

1 **BYLAWS OF THE WESTERN SECTION OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY, INC.**

2 Organized: January 15, 1954

3 As Amended and Approved February 17, 2017

4 **ARTICLE I. NAME, AREA, AFFILIATION, AND COMPOSITION**

5 Section 1. NAME - The name of this organization shall be the Western Section of the Wildlife Society
6 (hereinafter referred to as the Section).

7 Section 2. AREA - This Section shall have as its area of organization the States of California, Nevada,
8 Hawaii and the Territory of Guam.

9 Section 3. CRITERIA FOR AFFILIATION - The Section shall conform to Bylaws, Code of Ethics,
10 objectives, policies and positions as adopted by The Wildlife Society, Inc¹. (hereinafter, The
11 Wildlife Society, Inc., may be referred to as The Society).

12 Section 4. COMPOSITION - The Section shall be composed of those Chapters that affiliate with the
13 Section, and those professionals and others, regardless of age, race, religion, gender, ethnicity,
14 disability, sexual orientation, or nationality who are interested in wildlife resources, who subscribe
15 to The Society's objectives and Code of Ethics and who are interested in the affairs of the
16 Section.

17 **ARTICLE II. OBJECTIVES AND IMPLEMENTATION**

18 Section 1. OBJECTIVES - Consistent with the objectives of The Society, the Section objectives are:

- 19 1. To encourage the highest standards in all activities of the wildlife profession.
20 2. To recognize and commend outstanding work in the profession and in other efforts of wildlife
21 conservation and ecology.
22 3. To support and promote the activities and objectives of The Society and Chapters within the
23 Section regarding wildlife needs, problems, and events in the Western Section area.

24 Section 2. IMPLEMENTATION - To achieve these objectives, this Section proposes to:

- 25 1. Provide opportunities for communication among Section members and between Section
26 members and The Society.
27 2. Provide opportunities for continuing education for Section members.
28 3. Evaluate and respond to proposed or enacted social actions that could affect wildlife or its
29 habitats.
30 4. Recognize and commend outstanding professional achievements in the maintenance,
31 restoration, and enhancement of wildlife and their habitats.
32 5. Focus the aims and objectives of The Society and the Western Section upon professional
33 wildlife needs, problems, and events in local situations.
34 6. Encourage communication between members and non-members to facilitate understanding
35 and effectiveness of research and management of wildlife resources.
36

¹ The Wildlife Society was incorporated in 1948 under the laws of the District of Columbia.

37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76

ARTICLE III. ORGANIZATION

Section 1. WESTERN SECTION - In order to carry out its objectives the Section shall be governed by a board of directors called the Executive Board as described in Article VI, Section 3 (hereinafter the Executive Board will be referred to as the Board), and shall include Chapters which provide member-oriented activities at local levels.

Section 2. CHAPTERS – Chapters within the Section Area (Article I, Section 2) may be formed or dissolved according to the bylaws of The Society.

ARTICLE IV. SECTION YEAR

The Section operating and fiscal year shall begin January 1.

ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. REGULAR MEMBER - Regular membership in the Western Section shall be available to any person who is a member of The Society who resides in or conducts professional activities within the organizational area of the Section (Article I Section 2).

Section 2. ASSOCIATE MEMBER - Associate membership in the Western Section shall be available to any person who is a member of The Society but neither lives nor conducts professional activities within the organizational area of the Section (Article I Section 2) OR who is not a member of The Society, but has an interest in the objectives and activities of the Section and Society.

Section 3. CHARTER MEMBER - Charter Members are those members in good standing on the Section membership rolls as of July 30, 1953.

Section 4. HONORARY MEMBER - Honorary Members of the Section shall be persons who, by a majority vote of Section Members, have been thus recognized for their achievements. Persons granted Honorary Membership by The Society and residing in the Section shall likewise be recognized as Honorary Members of the Section.

Section 5. DUES - Annual dues shall be payable by each member to the Treasurer. Annual Section dues also may be paid to The Society's Headquarters office, along with Society dues, and subsequently will be remitted to the Section. Dues are payable on the membership anniversary date.

Clause A. Dues Establishment - Annual dues shall include a basic fee for operations and services of the Section. The Board may periodically adjust the basic fee within limits indicated by the change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) occurring February to February, rounded to the nearest dollar. Adjustments in the basic fee in excess of that limit shall be recommended by the Board and submitted to the membership for approval. Changes in dues will be sent to the Society by April 30 and will become effective July 1.

Clause B. Dues Categories - The Western Section recognizes the following dues categories for both Regular and Associate Members:

1. Standard. Standard dues are paid by members not entitled to other dues categories 2 to 7.
2. Life Member - A member who pays full Life Member dues is exempt from paying subsequent annual Section dues. Life membership is set at up to 22.5 times the standard dues rounded up to the nearest 5 dollar increment.

- 77 3. Retired - A member retired from full-time employment who has paid Standard dues for at
78 least three years is entitled to dues set at up to 50% of Standard dues rounded up to the
79 nearest dollar.
- 80 4. Student - A member enrolled in college level curricula or attending a post-secondary
81 school is entitled to dues set at up to 50% of Standard dues rounded up to the nearest
82 dollar.
- 83 5. Youth – A member enrolled in a high school or secondary education program or younger
84 is entitled to dues set at up to 25% of Standard dues rounded up to the nearest dollar.
- 85 6. Early Career Professional - A member who is: a) recently employed in an entry level
86 position; b) in a less than full time position; or c) a recently graduated student who is
87 seeking employment in the wildlife profession is entitled to dues set at up to 50% of
88 Standard dues rounded up to the nearest dollar for a period generally not to exceed five
89 years. Members are expected to pay Standard dues if they are financially capable.
- 90 7. Honorary - Honorary Members are exempt from annual Section dues.
- 91 8. Supporting – A member who provides additional financial support to the Section by
92 paying dues set at two times Standard dues rounded up to the nearest 5 dollar
93 increment.
- 94 9. Contributing – A member who provides additional financial support to the Section by
95 paying dues set at three times Standard dues rounded up to the nearest 5 dollar
96 increment.

97 Section 6. - PRIVILEGES - Members have privileges and responsibilities of their respective and
98 appropriate memberships.

99 Clause A. Voting - Regular Members, Associate Members, and Honorary Members may vote in
100 Section elections.

101 Clause B. Regular Members - Only Regular Members shall be entitled to hold office, serve as
102 Committee Chairs, and represent the Section's and Society's name or position officially when
103 so appointed by the Executive Board or by Officer appointment.

104 Clause C. Associate Members - Associate Members shall be entitled to serve on Committees or
105 assist with Section activities. Associate Members are NOT entitled to hold office, serve as
106 Committee Chairs, or represent the Section's and Society's name or position officially.

107 Clause D. Honorary Members - Honorary Members who are voting members of The Wildlife
108 Society shall have the same rights and privileges as Section Regular Members (Article V,
109 Section 1). Honorary Members who are not voting members of The Wildlife Society shall
110 have the same rights and privileges as Associate Members (Article V, Section 2).

111 Section 7. RESIGNATION - Members may resign at any time by giving notice to the Section's Treasurer,
112 or will be considered to have resigned if annual Section dues are not paid. No refund of Section
113 dues will be made.

114 Section 8. REINSTATEMENT - Persons who are dropped from the rolls of the Section for non-payment of
115 dues or resignation may be reinstated into membership in the Section upon re-application and
116 payment of appropriate dues.
117

118
119
120
121

122
123
124
125

126

127
128
129
130
131

132
133
134
135

136
137

138
139
140

141
142
143
144
145
146

147
148

149
150

151
152
153

154
155

156
157

ARTICLE VI. VOTING, ELECTIONS AND OFFICERS

Section 1. NOMINATING AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE - The three-member Nominating and Elections Committee, selected by the Board (Article IX, Section 1), shall prepare a slate of candidates for each of the following positions: President-Elect, and Section Representative to The Society.

Clause A. Qualifications - All nominees must be Regular Members (Article V, Section 1). No one may hold more than 1 elective position simultaneously. Prior to accepting a nomination, the candidate must declare intent to resign an existing elective position if elected to the new position.

Clause B. Approval - Prior approval shall be obtained from candidates.

Clause C. President-Elect Nominees - Notice seeking nominees will be provided to membership at least 30 days prior to announcing the nomination slate. Additional nominees may be added to the Nominating and Elections Committee's slate upon the signed support of six (6) or more members, provided prior approval has been obtained from each nominee. Additional nominees may be part of the slate of two (2) candidates or may be in addition.

Clause D. Slate of One – If the Nominating and Elections Committee has contacted at least 20 bona-fide candidates for a second nomination of President-Elect and all have declined, a slate of one (1) candidate may be submitted to the membership for the position of President-Elect.

Clause E. Membership Notice - The nomination slate for President-Elect shall be submitted to the membership at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

Clause F. Section Representative – The nomination slate of two (2) candidates for Section Representative to The Society shall be submitted to the Nominating Committee of The Society.

Section 2. VOTING - Written or electronic ballots shall be received from the members by the Secretary and shall be counted by the Nominating and Elections Committee. For voting purposes, it is the sole responsibility of members to ensure they have provided the Section with a valid and current email address and/or postal address prior to the voting period. For ballot counting purposes, the President shall appoint a replacement for any member of the Nominating and Elections Committee who has been nominated for an office.

Clause A. Delinquent Membership - Members in arrears shall forfeit their rights to vote during the period of their delinquency.

Clause B. Absentee Ballot - A signed absentee ballot may be submitted to the Secretary by a member prior to the scheduled time for counting ballots.

Clause C. Majority Vote - The candidate receiving the largest number of votes shall be declared elected. In the event of a tie vote, an uneven number of members of the Board shall cast a secret deciding ballot.

Clause D. Section Representative - Balloting for Section Representative to The Society will be administered by The Society.

Clause E. Other Business – Other Section business requiring a membership vote will be decided by a majority of votes cast unless otherwise stipulated in the call for a vote.

158 Section 3. EXECUTIVE BOARD - The Executive Board shall act as the governing body for the Section
159 and shall be made up of officers of the Board, the duly elected or appointed Chapter
160 Representatives, Voting Board Appointees, and Other Committee Chairs. Officers of the Western
161 Section shall consist of President, President-Elect, Past President, Section Representative to The
162 Society, Treasurer, and Secretary. An Executive Committee, composed of the Officers of the
163 Western Section, is empowered to take action on behalf of the Executive Board between
164 meetings of the Executive Board on urgent matters. Board Appointees of the Western Section
165 shall consist of the chairs of the Professional Development Committee, Conservation Affairs
166 Committee and *Western Wildlife* Committee, and the Communications Content Editor. All
167 Executive Board members must be Regular Members of the Section. Major duties of Executive
168 Board members are listed below. Additional duties are provided in the Section's Operations
169 Manual.

170 Clause A. President - The President shall have general supervision of the Section officers, shall
171 appoint, with the advice of the Board, the Chairs of all standing and ad hoc committees as
172 provided in Article IX, Section 1, shall preside as the Chair at meetings of the Board, and
173 shall be an ex officio member of all committees, except the Nominating and Elections
174 Committee. The President leads the Executive Committee. The President submits an annual
175 report to TWS. The President may represent the Section or appoint alternate representatives
176 to other Section, or Society boards, committees or meetings.

177 Clause B. President-Elect - The President-Elect shall assume the duties of the President in the
178 absence or upon the inability of the President to serve, and shall perform any duties assigned
179 by the President. In the event the President-Elect cannot serve in the President's absence,
180 the Board shall appoint a President, pro tempore. The President-Elect shall succeed to the
181 office of the President at the close of the President's term of office. The President-Elect chairs
182 the Program Committee and serves on the Executive Committee.

183 Clause C. Past President – The immediate Past President shall be responsible for assisting and
184 advising the President and the Board in all matters concerning the Section and for conducting
185 other duties as assigned by the President. The Past-President chairs the Nominating and
186 Elections and Financial Review Committees and serves on the Executive Committee.

187 Clause D. Treasurer – The Treasurer shall be responsible for the funds of the Section and shall
188 submit financial reports at each Board meeting and at the Annual meeting of the Section. The
189 Treasurer is responsible for ensuring the timely preparation of appropriate tax forms,
190 submitting forms to the President for Executive Board review, filing reviewed forms with the
191 IRS to meet submittal deadlines, and providing proof of filing to the Society. The Treasurer
192 serves on the Executive Committee and serves as an ex officio member of the Financial
193 Review Committee.

194 Clause E. Section Representative to the Society - The Section Representative shall represent the
195 Section to The Society. This person shall represent and serve as liaison to The Society for
196 the Section, provide the editors of *The Wildlifer* and *The Wildlife Professional* with news and
197 items of interest from the Section area, and serve as a contact among The Society sections
198 and members in their respective areas. The Section Representative serves on the Executive
199 Committee.

200 Clause F. Chapter Representative to the Western Section - Each Chapter shall elect, or appoint,
201 following their respective bylaws a Chapter Representative to the Western Section. This
202 person shall represent and serve as liaison to the Section for the Chapter, provide the
203 Section with periodic written reports (not less than 1 per year) on Chapter activities, and
204 serve as a contact among the Section, Chapters, and members from their respective areas.
205 Chapter Representative duties include: a) attending in person or by proxy all Board meetings;
206 b) participating in discussions and voting on motions; c) ensuring that all Chapter officers are
207 members of The Society; d) ensuring that an annual financial statement from the Chapter is

208 submitted to the President; and e) assisting the Section President by verifying mailing
209 addresses, conducting membership drives, polling individual members, serving on Board
210 committees, and assisting in routine Section business. In the event that a Chapter is inactive
211 and fails to elect or appoint a Chapter Representative, the Board shall appoint a Chapter
212 Representative from the geographic area of the inactive Chapter.

213 Clause G. Secretary – The Secretary shall record and distribute the minutes of all meetings. The
214 Secretary is responsible for ensuring the timely submittal of Section election results and
215 Section Board member contact information to The Society. The Secretary serves on the
216 Executive Committee.

217 Clause H. Voting Board Appointees – Duties for the chairs of the Professional Development
218 Committee, Conservation Affairs Committee and *Western Wildlife* Committee, and the
219 Communications Content Editor include: a) attending in person or by proxy all Board
220 meetings; b) submitting written reports; and c) participating in discussions and voting on
221 motions. Other duties are described in Article IX.

222 Clause I. Other Committee Chairs – Duties for the chairs of other standing or ad hoc committees
223 not identified in Clause H include: a) submitting written reports for Board meetings; and b)
224 presenting committee activities to the Board as requested. Other duties are described in
225 Article IX. Other Committee Chairs may attend Board meetings and may participate in Board
226 discussions but do not vote.

227 Section 4. TERM OF OFFICE - The officers and Board members are installed at the Annual Business
228 Meeting, take office immediately upon installment, and unless reelected, terminate their duties at
229 the conclusion of the next Annual Meeting, or at such time as their successors are elected and
230 installed.

231 Clause A. President - The President shall serve for one (1) year, upon conclusion of the term the
232 President becomes the Past President.

233 Clause B. President-Elect - The President-Elect shall serve for one (1) year. Upon conclusion of
234 the term the President-Elect succeeds to the Presidency.

235 Clause C. Past President – The Past President shall serve a one- (1) year term.

236 Clause D. Section Representative - The Section Representative shall serve for three (3) years,
237 and may serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms as provided by TWS bylaws.

238 Clause E. Chapter Representative - Chapter Representatives serve on the Board according to
239 Chapter Bylaws.

240 Clause F. Treasurer – The Treasurer shall serve for two (2) years, is appointed by the President,
241 and may be reappointed for successive terms.

242 Clause G. Secretary – The Secretary shall serve for two (2) years, is appointed by the President,
243 and may be reappointed for successive terms.

244 Clause H. Voting Board Appointees – The Chairs of the Professional Development Committee,
245 Conservation Affairs Committee and *Western Wildlife* Committee, and the Communications
246 Content Editor shall serve for two (2) years and are appointed by the President. These
247 positions may be reappointed for successive terms, except the Communications Content
248 Editor, which shall serve a maximum of two (2) consecutive terms.

249 Clause I. Other Committee Chairs – Appointments are made as provided in Article IX, Section 1.

250 Section 5. VACANCIES - If the office of President is vacated for any reason, the President-Elect shall
251 assume the duties of the President for the balance of the unexpired term of the President. All
252 other Board officer vacancies except for Section Representative in any expired or unexpired
253 terms of an elective office or member or appointed member shall be filled through appointment by
254 the Executive Board, although an appointed President-Elect shall serve only until the next
255 scheduled Section election where the membership shall elect the next President. Section
256 Representative vacancies will be filled by the Society. All appointees must be Regular Members
257 of the Section.

258 Section 6. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

259 Clause A. Grounds for Removal – An officer, Board member or Chapter representative may be
260 removed for failing to adhere to TWS Code of Ethics, failing or neglecting the performance of
261 duties devolved upon an officer, committee chair or Chapter Representative, engaging in
262 improper conduct or conduct contrary to the best interests of TWS, violating these Bylaws, or
263 other causes, including failing to attend three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings of
264 the Executive Board without prior notification to the President.

265 Clause B. Officers, Voting Board Appointees and Chapter Representatives – The Executive
266 Board may consider removing an officer, voting board appointee or Chapter Representative
267 upon written petition of the membership signed by 15% of the Section’s Voting Members for
268 an officer or voting board appointee or by 15% of the Chapter’s Voting Members for a
269 Chapter Representative. The President will notify the respective Chapter President if Chapter
270 Representatives fail to attend regularly scheduled Executive Board meetings. Prior to acting
271 on a petition for removal, the Executive Board, by Secretary or designated TWS
272 representative, shall provide the challenged Board member with written notice of the petition
273 and the stated grounds for removal and an opportunity to appear before the Executive Board
274 to hear the allegations and present a response. The challenged Board member may waive
275 such hearing in writing and in lieu thereof submit his or her written response for consideration
276 by the Executive Board. Following such hearing or upon receipt of a signed written waiver of
277 a hearing, the Executive Board will consider the hearing response or submitted written
278 response, if any, and vote on the petitioned removal, requiring a two-thirds (2/3rds) majority
279 of the legal votes cast of the Executive Board. The Executive Board’s vote on the matter shall
280 be final and will be communicated in writing to the subject Board member within ten days of
281 the Executive Board’s vote.

282 Clause C. Other Committee Chairs – The President may consider removing an Other Committee
283 chair upon written petition signed by 20% of the Executive Board or 15% of the Section’s
284 Voting members. Prior to acting on a petition for removal, the President, shall provide the
285 challenged committee chair with written notice of the petition and the stated grounds for
286 removal and an opportunity to appear before the President to hear the allegations and
287 present a response. The President has discretion to seek advice from the Executive Board
288 regarding the petition. The challenged committee chair may waive such hearing in writing and
289 in lieu thereof submit his or her written response for consideration by the President. Following
290 such hearing or upon receipt of a signed written waiver of a hearing, if any, the President
291 shall decide the matter. The President’s decision on the matter shall be final and will be
292 communicated in writing to the committee chair within ten days of the decision.

293 **ARTICLE VII. MEETINGS**

294 Section 1. REGULAR MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS - Regular membership meetings shall be held at such
295 times and places as determined and published by the Executive Board.
296

- 297 Clause A. Annual Member's Meeting – The Annual Member's Meeting is held at the Section's
 298 Annual Meeting. The Annual Member's Meeting shall be for the purposes of installing
 299 officers, receiving reports of officers and committees, and for any other business that may
 300 arise.
- 301 Clause B. Meeting Notice - Members must be notified at least one (1) month prior to annual and
 302 regular meetings and at least ten (10) days prior to special meetings.
- 303 Clause C. Quorum - Quorum for the Annual Meeting of the Section shall be over 50 percent of
 304 the membership or 25 members in good standing, whichever is less: and for Board meetings,
 305 seven (7) members of the Board.
- 306 Clause D. Meeting Rules - Order of business and parliamentary procedures at Section meetings
 307 shall follow The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedures, latest revision, unless new
 308 rules are adopted by the Board.
- 309 Clause E. Bylaws - Section Bylaws shall be available for inspection during every meeting. If these
 310 Bylaws are revised, the new revision must be approved by The Society before becoming
 311 effective.

312 Section 2. SPECIAL MEETINGS - Special meetings may be called by the Board at any time, provided
 313 due notice (Article VII, Section 1B) and the purpose of the meeting are given.

314 Clause A. Scope - Only items listed in the call for a special meeting shall be acted upon at the
 315 special meeting.

316 Clause B. Procedures - All Clauses under Section 1 of this Article apply as well to special
 317 meetings.

318 **ARTICLE VIII. MANAGEMENT AND FINANCES**

319 Section 1. CONDUCT - The Board shall conduct its affairs in conformance with the provisions of these
 320 Bylaws, and those of The Society. The Board is authorized to act for the Section between
 321 meetings and shall report its interim actions to the members at each succeeding membership
 322 meeting. Any Board action may be overridden by two-thirds of the Regular Members attending a
 323 membership meeting.

324 Clause A. Attendance - Members may attend board meetings, but may participate therein only
 325 when asked to do so, and they may not vote at such meetings.

326 Section 2. FINANCE - Funds of the Western Section shall be under the supervision of the Board and shall
 327 be handled by the Treasurer. The financial records of the Section shall be periodically examined
 328 by the Financial Review Committee (Article IX, Section 2E).

329 Clause A. Bonding - The Treasurer need not be bonded.

330 Clause B. Sources - Funds shall be derived from dues, professional development proceeds,
 331 grants, special assessments, work projects, publications, other special activity sales, and
 332 contributions.

333 Clause C. Funds Security - Funds shall be placed in a federally-insured bank or savings and loan
 334 association.
 335

336 Section 3. REPORTS -Within 20 days after an election or other official action(s) the Secretary shall report
337 such action(s) to the Executive Director of The Society, and the Section Representative. The
338 President shall submit an annual report to the Executive Director of The Society. A statement of
339 calendar-year income and expenses, together with starting and ending balances, must be
340 submitted by the Treasurer to the President and to the Executive Director of The Society in
341 January of each year.

342 Section 4. FILES - The Section shall maintain a file containing Bylaws of The Society and the Section;
343 minutes of all regular and special meetings of the membership and the Board; correspondence
344 pertinent to Section affairs; all committee reports; financial statements and records; and all other
345 material designated as pertinent by the Board. A Section "Operations Manual" will be maintained
346 by the Executive Board and copies of the Bylaws and Operations Manual will be provided to all
347 incoming Board members. A historical record shall be maintained by the Section.

348 Section 5. RESOLUTIONS AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS - Two or more members may submit resolutions
349 or statements to the Conservation Affairs Committee (Article IX, Section 2D) for possible
350 consideration by the Section's Board. These shall be accepted or rejected by the Board, and, if
351 involving new policy, prepared for submission to the Section membership. Such new items must
352 be approved by two-thirds of the Section membership voting and must be transmitted to The
353 Society by the Western Section Representative if approved. Actions falling within previously
354 established Section policies may be carried out by any Section officer upon approval of the
355 Board. On issues where there are no previously established policies and that demand action of a
356 reasonably short notice, the President, or designated representative, may present a Public
357 Statement on behalf of the Section provided that: 1) the concept of the statement be brought to
358 the Board's attention and is accepted by them prior to public issuing of the statement; and 2)
359 copies of the statement are sent to the membership in the next regularly scheduled member
360 communication after public issuing of the statement. Furthermore, the Section may issue
361 statements pertaining to subjects in its locale;

- 362 a) when the content of the statement falls within the established policy of The Society; and
363 b) in the absence of existing statements by The Society.

364 The Section will not issue statements that may be in conflict with the policy of The Society without
365 prior approval of The Society's Council. All statements will follow the "Guidelines for Conservation
366 Affairs Activities" and conform to The Society's policy regarding conservation affairs as contained
367 in the Operations Manual. The Section membership, The Society, and the Western Section
368 Representative, must receive copies of any Resolution or Public Statement within 15 days of
369 such action.

370 Section 6. OPERATIONS MANUAL - The Executive Board shall maintain an Operations Manual listing
371 current procedures, and policies, together with the duties and responsibilities of officers and
372 committees.

373 Section 7. ENDOWMENT FUND - The Western Section shall maintain an Endowment Fund, the goal of
374 which is to accumulate a core of funds that shall not be depleted. The interest generated from the
375 Fund shall be used to support the Western Section's education, outreach, and scholarship
376 programs.

377 Clause A. Trustees - The Endowment Fund shall be managed by three Trustees, who shall be
378 members of the Western Section. The Treasurer of the Western Section shall be an ex officio
379 Trustee. The other two Trustees shall be appointed by the President, who should if possible
380 select individuals with relevant investment experience. Appointed Trustees may be removed
381 by a majority vote of the Executive Board. A mandatory vote on the removal of the Trustees
382 shall be made if the Fund's investment return in each of three consecutive years is less than
383 the annual rate of increase measured by the S&P 500 index.

384 Clause B. Contributions to the Fund - The Endowment Fund was established with an initial
385 amount of \$38,000. The Endowment Fund shall receive additional monies from all Life
386 Memberships, and from donations, bequests, and other sources, such as excess dues from
387 Supporting and Contributing memberships, as determined by majority vote of the Executive
388 Board. The Western Section Annual Meeting raffle proceeds shall be contributed to the
389 Endowment Fund unless otherwise allocated by majority vote of the Executive Board.

390 Clause C. Investment - The Fund shall be invested as determined by unanimous agreement of
391 the Trustees. If the Trustees cannot decide how to invest the Fund, the Executive Board shall
392 do so by majority vote.

393 Clause D. Management of the Principal - The principal of the Endowment Fund shall be
394 calculated by the Trustees at the end of each fiscal year. The principal shall be valued as the
395 sum of the initial \$38,000 endowment, plus Life Membership dues payments made after the
396 establishment of the Fund, plus all other allocations made to the Fund by the Executive
397 Board, plus an amount equal to the annual rate of inflation multiplied by the previous year's
398 principal. If the total value of the Fund is less than the calculated principal due to poor
399 investment performance, then the principal shall equal the total value of the Fund. The
400 Trustees may not recommend, nor may the Executive Board approve, any expenditure of the
401 Fund principal without approval of a majority vote of the Section membership.

402 Clause E. Funds Available for Expenditures - At the end of each fiscal year, the Trustees shall
403 determine the funds available for expenditure by subtracting the principal amount from the
404 total value of the Endowment Fund.

405 Clause F. Annual Reporting - The Trustees shall make an annual report to the Executive Board
406 describing the total Endowment Fund value, amount and calculation of the current principal,
407 and amount of the funds available for expenditure. The annual report shall also list the
408 investments made with the fund and describe the performance of the investments.

409 Clause G. Allocation of Available Funds - Funds determined by the Trustees to be available for
410 expenditure may only be used to support the Western Section's education, outreach, and
411 scholarship programs. The expenditure of funds may be recommended by the Student Affairs
412 Committee, Awards and Grants Committee, or Professional Development Committee, or by
413 other Executive Board members, or by Section members. Allocation of available funds shall
414 be decided by majority vote of the Executive Board.

415 **ARTICLE IX. COMMITTEES**

416 Section 1. APPOINTMENTS - The Section President shall consider suggestions of the Board when
417 appointing chairs of all standing and ad hoc committees, except the Nominating and Elections
418 Committee (Article VI, Section 1) and committee chairs where specified in Section 2 of this
419 Article. The Section President with concurrence from Committee chairs shall appoint other
420 Executive Board and Section members as necessary to the committees. Committee chairs shall
421 complete their committee's duties with the President's assistance. All committee chairs shall
422 submit a written summary of committee activities to the President before the close of each Annual
423 Meeting.

424 Section 2. DUTIES OF STANDING COMMITTEES - Major duties are outlined below. Additional duties are
425 provided in the Section's Operations Manual.

426 Clause A. Nominating and Elections - See Article VI, Section 1.
427

428 Clause B. Professional Development - This Committee shall develop workshops, conferences,
429 and symposia on current topics or needs of wildlife professionals. The President appoints the
430 chair of this committee, and Chapter Representatives, and other Section members shall
431 serve on this committee.

432 Clause C. Annual Meeting Planning - This committee shall develop and arrange programs and
433 events and logistics for the Section's Annual Meeting. The President-Elect shall chair this
434 committee, and the Past President, Professional Development Committee Chair, and Section
435 and Chapter representatives, and other Section members shall be members.

436 Clause D. Conservation Affairs - This committee shall review legislative proposals, administrative
437 regulations, environmental assessments and impact statements, and other subjects or issues
438 affecting wildlife or wildlife habitat within the organizational area of the Section and make
439 recommendations to the Board for any action that should be taken by the Section. This
440 committee shall seek and employ methods of informing the public of basic wildlife
441 management concepts and of Section and Society activities and interests. It will also function
442 as a liaison with agencies and other professional societies. The Chair may ask any Section
443 member to assist with reviews. This committee shall receive proposed resolutions from two
444 (2) or more members at any time, and shall prepare, submit and recommend action on such
445 items to the Board in accordance with Article VIII, Section 5.

446 Clause E. Financial Review - This committee shall be chaired by the Past President and consist
447 of at least two (2) additional Section members. The Treasurer serves as an ex officio
448 member. It shall review the financial records and support documents of the Section at least
449 annually.

450 Clause F. Personnel – The Personnel Committee shall be responsible for hiring any employees
451 or contract staff. The President shall chair this committee, and the Past President and
452 President-Elect shall serve on this committee.

453 Clause G. Awards and Grants - This committee shall administer the Section's awards and grants
454 programs. It also shall coordinate with the Section Representative to seek and submit
455 nominations for TWS awards. It shall also maintain a current file of the recipients of past
456 Section awards and grants.

457 Clause H. Student Affairs – This committee serves to promote increased student involvement
458 within the natural resources field, provide an opportunity to link and maintain connectivity with
459 all universities and colleges in the Section, address student or university-related issues and
460 concerns, and provide education and professional development opportunities to the student
461 body at large.

462 Clause I. Communications and Outreach – This committee coordinates with the Executive Board,
463 Chapters, and with members to solicit and prepare content to be shared via the Section's
464 communication platforms. The Chair will be the Communications Content Editor.

465 Clause J. Western Wildlife – This committee prepares and publishes the Section's publication,
466 Western Wildlife.

467 **ARTICLE X. PUBLICATIONS**

468 Section 1. SECTION NEWS - The Board shall cause to be published and distributed to the membership,
469 funds permitting, articles and news concerning activities of the Section and/or matters of
470 importance. Publishing may be electronic or in print.

471 Section 2. OTHER PUBLICATIONS - The Board may authorize the issuance of such regular or special
472 publication as it deems fitting and desirable within the scope of the objectives and purposes of the
473 Section as set forth in Article II.

474 **ARTICLE XI. AWARDS**

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

478 Clause A. “Raymond F. Dasmann Award for Professional of the Year” - Recognition shall be
479 given to members who have provided outstanding professional achievements.

480 Clause B. “Conservationist of the Year” Award - Recognition shall be given to notable wildlife
481 conservation achievements, events, or milestones occurring within the Section's area of
482 influence by citizens, groups, organizations, or institutions, not necessarily members of The
483 Society.

484 Clause C. “James D. Yoakum Award for Outstanding Service and Commitment” - Recognition
485 shall be given to individuals who have provided outstanding, long-term service, support, and
486 commitment to the Western Section of The Wildlife Society.

487 Clause D. “Chapter of the Year” Award - Recognition shall be given to the Chapter and its
488 members that achieved the most toward promoting wildlife conservation and responsible
489 wildlife management in the Western Section area.

490 Clause E. “Barrett A. Garrison Outstanding Mentor” Award - Recognition shall be bestowed to a
491 professional who has contributed to our profession by assisting the continued development of
492 students and/or young professionals in the Western Section area.

493 Section 2. AWARDS OF THE SOCIETY – The Section shall encourage members to submit nominations
494 for awards presented by The Society and may, through the Awards and Grants Committee,
495 submit nominations on members behalf.

496 Clause A. “Distinguished Services Award” The Wildlife Society Distinguished Service Award
497 recognizes TWS members who have made a long-term commitment to the Society based on
498 at least 20 years of membership and their actions to further the mission of the Society. The
499 member is someone who is/was “always there” and could be counted on to serve the
500 chapter, section, or international organization.

501 **ARTICLE XII. DISSOLUTION**

502 Upon dissolution of The Western Section of The Wildlife Society, its Executive Board shall
503 transfer all assets, accrued income, and other properties to the Council of The Wildlife Society
504 with the understanding that said assets will be held for a maximum of five (5) years from the date
505 of dissolution of the Section, for re-distribution to another Section that may be established in
506 approximately the same geographical area within said five-year period. If another Section is not
507 established within said area and period of time, The Wildlife Society Council may use or distribute
508 all assets, accrued income, and other properties as best determined by The Wildlife Society
509 Council in accordance with The Wildlife Society Bylaws.

510 **ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS**

511 Section 1. PROCEDURE - These Bylaws may be altered or amended by a majority of the Section
512 members voting by mail, electronically or at any annual or special meeting if due notice of the
513 proposed changes (Article VII, Section 1B) is followed.

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

517 **Prior Amendment History:**

518 Note: Only partial records prior to 2011

519 May 13, 1992

520 February 15, 2011

521 March 8, 2012

522 January 29, 2014

523 February 6, 2015

524 February 17, 2017

525 [End of Document]