

Organized: May 18, 1972

Amended and approved: August 11, 2020

Article I. Name, Area, Affiliation, and Composition

Section 1. NAME – The name of this organization shall be the Wisconsin Chapter (hereinafter may be referred to as “the Chapter”) of The Wildlife Society.

Section 2. AREA – This Chapter shall have as its area of organization the State of Wisconsin.

Section 3. MISSION – The Chapter’s mission is to inspire, empower, and enable the community of wildlife professionals, students, and retirees to sustain wildlife populations and habitats through science-based management and conservation in the State of Wisconsin.

Section 4. CRITERIA FOR AFFILIATION – The Wisconsin Chapter shall conform to bylaws, objectives, policies, positions, and a Code of Ethics as adopted by The Wildlife Society, Inc. (hereinafter, may be referred to as “the Society”).

Section 5. COMPOSITION – The Chapter shall be composed of professionals, students, and others, regardless of age, race, religion, gender, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, or nationality who are interested in wildlife resources and who subscribe to the Society’s Objectives and Code of Ethics.

Article II. Objectives

Section 1. OBJECTIVES – Consistent with the objectives of The Wildlife Society, the Wisconsin Chapter objectives are:

1. Develop and promote sound stewardship of wildlife resources and environments upon which wildlife and humans depend.
2. Undertake an active role in preventing human-induced environmental degradation.
3. Increase awareness and appreciation of wildlife values.
4. Seek the highest standards in all activities of the wildlife profession.
5. Recognize and commend outstanding work in the profession and in other efforts of wildlife conservation and ecology.
6. Establish professional solidarity and maintain the highest possible professional standards within the Chapter.

Section 2. IMPLEMENTATION – To aid in the achievement of these objectives, this Chapter proposes to:

1. Provide opportunities for community among individual members, the North Central Section (hereinafter may be referred to as “the Section”), and the Society.
2. Evaluate and respond to proposed or enacted societal actions that could affect wildlife or its habitats.
3. Recognize and commend outstanding professional achievements in maintenance, restoration, and enhancement of habitats for wildlife.
4. Participate in local, regional, and national meetings to express the Chapter’s position on specific issues.
5. Encourage communication between members and non-members to facilitate understanding and effectiveness of research and management for wildlife resources.

¹ Incorporated in 1948 under the laws of the District of Columbia

Article III. Chapter Year

The Chapter operating and fiscal year shall begin April 1, although the Chapter's financial reporting must follow the Society's calendar year schedule.

Article IV. Membership

Section 1. VOTING MEMBER – Voting membership in the Wisconsin Chapter shall be available to any member in good standing of The Wildlife Society who resides or conducts professional activities within the organizational area of the Chapter (Article I, Section 2). A member in good standing has paid their most recent annual Chapter dues and dues to The Wildlife Society. Only Chapter voting members may hold office in the Chapter, vote on official matters affecting the Society, and officially represent the Chapter on business of the Society by Board or Officer appointment.

Section 2. OTHER MEMBER – Other membership in the Wisconsin Chapter shall be available to any person who, although either not a member of The Wildlife Society and/or resides and works outside of the Chapter's organizational area (Article I, Section 2), has an interest in the objectives and activities of the Chapter. Other Members shall be entitled to all rights, privileges, and responsibilities of Chapter Voting Members, including voting in Chapter elections, except those reserved for Chapter Voting Members (Article IV, Section 1).

Section 3. CHARTER MEMBER – Members in good standing on the membership rolls of the Chapter prior to December 31, 1972.

Section 4. HONORARY MEMBER – An individual who, by a majority vote of all Chapter members in good standing, have been recognized for distinguished service or outstanding achievement. A Chapter Honorary Member need not pay Chapter dues. Honorary members shall have the same rights and privileges as Chapter Voting Members (Article IV, Section 1).

Section 5. DUES – Annual dues shall be based upon the costs for operations and services of the Chapter and the Chapter's official publication of record. Annual dues shall be determined annually and published in the Operating Guide. The Executive Board may adjust the annual dues as needed and by approval of a majority vote of the Board. Adjustments in the annual dues in excess of the Consumer Price Index for the previous operating year shall be submitted to the membership in good standing at the Annual Meeting for approval. Annual dues shall be payable by each member to the Treasurer no later than January 1. Annual Chapter dues also may be paid to the Society's headquarters, along with Section and Society dues that will subsequently be remitted to the Chapter.

Section 6. RESIGNATION – Members may resign at any time by giving notice to the Chapter's Treasurer or will be considered to have resigned if annual Chapter dues are not paid. Dues are not refundable.

Section 7. REINSTATEMENT – Persons who are omitted from the rolls of the Chapter for nonpayment of dues or resignation may be reinstated into Chapter membership upon payment of the current annual dues.

Article V. Voting, Elections, and Officers

Section 1. NOMINATING AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE – The three-member Nominating and Elections Committee, selected by the Executive Board (Article V, Section 3) of the Wisconsin

Chapter shall prepare a slate of candidates for each of the elective positions, namely: President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and additional Executive Board members known as Delegates, from the Chapter voting membership. This Committee shall send the completed ballot to the Chapter membership.

CLAUSE A – All nominees must be Voting Members (Article IV, Section 1).

CLAUSE B – Prior approval must be obtained from each nominee before the slate is presented to the Chapter members.

CLAUSE C – a nomination slate shall be submitted to the membership at least 30 days prior to the Annual Business Meeting.

CLAUSE D – Additional nominees may be added to the Nominating and Elections Committee's slate upon the signed support of six or more members, provided prior approval has been obtained from each nominee before the slate is presented to the Chapter members.

CLAUSE E – A member may be elected for no more than two consecutive terms in the same elective position.

Section 2. VOTING – Written and/or electronic ballots shall be received from current members in good standing and counted by the Secretary.

CLAUSE A – Members in arrears shall forfeit their rights to vote during the period of their delinquency.

CLAUSE B – The candidate receiving the most votes shall be declared elected. No person may hold more than one elective position simultaneously. In the event of a tie vote, an uneven number of members of the Board shall cast a secret deciding ballot.

Section 3. OFFICERS – Officers of the Wisconsin Chapter shall consist of a President, President-Elect, Past-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Immediately upon election, each officer must be a member in good standing of the Chapter and The Wildlife Society. Their duties are:

CLAUSE A – PRESIDENT – The President shall have general supervision of the Chapter officers, shall appoint, with the advice of the Executive Board, the Chairperson of all regular and special committees, shall preside as the Chair at meetings of the Executive Board, and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. The President, with assistance from the Executive Board, will co-plan the Annual Meeting with the President-elect (Article VI, Section 1). The President shall serve as Chapter Representative on the Executive Board of the North Central Section or appoint an alternate. The President may serve as a representative or liaison to other Chapter, Section, or Society boards, committees, or meetings.

CLAUSE B – PRESIDENT-ELECT – The President-Elect shall assume the duties of the President in the absence or upon the inability of the President to serve, and shall perform any duties assigned by the President. In the event the President-Elect cannot serve in the President's absence, the Executive Board shall appoint a President, pro tempore. The President-elect with assistance from the Executive Board, will co-plan the Annual Meeting with the President (Article VI, Section 1). If the Chapter budget allows, the President-Elect is eligible for reimbursement of travel, lodging, and registration expenses to attend the Annual Meeting of The Wildlife Society during the year of election to office.

CLAUSE C – PAST-PRESIDENT – The Past-President shall assume the duties of the President in the absence of or upon the inability of the President or the President-Elect to serve until the Executive Board appoints a President, pro tempore. The Past-President is responsible for chairing the Audit Committee (Article VIII Clause E) and encouraged to serve on the Nominating and Elections Committee (Article V Section 1).

- CLAUSE D – SECRETARY** – The Secretary shall be responsible for the files and records of the Chapter. Duties shall also include the recording and issuing of minutes of all meetings, maintenance of the membership rolls, and updating bylaws to reflect membership votes. The Secretary shall compile and announce election results to the President for proclamation at the Annual Meeting (Article VI, Section 1).
- CLAUSE E – TREASURER** – The Treasurer shall be responsible for the funds of the Chapter and shall submit complete financial reports at the Chapter’s Annual Meeting. The Treasurer, in conjunction with the Executive Board, will submit a past year, a present year, and a future year budget for approval by the membership at the Annual Meeting. Duties shall also include the receipt and disbursement of funds.
- CLAUSE F – EXECUTIVE BOARD DELEGATES** – The two Executive Board Delegates are elected for staggered 2-year terms and are current members in good standing of both the Chapter and Society, and are full voting members of the Board.
- CLAUSE G – STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE** – The position of Student Representative shall rotate alphabetically among the Student Chapters of The Wildlife Society within Wisconsin. The Student Representative shall be elected annually by each respective Student Chapter. The Student Representative shall be a current member in good standing of both the Wisconsin Chapter and The Wildlife Society and preferably a Board member of the respective Student Chapter. The Student Representative is a full voting member of the Wisconsin Chapter Board. The Student Representative shall provide a monthly update on Student Chapter activities to the Board, as well as a monthly update on Wisconsin Chapter Board activities to the Student Chapters.
- CLAUSE H – NEWSLETTER EDITOR** – The Newsletter Editor shall be appointed by the Executive Board and compose, edit, and distribute the Chapter’s electronic newsletter, *Intelligent Tinkering*. The Newsletter Editor will compile a slate of elective office nominees provided by the Executive Board for publication in the Chapter’s electronic newsletter.
- CLAUSE I – EXECUTIVE BOARD** – The Executive Board shall act as the governing body for the Chapter and shall be made up of the above named officers, two Delegates, a Student Representative, and the Chapter’s Newsletter Editor. The Newsletter Editor is a non-voting member of the Executive Board. The Executive Board is responsible for overseeing and planning of Annual Meeting and Technical Training, can receive proposed resolutions and public statements from two or more members for consideration at any time, and is responsible for ruling on appeals to the Ethics Board of the Society.
- CLAUSE J – WEBSITE WEBMASTER** – The Webmaster shall be appointed by the Executive Board and will maintain and update the Chapter’s website in a timely manner. The Website Webmaster reports to the Executive Board on an as-needed basis.
- CLAUSE K – CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NORTH CENTRAL SECTION** – The President or appointed representative will represent and serve the Chapter as liaison to the Executive Board of the Section, provide the editor of the Section newsletter with news and items of interest from the Chapter area, and serve as a contact among the Section, Chapters, and members in their respective areas. The Chapter Representative will assist the Section President by verifying mailing addresses, conducting membership drives, polling individual members, and assisting in routing Section business.
- CLAUSE L – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** – The Executive Board may, by majority vote of Chapter members in good standing, appoint an Executive Director for the Chapter. The Executive Director shall report directly to the Chapter President and shall have no authority to act on behalf of the Chapter without having received prior approval of the Executive Board. Upon the decision of the Executive Board to appoint an Executive Director, the Board shall publish a solicitation for applications in the Chapter publication of record one month prior to

the due date for applications. The Executive Director need not be a voting member of the Chapter or Society to be appointed. In making the appointment, the Executive Board may give special consideration to the applicant's current employment and whether or not that employment would adversely impact upon the ability to serve as Executive Director. Appointment by the Executive Board will be finalized through a signed contract with the selected applicant. The function of the Executive Director will be to assist the Executive Board in carrying out all administrative and managerial affairs necessary to implement the policies and programs developed by the Chapter, Section, and Society and specifically the Objectives of the Chapter.

Section 4. TERM OF OFFICE – The Officers, Delegates, and Student Representative take office immediately following the Annual Meeting, and unless re-elected, terminate their duties at the conclusion of the next Annual Meeting, or at such time as their successors are elected and installed, except the President-Elect who shall be installed as President and the President who shall be installed as Past-President. The President-Elect, President, and Past-President will each serve 1 year. The Secretary and Treasurer will each serve staggered 2-year terms, and the two Delegates will each serve staggered 2-year terms. The Student Representative serves a 1-year position, although their term of office will follow Chapter bylaws, and not necessarily the Annual Meeting cycle.

Section 5. VACANCIES – If the office of President is vacated for any reason, the President-Elect shall assume the duties of the President for the balance of the unexpired term of the President. The Past-president shall assume the duties of the President in the absence of or upon the inability of the President or the President-Elect to serve until the Executive Board appoints a President, pro tempore. All other vacancies, excluding Student Representative, in any unexpired term of an elective office shall be filled through appointment by the Executive Board, although an appointed President-Elect shall serve only until the next scheduled Chapter election where the membership shall elect the next President. All appointees must be members in good standing of the Chapter and Society. In the event that the Student Representative cannot or will not perform duties for a period of at least 1 month, that Student Chapter will select another Representative to fill out the remainder of that year.

Article VI. Meetings

Section 1. REGULAR MEETINGS – Regular membership meetings shall be held at such times and places as determined and published by the Executive Board.

CLAUSE A – ANNUAL MEETING – The regular meeting, historically held in February or March, shall be known as the Annual Meeting, and shall be for the purposes of installing Officers, receiving reports of Officers and Committees, acting as a forum for education and information exchange, and for any other business that may arise.

CLAUSE B – MEETING NOTICE – Members must be notified at least 1 month prior to Annual and Regular Meetings and at least 10 days prior to Special Meetings.

CLAUSE C – QUORUM – Quorum for the Annual Meeting of the Chapter shall be over 50% of the membership or 10 members in good standing, whichever is less; and for Executive Board meetings, three members of the Board.

CLAUSE D – MEETING RULES – Order of business and parliamentary procedures at Chapter meetings shall follow *The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure (Sturgis)*, latest revision.

CLAUSE E – BYLAWS – Chapter bylaws shall be available on the Chapter's website and electronically from any Officer upon request for inspection during every meeting. If

these bylaws are revised and approved by a majority of the Chapter members voting, the new revision must be approved by The Wildlife Society before becoming effective.

Section 2. SPECIAL MEETINGS – Special Meetings may be called by the Executive Board at any time, provided due notice (Article VI Section 1B) and the purpose of the meeting is given.

CLAUSE A – Only items listed in the call for a Special Meeting shall be acted upon at the Special Meeting.

CLAUSE B – All Clauses under Section 1 of this Article apply as well to Special Meetings.

Article VII. Management and Finances

Section 1. EXECUTIVE BOARD – The Wisconsin Chapter shall be governed by an Executive Board composed of its Officers, two Chapter members known as Delegates, and a Student Representative, duly elected to the Board.

CLAUSE A – CONDUCT – The Executive Board shall conduct its affairs in conformance with the provisions of these bylaws, and those of The Wildlife Society. The Board is authorized to act for the Wisconsin Chapter between meetings and shall report its interim actions to the members at each succeeding Annual Meeting. All official Board actions shall be recorded in the minutes of the Chapter and electronically published in *Intelligent Tinkering*, which is available on the Chapter's Website. Any Board action may be overridden by two-thirds of the Voting Members in good standing attending a Regular Meeting or by electronic and/or written ballot of two-thirds of the Chapter's Voting Members in good standing.

CLAUSE B – ATTENDANCE – Chapter members may attend Board meetings, but may participate therein only when asked to do so, and they may not vote at such meetings.

Section 2. FINANCE – Funds of the Chapter shall be under the supervision of the Executive Board and shall be handled by the Treasurer. The financial records of the Chapter shall be examined annually by the Audit Committee (Article VIII, Section 2, Clause E).

CLAUSE A – The Treasurer need not be bonded.

CLAUSE B – Funds shall be derived from any of the following: dues, special assessments, work projects, contributions, or interest and dividends from investments in the financial markets.

CLAUSE C – Funds shall be placed in a federally-insured bank, savings and loan association, or credit union with the exception of funds in the Bjerke Fund.

CLAUSE D – The Bjerke Fund (named in honor of the donor, Floyd Bjerke) can be invested in financial markets under the direction of the Executive Board with advisement from the Fund Raising and Investment Committee. The corpus of the Bjerke Fund will be invested and protected from expenditure to provide long-term stable income for the Mission (Article I, Section 3) of the Chapter. If agreed upon by a two-thirds vote of the Chapter membership, in good standing, the corpus can be drawn upon for emergency situations.

CLAUSE E – The Chair of the Fund Raising and Investment Committee shall inform the President and the Executive Board of the status of the Bjerke Fund and any earnings that are available for distribution on an annual basis.

CLAUSE F – Interest or dividends resulting from the Bjerke Fund will be available for the Chapter's normal operating expenses. Programs and projects that shall be given priority consideration are:

- continuing education that advances the skills of practicing wildlife professional,

- scholarships to deserving college students enrolled in wildlife ecology curriculum,
- publications of symposia, workshops, or projects sponsored by the Chapter,
- research that advances the knowledge and understanding of wildlife biology.

CLAUSE G – If the Chapter budget allows, the Executive Board may provide grants for up to two members, in good standing, to attend the Annual Meeting of The Wildlife Society.

Section 3. REPORTS –

CLAUSE A – Within 20 days after an election or other official actions, the Secretary shall report such actions to the Executive Director of The Wildlife Society, North Central Section Representative, and North Central Section President. An annual report shall be forwarded to these same parties.

CLAUSE B – To meet IRS reporting requirements the Treasurer will send a statement of calendar-year income and expenses, together with starting and ending balances to the Executive Director of the Society in January of each year for federal tax reporting by the Society office. If the Chapter obtains an Employer ID Number through the Society, the Chapter shall also submit required IRS forms to the IRS and the IRS confirmation receipt to the Society. The Chapter may contact the Society to determine the appropriate form to submit for IRS reporting purposes.

Section 4. FILES – The Chapter shall maintain a file containing: bylaws of The Wildlife Society, the North Central Section, and the Wisconsin Chapter; minutes of all Regular and Special Meetings of the membership and of the Executive Board; correspondence pertinent to Chapter affairs; all committee reports; financial statements and records; and all other material designated as pertinent by the Executive Board. A “procedure for filing” shall be kept in the Chapter file for the guidance of each succeeding Secretary and Treasurer. Pertinent chapters from the Society’s “Operations Manual” are provided on the TWS Officers’ website (www.wildlife.org/officers). All minutes, correspondence, committee reports, financial statements and records, and other related pertinent correspondence shall become archived in the President’s office.

Section 5. RESOLUTIONS AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS –

CLAUSE A – Two or more members may submit resolutions or statements for consideration by the Chapter’s Executive Board (Article V, Section 3). Position statements will be approved in the following manner:

- 1) A draft position statement is written by a Conservation Affairs Sub-committee or a group of Chapter members with expertise on the issue.
- 2) The Chapter Executive Board reviews the draft and provides feedback to authors.
- 3) A revised position statement is sent to the Chapter membership with a maximum 30-day comment period. A shorter period may be deemed necessary by the Executive Board. Comments are sent to the Executive Board and forwarded to the authors.
- 4) The authors review and consider comments and prepare the final position statement.
- 5) A final position statement is given to the Executive Board for approval.
- 6) The approved position statement is posted on the Chapter website and members are notified.
- 7) A copy of the approved position statement is forwarded to the Director of Government Affairs at TWS headquarters.

CLAUSE B – On issues in which there are no previously established Chapter policies and action is required on a reasonably short notice, the President, or designated representative, may present a Public Statement on behalf of the chapter provided that: 1) the concept of the statement is brought to the Executive Board’s attention and is accepted

by them prior to public issuing of the statement; and 2) electronic copies of the statement are sent to the membership within 15 days after public issuing of the statement.

Furthermore, the Chapter may issue statements pertaining to subjects in its locale:

- 1) when the content of the statement falls within the established policy of the Society; and
- 2) in the absence of existing position statements by the Society,

the Chapter will not issue statements that may be in conflict with the policy of the Society without prior approval of the Society's Council. All statements will follow the "Policy Guidelines" (<http://wildlife.org/network/tws-local/annual-reporting/>). The Chapter membership, The Wildlife Society, the North Central Section Representative, and the North Central Section President must receive copies of any Resolution or Public Statement within 15 days of such action.

Article VIII. Committees

Section 1. APPOINTMENTS – The Chapter President shall consider suggestions of the Executive Board in appointing chairpersons for all regular standing Committees, except the Nominating and Elections Committee (Article V, Section 1), and all special Committees. Committee chairpersons shall complete their committee assignments with the President's assistance. All resolutions or reports requiring formal Chapter action will be made available at the Annual Meeting and/or via the Chapter's website. Reports will include the following: (1) Objective; (2) Progress; and (3) Recommendations. The President-Elect will distribute the report with the minutes of the Annual Meeting and will prepare a list of all Committees and their recommendations for distribution at the Annual Meeting. Committees and committee reports will be published in *Intelligent Tinkering*, which is available on the Chapter's Website.

Section 2. COMMITTEES –

CLAUSE A – NOMINATING AND ELECTIONS – See Article V, Section 1.

CLAUSE B – MEMBERSHIP – This Committee shall consist of at least three members in good standing and encourage the maximum number of qualified persons residing or within the Chapter's organizational area to become members of The Wildlife Society, the North Central Section, and the Wisconsin Chapter.

CLAUSE C – CONSERVATION AFFAIRS – Subcommittee(s) shall consist of at least three members in good standing to review legislative proposals, administrative regulations, environmental assessments, impact statements, develop position statements, respond to issues affecting wildlife or wildlife habitat within the organizational area of the Chapter, and make recommendations to the Executive Board for any action that should be taken by the Chapter. The Chairperson may ask any Chapter member in good standing to assist with reviews. Conservation Affairs subcommittees include Climate Change, Deer Management, Farm-Wildlife, Forestry and Wildlife, Government Affairs, Wildlife Damage Management, Wolf Management, and Furbearer Issues.

CLAUSE D – INFORMATION AND EDUCATION – This Committee shall consist of the Website Webmaster, the Newsletter Editor, and the current President. The current President shall chair the committee. The Committee shall seek and employ methods of informing the public of basic wildlife management concepts and of Chapter and Society activities, interests, and policies.

CLAUSE E – AUDIT – This Committee shall be chaired by the Past-President and consist of at least two additional non-Board members, all in good standing. It shall review the financial records and support documents of the Chapter at least annually. The committee shall also review these records and documents prior to any change in the office of the Treasurer. The

audit committee shall submit their annual audit report to the Executive Board for approval. The approved report shall be entered into the minutes for that Executive Board meeting.

CLAUSE F -PUBLIC COMMENT – This Committee shall consist of at least five members in good standing, including the President-elect, President, and Past-President, plus a minimum of two members in good standing recommended by the Executive Board. Any member of this committee, singularly or in combination, shall represent the Chapter’s position at public hearings, legislative proceedings, or other venues as requested. A non-committee member, with approval from the Executive Board, can be asked to testify on the Chapter’s behalf. Members of this Committee should represent different geographic regions of the state, employment entities, and expertise in subject areas.

CLAUSE G – FUND RAISING AND INVESTMENTS – This Committee shall consist of at least three members in good standing, including the Treasurer, President, and one other appointed by the Executive Board to research and implement sound management of the Chapter finances. The Bjerke Fund will be managed by the Fund Raising and Investments Committee of the Chapter following investment guidelines approved by the Executive Board. Only interest earned on the Bjerke Fund may be used for funding appropriate projects.

CLAUSE H – AWARDS – This Committee shall consist of at least three members in good standing. The Committee will solicit nominations and select the winner, with approval from the Executive Board, for the Wisconsin Award and Don Rusch Memorial Award. All awards are presented at the Annual Meeting.

CLAUSE I – LEOPOLD SCHOLARSHIP – This Committee shall consist of at least three members in good standing to solicit nominations and select the winner, with approval from the Executive Board, for an Undergraduate and Graduate Student Leopold Scholarship. Each Scholarship recipient receives a cash award, if the budget allows.

CLAUSE K – ANNUAL MEETING PLANNING – This Committee shall develop and arrange programs, events, and logistics for the Chapter Annual Meeting. The President and President-elect will co-chair the meeting with assistance from the Executive Board and other Chapter members.

CLAUSE L— DIVERSITY IN THE WILDLIFE PROFESSION—This committee will be focused on a broad spectrum of diversity, equity, and inclusion issues inherent within the profession that could encompass but are not limited to: gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, education, and national origin. It shall undertake activities that include advising the chapter on ways to recognize, support, and promote a diverse and inclusive environment associated with chapter meetings, events, training, mentoring, outreach, and other business. The committee shall include a minimum of three members in good standing, including a representative from each subcommittee. Diversity in the Wildlife Profession subcommittees include Women of Wildlife and others formed through a majority vote of membership.

Section 3. ACCOUNTABILITY – All Committees shall be accountable to the Executive Board, under the general supervision of the President.

Section 4. TENURE – All Committees shall serve until new Committees are appointed in their stead or until the duties assigned to the Committee have been discharged.

Article IX. Awards

Section 1. PURPOSE – The Chapter, operating through the Board and the appropriate Committees, shall give recognition and publicity to outstanding professional achievements annually. The Chapter need not present all awards in any given year.

CLAUSE A – WISCONSIN AWARD – Recognition shall be given to a person or group on the basis of their overall achievement or service to the wildlife profession in the fields of management, research, teaching, public relations, or legislative direction. Nominees may be any member of the wildlife profession and its supporting disciplines including members of governing bodies.

CLAUSE B – DON RUSCH MEMORIAL AWARD – Recognition shall be given to an individual meeting the following requirements: 1) A wildlife professional actively working in the field of management, research, or education in the State of Wisconsin. 2) A member in good standing of the Wisconsin Chapter. 3) An active participant in or a strong supporter of the role of hunting in wildlife conservation

CLAUSE C – ALDO LEOPOLD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS – Recognition shall be given to both a graduate student and an undergraduate student who are: 1) continuing their professional training as future wildlife researchers and managers; and 2) who have made a commitment to the wildlife profession and shown exceptional commitment to developing themselves professionally.

CLAUSE D – SPECIAL RECOGNITION – Recognition may be given to Chapter members in good standing on the basis of distinguished service or remarkable achievements.

Article X. Lobbying and Public Affairs

Section 1. The Executive Board shall limit Chapter lobbying activity to no more than 5% of the total hours expended by members on Chapter business. No Chapter funds shall be appropriated to pay for Chapter members who lobby at the state or national level.

Section 2. The Chapter may foster an information exchange among Chapter leaders and members regarding policy issues. The opinions expressed by Chapter members clearly must be identified as those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect official policy of the Chapter unless so stated and approved by the Executive Board.

Article XI. Dissolution

Section 1. STANDARDS TO CONTINUE - The Chapter must continue to demonstrate its viability to the Council of The Wildlife Society by meeting the following standards: a) complying with the criteria for affiliation (Article 1, Section 4), b) submitting the required reports to The Wildlife Society (Article VII, Section 3), and c) fulfilling the purposes and intent of these bylaws. The Council of The Wildlife Society may dissolve the Chapter following a 1-year grace period during which time the Chapter can come back into compliance.

Section 2. DISSOLUTION - The Council of The Wildlife Society may dissolve the Wisconsin Chapter, following a 1-year grace period during which time the Wisconsin Chapter can come back into compliance, if (1) it finds the Chapter is not meeting the standards established in Article XI, Section 1 and/or (2) if the Chapter fails to file required IRS reports, as set out in Article VII, Section 3, for 3 consecutive years. Upon dissolution of the Wisconsin Chapter of The Wildlife Society, its Executive Board shall transfer all assets, accrued income, and other properties to The Council of The Wildlife Society with the understanding that said assets will be held for a maximum of 5 years from the date of dissolution of the Chapter, for redistribution to another chapter that may be established in approximately the same geographical area

within said 5-year period. If another chapter is not established within said area and period of time, the Society Council may use or distribute all assets, accrued income, and other properties as best determined by the Council in accordance with Society Bylaws.

Article XII. Amendments to Bylaws

Section 1. PROCEDURE – These bylaws may be altered or amended by a majority of the Chapter members voting electronically or at any Regular or Special Meeting if due notice of the proposed changes is followed. A member who will be absent from the meeting may file an electronic or written absentee ballot.

Section 2. CONFORMANCE – No amendment to these bylaws shall be enacted that results in a conflict with the bylaws of The Wildlife Society. If these bylaws are revised, the new revision must be approved by the Society before becoming effective.