a Welding Instructor at T-VI for 5 years.

FAVORITE PLACE(S) IN NM: Valle Vidal and the Florida Mountains.

FAVORITE DESTINATION/ACTIVITY: Bow hunting the many game species here in New Mexico.

FAVORITE OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES: Hunting, fishing, hiking and camping.

GREATEST ADVENTURE: Calling in javelinas using a predator call.

FAVORITE MAGAZINES: Hunting magazines.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS: I am currently a member of Forest Guardians, Sierra Club, Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics, New Mexico Wilderness Alliance, Republicans for Environmental Protection, New Mexico Conservation Voters, US Sportsman's Alliance, and NMWF. AWF is the only organization that I am active in.

PERSONAL GOALS: To be the best husband, teacher, brother and friend I can be.

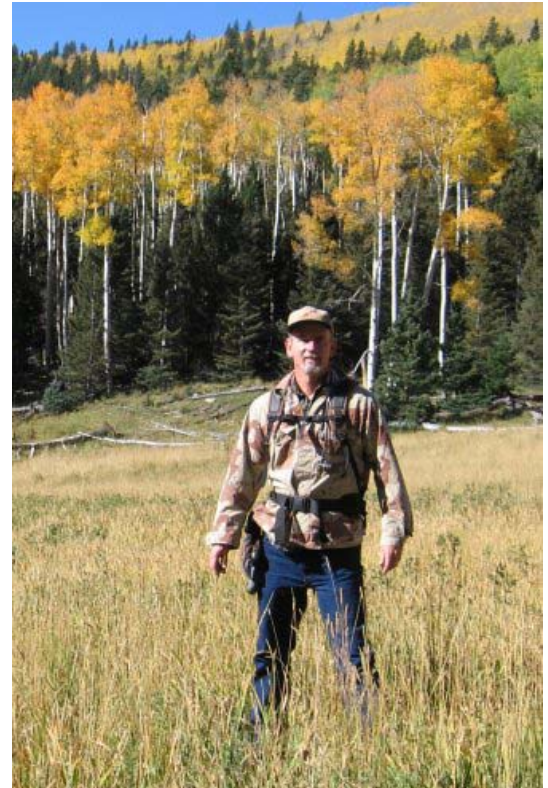
AWF MEMBER: Since early 90's. I heard a couple of AWF members on the radio talking about the harm to the environment because of overgrazing by cattle, and I called and joined.

ORIGIN OF MY INTEREST IN WILDLIFE: Growing up in the Jemez, I developed a love for wildlife and the great outdoors. Many of my most cherished memories are those of hunting and experiencing wildlife in this great state.

GOALS FOR AWF: Protect our wildlife and natural resources for future generations. My particular interests include implementing reasonable grazing practices and public access to public land. Much of the land here in New Mexico is not suitable for cattle grazing, and I see overgrazing as the most harmful activity facing our public lands. I think it is ridiculous that the government must grant access across our land to private landowners but we can be denied access to public land because it is landlocked.

FAVORITE QUOTE: "There is great good in returning to a landscape that has had extraordinary meaning in one's life. There are certain villages and towns and mountains and plains that having seen them, walked in them, even for a day, we keep forever in the mind's eye. They become indispensable to our well being. They define us and we say, 'I am who I am because I have been there.'"

N. Scott Momaday referring to Northwest New Mexico



Larry Dwyer at the Valle Vidal

AWF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Gene Tatum

Vice-President: Barbara Coulter

Secretary: Linda Patterson

Treasurer: Glenda Muirhead

Directors: Larry Dwyer, Patricia Hester,
Jim Hubert, Dennis Muirhead, Kurt
Nolte, Jon Schwedler, Luke Shelby,
Bill Zeedyk

Ex-Officio: Richard W. Becker

NEW MEXICO 2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND FISH INITIATIVES

▶**HB6 - DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND FISH APPROPRIATION ACT** (Stewart): Budget bill that requests a total of \$34,527,800 for the Department.

▶**HB56 - COMBINED HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES** (Nunez): Resolves issues with hunt drawings for public land deer hunts and the purchase of combination licenses. Creates a new license type, in essence, removing the deer license from the general hunting and fishing types (junior, senior and handicap) and will also create discounted deer licenses for junior, senior and handicapped hunters.

▶**HB83 - NATIVE ANIMAL HABITAT CONSERVATION** (Stewart): Allows the Department to receive and expend funds from the Game Protection Fund for the purpose of education and information and habitat projects that benefit native non-domestic animal species. Will not add any regulatory authority.

▶**HB189 - RULES FOR KILLING NON-GAME FISH** (Campos): Allows the Commission to set regulations for the take of non-game fish.

▶**HB212 - GOVERNOR'S GAME AND FISH AUTHORIZATIONS** (TA Garcia): 12 big game, and 12 game bird or trophy fish special authorizations made available to the governor to be transferable at the discretion of the governor in conjunction with special events called by the governor to raise money for fish and wildlife conservation. Allows for no more than 3 deer and 3 elk each year. Money to go to the Game Protection Fund.

▶**HB305 - ADDITIONAL DEER LICENSE FEE CHANGE** (Trujillo): Changes the fee language to make it track with the fee for all other deer license types. Any hunter allowed to purchase a second deer license would pay the same fee as mandated by the license fees statute for a deer license.

▶**HB341 - WILDLIFE ENHANCEMENT AUTHORIZATION PACKAGES** (Moore): "Grand Slam" permits. Allows the Department to issue two packages of enhancement authorizations each license year for the taking of 1 each elk, deer, oryx, ibex, and pronghorn antelope in each package, to raise funds for programs and projects to enhance, conserve and protect big game habitat. One to be auctioned, the other raffled.

▶**HB616 - GAME AND FISH RULE PENALTY ASSESSMENTS** (Barela): Adds fishing, upland game, waterfowl and manner and methods offenses to the penalty assessment rule.

BIGHORN SHEEP RESTORATION PROGRAM WINS BIG

Last October, bighorn sheep biologist Elise Goldstein was AWF's guest speaker, detailing the Department of Game & Fish's program to restore viable populations of desert bighorns in New Mexico and the perils of habitat and disease facing the herds. Some *big* money has come their way!

On January 27, the *Albuquerque Journal* reported that the program is \$210,000 richer, thanks to an auction for a chance to hunt bighorn sheep in the state. The authorization allows the hunter a chance to hunt either desert or Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep on public or private lands in New Mexico, and was sold in Salt Lake City during a national convention of the Foundation for North American Wild Sheep.

The auction has raised nearly \$1.9 million since its inception in 1990. According to Eric Rominger, another of the Department's bighorn sheep biologists, 90 percent of the money has gone into bighorn research, management, and habitat improvement.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION — Albuquerque Wildlife Federation, PO Box 1234, Albuquerque, NM 87103

An Affiliate of New Mexico Wildlife Federation

➤ Please choose between **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** or **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP**. **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** does **not** include membership in NMWF. **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP** includes **one** voting membership in NMWF, for which \$10 of your dues payment goes to NMWF. For Family Membership, if a second person* desires NMWF voting rights, an additional \$10 payment is required.

name(s) _____

address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ email _____

Gift membership from: _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES :

- Student [under 18].....\$10 ◀ [AWF Membership Only]
- Individual.....\$25
- Family\$35
- Sustaining..... \$50-\$99
- Patron\$100
- Lifetime\$500 ◀ [One-time Payment]

Dues \$ _____

*Second NMWF Member \$10 _____

Contribution \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

THANK YOU!

➤ **PLEASE SELECT ONE :**

AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY

AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP : Designate NMWF member(s*) _____



AWF Newsletter

MARCH 2007

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation ■ PO Box 1234 ■ Albuquerque, NM 87103
Affiliated with The National Wildlife Federation and The New Mexico Wildlife Federation

GENERAL MEETING

DATE: Thursday, March 8, 2007
WHEN: 7:30 pm (following AWF Board Meeting)
WHERE: Manzano Mesa Center, 501 Elizabeth SE (map p3)
PROGRAM: BEAVERS – WETLAND ENGINEERS!
GUEST SPEAKER: Barbara Coulter, Animal Protection of NM
Plus Skip Lisle–Beaver Deceivers Int'l, and Rachael Conn–Amigos Bravos

Please join us for a multi-media presentation on the importance of beavers in riparian habitats in the arid southwest. Barbara Coulter, AWF vice-president and Wildlife Campaigns Manager for Animal Protection of New Mexico, will give a presentation on beaver biology, habitat, and the benefits of these keystone species on hydrology and wildlife health and diversity.

Why are wetlands so important? Wetlands are vital to the health of our state because they help mitigate the impacts of floods, replenish drinking water supplies and filter pollutants improving water quality. In the June/July 2004 issue of *National Wildlife*, the bi-monthly magazine of the National Wildlife Federation, an article describing the natural history of water in America states, "Without wetlands and prairie grasslands to absorb rainfall, water slaloms across the landscape, picking up and dumping sediment into streams and lakes. Without beaver dams to brake their flow, streams frequently deepen into brown-water gullies, continually eating away at their own banks." To even better underscore the value that wetlands provide, the EPA has determined that 43% of federally listed threatened and endangered species rely on wetlands for their survival (www.nwf.org/wildlife/pdfs/WetlandsAtRisk.pdf).



Unfortunately, Americans are losing their wetlands at an alarming rate. The National Wetlands Inventory conducted by the USFWS estimates that the US loses 130,480 acres per year of wetland and estuarine habitat. From the 1780's to 1980's New Mexico lost 36% of its wetlands. But there is no need to despair – beavers to the rescue! Make sure to attend this presentation. You will have a "dam" good time!

In addition, we'll have two special guest speakers: Skip Lisle from Beaver Deceivers International, based in Vermont, will give a brief description of the wildlife-friendly work he does installing flow devices (aka: beaver deceivers) in beaver dams. And Rachael Conn from Amigos Bravos will give an update on a species that directly benefits from beaver habitat – *river otters!*

**Jim Hubert's
NOTABLE QUOTE
of the month**

"Wildlife, forests, ranges and waterpower are renewable organic resources, which might last forever if they are harvested scientifically, and not faster than they reproduce."

— Theodore Roosevelt

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Last fall Pat and I drove our daughter to Chicago to begin graduate school. While we were there, Pat visited the Field Museum which has a permit to collect fossils from BLM New Mexico Public Lands. As Pat is the BLM Regional Paleontologist, one of her responsibilities is to inspect places like the Field Museum to insure that fossils from BLM Public Land are properly curated. While Pat was getting an interesting tour of the Museum's underground, daughter Sara and I spent our time visiting the "Evolving Planet" which presents a cogent discussion of evolution. The exhibit also sheds light on the differences between evolution and "Intelligent Design." Sara commented that

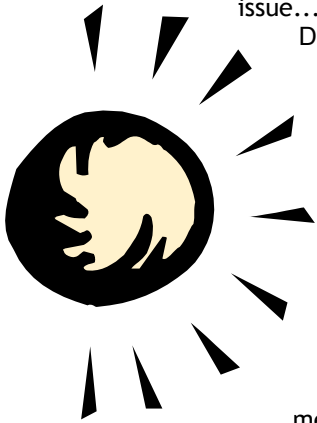
continued

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - *continued*

she had a better understanding of evolution from the two hours at the Museum exhibit than from a year of high school biology. But you do not have to go to Chicago to learn about or from this exhibit. Just take yourself to this website: www.fieldmuseum.org/evolvingplanet.

Sara's comment got me to thinking about the importance of not confusing the subjects in the public schools of intelligent design and the scientific theory of evolution. Last week, I was skimming through one of the many magazines we receive, most of which are from conservation organizations, when I came across a piece about the Pennsylvania Dover Area School Board Trial regarding continued teaching Intelligent Design in public schools. The case was heard by U.S. District Judge John E. Jones, a Republican and a churchgoer appointed to the federal bench over three years ago. "A six-week trial over the issue yielded overwhelming evidence establishing that intelligent design is a religious view, a mere re-labeling of creationism, and not a scientific theory, said Jones." The Judge barred the teaching of intelligent design in biology class, saying the concept is creationism in disguise.

There are people in our society who feel that evolution and religion are at opposition and are successfully confusing the issue... "In a November Gallup poll, only 35 percent of those polled believed confidently that Darwin's theory was supported by the evidence, whereas 45 percent believed that God created man in his present form." I do not understand why such a large group of people believes that evolution is incompatible with religion. Perhaps the problem is found in the literal interpretations of the Bible.



I grew up as a Southern Baptist in Alabama and as young boy struggled with believing that the universe was created in seven days. Then someone told me the Book of Psalms was poetry, which made me feel better because I had spent most of my life up until that point trying to avoid walking through the valley of the shadow of death. I mean, I would not hike anywhere without first studying maps to make sure that I was not going to be treading through the valley. This was the point where I became aware of "literal" versus "figurative" interpretations. Thus, "It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of needle than it is for a rich man to go to heaven" is now an example to me of a *parable* and not meant to be taken as *fact*. Of courses one of today's "literal" entrepreneurs would probably

devote some of his wealth to making needles with giant eyes, or more likely genetically engineering smaller camels. Also there might be a novelty market for really small camels.

Let's relate this to wildlife. Many fundamentalist religious groups like those promoting intelligent design have an attitude that humans have dominion over life on this planet, which leads to the conclusion that global climatic changes and loss of species diversity/richness are preordained. I like the view that we have a responsibility as thinking, reasoning beings to not just use but also to care for and not abuse the earth and its occupants.

— Gene Tatum, President

FEBRUARY BOSQUE RESTORATION PROJECT

Thanks to the brave crew who withstood the wild winds and came out on Saturday, February 24, to the Bosque at Shining River to plant shrubs and install irrigation: Pamela Bliss, Tanya Critchfield, Mike Davis, Patricia Hester, Renae Hickman, Yongkwang Lee, Glenda Muirhead, Becky Pierce, Toby Rosenblatt, Michael Scialdone, Gene Tatum, Laura Vogel, Melissa Walker, Elizabeth Wessing, Sumner Williams, and Jim Wilson. Laura Vogel, a Rio Rancho science teacher, brought along Renae and Yongkwang, two students who are members of an environmental group at their school. We hope to see more of them...with their friends! Thanks also to Jim Sattler and James from City Open Space Division, for their guidance and assistance.



Armed with shovels to plant shrubs are (l-r) Liz Wessing, Renae Hickman, Laura Vogel (waving), and Pat Hester

FISHING THE QUALITY WATER OF THE SAN JUAN RIVER

—Catch & Release Only

By Dennis A. Muirhead

In January, good friend and fellow AWF member Ron Madsen and I traveled to Navajo Lake State Park, northeast of Bloomfield, where Ron gave me my first lesson in fly fishing the quality water of the San Juan River. Weather was good, not much snow, water was clear, ducks were flying...but Ron thought the fish maybe were on holiday as our success rate was lower than expected in this location.

Ron hooked a 22-incher right off the bat, which turned out to be the nicest, fattest fish caught during the trip. (That’s Ron in the action photo at right.)

Ron made up the first leader assembly for me with split-shot and micro hooks. I managed to lose a few of his micro “flies.” The eye on the small #22 and #24 hooks is so tiny that even with reading glasses on, it’s hard to guide the 3lb monofilament line into the hook eye. Tying the hook on with cold stiff fingers is also a slow process. The first time I tried to replace a lost split-shot, I lost at least six more in the grass trying to hold the split-shot, get the line in the groove, and squeeze the thing shut.

I did manage to land three fish on Tuesday and three fish on Wednesday, but none in the net on Thursday. Ron caught fish every day and also shot a Canada goose and a duck. We had a great time and I look forward to more trips in the future.



GRAY WOLF KILLED BY USFWS AGENT

A federal Wildlife Services agent riding in a helicopter shot and killed an endangered Mexican gray wolf that had been targeted for killing cattle. The US Fish and Wildlife Service on Feb. 5 issued a “removal order” for a wolf designated M796, the six-year-old alpha male of the San Mateo Pack. The wolf was targeted because he was involved in the killing of three calves between March 15, 2006, and January 31. John Morgart, Albuquerque-based coordinator of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program, said he was told...that the “animal was lethally controlled – shot.”

John Morgart of the USFWS was AWF’s guest speaker in Feb 2006, presenting details of the Mexican gray wolf reintroduction program.

...Starting in 1998 the Fish and Wildlife Service reintroduced Mexican gray wolves, which had been hunted to near extinction in their historic range in southeast Arizona and southwest New Mexico. Because the endangered wolves are considered “nonessential, experimental population,” federal officials have flexibility in managing the wolf population, including killing wolves involved in three confirmed livestock kills.

Environmentalists and ranchers regularly clash over the management of the wolf recovery program. Environmentalists say federal officials cater to the livestock industry at the expense of the program’s success; ranchers complain federal officials are not sensitive enough to their economic concerns and public safety.

Michael Robinson of the Center for Biological Diversity...said he believed the removal order violated program rules. Wolves are subject to removal for killing “lawfully present livestock,” and...the calf killed [in March 2006] was on a grazing allotment [where] the Forest Service had directed cattle be removed. Morgart...said that while the calf “was unauthorized to be in that pasture, it wasn’t illegal.”

By Rene Romo, Albuquerque Journal, February 21, 2007

AWF MEETING LOCATION

Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center
501 Elizabeth SE at Southern
(south of Central between Eubank and Juan Tabo)



UPCOMING AWF PROGRAMS

APRIL 12	Turkey Management, Hunting, and Biology ▶ Bill Zeedyk, AWF Board Member
MAY 10	Conservation & Restoration of Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout in NM ▶ Kirk Patten, NM Dept of Game & Fish
JUNE 14	Travel Management in the National Forests ▶ Mary Bean, Cibola NF Travel Management Team Leader

MEET OUR MEMBERS

JON SCHWEDLER



JON WITH BABY LUKE AND LEROY THE DOG

Jon, an AWF member since 2006, is also a newly-elected Board member who brings extensive conservation experience to our organization, having worked on local, regional, national, and international wildlife conservation for ten years, with a focus on communications. He has worked for the international headquarters of The Nature Conservancy, the Maryland/DC Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, and served as communications director for Predator Conservation Alliance in Montana.

More recently he has worked to conserve the Southwest's two largest native wild cats through the Northern Jaguar Project and NM Game & Fish cougar management.

Prior to his conservation career, Jon was a Series 6 and 63 certified financial broker for T. Rowe Price, and an archaeological field technician at Maryland's historic colonial capital. He has a BA in Anthropology/Archaeology from St. Mary's College of Maryland, and graduate training in environmental planning from the University of Maryland. He and his wife, Jen, have one young son, Luke (and one dog, Leroy).

2007 FIELD PROJECTS — COMING UP SOON!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS		
SOME OF THE PROJECTS PLANNED FOR 2007		
MAR	10	Las Huertas Creek - FULL
	17-18	Cedro Creek
APR	6-8	San Mateo Mountains
	14	Santa Fe River
	21	Rio Puerco
MAY	18-20	Cebolla Canyon
JUNE	1-3	Northern Pecos Wilderness
	15-17	Rio de las Vacas
JULY	20-22	Valle Vidal - East side
AUG	17-19	Valles Caldera
SEPT	14-16	Wind River Ranch
OCT	13	Taos area road-to-trail

Schedule includes projects of Albuquerque Wildlife Federation, New Mexico Wilderness Alliance, Amigos Bravos, Forest Guardians, and others.

March 17 & 18 – Cedro Creek Restoration - 9 am to 4 pm

Cedro Creek is one of the major drainages to Tijeras Creek before it heads down the canyon that separates the Sandias from the Manzanos, and AWF, led by our own Bill Zeedyk, has made this a favorite project locale...and it's close to home! Come one day or both. Activities will involve planting willows and other riparian vegetation, and building in-creek rock structures to divert and decelerate water flow. Contact Glenda Muirhead at 281-2925 or g.muirhead@usfamily.net to sign up or for more information.

April 6-8, 2007 - Limestone Canyon in the San Mateo Mtns

SERVICE PROJECT OF NEW MEXICO WILDERNESS ALLIANCE

The San Mateo Mountains are a remote range in central New Mexico with two areas already designated Wilderness and most of the range suitable for more designation. We will work on a stream restoration project in Limestone Canyon on the northwest portion of the range, near the Plains of San Agustin. We will camp at the site. 2½ hours from ABQ, 3 hours from Las Cruces. Contact Michael Scialdone at 505-843-8696 or scial@nmwild.org for more info.

April 14, 2007 – Santa Fe River Revegetation – 9 am to 3 pm

San Ysidro Park is approximately 30 acres of open space along the Santa Fe River owned by Santa Fe County. The park is in the traditional village of Agua Fria, an historic farming community southwest of the plaza in Santa Fe. The County recently completed a restoration project funded in part by a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency to reconstruct the severely eroded river channel. On Saturday April 14th we will be planting native willows to stabilize the river channel, in conjunction with Colleen Baker of the Santa Fe County Open Space and Trails Division. Sign-up details next month.

NOTE: THIS PROJECT ON THE SANTA FE RIVER REPLACES THE PREVIOUSLY-SCHEDULED RIO DE LAS VACAS PROJECT IN APRIL.

**RENEWED MEMBERS
THANKS!**

Linda Barbour
Dana & Betty Davis
Cecil Haas – PATRON
James H. Hines
Richard E. Leonard – PATRON

VALLES CALDERA NEWS

Marty Peale, Coordinator of the Valles Caldera Coalition, sends along this notice:

Kirt Kempter’s September 2006 “JOURNEY TO THE NORTH RIM OF THE VALLES CALDERA” (a fundraiser for the Coalition) got such rave reviews that we’ve asked him to do it again. So mark your calendars: Second Annual Coalition Geology Tour, Saturday, June 23, 2007. Drop us a line to save a space, and watch for more details about this and other Coalition-sponsored tours, workshops and presentations.

Check out their website: www.vallescalderacoalition.org for news and information.
Contact Marty at mpeale@vallescalderacoalition.org phone (505) 983-4609, ext 25
fax (505) 983-2355

**WILDLIFE SOCIETY HONORS
TIJERAS CANYON COALITION**

The New Mexico Chapter of the Wildlife Society awarded the Tijeras Canyon Safe Passage Coalition its annual Wildlife Conservation Award on February 7 at its joint conference with the Arizona Chapter.

The Tijeras Canyon Safe Passage Coalition has brought attention to the hazards facing wildlife on highways in Tijeras Canyon. In the past few years, the group has assisted the New Mexico Department of Transportation in constructing ways to keep wildlife off the highways while still allowing wildlife passage between the Sandia and Manzano Mountains.

The coalition meets on the second Wednesday of each month from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Tijeras Visitor Center. For more information, visit their website: www.safepassagecoalition.org.

Source: Mountain View Telegraph

AWF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Gene Tatum
Vice-President: Barbara Coulter
Secretary: Linda Patterson
Treasurer: Glenda Muirhead
Directors: Larry Dwyer, Patricia Hester, Jim Hubert, Dennis Muirhead, Kurt Nolte, Jon Schwedler, Luke Shelby, Bill Zeedyk
Ex-Officio: Richard W. Becker

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION — Albuquerque Wildlife Federation, PO Box 1234, Albuquerque, NM 87103
An Affiliate of New Mexico Wildlife Federation

➤ Please choose between **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** or **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP**. **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** does **not** include membership in NMWF. **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP** includes **one** voting membership in NMWF, for which \$10 of your dues payment goes to NMWF. For Family Membership, if a second person* desires NMWF voting rights, an additional \$10 payment is required.

name(s) _____
address _____
city, state, zip _____
phone _____ email _____

Gift membership from: _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES :

- Student [under 18].....\$10 ◀ [AWF Membership Only]
- Individual.....\$25
- Family\$35
- Sustaining..... \$50-\$99
- Patron.....\$100
- Lifetime\$500 ◀ [One-time Payment]

Dues \$ _____
*Second NMWF Member \$10 _____
Contribution \$ _____
TOTAL \$ _____

THANK YOU!

➤ **PLEASE SELECT ONE :**

- AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY
- AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP : Designate NMWF member(s*) _____



AWF Newsletter

APRIL 2007

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation ■ PO Box 1234 ■ Albuquerque, NM 87103
Affiliated with The National Wildlife Federation and The New Mexico Wildlife Federation

GENERAL MEETING

- DATE:** Thursday, April 12, 2007
WHEN: 7:30 pm (following AWF Board Meeting)
WHERE: Manzano Mesa Center, 501 Elizabeth SE (map p4)
PROGRAM: **LET'S TALK TURKEYS: Calling Techniques, Hunting Tactics, Biology and Management—New Mexico Style**
GUEST SPEAKERS: Bill Zeedyk and Dick Kreiner

Our April program will feature Wild Turkeys in New Mexico, all three subspecies—the Merriam's, the Gould's and the Rio Grande: where they live, what they look like, and how they differ. Bill Zeedyk and Dick Kreiner will join up to give us some lively calling demonstrations, explain various hunting strategies and methods, and bring us up to date on current management of this majestic bird. Only the Merriams and Rios can be hunted now but plans are underway to permit very limited hunting of the Goulds.

Bill Zeedyk has had a lifelong interest in conservation and management of the wild turkey going back to the 1950's with many stories to tell. He has presented many calling seminars to AWF, the National Wild Turkey Federation and others and knows many secret tricks, some of which he is willing to share with us!

Dick Kreiner has long been active with the NWTF, locally and at the state level. He, too, has presented many seminars, is an expert hunter and has headed up dozens of volunteer habitat improvement projects, has helped to trap and transplant wild turkeys for restoration projects, and has kept in touch with efforts to restore the Goulds turkey in New Mexico.

Bill likes to use "friction" type turkey callers especially slate callers, but Dick is a master with the "mouth yelper." Come and learn the difference and learn how to use these and other types of callers with confidence. Even if you are not a hunter, it is fun to see turkeys and know how they live and communicate. Learn to yelp, cluck, cut, putt, cackle, purr, kee-kee and gobble! Learn what these sounds mean. *Learn to "talk turkey!"*

**Jim Hubert's
NOTABLE QUOTE
of the month**

**"Plans to protect air and water,
wilderness and wildlife are in
fact plans to protect man."**

— **Stuart Udall,**
former Secretary of the Interior

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am well into my third year as AWF President. I feel honored to serve in this position. I do not know all of you members, but those I do know are thoughtful, conscientious, and active participants in the improvement of wildlife habitat. This pursuit requires that our organization take positions on many environmental issues. Some such as clean air and water are relatively clear to us as individuals, and as a consequence are easy for our organization to support. There are some issues that are complex, socially and scientifically, like increased off-shore leasing for oil and gas development. Then there are issues like the Mexican wolf re-introduction which I think most of us support. Certainly those who attended the program by John Morgart, Program Coordinator for Mexican Wolf Recovery-US Fish and Wildlife Service, at

continued

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - *continued*

our February 2006 meeting, have a greater appreciation for not only the importance of, but also the real difficulties subsequent to, the re-introduction of this top predator.

This species, jaguar, and river otters are important predators which were depredated from New Mexico and other southwestern eco-systems. At the time these animals were eradicated in New Mexico, we lacked the understanding of the role they play in species diversity and healthy ecosystems. Dr. Brian Miller, Executive Director of Wind River Ranch near Las Vegas, NM, received his PhD studying the effects on species diversity – of plants as well as animals – in systems where the top predators were eliminated. In his presentation to us at the February 2007 AWF meeting, Dr. Miller provided research data that demonstrated how removal of top predators, such as the wolf, from natural systems disrupts food chains, reduces species diversity, and negatively impacts our environment.

I mention the lobo, river otter and jaguar because management of these predators is once again being discussed in New Mexico. A program to re-introduce river otter has been approved and has begun. Rachel Conn of Amigos Bravos provided an update about the river otter re-introduction program at our March meeting. Rachel stated that funding for this program is limited and they are soliciting private contributions. AWF is considering raising funds to sponsor an otter. Would you be interested in making a contribution? We will keep you apprised.

AWF board member Jon Schwedler gave an informative presentation last June regarding the jaguar. Jon stated that in recent years increased jaguar sightings have been reported in southwest New Mexico and southeast Arizona

within the historic range of this animal. The sightings have prompted the preparation of a Draft Conservation Assessment and Framework for the Jaguar. On behalf of AWF, Jon prepared comments on this draft document. If you are interested in the Jaguar, Jon would be the person to contact.



Of these species, the lobo re-introduction program is furthest along, with the first animals released into the wild in 1998. But lobos are once again in the sights of those who would like to see them re-eliminated. "Some people" say that wolf paranoia causes Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, and in response are proposing lobo-proof school bus stops to protect their children. People die each year from meteorites, second-hand smoke, the actions of sick/perverted people, snake bites, lightning, or livestock, while there are no reports of wolves killing people. Considering the facts, shouldn't school bus stops be constructed to provide protection from these other risks as well?

On a serious note, I hope that no one is killed by wolves, but life is full of risks. Individuals who choose to immerse themselves in wildlife habitat need to be prepared for encounters with wild animals. It would seem that the escape from civilization which many people seek by living near the wild lands would be enhanced by the presence of these animals. I think that fear can be a great motivator which many people use as a tool to prepare themselves. But on the other hand, fear can engender paranoia which clouds judgment, leading people to make illogical decisions.

AWF members in good conscience need to avoid emotions, become informed about wildlife habitat and environmental issues, and form reasoned opinions and positions. I believe that after due consideration, we at AWF will find ways to support programs like the lobo re-introduction which will promote their success.

— Gene Tatum, President



On Sunday, March 18, Bill Zeedyk (*second from right*) oversees distribution of tools and buckets of willow, preparatory to a short hike down to Cedro Creek on the east side of Hwy 337. Over the weekend, hundreds of willows cut on-site, as well as cottonwood and black willow poles, were planted along the creek to stabilize banks, encourage wet meadow development, and improve wildlife habitat.

MARCH PROJECT AT CEDRO CREEK

One of our favorite nearby restoration projects, at Cedro Creek south of Tijeras along Hwy 337 (S14), attracted an impressive number of volunteers on March 17 and 18, eager to start the revegetation process at the site of prior years' stream work.

Saturday's event, hosted by the Quivira Coalition, brought out close to 50 participants to plant willow cuts and other trees, guided by Bill Zeedyk and Steve Carson. On Sunday, Bill and Steve led a smaller crew of about 20 to continue with these planting efforts, and also to repair some in-stream rock structures.

Thank you to the many familiar and new faces whose labors will help create a lush riparian haven for wildlife! (*Apologies for any misspellings or omissions*)

Rose Afandi, Michael & Julie Bain, Peter Blemel & kids, Pam Bliss, Tim Brown, the Brooks, Nancy Carrillo, Graham Cawdrey, Oliver Collignon, Mike Davis, Tammy Delmarco, Will & Dorothy Duff, Tamara Gadzia, Brice Harvey, Dave Huberty, Kaisa Lappalainen, Kerri Lathrop, Yongkwang Lee, Shayai Lucero, Mary Maulsby, Mary McCormick, Dennis & Glenda Muirhead, Deborah Myrin, Rebecca Naranjo, Molly Padgett, John Rogers, Samuel Rowe, Michael Scialdone, Elias Seidel, Jack & Janet Smith, Denise Smith, Susan Smith, Valerie Smith, Elisha Song, Ellie Trotter, Alice & Jeffrey Wakefield, Melissa Walker, Norman Wendell.

2007 FIELD PROJECTS – “TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE”

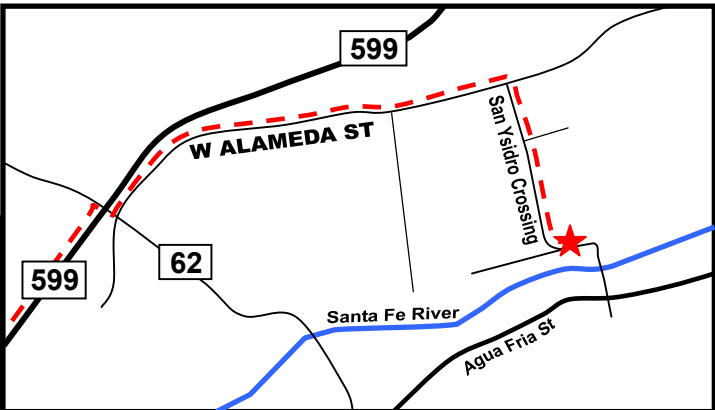
APRIL 14 ● Santa Fe River Revegetation - 9am to 3pm *(Albuquerque Wildlife Federation)*

San Ysidro Park is approximately 30 acres of open space along the Santa Fe River owned by Santa Fe County. The park is in the traditional village of Agua Fria, an historic farming community southwest of the plaza in Santa Fe. The County recently completed a restoration project funded in part by a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency to reconstruct the severely eroded river channel. On Saturday April 14th we will be planting native trees to stabilize the river channel, in conjunction with Colleen Baker of the Santa Fe County Open Space and Trails Division.

The stream restoration has been ongoing over the last the five years or so. The project began with heavy equipment taking down the 40 foot arroyo walls and reconstructing the stream shape and flood plains to those characteristic of a stable stream. To ensure the success of this project, riparian vegetation must be reestablished to increase the stream stretch’s resistance to normal flood events. Our step in the project involves helping nature by planting the woody riparian vegetation – willows and cottonwoods. The willows will become a dense vegetative cover with extensive root systems which help stabilize the stream stretch to prevent arroyo formation from restarting. Bring your gloves and lunch; snacks and drinks provided.

Please RSVP to Gene Tatum at gtatum3@msn.com or (505) 255-1960.

DIRECTIONS FROM ALBUQUERQUE: From I-25 North, take Exit 276 B/NM 599 (North). Cross Airport Rd continuing north on NM 599. Turn right off NM 599 onto County Rd 62. Turn left, northeast on West Alameda (the frontage road along NM 599). Turn right (south) on San Ysidro Crossing. Follow San Ysidro Crossing to the Santa Fe River. Park in the dirt lot on the north side of the river off San Ysidro Crossing.



APRIL 14-16 ● Southern NM Service Project *(New Mexico Wilderness Alliance)*

Tres Alianzas! This will be a joint Service Project with Sky Island Alliance and the Upper Gila Watershed Alliance in the Burro Mountains between Silver City and Lordsburg. The project will involve building structures to aid in stream restoration. We will camp near the site off the Red Rock Road. 6 hours from ABQ, 2.5 hours from Las Cruces. Maximum participants: 35
Contact: Michael Scialdone at 505-843-8696, scial@nmwild.org for more info.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS		
PROJECTS PLANNED FOR 2007		
APRIL	14	Santa Fe River-AWF
	14-16	Southern NM-NMWA
	14	Trail 137 Maint-NMVFO/NMT
	20-22	Otero Mesa Outing-NMWA
	21	Rio Puerco-FG
	21-22	Pecos Nat'l Park-NMVFO
MAY	28	Las Vegas Nature Trail-NMVFO
	5	Trail 137 Maint-NMVFO/NMT
	5-6	Rio de las Vacas-NMT
	11-13	San Mateo Mtns-NMWA
JUNE	18-20	Cebolla Canyon-AWF
	1-3	N. Pecos Wilderness-NMWA
	15-17	Rio de las Vacas-AWF
JULY	29-Jul1	Red River-NMWA
	14-16	Middle Fork Trail-NMWA/AB
AUG	20-22	Valle Vidal/East side-AWF
	17-19	Valles Caldera-AWF
SEPT	14-16	Wind River Ranch-AWF
OCT	13	Taos area road-to-trail-NMWA

- AWF = Albuquerque Wildlife Federation
- NMWA = New Mexico Wilderness Alliance
- AB = Amigos Bravos
- FG = Forest Guardians
- NMT = New Mexico Trout
- NMVFO = NM Volunteers for the Outdoors

April 14 ● East Fork Trail 137 Maintenance, Part I

(New Mexico Trout / NM Volunteers for the Outdoors)

This day project will entail several aspects of heavy trail maintenance along a 1½ mile trail segment of the East Fork Trail 137 between Jemez Falls and McCauley Warm Springs: Trail Corridor (clearing and brushing), Tread Maintenance (tread creep, slough and berm) and Switchback Maintenance (rebuilding). Tasks for every level of physical fitness, interest and age. The views are amazing along the canyon rim of the East Fork Jemez River. A long soak at the warm springs will be warranted. The Forest Service will provide all tools, technical instruction and direction. An enormous number of volunteers are needed. **Contact:** Phyllis Martinez at (505) 829-3535.

APRIL 20-22 ● Otero Mesa Outing *(NM Wilderness Alliance)*

Come join us in Otero Mesa and watch the desert come to life! If the spring rains hit, then this is the best time to be out there. We’ll explore the area while talking about our continuing efforts to secure permanent protection for the last best stretch of Chihuahuan Desert Grasslands. Be prepared for windy weather and lots of sun as Otero Mesa is now entering Spring, but also be prepared for calm brisk days with the possibility of a few rain showers. Bring plenty of water, sunscreen and a camera to capture the moments of prong-horn herds, prairie dog towns, petroglyphs, desert blooms, and beautiful sunrises and sunsets. During the evenings there will be a social campfire. Bring instruments if you’ve got them. Let’s get together and have some fun in the desert!

Maximum participants: 50
Contact: Nathan Newcomer at 505-843-8696, nathan@nmwild.org.
Driving time: 6 hours from ABQ, 2.5 hours from Las Cruces

APRIL 21 ● Rio Puerco Creek Service Project (*Forest Guardians*)

This will be an excellent chance to see the progress of a project that has been going on for a few years now. The stretch of Rio Puerco being worked on is about 8 miles south of Cuba. Most folks will arrive to help on Saturday, but there will be work to be done on Friday or you can at least join for camping on Friday night if you can't make the whole day. We will be planting native trees like cottonwood and willow. 70 miles north of ABQ. Maximum participants: 75
Contact: Carol Norton at 505-988-9126, ext. 150, or cnorton@fguardians.org for more information.
Driving distance: 70 miles north of ABQ

APRIL 21-22 ● Pecos National Historical Park (*NM Volunteers for the Outdoors*)

Come join us as we start working on the Glorieta Battlefield. This is the preliminary stage of a large undertaking.
Contact: Pat Collins at 505-473-1544, PatJamesCol@aol.com

APRIL 28 ● Acequia Madre Nature Trail (*NM Volunteers for the Outdoors*)

We will construct a ½-mile nature trail along Acequia Madre in Las Vegas, and will also be planting xeriscape vegetation.
Contact: Kevin Balciaar at 505-293-1477, Kevin@soleitwest.com.

MAY 5 ● East Fork Trail I37 Maintenance, Part II (*New Mexico Trout / NM Volunteers for the Outdoors*)

This day project will continue to rebuild the switchbacks through a basalt boulder field. We will also construct a new segment of trail (approximate length is 0.2 mile), at McCauley Warm Springs. There will be tasks for every level of physical fitness, interest and age. A long soak at the warm springs will be warranted. The Forest Service will provide all tools, technical instruction and direction. Need an enormous number of volunteers. **Contact:** Phyllis Martinez at 505-829-3535.

MAY 5-6 ● Vacas Project Riparian Planting (*New Mexico Trout / Santa Fe Nat'l Forest*)

The Rio de las Vacas Stream Restoration Project will enter Phase II this year. As part of this effort, we're looking to restore the riparian area with native willow plantings. This will give you an opportunity to fish the new and awesome habitat that has been created in this collaborative project. Upwards of 15 volunteers needed. **Contact:** Chuck Dentino at 505-829-3535.

MAY 11-13 ● Limestone Canyon in the San Mateo Mtns (*New Mexico Wilderness Alliance*)

➤➤➤ **DATE CHANGE: RESCHEDULED FROM APRIL**

The San Mateo Mountains are a remote range in central New Mexico with two areas already designated Wilderness and most of the range suitable for more designation. We will work on a stream restoration project in Limestone Canyon on the northwest portion of the range, near the Plains of San Agustin. We will camp at the site. 2½ hours from ABQ, 3 hours from Las Cruces. **Contact:** Michael Scialdone at 505-843-8696, scial@nmwild.org for more info.



Above, Barbara Coulter answers a question during her presentation at AWF's March 8 meeting. Barbara, AWF's vice-president and Wildlife Campaigns Manager for Animal Protection of New Mexico, spoke about beaver biology, habitat, and contributions to hydrology and wildlife health and diversity.

UPCOMING AWF PROGRAMS**MAY 10 Conservation & Restoration of Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout in NM**

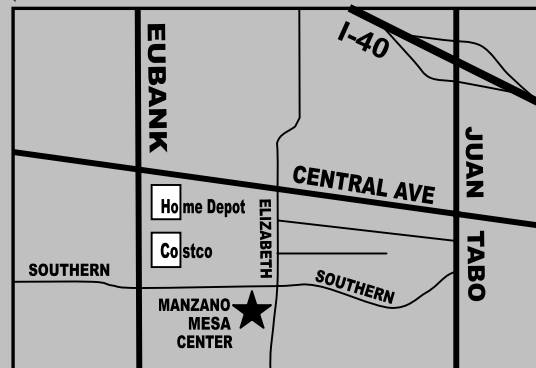
- ▶ Kirk Patten, NM Dept of Game & Fish

JUNE 14 Travel Management in the National Forests

- ▶ Mary Bean, Travel Management Team Leader, Cibola National Forest

AWF MEETING LOCATION

Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center
 501 Elizabeth SE at Southern
 (south of Central between Eubank and Juan Tabo)



MEET OUR MEMBERS**DENNIS MUIRHEAD**

Dennis is presently a member of the AWF Board of Directors, a position he also held several years ago.

Born/grew up where? Born and grew up in Saginaw Michigan.

Age: 66 years old

Marital status (spouse name, occupation): Married to Glenda (Volunteer, Business Manager) since 1981.

Children/ages: Two children – Kelly (44) & Todd (42)

Education: BSME, 1964, Michigan State University; MSME, 1970, University of Michigan; Licensed Professional Engineer in New Mexico.

Occupation/how long?: Mechanical Engineer for 43 years.

Or retired?: May retire soon.

Previous jobs/where?: Have worked for GM in Saginaw and Detroit; Dow Corning in Hemlock, MI; Ren Plastics in E. Lansing, MI; Howmet Corp in Muskegon, MI; Midland Ross Corp in Owosso, MI; Union Carbide-Linde Div in N Tonawanda, NY; Sandia National Labs in Albuquerque; Metcalf & Eddy in Alexandria, Egypt; Intel in Rio Rancho.

How long in NM?: Moved to NM in 1979.

Favorite place in NM: Area 52, Carson National Forest - between Tres Piedras and Tierra Amarilla.

Favorite vacation destination/activity: Elk hunting with the bow.

Favorite outdoor activities & locations: Running, hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, biking in NM. Salmon fly-fishing in Alaska.

Greatest adventure: 2½ years working in Egypt; member of a sailing crew across the Mediterranean Sea; and touring Europe with Glenda.

Favorite author(s): Dean Koontz, Tony Hillerman, and Michael McGarrity.

Favorite magazine(s): *Runners World*, *Bee Culture*, and *Cabela's*.

Hobbies: Bees, building bows, riding motorcycles.

Other organizations you belong to: National Wild Turkey Federation, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (Life Member), Mule Deer

Foundation, Ducks Unlimited, and Albuquerque Roadrunners running club.

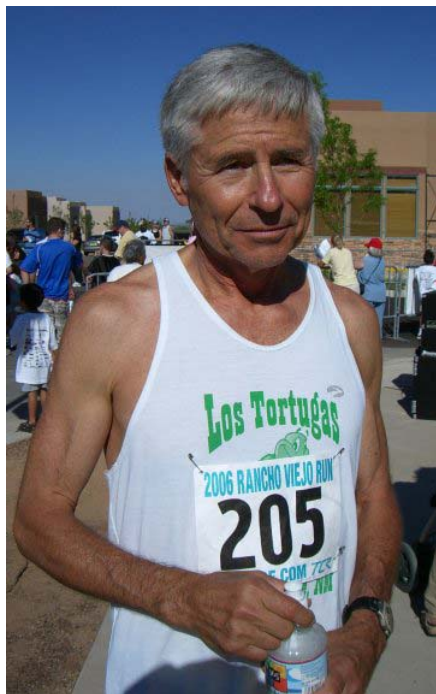
Personal goals: Retire, do more hunting, fishing, and hiking. Would like to hunt black tail deer with the bow on Kodiak Island some day.

AWF member since: The mid '90s.

Origin of your interest in wildlife: Started hunting ducks with my father when I was in the 8th grade in Michigan. Dad took me deer hunting when I was old enough to get a license. We also hunted pheasants, squirrels, and rabbits. I started with the bow in 1949 and have bow-hunted deer, bear, elk, antelope, and javalina in Michigan, Colorado, Wyoming, Canada, NM, Texas, and Arizona.

Why did you join AWF? Having hunted most of my life, I thought it was time to put some labor back into the system that I so enjoy. Would like to see wildlife continue to be around and prosper for the future.

Goals for AWF: To continue doing a good job of stream and wildlife habitat restoration and to educate the general public about do's and don'ts concerning Mother Earth.

**LET'S HEAR FROM *you*, TOO!**

We'd like to learn about *your* background and interests. If you are part of AWF and are interested in being one of the members featured in our Newsletter, please contact Glenda Muirhead for an emailed or hard-copy questionnaire: 281-2925 or g.muirhead@usfamily.net.

WHITFIELD WILDLIFE AREA IS SHAPING UP

In Belen, a 97-acre parcel west of the Rio Grande is taking on a new face as the Whitfield Wildlife Conservation Area, with native plantings for migratory birds and the prospect of an education center for schoolchildren. The land was acquired by the Valencia County Soil and Water Conservation District in 2003.

District chairman Charlie Sanchez says the inspiration for the conservation area came from the district's first chairman [and AWF Past President, Dale Jones]. An ardent wildlife conservationist, Jones arranged for the owners of the property to grant it to the district with the provision that it become a wildlife conservation area.

The property, which borders the Rio Grande, sits amidst agricultural and residential zones. Sanchez feels that transforming the land into a conservation area was a sensible choice, because the soil's high alkalinity rendered it only marginally useful for farming.

Funded by grants from the federal Natural Resource Conservation Service, the District has planted its first winter food crop for migratory wildlife, restored La Constanca Ditch, improved the existing access road through the property, and planted some native trees and shrubs.

Also in the plans, as an instructional tool for schoolchildren, is an ecology pond that could become habitat for threatened or endangered species such as the leopard frog, silvery minnow and southwest willow fly catcher.

Sanchez states, "The existence of the bosque and being an ally for development of the wetlands gives us a link to powerful resources...Eco-tourism is a burgeoning industry. I recently...identified over 50 species of birds. There will be lots of opportunities for bird watchers."

Source: *Valencia County News-Bulletin/Albuquerque Journal*,
March 10, 2007

WHEN HABITAT STAYS INTACT, SO DO JOBS

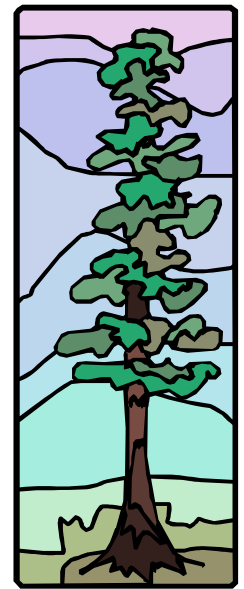
This National Wildlife Federation report some 10 years ago [July 1997] impressed me a lot back then, and it still does today. I thought it worthwhile to share, as it expresses some sense behind the scenes. — Jim Hubert, AWF Board

Does protection for spotted owls cost logging jobs? No way, says a recent report from the University of Wisconsin. When rural sociologist Bill Freudenburg and colleagues analyzed US harvest and employment data over the past five decades, they found that habitat protection has been key to the survival of logging jobs.

From the end of World War II until the Wilderness Act of 1964, the nation went through a period of unregulated logging often called the "golden era." If the logging had continued unchecked, Freudenburg says, "there would have been no loggers left in the United States by 1990." He calculates, "The net effect of the environmental protection era is the saving of about 500,000 jobs in the United States." In the Pacific Northwest, he found an increase of more than 51,000 logging and milling jobs "during the period when just the opposite was supposed to be happening."

Freudenburg concludes, "If there is a real connection between environmental protection and job loss, it doesn't come from too much protection today. It comes from not having had enough environmental protection in earlier decades."

While that study found that conservation saves jobs, the White House Council of Economic Advisors reported this year that taxpayers are paying for trees to be cut. The council found that in 1995, the US Forest Service spent more than \$850 million on logging costs while collecting only \$616 million in timber receipts. The loss: \$234 million.



AWF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Gene Tatum

Vice-President: Barbara Coulter

Secretary: Linda Patterson

Treasurer: Glenda Muirhead

Directors: Larry Dwyer, Patricia Hester, Jim Hubert,
Dennis Muirhead, Kurt Nolte, Jon Schwedler,
Luke Shelby, Bill Zeedyk

Ex-Officio: Richard W. Becker

RENEWED MEMBERS

THANKS!

Ronald Madsen

Marvin Price

Pete Wakeland

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION — Albuquerque Wildlife Federation, PO Box 1234, Albuquerque, NM 87103
An Affiliate of New Mexico Wildlife Federation

➔ Please choose between **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** or **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP**. **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** does **not** include membership in NMWF. **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP** includes **one** voting membership in NMWF, for which \$10 of your dues payment goes to NMWF. For Family Membership, if a second person* desires NMWF voting rights, an additional \$10 payment is required.

name(s) _____

address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ email _____

Gift membership from: _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES :

Student [under 18].....\$10 ◀ [AWF Membership Only]

Individual.....\$25 Dues \$ _____

Family\$35 *Second NMWF Member \$10 _____

Sustaining.....\$50-\$99 Contribution \$ _____

Patron\$100 **TOTAL \$** _____

Lifetime.....\$500 ◀ [One-time Payment]

THANK YOU!

➔ **PLEASE SELECT ONE :**

AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY

AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP : Designate NMWF member(s*) _____



AWF Newsletter

MAY 2007

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation ■ PO Box 1234 ■ Albuquerque, NM 87103
Affiliated with The National Wildlife Federation and The New Mexico Wildlife Federation

GENERAL MEETING

- DATE:** Thursday, May 10, 2007
WHEN: 7:30 pm (following AWF Board Meeting)
WHERE: Manzano Mesa Center, 501 Elizabeth SE (map p4)
PROGRAM: Conservation & Restoration of Rio Grande
Cutthroat Trout in NM
GUEST SPEAKER: Kirk Patten, NM Dept of Game & Fish

Kirk Patten, a coldwater fisheries biologist for the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, will discuss plans to return NM's state fish to its former pre-eminence. At one time, the Rio Grande cutthroat was the only trout in many New Mexico waters. However, over-harvest led to the stocking of aggressive rainbow, brook, and brown trout during the 1890s. In turn, this action decimated the original population of Rio Grande cutthroat, forcing them further upstream to high-mountain head-waters.

This fragmented the Rio Grande cutthroat's range and separated their gene pool into tiny pockets—a detrimental situation for the future of a species. This non-native competition, in combination with degraded habitats because of grazing, mining, logging and road-building, has rendered the cutthroat trout virtually extinct. They now occupy less than 10 percent of their original range.

In 2001-2002, prior to joining NMDG&F, Kirk was in northeastern Pennsylvania in the Pocono Mountains, where he focused on the assessment of native trout populations coming under recreational development pressure. He played a key role in moderating public meetings with the community, encouraging the participants to form an ongoing watershed organization.

Jim Hubert's **NOTABLE QUOTE** *of the month*

The last word in ignorance is the man who says of an animal or plant: "What good is it?" ...If the biota, in the course of aeons, has built something we like but do not understand, then who but a fool would discard seemingly useless parts? To keep every cog and wheel is the first precaution of intelligent tinkering.

— Aldo Leopold

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am taking this month off, so no President's message. I have ideas but I did not allow myself the time to consider them in detail. Part of my distraction was that I turned sixty in mid-April. For those who have not made it to this age, you have an interesting period of your life cycle yet to come. For those I know who have gone above this age, I admire and respect you all.

I took a short course through the UNM Lifetime Learning Program entitled "Conscious Aging." The theme was that aging is a physical and mental process that is natural to fulfillment. When you are born you get your ticket to die. That aside, at age 60 people on average can expect another 20 to 30 years. The guiding rule is, for the aging process to advance more satisfyingly, older people will need to become introspective, e.g., meditative, spiritual. This was a new experience for me. I had never participated in guided meditation, and it was interesting. Getting *older* is not getting *old*. To live longer, think introspectively.

— Gene Tatum, President

2007 FIELD PROJECTS – “TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE”

MAY 18-20 ● Cebolla Canyon Stream Restoration

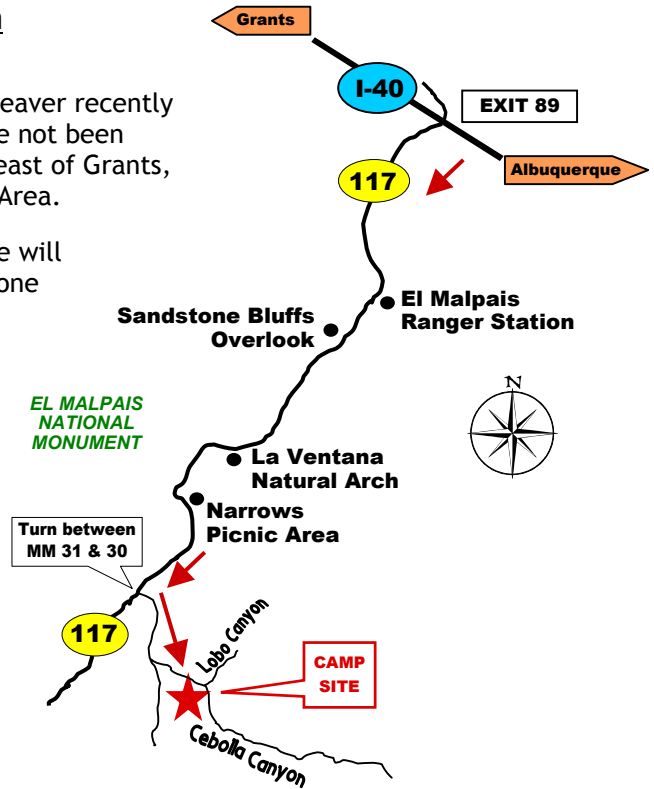
(Albuquerque Wildlife Federation)

Spend a day or the whole weekend restoring habitat for the two beaver recently relocated to Cebolla Creek...*see page 3 for the story!* If you have not been here before, come check out this special area on BLM land, southeast of Grants, in the Cebolla Wilderness of the El Malpais National Conservation Area.

The canyon is the site of many AWF outings over the years, and we will continue our efforts on the deeply incised creek channel in the Stone House reach. We will build rock and juniper structures and filter dams as tools to help raise the level of the stream bed and form pools. This is your chance to learn or get a refresher about these techniques from our own Bill Zeedyk, renowned riparian restoration consultant and instructor. Bill will discuss structure placement, purpose, and assembly. Come join the fun!

Friday is usually an arrival day. If you come early, you could join Bill and Gene in an area survey, starting around noon. Saturday is the main project day starting at 9 am. Plan for about a 2-hour drive from Albuquerque. At the road into Cebolla Canyon, signs will mark the way to the camp and project areas. Sunday is work or play depending on your preference. Visit the spring, hike the creek, or walk over to view the Lobo Canyon rock art opposite the campsite.

Bring lunches, water, gloves, hat and sunscreen. Drinks and snacks provided on Saturday. On Saturday night, we will have a pot luck meal. Bring a dish to share. Burgers (meat or veggie) and bratwurst plus fixings will be provided.



Exit I-40 at Mile Marker 89, travel south on NM 117 about 25 miles, passing Sandstone Bluffs, La Ventana and The Narrows en route. Turn left between MM 31 and 30 onto a BLM Cebolla Canyon road. We'll sign the route in from there. It's about 3 miles to the camping area (no facilities) and 1 mile further to the project site. **To RSVP or ask questions:** Gene Tatum (505-255-1960 or gtatum3@msn.com); or Glenda Muirhead (505-281-2925 or g.muirhead@usfamily.net).

MARK YOUR CALENDARS		
PROJECTS PLANNED FOR 2007		
MAY	5	Trail 137 Maint-NMVFO/NMT
	5-6	Rio de las Vacas-NMT
	11-13	San Mateo Mtns-NMWA
	18-20	Cebolla Canyon-AWF
JUNE	1-3	N. Pecos Wilderness-NMWA
	15-17	Rio de las Vacas-AWF
	29-Jul 1	Red River-NMWA
JULY	14-16	Middle Fork Trail-NMWA/AB
	20-22	Valle Vidal/East side-AWF
AUG	17-19	Valles Caldera-AWF
SEPT	14-16	Wind River Ranch-AWF
OCT	13	Taos area road-to-trail-NMWA
AWF = Albuquerque Wildlife Federation NMWA = New Mexico Wilderness Alliance AB = Amigos Bravos FG = Forest Guardians NMT = New Mexico Trout NMVFO = NM Volunteers for the Outdoors		

MAY 5 ● East Fork Trail I37 Maintenance, Part II

(New Mexico Trout | NM Volunteers for the Outdoors)

This day project will continue to rebuild the switchbacks through a basalt boulder field. We will also construct a new segment of trail (approximate length is 0.2 mile), at McCauley Warm Springs. There will be tasks for every level of physical fitness, interest and age. A long soak at the warm springs will be warranted. The Forest Service will provide all tools, technical instruction and direction. Need an enormous number of volunteers. **Contact:** Phyllis Martinez at 505-829-3535.

MAY 5-6 ● Vacas Project Riparian Planting

(New Mexico Trout | Santa Fe Nat'l Forest)

The Rio de las Vacas Stream Restoration Project will enter Phase II this year. As part of this effort, we're looking to restore the riparian area with native willow plantings. This will give you an opportunity to fish the new and awesome habitat that has been created in this collaborative project. Upwards of 15 volunteers needed. **Contact:** Chuck Dentino at 505-829-3535.

MAY 11-13 ● Limestone Canyon in the San Mateo Mountains *(New Mexico Wilderness Alliance)*

The San Mateo Mountains are a remote range in central New Mexico with two areas already designated Wilderness and most of the range suitable for more designation. We will work on a stream restoration project in Limestone Canyon on the northwest portion of the range, near the Plains of San Agustin. We will camp at the site. 2½ hours from ABQ, 3 hours from Las Cruces. **Contact:** Michael Scialdone at 505-843-8696, scial@nmwild.org for more info.

JUNE 1-3 ● National Trails Day, Pecos Wilderness *(New Mexico Wilderness Alliance)*

This is an annual project on the north end of the Pecos Wilderness. Once again we will be working with Karen Cook of the Carson National Forest, so it is certain to be a worthwhile and well-organized project. In previous years we have installed barriers to prevent illegal ATV access into the Pecos Wilderness and to protect a riparian area at the Trampas Lakes trailhead. We will camp at the site. 2½ hours north of ABQ. **Contact:** Michael Scialdone at 505-843-8696, scial@nmwild.org for more info.

NEW BEAVERS AT HOME IN CEBOLLA CANYON***A beaver colony will hasten stream improvement and habitat***

Bill Zeedyk and fellow AWF member Bob Nordstrum successfully transported two beavers from Zuni Pueblo to Cebolla Canyon on April 19 and released them at a spot in the Stone House pasture reach in apparently good condition. The two are not a mated pair, but consist of one large adult, sex unknown, and one yearling, also sex unknown, apparently of the same family. After releasing them around 6:15 pm, Bill and Bob spent an hour or so observing the beavers' behavior to be sure they were okay.



Bill Zeedyk releases the first of two beavers transferred from Zuni Pueblo to Cebolla Creek on April 19.

The stream was not flowing that day, according to Bill, but the water table is high and there are many sizable pools extending down canyon for the next mile or more, should they begin to explore their new habitat. Best of all there is plenty of new plant growth, and good food is abundant.

Bill's comment: *"There is much we do at AWF that is rewarding and exciting to me but this experience topped them all! I was elated. I have to remind myself that just two animals do not constitute an established population. We need to bring more beavers to help assure success, ideally a bonded pair or pair with young – hopefully soon. There is great potential release site awaiting [more beavers] downstream."*

Bill, Bob, and AWF members extend a big THANK YOU to Zuni Fish and Game Department and NM Department of Game and Fish for their help in this beaver relocation.

The older one spent about half that time grooming itself while the younger explored the pool, discovered an overhanging bank suitable for a hiding place, and spent some time feeding on willow shoots which had been provided. There was some concern about the older one at first, because it had been in captivity for several days and appeared a bit weakened and confused. But after taking a swim and grooming itself thoroughly, it seemed to come around and was feeding on grasses and rushes when Bill and Bob left. The younger one had been captured that morning and was still very energetic and more wary than its elder. Once the two men felt that the beavers seemed secure, they wished the new residents well and took their leave.



The elder of the beaver duo (top) gets its bearings, while the youngster heads for potential shelter along the bank of Cebolla Creek after being relocated there last month.

NEW MEMBERS — WELCOME!

Craig McClure
Susan Selbin

SPEAK UP TO PROTECT NATIONAL FORESTS IN NM!

USFS Travel Management Plan

Attend a Public Workshop May 8 or May 9

Message from New Mexico Wilderness Alliance:

Our public lands are at great risk from off-road vehicle excess, and we need everyone's help to ensure long-term protection from abuse. Participate to help advocate for the protection of our public land! The Forest Service has received a great deal of input from the off-road vehicle community, and we need to make sure that voices for conservation and quiet recreation are also heard!

Message from NM branch of International Mountain Biking Assoc:

We are at high risk of losing some favorite trails in the Sandia Ranger District to off-road vehicle users. That means Cedro, Otero, all the trails in the Sandias, and many more. Every single trail is up for debate right now. Sandia Ranger District Travel Management meetings have been held with the public to discuss trail use designations in the area. So far, mountain bikers present at these meetings could probably be counted on two hands. Compare that to over 100 OHVs and you get the picture. The OHV community has a loud, strong, united voice. In fact, they've already hosted a multi-day meeting with the Forest Service on this issue (the public was invited to attend this as well). We need to show up and speak up about our concern with losing trails to ATVs. *Please do your part to protect your trails!*

UPCOMING PUBLIC WORKSHOPS MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The Cibola National Forest is hosting two Public Workshops to address Travel Management on the Sandia District. The identical workshops are scheduled for Tuesday, May 8, 6-9 pm at the UNM Continuing Education Conference Center (North Building), Rooms B and C, 1634 University Blvd NE (at Indian School); and Wednesday, May 9, 6-9 pm at Los Vecinos Community Center in Tijeras on Highway 333 (Old Route 66).

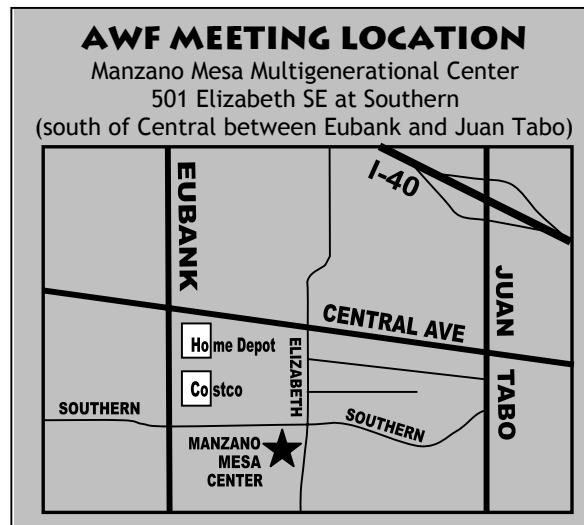
Participants will build upon information from two previous public workshops and from meetings of the Sandia Travel Management Work Group and Forest Service interdisciplinary team. Interested citizens do not need to have attended previous workshops in order to participate. Workshop participants will review and comment on preliminary route designations developed by the Sandia Travel Work Group. Participants will also have an opportunity to add routes that they would like to see considered for inclusion in a motorized system for the Sandia Ranger District.

For workshop information contact:

Nancy Brunswick, Cibola National Forest
(505) 346-3900 or cibolatravel@fs.fed.us
www.fs.fed.us/r3/cibola/travel-management

NEXT MONTH'S AWF PROGRAM THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 7:30 PM

TRAVEL MANAGEMENT IN THE NATIONAL FORESTS
Guest Speaker — Mary Bean
Travel Management Team Leader,
Cibola National Forest



AWF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Gene Tatum
Vice-President: Barbara Coulter
Secretary: Linda Patterson
Treasurer: Glenda Muirhead
Directors: Larry Dwyer, Patricia Hester, Jim Hubert, Dennis Muirhead, Kurt Nolte, Jon Schwedler, Luke Shelby, Bill Zeedyk
Ex-Officio: Richard W. Becker, PhD

NM Wilderness Alliance presents **WILDFEST 2007** **WILDERNESS FESTIVAL & SUMMER EQUIPMENT SWAP** MAY 19 AND 20

The New Mexico Wilderness Alliance presents the 1st annual **WILDFEST** to be held Saturday and Sunday, May 19th and 20th, at their new office, 142 Truman NE in Albuquerque. There will be:

- ◆ booths by vendors to promote sustainable wilderness;
- ◆ a Summer Gear Swap—clean out the garage and sell the old equipment so you can buy new!
- ◆ live music, speakers, and contests;
- ◆ “How-to” seminars on leaving no trace, packing light, intro to map reading, and wilderness first aid.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend. For more info check out their website: www.nmwild.org

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION, PO BOX 1234, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87103

An affiliate of New Mexico Wildlife Federation

Please choose between **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** or **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP**. **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** does not include membership in NMWF. **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP** includes one voting membership in NMWF, for which \$10 of your dues payment goes to NMWF. For Family Membership, if a second person* desires NMWF voting rights, an additional \$10 payment is required.

➔ **PLEASE ✓ ONE** : **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP** ↴

Designate NMWF member(s*) _____

name(s) _____

address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ email _____

Gift membership from: _____

✓ **MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

- Student [under 18].....\$10 ← [AWF Membership Only]
- Individual.....\$25
- Family\$35
- Sustaining..... \$50-\$99
- Patron \$100
- Lifetime..... \$500 ← [One-time Payment]

Dues \$ _____

*Second NMWF Member \$10 _____

Contribution \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____



AWF Newsletter

JUNE 2007

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation ■ PO Box 1234 ■ Albuquerque, NM 87103
Affiliated with The National Wildlife Federation and The New Mexico Wildlife Federation

GENERAL MEETING

DATE: Thursday, June 14, 2007
WHEN: 7:30 pm (following AWF Board Meeting)
WHERE: Manzano Mesa Center, 501 Elizabeth SE (map p3)
PROGRAM: National Forest Travel Management Plan
GUEST SPEAKER: Nancy Brunswick, Cibola National Forest

Nancy Brunswick, Forest Landscape Architect/Recreation Program Manager with the Cibola National Forest, will update us on the progress toward implementing the Travel Management Rule on the Sandia Ranger District.

The Forest Service released the final Rule for managing recreational OHV use on the National Forests and Grasslands in November 2005. The Rule provides a framework for each National Forest to identify and designate roads, trails, and areas suitable for motorized use, and prohibits use of motor vehicles off the designated system. The rule was developed to address the threat of unmanaged motorized recreation to the health of the nation's National Forests and Grasslands.

The outcome of the project will be to publish a Motor Vehicle Use Map for each District that shows a designated system for motorized use. Once the Motor Vehicle Use Map is published, motor vehicle use off these routes and outside those areas (cross-country travel) will be prohibited.

Learn about the opportunities for making your opinion count in this planning process!

In Memoriam

RICHARD W. BECKER, PHD

October 14, 1943 – May 30, 2007

Richard Becker passed away last week. With his passing, we have lost a champion for wildlife and wildlands. We have lost an ardent educator and advocate for the conservation and sensible stewardship of natural places. We have lost a cogent voice promoting the wisdom of Aldo Leopold and the magic of Leopold's words. Most of all, we have lost an excellent friend and mentor who has been missed by his AWF colleagues during his illness, and whose absence sadly diminishes us.

Richard was a longtime AWF member and past president. The family has most generously suggested that memorial donations honoring Richard's life may be made to Albuquerque Wildlife Federation.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our government is challenging us to be good citizens. Currently, government favors corporations which are pursuing multinational interests while providing reduced taxes for the wealthy/influential. The accumulation of power and wealth by elitists has not prevented many of us from attaining physical comfort and possessing material wealth far in excess of our parents. As a result, this commentary will not resonate as truthful for some. In the meantime, there are many people in this country and the rest of the world who have limited opportunity and are struggling. So we acquiesce, allowing the disproportionate concentration of wealth into the pockets of a select group, and as a consequence leave future generations poor ecologic and economic legacies.

OK, back to the challenge I mentioned in the opening sentence. Most that read the AWF newsletter are well educated and in all likelihood have some background in science. So we appreciate the complexity and diversity of nature, and have observed it with awe during our experiences in the outdoors. Unfortunately, not all people experience the outdoors the same. In fact, a few for their selfish interest are challenging the basic environmental protection laws, many of which were promulgated under the signature of President Richard Nixon. I think the citizens of that time and their elected officials deserve the credit for enacting these Environmental Laws. We the people need to be heard once again, and should make our voices heard all the time. To reduce the power of special interests, we need serious election campaign funding reform. Currently, most politicians seem to be comfortable with bartering for reelection funds from special interests, while avoiding many of the difficult issues and decisions for our time.

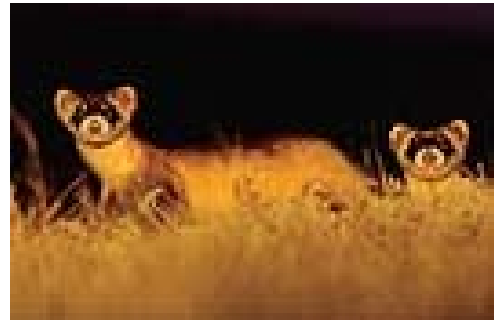
In the last national election cycle some balance was restored to legislative government, and California Representative Pombo was not reelected, which has reduced the direct assault to reform and thereby weaken the Endangered Species Act (ESA). But special interests have already gained the appointment of their cohorts or cronies to important jobs in federal agencies. These political appointments have brought policy changes which affect the implementation of laws intended to protect our environment for the use and enjoyment of current and future gen-

Jim Hubert's NOTABLE QUOTE of the month

**The Bible declares that on the sixth day
God created man. Right then and there,
God should have demanded
a damage deposit.**

— **Jim Hightower**
from his book
*"There's Nothing in the Middle of the Road
But Yellow Stripes and Dead Armadillos"*

erations. But by perseverance and persistence from many dedicated conservationists, accountability can be attained. Witness the recent resignation of Julie A. MacDonald, a political appointee who served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Fish, Wildlife and Parks at the Interior Department. The resignation comes a month after the U.S. Department of Interior Office of Inspector General (IG) published an investigative report which confirms media accounts and evidence in the public record that MacDonald "has been heavily involved with editing, commenting on, and reshaping ... scientific reports" (IG Report, p. 2) used by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Endangered Species Program in Endangered Species Act (ESA) listing decisions. The IG also found that MacDonald violated federal regulations by providing nonpublic information concerning species listings and critical habitat to industry lobbyists and other private individuals. The FWS has also proposed to modify implementing policy and regulations which will weaken the ESA. The modifications would give greater authority to State Governors in management decisions for Threatened and Endangered Species. Under the auspices of this new authority, the Governor



Black-footed ferrets. Source: NWF e-magazine

of Idaho wants to eliminate that state's wolf population. He would like to be first on the firing line to shoot as many wolves as he can.

In another affront to ESA, the Forest Service is considering chemically reducing black tailed prairie dog habitat in South Dakota's Conata Basin from 26,000 to 12,000 acres, while local ranchers support a reduction to 2,200 acres. The Conata Basin is located in the Buffalo Gap National Grassland. Unfortunately, the basin is the most successful of the 13 Black Footed Ferret reintroduction areas, with a population of about 250 ferrets. One of the most threatened mammals in the US, the Black Footed Ferret, in addition to preying primarily on prairie dogs, also lives in prairie dog burrows. To view the Forest Service plan go to www.fs.fed.us/r2/nebraska/contact. (This information was excerpted from the June/July 2007 edition of National Wildlife Federation magazine.)

At home in New Mexico and neighboring Arizona, the Mexican Gray Wolf (Lobo) Reintroduction Program will be undergoing a 5 year review this fall with the opportunity for public review/oversight. An immediate issue is the aggressive removal of wolves because of livestock predation. Public input is needed to help form decisions to insure that the Lobo has sufficient habitat to attain viable populations in the wild. Through e-mails we will provide information and updates regarding this process. Please become informed and get involved. Without your input the Lobo will in all likelihood survive only in the Albuquerque Zoo.

— Gene Tatum, President

2007 FIELD PROJECTS – “TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE”

June 16-17 ● Sandia Mountain Exploration for Travel Management Plan

(New Mexico Wilderness Alliance / Albuquerque Wildlife Federation)

Our Rio de las Vacas Service Project had to be cancelled, because archaeological clearance of the site could not be obtained in time. So instead we will lead day trips to the Sandia Mountains to talk about the Forest Service Travel Management Plan that will have a huge impact on how motorized travel is managed on our forests. On Saturday we will go to a seldom visited area near La Madera. On Sunday we will go to the Cedro Peak area. Contact: Michael Scialdone at 505-843-8696, scial@nmwild.org for more info.



Motorized activity in the wrong places degrades the landscape.
Photo: www.fs.fed.us/r3/cibola/travel-management

June 9 ● Wild & Scenic E. Fork Jemez River Clean-up *(NM Trout)*

In an effort to improve the beauty and protect the fish of the East Fork Jemez, river clean-up is slated in the Los Conchas and El Puente Blanco sections. As part of this effort, time will be given to fish for the illusive giant brown trout in the Box. An enormous number of volunteers are needed. Contact Amanda Webb at 505-829-3535.

June 16-17 ● Columbine Trail

(NM Volunteers for the Outdoors)

Rebuild the first foot bridge crossing Columbine Creek. Routine trail maintenance and clearing on the first two miles of trail. Leaders: Shirley Kennedy and Bill Metz 505-490-0107 or shirlken@yahoo.com.

June 23 ● Bland Frijoles Trail I13 Maintenance *(NM Volunteers for the Outdoors / NM Trout)*

This one-day project will entail the following: Trail Corridor (clearing and brushing, removing trees from the trail corridor), Tread Maintenance (tread creep, slough and berm), and Surface Water Control (grade dips, waterbars). There will be tasks for every level of physical fitness, interest and age. The FS will provide all tools, technical instruction and direction. An enormous number of volunteers are needed. Contact Phyllis Martinez, 505-829-3535, ext 3116, or pamartinez02@fs.fed.us.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS UPCOMING 2007 PROJECTS

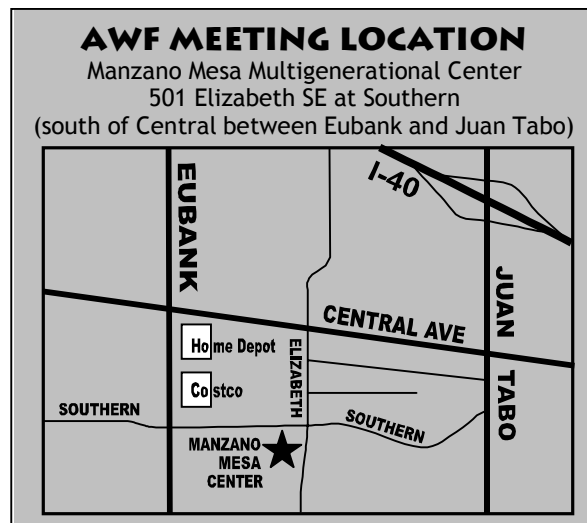
JUNE	9	Jemez River Cleanup-NMT
	16-17	Sandia Mtn TMP-AWF/NMWA
	16-17	Columbine Trail-NMVFO
	23	Bland Frijoles Trail-NMVFO/NMT
	29-Jul 1	Red River-NMWA/AB
JULY	14-16	Middle Fork Trail-NMWA/AB
	20-22	Valle Vidal/East side-AWF
	27-29	Burro Basin-NMWA
AUG	10-12	Bitter Creek-NMWA/AB
	17-19	Valles Caldera-AWF
SEPT	14-16	Wind River Ranch-AWF
OCT	11-14	Taos Overlook-NMWA

AWF	=	Albuquerque Wildlife Federation New
NMWA	=	Mexico Wilderness Alliance
AB	=	Amigos Bravos
FG	=	Forest Guardians
NMT	=	New Mexico Trout
NMVFO	=	NM Volunteers for the Outdoors

June 29-July 1 ● Red River Service Project

(New Mexico Wilderness Alliance / Amigos Bravos)

The first of NMWA's three annual projects with Amigos Bravos to help in Red River Watershed restoration. For this one, we will be working down in the Red River Valley. Projects will include closing off illegal ATV routes and fencing off riparian areas. We will camp at the site. 3 hours north of ABQ. Contact: Rachel Conn, at 505-758-3874, rconn@amigosbravos.org for more info.



AWF GETS GRAPHIC!

ANNOUNCING OUR NEW DECAL/BUMPER STICKER

For a mere \$1.00*, you can be the proud owner of AWF's new DECAL! Amaze your friends and neighbors. Be the first one on your block to display this new design. It will look impressive on the rear window of your vehicle, on your car's bumper, on your mailbox, front door, whatever. Be creative!

It measures 2.75" x 7" and is an environmentally-savvy and very attractive medium green on white. Available at AWF meetings. Make it a conversation-starter...tell people about AWF! *(The website is being designed and will soon be a valuable tool to promote our group.)*



* to help defray printing expenses

AWF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Gene Tatum • Vice-President: Barbara Coulter
Secretary: Linda Patterson • Treasurer: Glenda Muirhead

Directors: Larry Dwyer, Patricia Hester, Jim Hubert, Dennis Muirhead, Kurt Nolte, Jon Schwedler, Luke Shelby, Bill Zeedyk

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION, PO BOX 1234, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87103

An affiliate of New Mexico Wildlife Federation

Please choose between **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** or **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP**. **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** does **not** include membership in NMWF. **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP** includes **one** voting membership in NMWF, for which \$10 of your dues payment goes to NMWF. For Family Membership, if a second person* desires NMWF voting rights, an additional \$10 payment is required.

➔ PLEASE ✓ ONE : AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP ↴

Designate NMWF member(s*) _____

name(s) _____

address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ email _____

Gift membership from: _____

✓ MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

- Student [under 18].....\$10 ← [AWF Membership Only]
- Individual.....\$25
- Family\$35
- Sustaining..... \$50-\$99
- Patron..... \$100
- Lifetime..... \$500 ← [One-time Payment]

Dues \$ _____

*Second NMWF Member \$10 _____

Contribution \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____



AWF Newsletter

JULY 2007

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

Affiliated with The National Wildlife Federation and The New Mexico Wildlife Federation

THERE WILL BE NO AWF BOARD OR GENERAL MEETING IN JULY.

Instead, we encourage members and friends to participate in our annual
"TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE" PROJECT WEEKEND at
VALLE VIDAL - JULY 20, 21, & 22!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A fairly recent *Conservation Biology* magazine presented an editorial regarding science vs. opinion. I apologize because I cannot locate the magazine to provide specific reference to the article. Alas, I must paraphrase. The gist of the article was that scientific research and biological expertise were not sufficient to influence opinion. The strange bedfellow *politics* was also required to influence law, regulation and policy. The preceding statement clashes with my upbringing. As a kid I was imprinted by great American icons like Superman. The Superman TV series opened with the superhero's credo, the pursuit of "Truth, Justice and the American Way." Like many, I grew up with the expectation that there was a greater good out there which was going to take care of us. I think many of us naively still trust that truth and justice are the natural order and will prevail. Of course some folks are just cynical. But the reality is that any cause has to be won, and won over again. So we must be political. If not, we will be living under someone else's rules. Fewer than 60% of voting age people in the US turn out for federal elections, which means a large part of our population chooses to be uninformed and as a consequence serendipitously accepting of fate.



My interest is to encourage people to become informed and get involved. People have to have opinions and commitment to beliefs. I sent out an "Alert" last week regarding NM Representative Pierce's Amendment to the 2008 Interior Department Appropriations Bill. Mr. Pierce's proposed amendment would cut funding to the Mexican wolf (lobo) reintroduction program in New Mexico and Arizona. To document my opinion I called NM Representatives Udall and Wilson. I visited the US House of Representative web site to find out about the Appropriations Committee. Finally, I tuned in C-Span (which was a first for me) to watch the debate between Pierce and Representative Dicks of Washington State. Pierce's primary argument was that the people of Catron County were being stalked by the lobo and would eventually all be killed by packs of wolves. I think that some Catron County residents experience real fear about wolves. Perhaps someday someone will be seriously or mortally wounded by a lobo, but as of this day there is a greater chance that you will die in a flood. Mr. Pierce is doing what he can to promote and ingrain that fear into his rural constituency. Fortunately for all except some who fear and loathe the lobo, Pierce's amendment was defeated. The Senate and President will still have their shots at the Interior Appropriations Bill. So stay tuned to your computer and/or C-span.

It would be good if you contact NM Representative Udall to thank him for his support of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program. You might also contact Heather Wilson and Steve Pierce and ask them to explain their position.

While tuned in to C-span, I got to see some interesting maneuvering during the House Floor Vote for the Department of Interior Appropriations (DIA) Bill. California Rep Lewis who is on the Interior Appropriation Subcommittee made a motion to reconsider the DIA Bill based on an amendment offered by Colorado Representative Udall which would block usage of this appropriation for oil shale strip mining. Rep Lewis yielded his 5 minute explanation time to none other than NM Rep. Pierce. Pierce explained oil shale would benefit mom and pop operations. It is my understanding that we do not have the technology to cost effectively separate the oil from the shale. Hopefully, we will never have to develop such a destructive technology. If we do, Western Colorado could look like the mountain top removal coal mines of West Virginia.

Jim Hubert's NOTABLE QUOTE of the month

**Having hunted most of my life, I
thought it was time to put some labor
back into the system that I so enjoy."**

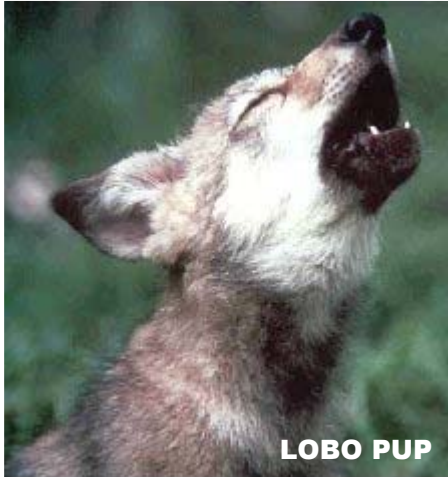
— Dennis Muirhead, 2007, speaking of his
interest in the Albuquerque Wildlife Federation

— Gene Tatum, President

TWO NM REPRESENTATIVES ATTEMPT TO DE-FUND LOBO RECOVERY

by Jon Schwedler, AWF Board Member

On June 26 Representative Pierce of New Mexico introduced an amendment in the U.S. House of Representatives that would remove all funding for Mexican Wolf recovery. The Mexican Wolf re-introduction effort dates to 1996, when the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service released several “lobos” back into their Southwest native habitat, along the border of New Mexico and Arizona.



LOBO PUP

The recovery effort for lobos was necessary due to their eradication from the Southwest via poisoning and trapping in the early 1900s. Lobos are slightly larger than a coyote, about the size of a small golden retriever.

During debate on the lobo amendment, Rep. Pierce argued that another representative who was against the amendment would “have blood on” his hands. Pierce also stated that the number one attractant for lobos was a “crying human baby.” To date there has never been a documented human death due to wolf attack in recorded U.S. history.

Joining Rep. Pierce in support of the amendment to cut lobo recovery funding was Representative Heather Wilson, our Albuquerque-area representative to Congress. New Mexico’s third representative, Udall of northern New Mexico, voted against the amendment (in favor of the continued funding of lobo recovery).

The amendment failed in the House of Representatives, 172 in favor to 278 opposed.

Today there are about 60 individual lobos in the wild, and 7 breeding pairs. Unfortunately these numbers are far short of the 2006 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recovery goal of 108 individual lobos, and 18 breeding pairs in the wild. So far poaching is the number-one cause of death for lobos since the reintroduction began in 1996. These illegal killings are greater than all other causes of lobo death combined.

TO REMEMBER DR RICHARD BECKER

Please take the time to send a short note to document your recollections of our friend and partner.

I did not have the pleasure of knowing Dr. Becker as long as many of you. But I was fortunate to have been influenced by his kindness and persuasive manner. The first time I met Dr. Becker, I noticed the sports jacket, cap, vest, pins and pipe. He also possessed a self assurance and calmness. Once I joined the AWF, I quickly came under the influence of Dr. Becker’s leadership. After being on the AWF Board one year, I was asked to consider being President. I spoke to Richard about my reluctance. He more than reassured me. He made it clear that he expected me to do well as President. For someone like Richard to tell you that he saw potential is reassuring, but in the same breath he established a high expectation.

Richard was a model for what he described to me once as good and responsible citizenship. Richard was an influential member of more volunteer groups than any person I have ever known. Richard was a scholar, problem analyzer and idea person. He worked extremely well with groups, providing unique ideas while encouraging others. Under his direction, the AWF Membership Enhancement Subcommittee was formed about three years ago. This committee is still following Dr. Becker’s ideas to grow and keep our organization viable.

— Gene Tatum



Photo courtesy of Deborah Myrni, Quivira Coalition

Here is a photo depicting one recollection: Dr. Becker, far left, studying the situation from a different angle for better understanding.
Comanche Creek Restoration — Valle Vidal July 2005

2007 FIELD PROJECTS – “TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE”

JULY 20-22 ● VALLE VIDAL

(Albuquerque Wildlife Federation)

Come celebrate AWF’s 25 years of restoration projects at Valle Vidal! This will be our usual enjoyable and productive event, with maybe a little extra fun thrown in to commemorate AWF’s long history at this beautiful place.

We will camp near Shuree Lodge, and our restoration activities will take place nearby. Saturday will be the primary project day, and in the evening we’ll have a potluck supper, with AWF grilling burgers, bratwurst, and veggie burgers with all the fixings. Bring along a dish to share. And if you play a musical instrument, why not bring that along too?!

More information will be emailed in the near future. If you would like to participate, please add your name to the list by contacting Glenda Muirhead at 505-281-2925 or g.muirhead@usfamily.net.



Photo courtesy of George Long, USFS Carson NF

View across the meadow toward Shuree Lodge

MARK YOUR CALENDARS UPCOMING 2007 PROJECTS

JULY	14-16	Middle Fork Trail-NMWA/AB
	14-15	Serpent Lake Trail-NMVFO
	20-22	Valle Vidal-AWF
	27-29	Burro Basin-NMWA
	28-29	Valle Vidal-Comanche Creek-NMT
AUG	10-12	Bitter Creek-NMWA/AB
	11-12	Bloomfield City Parks-NMVFO
	17-19	Valles Caldera-AWF
SEPT	14-16	Wind River Ranch-AWF
OCT	11-14	Taos Overlook-NMWA

- AWF = Albuquerque Wildlife Federation
- NMWA = New Mexico Wilderness Alliance
- AB = Amigos Bravos
- NMT = New Mexico Trout
- NMVFO = NM Volunteers for the Outdoors

July 14-16 ● Middle Fork Trail

(New Mexico Wilderness Alliance / Amigos Bravos)

Come see this beautiful canyon at the base of the Wheeler Peak Wilderness. We will work on erosion control on an old road that leads to an alpine lake. Camp at the site. 3 hours north of ABQ. Contact: Rachel Conn (505) 758-3874, rconn@amigosbravos.org for more info.

July 14-15 ● Serpent Lake Trail

(NM Volunteers for the Outdoors)

Car camp at the Alamitos Trailhead, then hike into the Pecos Wilderness for trail maintenance, including tread and waterbar construction/repair. Contact: Shirley Kennedy (505) 490-0107, Shirlken350@yahoo.com for more info.

July 27-29 ● Burro Basin / Pecos Wilderness

(New Mexico Wilderness Alliance)

Burro Basin is located just outside the southern boundary of the Pecos Wilderness. We will work with the Santa Fe National Forest to installed signage, cleanup, and trail maintenance. 2.5 hours NE of ABQ. Contact: Michael Scialdone (505) 843-8696, scial@nmwild.org for more info.

July 28-29 ● Valle Vidal / Comanche Creek *(New Mexico Trout)*

Install 29 new post vanes, repair, replace and install new elk/cattle exclosures. Contact: Sean Ferrell (505) 829-3535, saferrell@fs.fed.us for more info.

FOREST SERVICE TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN



On June 24, several AWF and NM Wilderness Alliance members explored the Cedro Peak area, a very popular ATV playground in the East Mountains. One especially disrupted section is nicknamed the “Spaghetti Bowl” because of the myriad illegally-created offshoots from the Forest Service road.

ATVs have haphazardly ventured off-road into the forest (at left) and across meadows (at right), without regard for consequent disturbance to wildlife, streambeds, and erosive soils.

It is vital that the Forest Service Plan mitigate such damage and impose serious restrictions on future ATV incursions into our National Forests. Stay tuned.



UPCOMING AWF PROGRAMS	
AUGUST 9	Wolf Ecology and Challenges to the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program <i>David R. Parsons — Carnivore Conservation Biologist for The Rewilding Institute</i>
SEPTEMBER 13	Wildlife and Roads: The I-40 Corridor through Tijeras Canyon <i>Kurt A. Menke — Co-Chair of the Tijeras Canyon Safe Passage Coalition</i>
OCTOBER 11	BLM's Restore New Mexico Program for Habitat Restoration: Lesser Prairie Chicken and Sand Dune Lizard <i>Don Ellsworth, BLM Special Assistant to the New Mexico State Office</i>
NOVEMBER 8	Roots & Shoots Program and Opportunities for Conservation Projects <i>Dr. Ray Powell — Former NM State Land Commissioner, now with the Jane Goodall Institute</i>

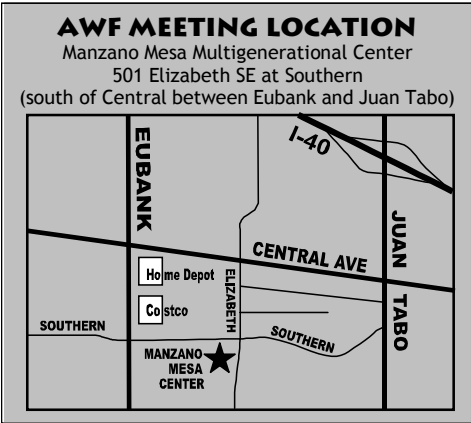
AWF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Gene Tatum • Vice-President: Barbara Coulter
 Secretary: Linda Patterson • Treasurer: Glenda Muirhead
 Directors: Larry Dwyer, Patricia Hester, Jim Hubert, Dennis Muirhead,
 Kurt Nolte, Jon Schwedler, Luke Shelby, Bill Zeedyk

TO SUBMIT MATERIAL FOR THE AWF NEWSLETTER:

Please contact Glenda Muirhead 505-281-2925 or g.muirhead@usfamily.net

NEW MEMBER — Robert S. Jenks
RENEWED MEMBER — Beverly deGruyter



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION, PO BOX 1234, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87103

An affiliate of New Mexico Wildlife Federation

Please choose between **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** or **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP**. **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** does not include membership in NMWF. **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP** includes one voting membership in NMWF, for which \$10 of your dues payment goes to NMWF. For Family Membership, if a second person* desires NMWF voting rights, an additional \$10 payment is required.

PLEASE CHECK ONE: AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP 

Designate NMWF member(s*) _____

name(s) _____

address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ email _____

Gift membership from: _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

- Student [under 18].....\$10 ◀ [AWF Membership Only]
- Individual.....\$25
- Family\$35
- Sustaining..... \$50-\$99
- Patron..... \$100
- Lifetime..... \$500 ◀ [One-time Payment]

Dues \$ _____
 *Second NMWF Member \$10 _____
 Contribution \$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____



AWF Newsletter

AUGUST 2007

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation ■ PO Box 1234 ■ Albuquerque, NM 87103
Affiliated with The National Wildlife Federation and The New Mexico Wildlife Federation

GENERAL MEETING

Read more
about wolves!
pages 2-3

DATE: Thursday, August 9, 2007

WHEN: 7:30 pm (following AWF Board Meeting)

WHERE: Manzano Mesa Center, 501 Elizabeth SE (map p6)

PROGRAM: Wolf Ecology and Challenges to the
Mexican Wolf Recovery Program

GUEST SPEAKER: Dave Parsons, The Rewilding Institute



Don't miss this month's presentation by one of the nation's leading experts on wolf recovery. Dave Parsons will speak about the ecology of wolves and their importance for maintaining biological diversity and ecosystem health. Issues include population viability, ecologically effective population densities, and the geographic scale of wolf conservation programs. He will also discuss the effectiveness of wolves versus human hunters for keeping ungulate populations in balance with their habitat. In addition, he will delineate the problems and challenges of the ongoing program to restore Mexican gray wolves to the Southwest, and explain what concerned citizens can do to support recovery of the Mexican wolf.

Dave Parsons received his Bachelor of Science degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Biology from Iowa State University and his Master of Science degree in Wildlife Ecology from Oregon State University. He is retired from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, where from 1990-1999 he led the USFWS' effort to recover the endangered Mexican gray wolf. In 2001, Dave was a co-recipient of the New Mexico Chapter of The Wildlife Society's annual "Professional Award." And in April 2007 at the North American Wolf Conference, Dave received the 2006 "Alpha Award" for his "outstanding professional achievement and leadership toward the recovery of Mexican wolves." Dave's interests include the ecology and conservation of large carnivores and wildlands conservation at scales that fully support ecological and evolutionary processes. Dave is the carnivore conservation biologist for The Rewilding Institute.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I would like to thank those who helped us celebrate our 25th year of restoration projects at the Valle Vidal. Once again Mr. Zeedyk found some rocks and a good place for them on the drainages upstream from the Shuree Ponds. I thank the rock movers and stackers. The years of experience from our seasoned veterans plus the enthusiasm of the new participants are evident in the quality of the 26 (25 plus one to grow on) structures built on Saturday. Speaking of our experienced veterans, Cliff Mendel has participated in all the projects over the 25 years while Joyce Mendel has only missed one year. This to me is really amazing, but that's what the Mendels are...amazing. If you do not know Cliff and Joyce, I hope you spend some time visiting with them. In the early 90's, the Mendels, as alternating AWF Presidents, were the backbone and life blood of our organization.

**Jim Hubert's
NOTABLE QUOTE
of the month**

**All the life of the planet is interrelated...
each species has its own ties to others.
And...all are related to the earth.**

—Rachel Carson, from a plaque located on the
Carson National Wildlife Refuge, Maine

Saturday evening at the pot luck, Bill Zeedyk gave an in depth historical account of the Valle Vidal from the 1800's forward. On Sunday morning, Bill led us on a trip to view prior years' work at the Ring Place Meadow.

(continued)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - *continued*

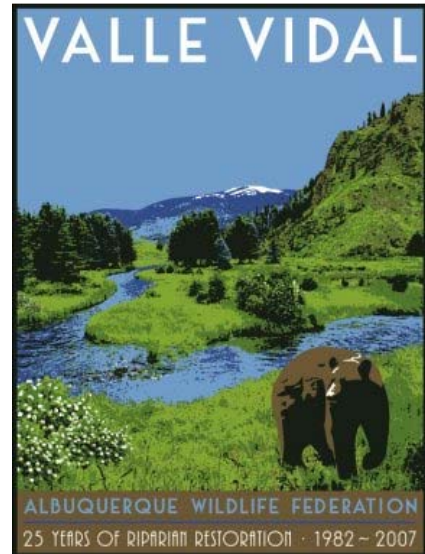
We had T-shirts made to commemorate the event: a special thanks to our new friend and partner, Stephen Bohannon, for volunteering time, energy and creative spirit to design the T-shirts for AWF. The back of the shirt is displayed here, at right. We also need to thank Jeremy Vesbach, Executive Director of the NM Wildlife Federation, for sponsoring the T-shirts.

I would like to mention that Jeremy Vesbach and Greg Miliatis are doing an outstanding job with the New Mexico Wildlife Federation's "Outdoor Reporter" ("OR"). I was fortunate to get an advance copy of the next "OR" last Saturday at the Clean Water Restoration Act conference sponsored by the National Wildlife Federation, New Mexico Wildlife Federation, Ducks Unlimited, and Trout Unlimited.

This quarter's "OR" focuses on the Clean Water Restoration Act (CWRA). We have included in our Newsletter a piece by Jon Schwedler, AWF Board Member, based on an article written by Jeremy Vesbach that appears in the "OR." Please read Jon's article (*page 4*), and be sure to review Jeremy's as well when you receive the "Outdoor Reporter." If you have questions regarding the CWRA, send me a message. Those living in Heather Wilson's district might consider contacting her about co-sponsoring the Act. If you live in Tom Udall's District, consider sending him a thank-you note as he has already co-signed the legislation.

Finally, I encourage you to become a co-member of the AWF and NMWF. We need to express solidarity to have our voice heard on the important issues affecting the habitat which we share with wildlife.

— Gene Tatum



ARE YOU A LOBO FAN?

by Jon Schwedler, AWF Board Member

It's hard to travel anywhere in New Mexico without seeing UNM's mascot—the lobo. Plastered on bumper stickers, store windows, hats, and t-shirts, the image of a wolf paw or snarling "Louie Lobo" reminds everyone we're proud of our unique state. Since 1920 the lobo has been UNM's official mascot. Ironically, this is about the time our real life lobo, also called the Mexican wolf, was purposely exterminated from the United States through a federal poisoning and trapping operation.

But in 1998 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service sought to right this wrong-headed extermination, by reintroducing 11 endangered lobos into the remote border region between southern New Mexico and Arizona. It was hoped these 11 lobos would grow into a population of 100 by the end of 2006, after which the federal lobo restoration program would no longer be necessary. These animals would represent the world's only known lobo population.

But today, nearly a decade later, only 6 mating pairs of endangered lobos live in the wild, and the program is plagued by political conflicts between the cattle industry and federal, state, and county agencies.

To make matters even worse, someone in southern New Mexico has been illegally killing dozens of endangered lobos. In fact, so far the number of illegally poached lobos is greater than those that have died

from natural causes, vehicle accidents, and unknown causes combined.

As an Albuquerque-based volunteer organization that works to improve wildlife habitat throughout New Mexico, the Albuquerque Wildlife Federation is seriously concerned about the lack of progress in the lobo restoration program.

It is clear unless this situation is turned around, New Mexico will be facing a second extinction of the lobo. This would be incredibly shameful.

As such, the Albuquerque Wildlife Federation proposes the following:

- 1) An honest discussion about the economics of lobo recovery must take place.** To date the number of cattle killed by lobos represents just .007% of all cattle in New Mexico and Arizona, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Given that ranchers who lose livestock to lobos are compensated for the full market value of their animals, the New Mexico livestock industry should document why this arrangement is unsatisfactory.
- 2) The role of livestock on public land must be considered.** As most livestock deaths caused by lobos occurred on public land (Gila National Forest), and ranchers only pay 20% of the private lands rate to graze their cattle on the Gila, should livestock be taking precedence over New Mexico's native lobos?
- 3) An honest discussion must also take place about the threats lobos pose to people.** There has never been a documented case of a wolf killing a human being in US history. Yet in a recent session of US Congress,

District 3 Representative Pearce claimed that “blood will be on your hands” to other members of Congress who opposed his elimination of funding for lobo restoration. Furthermore, some residents of Catron County have claimed they suffer from “post-traumatic stress disorder” after seeing lobos. Is there any hard data backing up either of these claims?

4) The benefits of lobos must also be weighed. Lobos help prevent elk and other big game from over-grazing their habitat, which causes harm to water, other wildlife, and cattle. Wolf-related tourism can also be an economic boon, as the appearance of wolves in Yellowstone National Park has generated \$70 million for its surrounding communities.

Not surprisingly, our beautiful state was the birthplace for the pioneering conservation ideals of Aldo Leopold, who started his career in the early 1900s down in the Gila country. In fact, he helped found the Albuquerque Wildlife Federation in 1914.

Some of Mr. Leopold’s ideals were shaped by his experiences with lobos, as he writes in his story “Thinking Like a Mountain,” in which he describes his misguided shooting of a lobo:

We reached the old wolf in time to watch a fierce green fire dying in her eyes. I realized then, and have known ever since, that there was something new to me in those eyes — something known only to her and to the mountain. I was young then, and full of trigger-itch; I thought that because fewer wolves meant more deer, that no wolves would mean hunters’ paradise. But after seeing the green fire die, I sensed that neither the wolf nor the mountain agreed with such a view.

We thank Governor Richardson for his recent actions supporting lobo recovery, and now call upon our other New Mexico representatives, wildlife agencies, and fellow citizens to push hysteria aside, use common sense, and keep the “fierce green fire” of lobos in our state. ■

NM GOV CALLS FOR HALT TO WOLF KILLING

*By Sue Major Holmes, Associated Press writer
Monday, July 9, 2007*

ALBUQUERQUE -- Gov. Bill Richardson is calling for the suspension of a policy that requires federal wildlife officials to trap or shoot to death any endangered Mexican gray wolf that kills three head of livestock in a year. The governor’s request for a moratorium came a day after the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service shot and killed a female wolf that had been released April 25 in Catron County.

The wolf, AF924 for alpha female #924, had “two strikes” against it for killing livestock elsewhere before it was relocated to the southwestern New Mexico county and released there over the objections of county officials. The wolf killed a cow and calf last weekend, subjecting it to the three strikes rule.

The governor said the killing of the wolf is a setback to a program that began in 1998 to release endangered Mexican gray wolves in Arizona and New Mexico. He wants the federal government to stop shooting or otherwise permanently removing wolves from the wild until the program’s rules can be overhauled....

Environmentalists have objected for years to the three strikes provision, called Standard Operating Procedure 13. Increasing numbers of wolves have been removed—either by trapping and permanent captivity or by shooting—for killing livestock since 2004.

Michael Robinson, conservation advocate for the Center for Biological Diversity in Pinos Altos, said the center supports Richardson’s call for suspending and reforming the federal rule. “This wolf killing is a blatant abuse of federal power. It is undermining the recovery of the gray wolf, and is just the latest in a string of attacks on endangered species...” he said.

John Horning, executive director of Forest Guardians in Santa Fe, said he heard the governor’s request with “a sigh of relief and a good measure of gratitude.” Horning said he’d been hoping someone would stand up against what he called a massacre of wolves.

The governor’s request did not meet with universal support. Catron County Manager Bill Aymar said that “perhaps we should call them the ‘standard operating suggestions,’” and likened Richardson’s request to changing the rules in the middle of a game....

Richardson said the federal government initiated its attempt to kill AF924 without adequate notification to the state. “I strongly support the effective recovery of endangered Mexican wolves in the Southwest, done in a responsible and sensitive way,” he said. “Changes must be made to the protocol for the wolf reintroduction program.”

The government has killed three wolves this year for cattle kills. Last year, it shot five wolves for cattle kills and permanently removed three others from the wild. In 2005, one wolf was killed and four put into permanent capture. ■



WOLVES NOT AS DANGEROUS AS COWS

Printed in Albuquerque Journal — Tuesday, July 24, 2007

I find it interesting that cattle ranchers are so fearful of wolves. There have been no documented cases of wolves killing a person in North America. However, just last year two people died after hitting cattle on New Mexico’s highways.

I do have a plan to stay safe while camping in the woods inhabited by those “big bad wolves.” With the threat of mad cow disease, *E. coli*, bovine tuberculosis and anthrax, I’m definitely skipping the burgers and all beef franks.

LARRY DWYER [AWF Board Member] — Tijeras

CLEAN WATER ACT PROTECTIONS REMOVED THROUGH LAWSUITS AND LOBBYING

9 IN 10 NEW MEXICO WATERS LOSE GUARANTEED POLLUTION PROTECTION

by Jon Schwedler, AWF Board Member

Based on an article in NMWF's *OUTDOOR REPORTER*
by Jeremy Vesbach, Executive Director, NM Wildlife Federation

Since it was passed in 1972, the nation's Clean Water Act has been responsible for the dramatic clean-up of polluted rivers; the law has protected our remaining prairie pothole and playa lakes (the nation's "duck factories") from all being plowed under by massive agribusiness—and this important law has guaranteed us all some good fishing to boot.

However, through a combination of lawsuits and heavy lobbying pressure, a handful of powerful industry lobbies have managed to remove Clean Water Act protection from half the nation's waters. This is serious business—in ***New Mexico over 90 percent of our water bodies are no longer guaranteed the protection they've held for three decades***, according to the New Mexico Environment Secretary Ron Curry, who recently testified before the U.S. Congress on this serious problem.

This reduction of protection for our nation's waters is obviously dire news to American waterfowl and fish. Put simply, without healthy waters we don't have healthy wildlife.

The scary situation we find ourselves in is largely the result of two things: 1) two Supreme Court decisions that strictly reinterpreted the existing Clean Water Act so it protected many fewer American waters, and 2) an administration that allowed mining, drilling, and development lobbyists to influence the EPA's enforcement of Clean Water Act protections.

The Supreme Court's two decisions focused around two issues: "navigable" and "closed basin" waters. They ruled that the Clean Water Act's use of "navigable waters" means only those waters that allow transport by boat year-round are relevant. This eliminated protections for the majority of US waters, which are "ephemeral" and not big enough for boat transport.

Regarding "closed basins" (intermittent prairie potholes and playa lakes), the Supreme Court ruled that because they are not connected to year-round waterways on the surface (even though they are connected through groundwater), they are not protected under the Clean Water Act.

With these two Supreme Court decisions in hand, lobbyists pressured the Environmental Protection Agency to pull back pollution protections on the majority of US waters.

In New Mexico right now, this means entire rivers such as the Mimbres and Tularosa—good trout streams—no longer have guaranteed protection. We have 4,000 playa lakes, important to waterfowl and connected to aquifers that supply important drinking water, that have lost protection and could be drained, filled, or polluted.

To fix this truly disturbing situation, the best thing you can do is ***call Congresswoman Heather Wilson right now at 505-346-6781*** and ask her to support the Clean Water Restoration Act. The Clean Water Restoration Act will put things right back where they have been for the past 30 years, reinstating the protections that have kept our waters and wildlife healthy for the past three decades—and ensure our New Mexico waters remain protected from pollution or, in the case of our all-important wetlands, draining and filling.

In simple terms, the Clean Water Restoration Act will replace the word "navigable waters" in the Clean Water Act of 1973 to "all waters of the United States." This simple switch will set things right again. ■



FACTS ON U.S. WATERS

- 53%-59% of total US stream acreage, excluding Alaska, are non-navigable waters. [EPA]
- 90% of surface water protection areas that supply people with drinking water are fed by non-navigable streams. [EPA]

The removal of Clean Water Act Protections would likely result in the elimination of more than 60 million ducks in the US. [Ducks Unlimited]

2007 FIELD PROJECTS – “TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE”

AUGUST 17-19 ● VALLES CALDERA *(Albuquerque Wildlife Federation)*

As was the case last year for our outing at Valles Caldera, we are strictly limited to 25 participants. We will be doing riparian work along Santa Rosa Creek in the watershed of the San Antonio Creek. Tasks involve building rock headcut control structures and channel structures.

We will again camp outside the Union building with access to kitchen and bathroom facilities. You may arrive on Friday and stay the night, or arrive Saturday at the main Preserve entrance off Highway 4. **All attendees' names must be on the list in advance**, to receive the combination to the gate leading to the Union Building, and/or to gain entrance to the Preserve on Saturday morning.

Please contact Gene Tatum at (505) 255-1960 or gtatum3@msn.com to verify that you are on the list, or to see if there is still space available. Gene will provide updates and further information.

August 10-12 ● Bitter Creek *(NMWA / Amigos Bravos)*

Red River Watershed restoration. Projects will include closing off illegal ATV routes and fencing off riparian areas. We will camp at the site. 3 hours north of ABQ. **Contact:** Rachel Conn 505-758-3874, rconn@amigosbravos.org for more info.

August 11-12 ● Bloomfield City Parks *(NMV40)*

Join us and Darrell Workman of Parks & Recreation laying pavers to build a river walk trail and performance center patio.
Contact: Ruth Hartswick 505-294-3551 for more info.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS UPCOMING 2007 PROJECTS

SEPT	1-3	Rain Creek Trail-NMVFO
	14-16	Wind River Ranch-AWF
OCT	11-14	Taos Overlook-NMWA
NOV	10	Piedra Lisa North Trail-NMWA

AWF = Albuquerque Wildlife Federation
NMWA = New Mexico Wilderness Alliance
NMVFO = NM Volunteers for the Outdoors

JULY AT VALLE VIDAL—THE 25TH YEAR!

AWF celebrated the Valle Vidal's 25 years with an impressive restoration project in July – building 26 structures in a tributary to Shuree Pond tentatively christened *El Rillito Veinticinco*, to commemorate the *little river* which was the focus of our *25th* year at this very special place in New Mexico.

Many thanks to the hard-working participants: Cliff and Joyce Mendel, Toby Rosenblatt, Rich and Ann Leonard, Larry and Kathleen Blair, Stephen Bohannon, Michael Scialdone, Lisa Hummon, Brad Lagorio, Susanna de Falla, Sumner Williams, Jon Schwedler, Daryl and Leza and Zack Woolems, Susan Mendel and her 3 children, Richard and Barb Hutchison, Derek Shadd, Caleb (?), David Blagg, Barbara Coulter, Gene Tatum, Pat Hester, Bill Zeedyk, and our USFS partner George Long.

TO REMEMBER DR RICHARD BECKER

Please take the time to send a short note to document your recollections of our friend and partner.

I knew Dr. Richard Becker for only a few years, but in that short time he repeatedly impressed me as the epitome of the ethical, energetic, knowledgeable citizen activist. When Richard was present at a meeting to talk about how we could do a better job of caring for the environment, we would not get off-track, we would deal with facts not myths, we would have an occasional good laugh about human foibles (often at our own expense!), and we would get something useful done. Our community is diminished by his passing.

— Sterling Grogan

RICHARD W BECKER MEMORIAL FUND

AWF is very honored and grateful to the family of Richard W. Becker, PhD, for their most generous designation of our organization as the recipient of donations made in Richard's memory.

Many, many contributions have been received, to date totaling almost \$2300, and we plan, in consultation with Carol Chavez and other relatives of Richard, to determine a fitting way to memorialize his legacy to AWF and to New Mexico.

We wish to express our sincere appreciation for the generosity of so many, whose donations convey their affection for Richard and respect for his years of tireless service and dedication to the conservation programs and ideals he so actively embraced.

UPCOMING AWF PROGRAMS	
SEPTEMBER 13	Wildlife and Roads: The I-40 Corridor through Tijeras Canyon Kurt A. Menke — Co-Chair of the Tijeras Canyon Safe Passage Coalition
OCTOBER 11	BLM's Restore New Mexico Program for Habitat Restoration: Lesser Prairie Chicken and Sand Dune Lizard Don Ellsworth, BLM Special Assistant to the New Mexico State Office
NOVEMBER 8	Roots & Shoots Program and Opportunities for Conservation Projects Dr. Ray Powell — Former NM State Land Commissioner, now with the Jane Goodall Institute

AWF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

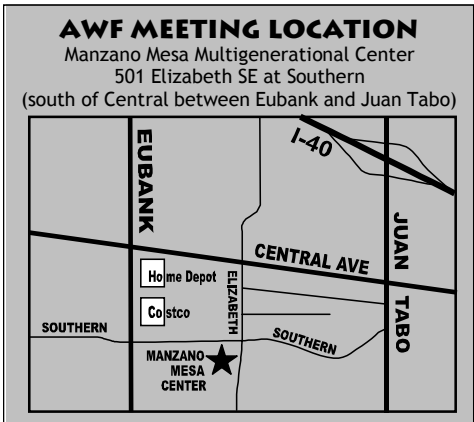
President: Gene Tatum • Vice-President: Barbara Coulter
 Secretary: Linda Patterson • Treasurer: Glenda Muirhead
 Directors: Larry Dwyer, Patricia Hester, Jim Hubert, Dennis Muirhead,
 Kurt Nolte, Jon Schwedler, Luke Shelby, Bill Zeedyk

TO SUBMIT MATERIAL FOR THE AWF NEWSLETTER:

Please contact Glenda Muirhead 505-281-2925 or g.muirhead@usfamily.net

NEW MEMBER
Susan Smith

RENEWED MEMBER
Ray Powell, DVM



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION, PO BOX 1234, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87103

An affiliate of New Mexico Wildlife Federation

Please choose between **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** or **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP**. **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** does not include membership in NMWF. **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP** includes one voting membership in NMWF, for which \$10 of your dues payment goes to NMWF. For Family Membership, if a second person* desires NMWF voting rights, an additional \$10 payment is required.

PLEASE ✓ ONE : AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP ↓

Designate NMWF member(s*) _____

name(s) _____

address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ email _____

Gift membership from: _____

✓ MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

- Student [under 18].....\$10 ← [AWF Membership Only]
- Individual.....\$25
- Family\$35
- Sustaining..... \$50-\$99
- Patron..... \$100
- Lifetime..... \$500 ← [One-time Payment]

Dues \$ _____

*Second NMWF Member \$10 _____

Contribution \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____



AWF Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2007

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation ■ PO Box 1234 ■ Albuquerque, NM 87103
Affiliated with The National Wildlife Federation and The New Mexico Wildlife Federation

GENERAL MEETING

DATE: Thursday, September 13, 2007

WHEN: 7:30 pm (following AWF Board Meeting)

WHERE: Manzano Mesa Center, 501 Elizabeth SE (map p5)

PROGRAM: The I-40 Wildlife Corridor and Tijeras Canyon
Safe Passage Coalition

GUEST SPEAKER: Kurt Menke, Co-Chair, TCSPC

If you've driven through Tijeras Canyon along I-40 in the past year, you will have noticed the huge changes to the highway and its margins. Fencing and other barriers have been incorporated into its design to redirect and channel wildlife toward safe areas to cross this major thoroughfare which cuts through habitat. Join us to learn about the formation of the Tijeras Canyon Safe Passage Coalition, the coordination of efforts with state agencies to develop the wildlife corridor, and the expectations for this nature-conscious construction, the first of its kind in New Mexico.

Kurt Menke is a deeply committed conservationist at heart. He is one of the co-founders of the Tijeras Canyon Coalition and currently serves as Co-Chair. He was also one of the main contributors to the New Mexico Highlands Wildlands Network Vision and has worked extensively with other conservation groups, including the New Mexico Wilderness Alliance, Bordercats Working Group, Grand Canyon Wildlands Council, Wild Farm Alliance, Forest Guardians, Animal Protection of New Mexico, and the Southern Rockies Ecosystem Project.



In addition, Kurt is currently serving as President of the New Mexico Geographic Information Council (NMGIC), serves on the Board of Directors for the Grand Canyon Wildlands Council, teaches GIS and Cartography at UNM's Division of Continuing Education and UNM's School of Architecture, and is a member of the Society for Conservation GIS.

**Jim Hubert's
NOTABLE QUOTE
of the month**

The whole idea of the Federation...is to set up a mechanism whereby the individuals may be kept informed and do their own protesting and demanding in time to have a bearing on officials' activities.

— Jay Norwood "Ding" Darling, first president of the National Wildlife Federation, c. 1937

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we mentioned in our August Newsletter, the Supreme Court has ruled that the definition of navigable water used for over 30 years was not correct. The Clean Water Act provided the impetus to clean up our rivers, streams and drinking water. In spite of arm twisting by the current administration, Congress is trying to reinstate the Act's legislative intent despite politics and the Supreme Court. This whole mess has its origins in the desire of developers to drain wetlands for trophy homes, fast food places, or another department store without consideration of the effects to the stability and safety of the natural environment.

The NMWF is also starting another important campaign to support revision of the 1892 Mining Law. The Mining Law certainly is antiquated. It was enacted to promote the settlement of

continued

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – *continued*

the “West” and the economic growth of the United States. I believe the scope and purpose of the original law have been exceeded. The benefits provided by this arcane law do not address the needs of our modern world. The old law provides that *no royalty* is paid to our government by businesses extracting nonrenewable resources from public land. Our resources are taken for nothing, processed, and then sold back to us.

Many of these mines have been abandoned and in several cases left as environmental disasters to be cleaned up at public expense. The law also provides that mined public lands can be deeded as private land to the mining interests. Once deeded as private, the land can be used for resorts and other purposes seemingly inconsistent

with the original intent of the mining law. This is our land. This law needs revision to ensure that these non-renewable resources are used in the best interest of the land owners: *you!*

Stay alert. Remind your elected representatives that the right to clean water and mining law reform should not be subordinated to the economic interest and advantage of a few people. We should congratulate our politicians who support the public interest, challenge those who struggle with what is best for the public interest, and not reelect those who allow avarice and greed to motivate their positions. Congress is now back in session, so we will continue to track these legislative proposals and send you e-updates.

— Gene Tatum

2007 FIELD PROJECTS – “TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE”

SEPTEMBER 14-16 • WIND RIVER RANCH *(Albuquerque Wildlife Federation)*

AWF invites you to volunteer at the beautiful Wind River Ranch, headquarters of a non-profit conservation organization, comprised of five thousand tree-studded acres of canyon and prairie along the Mora River north of Las Vegas, NM.

Wind River Ranch is a new location for an Albuquerque Wildlife Federation project. Bill Zeedyk has arranged with conservation biologist Brian Miller, the ranch's Director, for our volunteers to help restore a cienega (wet meadow) in a box canyon near the Mora River. This project outing will involve building rock structures to assist nature in capturing water to re-wet the meadow.

Project activities will take place primarily on Saturday. We may arrive on Friday afternoon and camp both Friday and Saturday evenings, and will carpool to the project site.

Please provide your own food and beverages for the weekend. AWF will supply snacks and drinks during the project day. And plan on a fun and delicious potluck dinner Saturday evening—bring a dish to share with everyone! At the campsite, we will have access to bathrooms, as well as limited kitchen privileges.

To sign up, contact Glenda Muirhead at 505-281-2925 or g.muirhead@usfamily.net by Sept 12.



DIRECTIONS

Travel north on I-25 past Las Vegas. Take Exit 364 (at the south end of Watrous) and head west on Highway 161 toward Golondrinas. Go 5½ miles to Mile Marker #16, which is almost directly across the road from the WRR gate. The gate is on the north side of the road, has two white wooden posts and a white wooden cross-piece with a black W on top. The gate will be closed, but not locked. **PLEASE BE SURE TO CLOSE THE GATE BEHIND YOU.** Drive in on the lane until you drop down into the canyon, about 2 miles in. We will camp near the red Headquarters building.

"TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE" PARTNER EVENTS

Livestock Water Developments & Wildlife Bureau of Land Management Socorro Field Office

September 11, 2007 — 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

The Bureau of Land Management's Socorro Field Office, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Quivira Coalition, and Bat Conservation International invite you to participate in a free one-day workshop on Livestock Water Developments and Wildlife from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm at the BLM's Socorro Field Office, 901 S Highway 85, Socorro, New Mexico on September 11, 2007.

As the distribution and abundance of natural water sources decline due to drought, development, and other factors, livestock water developments have become an important resource to many species of wildlife. Unfortunately, animals attracted to these water sources can become trapped and drown if a suitable wildlife escape structure isn't installed. Fencing and bracing can also make

access difficult or impossible for wildlife that drinks on the wing like bats and some birds, which now depend heavily on these water sources. Fortunately, wildlife escape structures can be inexpensively and easily constructed and installed, ensuring a safe source of water for wildlife while improving water quality for livestock. Fencing and bracing can also be configured to enhance wildlife access while meeting livestock management objectives.

This workshop will include lecture, participant discussion, a wildlife escape structure building demonstration, and a short field trip to look at livestock water developments in the field. There will also be an optional evening field trip to observe bat monitoring and capture techniques at a livestock water development including night-vision equipment, acoustic-monitoring methods, and mist-nets. An agenda is attached.

Please RSVP by calling or sending an email to Carlos Madril at the Socorro BLM Field Office, Carlos_Madril@nm.blm.gov 505-835-0412. For additional information, please contact Carlos or Dan Taylor at dtaylor@batcon.org, 858-551-5105.

Otero Mesa Camp Out New Mexico Wilderness Alliance September 21 - 23, 2007

New Mexico Wilderness Alliance will be leading a weekend outing to Otero Mesa. This is one of the best times of year to visit the largest and wildest Chihuahuan desert grassland left on public lands in America. With a good rainy season down south, we are sure to experience the full magnitude of this wild landscape.

We will explore the expansive grasslands, plus Flat Top Mountain. Additionally, we will be conducting some surveys of raptor nests and cactus identification on Alamo Mountain. Raptor nests are commonly used by Aplomado falcons during the spring, so it will be great to document where these nests are located.

If you've never been to Otero Mesa, this outing is the time to be there and experience the wildness of America's largest Chihuahuan desert grassland.

This is a car-camping weekend, so feel free to bring extra stuff to make the weekend that much more enjoyable.

During the evenings there will be a social campfire and this time we're going to provide green chile chicken enchiladas for Saturday evening! Bring musical instruments if you've got them. Let's get together and have some fun in the desert!

Contact: Nathan Newcomer at 505-843-8696, nathan@nmwild.org to reserve your spot today!



Journey to the North Rim of Valles Caldera Caldera Action Saturday, October 6, 2007 8:45 am - 6:00 pm

Enjoy a geologic tour of the Jemez Volcano, led by local geologist Kirt Kempter. Departing from Espanola at 9:00 am, we drive west on Forest Road 144, stopping at several view points as we wind our way into the northern Jemez Mountains. As we ascend the back side of Chicoma Peak, there will be spectacular views of the Rio Grande Rift, Pajarito Plateau, Pedernal, and other geologic features of the northern Jemez Mountains. Our destination will be a picnic lunch stop along the north rim of the Valles Caldera, providing a spectacular view of the northern portion of the caldera. A lecture at this stop will provide a geologic history of the caldera since the massive eruption occurred 1.2 million years ago.

After lunch, at about 2:00 pm, we will have the opportunity to hike up Chicoma Peak, the highest point in the Jemez Mountains, at just over 11,000 feet. This is only 600' above our route. The walk is

about one mile each way. Those who do not wish to hike may choose to head back to Espanola at their own pace. The van will stay for the hikers.

This tour is a fundraiser for the new 501(c)(3) Caldera Action, which incorporated in May 2007 to carry on the work of the Valles Caldera Coalition.

Kirt Kempter is a geologist who has conducted fieldwork and mapping for USGS in the Jemez Mountains for years, leads tours around the world for Smithsonian and other organizations, is co-author/producer of a new fold-out map and geologic history of the Jemez volcano, and is the creative and technical talent behind photo-mosaic panoramas of gorgeous views throughout northern NM.

Lunch provided! Maximum 35 participants.

Cost: \$50 postmarked before September 21, \$75 after. Refunds only if we can fill your seat. Please make check payable to Caldera Action and mail it to Brooks White, 369 Montezuma #408, Santa Fe, NM 87501. For more information, please contact Brooks White at 505-455-5034 or brooks@cybermesa.com).

Comanche II Workshop — Valle Vidal Quivira Coalition September 19-23, 2007

The Quivira Coalition invites you to this important workshop as members of the Albuquerque Wildlife Federation have demonstrated a great deal of enthusiasm, dedication, and hard work at previous Valle Vidal events.

The Quivira Coalition would like to invite you to participate in our upcoming “invitation-only” Comanche II Workshop. This workshop is a vital part of our effort to complete the Comanche Creek 319 EPA Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout Habitat Restoration Project. It is critical that we complete this project this fall as the 404/401 permit is due to expire early next year, and just as importantly, to have the structures in place to take full advantage of next spring and summer’s high water events.

Over the last three years more than 90 volunteers from New Mexico Trout Unlimited, Sierra Club, Boy Scouts, Santa Clara fire crew, Trout Unlimited, Truchas Chapter, YCC crews from Gallup, and the general public have installed 86 vanes along Comanche Creek to aid in the implementation of this project. In addition to the 319 funding, Quivira is lending support to the project from its Land & Water Fund, made possible in part by a generous donation from the Earth Friends Wildlife Foundation.

To ensure the successful completion of this project, we need you (and your strong back!) to help with the installation of the remaining 33 vanes. Five teams of six people will trim, stage, and install posts for the vanes. These teams will rotate between two tasks: four team members will “pound posts” for vanes while two members collect rocks for additional bank support and assist where needed. The workshop will run from Wednesday, September 19th through noon on Sunday, September 23, 2007. Partial and day-only attendance is fine if you cannot join us for the entire workshop.



Workdays will proceed as follows:

- **Wednesday, September 19:** Arrival and camp setup starts at noon.
Post trimming will begin as participants finish setting up their camp.
- **Thursday, September 20:** Trim posts and deliver to vane installation sites.
- **Friday, September 21:** Teams install 13 vanes
- **Saturday, September 22:** Teams install 13 vanes
- **Sunday, September 23:** Teams install 7 vanes and decamp

If you have friends 16 years and older who are interested in restoration work and show as much enthusiasm and energy as you, please invite them to attend with you. All participants will receive a Quivira tee shirt and are invited to the “Pot Luck” dinner Saturday night. In addition to working with other dedicated conservationists on a very worthwhile restoration project, you will also have ample opportunity to observe bugling bull elk as they form their fall herds in the golden aspens of the Valle Vidal.

To save your spot for this workshop, please RSVP to Mike Bain, Quivira Coalition Program Coordinator, at mbain@quiviracoalition.org by the end of business on Friday, September 14.

MEET OUR MEMBERS

PATRICIA M. HESTER ("PAT")

Born/grew up where? I was born in Rexburg, Idaho, and grew up on a forty acre farm in Plano and in a General Merchandise Store in Egin. Both Plano and Egin were then small agricultural communities that grew up around constructed irrigation systems in the Upper Snake River Valley of eastern Idaho.

Age: Just right.

Education: South Fremont High School, George B. Hamilton School of Vocational Nursing, The University of Texas at Austin (Geology, B.S.) and The University of New Mexico (Geology, M.S.).

Occupation: My longest-running employment (22 years) has been as a Federal Employee with the Bureau of Land Management. Job descriptions have ranged from staff geologist, technical coordinator for a land use plan, environmental protection specialist, surface protection specialist and, currently, regional paleontologist.

How long in New Mexico? I have spent 40% of my life in Albuquerque. I came to New Mexico in 1984 to complete geologic field school for my B.S. and was introduced to red furry ants, vervain and the Georgia O'Keefe landscapes that are northern New Mexico. For graduate school applications, one criterion was "place must have mountains", so UNM seemed like a good choice.

Favorite place in NM: Don't have a favorite place in New Mexico, since I have a lot more to see. Recent additions to my list include some canyons in the Southern Robledos, "Chucks Hole", a giant sink hole along the Pecos River near Roswell, and Limestone Canyon in the San Mateo Mountains.

Greatest adventure: My greatest adventure was snorkeling with the manatees in Florida. Although, I must admit, our sailboat has certainly brought some memorable moments, from gale force winds on Heron Lake to the water spout touching down on Elephant Butte while we were in the middle of the reservoir.

Other organizations you belong to: Other organizations include the New Mexico Geological Society and recent reconnection with the New Mexico University Chorus where I can pursue an interest in singing.

Origin of your interest in wildlife: My interest in wildlife started on the farm where we could watch deer, moose, and waterfowl move along the margins of the farm on their way to Henry's Fork of the Snake River.

Why did you join AWF? My participation in AWF began with projects at El Malpais NCA and Cebolla Canyon.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS UPCOMING 2007 PROJECTS

SEPT	14-16	Wind River Ranch-AWF
OCT	11-14	Taos Overlook-NMWA
NOV	10	Piedra Lisa North Trail-NMWA

AWF = Albuquerque Wildlife Federation
 NMWA = New Mexico Wilderness Alliance
 NMVFO = NM Volunteers for the Outdoors

At the AWF General Meeting on August 9, Dave Parsons, at left, discusses the successes and the challenges experienced by the Mexican gray wolf reintroduction program in New Mexico and Arizona. Dave is currently the carnivore conservation biologist for the Rewilding Institute.

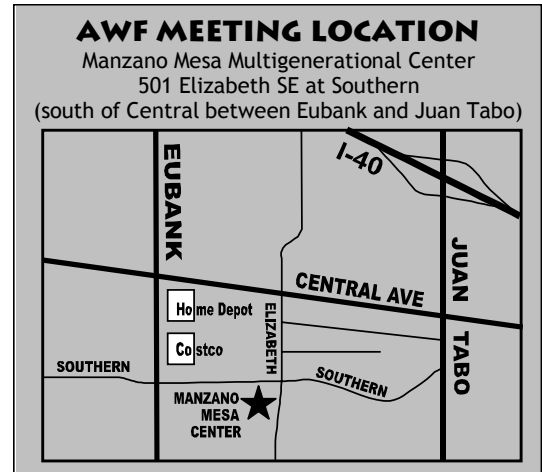
UPCOMING AWF PROGRAMS	
OCTOBER 11	BLM's Restore New Mexico Program for Habitat Restoration: Lesser Prairie Chicken and Sand Dune Lizard <i>Don Ellsworth, BLM Special Assistant to the New Mexico State Office</i>
NOVEMBER 8	Roots & Shoots Program and Opportunities for Conservation Projects <i>Dr. Ray Powell — Former NM State Land Commissioner, now with the Jane Goodall Institute</i>

AWF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Gene Tatum • Vice-President: Barbara Coulter
 Secretary: Linda Patterson • Treasurer: Glenda Muirhead
 Directors: Larry Dwyer, Patricia Hester, Jim Hubert, Dennis Muirhead,
 Kurt Nolte, Jon Schwedler, Luke Shelby, Bill Zeedyk

TO SUBMIT MATERIAL FOR THE AWF NEWSLETTER:

Please contact Glenda Muirhead 505-281-2925 or
 g.muirhead@usfamily.net



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION, PO BOX 1234, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87103

An affiliate of New Mexico Wildlife Federation

Please choose between **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** or **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP**. **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** does not include membership in NMWF. **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP** includes one voting membership in NMWF, for which \$10 of your dues payment goes to NMWF. For Family Membership, if a second person* desires NMWF voting rights, an additional \$10 payment is required.

PLEASE ✓ ONE : **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP** ↓

Designate NMWF member(s*) _____

name(s) _____

address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ email _____

Gift membership from: _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

- Student [under 18].....\$10 ← [AWF Membership Only]
- Individual.....\$25
- Family\$35
- Sustaining..... \$50-\$99
- Patron..... \$100
- Lifetime..... \$500 ← [One-time Payment]

Dues \$ _____

*Second NMWF Member \$10 _____

Contribution \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____



AWF Newsletter

OCTOBER 2007

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation ■ PO Box 1234 ■ Albuquerque, NM 87103
Affiliated with The National Wildlife Federation and The New Mexico Wildlife Federation

GENERAL MEETING

DATE: Thursday, October 11, 2007
WHEN: 7:30 pm (following AWF Board Meeting)
WHERE: Jerry Cline Complex Office
Constitution at Louisiana (see map p4)

PROGRAM: BLM's "Restore New Mexico" Habitat Program
GUEST SPEAKER: Don Ellsworth

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE
IN LOCATION FOR
THIS MEETING ONLY.
Manzano Mesa Center
will be closed on Oct 11.

Join us to learn about "Restore New Mexico," an aggressive partnership to restore woodlands, grasslands and riparian areas to a healthy and productive condition. Targeted are lands which have been disturbed by past development and where erosion, habitat fragmentation and other impacts resulting from New Mexico's rapidly expanding population have occurred. What's new about this effort is that the Bureau of Land Management is building on previous partnerships to begin restoring entire landscapes across the state, working with partners on all land ownership types – state, private and federal – and involving communities, agencies, industry, organizations, and private citizens who want to join in.

BLM estimates that about one-fourth of the 13.4 million acres of public land in New Mexico need some restoration activity to help return them to a healthier natural state. Creosote, mesquite and juniper trees dominate landscapes that once were grasslands, and salt cedar has replaced native riparian vegetation along streams and rivers. These disturbed areas cannot support the numbers of fish and wildlife our state used to have.

Don Ellsworth was born in Carlsbad, NM, and grew up in the Albuquerque area. After high school he spent three years in the Army, and finished with a tour of duty in Vietnam. After the Army he went to college on the GI Bill, graduating from NMSU with a B.S. in Range Management, and a minor in Plant and Animal science. Don spent several years doing range work for the BLM at NMSU and in Roswell, and later at the Farmington Area Office served as surface compliance specialist. From there he moved to the Lake Havasu Field Office in Arizona, as assistant Field Manager for Resources, and after three years became the Field Manager. He returned to New Mexico as BLM's SWS Agency Coordinator for the state, and now leads the Restore NM Project Team.



**Jim Hubert's
NOTABLE QUOTE
of the month**

**We do not have time to
play around with this.**

— Al Gore, March 2007, speaking of
the seriousness of global warming



Restoration of this caliche-packed road took place in one summer growing season.



Source: BLM website

TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE PROJECTS

AUGUST 2007 — VALLES CALDERA



Twenty-five-plus people journeyed on Friday to the beautiful Valles Caldera for AWF's second project there. Saturday morning we car-pooled from camp to the site, farther north into the Valles than last year, to create one-rock dams and headcut mitigation structures; an amazing 30+ were built. Saturday evening we enjoyed a great potluck dinner, and celebrated birthdays of members Jim Hubert and Cliff Mendel, as well as the Mendels' anniversary. On Sunday morning, at another location, a rock wall was erected to forestall erosion at a road-building site. The weekend also included a car-tour of the area.

Bill Zeedyk was unable to attend, so Gene Tatum took over project leadership responsibilities. He and wife Pat also fixed terrific breakfast burritos for the group on Saturday morning, and provided bagels and toppings for Sunday breakfast. Thanks to Gene and Pat for their superb efforts, and to all these participants for an amazingly productive weekend:

Mark & Trudi Martinez, Jack Davis & Silvia Marinas, Martha & David Thibeau, Bob Jones & Nikki Mann, Jim & Margie Hubert, Stephen Bohannon, Michelle Miano, Cliff & Joyce Mendel, Toby Rosenblatt, Michael Scialdone, Bob Tilley, Laura Vogel, Deb Lofton, Rich & Barb Diver, Dennis & Glenda Muirhead, Deborah Risberg.

Placing rocks to armor the edges of a headcut: Gene Tatum stands back to get an overview, while the rest of the crew find just the right spots for the stones collected by many willing hands.

SEPTEMBER 2007 — WIND RIVER RANCH

At AWF's first-ever outing to the Wind River Ranch, northwest of Las Vegas along the Mora River, a group of about 25 gathered to camp and build rock structures. Saturday morning, we car-pooled about 5 miles from the ranch headquarters, parked on a ranch road, and carried tools and refreshments about ½ mile to a section of runoff which had been scoured down to bedrock by a strong storm event. Bill Zeedyk discussed the scope of the project, and we divided into 3+ groups of rock collectors and rock placers to build one-rock dams along 1000 feet of arroyo, to capture sediment and revegetate the region.

Afterwards, we enjoyed a tour, led by Ranch Director Brian Miller, of the prairie dog relocation community, and also viewed sites of previous rockwork by colleagues of Bill Zeedyk. Thank you to the great crew, some familiar and some very welcome new faces, for a most impressive and enjoyable event.



Photo: Diane LeResche

Hard at work on one of the many structures built at Wind River Ranch: At upper left, Michael Scialdone takes a break as Phil Carter (standing), Hal Osburn, Ben Gillock, and Judy Osburn finalize rock placement.



Group photo taken at Ranch headquarters, before heading to the project site on Saturday morning. Left to right (kneeling) Barbara Coulter, Ben Gillock, Bill Zeedyk, Dennis & Glenda Muirhead, Cailen and Averill Nolte, and Ella Wood; (standing) Toby Rosenblatt, Michael Scialdone ("Scial"), Phil Carter, Steve Vrooman, Kurt Nolte, Paul Guerin, Larry Alei, Hal Osburn, Jim Wilson, Judy Osburn, Stephen Bohannon, Michelle Miano, Thea Guerin, Peter Callen, and Diane LeResche. Not pictured is Brian Miller, Ranch Director, who took the photograph.

MEET OUR MEMBERS

GLENDAMUIRHEAD

AWF Treasurer

Born/grew up where? Born in Buffalo, New York, in 1951 and grew up in the suburb of Williamsville for my first 30 years.

Marital Status/Children: Married to Dennis Muirhead since 1981; two stepchildren: Kelly in San Antonio, and Todd in Atlanta; three grandchildren (Todd's girls).

Education: Williamsville South High School, graduated in 1969. Bachelor's degree in Literature from University at Buffalo, 1973; MBA from UB, 1981. Also coursework in anatomy, chemistry, and nutrition at TVI and UNM.

Occupation: I have been happily "unemployed" for almost 15 years, and currently devote many hours to volunteer activities. Previously, I worked in telecommunications with Union Carbide in NY, and financial administration in Albuquerque and elsewhere.

How long in New Mexico? Since mid-1983, when Dennis and I returned to the US after two years overseas. We moved into our house in the mountains south of Tijeras in mid-1984, once Dennis had completed enough construction to make it livable...been working on it ever since.

Favorite place in NM: Tough to say. It truly is an enchanting state...the terrain, the landscape, the sky, the sun, the colors. It's always a pleasure to look out the window wherever we're driving to, and a delight once we get there.

Favorite vacation destination/activity: Though we had a truly special vacation in Ireland last year in celebration of our 25th anniversary, there are such wonders to see in this country. Anything that involves some kind of physical activity is good...hiking, biking, someday kayaking, I hope.

Favorite outdoor activities & locations: We've had lots of fun canoeing in various lakes in New Mexico, and running races in conjunction with visits to family in other states.

Greatest adventure: Oh, so many! Probably living in Alexandria, Egypt, along the Mediterranean, for two years (also where we got married), and having the good fortune and proximity to travel in Europe and to the Red Sea.

Other organizations you belong to: Publicity Chair for the East Mountain Artists Series (classical concerts) and tabling volunteer for Albuquerque Road Runners running club.

Hobbies: Enjoying our two yellow Labrador Retrievers, reading, watching Dennis cook. Used to play violin, and may do so again one day. And I do love my computer...graphics programs, Google for research, and games, mainly.

Favorite book(s): *Way Station* by Clifford D. Simak, *Childhood's End* by Arthur C. Clarke, and *The Chrysalids* by John Wyndham.

Favorite magazine(s): *Runner's World*, *Nutrition Action Newsletter*, and *Cooking Light* (I just look at the pictures).

Personal goals: To be productive and healthy. To apply my skills to contribute where I can. To accept and enjoy the people I encounter. To be a good and respectful citizen.

AWF member since: I can't remember exactly...probably around 1992.

Origin of your interest in wildlife? As a suburban girl, my exposure to wildlife was pretty much limited to squirrels and snakes in the yard and tadpoles in the pond. But Dennis, a life-long hunter and outdoorsman, has expanded my knowledge.

Why did you join AWF? Cliff Mendel encouraged Dennis to join AWF, and we began attending the meetings and especially participating in the field projects. I have been inspired to continue with AWF because of people like Richard Becker and Bill Zeedyk. They are my heroes.

Goals for AWF: To help the organization distinguish itself in the conservation community as a unique entity with valuable goals and diverse participants; and to encourage young(ish) people to join and be active in our meetings and projects. If AWF can make it to 2014, the 100th year since its founding by Aldo Leopold (as the Albuquerque Game Protective Association), I will be pleased and proud.



CONGRATULATIONS TO AWF's FIRST "LIFE MEMBER"

LARRY DWYER

Thank You!

"TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE" PARTNER PROJECTS

October 20 ● Tijeras Canyon Project

The TIJERAS CANYON SAFE PASSAGE COALITION has been working hard to make I-40 friendlier to wildlife, no small task. Working with DOT, many improvements for wildlife, like fencing and special sensors, have been added during construction on I-40 in the canyon. This project will further these efforts by clearing out brush so that wildlife will use the existing underpasses.

Maximum participants: 40

Contact: Jeannie Wagner-Greven at 505-248-6667, Jeannie_WagnerGreven@fws.gov by the afternoon of October 19th for more info.

Driving time: 20 minutes east of ABQ

November 10 ● Piedra Lisa Trail Project

Last NEW MEXICO WILDERNESS ALLIANCE project for 2007! Join us for a day of general trail maintenance on the Piedra Lisa trail on the north side of the Sandia Mountain Wilderness near Placitas. We will be doing tread work and erosion control along the trail. Piedra Lisa is Spanish for smooth or slippery rock, and the northern section of the trail has plenty of loose rock on slightly steep sections that give credibility to the name.

Afterwards, we will join other groups working on projects and environmental issues at Anasazi Fields winery. This gathering will be a chance for folks to meet and learn what others are doing to protect the Sandia Mountains.

Maximum participants: 25

Contact: Bill Velasquez at 505-881-0555, bvelasquez@gardnerzemke.com for more info.

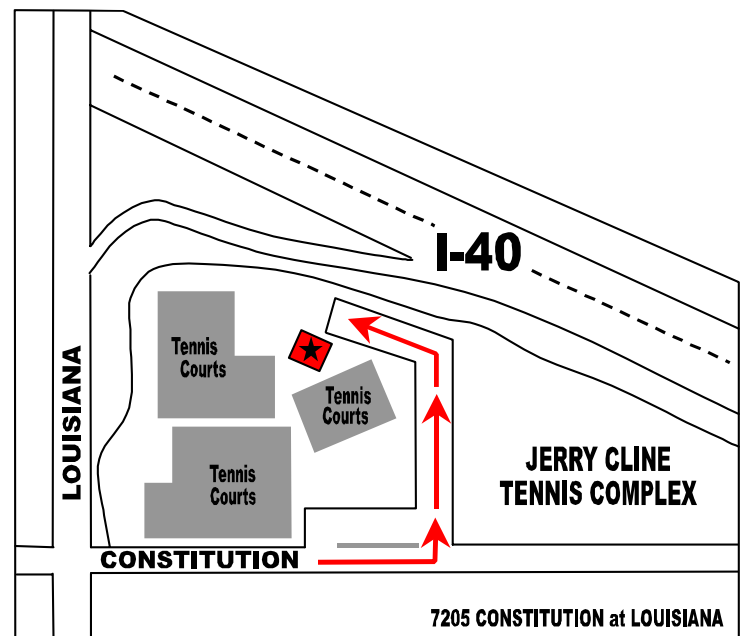
Driving time: Approximately 20 miles north of ABQ

AWF MEETING LOCATION FOR OCTOBER ONLY

Office at Jerry Cline Tennis Complex
7205 Constitution NE at Louisiana



UPCOMING PROGRAMS	
NOVEMBER 8	<p><i>Roots & Shoots Program and Opportunities for Conservation Projects</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Ray Powell — Former NM State Land Commissioner, now with the Jane Goodall Institute</i></p>
DECEMBER 13	<i>AWF Annual Meeting and Dinner</i>



AWF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Gene Tatum ● Vice-President: Barbara Coulter
 Secretary: Linda Patterson ● Treasurer: Glenda Muirhead
 Directors: Larry Dwyer, Patricia Hester, Dennis Muirhead,
 Kurt Nolte, Jon Schwedler, Luke Shelby, Bill Zeedyk

TO SUBMIT MATERIAL FOR THE AWF NEWSLETTER:

Please contact Glenda Muirhead
 505-281-2925 or g.muirhead@usfamily.net

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION, PO BOX 1234, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87103

An affiliate of New Mexico Wildlife Federation

Please choose between **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** or **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP**. **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** does **not** include membership in NMWF. **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP** includes **one** voting membership in NMWF, for which \$10 of your dues payment goes to NMWF. For Family Membership, if a second person* desires NMWF voting rights, an additional \$10 payment is required.

➔ **PLEASE ✓ ONE :** **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP** ⌵

Designate NMWF member(s*) _____

name(s) _____

address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ email _____

Gift membership from: _____

✓ **MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

- Student [under 18].....\$10 ← [AWF Membership Only]
- Individual.....\$25
- Family\$35
- Sustaining..... \$50-\$99
- Patron..... \$100
- Lifetime..... \$500 ← [One-time Payment]

Dues \$ _____

*Second NMWF Member \$10 _____

Contribution \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____



AWF Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2007

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation ■ PO Box 1234 ■ Albuquerque, NM 87103
Affiliated with The National Wildlife Federation and The New Mexico Wildlife Federation

GENERAL MEETING

DATE: Thursday, November 8, 2007

WHEN: 7:30 pm (following AWF Board Meeting)

WHERE: Manzano Mesa Center, 501 Elizabeth SE (map 3)

PROGRAM: "Roots & Shoots"—Connecting Kids to the Outdoors

GUEST SPEAKERS: Ray Powell and Bonnie Schmader

Children might know the rain forests are being cut down, but have they ever climbed a tree in their own neighborhood? Reconnecting children to nature has everything to do, Ray Powell says, with healthy communities and a better future. Ray is currently the Regional Director of the "Roots & Shoots" Four Corners States office, located in Santa Fe and serving New Mexico, Arizona, Utah and Colorado. Roots & Shoots is a service learning program created by Dr. Jane Goodall in 1991. Today the program is global, with tens of thousands of young people participating in more than 8000 groups in over 100 countries. Roots & Shoots programs are sprouting up all over New Mexico from Albuquerque to Santa Fe to Gallup to Las Cruces.

According to Ray, "The Service Learning Program is based on Dr. Goodall's belief that knowledge engenders compassion, and compassion inspires action. Our program works with young people, pre-K through graduate school, to plan and implement community-based projects that help people, animals and the environment. We believe that young people, when informed and empowered, can truly change the world."

Ray is a veterinarian. He received his Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine in 1985 from Tufts University, with emphasis in wildlife rehabilitation, and earned his Bachelor's degree in Anthropology and Biology, and Master's degree in Botany and Plant Ecology from the University of New Mexico. Ray previously served as Executive Director of the Valles Caldera National Preserve in 2004-2005, and as New Mexico's elected State Land Commissioner from 1993-2002.

Bonnie Schmader is the New Mexico State Coordinator for Roots & Shoots. As an environmental educator, Bonnie has engaged over 25,000 students in environmental stewardship. Her job is to encourage and support the development of groups throughout the state. Bonnie thinks the beauty of the program is that it is community-based. For each Roots & Shoots group, the project differs according to the needs of the community. Bonnie formerly worked for the United States Forest Service in a number of capacities including the direction of educational interpretive programs at different sites. Immediately before joining Roots & Shoots she was in charge of the Albuquerque Open Space Education Outreach Program.



**Jim Hubert's
NOTABLE QUOTE
of the month**

We end...at what might be called the standard paradox of the 20th century: our tools are better than we are, and grow faster than we do. They suffice to crack the atom, to command the tides. But they do not suffice for the oldest task in human history: to live on a piece of land without spoiling it.

— Aldo Leopold, often credited as the father of conservation

**BRING YOUR CHILDREN
—OR GRANDCHILDREN—TO THIS GREAT
PRESENTATION! FIND OUT HOW THEY CAN BE
INVOLVED WITH A FUN AND EDUCATIONAL
GROUP AND LEARN MORE ABOUT
INTERACTING WITH NATURE,
WILDLIFE, AND HABITAT!**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Recently, I spoke to several groups regarding my experience with livestock grazing in BLM designated wilderness. I was asked to speak to these groups because I was involved for 18 years with the permitting of livestock grazing on almost 100,000 acres of New Mexico's BLM designated wilderness. This may not sound like a lot of acreage, but when you consider that there are only slightly over 150,000 acres of BLM wilderness in NM, it is significant.

The federal policy for management of wilderness considers livestock grazing to be a nonconforming but accepted use, if it predates the designation of wilderness (a "grandfathered" use). To ranchers, wilderness is an impingement on their access that will put them out of business. For others, it fuels hope that grazing on public land may come to an end. Regardless, wilderness legislation provides that livestock grazing will continue; and for it to continue, motorized vehicles and equipment to maintain critical infrastructure (e.g., water, fences) are required. Of course, this creates a paradox: how can motorized vehicles be used in areas where wilderness designation precludes that type of use? The answer is that livestock grazing, along with wildfire suppression and law enforcement, are exceptions where periodic use of motorized vehicles and equipment is allowed.

As a Range Supervisor, I took a pragmatic view. It was a matter of complying with the legal requirements for managing wilderness. In retrospect, I think we did an excellent job. When I say "we," I mean the BLM and the affected ranchers. Once the designation was made, after all the angry words, sighs and laments, shirt sleeves were rolled up and the work was done. Life was not the same but no one went out of business. Wilderness designation raised the level of coordination and cooperation between the BLM and the ranchers, which was a good thing.



photo courtesy of BLM

This recollection has me reconsidering my thoughts about wilderness—its purpose and value. When I was a beginning BLM range conservationist, the wilderness study process seemed like a paperweight. It took a ton of paper to do the routine. Wilderness Study is the BLM process leading to designation of wilderness. The BLM made its recommendations to the President in 1991. The President reviewed and forwarded these recommendations to Congress in 1993 where they have stayed on the political back burner waiting to cook, but no one can muster the heat for the whole pot. Occasionally, special interest is put aside or given control, and some of the pot is reconstituted as special legislation introduced by a state's Congressional Delegation.

Fortunately, I was one of the few in NM to work with livestock grazing in actual BLM wilderness designated as a result of New Mexico's Congressional Delegation. Except for the De-Na-Zin and Bisti Wilderness, where there is very little livestock grazing, the rest of NM BLM labors under the weight of Wilderness Study regulations: Wilderness Study Areas are managed under a non-impairment policy, which prevents or delays many of the common sense management solutions which can be implemented in designated wilderness.

While thinking about writing this message, I did a computer search on AWF co-founder Aldo Leopold. At the site www.wilderness.org/AboutUs/Leopold.cfm (Land Ethic), I found the following comment referring to Mr. Leopold: *"Two years later, with the rapid loss of wilderness in America weighing heavily on his mind, Leopold joined seven other leading conservationists to form The Wilderness Society. Also in 1935, Leopold purchased a run-down farm on the Wisconsin River."* The farm is the location of the famous "Shack."

The concerns Leopold expressed about loss of wilderness are still as profound today as in 1935. The following quote is from www.wilderness.org/OurIssues/Wilderness/about.cfm.

"Since passage of the Wilderness Act, more than 105 million acres of public lands have been designated as Wilderness, about 4.4 percent of the entire United States. But as much as 200 million additional acres of federal public lands may be suitable for Wilderness, and so we and others continue the fight to win Wilderness designation for those lands -- because once an area falls victim to roads or other destructive activity, that land is no longer eligible for Wilderness designation."

Considering the pressures from development and motorized use of our public lands, we should think about the highest and best use of our lands to ensure that those values which we hold dear are maintained for the future. Of course, virtual computer hunts from game farms could be an alternative for the future. Wildlife with no habitat can also be seen at the zoo.

— Gene Tatum

MEET OUR MEMBERS**LUKE M. SHELBY****AWF Board Member**

Born/grew up where? Ft. Benning, GA but grew up in Albuquerque.

Age (approx): 50

Marital status/Children: Married to Yvette Paroz and she works for NMDGF too. Five children; Luke J – 29; Crystal – 27; Katie – 25; Vivian – 24; Isaac – 24. All except last one are in years; Isaac is 24 months! The prophet Abraham had a son when he was 500 years old and named him Isaac; I was only 48, but we decided that was close enough.

Education: Highland HS – 1975; BS from ENMU in 1981.

Occupation: Assistant Director, Resource Programs and Area Operations for NM Game and Fish Department and have been with them for nearly 23½ years. **Previous jobs:** Sgt at Portales Police Dept; Offshore oil fields of LA; uranium mines near Grants.

How long in New Mexico? All except 3.

Favorite place in NM: Gila National Forest

Favorite vacation destination/activity: Caribbean for scuba diving.

Greatest adventure: Two that bear mentioning; one was diving Blue Hole off coast of Belize – deep, dark, lots o' sharks. Another was visiting Omaha Beach where Dad landed June 6, 1944 – could have ended there for me before it even got started.

Hobbies: Cocktails after scuba diving; hunting and fishing.

Favorite book(s): *In the Heart of the Sea* – Nathaniel Philbrick; *The Civil War – A Trilogy* – Shelby Foote; *Tough Times in Rough Places* – Carmony & Brown; *Ghosts of the Sahara* – Dean King; *An Army at Dawn* – Rick Atkinson. **Favorite magazine(s):** Scuba Diving, National Geographic Traveler and Budget Travel.

Personal goals: End on a high note.

AWF member since: 2002.

Origin of your interest in wildlife? Since childhood as times outdoors were always some of the best.

Why did you join AWF? Actually, it was an assignment when I was appointed area chief in Albuquerque. Previous area chief Glenn Case served in same capacity with AWF when he was in Albuquerque. After going to Santa Fe as Ass't Director, I decided to keep it. It's kind of like the Mafia...once you get in, it's really hard to get out!

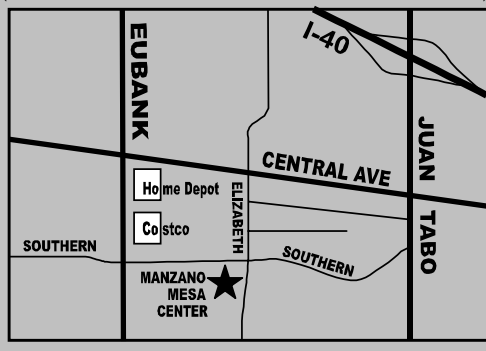
Goals for AWF: Keep us involved because so many other activities compete for our interest and time.



NEXT MONTH WE'LL MEET
BARBARA COULTER
AWF VICE-PRESIDENT

AWF MEETING LOCATION

Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center
501 Elizabeth SE at Southern
(south of Central between Eubank and Juan Tabo)

**AWF'S END OF THE YEAR PARTY!**

Mark this date on your calendar:

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13

...and plan on attending AWF's Annual Meeting and Dinner! It's a time for socializing, with a little business (voting for our 2008 Board of Directors) thrown in. We'll celebrate the accomplishments of this year, and look ahead to next year. **REMINDER:** AWF 2008 membership dues are payable at the annual meeting, and are due by January 31.

AWF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Gene Tatum • Vice-President: Barbara Coulter
Secretary: Linda Patterson • Treasurer: Glenda Muirhead
Directors: Larry Dwyer, Patricia Hester, Dennis Muirhead,
Kurt Nolte, Jon Schwedler, Luke Shelby, Bill Zeedyk

NM GAME & FISH DEPT MEMORIAL TO RICHARD BECKER



BLUE BIRD MESA TANK
Dedicated in the memory of
Dr. Richard Becker for his conservation
efforts to New Mexico's wildlife.
He strived for harmony with the land
and thought like a mountain.

On October 25th, a portion of Blue Bird Mesa was dedicated by NMDG&F to Richard W. Becker, PhD. Richard was instrumental in raising funds through the NM Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation to install a turkey drinker on land owned by the NM Department of Game & Fish just East of Cuba, NM. This was the first such project on Game & Fish land in the state.

The drinker is located at the top edge of a 160-acre parcel surrounded by National Forest. The fiberglass drinker collects 1800 gallons of fresh water from snow and rain, in a small area that is bordered by a two-row pipe fence and gate. The 160 acres are in a valley surrounded by hills, with a spring and natural grasses which support elk, deer, and turkeys, as well as some cattle. Future plans for the area are to build pipe fence along the side near an access road and barbed wire fence around the rest of the parcel. Then the spring and runoff will be upgraded and one rock dams installed down stream to rebuild the watercourse. The valley will be tilled and reseeded with more desirable grasses for wildlife.

Future projects will involve the Game & Fish Dept., the National Wild Turkey Federation, the National Forest, and the Albuquerque Wildlife Federation, just to name a few. The site is a beautiful place to visit for just about anything: camping, picnicking, hunting, bird watching, hiking, picture taking, etc.

Richard's wife Carol and his daughter Michelle attended the dedication, as well as personnel from Game & Fish, AWF, and of course the Wild Turkey Federation chapter.

— Dennis Muirhead

"TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE" PARTNER PROJECT

November 10 ● Piedra Lisa Trail Project

Last NEW MEXICO WILDERNESS ALLIANCE project for 2007! Join us for a day of general maintenance on the Piedra Lisa trail on the north side of the Sandia Mountain Wilderness near Placitas. We will be doing tread work and erosion control along the trail. *Piedra Lisa* is Spanish for smooth or slippery rock, and the northern section of the trail has plenty of loose rock on slightly steep sections that give credibility to the name.

Afterwards, we will join other groups working on projects and environmental issues at Anasazi Fields winery. This gathering will be a chance for folks to meet and learn what others are doing to protect the Sandia Mountains.

Maximum participants: 25

Contact: Bill Velasquez at 505-881-0555, bvelasquez@gardnerzemke.com for more info, or Glenda Muirhead at 505-281-2925, g.muirhead@usfamily.net.

Driving distance: Approximately 20 miles north of ABQ

TO SUBMIT MATERIAL FOR
 THE AWF NEWSLETTER:

Please contact Glenda Muirhead
 505-281-2925 or g.muirhead@usfamily.net

**SEND
 HERE**

**WE'D LIKE TO LEARN ABOUT YOU!
 SEND A BIO AND PICTURE
 AND YOU CAN BE FEATURED IN
 "MEET OUR MEMBERS" NEXT YEAR.
 OPEN TO AWF PARTNERS, TOO!**

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION, PO BOX 1234, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87103

An affiliate of New Mexico Wildlife Federation

Please choose between **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** or **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP**. **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** does **not** include membership in NMWF. **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP** includes **one** voting membership in NMWF, for which \$10 of your dues payment goes to NMWF. For Family Membership, if a second person* desires NMWF voting rights, an additional \$10 payment is required.

➔ **PLEASE ✓ ONE** : **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP** ↴

Designate NMWF member(s*) _____

name(s) _____

address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ email _____

Gift membership from: _____

✓ **MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

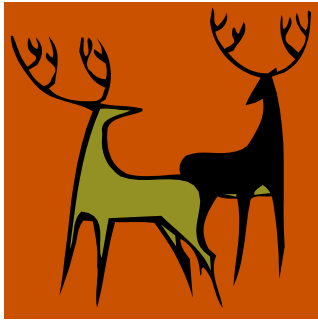
- Student [under 18].....\$10 ← [AWF Membership Only]
- Individual.....\$25
- Family.....\$35
- Sustaining..... \$50-\$99
- Patron..... \$100
- Lifetime..... \$500 ← [One-time Payment]

Dues \$ _____

*Second NMWF Member \$10 _____

Contribution \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____



ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION

AWF Newsletter

DECEMBER 2007

Founded by Aldo Leopold in 1914 to protect and perpetuate our wildlife and natural resources

AWF'S END OF THE YEAR PARTY! THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13 MANZANO MESA CENTER, 501 ELIZABETH SE

JOIN US FOR AWF'S ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER. IF YOU RECEIVE THIS NOTICE, YOU'RE INVITED!

It's a time for socializing, with a little business (voting for our 2008 Board of Directors) thrown in. We'll celebrate the accomplishments of this year with a retrospective of our project season, and look ahead to plans for 2008.

We continue our tradition of a pot-luck dinner, so please bring along something to share with members and friends. Many of the sportsmen in the group feature favorite game dishes to awe and amaze us...but there will be vegetarian alternatives as well. AWF will provide fruit and vegetable platters, and plates, flatware, cups, coffee and drinks.

PLAN ON ARRIVING AROUND 6:30 PM. DINNER IS SCHEDULED FOR 7:00. Elections will be held after dinner, followed by an informal program and a chance to mingle with old and new friends.

RSVP is not necessary, but if you'd like to let us know you will be attending, please contact Glenda Muirhead (281-2925 or g.muirhead@usfamily.net) and you'll have a name tag awaiting you.

We hope to see you there!

REMINDER TO MEMBERS

AWF 2008 membership dues are payable at the Annual Meeting, and are due by January 31, 2008. Membership form may be found on Page 4.

Jim Hubert's NOTABLE QUOTE *of the month*

It is clear that unless this situation is turned around, New Mexico will be facing a second extinction of the lobo. This would be incredibly shameful.

— Gene Tatum, speaking of the Mexican Wolf recovery efforts, August, 2007

ELECTION SLATE

PRESIDENT	Gene Tatum
VICE PRESIDENT	Barbara Coulter
SECRETARY	Linda Patterson
TREASURER	Glenda Muirhead

DIRECTORS

Stephen Bohannon
Larry Dwyer
Patricia Hester
Greg McReynolds
Dennis Muirhead
Kurt Nolte
Jon Schwedler
Luke Shelby
Bill Zeedyk

Nominations are accepted from the floor,
and you can nominate yourself.
Only AWF members may vote.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we conclude another year, I reflect on our progress, which has been positive. I am grateful for our Board and Officers who are dedicated to conservation principals and ethics. We have frequent discussions about issues, opinions and beliefs, but I have observed only thoughtful consideration for our differing views.

The election slate for next year's Board and Officers is found on Page 1 for your consideration prior to the election at our annual meeting on December 13. Most of our current Board members have offered to serve for another year. Jim Hubert has decided to step down, but will continue to provide newsletter quotes. I am also glad to note that Jim and Margie will continue to participate in our field projects.

Greg McReynolds, Public Land Coordinator for Trout Unlimited, and Stephen Bohannon, Graphic Artist (Valle Vidal T-shirt Design) and field project enthusiast, are willing to join our Board and are included on the slate.

Our Officers have also offered to serve another year. With the exception of Secretary Linda Patterson, this will be the fourth and last year that the remaining officers can serve in their current positions. We would be honored to serve again in 2008.

On a personal note, I originally joined AWF five years ago because I was interested in the restoration field projects. As I have become more involved with our organization, I am routinely reminded that "Conservation" is more than an ideal or philosophy. It is a way of life, and as such must be a movement. Aldo Leopold almost 100 years ago became aware of the importance of a conservation land ethic. The Leopold Education Project (www.lep.org) is tasked with conveying the land ethic legacy.

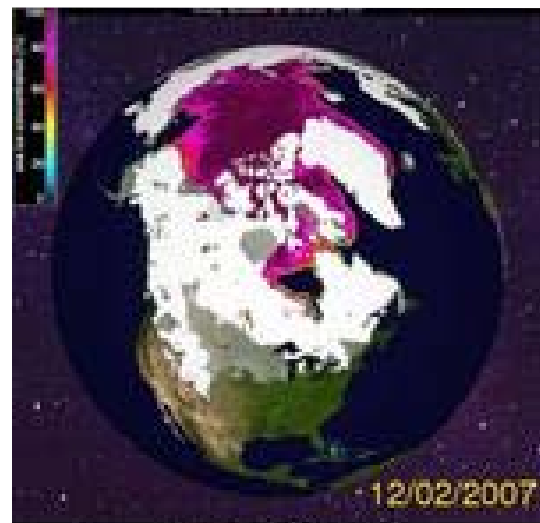
The issues facing humans – e.g., water quantity and quality, clean air, habitat destruction and fragmentation, loss of species diversity and global warming – demonstrate that there is still much work to be done to instill a conservation land ethic in many people. It is amazing how readily people deny or ignore issues such as global warming.

Larry J. Schweiger, National Wildlife Federation President and Chief Executive Officer, writes: "...Americans sit and listen while uninformed skeptics in the media challenge the integrity of many published scientists of the National Academy and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, even though many of these experts have been studying this matter in great detail for more than 25 years" (December/January 2008 *National Wildlife* magazine).

If you are not a member of the NWF, *National Wildlife* including Mr. Schweiger's message can be read at www.nwf.org. As the NWF's work, including the magazine and website, needs support to outreach and educate, I would encourage you to join the organization.

To contend with issues like global warming, we must become activists for Conservation which unfortunately means we have to battle to promote the obvious. The question was posed to a pious man, "If tomorrow was the last day of your life, how would you spend that time?" The response was, "I would plant as many seeds as I could."

— Gene Tatum



<http://arctic.atmos.uiuc.edu/cryosphere/>
This University of Illinois site contains scientific info regarding polar ice.

MEET OUR MEMBERS

BARBARA COULTER

AWF Vice President

Born/grew up where? Born and raised just outside of Baltimore, Maryland.

Age: 29 **Education:** '00 B.S., '05 MPA, '15 Ph.D.?

Marital status: Engaged to actor John Cusack. Hope to meet him before our divorce.

Kids: No gracias!

Occupation: I work for Luke Shelby. I am the Depredation Coordinator for NM Dept of Game & Fish.

How long in New Mexico? 7 years-ish

Favorite place in NM: Anyplace while on the back of my horse. I also like Taos a lot!



Barbara speaks at AWF's March 2007 meeting about beaver biology and habitat.

Greatest adventure: Umm...hasn't happened yet! To a certain extent every day is an adventure, isn't it?

Other organizations you belong to: I belong to an HOA and The Society for Conservation Biology. I give money to different organizations from time to time, primarily conservation focused.

Hobbies: Horseback riding, camping, sleeping, reading, thinking, hiking, running, whitewater rafting, skiing, traveling, and drinking good wine.

Origin of your interest in wildlife: I have always been very interested in wildlife. I grew up rescuing suburban wildlife, spent summers camping and watched a lot of PBS nature programs with my dad as a kid.

Why did you join AWF? I wanted to get out and visit different places in NM that I otherwise would not have. I wanted to learn about the issues, to participate and to give back. More or less, I just got sucked in! I found everything I was looking for when I became a member, and then some! The people that I have had the privilege to meet through my involvement with AWF have become my extended family. Now there is no getting rid of me!

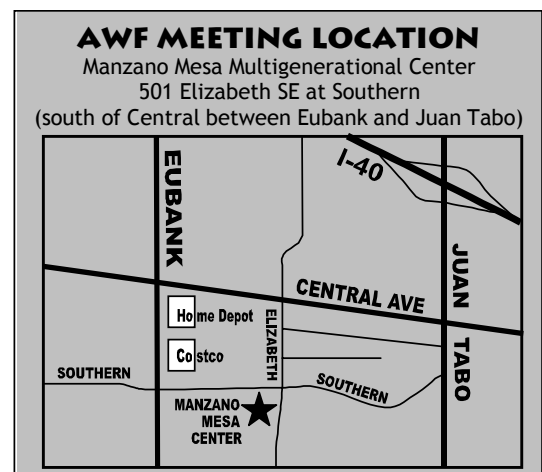
Goals for AWF: I think that AWF is unique in our diversity of opinions and experiences and I think we truly do offer a balance of perspectives and opinions. I would like to see us continue to be an organization that really looks at the issues and responds with a well informed stance. I respect this quality about AWF. I believe that our board and its members represent well the inherent complexity of the conservation field. Being an all-volunteer, conservation oriented group makes us unique because it allows us a tremendous amount of freedom to define, and redefine, ourselves, which most other organizations do not have. If I could pick one goal for AWF it would be to educate more New Mexicans about the importance of conservation, and the issues and events they can participate in, and that conservation is a lot of FUN!!!

ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION
PO BOX 1234, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87103

AWF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Gene Tatum • Vice-President: Barbara Coulter
Secretary: Linda Patterson • Treasurer: Glenda Muirhead
Directors: Larry Dwyer, Patricia Hester, Dennis Muirhead,
Kurt Nolte, Jon Schwedler, Luke Shelby, Bill Zeedyk

TO SUBMIT MATERIAL FOR
THE AWF NEWSLETTER:
Please contact Glenda Muirhead
505-281-2925 or g.muirhead@usfamily.net



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION, PO BOX 1234, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87103

An affiliate of New Mexico Wildlife Federation

Please choose between **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** or **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP**. **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** does **not** include membership in NMWF. **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP** includes **one** voting membership in NMWF, for which \$10 of your dues payment goes to NMWF. For Family Membership, if a second person* desires NMWF voting rights, an additional \$10 payment is required.

➔ PLEASE ✓ ONE : **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP** ↴

Designate NMWF member(s*) _____

name(s) _____

address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ email _____

Gift membership from: _____

✓ MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

- Student [under 18]..... \$10 ◀ [AWF Membership Only]
- Individual..... \$25
- Family..... \$35
- Sustaining..... \$50-\$99
- Patron..... \$100
- Lifetime \$500 ◀ [One-time Payment]

Dues \$ _____

*Second NMWF Member \$10 _____

Contribution \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____