

AWF

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

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

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

GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2004, 7:30 P.M.

Bear Canyon Senior Center - 4645 Pitt NE, Room 6

**(North from Montgomery & Eubank, right on Lagrima De Oro
left on Pitt. BCSC is one block down on the left)**

**** ** * PROGRAM ** ** ***

NM LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FOR 2004

Mr. Luke Shelby, Chief of the Northwest Area New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, will give our members and guests the Department's package of bills to be introduced in the next session of the New Mexico legislature. You are encouraged to attend so you will be INFORMED about the status of the Department and how your input may be useful in this session. Our general meeting begins at 7:30pm. The board meeting begins at 6:00pm.

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

Well, we start a new year, and I hope the membership enjoyed memorable holidays in 2003.

The first thing we all need to do is give a real big THANKS to Richard for his unselfish leadership to keep our organization alive. He always provided us with interesting meetings, and I'm sure felt disappointment at the low turnout for some of our speakers. If we don't do anything else next year, we need to correct this problem. Hopefully you will all make a New Years resolution to attend the monthly meetings, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. We promise to make them interesting to all conservation minded people.

Recently I was giving some thought about a possible theme for the State Wildlife Federation annual meeting, and I came up with "Recapturing Leopold's Legacy". I don't know if it will be accepted for that purpose or not; but decided it would be a great goal for the Albuquerque Wildlife Federation next year. As you know, Aldo Leopold used our organization to provide the leadership for conservation in New Mexico.

Let us all give some thought on how AWF can recapture Leopold's legacy.

Dale Jones, President



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

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

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

GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2004, 7:30 P.M.

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

**** ** ** PROGRAM ** ** ****

TERRY RILEY: WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE

Terry Riley of the Wildlife Management Institute will talk to us about the "Open Fields" bill. This bill is intended to improve public access for hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing and other recreational pursuits on private lands, and to improve conditions for wildlife on those lands. It is also intended to improve relations between private landowners and recreationists, and between private landowners and state governments.

**** ** ** PRESIDENTS MESSAGE ** ** ****

Our first Board meeting of 2004 was interesting, and I would like your help in trying to determine some goals and objectives for our Chapter this coming year.

The first thing that was brought up is WHY, in a population center the size of Albuquerque where it is obvious that people are interested in wildlife, our membership continues to decline. We are lucky to attract 20 people to a meeting that has an outstanding speaker on a subject of interest to those who care about the wildlife resource. I know I am preaching to the choir, but would sure appreciate any ideas you might have on how we change this.

On another subject, the Board agreed that we would like to help the State sell their wildlife license plates for automobiles. First off, we should all have them on our automobiles. Next we need to find a way to get others to purchase them. One idea is that we sponsor a raffle of \$1.00 per ticket, and for every 26 tickets we sell, one of those participants would receive a voucher good for a wildlife license plate.

We plan to see if other wildlife interested groups might join us in sponsoring this raffle, so we can do this in a big way. This is not a money making raffle for the sponsors. All proceeds, except for the cost of raffle tickets, will go toward the purchase of wildlife license plates.

I would like to put in a plug for the speaker at our February meeting. We are indeed fortunate to have, living in Albuquerque, a person that helped write legislation that will be extremely important to private landowners that have recreational properties, and to the people who would like to gain access to that land. The legislation is entitled The "Open Fields" Bill. Come and listen to Terry Riley of the Wildlife Management Institute tell us all about it.

Dale Jones, President

2004 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

President-----Dale Jones
V. President-----Bill Zeedyk
Secretary-----Richard Becker
Treasurer-----Lois Jones

Board of directors

Chris Chadwick
Jim Hubert
Randy Isler
Jeff Davis
Luke Shelby
Gene Tatum
Cecil Haas

Newsletter-----Cliff Mendel & Lois Jones

Corner any of us with your ideas on how we improve our Chapter or the status of Wildlife.
Dale A. Jones

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH: An editorial

What happened to the words Conservation and Conservationist?????????

By Dale Jones

I recently had an “eye opening” experience that has caused me to rethink an issue that I thought we had won years ago!

I was at a meeting where our New Mexico Attorney General, Patricia Madrid, was advocating for her preferred presidential candidate. After the meeting I went up to her and asked why none of the candidates had really made conservation a meaningful part of their platform; because I was sure there were some votes to be had on this issue. She looked at me kind of confused, and ask “conservation, what is that? Do you mean the environment?”

I tried to explain that conservation meant the wise use of our natural resources, and at times saving the environment might have the same meaning; but not always.

It really shook me up to realize that the word conservation had taken the “back seat” to environmentalism. I see very limited use attached to environmental concerns, and believe I know why. We who worked in the field during the conservation hey day did not do what we preached. Instead of attaining the wise use we sought of our natural resources, we compromised, and ended up with something much less. As I look back however, I do believe that if the public support for conservation had been as aggressive as the environmental movement is today, we may have achieved the true meaning of conservation, and we would not be concerned with this subject today.

In 1970, I gave a paper at the Western Association meeting called WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT IN 2020. I tried to inform the audience of some of the changes I believed would happen over the 50 year time span. I lucked out on many of the prophesies, like women being much more in the wildlife workplace, and technology changes making the efforts of our day seem obsolete. When it came to hunting, I said there would be much opposition, but we would have hunting in 2020.

I still believe that to be true, but I’m a lot more unsure of myself today that I was in 1970. That’s where I have a problem of substituting environmentalism for conservation. Give it some thought, and let me hear from you. We have not had a letter to the editor in our newsletter before, but there is no reason not to.

PRIVATE STEWARDSHIP GRANT DEADLINE IS MARCH 8

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

SANTA FE, N.M. – A grant opportunity for the benefit of at-risk wildlife on private lands – the Private Stewardship Grant – is available from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, with a March 8 deadline to submit applications.

“This one has some promise for several reasons,” said Chuck Hayes, assistant chief for nongame and endangered species for the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. “It requires only a 10 percent non-federal match, which can be in cash or in-kind services. It is narrowly focused – applicable for threatened, endangered, proposed, candidate, or otherwise at-risk wildlife – reducing competition for funding.”

A good project proposal from New Mexico has a realistic chance of getting funded, said Hayes. This is a competitive grant process rather than a state-by-state allocation, but the competition is region-wide in New Mexico, Arizona, Texas and Oklahoma. Funding decisions are made with recommendations from a diverse committee of reviewers representing private, state and tribal managers and biologists across the region.

Last year – the first year of the program – this diverse panel worked with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to select slightly less than \$2 million in projects from this region for funding, ranging from less than \$5,000 to more than \$300,000 each, including some projects in New Mexico.

“I’d like to see more good proposals come in from New Mexico this year,” said Hayes, “so keep this opportunity in mind and pass it on to anyone who may have the opportunity to do some worthy projects. The Department will try to work with folks to develop good proposals, if some assistance is needed.”

For more information, contact Chuck Hayes (505) 476-8101; fax (505) 476-8128; E-mail: CLHayes@state.nm.us/. Application materials and additional information can be found at: http://endangered.fws.gov/grants/private_stewardship/index.html/.

NEW MEXICO WILDLIFE FEATURES ECOPASSAGES AND CULTURE CLASHES

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

SANTA FE, N.M. – A new highway aesthetic that may save lives – of both animals and people – is featured in the winter issue of *New Mexico Wildlife* magazine, to be distributed in 31 newspapers statewide beginning Jan. 26.

Conflicting cultural perceptions of game management marked New Mexico’s early wildlife law enforcement efforts detailed in the ongoing history series, *Making Tracks*. Water dogs and waterfowl, two talented rodent architects and a sand-diving lizard all are explored in this issue.

New Mexico Wildlife Magazine will be distributed as follows:

- Jan. 27: Albuquerque Journal, Albuquerque Tribune, Raton Range;
- Jan. 28: Alamogordo Daily News, Artesia Daily Press, Clovis News Journal, Deming Headlight, Lovington Daily Leader, Portales News-Tribune, Roswell Daily Record, Silver City Daily Press, Valencia County News Bulletin, Ruidoso News, Socorro El Defensor Chieftain, Quay County Sun, Union County Leader, T or C Sentinel;
- Jan. 29: Carlsbad Current Argus, Farmington Daily Times, Hobbs Daily News-Sun, Las Cruces Sun-News, Las Vegas Daily Optic, Los Alamos Monitor Rio Rancho Observer, Santa Fe New Mexican, Sangre de Cristo Chronicle, Rio Grande Sun, DeBaca County News, Taos News;
- Jan. 30: Cibola County Beacon and Santa Rosa News.

AWF

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

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

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

GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2004, 7:30 P.M.

Bear Canyon Senior Center - 4645 Pitt NE, Room 6

(North from Montgomery & Eubank, right on Lagrima De Oro

left on Pitt. BCSC is one block down on the left)

**** ** * PROGRAM ** ** ***

"CONNECTIVITY OF HABITATS TO REDUCE WILDLIFE LOSSES"

Mr. Mark Watson, Terrestrial Habitat Specialist, Conservation Services Division, NM Department of Game and Fish, will review current and proposed efforts to reduce wildlife losses, especially related to movement across highways. He will update us on project design of overpass/underpass structures. We will meet at the Bear Canyon Senior Center Room 6 (our usual location). The tile remodeling project is due to begin in mid-April. **JUST TO MAKE SURE** we have not been pre-empted, please call Bear Canyon Senior Center (291-6211) to confirm. We have reserved the classroom of the NM Dept of Game & Fish (Midway Place) just in case. Invite your friends and family. Refreshments served.

**** ** * PRESIDENTS MESSAGE ** ** ***

It may seem a little strange to you that your president is encouraging you to join another wildlife group, but that is what part of my message is this month. This group is known as the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership. The organization is funded by a grant; so there are no dues for you to pay. The goal of the organization is to get as many members as possible, so they can be a political force to be reckoned with when wildlife values are on the line. They do an excellent job of keeping you posted on when and where you can be the most effective with your support.

They made a believer out of me when they, and some other support groups, got the Bush administration to back away from reducing the criteria of wetlands. The President of the organization is Jim Range, who is an avid hunter and fisherman. I got to know Jim when he worked on Senator Baker's staff in the early 1980's. He more recently worked with the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies when we were all trying to get the CARA legislation through Congress. We did not succeed, but one of the reasons we came so close, was the efforts of Jim Range.

I encourage every member of the Albuquerque Wildlife Federation to show their support of wildlife by signing on to TRCP. I will have membership applications at every meeting, or you can e-mail a request to me at dalelois@webtv.net, and I will send you an application by snail mail.

The second issue I wanted to discuss with you is how influential we are in getting politicians to take notice of the wildlife resource. The last two issues of the New Mexico Wildlife Federation's Outdoor Reporter almost had me believing the message might be getting through, but attendance at the Democratic pre-primary convention in Albuquerque on March 20 told another story. The Governor and all the Congressional candidates made speeches,

and not one of them even mentioned the Environment or Conservation of Natural Resources as even being on their Radar Screen. They sure don't see us as the "biggest bull in the herd. I am not even sure they see us as a bull"!

Dale Jones

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH: An editorial

OLD CONSERVATIONISTS NEVER DIE — THEY JUST BLEND IN, Part Two

By Jeff Davis

With the social storm **Classical Conservation** experienced altered habitat. Like an organization confronting climate change it was either adapt or--perish? Or was it vice versa: the environment had better clean up its act or we all perish. However you view it, **Classical Conservation** entered the tumultuous '60's and there met the new creature Environmentalism (E) which had evolved, some say, out of the dark cloud that rose from Trinity Site, north of Alamogordo on July 16, 1945, reached full overcast by the mid-60s and thunder-clapped on Earth Day, April 22, 1970.

Conservation was no foe of the burgeoning new movement: it was acknowledged, given a certificate of merit and ushered to the margin. The '60's counterculture was in no gentlemanly mood as it launched its attack against the "enemies of Earth." It was marching time, the rhetoric was elevated, ecology became the "Subversive Science," human survival the new focus. Accordingly, new banners were hoisted, shouting: Population Bomb! Earth First! Sue the Bastards! Silent Spring! Race Bomb! Ecojustice! Ecofeminism! Ecotactics, Deep Ecology, Appropriate Technology, and so on.

As for **Classical Conservation**, well, of course, it was old fashion, worn, a soiled wallflower. It was not hip in the minds of the politicizing factions of the E movement, those with an axe to grind and on something besides soil, water, timber and game, although we cannot rule out grass. It was like flower children had unearthed the quiet words of old John Muir, put light to them, inhaled the substance, with the results exploding into world consciousness: "When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world" (Muir). "We are all environmentalists now" (Earth Day celebrant).

Let me attempt a brief list of academic compartments that were ecologized in a major way, noting therewith a few leading lights and key events of the period, all established with little or no reference to **Classical Conservation**. ARCHITECTURE: *The City in History*, L. Mumford 1961; cluster development, solar heating. COSMOLOGY: NASA photograph of lonely Earth from space. DEMOGRAPHICS: *The Population Bomb*, P. Ehrlich 1968; ZPG, NPG. ECONOMICS: *Small is Beautiful*, E. F. Schumacher 1973; *Steady State Economics*, H. Daly 1977; *Limits to Growth*, D. H. Meadows et. al. 1971. LAW AND GOVERNMENT: *Should Trees Have Standing?* C. Stone 1972; Environmental Defense Fund (1967), NEPA (1969), EPA (1970). LITERATURE: *The Monkey Wrench Gang*, E. Abbey 1975; *Turtle Island*, G. Snyder 1974. MUSIC: "Rocky Mountain High," J. Denver. PSYCHOLOGY: *Gyn/Ecology: The Metaethics of Radical Feminism*, M. Daly 1978; *The Voice of the Earth: An Exploration of Ecopsychology*, T. Roszak 1992. PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS: *Philosophy Gone Wild*, H. Rolston III 1986; "The shallow and the deep, long-range ecology movements" (*Inquiry* 1973), A. Naess. These two high-powered fellows are close to Leopoldian soil. PLANNING: *Design with Nature*, I. McHarg 1969. POLITICS. Naders' Raiders; National Green Party. RELIGION: *The Spiritual Dimension of Green Politics*, C. Spretnak 1984; *A Rational Faith*, J. Bemporad, ed. 1977. SOCIOLOGY: *The Greening of America*, C. Reich 1970. TECHNOLOGY: *The Closing Circle*, B. Commoner 1971; *The Unsettling of America*, W. Berry 1977. All-in-all a rather bacchanalian brew.

Also under 'Literature' let us add the Beat Poets. This hirsute group was mad as hell and their attack on convention and corporate-driven materialism was a far cry from Rubin Parson's "wise use" of the pre-60's and the American heartland. Materialism led to clearcutting and erosion, this to endangered species (Pacific salmon, spotted owl), this to protest and lawsuits right into the offices of the USFS. Now **Classical Conservation** was being

denigrated as Resourceism and Shallow Ecology (as opposed to Deep and wise). **Classical Conservation** was "... a kind of modern religion which casts all creation into the category of utility." Critics decried the treating of game and forests as mere crops: A Sequoia is *more* than saw timber; deer are *not* field corn. Cost/Benefit analysis was economic despotism encroaching into the wild putting a \$ sign on its beauty.

Even the Wise Use paradigm was co-opted by dubious allies. These were not academics but rougher folks out in the sagebrush who believed that Americanism was better served by making public lands private and productive under their boots. Luckily Leopold had earlier coined a new definition of **Conservation** that made the privateers' commandeering a moot point, namely: "Conservation is a state of [natural] health in the land."

Classical Conservation did not evolve into **Environmentalism** as some commentators claim. I submit that it has maintained its own integrity (though modified) as an entity. Today it jostles and blends with the other schools in the milieu comprising a highly diverse **Environmentalism**. The greatest internal tension within modern **Conservation** in recent years and ongoing is that generated by utilitarian resource managers versus the hands-off wildlands preservationists. Both have key roles to play in the science of conservation biology, an important new faction in **Conservation**.

In conclusion, I suggest that Gray Beard's best advice to Peach Fuzz is this: know the outlines of history. Know a concise definition of conservation, that it is about *maintaining the natural health of the land*, the basis of life and evolution. Know that at just past mid-century the **Classical Conservation** of Wise Use was transformed into something broader called **Environmental Conservation**, adequately signaled by the 1968 Dasmann text of the same name. Above all, exclaim: "Woe to those who cut off their roots from soil and healthy land. We are all clay. And water."

Recommended Reading. *The idea of Wilderness: From Prehistory to the Age of Ecology.* Max Oelschlaeger 1991, Yale Univ. Press, New Haven. 477 pp.

AWF TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE 2004 WORK PROJECTS

Here is the schedule for AWF 2004 Habitat Improvement Projects. All are shown as 3-day outings but the work activities will mainly take place on Saturdays leaving lots of time to set up camp, hike, fish, watch critters or socialize. (Well, we could squeeze in some extra projects if any one really wants to!)

May 15, 16 and 17. Cebolla Springs Wetlands at El Malpais Conservation Area, BLM. Extend livestock exclosure fence to increase the size of protected area and also maintain or augment channel restoration structures.

June 18, 19 and 20. Red Canyon Riparian Restoration. Mountainair Ranger District, Cibola NF. Camp at Red Canyon Campground near Manzano.

July 16, 17 and 18. Valle Vidal, Carson NF. Install elk and livesock Exclosures to protect willow clones; Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout recovery at Comanche Creek. Camp at Shuree Lodge.

August 20, 21 and 22. To be determined.

September 17, 18 and 19. To be determined.

Additional information will be provided in the Newsletter for the month in which the project will be held.

Bill Zeedyk and Glenda Muirhead--Team Up For Wildlife Committee

***** A REMINDER *****

NEW MEXICO WILDLIFE FEDERATION'S

84th Annual Wildlife Conference: "Managing Wildlife and Habitat On a Landscape Scale"

Isleta Casino & Resort Conference Center, Albuquerque, NM April 3 & 4, 2004

2004 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

President-----Dale Jones
V. President-----Bill Zeedyk
Secretary-----Richard Becker
Treasurer-----Lois Jones

Board of directors

Chris Chadwick Luke Shelby
Jim Hubert Gene Tatum
Randy Isler Cecil Haas
Jeff Davis

Newsletter-----Cliff Mendel & Lois Jones

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

Name _____

Address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ email address _____

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

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

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

contribution to AWF: _____

Total: _____

Thank you!

Name of NMWF member(s): _____

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation
P.O. Box 1234
Albuquerque, NM 87103

AWF

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

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

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

GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2004, 7:30 P.M.

Bear Canyon Senior Center - 4645 Pitt NE, Room 6

(North from Montgomery & Eubank, right on Lagrima De Oro
left on Pitt. BCSC is one block down on the left)

**** ** * PROGRAM ** ** ***

Ellery Worthen: National Wildlife Federation Annual Meeting report

Mr. Ellery Worthen, NWF Representative from NMWF will give a 15 minute overview of the recent National Wildlife Federation Annual Meeting.

Marty Peale: Valles Caldera management planning

Marty Peale, coordinator of the Valles Caldera Coalition, will review the recently published report, Draft Framework and Strategic Guidance for the Comprehensive Management of the Valles Caldera National Preserve. Join us at 7:30 pm at the Bear Canyon Senior Center.

The Bear Canyon center will be closed for tile replacement. We will have our program on the lawn "under the stars". There is a convenient place for this we have used before. *See below.*

**** ** * TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE ** ** ***

Our first Team Up for Wildlife project of the year will occur on May 14, 15, 16 at Cebolla Springs. See the project description on page 3.

You may wish to bring lawn chairs

**** ** * PRESIDENTS MESSAGE * ** ** ***

For those of you that missed the New Mexico Wildlife Federation meeting on April 3 and 4, and that had to be the majority of you since the attendance was extremely poor, there were some highlights I would like to revisit.

The first was the exceptional presentation by Dr. Lou Bender on "Condition and Productivity of Mule Deer in New Mexico". For the first time, somebody gave me some data and reasoning that made sense. He has several studies going on, but most of the mule deer work came from a study area in the north east part of the State (Raton area). He says, without question, these deer are starving. Blood analysis indicates a nutritional pattern that is disastrous. The low productivity and survival rate will not sustain a herd over time. I don't know if he has any of this information in print yet or not, but I highly recommend that anyone interested in New Mexico's mule deer keep their eyes open for his publication.

I don't exactly know how to write about this next happening at the meeting, because this is not about "sour grapes." As I stated earlier, the attendance was poor, probably less than 50 people during the conference portion of the program, and perhaps 35 people at the banquet on Saturday night. These were people who seem to have enough interest in wildlife and the organization to support the cause with their attendance and dollars.

Then comes Sunday's business meeting when elections are scheduled for next years officers. All of a sudden, our quiet crowd more than doubles in size. Strangers to most of us, they are there long enough to do what they were told to do, and disappeared just as rapidly as they had appeared. I used to believe membership in an organization meant something more than the responsibility of casting a ballot. I see this all the time in political party affiliations, but not from dedicated conservation folks.

Perhaps this is a sign of the future. I recently read about some problems the Sierra Club is having in fighting a "take over" of that organization. It seems their membership is split over the importance of the human population in conservation and, rather than find common ground, they are in a dog fight that no one will win. If this is a wave of the future, I can only wish the "victors" success, and wonder how they live with themselves.

The issues facing the conservation community are far more important than any one individual. I feel we are going to need more support from the "troops" than just casting a ballot if we are to succeed.

For your information, the officers of the New Mexico Wildlife Federation, by election are:

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| President ----- | Oscar Simpson |
| Vice President ----- | Chuck Easton |
| Secretary ----- | Ellory Worthen |
| Treasurer ----- | Yvonne Chauvin-Wallace |
| Board of Directors ----- | Dr. Sanford Schemnitz |
| | Dr. Don Caccamise |
| | Dr. Bob MacPherson |
| | Dr. James Bailey |
| | Ken Salazar |

Dale Jones

AWF TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE 2004 WORK PROJECTS

Here is the schedule for AWF 2004 Habitat Improvement Projects. All are shown as 3-day outings but the work activities will mainly take place on Saturdays, leaving lots of time to set up camp, hike, fish, watch critters or socialize. (Well, we could squeeze in some extra projects if any one really wants to!)

May 15, 16 and 17. Cebolla Springs Wetlands at El Malpais Conservation Area, BLM. Extend livestock enclosure fence to increase the size of protected area and also maintain or augment channel restoration structures. See **article below**.

June 18, 19 and 20. Red Canyon Riparian Restoration. Mountainair Ranger District, Cibola National Forest. Camp at Red Canyon Campground near Manzano.

July 16, 17 and 18. Valle Vidal, Carson NF. Install elk and livesock enclosures to protect willow clones; Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout recovery at Comanche Creek. Camp at Shuree Lodge.

August 21. Saturday only. David Canyon, Sandia Ranger District, Cebola NF. Repair wildlife trick tank water supply and repair enclosure fence and spillway at David Canyon wildlife pond. Worksite is off Raven Road about 10 miles south of Tijeras. An easy trip from Albuquerque. Lots of wildlife use this area including deer, bear and wild turkey.

September 17, 18, 19. The Quivira Coalition's new Red Canyon Ranch on East Red Canyon in the San Mateo Mountains. Come visit this beautiful remote area and help Quivira install a wildlife drinker (rock-header dam) and do some meadow restoration. Camp out, cook out, hike, climb, have fun. Sorry, there's no fishing water for miles and miles!

Additional information will be provided in the newsletter for the month in which the project will be held.

Bill Zeedyk and Glenda Muirhead--Team Up For Wildlife Committee

TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE May 14, 15, 16: Cebolla Springs

Our first wildlife habitat project of 2004 will be held at Cebolla Springs May 14, 15 and 16. Cebolla Springs is in Cebolla Canyon within the "El Malpais Conservation Area" on BLM managed lands southeast of Grants. We'll be building fence to expand the livestock enclosure around the spring-fed wetland and maintaining some structures installed during 2003.

Cebolla Canyon is a beautiful canyon with an extensive riparian area and lots of wildlife including some uncommon species like rails and yellow-headed blackbirds as well as deer, elk and waterfowl. It's worth seeing and there is very little recreational pressure.

We'll plan to do project work Friday, Saturday and Sunday morning but if that's too much for you, come when you can and leave when you wish. Set your own hours! Access to the campground is suitable for 2-wheel drive vehicles, campers, etc. However, you'll need 4-wheel drive to get to the worksite so be sure to sign up if you need to carpool in from the camping area.

To get there take NM 117 south from I-40, the Stuckeys exit east of Grants. Go about 25 miles south, passing Sandstone Bluffs, La Ventana and The Narrows enroute. Turn left between MP 31 and 30 onto a BLM road. We'll sign the route in from there. It's about three miles to the camping area (**no facilities**) and 5 miles further to the worksite. Bring family, friends and the kids nextdoor. We need lots of helpers! They'll love it. You'll need the usual personal gear like hats, gloves, drinking water, lunches, sunscreen, bug dope, grubby shoes and clothes!

For those staying over Saturday night we'll have a potluck dinner around 7:00pm, so bring somethin' sumptuous. Be sure to **sign up ahead of time** so we know you're coming. Call Glenda Muirhead at 281-2925 to sign up, or Bill Zeedyk at 281-9066, preferably Glenda.

Hope to see you there. Bill Zeedyk
Chair, Work Projects Committee

2004 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

President-----Dale Jones
V. President-----Bill Zeedyk
Secretary-----Richard Becker
Treasurer-----Lois Jones

Board of directors

Chris Chadwick Luke Shelby
Jim Hubert Gene Tatum
Randy Isler Cecil Haas
Jeff Davis

Newsletter-----Cliff Mendel & Lois Jones

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

Name _____

Address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ email address _____

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

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

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

contribution to AWF: _____

Total: _____

Thank you!

Name of NMWF member(s): _____

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation
P.O. Box 1234
Albuquerque, NM 87103



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

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

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

GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2004, 7:30 P.M.

Bear Canyon Senior Center - 4645 Pitt NE, Room 6

(North from Montgomery & Eubank, right on Lagrima De Oro left on Pitt. BCSC is one block down on the left)

**** ** * PROGRAM ** ** ***

Dale Jones

Valencia Soil and Water Conservation District Wildlife Projects

Our June program will be a presentation on the wildlife habitat projects the Valencia Soil and Water Conservation District has going on at the present time. What makes this interesting is that Soil and Water Conservation Districts do not have many "bragging rights" about wildlife. Dale Jones, Chairman of the Valencia Soil and Water Conservation District, and President of Albuquerque Wildlife Federation, will give his insight on how and why this change of attitude.

He will feature three major projects with a power point presentation if the "Computer Gods" will smile on him this night.

New Mexico Wildlife Federation Executive Director

We will also have some remarks from Jeremy Vesbach, the recently contracted Executive Director of NMWF. Jeremy has some good ideas on how to attain the goals established by the NMWF Board, and I believe he would like some feedback from our group as he faces the difficult task before him.

**** ** * TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE ** ** ***

The June Team-up for Wildlife project will be held June 18-19-20 at Red Canyon on the Cebolla National Forest near Manzano on the south-east side of the Manzano Mountains. We will be cutting and removing pine trees from the Red Canyon riparian zone in order to release and invigorate the willows, cottonwoods, boxelders and other riparian vegetation that has been suppressed by competition with the pines. This, too, is a beautiful area with lots of wildlife and some fun hiking trails.

We have scheduled another three-day event beginning Friday at 10:00, but come when you can and leave when you are ready. Most of the activity will probably take place on Saturday but there will be something going on all three days. We plan to camp at the Red Canyon Campground. That's a Forest Service developed area with campsites, tables, toilets. Take NM 55 to Manzano and follow the signs toward Manzano State Park and continue on past the park to the Red Canyon Campground. It's well marked. As usual we'll have AWF Work Project signing to lead you to the worksite. Let's plan on having another potluck dinner on Saturday evening. For tools, a few extra loppers, pruning saws, chainsaws and wheelbarrows might come in handy. We hope to have a couple of Forest Service chainsaw operators to help with the heavy cutting. Please call Bill Zeedyk at 281-9066 or Dale Jones by Wednesday, June 16 to sign up. Our Forest Service contact is Bev de Gruyter at 281-3304. Bring your friends and neighbors. Bring someone new, someone who has never been along before. Let's have a great turnout.

Bill Zeedyk and Glenda Muirhead, Co-Chairs

**** ** * PRESIDENTS MESSAGE * ** ****

AWF Newsletter

The first area I would like to discuss with you is our newsletter. This is probably the largest drain we have on our limited budget, despite the fact that all efforts going to produce it monthly are volunteered hours. Uncle Sam gets his 37 cents for each stamp, and we do have printing costs, but the costs are not the big issue with me. I'm concerned more about whether our contents are what the membership wants to see in a newsletter.

I am asking each of you to think about this, and give us any ideas you have on what you would like to see in our newsletter. Please pass your ideas on to myself or any of the Board. We are here to serve the membership, and are serious about doing that.

Our May Meeting

I have to apologize to our May meeting Speaker, Marty Peel. Marty is an excellent speaker, and she had an excellent subject; a combination hard to beat. But due to circumstances beyond our control, the Bear Canyon Senior Center had tile replacement going on, and we were not able to use our regular meeting room. Instead, we held both our Board and Regular meeting outside on a cold and windy evening! I must have been colder at sometime in my life, but am having trouble remembering when!

Marty's main thrust was begging anyone interested in the future of the Valles Caldera National Preserve to read the "Draft Framework and Strategic Guidance for the Comprehensive Management of VCNP" that she handed out; or for those not in attendance, go to the VCNP web site for this information. Most important, make your concerns or your agreement known to the Trust that is responsible for guiding this new paradigm for public land management.

Our Wildlife License Plate Fund Raiser

We finally have our fund raising project for Wildlife License Plates off and running. It was my pleasure to write letters to two individuals in Southern New Mexico, accompanied by a check made out to New Mexico Motor Vehicle Department for \$25.00 and the application form requesting the Special Wildlife License Plate. These were the first winners which we hope will be followed by 498 more.

The Southwest Consolidated Sportsmen; The New Mexico Chapter of The Wildlife Society; and Audubon, New Mexico have all joined us in our endeavor to put 500 of these Wildlife License Plates on New Mexico vehicles. Come to our June meeting and find out how you can help with this project that can mean so much to State wildlife programs that are not adequately funded at the present time.

Cebolla Springs Wildlife Habitat Project

Finally, those who missed the trip to help with the Cebolla Springs project last month missed seeing some beautiful country. Lois and I missed the work day on Saturday, but sure enjoyed the comradery that a pot luck supper brings; and the conversation, while staring into a campfire, sure beats a formal meeting.

Dale Jones

AWF TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE 2004 WORK PROJECTS

June 18, 19 and 20. Red Canyon Riparian Restoration. Mountainair Ranger District, Cibola National Forest. Camp at Red Canyon Campground near Manzano.

July 16, 17 and 18. Valle Vidal, Carson NF. Install elk and livestock exclosures to protect willow clones; Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout recovery at Comanche Creek. Camp at Shuree Lodge.

August 21. Saturday only. David Canyon, Sandia Ranger District, Cebola NF. Repair wildlife trick tank water supply and repair exclosure fence and spillway at David Canyon wildlife pond. Worksite is off Raven Road about 10 miles south of Tijeras. Near Albuquerque. Lots of wildlife use this area including deer, bear and turkey.

September 17, 18, 19. The Quivira Coalition's new Red Canyon Ranch on East Red Canyon in the San Mateo Mountains. Come visit this beautiful remote area and help Quivira install a wildlife drinker (rock-header dam) and do some meadow restoration. Camp out, cook out, hike, climb, have fun. Sorry, there's no fishing water for miles and miles!

May Project at Cebolla Springs—Here's What We Did

Glenda Muirhead, Team Up For Wildlife Committee

A small but hard-working crew participated in AWF's first "Team Up For Wildlife" work project of the 2004 season, over the weekend of May 14-16 in Cebolla Canyon southeast of Grants. On Friday afternoon, Dennis and I made our way down NM117 through El Malpais (amazing scenery) and across BLM land to the campsite. There we found team leader Bill Zeedyk already set up, along with his granddaughter Becca, and Mary Maulsby. A bit later, Gene and Pat Tatum of the BLM arrived and pitched their tent.

Saturday morning we assembled about 8:30 for the drive to the work site near Cebolla Springs. There we found an impressive row of fence posts already installed by Bill the day before. Our tasks were to continue installing posts to meet a cross fence, and then to run four rows of wire, two barbed, two smooth. This fencing enlarged the enclosure around the spring to prevent access by grazing cows. Some of us learned new skills (clipping the wire to the posts) while admiring the expertise with which others (notably Bill, Gene, Pat and Dennis) unspooled and stretched the wire.

About lunchtime, AWF members Dean and Mary Kuehl drove up. Dean had said they'd come out on Saturday to observe the project (Mary having had hip surgery, and Dean scheduled for his own soon) To my surprise, these two jumped into the midst of the work, wielding tools like pros. Thanks to Mary and Dean for their timely arrival and contribution.

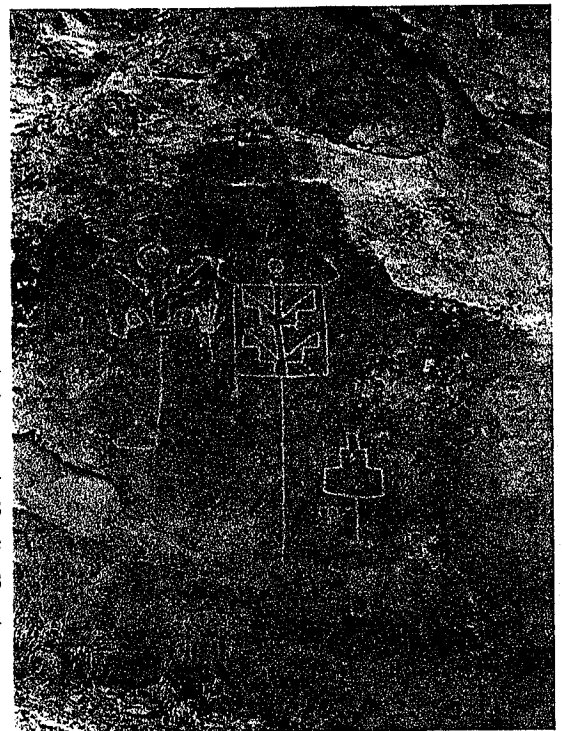
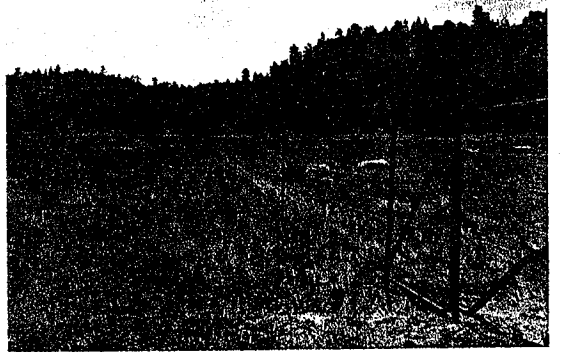


When the Kuehls left to explore a new route home to Albuquerque, the rest of us moved on to a nearby arroyo where heavy runoff had damaged the fence crossing it. Under Bill's guidance we built an innovative structure to deter cows yet permit water and debris to flow beneath it. Can't describe it—you'll have to see the photo! Gene Tatum estimates we completed about a quarter-mile of new fencing in these two days.

Back at camp, AWF President Dale Jones

and wife Lois had arrived for the evening. After a great pot-luck supper, we pulled up chairs around a campfire and shared ideas while watching the embers die. Sunday morning, the group returned to the Spring for a look-around, then headed back to pack up. Before leaving, Dennis and I hiked into Lobo Canyon near camp to view an array of petroglyphs, and by early afternoon we were heading for home. It was a fun weekend—enjoyable and productive.

Though AWF's outings bring worthwhile work with good people, much of the pleasure of participating in these projects comes later. It's truly gratifying to return to a site in future years to see the results of your efforts. **Please join AWF on a work project this summer**—it makes a difference to wildlife and the environment, you can learn a lot, and you'll feel good about it!



AWF

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

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

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

**THERE WILL BE NO GENERAL MEETING AT BEAR CANYON
DUE TO THE ANNUAL VALLE VIDAL TEAM-UP FOR WILDLIFE PROJECT
ON JULY 16, 17, and 18**

**** ** * PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE * ** ****

This month's newsletter will be a short one as there will be no meeting at the Bear Canyon Senior Center in July. Instead you are all invited in July to one of the most scenic places in New Mexico, the Valle Vidal, where Bill Zeedyk will provide you the opportunity to be working conservationists as you 'TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE'. Please see the write-up on page 2 for all the details.

Those of you who missed last month's meeting might be interested in a short synopsis. Dale Jones gave a power point presentation on the wildlife projects being carried out by the Valencia Soil and Water Conservation District. These included Los Chavez drain, where native plants have replaced the noxious perennial pepper weed. Fish, ducks, pheasants, muskrats, songbirds, egrets, and raptors are benefitting from the wolfberry, New Mexico olive, black willow, cottonwood, coyote willow, tule, carex, and parrot feather habitats.

Pictures of the difference between what the Rio Grande Bosque looked like before and after the removal of salt cedar and Russian olive almost defy reality. It is hard to believe unless you see it for yourself.

The "crown jewel" of the District projects is the Whitfield Wildlife Area. This is a 97-acre property that was given to the District for a Migratory Wildlife Area. The District has entered into an agreement with the Natural Resource Conservation Service to use the 2002 Farm Bill's Wetland Reserve Program to create a 97-acre "Mini Bosque Del Apache" for Valencia County. It will be a migratory wildlife bonanza, and a place where schools can teach conservation in a field classroom.

A major announcement at this meeting was the launching of our exciting fund raiser for the underfunded wildlife programs of the New Mexico Game and Fish Department. We hope to place 500 special wildlife license plates on New Mexico vehicles. One dollar tickets are in books of 26. Once the entire book has been sold, a winner will be drawn and that person will receive a check for \$25.00, made out to the N.M. Motor Vehicle Department along with an application form for the "Gamble Quail" license plate. We hope you will all participate by taking a book or two, and will have your friends play this game with us.

Finally, I have the pleasure to announce that our August 12 program will be one you won't want to miss. The speaker will be our old friend Larry Bell, the recently retired N.M. Game and Fish Director. Larry is now the Assistant Regional Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service in charge of External Affairs. He will clue us in on what his new position entails and speak particularly on "Partnering For Wildlife."

Those of you who have heard Larry speak know what an informative evening this will be. To the rest of you, I say, "Don't miss this opportunity!" Let's "pack the Pit!!"

Dale Jones

**** ** * TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE * ** ****

July 16, 17, 18: Valle Vidal

On July 16-17-18, we will return to beautiful Valle Vidal in the Carson National Forest for another wildlife habitat work project. AWF has made an annual outing to this special place for the past 21 summers, and this year we'll continue with the wetland restoration in Ring Place Meadow, building rock structures in the stream to encourage the water to linger and seep in. This time the work will take us further east, downstream of recent years' efforts.

We've again planned this as a three-day event beginning on Friday, but you can arrive at your convenience. As in past years, we'll camp outside of Shuree Lodge which has kitchen and dining facilities available for our use. However, George Long, our Forest Service contact in Questa, has informed us that they're having water problems at the Lodge, so it's possible there'll be no access to showers or toilets. Please plan accordingly—bring your own water supply! And as usual, don't forget your gloves, hats, work shoes/boots, grubby clothes, sunscreen, and lunches. Rain gear and dry socks might be a good idea, too.

The work will take place primarily on Saturday. If you arrive after we've headed out, signs will direct you to the work site. On Saturday evening, we'll have our traditional pot-luck dinner where there's always a super array of food. AWF will grill hamburgers and hot dogs and supply condiments and eating utensils. Bring along your favorite dish and join in the festivities. On Sunday, consider a visit to Hart Canyon to look at the results of last year's project. And if your schedule permits, you can camp at the Lodge until Monday.

To get to the Valle Vidal, head north through Taos and Questa on NM Highway 522 to Costilla, one mile south of the Colorado border. Go east through Amalia about 17 miles to the west boundary of the Valle Vidal, where the road becomes Forest Road 1950. Follow the signs to **Shuree Pond**, about 11 miles (see map, page 3). Or from the east, exit US Highway 64 about 4.8 miles east of Cimarron. Take Forest Road 1950 for 26 miles, through Cerrososo Canyon across the private Vermejo Park Ranch, to the Forest boundary and then watch for Shuree Pond signs.

The annual Valle Vidal project is always a great event. Plan a family outing to this unique location where you can view sizeable elk herds and fish in nearby Shuree Pond. To sign up, please contact Glenda Muirhead (281-2925 or gmuirhead1@msn.com), or Bill Zeedyk at 281-9066. **Don't miss this one!**

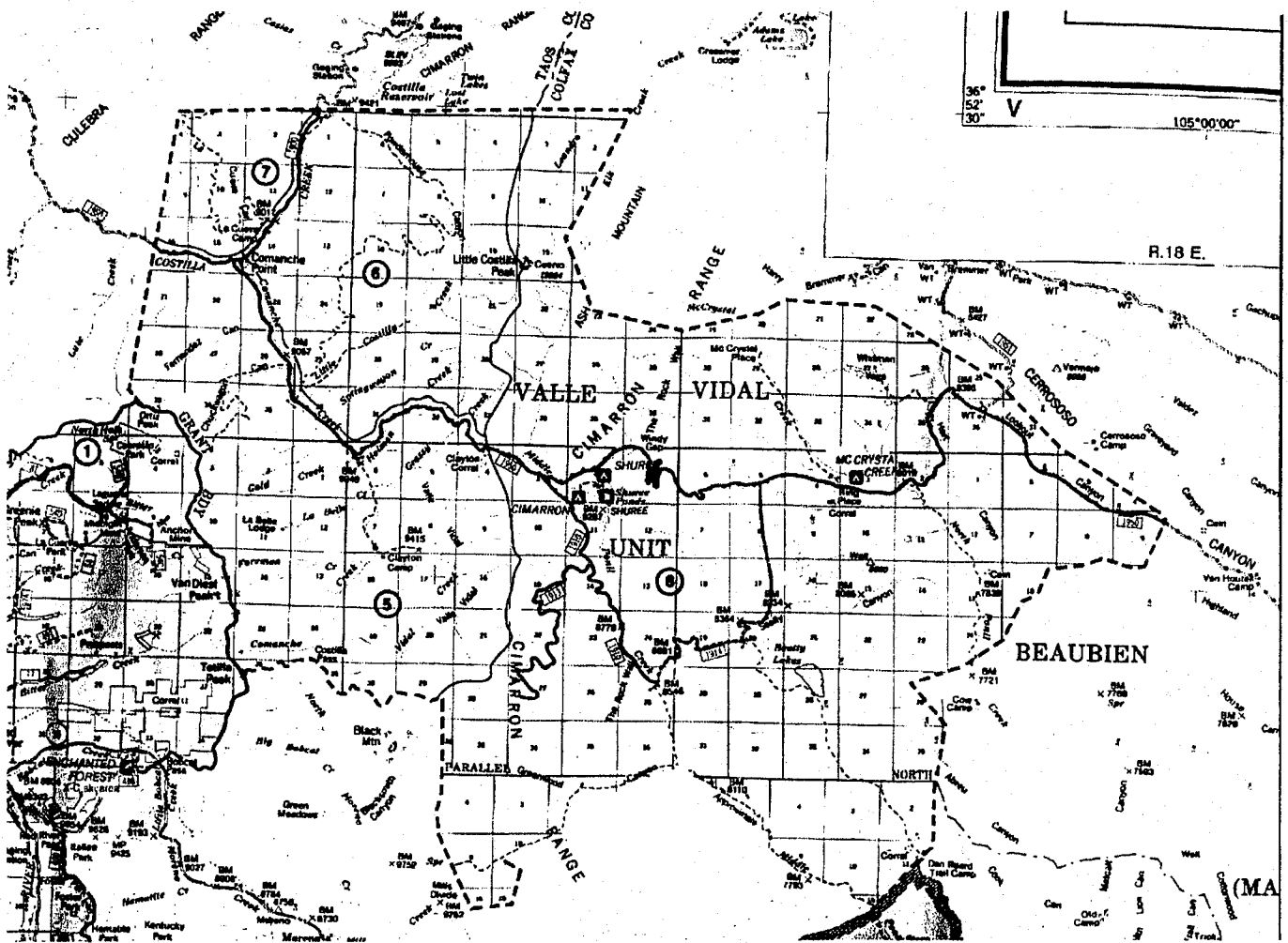
Bill Zeedyk and Glenda Muirhead, Co-Chairs

AWF TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE 2004 WORK PROJECTS

July 16, 17 and 18. Valle Vidal, Carson NF. See above.

August 21. Saturday only. David Canyon, Sandia Ranger District, Cebola NF. Repair wildlife trick tank water supply and repair exclosure fence and spillway at David Canyon wildlife pond. Worksite is off Raven Road about 10 miles south of Tijeras. Near Albuquerque. Lots of wildlife use this area including deer, bear and turkey.

September 17, 18, 19. The Quivira Coalition's new Red Canyon Ranch on East Red Canyon in the San Mateo Mountains. Come visit this beautiful remote area and help Quivira install a wildlife drinker (rock-header dam) and do some meadow restoration. Camp out, cook out, hike, climb, have fun. Sorry, there's no fishing water for miles and miles!



The Valle Vidal, site of our July Team-up With Wildlife project.

V

2004 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

President-----Dale Jones
 V. President-----Bill Zeedyk
 Secretary-----Richard Becker
 Treasurer-----Lois Jones

Board of directors

Chris Chadwick Luke Shelby
 Jim Hubert Gene Tatum
 Randy Isler Cecil Haas
 Jeff Davis

Newsletter-----Cliff Mendel & Lois Jones



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

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

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

GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 2004, 7:30 P.M.

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

**** ** * PROGRAM ** ** ***

PARTNERING FOR WILDLIFE

LARRY BELL, Assistant Regional Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for External Affairs will discuss his new position and update us on the program "Partnering for Wildlife." Larry is the former director of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. If you have not heard Larry talk before then you are in for a treat. He is gracious, knowledgeable person from whom we can learn much. Bring your family and friends. General membership meeting starts at 7:30pm. AWF Board of Directors meet at 6pm at the Bear Canyon Senior Center.

**** ** * TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE ** ** ***

The September "Team Up for Wildlife" project will be at The Quivira Coalition's Red Canyon Ranch on the East side of the San Mateo Mountains, South of Socorro. Project dates are September 17-18-19. AWF volunteers will be joined by volunteers from Quivira. We'll camp out at the Ranch and have lots of time to meet new friends, hike, enjoy wildlife and explore new surroundings.

The project will consist of building several small rock-masonry dams on bedrock to form a series of cascading pools and waterfalls as a water source for wildlife. Benefitting species will include deer, antelope, javelina, quail, songbirds, mountain lions, bears. There is a pair of golden eagles in the area. Maybe they will use these waters, too.

Quivira has already purchased the cement and gathered the rocks. All we have to do is stick 'em together! Red Canyon Ranch is in a beautiful location on East Red Canyon right where the desert meets the mountains. It's surrounded on three sides by national forest with spectacular views in all directions. There is ample space for "throw-down" camping and it's RV accessible. There's running water and a brand new outhouse. This will be the last work project of the season, so please reserve the dates and plan to join in. Maybe ask some friends to come along. We are really hoping for a good turn out for this last project after a very disappointing season. Please call Bill Zeedyk or Glenda Muirhead to sign up.

We'll provide directions to the site in the September newsletter.

Bill Zeedyk and Glenda Muirhead, Co-Chairs

**** ** * PRESIDENTS MESSAGE * ** ** ***

On July 16 and 17, I was invited, along with sportsmen from other states in our region, to attend a meeting of the National Wildlife Federation that was hosted by the New Mexico Wildlife Federation in Santa Fe, N.M.

The main goal of this meeting was to educate the participants about the dangers a policy directive issued by EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers could have on wetland protection in this country. We were all encouraged to write the President, thank him for his Earth Day pledge to go beyond the goal of "no net loss" of wetlands; and request that he withdraw the policy directive of these agencies that is incompatible with his decision to abandon plans that would remove the Clean Water Act protection from many of the nation's waters.

In presenting the case for this action, the NWF folks gave us the results of a national poll that I found of interest, and thought you might also.

These results came from a telephone interview of 752 people; 252 hunters, and 500 people who purchased fishing licenses. All respondents were self-identified registered voters, and all said hunting or fishing was an "important" part of their life style.

SAMPLE PROFILE: The sample of hunters and anglers is almost exclusively male, quite conservative, and more Republican than voters at large. One-third of the respondents live in the Midwest, another third from the South, while 20% are Westerners, and 14% are from the Northeast. Their average age is 50, with the majority between the ages of 40 and 59. 91% were male, 66% conservative, 42% republican, 35% Independent, and 21% were Democrats. 68% voted for George Bush in 2000. Nearly all (86%) say wildlife and conservation issues will be an important factor in deciding their vote for president in 2004.

ISSUE CONCERNS: Terrorism tops the list of national concerns for sportsmen, followed closely by education, and the war in Iraq. Wildlife conservation and clean air and water edge economic issues, followed by limits on gun rights.

Sportsmen rate loss of wildlife habitat across the country, loss of streams and wetlands, and pollution as top concerns impacting hunting and fishing conditions. These issues are closely followed by limits on gun rights.

PREFERENCES ON POLICY ISSUES: Sportsmen express a consistently strong preference for conservation on a series of more detailed issue questions relating to mercury pollution, energy production, and wetlands.

On mercury clean up, a nearly three-to-one majority say coal fired power plants should clean up mercury within the decade rather than be given two decades, even given cost considerations.

Nearly three-fourths of hunters and anglers prefer alternatives to oil and gas drilling as solutions to America's energy needs.

By more than two to one, sportsmen say that wetlands should be protected in most cases because manmade wetlands cannot replicate natural ones.

GLOBAL WARMING ISSUES: Nearly one in three hunters or anglers think global warming is already having an impact on hunting or fishing conditions, and 63% think global warming is having or will have an impact on conditions in the future.

BUSH ADMINISTRATION POLICIES: Sportsmen think the oil and gas industry has a great deal of influence with the Bush Administration when it comes to matters of conservation or hunting and fishing. However, few think the industry should have so much influence.

Nearly six in ten (57%) westerners think the oil and gas industry has the most say with the administration. And a near majority (47%) of westerners think hunters and anglers should have the most say.

Sportsmen strongly support some of the conservation steps taken by the Bush administration – such as restoring the Everglades and expanding the Forest Legacy and Partners for Fish and Wildlife programs; however, hunters and anglers, including those who supported President Bush in the 2000 election, solidly oppose many of the administration conservation policies.

CONCLUSION: The nation's sportsmen place a high priority on conservation issues, considering them

important enough to factor into their decision-making process when selecting political leaders. They view loss of habitat, streams, and wetlands as the most significant threat to the quality of hunting and fishing and oppose policies that threaten these important areas.

I had never seen a poll before that singled out the hunting and fishing public; so thought you might find it of interest.

TEAM-UP WITH WILDLIFE PROJECTS

Changing subjects, we as an organization, need to do some soul searching about our own programs. The seeming loss of interest in our habitat improvement projects, under the leadership of Bill Zeedyk is one example. I knew we were down in attendance at the project in June, but when we only have a handful of folks take advantage of the Valle Vidal camp out, I see "storm clouds on the horizon." Bill puts in a tremendous amount of effort into planning and carrying out these work projects. We owe it to him and to the wildlife resource to be honest. We either support these efforts or say it is more than we can take on. Dale Jones, president

HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR E MAIL ADDRESS?

If so, you need to notify us at loisdale2@worldnet.att.net, or else note any change on our sign in sheet at our monthly meeting.

CONSERVATION EDUCATION 2004

The Summer Science Academy hosted by WERC (a consortium for environmental education and technology development) was held in Silver City, NM, from July 18 to July 23, 2004. Sixteen high school and mid-school teachers and twelve high school students from New Mexico and west Texas participated. Themes covered included forest and watershed health and conservation ethics. Topics noted were watershed interactions, ecotourism, sustainable forestry, endangered species and land ethics (per Aldo Leopold).

The State Land Office co-presented sessions on "Lessons in a Land Ethic" based on Aldo Leopold's classic work *A Sand County Almanac*. Albuquerque Wildlife Federation was highlighted as an outstanding example of a citizen volunteer organization. For more information on the Leopold Education Project contact Richard at (505) 255-7156 or email: crbecker@swcp.com.

Richard W. Becker, PhD, Past-President, AWF

AWF TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE 2004 WORK PROJECTS

August 21. due to declining interest in the work projects, we have decided to cancel the August project in the Manzano Mountains.

September 17, 18, 19. The Quivira Coalition's new Red Canyon Ranch on East Red Canyon in the San Mateo Mountains. Come visit this beautiful remote area and help Quivira install a wildlife drinker (rock-header dam) and do some meadow restoration. Camp out, cook out, hike, climb, have fun. Sorry, there's no fishing water for miles and miles! See page 1, bottom.



Valle Vidal project, July, 2004

2004 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

President-----Dale Jones
V. President-----Bill Zeedyk
Secretary-----Richard Becker
Treasurer-----Lois Jones

Board of directors

Chris Chadwick Luke Shelby
Jim Hubert Gene Tatum
Randy Isler Cecil Haas
Jeff Davis

Newsletter-----Cliff Mendel & Lois Jones

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

Name _____

Address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ email address _____

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

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

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

contribution to AWF: _____

Total: _____

Thank you!

Name of NMWF member(s): _____

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation
P.O. Box 1234
Albuquerque, NM 87103



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

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

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

GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2004, 7:30 P.M.

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

**** ** * PROGRAM ** ** ***

AN UPDATE ON DEER MANAGEMENT IN NEW MEXICO

Our featured speakers will be RJ Kirkpatrick, Chief the of Wildlife Management Division, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and/or Darrel Weybright, Big Game Grant Leader for the Department. They are requesting help from hunters, outfitters and landowners who hunt deer in New Mexico to grade the body condition of the bucks they take this year. They will explain how this research effort fits into deer management and they will review the current deer proposal (and proposals for any other big game species). The deer proposal will be put before the State Game Commission for action at the Sept 23 State Game Commission meeting in Chama. The deer season structure will be set in place for the 2005-6 and 2006-7 hunting seasons at this meeting.

We will learn about body condition score (BCS), what it is, how to measure it, and how it fits into the Department's larger deer management program. Changes in the proposed deer regulations will be reviewed. If you hunt deer in NM, or know someone who does, have them join us for this important discussion. The department wants to hear from you!

**** ** * TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE ** ** ***

The September "Team Up for Wildlife" project will be at The Quivira Coalition's Red Canyon Ranch on the east side of the San Mateo Mountains, south of Socorro. Project dates are September 17-18-19. AWF volunteers will be joined by volunteers from Quivira. We'll camp out at the ranch and have lots of time to meet new friends, hike, enjoy wildlife and explore new surroundings.

The project will consist of building several small rock-masonry dams on bedrock to form a series of cascading pools and waterfalls as a water source for wildlife. Benefitting species will include deer, antelope, javelina, quail, songbirds, mountain lions, bears. There is a pair of golden eagles in the area. Maybe they will use these waters, too.

Quivira has already purchased the cement and gathered the rocks. All we have to do is stick 'em together! Red Canyon Ranch is in a beautiful location on East Red Canyon right where the desert meets the mountains. It's surrounded on three sides by national forest with spectacular views in all directions.

There is ample space for "throw-down" camping and it's accessible to small RVs. There's running water and

a brand new outhouse.

To get to the work project area, drive 34 miles south of Socorro on I-25. Take exit 115 to NM 107 west. Just before mile marker 13, turn left on the ranch road. If you crossed the cattle guard on 107, you went too far. There will be Quivira Coalition and AWF signs posted at the turnoff. Go about two miles on the ranch road.

This will be the last work project of the season, so please reserve the dates and plan to join in. Maybe ask some friends to come along. We are really hoping for a good turnout for this last project after a very disappointing season. Please call Bill Zeedyk (281-9066) or Glenda Muirhead (281-2925) to sign up.

Bill Zeedyk and Glenda Muirhead, Co-Chairs

**** ** * PRESIDENTS MESSAGE * ** ****

I could not believe the small turnout we had at last month's meeting. It is pretty difficult to get a better speaker than Larry Bell, and when he can't drag more of us away from the TV set, or whatever else takes up our evenings, I don't know where to turn. I would really appreciate hearing from the membership who do not participate in our monthly meetings. We have to find out why, and you are the only people who can answer that question.
dalelois87002@webtv.net

At last month's board meeting, we discussed how we might interest some young people in participating with us in conservation. Larry Bell suggested we investigate some scouting group that shares our conservation interest. If anyone knows who I might contact to follow up on this, I would appreciate a call at (505) 864 - 7223.

It is getting to be that time of year when we need to start thinking of new AWF officers for the year 2005. Lois and I find ourselves at an age where we need to move closer to family; so we will probably be saying "adios" when we find a place to move to, and have sold our 16 acre farm in Las Chavez. Nothing imminent, but certainly on the horizon.

On another subject, Richard Becker and I have been involved with the New Mexico Watershed Coalition for many years. I want our members to know about an important meeting the Watershed Coalition is having in Albuquerque on November 17 and 18. All during the recent drought New Mexico has experienced, most people wanted to talk about "wet water", whether it is a lake, river, or household faucet. What has been practically forgotten, is the health of the watersheds that provide us with "wet water". Fish, wildlife, and healthy watersheds are synonymous. I believe you will hear that theme repeated many times at this meeting.

Speaking of meetings, our September speaker will be either RJ Kirkpatrick, or Darrell Weybright of the Department of Game and Fish. They will discuss the Department's new big game regulations, and the "body fat" survey being conducted this year to determine condition of the deer herds in New Mexico.

Our next work project will be our last for the year. Let's have a big showing for the "team up for wildlife" weekend. This project will be in cooperation with the Quivira Coalition, and will take place on some property they recently acquired. Let's make this last HURRAH a big one! See Bill Zeedyk's article for more details.

Finally, I would like to offer my "two bits" worth on this leg hold trap debate that comes up very often, and is presently being discussed by the New Mexico Wildlife Federation Board of Directors. This is such an emotional issue, I hesitate to offer my professional opinion, but that is what professionals do!

It seems to me that if you believe in hunting, fishing, poisoning ants, getting rid of nuisance mice, or even support war, you have to be willing to accept that there is death, pain, and suffering in the life of all creatures. To the person who refuses to participate in any of these endeavors, I have to support their belief, even as it differs from my own. Where I have trouble is accepting "holier-than-thou" positions most of us have established.

Trapping has been an important element in the control of fur bearer populations for ages, and certainly played an important roll in the settlement of our nation. Almost all wild critters suffer to some extent, whether it is because their humming bird feeder went dry, some person built a "dream home" in their key winter range, our cat or dog got

their mouth around one, an antelope got a leg shot off, a lion took a deer; or a coyote lingered in leg hold trap until death took over. None of it is pretty, but it all goes on.

I have always believed it was superior to have a responsible wildlife management agency setting and enforcing standards for trapping as a management tool, than allowing habitat destruction to provide the same pain and suffering. Now you know what a hard hearted president you have tolerated for the past year.

Dale

AWF TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE 2004 WORK PROJECTS

September 17, 18, 19. The Quivira Coalition's new Red Canyon Ranch on East Red Canyon in the San Mateo Mountains. Come visit this beautiful remote area and help Quivira install a wildlife drinker (rock-header dam) and do some meadow restoration. Camp out, cook out, hike, climb, have fun. Sorry, there's no fishing water for miles and miles! See page 1, bottom.

2004 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

President-----Dale Jones
V. President-----Bill Zeedyk
Secretary-----Richard Becker
Treasurer-----Lois Jones

Board of directors

Chris Chadwick Luke Shelby
Jim Hubert Gene Tatum
Randy Isler Cecil Haas
Jeff Davis

Newsletter-----Cliff Mendel & Lois Jones

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

Name _____

Address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ email address _____

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

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

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

contribution to AWF: _____

Total: _____

Thank you!

Name of NMWF member(s): _____

AWF

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

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation--PO Box 1234--Albuquerque, NM 87103
Associated With The National Wildlife Federation and The New Mexico Wildlife Federation

GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2004, 7:30 P.M.

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

**** ** * PROGRAM ** ** ***

UPDATE ON NATIONAL and REGIONAL FOREST SERVICE ACTIVITIES RELATED TO WILDLIFE INTERESTS

Join us on October 14, 2004 to hear Don DeLorenzo, Director of the Wildlife, Fish and Rare Plant Program, US Forest Service, Southwestern Region, discuss several issues of concern to our members. These include Roadless Rules, NFMA Planning Rule, Unmanaged Recreation (Off Highway Vehicles), Fuels and Fire Management, wildlife program emphasis, litigation, etc. Don will give us an update then have time for questions and answers.

....AND....

A USFS REPORT OF ACTIVITY ON THE VALLE VIDAL

Ben Romero, US Forest Service Carson National Forest, will give us an update on the process being used by the Forest Service to evaluate proposed future activities (coal methane drilling) on the Valle Vidal. Be sure to come to hear these speakers. Bring a friend and neighbors.

Note for November 11, 2004 AWF general membership meeting: Bernalillo County Senior Centers will be closed for Veterans Day. Our November meeting will be held at the offices of the NM Department of Game and Fish on Midway Place. Sterling Grogan, biologist with the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District, will give us an update on happenings in the middle Rio Grande bosque.

**** ** * PRESIDENTS MESSAGE ** ** ***

Beginning on a positive note, I want to thank all those who helped make our last wildlife project for the year a highly successful one. Bill Zeedyk certainly deserves a lot of credit for his expertise and his patience. Our turn out this past year, for one reason or another, has not been the kind that produces optimism. And yet, Bill's leadership accomplishes so much for such a "little" effort. We owe him and his "faithful few", many **kudos**.

I also want to thank member Kurt Nolte for responding to my request for help in getting some young people involved in our Federation efforts. He came up with a good recommendation that will be discussed by the board at our October meeting. This is the kind of involvement we need from our membership, and it is greatly appreciated.

Many of you know that Lois and I will be making a big life adjustment in the near future. We have decided to move to Helper, Utah, where we will be close to a son who lives there. He is Regional Supervisor for the Utah Division of Wildlife; so we will not be leaving the wildlife arena, just our New Mexico connection.

After working for the Forest Service 10 years in New Mexico, and enjoying almost 20 years involvement with wildlife and conservation since retirement, a large lump in the throat occurs with the thought of leaving. Yet our time to move on is here, and so we want to thank each and every one of you for the conservation efforts and friendship we have enjoyed with you.

Board member, Jim Hubert was given the difficult task of coming up with a slate of officers for 2005, and he did a magnificent job. Here is the slate of officers you will vote on at our December meeting. We will also have nominations from the floor, so if we have overlooked anyone you feel would make a good officer, please come prepared to make that nomination.

Officers:

President, Gene Tatum Vice President, Bill Zeedyk
Secretary, Richard Becker Treasurer, Glenda Muirhead

Board-Members:

Chris Chadwick, Barbara Coulter, Larry Dwyer, Jim Hubert,
Dennis Muirhead, Randy Isler, Luke Shelby, Lois Jones,
Dale Jones.

Please do not forget our raffle for wildlife license plates. Our goal was to put 500 of the special plates on New Mexico vehicles. So far, our efforts have sold 21. I find the tickets are not hard to sell, but it is difficult to remember you have a pocket full of tickets when you have the chance to tap into a new audience.

We need to increase our efforts. Remember, each plate means important resources for the New Mexico Game and Fish Department.

Yours for conservation, Dale

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

Name _____

Address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ email address _____

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

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

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

contribution to AWF: _____

Total: _____

Thank you!

Name of NMWF member(s): _____

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation
P.O. Box 1234
Albuquerque, NM 87103

AWF

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

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation--PO Box 1234--Albuquerque, NM 87103
Associated With The National Wildlife Federation and The New Mexico Wildlife Federation

GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2004, 7:30 P.M.

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

**** ** * PROGRAM ** ** ***

NOTE: We are meeting at the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish Office 3841 Midway Place NE. Call 505-841-8881 if you need directions. Bear Canyon Senior Center will be closed on Nov 11, 2004.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE BOSQUE?

Steve Grogan

Our program on will be presented by Sterling Grogan, Biologist, Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District. The Albuquerque Journal recently featured articles on the use of GOATS as part of the Bosque Restoration Strategy. Mr. Grogan will tell us more about this experiment and other activities to restore health to the Rio Grande River Watershed.

**** ** * PRESIDENTS MESSAGE ** ** ***

I was really pleased, at both the turnout and the participation of the attendees at our October meeting. We have been striving all year to bring topics of interest to wildlife advocates, but I have to admit, I left most meetings being very disappointed in the attendance. Our speakers and subjects have all been deserving of more enthusiasm.

Don Delorenzo openly discussed several conservation issues involving the Forest Service, and the lively question and answer session that followed showed how intense the interest is in our public land management.

Our second speaker, Ben Romero, gave us a great explanation of where the Carson National Forest is concerning coal methane drilling on the Valle Vidal.

If I heard correctly, the Carson National Forest has to first bring the Valle Vidal into the Forest plan, and we were all encouraged to participate in the NEPA process involving decisions concerning future management of the Valle Vidal.

After these decisions are made, the Carson National Forest will undergo the process of doing an Environmental Impact Statement on the coal methane drilling request for the Valle Vidal. Because the Forest Management Plan will guide direction on future management of the Valle Vidal, it is extremely important that the Albuquerque Wildlife Federation's views for future management of this unique wildlife area be strongly voiced.

By law, the Forest Service must go through these two lengthy processes, and we must be dedicated to go through it with them to make sure our management desires are heard.

My personal belief is that following this established procedure, and being sound on our management recommendations, is superior to the emotional scare tactics being used to accomplish the same end results. I would be interested in membership thoughts on this same subject.

Don't forget that our November meeting will be at the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish Office, 3841 Midway Place NE, Albuquerque, N.M. Sterling Grogan, wildlife biologist for the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District, will be our speaker, and once again, he deserves a good audience. The MRGCD owns or controls most of the Bosque area that is important to all residents of the Middle Rio Grande valley. Tremendous changes are being made in this habitat to reduce the fire hazard. This is your opportunity to hear first hand what these changes are, what techniques are being used to make these changes, and how wildlife is being considered in the planning process.

Hope to see you there,
Dale Jones

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

Name _____

Address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ email address _____

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

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

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

contribution to AWF: _____

Total: _____

Thank you!

Name of NMWF member(s): _____

Postnet barcode

Tijeras
P.O. Box 732
Dennis & Glenda
Murthead
4/05

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation
P.O. Box 1234
Albuquerque, NM 87103



AWF

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

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation--PO Box 1234--Albuquerque, NM 87103
Associated With The National Wildlife Federation and The New Mexico Wildlife Federation

ANNUAL MEETING - THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2004, 7:30 P.M.

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

**** ** * ANNUAL MEETING and POTLUCK DINNER * ** ****

On December 9, 2004, members of the Albuquerque Wildlife Federation will convene at 6:30pm at the Bear Canyon Senior Center. This will be the 90th annual gathering of our membership to elect officers and directors for 2005. This is a potluck dinner event. Bring something to share. AWF will provide plates, cups, drinks (hot and cold). There will be a raffle for prizes!

Jim Hubert, chairman of the Nominating Committee submitted the following roster of members to serve as officers and directors (announced earlier in our October and November, 2004 newsletters):

President: Gene Tatum;
Vice-President: Bill Zeedyk;
Treasurer: Glenda Muirhead;
Secretary: Richard W. Becker, PhD

Board Members: Chris Chadwick, Barbara Coulter, Larry Dwyer, Jim Hubert, Randy Isler, Dennis Muirhead, Lois Jones, and Luke Shelby. As Dale Jones will be past-president, he will automatically be a board member.

Come join us on December 9 to help us celebrate the legacy of Aldo Leopold as we recognize our members' efforts to promote the conservation of our natural resources, our wildlife and our outdoor heritage.

**** ** * PRESIDENTS MESSAGE * ** ****

There is something nostalgic about writing your final "President's Message". You wished you could have done more for Conservation! Yet you owe a debt of gratitude to the "faithful" who worked on habitat projects; kept the newsletters coming on time; recruited excellent speakers for our monthly meetings; worked as Board Members to solve the obvious problems we face as an organization; and not only attended meetings, but actively engaged our speakers so most meetings were educational as well as entertaining.

There are two issues of importance concerning our relationship with the New Mexico Wildlife Federation (NMWF) that I would like to discuss. First I represented AWF on a NMWF Committee that examined possible changes to their by-laws.

One of the major changes sought involved the dues structure of both the NMWF and their affiliates. At the present time, everyone who joins the AWF must pay \$20.00, \$10.00 of which goes to NMWF and \$10.00 to AWF. But if you live in Albuquerque and just join the NMWF, no dues come back to the affiliate, and you have no participation with the affiliate organization.

After considerable discussion, the committee recommended the following dues structure: Membership for the NMWF will be \$25.00. For that fee, the member can choose to be a member of both the NMWF and their affiliate, or just membership in NMWF. If the member chooses the first option, \$15.00 will go to the State

organization. And \$10.00 will go to the affiliate.

The same opportunity and choice will be possible for members of the affiliate. If the member chooses to only belong to the affiliate, the total dues will go to the affiliate club. If they want to be members of both, \$10.00 will be forwarded on to NMWF.

For the affiliate to qualify for a delegate on the NMWF Board of Directors, they must have a minimum of 15 members who choose to be members of both organizations.

Another committee decision was to allow affiliates to choose their Board Representative to NMWF in any fashion they desire. These are all just committee recommendations, and must be accepted by the NMWF Board, and passed at the membership meeting on Jan. 13, 2005 to be affective

The second issue involves the land owned by the NMWF within the Pecos District of the Santa Fe National Forest. This land was given to the NMWF to be maintained as a wild turkey refuge. It is a beautiful wildlife habitat, but trespass livestock, due to inadequate fence maintenance, are negatively impacting the riparian area. On November 15, we met with Ranger Joe Reddan. We suggested that if the Forest Service would devote some of the adjacent land for turkey habitat, allowing the protection fence to be placed in a better location for maintenance, and provide the fencing materials, the NMWF, AWF, and the New Mexico Wild Turkey Federation would provide the labor. The Ranger was enthusiastic about this proposal, and a ride in the spring is planned to lay out the fence location. This will be a beautiful wildlife management area we can all be proud of.

Finally, I would like each member to read and re-read the report of the Membership Enhancement Committee that you will find below. The committee that put this together has given the issue considerable thought, but your comments will be extremely helpful as we all struggle to keep Leopold's legacy alive.

Yours in Conservation, Dale

Report of the Membership Enhancement Subcommittee Albuquerque Wildlife Federation November 11, 2004

AWF faces a membership crisis. Attendance at meetings has been dropping and work projects have failed to draw adequate numbers to accomplish planned tasks, sometimes leading to cancellation. Our membership is aging and we have been unable to consistently attract and retain new members. Older members may be less likely to attend our evening meetings, and their ability to participate in work projects understandably declines with age, impacting AWF's two primary member-involved activities. In the course of discussing these issues, the Membership Enhancement Subcommittee has developed a number of ideas which, one way or another, are aimed at enlarging and serving our membership.

Evaluate and reaffirm commitment of the AWF Board — Richard Becker has put together a questionnaire addressed to the AWF Board. With Board members' responses, we hope to reconnect the Board to the membership and encourage discussion of our goals and mission in the coming year, as we work to make AWF what our members want it to be, while fulfilling the dictates of our charter.

Emphasis on members — We plan to send a questionnaire to the membership to understand their reasons for being AWF members. If we learn our members' interests, strengths and commitment, we can better recruit them for activities or, conversely, tailor our activities around their preferences. Past efforts to solicit input from our members have not proven very successful. Our challenge will be to present this questionnaire in such a form and in such a way that recipients will realize their feedback is essential to AWF's future. In addition, we recommend further committee work to plan strategies to recruit new members, and to retain, recognize and reward members.

Work Projects

- Inject more structure into the outings.
- Present alternate contribution opportunities for those members who are not up to the physical labor required.
- Weigh project value as a one-time effort vs. long-term commitment to a work location.
- Depending on whom we choose to team with, consider spreading the projects throughout the year; develop "zones" of distance from Albuquerque to categorize projects.

Meetings — We suggest increased structure in our meeting format. Consider holding our meetings in a new location, perhaps more centralized, that doesn't require a fixed time of departure. The meeting format can vary, sometimes a speaker, other times an issue discussion (chosen by the Board or selected from member suggestions), new member welcome, maybe one/year for young people (and their parents?).

Newsletter — Consider some regular features like a summary of previous month's meeting with overview of speaker's talk or member discussion; member profile 4-6 times per year; summary of decisions made at previous month's Board meeting; a "Did You Know?"-type column of interesting wildlife/environment facts.

Coalitions with other groups — Develop affiliations with similar organizations. Suggestions for partners: Scouts, Audubon Society, NM Wilderness Alliance, Friends of the Forest, Quivera Coalition, State Land Office, Soil & Water Conservation Districts, Dept. of Game & Fish, UNM Departments, sports teams (off-season).

Outreach and education — Develop a Speakers Bureau to make formal presentations (talk/slide show) about AWF to community organizations, schools, other groups with purposes similar to ours. Put together a Traveling Trunk of materials, demos, photos, give-aways for presentations and display tables. Seek out involvement of young people – schools, scouts, Roots & Shoots (Kurt Nolte).

Publicity — Seek venues for publishing meeting notices, free and possibly paid. Look into article/ad space in *Outdoor Reporter*, *New Mexico Wild*, other groups' newsletters, free publications available at newsstands such as *NM Outdoors Guide*. Arrange for a display table at conferences of other groups such as Quivera Coalition. Develop appropriate handouts, flyers, giveaways. Publicize meetings and work projects widely; post notices at stores, schools, churches, wherever. Get online: Yahoo group? To list events, calendar, post photos, provide our Newsletter online.

Financial — We need money for producing and mailing the monthly newsletter, printing brochures, give-aways, displays, advertisements. Do we want to do fund-raising? We could possibly seek donations from members for a specific purpose or event of their choice.

Submitted by Membership Enhancement Subcommittee:

| | | |
|---------------------|----------|--------------------|
| Richard Becker, PhD | 255-7156 | crbecker@swcp.com |
| Barbara Coulter | 332-8213 | coulter@unm.edu |
| Glenda Muirhead | 281-2925 | gmuirhead1@msn.com |
| Gene Tatum | 255-1960 | gtatum3@msn.com |

THREE ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS for the AWF Officers/Board Members:

1. What is the AWF WORK NICHE as an organization?
2. How many ACTIVE MEMBERS do we need to do the WORK we want to do (and enjoy doing)?
3. How much time, energy, and effort am I personally willing to invest to help AWF do this work?

The AWF Membership Enhancement Committee identified our WORK NICHE as:

- Wildlife Habitat Restoration Work/Party Projects (on-the-ground)
- Lifelong Learning Opportunities for Members (monthly speakers program)
- Significant Interpersonal Interaction between Members (fellowship with other members at our monthly general membership meetings; discussion with guest speakers; conversations with resource personnel at work project sites)
- Wildlife Related Issues Involvement (representation at State Game Commission meetings; representing AWF with other groups; letters to Congressmen; letters to the editor)

Committee Chairs and Members do not need to be part of the AWF Board!