



OFWIM news

The 2006 Pre-Meeting Edition

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Announcements

New OFWIM Brochure

A new brochure for OFWIM has been created. You can download it from the OFWIM website (www.ofwim.org).



Calling All Web Designers/Programmers

Philippe Damerval will be assuming responsibility for the OFWIM website after the 2006 meeting. We are looking for an additional person to help keep the website up to date and running smoothly. If you are interested in helping out with this important work, please contact Robin Carlson (r Carlson@dfg.ca.gov).

Contest Results

Beth Stys submitted the two photographs for the contest in the last edition of the newsletter. She stumped everyone! No correct replies were received. The answers are as follows:

The *WHERE Is It?* Contest

Cape Canaveral, Florida, Air force Station. You can see the skid strip down the middle, the main complex of buildings on the upper left, the areas on the lower middle to right are some of the space launch complexes (historic), as well as a few in the upper right corner. The water on the left is the Banana River.



The *WHAT Is It?* Contest

Late larval stage of a flatwoods salamander (found in southern Alabama through north Florida, south Georgia and into southern S. Carolina).

See if you can stump everyone too! Send in photos for this contest for the next newsletter to Robin Carlson (r Carlson@dfg.ca.gov).

Register online for the 2006 Conference!

Early registration deadline is September 15, 2006.

Go to the OFWIM website (www.ofwim.org) or see page 3 for the paper registration form.

2006 Conference Agenda**(DRAFT)****OFWIM 2006 Annual Meeting and Conference**

October 16-19, 2006
 Minneapolis, MN

**Preparing for the future:
*Adapting Technology to Support Sustainable Resource Management***

Monday, October 16**Field Trips:**

8:00-12:00 Cedar Creek Natural History Area
 2:00-5:00 Wildlife Science Center

6:30-8:00 Welcome Social

8:00-9:00 Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 17**Opening Session:**

8:30-8:40 President's Welcome, Beth Stys
 8:40-8:50 Welcome to Minnesota -- Rick Lorenzen
 8:50-9:20 Keynote Speaker – The AFWA-OFWIM Connection -- Jeff Johnston

Effective application and use of information technologies and services:

9:20-9:40 Remote Sensing Systems Overview for Fish and Wildlife Managers – Huberty
 9:40-10:00 Open Source Web Mapping for Natural Resource Management – Lime
 10:00-10:20 Map Server Applications for Wildlife Education: A Case Study of 'Moose on the Loose'- Schrupp

10:20-10:50 BREAK/RAFFLE

10:50-11:10 Online GAP Ecosystem Data Explorer Tool: An Opensource GIS Decision Support Tool for Gap Analysis Data – Williams

11:10-11:30 Rapid GIS Application development and Interoperability at NBII – Chandel/Roy

11:30-11:50 The Perils of Portals: Avoiding Pitfalls in Sharing Data via Web Portals –Schmidt

11:50-12:50 LUNCH (on your own)

12:50-1:00 RAFFLE

1:00-1:20 Sharing of Data through Web Services – Dobson

1:20-1:40 Threatened and Endangered Species Data Management System: Integrating digital data collection, Oracle, and the Internet --- Huber/Bollock

1:40-2:00 Mobile Software and Hardware Lessons Learned –Lorenzen

2:00-2:20 Efficient Creation of Large Scale Spatial Depictions of Suitable Habitat--Deitner/Schrupp

2:20-2:50 BOLFOR II:Leveraging Web and Database Technologies to Help Manage Bolivia's Forest Resources – Herrington

2:50-3:20 BREAK/RAFFLE

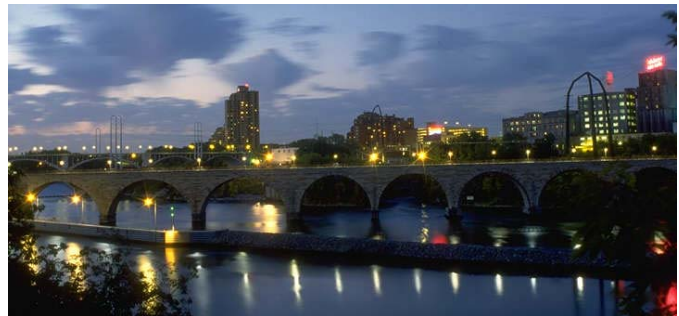
3:20-4:20 Leveraging the Internet for Information Dissemination and Mapping: From Conception to Deployment – Jue/Strod
 (PANEL: 1 hour)

4:20-4:40 Facilitating data synthesis: Biodiversity in grasslands revisited – SanGil/Pimm

4:40-5:00 GIS and Wildlife Disease Surveillance in Virginia – Jenkins

5:00 End of Session

6:30-8:30 HACKER'S BALL



Minneapolis

[Wikimedia Commons](#)

Wednesday, October 18**Engaging and educating your natural resource team:**

- 8:30-8:50 Soft skills for Information Technology Team Members – Singh
 8:50-9:10 Deer and Turkey Telecheck – Brunner
 9:10-9:30 Strategies for the Reluctants: Enabling Metadata Development and Use – Landis
 9:30-9:50 Using your Resources – The NBII Metadata Program – Hutchison

9:50-10:20 BREAK/RAFFLE

Enhancing technology use through collaboration:

- 10:20-10:40 Geographically Based Visualization Tools – Curd-Hetrick
 10:40-11:00 Collaborative Approaches to Monitoring and Data Sharing in the Pacific Northwest – Schmidt
 11:00-12:00 Collaborative Approaches to Science-Based Natural Resource Management: Promise and Challenge of Cooperative Conservation – Karl/Hess/Richardson/Whitley – PANEL (1 Hour)

12:00-2:00 LUNCH/BUSINESS MEETING

2:00-2:20 BREAK/RAFFLE

- 2:20-2:40 The Natural Resources Monitoring Partnership – Zolly
 2:40-3:00 Fire Research and Management Exchange System (FRAMES): partnering to effectively disseminate fire resources – Gollberg/Gross
 3:00-3:20 High Pathogenic Avian Influenza Early Detection Data System (HEDDS): Partnering Technology and Collaboration for Improved Disease Surveillance – Dien
 3:20-3:40 Passage Assessment Database: a California Tool for Stream Habitat Connectivity Restoration – Carlson
 3:40-4:00 The National Biological Information Infrastructure's Digital Image Library – Olsen/Morris
 4:00-4:20 Geospatial Decision Support System for the Missouri River Ecological System – Bullock
 4:30 Gather in hotel lobby for carpools
 5:30-8:30 BANQUET ON THE MINNEAPOLIS QUEEN RIVER BOAT
 (Speaker: Ron Payer, MN DNR Fisheries Div Chief)



Minneapolis River Queen

<http://www.minneapolisqueen.com/>

Thursday, October 19**Automated Wildlife Data Systems:**

- 8:30-10:30 Automated Wildlife Data Systems -- 4 presentations and a 20 minute discussion focused on State Fish and Wildlife agencies and vendors view of the use of Automated Wildlife Data Systems

10:30-10:50 BREAK

Wildlife Action Plans – Conservation Planning:

- 10:50-11:10 NatureServe Web Services: Delivering Biodiversity Data for Conservation Action – Scott
 11:10-11:30 Development of Regional Terrestrial and Aquatic Habitat Classification Systems: A Foundation for Implementation of Wildlife Action Plans – Hall
 11:30-11:50 Combining the efforts of Southwest Regional Gap Analysis Project and CWCS in New Mexico and Colorado – Boykin/Schrupp/Young

11:50-12:10 TBD

12:10-12:30 TBD

12:30-12:50 TBD

1:00 ADJOURN/CLOSE MEETING

2006 Conference Logistics

Conference Fees

Early registration is due by **September 15, 2006**

- **\$260** Members – early registration
- **\$275** Members – late registration
- **\$275** Non-members – early registration
- **\$290** Non-members – late registration

Meeting Registration Fee includes:

- Welcome Social – Monday, October 16 (light hors d' oeuvres and cash bar)
- Hacker's Ball – Tuesday, October 17 (hot and cold hors d' oeuvres and cash bar)
- Lunch/Business Meeting – Wednesday, October 18
- Banquet – Wednesday, October 18

Hotel

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis, MN

Room rates:

- \$105 (single)
- \$130 (double)
- \$155 (triple)
- \$180 (quadruple)

Please note that we have been experiencing some difficulties with the hotel, and you should **INSIST** on the room rates listed here.

Call for hotel reservations: **612-370-1234** or **800-233-1234**. Mention "*OFWIM Meeting*." Room block held until September 19, 2006.

Interesting things to do in the Minneapolis area on your own

Walking tour of Mississippi River

1 mile from hotel to Lock and Dam #1 and St. Anthony Falls:

- Tour Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam
- Walk across the hundred year old Stone Arch Bridge overlooking historic St. Anthony Falls. See historic flourmills.

Canoe Racing Practice

Looking for an interesting workout? Try Canoe Racing!

- Monday evening 5:30pm - 7:30pm
- East River Flats Park on the East Bank of the Mississippi River on the University of Minnesota campus.
- 10 miles of racing paddling with instruction – both down and upstream takes FREE!

Minneapolis Skyway System

Built to protect downtown workers and shoppers from the elements, the skyways have developed into little cities within cities with restaurants, shops and services. Minneapolis and St. Paul each have about five miles of skyways connecting numerous downtown blocks, making it easy to go from store to store without ever venturing outside.



Weisman Art Museum
[Wikimedia Commons](#)

2006 Field Trips

Monday October 16, 2006 Minneapolis, MN

Van transportation will be provided from the Hyatt in Minneapolis for interested participants. Please indicate your interest in the field trips on the registration form.

10:00am – 12:00pm

Cedar Creek Natural History Area (Presentation and Walking Tour)*

“Cedar Creek Natural History Area is a large ecological research site in central Minnesota with natural habitats that represent the entire state. Just a thirty-minute drive from the northern suburbs, there is no place of comparable biological diversity so close to the Twin Cities metropolitan area. Cedar Creek is owned and operated by the University of Minnesota in cooperation with the Minnesota Academy of Science.

The people of Cedar Creek are dedicated to understanding our planet's ecosystems and how they are changing under human pressures. Through research, conservation, and education, Cedar Creek will continue to bridge the gaps between science, community, and government.”

<http://www.cedarcreek.umn.edu/>

*This field trip is largely outdoors, and is therefore weather dependent.

2:00pm-4:00pm

Wildlife Science Center (Presentation and Tour)

“The Wildlife Science Center is a nationally recognized education and research facility. It is an independent nonprofit organization that is currently located on the grounds of the Carlos Avery Wildlife Management Area in Forest Lake, MN, an expansive natural habitat just 40 minutes from downtown Minneapolis or St. Paul.

WSC is currently home to 43 gray wolves, 10 red wolves, 5 hybrids, 2 Lynx, 1 red fox, 1 skunk, 1 porcupine, 7 birds of prey, 3 bears, 2 gray fox, 3 raccoons and 2 New Guinea Highland Dogs.

The Center's mission is: to serve as an educational resource for all ages by providing exposure to wild animals and the body of knowledge generated for their conservation.; To advance understanding of wild animal biology through long-term, humane scientific studies on captive populations thus contributing to species conservation and maintenance in the wild and in captivity; and To provide unique scientific and technical training for wildlife agencies, educational institutions and conservation agencies.”

<http://www.wildlifesciencecenter.org/>



Cedar Creek Natural History Area
University of Minnesota



Wildlife Science Center

OFWIM Annual Meeting • October 16-19, 2006

Preparing for the Future: Adapting Technology to Support Sustainable Resource Management



www.ofwim.org

Name (First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name) _____

Affiliation _____

Mailing Address _____

City State/Province Zip/Postal Code/ Country _____

Daytime Phone /Fax _____

E-mail Address _____

I am registering as an individual.

I am registering as part of a group.
(Group Leader: _____)

Registration Fee:

(Early registration due by **September 15, 2006**)

Full registration (Member): Early \$260 Late \$275

Full Registration (Non-Member): Early \$275 Late \$290

Student Registration \$150

One-day Registration \$150

Join OFWIM for 2007 \$25

Registration Fee Includes:

- ◆ Welcome Social Monday, October 16
- ◆ Hacker's Ball Tuesday, October 17
- ◆ Lunch/Business Meeting* Wednesday, October 18
- ◆ Banquet Wednesday, October 18

*Non-member registration includes right to vote in the business meeting.

Additional tickets: (full registration includes one entry to each event)

Hacker's Ball (Tuesday, 10/17/06) \$20 Each, # _____

Banquet (Wednesday, 10/18/06) \$30 Each, # _____

Field Trips: Monday (10/16/06)

Cedar Creek Natural History Area (morning)

Wildlife Science Center (afternoon)

Please note: field trips may include entrance or registration fees.

TOTAL Amount (US Dollars) Enclosed: \$ _____

Payment Method: (sorry, we cannot accept credit cards)

____ Check (payable to "OFWIM")

____ Purchase order P.O. # _____

**STUDENTS: The signature of your advisor confirms your current enrollment as a fulltime student and your agreement to provide 4 hours of service at the conference.

Advisor signature

University/College Affiliation

Hotel Accommodations:

Hyatt Regency
Minneapolis, MN

Room rates:
\$105 (single)
\$130 (double)
\$155 (triple)
\$180 (quadruple)

Call for hotel reservations:
612-370-1234 or
800-233-1234

Mention "OFWIM Meeting."
Room block held until
September 19, 2006.

Presenters will have the opportunity to showcase web-based applications "live" at the **Hacker's Ball!**
Interested individuals should contact:

Janet Hess-Herbert

jhessherbert@mt.gov

for details on Hacker's Ball opportunities and requirements.

Return form and payment to:

Daniel Vichitbandha
OFWIM Treasurer

c/o Kentucky Department of Fish
& Wildlife Resources
1 Game Farm Road
Frankfort, KY 40601-3908

(800) 852-0942 ext. 476
(502) 564-6508 FAX



Please make checks payable to "OFWIM."

2006 Individual Membership Form

Use the form below to join OFWIM as a new member or to renew your membership for 2006. Individual Members are entitled to vote in the annual election and hold office. Current members are notified of new newsletters and have access to special OFWIM web content. Current members also receive a discount on 2006 conference registration.

If you work for an organization with 4 or more individuals interested in OFWIM membership, you may benefit from obtaining an Organizational Membership. Information about Organizational Membership can be found at: <http://www.ofwim.org/org/membership.html>

The 2006 OFWIM annual membership period is January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006. To become a new member of OFWIM or renew your current membership, please complete and mail the form below with a check or money order for \$25 (in U.S. dollars!) payable to **OFWIM**, to:

Daniel Vichitbandha, OFWIM Treasurer
c/o Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources
1 Game Farm Road
Frankfort, KY 40601-3908

OFWIM 2006 Membership Form

Name: _____

Agency: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone:(_____) _____ Fax:(_____) _____

Email: _____

Memberships	Annual Dues
Individual Member – 2006 (one voting membership)	\$25
Please pay in U.S. dollars!	\$ _____

2006 Officer Election Candidates

The Organization of Fish and Wildlife Information Managers is seeking your votes for candidates to fill leadership positions of the organization and in response to a proposed change to the Constitution and Bylaws.

OFWIM members in good standing are encouraged to vote online at the OFWIM Web site at:

http://www.ofwim2.fw.vt.edu/O2K6Vote/OFWIM_Vote_2006_with_ByLaws.php

Members may use this mail-in ballot or vote in person at the annual business meeting. Mail-in ballots should be sent to:

Becky Gwynn, Chair
OFWIM Elections, nominations, and Awards Committee
c/o VDGIF
4010 W. Broad St.
Richmond, VA 23230

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President-Elect

The primary duty of the President-Elect will be to assist the President as necessary in carrying out the business of the Organization. The President-Elect shall succeed the President during the year following his or her term as President-Elect and coordinate all aspects of the annual meeting (including logistics, arrangements, and program) as Chair of the annual Meeting Planning Committee.

Shelaine Curd-Hetrick



Shelaine Curd-Hetrick is the Biodiversity and Ecosystems Informatics Specialist for the Southern Appalachian Information Node of the National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII-SAIN). As the Biodiversity Informatics Group Leader for Information International Associates, Shelaine works directly with the SAIN Node manager on Partnership and Outreach. She facilitates partnership development between regional, local, and individual resources working with data providers to disseminate their data collections and information through NBII-SAIN. Shelaine also works with data quality and standards-driven data conversion activities and assists with developing metadata.

She received her master's degree in Applied Ecology and Conservation Biology from Frostburg State University (1996) and a bachelor's in Computer Science and Statistics with a second major in Biology from Roanoke College (1991). Prior to her work with Ila, Shelaine worked with NASA on large-scale international field projects focusing on data collection, protocols, QA/QC and data archiving (BOREAS - Canada, LBA - Brazil). She gained experience studying fire and its effects in the ecosystem while working for the USFS and NPS-Prescribed Fire Use Module.

Sabra Schwartz



Sabra Schwartz is currently the Program Supervisor for Arizona's Heritage Data Management System (housed within the Arizona Game and Fish Department). She started working with the HDMS in 1989, after receiving her B.S. in biology from Northern Arizona University. Except for two years spent working in the Penguin Encounter at Sea World of Florida, she has spent her entire career with the HDMS in Arizona, starting as data manager. She is responsible for the overall administration, coordination, and development of the HDMS. She served on the OFWIM executive committee in 2004-2005 as Member-At-Large.

Secretary

The Secretary prepares the minutes of the annual business meeting and Executive Committee meetings of the Organization. The Secretary shall also maintain the Organization's mailing list and on-line Membership Registry and provide updated lists to the newsletter editor prior to each newsletter mailing; to Committee Chairs for special announcements and membership drives; and to the Executive Committee and Meeting Planning Committee for correspondence related to the annual business meeting. The Secretary serves as the Vice-Chair of the Communications Committee.

Robin Carlson

Robin Carlson has worked for the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) since 2000, first as a Data Analyst/Programmer and since 2003 as a Project Leader. During her tenure at PSMFC, she has worked primarily on the California Habitat Restoration Project Database (CHRPD). She is responsible for designing and managing the database, which includes stream habitat restoration projects funded by many different agencies throughout the state. She also coordinates data standards and performance measures between the agencies that use the CHRPD as their primary grants-tracking tool. In addition to the CHRPD, her work includes oversight for the California Passage Assessment Database (PAD). Robin received a BA in Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology from the University of California, Santa Cruz in 1997, and an MA in Evolutionary Biology from the University of Chicago in 2000. Prior to working for PSMFC, she started a specimen-level database of

parasitic flies. She is currently the OFWIM newsletter editor and chair of the Communications Committee. She has also served on the OFWM Awards and Nominations Committee.

Jennifer Pollock

Agency: US Geological Survey, National Biological Information Infrastructure Program (NBII)
Position: Biological Information Specialist

Education: 2006 Master of Science, Environmental Studies, University of Colorado, Boulder
1992 Bachelor of Science, Environmental Biology and Management, University of California, Davis

Job Duties: Ms. Pollock is the Node Manager for 3 regional NBII Nodes in California, Pacific Northwest (Idaho, Oregon, and Washington), and Mountain Prairie (Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas). Ms. Pollock implements a variety of assignments such as providing oversight and strategic direction for biological information networks, developing written and electronic outreach materials for various audiences, providing technical assistance, reviewing proposals, standards and policies, and forming partnerships. Primary efforts involve facilitating projects that focus on biological and natural resources data discovery, integration, and access for federal and state agencies, universities, NGO's, and the public.

Work History: Ms. Pollock has more than 10 years experience in the natural resources and information management fields dealing with all levels of government and non-governmental organizations. She has worked for the USGS National Biological Information Infrastructure Program since 1996.

Ms. Pollock has been a Node Manager since 2000 and oversees the development of the Pacific Northwest, California, and Mountain Prairie regional information Nodes as part of the national NBII network. She also coordinates efforts to develop and implement the Fire Research and Management Exchange System (FRAMES) within the NBII framework and to share scientific and technical information with the Bureau of Reclamation in their development of the Western Water Information Network. Overall, Ms. Pollock focuses on establishing partnerships with Federal, State, and local governments, universities, non-profit organizations, and commercial companies to increase and enhance access to biological and natural resources data and information.

From 1997 to 2000, Ms. Pollock had the role of NBII Metadata Coordinator. She collaborated in design and preparation of materials for metadata and train the trainer courses. In this position, Ms. Pollock trained and provided technical assistance for more than 300 metadata training course participants from International, Federal, and State government and other organizations in more than 45 courses as well as mentored Train the Trainer participants to conduct workshops. She also facilitated metadata documentation of more than 200 biological data sets and information products from USGS facilities and from partner agencies and organizations.

During the 1996 transition from the National Biological Service (NBS) to the USGS Biological Resources Discipline, Ms. Pollock represented NBS in the USGS Director's Office as an Outreach Liaison and prepared press releases, materials for Congressional briefings, and fact sheets.

While at the NBS National Biological Service from 1994-1996, Ms. Pollock had the role of International Program Assistant. In this position, she acted as technical liaison between NBS and University of California Davis in support of the U.S. Man and the Biosphere Program and developed and maintained an electronic database and produced reports for more than 150 projects in 67 countries.

OFWIM Involvement: Ms. Pollock first started attending OFWIM annual meetings in 1999 in Stateline, NV. From this meeting, Ms. Pollock provided metadata training and support to many of OFWIM's participating agencies and organizations over the next few years. Then, in 2001 at the Portland, Oregon meeting, she participated in the NBII/IAFWA Planning Sessions led by Jake Faibisch and also provided support to the Metadata Training session hosted by Sharon Shin. At the National Fish and Wildlife Data Summit in 2002 in Baltimore, MD, Ms. Pollock hosted a NBII Program exhibit describing the network capabilities and generating opportunities for collaboration. From this meeting, a partnership with the California Department of Fish and Game was initiated. While Ms.

Pollock could not attend the Rapid City, SD meeting, she co-led a presentation at the San Diego, CA meeting in 2004. Along with Tom Lupo from the California Department of Fish and Game, we described the Biogeographic Information and Observation System (BIOS), a geospatial application that provides public access to a wide variety of key data across California that is linked into the national NBII network. This project was awarded best poster at the 2005 Tallahassee, FL meeting. Throughout the years of involvement with OFWIM, Ms. Pollock has focused on enhancing communications between the federal and state agencies by identifying and implementing activities that benefit both groups.

Treasurer

The Treasurer shall monitor and report on the finances of the Organization, its bank account and collection of annual membership fees. The Treasurer will also provide the President with a list of members in good standing at the beginning of the annual business meeting. The Treasurer also serves as the Vice-Chair of the Membership and Outreach Committee.

Aliya Ercelawn



Aliya Ercelawn works for The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and is based in San Antonio, Texas. Laboring under the heavy title of Ecoregional Information Manager/Planner, she supports development and updates of ecoregional plans and coordinates the management of resulting datasets for the southern portion of TNC's Central U.S. Region. In other words, she spends many hours looking at databases, spreadsheets, GIS and talking to people about them! Along with her regional colleagues, she also participates in the development, implementation, and communication of TNC standards, agreements, and tools. She's been with TNC since 2002. Her work experiences outside of TNC include conducting field surveys for the National Park Service in Florida and teaching natural history to school children in Minnesota, New Hampshire and Texas. She received her master's degree in Environmental Studies from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, where she focused

on community-based conservation and landscape-scale planning. Her graduate research took her to Liberia where she led a rapid assessment of sea turtle nesting patterns, threats to the populations, and opportunities for conservation in conjunction with a local NGO. She received her B.A. (Biology) from Carleton College, Minnesota. She's relatively new to OFWIM; found out about and has been coming to the conferences since 2003 (?) but loves the opportunity it has given her to meet and learn from colleagues dedicated to information management.

Jeff Johnston

No Photo Available

Jeff is trained as a biologist and holds a Masters degree in Biology from Arizona State University and a Bachelors degree in Mathematics and Biology from Hendrix College. He is currently the Automated Wildlife Data Systems Program Coordinator for the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA). Prior to his employment with AFWA, Jeff served as the Data Management Program Coordinator for the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission for 3½ years. He has also been an Oracle database developer for a *Fortune 500* company and a clinical data manager for the Arkansas Children's Hospital Nutritional Research Clinic.

Member-At-Large

The Member-At-Large serves as advisor to the Executive Committee and coordinates special projects at the direction of the President or Executive Committee. The Member-At-Large also serves as Vice-Chair of the Data Standards Committee.

Janet Hess-Herbert



Janet Hess-Herbert has worked for Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks since 1979 after receiving her M.S. degree from the University of Montana in Missoula in Environmental Studies with an emphasis in Aquatic Resources. She began her career as a field biologist working on in-stream flow reservations followed by work in Flathead Lake. She shifted from the field to the office in 1984 after beginning a family. She started managing fisheries data as part of an ongoing project for the Pacific Northwest, moved into GIS to better manage wildlife and other natural resource data and expanded into the web world in 2000. Janet is currently the Information Management Bureau Chief with 12 staff and 3 units within the Bureau: GIS, Fish and Wildlife Data Management and the FWP websites. Janet has been involved in the development of the agency's IT Strategic Plan, co-chair of the SWG Technical Committee, and staff to the Montana Land Information Act Council. Janet currently lives in Helena

and has spent the last 25 years enjoying every outdoor opportunity and vista Montana has to offer. She has been a member of OFWIM for several years, and has served as Member-At-Large on the Executive Committee for the past year.

Rick Lorenzen



Rick Lorenzen is the Systems Analyst Unit Supervisor for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Fish and Wildlife Division. His team develops and maintains Natural Resource Management software and Geographical Information System data layers and maps. Rick attended Carleton College for liberal arts education, Brown Institute for computer programming, and Metropolitan State University for a business/management degree. He worked in Information Technology since 1980 for Brown Institute Service Bureau, Hennepin County, PACE Laboratories, Analysts International Corporation, Pillsbury, and 3M. Rick joined the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources in 2001 as an Information Technology Supervisor and Software Development Project Manager. He is currently managing a Fisheries Lake Survey software development project and supervising software development and Geographic Information System development teams.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO BYLAWS

The following change (in italics) to the Organization's bylaws is being considered. The vote will be finalized at the annual business meeting.

Section 11. The treasurer shall monitor and report on the finances of the Organization, its bank account and collection of annual dues. The treasurer will also provide the president with a list of paid up members at the beginning of the annual business meeting. *The treasurer is responsible for filing a tax return with the IRS if OFWIM revenues exceed the threshold amount that requires filing in any given year.* The treasurer also serves as the Vice-Chair of the Membership Committee.

Mail-In Ballot

Member Name (to confirm standing): _____

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

(Select no more than one candidate per office)

President-Elect: _____ Shelaine Curd-Hetrick
 _____ Sabra Schwartz
 _____ (Write-in candidate) _____

Secretary: _____ Robin Carlson
 _____ Jennifer Pollack
 _____ (Write-in candidate) _____

Treasurer: _____ Aliya Ercylawn
 _____ Jeff Johnston
 _____ (Write-in candidate) _____

Member-At-Large: _____ Janet Hess-Herbert
 _____ Rick Lorenzen
 _____ (Write-in candidate) _____

PROPOSED CHANGE TO BYLAWS

- _____ Yes (I vote to adopt the change)
- _____ No (I vote not to adopt the change)
- _____ Undecided (I choose not to vote on this change)

When completed, this ballot should be mailed to:

Becky Gwynn, Chair
OFWIM Elections, nominations, and Awards Committee
c/o VDGIF
4010 W. Broad St.
Richmond, VA 23230

Donations Needed for the Annual Raffle

Help support OFWIM's Scholarship Fund by donating items to be given away as part of the raffle at the 2006 OFWIM Annual Meeting and Conference.

This is a great way to support future fish and wildlife information managers as well as promote your organization.

All proceeds from the raffle will be used to fund OFWIM's scholarship program for students in advanced degree programs related to fish and wildlife resource management, with an emphasis on information management or GIS.

If you would like to donate an item from your organization, please contact:

Amy Martin
OFWIM Secretary
804-367-2211
amy.martin@dgif.virginia.gov



Great blue heron

Charles H. Warren/NBII

**Remember to register for the conference!
Early registration deadline is September 15, 2006.**

www.ofwim.org

Volunteers needed!

**Interested in helping out with the 2006 conference?
We need people to assist with meeting planning and logistics, in advance and at the meeting.**

Please contact:

**Viv Hutchison
OFWIM President-Elect
vhutchison@usgs.gov**

ORGANIZATION OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE
INFORMATION
MANAGERS

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