



2016 Annual Meeting

February 9–11, 2016

Mankato, MN

Plan to Attend. The Annual Meeting of the MN Chapter of TWS will be held at the Mankato City Center Hotel (<http://www.mankatomnhotel.com/>) in Mankato, Minnesota, February 9–11, 2016. The event is expected to bring together more than 250 wildlife professionals, educators, students, and conservationists from state, federal, non-profit, academic, and tribal organizations within Minnesota and the Midwest. Highlights will include a plenary session and special technical session on fire ecology. With more than 50 technical talks, poster displays, networking opportunities, student events, and an awards banquet, there will be many opportunities to learn and reconnect with colleagues in Minnesota.

Registration

Registration is now open by mail and details are available on the meeting registration form. Registration is due by January 18th and registration after this date will incur a \$10 late fee. On-site registration will be available at 10:00 am on Tuesday but will also incur a \$10 late fee. Meals are not included with the registration and banquet tickets may not be available for late and on-site registrants.

Accommodations

Our host, the Mankato City Center Hotel, is offering participants a room rate of \$81/night plus tax (go to www.mankatomnhotel.com and use the group code WID; call 507-345-1234 or 877-345-5577 and mention MN Wildlife Society 2016). An additional block of rooms is available at the Hilton Garden Inn (one city block from the meeting, connected by a skywalk) with a rate of \$94/night plus tax (go to www.mankatodowntown.stayhgi.com and use the group code WID; call 507-344-1111 or 800-445-8667 and mention MN Wildlife Society 2016). Room reservations must be made by January 18, 2016 to guarantee the discounted rates.

Special Events

The annual meeting will start Tuesday, February 9th, at the Mankato City Center Hotel with a **Plenary Session** focused on fire ecology. This plenary session will feature four fire ecologists who will talk about fire in four of the broad habitat types found in Minnesota: prairies and grasslands (Sam Fuhlendorf and Dwayne Elmore from Oklahoma State University); oak savannas and woodlands (Greg Nowacki from the U. S. Forest Service); and northern/boreal forests (Lee Frelich from the University of Minnesota).

Tuesday evening's **Welcome Reception & Fundraiser** will be the perfect time to catch up with colleagues and friends while enjoying appetizers and drinks. A silent auction and raffle will offer the chance to bid on or win wildlife art, homemade crafts, and other great items. Tickets cost only \$15.

Wednesday evening will feature our annual **Awards Banquet**. The banquet will feature a buffet and will be followed by the opportunity to honor and celebrate the accomplishments of our award winners during a special ceremony. Tickets for the awards banquet cost \$33.

Students will enjoy a number of special events geared towards their professional development, including a **student professional mixer, student leaders' breakfast, quiz bowl, and a paper and poster competition**.

Tentative Schedule at a Glance

Tuesday, 9 February 2016

9:00a-12:00p	DNR-USFWS Coordination Meeting
9:00a-12:00p	MN Chapter Executive Board Meeting
1:00p-5:00p	Plenary Session on Fire Ecology
5:00p-6:30p	Student/Professional Mixer
6:30p-9:30p	Welcome Reception & Fundraiser

Wednesday, 10 February 2016

8:00a-12:00p	Special Session on Fire Ecology
8:00a-12:00p	Concurrent Paper Sessions
1:00p-3:30p	MN TWS Chapter Membership Meeting
3:30p-5:30p	Student Quiz Bowl
5:30p-7:00p	Social Mixer and Poster Session
7:00p-10:00p	Awards Banquet

Thursday, 11 February 2016

6:30a-8:00a	Student Leaders Breakfast
8:00a-12:00p	Concurrent Paper Sessions
1:00p-3:00p	Workshop

Sponsors of the 2016 MN TWS Annual Meeting Include

**Lake States
Fire Science Consortium**



**The Wildlife Society's
Forestry and Wildlife Working Group**



**Tallgrass Prairie and Oak Savanna
Fire Science Consortium**



**The Pioneer Heritage
Conservation Trust**

ATS
ADVANCED TELEMETRY SYSTEMS



**VECTRONIC
Aerospace**



Tomahawk Live Trap llc