



**Important Announcement!**

## **Wildlife Student Oral Presentation Competition**

### **Arizona and New Mexico Chapters of The Wildlife Society Joint Annual Meeting 2018**

To enter the wildlife student oral presentation competition, students must submit a written summary of their research to be evaluated by a panel of judges. To be competitive, these should be final or near final results of the student's research. The judges will evaluate student submissions based on the merits of the research to determine the top 3 students from each state. These 6 finalists will compete during a special symposium of the joint annual meeting on Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018. Each student's presentation will be 15 minutes plus 5 minutes for questions. All 6 finalists selected for the competition will receive a certificate and the top 2 students (one for AZ and one for NM) will also receive a cash award at the awards banquet on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018. Student entrants for the wildlife student paper competition not selected as finalists will automatically have their research summaries sent to the abstract selection committee responsible for choosing papers for general sessions during the meeting.

Experience presenting research at professional meetings is an important part of a student's professional development. Consequently, we strongly encourage all students involved with research to submit an abstract for a poster or oral presentation, even if they do not submit it to be considered for this competition. Poster submissions from students will automatically be considered for the separate Student Poster Competition. Poster presentations will be evaluated by judges during the poster session and will compete for a separate Best Poster award.

#### **Benefits:**

- 1) Judging will be consistent.
- 2) The stature of the best wildlife student presentation award will be elevated.
- 3) Symposium attendees will be able to see all of the "best student papers".
- 4) All six finalists will gain better recognition.

#### **How to Apply:**

- 1) Eligibility: All students working towards undergraduate or graduate degrees, or professionals who have graduated within the 12 months preceding the JAM (i.e., after February 2017). The student must be first author on the research. **The student must be a member of either the Arizona or New Mexico Chapter of The Wildlife Society.** Group undergraduate or graduate class projects cannot be considered original research attributable to a single author and are therefore not allowable for this competition.
- 2) Prepare your application in a word processor using a standard font no smaller than 11pt, single spacing, and at least 1-inch margins. Save the completed application as an unsecured pdf with the file name "TWS Student Competition Application\_[Last Name]".
- 3) Application is not to exceed TWO single-spaced pages including tables, figures, and literature citations. Include the following information:
  - a. Student name, institutional address, email address
  - b. Advisor's name; list of coauthors in order of recognition
  - c. Summary of research including title, a brief introduction, methods, results, conclusions, and significance or management implications
- 4) Attach the pdf of your application to an email addressed to Melissa Merrick ([mmerrick@email.arizona.edu](mailto:mmerrick@email.arizona.edu)) with a subject line "TWS Student Competition Application\_[Last Name]".
- 5) **The deadline for application is Wednesday, 1 November 2017 5:00 pm MST.**