

NATURAL LEGACY CONFERENCE 2015

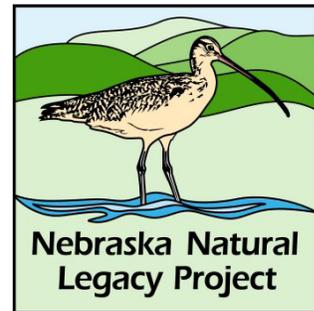
Celebrating 10 Years of the Nebraska Natural Legacy Project



Holiday Inn Convention Center
Kearney, NE

September 29-30

(Abstracts available at NebraskaNaturalLegacy.org)



SEPTEMBER 29

8:15 AM CHECK-IN AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:45 AM WELCOME (Ballroom I)

Rick Schneider, NE Game & Parks Commission

9:00 AM A Decade of the Nebraska Natural Legacy Project

Kristal Stoner, NE Game & Parks Commission

9:35 AM Partnership Makes All the Difference

Mace Hack, The Nature Conservancy

Shelly Kelly, Sandhills Task Force

10:15 AM BREAK

10:45 AM *Mark Pinkerton, NE Game & Parks Commissioner*

**11:00 AM Keynote Presentation: Creating the Big Tent to Support
Conservation Needs of All Wildlife and All People**

Naomi Edelson, National Wildlife Federation

12:00 PM LUNCH (Staterooms D, E, & F)

LITTLE LIVES, BIG JOBS (Ballroom I)

STREAM WILDLIFE (Ballroom II)

1:00 PM Macroinvertebrate diversity in Nebraska's
Biologically Unique Landscapes
Barbara Hayford

Influence of non-native trout on native non-game fish in
Nebraska headwater streams
*Kelly Turek, *Kevin Pope, and Mark Pegg*

1:30 PM Bringing back the pollinators
Jennifer Hopwood

Stream fish populations of the Keya Paha watershed,
Nebraska
Cassidy Gerdes

2:00 PM Freshwater mussel propagation in Nebraska
*Ted Bartels, Joe Cassidy, Josh Cloeter,
Bryan Sweet, and *Dean Rosenthal*

River otter distribution and delisting in Nebraska
Nathan Bieber and Melissa Panella

1:00-2:30 PM The Nebraska Oak Woodland Alliance will meet
in Stateroom B.

2:30 PM BREAK

* Presenting author

SEPTEMBER 29 (CONT.)

CONSERVING RARE PLANTS AND WOODLANDS

(Ballroom I)

- 3:00 PM Ecosystem stewardship approach to restoring riparian cottonwood communities: restoring cottonwood dynamics with fire
**Carissa L. Wonkka, Dirac Twidwell, Christine H. Bielski, and Craig R. Allen*
- 3:30 PM Rare plant surveys in western Nebraska: Kimball Grasslands and sandsage prairie clover (*Dalea cylindriceps*)
Jim Locklear
- 4:00 PM What is growing? Where? And why? Monitoring and modeling oak seedling regeneration and tree community composition in Indian Cave State Park
**Daniel R. Uden and Noelle M. Hart*
- 4:30 PM Balancing conflicting values of ecosystem services: adaptive management along the rangeland-woodland interface
**Kent Fricke and Joseph Fontaine*

ALL ABOUT THE BIRDS

(BALLROOM II)

- Nest survival of shortgrass prairie birds in an adaptive grazing management plan
*Amber Carver, *Angela M. Dwyer, and Michael Wunder*
- First documented nesting of Northern Saw-whet Owls in Nebraska
Wayne Mollhoff
- Habitat use of Mountain Plovers during nest incubation
Colin Woolley
- Indirect effects of a wind energy facility on the behavior of Greater Prairie-Chickens (*Tympanuchus cupido pinnatus*) at leks in Nebraska
**Mary Bomberger Brown, Jennifer A. Smith, Cara E. Whalen, and Larkin A. Powell*

5:00–6:00 PM CASH BAR (Staterooms D, E, & F)

6:00 PM DINNER (Staterooms D, E, & F)

After-dinner presentation:

Influence of Creative Pursuits on Conservation

Marian Langan, Executive Director of Audubon Nebraska

SEPTEMBER 30

8:00–8:30 AM CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

Check-in for Day 2 registrants only

8:30 AM WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Ballroom I)

Melissa Panella

8:35 AM Quail successes in Missouri: partnerships, progress, and prairies

Elsa Gallagher

9:10 AM Midpoint of a 25-year implementation plan for the Saline Wetlands Conservation Partnership

Tom Malmstrom

9:35 PM Resilience of Sandhills Grassland to an extreme wildfire and drought event

**Jack R. Arterburn, Dirac Twidwell, David A. Wedin, and Walter H. Schacht*

10:00 AM BREAK

SEPTEMBER 30 (Cont.)

- 10:25 AM** Mountain lions in Nebraska
Sam Wilson
- 10:50 AM** Spatiotemporal productivity patterns in grassland landscapes during a changing climate
**Christine H. Bielski, Dirac Twidwell, Brady W. Allred, Carissa L. Wonkka, Samuel D. Fuhlendorf, David M. Engle, Tyson E. Ochsner, J. D. Carlson, and Erik S. Krueger*
- 11:15 AM** Why are salamander populations declining in Nebraska?
Dennis Ferraro
- 11:40 AM** Field Trip Announcements
- 12:00 PM** **BOX LUNCH TO GO**

FIELD TRIP TO AUDUBON'S ROWE SANCTAURY

Tour the results of more than 40 years of conservation along the Central Platte River, where cranes, additional migratory birds, and other wildlife depend on habitat.

FIELD TRIP TO RAINWATER BASIN WETLANDS

Ducks Unlimited and the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture will guide you through wetland conservation projects in this landscape of hemispheric importance to shorebirds.

