



**MONTANA CHAPTER
OF
THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY**

and

**THE MONTANA CHAPTER
OF
THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY**

2009 JOINT CONFERENCE



***Adapting Fish and Wildlife Management To
Human Demographic Change In Montana***

**Red Lion Hotel, Kalispell
February 9th – 13th**

Preliminary Agenda

REGISTRATION ~ REGISTRATION DESK NEAR RESTAURANT

- Monday, February 9th: 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
- Tuesday, February 10th: 7:00 AM – 10:00 AM; 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
- Wednesday, February 11th: 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- Thursday, February 12th: 7:00 AM – 12:00 PM; 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM
- Friday, February 13th: 7:30 AM – 9:00 AM

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Working Groups

(Workshops will be held in alternating rooms to allow flexibility with schedules)

- 8:00 – 10:00 Loon Working Group
Contact: Ron Steiner (892-6925)
- 10:00 – 11:00 Harlequin Duck Working Group
Contact: Steve Gniadek (888-7833)
- 11:00 – 3:00 All Bird Working Group
Contact: Catherine Wightman (490-2329)
- 3:00 – 5:00 Herp and Amphibian Working Group
Contact: Allison Puchniak (247-2966)
- 6:00 – 8:00 Bat Working Group
Contact: Kristi DuBois (542-5551)

Other Monday Functions

- 1:00 – 5:00 Montana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Executive Committee Meeting
- 1:00 – 5:00 USDI Fish and Wildlife Service Refuge Biologist Workshop
Contact: Jeff Warren (276-3536)
- 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM Registration

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

7:00 AM – 10:00 AM; 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM Registration

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS (Lunch provided w/ registration)

Workshop Session I:
Human Demographic Impacts:
Invasive Species and Other Species of Concern

- 8:00-8:40 “Priorities for Aquatic Nuisance Species Management”
Robert Wiltshire (Center for Aquatic Nuisance Species)
- 8:40- 9:10 “Conservation of Cutthroat Trout: Collaboration, Adaptive Strategies, and Monitoring Experiences”
Brad Shepard (Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks and Montana Cooperative Fisheries Research Unit)
- 9:10 – 9:50 “Flowering Rush, an invasive aquatic macrophyte infesting the headwaters of the Columbia River System”
Peter Rice (University of Montana) and Virgil Dupuis (Salish Kootenai College)
- 9:50-10:10 Morning Break
- 10:10-10:40 “Exotics among us”
Tim Feldner (Commercial Wildlife Permitting, Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks)
- 10:40-11:05 “Ecology and management of invasive species - a conceptual framework”
Dean Pearson (U.S. Forest Service)
- 11:05-11:30 “Efficacy of a common weed control treatment for mitigating impacts of knapweed invasion “
Yvette Ortega (U.S. Forest Service)
- 11:30-12:00 “Resources for Invasive Plant Research, Science-based Management, and Outreach”
Mary McFadzen (Center for Invasive Plant Management, Montana State University)
- 12:00- 1:00 Lunch

1:00- 5:00 “Montana species of concern and accessing information on Montana Fish and Wildlife species from the Montana Natural Heritage Program and Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks”

Bryce A. Maxell (Zoologist, Montana Natural Heritage Program), Allan Cox (Systems and Services Manager, Montana Natural Heritage Program), Scott J. Story (Wildlife Information Specialist) and Bill Daigle (Fisheries Information Specialist, Information Management Bureau, Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks)

This workshop will consist of: (1) an overview of the Montana Animal Species of Concern list and the criteria used to identify Species of Concern; (2) an overview of the data products available from the Montana Natural Heritage Program and Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks; (3) hands on training with internet based applications for accessing detailed information on all Montana animal species.

1:00 – 1:05 Introductions, Overview, and Handouts
1:05 – 1:30 Overview of Montana Species of Concern List Criteria and Process
1:30 – 1:45 Break
1:45 – 3:15 Overview of Data Products Provided by MNHP and MFWP
3:15 – 3:30 Break
3:30 – 5:00 Hands on training on TRACKER application and other methods of data access

Workshop Session II:
Human Demographic Impacts:
Solutions to Fish and Wildlife Management Challenges
Moderator: Dan Pletscher

8:00 - 8:30 “Suburban and exurban influences on wildlife and fish”
Paul Krausman, Sonja Smith, Jonathan Derbridge & Jerod Merkle (Wildlife Biology Program, Univ. MT)

8:30 - 9:15 “Preventing conflicts with predators with an emphasis on bears”
Patti Sowka (Living with Wildlife Grant Program and Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, MFWP)

9:15 - 9:45 “The “Partners-In-Life” Program - Bear Shepherding to Reduce Human-Wildlife Conflict”
Russ Talmo (Program Biologist, Wind River Bear Institute)

9:45 - 10:10 “Bluegrass, Bunchgrass, Barbed Wire, and Black Bears: A Volunteer's Perspective on Subdivisions and Wildlife in Missoula's Grant Creek”
Bert Lindler (President of the Prospect Meadows Homeowners Association)

10:10 - 10:30 Morning Break

10:30 - 11:20 “Land use planning: regulations, limitations, and incentives for landowners”

Dennis Glick (Regional Director of Northern Rockies Region, Sonoran Institute)
and Randy Carpenter (Land Use Planner, Sonoran Institute)

11:20 - 12:00 “Using Land Use Planning to Protect Montana’s Wetlands and Riparian Areas”
Janet Ellis (Program Director for Montana Audubon)

12:00 - 1:15 Lunch Break

1:15 - 1:45 “Protecting instream flows in a changing landscape”
Stan Bradshaw (Trout Unlimited)

1:45 – 2:15 “FWP’s Crucial Areas and Connectivity Assessment – An Enhancement to
Montana’s Comprehensive Fish and Wildlife Conservation Strategy”
Bill Daigle, Janet Hess-Herbert, Adam Messer, Adam Petersen, Joy Ritter, and
Scott Story (Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks – Information Management Bureau)

2:15 - 2:45 “River Recreation Management in Montana: Quantity versus Quality”
Charlie Sperry (Recreation Management Specialist, Montana Fish Wildlife and
Parks)

2:45 - 3:05 Afternoon Break

3:05 - 3:50 “A Fine Line between Success and Failure in Landscape Conservation”
Greg Neudecker (Vice President Blackfoot Challenge and Assistant State
Coordinator for the Montana Partners for Fish and Wildlife program) and Ryen
Aasheim (Big Blackfoot Chapter of Trout Unlimited)

3:50 - 4:05 Owing Eden (film)

4:05 - 4:35 “New Montana Landowners/Old Time Traditions: A Changing Landscape in Big
Sky Country”
Alan Charles (Coordinator of Landowner/Sportsman Relations, Montana Fish
Wildlife and Parks)

4:35 - 5:00 Wrap-up Panel discussion (with all speakers that are available)
Moderator: Dan Pletscher

Other Tuesday Functions

8:00 – 12:00 USDI Fish and Wildlife Service Refuge Biologist Workshop - Continued

8:00 – 5:00 MFWP and USFWS Fishery Summit Meeting
Contact: Mark Maskill (758-6870)

1:00 – 5:00 Lake Trout Workshop
Contact: Wade Fredenberg (758-6872)

6:30 - 8:30 PM Bald Eagle Working Group Meeting

5:30 - 9:00 PM Mixer For Workshop Participants

- Hors d’voeures, keg beer, wine, no host bar.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

7:00 AM – 5:00 PM Registration

8:00 AM Welcome – President MT AFS and President MT TWS

8:30 AM **Plenary Session**

Session Chair: Brian Kahn

“Adapting Fish and Wildlife Management to Montana’s New Demographics”

8:40 AM *Montana’s Wildlife Legacy: Decimation to Restoration*

Speakers: Jim Williams, Terry Lonner, Harold Picton

9:20 AM *Montana Challenge: Defining Montana’s New Demographics*

Speaker: Suzanne Miller

10:00 AM *Fish and Wildlife Values in the West*

Speakers: Dr. Michael Manfredo, Dr. Tara Teel

10:40 AM Break

11:10 AM A *Wildlife Manager’s Challenge: Greater Yellowstone area elk movements: brucellosis risk and hunter access*

Speaker: Julie Cunningham

11:40 AM A *Fishery Manager’s Challenge – Case Study of fish management in “today’s reality”*

Speaker: Jim Vashro

11:50 AM *Putting It All Together: What it means for Natural Resource Managers in Montana; Now and Into the Future*

Session Chair: Brian Kahn

12:00 – 1:00 PM *Lunch – On Your Own*

1:00 PM *Montana’s Landowners: Management Implications of Montana’s Changing Demographics . (20 minutes each)*

Hunter Access – Alan Charles

Plum Creek Adaptation and Adjustment – Loren Hicks

Perspective of a Non-traditional Landowner/Manager – Russ Miller

Perspective of a Traditional Landowner/Manager – Jim Stone

Stream Access – Bob Lane

Water Rights – Stan Bradshaw

3:00 PM Break

3:15 PM ***“How Are Fish and Wildlife Managers, and the Agencies or Organizations They Represent, Going to Adapt to This Change?”***

FWP Director – Joe Maurier (Tentative)
USFS Deputy Regional Forester – Jane Cotrell
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation – Jack Blackwell
Montana Trout Unlimited – Bruce Farling

4:35 PM ***Putting It All Together: What it means for Natural Resource Managers in Montana; Now and Into the Future***

Session Chair: Brian Kahn

5:30 – 9:00 **Plenary Social**

- Keg beer, wine, no host bar, hors d’voeures

Other Wednesday Functions

8:00 - 5:00 Vendors and Natural Resource Organizations will be on hand to display and discuss their “wares” and missions.

5:30 – 9:00 Student Mentoring Session

4:45-5:30 MTAFS Committee Meetings

7:00 – 9:00 Montana Association of Fish and Wildlife Biologists – General Membership Meeting (Mark Sullivan – Contact)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

7:00 AM – 12:00 PM; 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM Registration

8:00 – 5:00 Concurrent Breakout Sessions

8:00 - 5:00 Vendors and Natural Resource Organizations will be on hand to display and discuss their “wares” and missions.

12:00 – 2:00 MT TWS and MT AFS Business Luncheons

Banquet

- Keg beer, wine, no host bar.
- Silent Auction and Raffle
- Election Results
- Awards
- Entertainment – Jim Dunnigan

Meet John Dunnigan
(www.johndunnigan.com)

Musician. Songwriter. Entertainer. Funny man. Baseball coach. Pancake maker. Lawn mower. John Dunnigan is many things. He’s also one lucky, plucky guy. He’s been fortunate to play music for a living almost his entire life. Choose any stringed instrument and odds are he can pick it - guitar, banjo, pedal steel. He also blows a mean harp. During his career, John has played with Bonnie Raitt, Asleep at the Wheel, Norton Buffalo, The Dirt Band, Kris Kristofferson and many others including Bruce Springsteen.

Growing up in Northern California, John experienced the same electric jolt that sparked many a young musical career – he saw the Beatles on The Ed Sullivan Show. It rocked his world. He bought a guitar and soon began playing some of the leading venues in California - pizza venues, that is. John later toured the country with a band and eventually landed in Big Fork where he pulled off the road and decided to plant roots.

As he played around the Flathead Valley night after late night, it slowly dawned on John that he was destined for mediocrity. So, he developed a solo act and started writing original songs that were both heartfelt and hilarious. Songs like “I Don’t Touch, I Just Look” and “I’m Too White To Sing Reggae.” Over the years, he has recorded several CDs that feature some of the leading musicians in the Flathead Valley.

Since arriving in Montana a generation ago, John has raised a lot of roofs with his spirited, crowd-pleasing music. He has also raised two sons (Andy and Jimmy) with his wife (Andrea). Simply put, John Dunnigan is a devoted family man and dynamic, first-rate entertainer.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13

7:30 AM – 9:00 AM Registration

8:00 Concurrent Breakout Sessions – End Time determined by the number of abstracts received.

Closing Presidents’ Message