

BYLAWS OF
THE U.T. MARTIN STUDENT CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY, INC.

ARTICLE I
NAME, AREA, AND AFFILIATION

- SECTION 1. Name - The name of this organization shall be the U. T. Martin Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society.
- SECTION 2. Area - This Student Chapter shall have as its area of organization the campus and environs of U.T. Martin.
- SECTION 3. Criteria for Affiliation - The U.T. Martin Student Chapter shall conform to Bylaws, Code of Ethics, objectives, policies and positions as adopted by The Wildlife Society, Inc. (Hereinafter, The Wildlife Society, Inc. shall be referred to as The Society.) The Student Chapter also shall maintain appropriate affiliation with the campus as required by U. T. Martin.

ARTICLE II

OBJECTIVE

- SECTION 1. Objectives - Consistent with the objectives of The Wildlife Society, the U.T. Martin Student Chapter objectives are:
- a. To develop and promote sound stewardship of wildlife resources and the environments upon which wildlife and humans depend.
 - b. To undertake an active role in preventing human-induced environmental degradation.
 - c. To increase awareness and appreciation of wildlife values.
 - d. To seek the highest standards in all activities of the wildlife profession.
- SECTION 2. Implementation - To aid in the achievement of these objectives, this Student Chapter proposes to:
- a. Provide opportunities for better liaison among individual members, their Chapters, Sections, and The Society.
 - b. Evaluate and respond to the principles involved in proposed or enacted societal actions that could affect wildlife or its habitats.

- c. Encourage professionalism and high standards of scholarship and help create a good understanding of employers' objectives and needs.
- d. Focus the aims and objectives of The Society and the Southeastern Section upon professional wildlife needs, problems, and events in local situations.
- e. Encourage communication between members and non-members (especially those on campus) to create climates where understanding of the resource management sciences will be improved.

ARTICLE III

CHAPTER YEAR

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

ARTICLE IV

MEMBERSHIP

- SECTION 1. Voting Member** - Voting membership in the U. T. Martin Student Chapter shall be available to any voting member of The Wildlife Society who is a registered student at U. T. Martin. Only Student Chapter Voting Members may hold elective offices in the Student Chapter, vote on official matters affecting The Society, and officially represent the Student Chapter on business of The Society by Board or officer appointment.
- SECTION 2. Other Members** - Other membership in the U. T. Martin Student Chapter shall be available to any person who, although either not a member of The Wildlife Society and/or not a registered student at U. T. Martin has an interest in the objectives and activities of the Student Chapter. Other Members shall be entitled to all rights, privileges and responsibilities of Student Chapter Voting Members, including voting in Student Chapter elections, except those reserved for Voting Members (Article IV, Section 1).
- SECTION 3. Charter Member** - Voting and Other Members in good standing on the membership rolls as of May 11, 1988 shall be considered Charter Members.
- SECTION 4. Honorary Member** - Honorary Members of the U. T. Martin Student Chapter shall be non-students who, by a majority vote of all Student Chapter members, have been thus recognized for their achievements. A Student Chapter Honorary Member need not pay Student Chapter dues and may not vote or hold office.

- SECTION 5. Student Chapter Advisor** - At least 1 faculty member who is a current voting member of The Wildlife Society shall serve as Student Chapter Advisor.
- SECTION 6. Dues** - Annual dues of \$10.00 shall be payable by each member to the Treasurer no later than the last meeting in October. Members who have not paid their Wildlife Society dues shall lose their Voting Member status in the U. T. Martin Student Chapter.
- SECTION 7. Resignation** - Members may resign at any time by giving notice to the Student Chapter's Secretary, or will be considered to have resigned if annual Student Chapter dues are not paid.
- SECTION 8. Reinstatement** - Persons who are dropped from the rolls of the Student Chapter for non-payment of dues or resignation may be reinstated into membership in the Student Chapter upon payment of appropriate dues.

ARTICLE V

ELECTIONS AND OFFICERS

- SECTION 1. Nominating** - Nominations will take place during the last meeting of the year. Nominations for all offices shall be obtained from the floor. Officers will consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and 1 additional Executive Board Member.
- a. All nominees must be Voting Members (Article IV, Section 1).
 - b. A member may hold the same elective position for no more than 2 consecutive terms.
- SECTION 2. Balloting** - Written ballots shall be received from the members by the Secretary and shall be counted by the Executive Board. For ballot counting purposes, the President shall appoint a replacement for any member of the Executive Board who has been nominated for an office.
- a. Members in arrears shall forfeit their rights to vote during the period of their delinquency.
 - b. A signed absentee ballot may be submitted to the Secretary by a member prior to the scheduled time for counting ballots.
 - c. The candidate receiving the largest number of votes on the written ballot shall be declared elected. No one may hold more than one (1) elective position simultaneously.
 - d. Any nominee may decline nomination.

SECTION 3. Officers - Officers of the U. T. Mart Student Chapter shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. Their duties are:

- a. **President** - The President shall have general supervision of the Student Chapter officers, shall appoint, with the advice of the Executive Board, Chairmen of all regular and special committees, shall preside as Chairman at meetings of the Executive Board, and shall be an ex officio member of all committees. The President may represent the Student Chapter or appoint alternate representatives to other Chapter, Section, or Society boards, committees, or meetings.
- b. **Vice-President** - The Vice-President 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 Vice-President cannot serve in the President's absence, the Executive Board shall appoint a President, pro tempore.
- c. **Secretary** - The Secretary shall be responsible for the files, records, and recording of the minutes of all meetings, the maintenance of membership roles, correspondence, and issuance of meeting minutes.
- d. **Treasurer** - The treasurer shall be responsible for the funds of the student chapter and shall submit complete financial reports to the last meeting of the person's term of office.. Also all checks shall be signed by the Treasurer and faculty advisor.
- e. **Executive Board** - The Executive Board shall act as the governing body for the Student Chapter and shall be made up of the above named officers, and the duly elected Board member(s).
- f. **Student Chapter Representative to the Southeastern Section.** The Student Chapter Representative shall represent the U. T. Martin Student Chapter in the Southeastern Section affairs. This person shall represent and serve as liaison to the Section for the Student Chapter, provide the editor of the Section newsletter with news and items of interest from the Student Chapter area, and serve as a contact among the Section, Chapters, and members in their respective areas. The Representative will assist the Section President by verifying mailing addresses, conducting membership drives, polling individual members, and assisting in routine Section business.

SECTION 4. Term of Office - The officers and Board members and the Student Chapter Representative must be voting members of The Wildlife Society, serve for approximately 1 year, be installed at the

last meeting of the year, take office the following Annual Meeting, and unless reelected, terminate their duties at the conclusion of that year, or at such time as their successors are elected and installed.

SECTION 5. Vacancies - If the office of the President is vacated for any reason, the Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President for the balance of the unexpired term of the President. All other vacancies in any unexpired term of an elective office shall be filled through appointment by the Executive Board. All appointees must be Voting Members of the Student Chapter and The Wildlife Society.

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. There shall be no less than 9 meetings each school year.

- a. **Annual Meeting** - The regular meeting in September shall be known as the Annual Meeting.
- b. **Meeting Notice** - Members must be notified at least 10 days prior to annual, regular, and special meetings.
- c. **Quorum** - Quorum for annual, regular, and special meetings of the Student Chapter shall be over 50 percent of the membership or 10 members in good standing, whichever is less; and for Executive Board meetings, 3 members of the Board.
- d. **Meeting Rules** - Order of business and parliamentary procedures at Student Chapter meetings shall follow Robert's Rules of Order, latest revision.
- e. **Bylaws** - Student Chapter Bylaws shall be available for inspection during every meeting. If these Bylaws are revised, 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 call are given.

- a. Only items listed in the call for a special meeting shall be acted upon at the special meeting.
- b. All clauses under Section 1 of this Article also apply to special meetings.

ARTICLE VII

MANAGEMENT AND FINANCES

- SECTION 1. Executive Board** - The U.T. Martin Student Chapter shall be governed by an Executive Board composed of its officers, and Chapter members duly elected to the Board.
- a. **Conduct** - The Executive 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 Student Chapter between meetings and shall report its interim actions to the members at each succeeding membership meeting.
 - b. **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 U. T. Martin Student Chapter shall be under the supervision of the Executive Board and shall be handled by the Treasurer. The financial records of the U. T. Martin Student Chapter shall be periodically examined by the Audit Committee.
- a. The Treasurer need not be bonded.
 - b. Funds shall be derived from dues, special assessments, work projects, and contributions.
 - c. 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 Wildlife Society, the Southeastern Section Representative, and the Southeastern Section President. An annual report and activity time sheets for the Secretary shall be forwarded to these same parties. A statement of calendar-year income and expenses, together with starting and ending balances, must be submitted by the Treasurer to the Executive Director of The Wildlife Society in January of each year for federal tax reporting by The Society office.
- SECTION 4. Files** - The Student Chapter shall maintain a file containing: Bylaws of The Wildlife Society, the Southeastern Section, and the U. T. Martin Student Chapter; minutes of all regular and special meetings of the membership and of the Executive Board; correspondence pertinent to Student 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 Student Chapter file for the guidance of each succeeding Secretary. A Student Chapter "Operations Manual" provided by The Society will be maintained by the Student Chapter President and a written record of transfer of this manual to the incoming President shall be maintained and The Society shall be notified of each such transfer.

SECTION 5. Resolutions and Public Statements - Two or more members may submit resolutions or statements to the Resolutions and Public Statements Committee for possible consideration by the Student Chapter's Executive Board. These shall be accepted or rejected by the Board and, if involving new policy, prepared for submission to the Student Chapter membership. Such new items must be approved by two-thirds of the Student Chapter membership voting and must be transmitted to The Wildlife Society, the Southeastern Section Representative, and the Southeastern Section President, if approved. Actions falling within previously established Student Chapter policies may be carried out by an Student Chapter officer upon unanimous approval of the Executive Board. On issues where there are no previously established Student Chapter policies and that demand action on a reasonably short notice, the President, or designated representative, may present a Public Statement on behalf of the Student Chapter provided that: (1) the concept of the statement be brought to the Executive Board's attention and accepted by them prior to public issuing of the statement; and (2) copies of the statement are sent to the membership within 15 days after public issuing of the statement. Furthermore, the U. T. Martin Student Chapter may issue statements pertaining to subjects in its locale:

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

The U. T. Martin Student Chapter will not issue statements that may be in conflict with the policy of The Wildlife Society without prior approval of The Society's Council. All statements will follow the "Guidelines for Conservation Affairs Activities" (Appendix 4.421b of the Operations Manual) and conform to The Society's policy regarding conservation affairs (Appendix 4.421a of the Operations Manual). The Student Chapter membership, The Wildlife Society, the Southeastern Section Representative, and the Southeastern Section President must receive copies of any approved Resolution or Public Statement within 15 days of such action.

ARTICLE VIII

COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. Appointments - The Student Chapter President shall consider suggestions of the Executive Board in appointing chairmen of all regular standing committees, except the Nominating and Elections Committee (Article V, Section 1), and all special committees such as awards and hospitality. Committee chairmen shall complete their committees with the President's assistance. All committee chairmen shall submit a written summary of committee activities to the President and the Secretary before the close of each annual Student Chapter business meeting.

ARTICLE IX

DISSOLUTION

Upon dissolution of the U. T. Martin Student 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 Student 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 X

AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS

SECTION 1. Procedure - These Bylaws may be altered or amended by a majority of the Student Chapter members voting at any annual or special meeting if due notice of the proposed changes (Article VI, Section 1B) is followed. A member who will be absent from the meeting may file an absentee ballot (Article V, Section 2B).

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.

ARTICLE XI

NONDISCRIMINATION

The Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society shall not and will not discriminate against any person due to race, color, sex, or religious beliefs.