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

Organized: January 15, 1954
As Amended and Approved February 17, 2017

ARTICLE I. NAME, AREA, AFFILIATION, AND COMPOSITION

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

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

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

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

ARTICLE II. OBJECTIVES AND IMPLEMENTATION

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

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

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

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

---

1 The Wildlife Society was incorporated in 1948 under the laws of the District of Columbia.
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.
3. Retired - A member retired from full-time employment who has paid Standard dues for at least three years is entitled to dues set at up to 50% of Standard dues rounded up to the nearest dollar.

4. Student - A member enrolled in college level curricula or attending a post-secondary school is entitled to dues set at up to 50% of Standard dues rounded up to the nearest dollar.

5. Youth – A member enrolled in a high school or secondary education program or younger is entitled to dues set at up to 25% of Standard dues rounded up to the nearest dollar.

6. Early Career Professional - A member who is: a) recently employed in an entry level position; b) in a less than full time position; or c) a recently graduated student who is seeking employment in the wildlife profession is entitled to dues set at up to 50% of Standard dues rounded up to the nearest dollar for a period generally not to exceed five years. Members are expected to pay Standard dues if they are financially capable.

7. Honorary - Honorary Members are exempt from annual Section dues.

8. Supporting – A member who provides additional financial support to the Section by paying dues set at two times Standard dues rounded up to the nearest 5 dollar increment.

9. Contributing – A member who provides additional financial support to the Section by paying dues set at three times Standard dues rounded up to the nearest 5 dollar increment.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Section 8. REINSTATEMENT - Persons who are dropped from the rolls of the Section for non-payment of dues or resignation may be reinstated into membership in the Section upon re-application and payment of appropriate dues.
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.
Section 3. EXECUTIVE BOARD - The Executive Board shall act as the governing body for the Section and shall be made up of officers of the Board, the duly elected or appointed Chapter Representatives, Voting Board Appointees, and Other Committee Chairs. Officers of the Western Section shall consist of President, President-Elect, Past President, Section Representative to The Society, Treasurer, and Secretary. An Executive Committee, composed of the Officers of the Western Section, is empowered to take action on behalf of the Executive Board between meetings of the Executive Board on urgent matters. Board Appointees of the Western Section shall consist of the chairs of the Professional Development Committee, Conservation Affairs Committee and Western Wildlife Committee, and the Communications Content Editor. All Executive Board members must be Regular Members of the Section. Major duties of Executive Board members are listed below. Additional duties are provided in the Section’s Operations Manual.

Clause A. President - The President shall have general supervision of the Section officers, shall appoint, with the advice of the Board, the Chairs of all standing and ad hoc committees as provided in Article IX, Section 1, shall preside as the Chair at meetings of the Board, and shall be an ex officio member of all committees, except the Nominating and Elections Committee. The President leads the Executive Committee. The President submits an annual report to TWS. The President may represent the Section or appoint alternate representatives to other 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 Board shall appoint a President, pro tempore. The President-Elect shall succeed to the office of the President at the close of the President's term of office. The President-Elect chairs the Program Committee and serves on the Executive Committee.

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

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

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

Clause F. Chapter Representative to the Western Section - Each Chapter shall elect, or appoint, following their respective bylaws a Chapter Representative to the Western Section. This person shall represent and serve as liaison to the Section for the Chapter, provide the Section with periodic written reports (not less than 1 per year) on Chapter activities, and serve as a contact among the Section, Chapters, and members from their respective areas. Chapter Representative duties include: a) attending in person or by proxy all Board meetings; b) participating in discussions and voting on motions; c) ensuring that all Chapter officers are members of The Society; d) ensuring that an annual financial statement from the Chapter is...
submitted to the President; and e) assisting the Section President by verifying mailing
addresses, conducting membership drives, polling individual members, serving on Board
committees, and assisting in routine Section business. In the event that a Chapter is inactive
and fails to elect or appoint a Chapter Representative, the Board shall appoint a Chapter
Representative from the geographic area of the inactive Chapter.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Clause I. Other Committee Chairs – Appointments are made as provided in Article IX, Section 1.
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. All other Board officer vacancies except for Section Representative in any expired or unexpired terms of an elective office or member or appointed member shall be filled through appointment by the Executive Board, although an appointed President-Elect shall serve only until the next scheduled Section election where the membership shall elect the next President. Section Representative vacancies will be filled by the Society. All appointees must be Regular Members of the Section.

Section 6. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

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

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

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

ARTICLE VII. MEETINGS

Section 1. REGULAR MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS - Regular membership meetings shall be held at such times and places as determined and published by the Executive Board.
Clause A. Annual Member’s Meeting – The Annual Member’s Meeting is held at the Section’s Annual Meeting. The Annual Member’s Meeting shall be for the purposes of installing officers, receiving reports of officers and committees, and for any other business that may arise.

Clause B. Meeting Notice - Members must be notified at least one (1) month prior to annual and regular meetings and at least ten (10) days prior to special meetings.

Clause C. Quorum - Quorum for the Annual Meeting of the Section shall be over 50 percent of the membership or 25 members in good standing, whichever is less: and for Board meetings, seven (7) members of the Board.

Clause D. Meeting Rules - Order of business and parliamentary procedures at Section meetings shall follow The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedures, latest revision, unless new rules are adopted by the Board.

Clause E. Bylaws - Section Bylaws shall be available for inspection during every meeting. If these Bylaws are revised, the new revision must be approved by The Society before becoming effective.

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

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

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

ARTICLE VIII. MANAGEMENT AND FINANCES

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

Clause A. Attendance - 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 Western Section shall be under the supervision of the Board and shall be handled by the Treasurer. The financial records of the Section shall be periodically examined by the Financial Review Committee (Article IX, Section 2E).

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

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

Clause C. Funds Security - Funds shall be placed in a federally-insured bank or savings and loan association.
Section 3. REPORTS - Within 20 days after an election or other official action(s) the Secretary shall report such action(s) to the Executive Director of The Society, and the Section Representative. The President shall submit an annual report to the Executive Director of The Society. A statement of calendar-year income and expenses, together with starting and ending balances, must be submitted by the Treasurer to the President and to the Executive Director of The Society in January of each year.

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

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

a) when the content of the statement falls within the established policy of The Society; and

b) in the absence of existing statements by The Society.

The Section 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 "Guidelines for Conservation Affairs Activities" and conform to The Society's policy regarding conservation affairs as contained in the Operations Manual. The Section membership, The Society, and the Western Section Representative, must receive copies of any Resolution or Public Statement within 15 days of such action.

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

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

Clause A. Trustees - The Endowment Fund shall be managed by three Trustees, who shall be members of the Western Section. The Treasurer of the Western Section shall be an ex officio Trustee. The other two Trustees shall be appointed by the President, who should if possible select individuals with relevant investment experience. Appointed Trustees may be removed by a majority vote of the Executive Board. A mandatory vote on the removal of the Trustees shall be made if the Fund's investment return in each of three consecutive years is less than the annual rate of increase measured by the S&P 500 index.
Clause B. Contributions to the Fund - The Endowment Fund was established with an initial amount of $38,000. The Endowment Fund shall receive additional monies from all Life Memberships, and from donations, bequests, and other sources, such as excess dues from Supporting and Contributing memberships, as determined by majority vote of the Executive Board. The Western Section Annual Meeting raffle proceeds shall be contributed to the Endowment Fund unless otherwise allocated by majority vote of the Executive Board.

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

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

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

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

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

ARTICLE IX. COMMITTEES

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

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

Clause A. Nominating and Elections - See Article VI, Section 1.
Clause B. Professional Development - This Committee shall develop workshops, conferences, and symposia on current topics or needs of wildlife professionals. The President appoints the chair of this committee, and Chapter Representatives, and other Section members shall serve on this committee.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ARTICLE X. PUBLICATIONS

Section 1. SECTION NEWS - The Board shall cause to be published and distributed to the membership, funds permitting, articles and news concerning activities of the Section and/or matters of importance. Publishing may be electronic or in print.
Section 2. OTHER PUBLICATIONS - The Board may authorize the issuance of such regular or special publication as it deems fitting and desirable within the scope of the objectives and purposes of the Section as set forth in Article II.

ARTICLE XI. AWARDS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ARTICLE XII. DISSOLUTION

Upon dissolution of The Western Section 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 five (5) years from the date of dissolution of the Section, for re-distribution to another Section that may be established in approximately the same geographical area within said five-year period. If another Section is not established within said area and period of time, The Wildlife Society Council may use or distribute all assets, accrued income, and other properties as best determined by The Wildlife Society Council in accordance with The Wildlife Society Bylaws.

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

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

Prior Amendment History:

Note: Only partial records prior to 2011
May 13, 1992
February 15, 2011
March 8, 2012
January 29, 2014
February 6, 2015
February 17, 2017
[End of Document]