

# CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS!

The 55<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting and Conference



**Atlantic Society of Fish and Wildlife Biologists (ASFWB)**

**Date:** 21 – 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2018.

**Location:** Corner Brook, Newfoundland and Labrador.

**Venue:** Greenwood Inn & Suites, 48 West Street, Corner Brook, NL.

**Accommodation Deadline:** Discount rates available at *Greenwood Inn & Suites* until September 21, 2018.

**Registration:** ASFWB.ca

**Registration Deadline:** October 11, 2018.

**Abstract Submission Deadline:** October 5, 2018.

**Abstract Submission:** [ASFWB2018@gmail.com](mailto:ASFWB2018@gmail.com)

ASFWB membership represents biologists, related professionals and students from Atlantic Canada, and a broad range of topics is the norm at the annual meeting and conference. These include, but are not limited to **research, monitoring, management of species and habitats, species at risk, wildlife harvest, applications of old and new techniques, management of human-wildlife issues, conservation planning, stewardship programs and partnerships, watershed approaches to habitat conservation, ecosystem management and educational efforts.**

Cash awards (\$200, \$100 and \$50) will be presented to the top three **students** presentations!

For more information on the ASFWB including conference details, please visit: [www.asfwb.ca](http://www.asfwb.ca)

### Abstract submission guidelines

**Title:** bolded and case sensitive (only capitalize the first word).

**List of authors:** list each author, first name, initials, then last name (e.g., “John R. Smith”, not “Smith, John R.”). For each author include a superscript numeral to indicate institution/affiliation, one numeral for each institution/affiliation. If the presenting author is different from the first author, indicate the presenting author with an asterisk (“\*”).

**List of affiliations:** italicized; superscript numeral followed by the name of the affiliation/institution, city, and province/state. Do not include a postal code.

**Abstract:** background of the work, key methods, results, and conclusions. Maximum word count for the abstract is 250 words. No references should be included.

**Keywords:** list 4–6 keywords in order of relative importance to the presentation. This information along with the abstract will be used to set themes of the conference program.

#### **General formatting guidelines:**

- All text in 11-point *Times New Roman* font.
- Normal margin setting at 2.54 cm.
- Abstract sections in single spaced format with a single line between each of the five elements (e.g., title, authors, affiliations, abstract, and keywords).
- Microsoft Word format (either “.doc” or “.docx”).
- File name of abstract submission: first authors last name, followed by the first authors first name, separated by an underscore (e.g., “Smith\_John.doc”).

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Abstract template/example: please submit abstracts in the following format

#### **Parental foraging effort of common murres (*Uria aalge*) under varying prey conditions at the species largest colony**

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During the breeding season, Common Murres (*Uria aalge*) in the colony of Funk Island off the island of Newfoundland's northeast coast rely heavily on capelin (*Mallotus villosus*) as their primary food source. As single prey-loading central place foragers, parental murres pursue high quality fish to feed their offspring. In 1991, capelin stocks suffered major biomass decline due to a regime shift following a pulse of anomalously cold fresh arctic water. Consequently, the percentage of gravid capelin in the chicks' diets since the 1990s has been decreasing, as have the length, mass and condition of the capelin provided by parents. This study analyzes how parental murres are responding to changes in forage fish availability and conditions by comparing changes in foraging effort over two years. We hypothesize that parental murres will show marked differences in foraging effort under a year of poor prey (2016) when capelin failed to spawn in the area compared to a year of better prey availability (2014). GPS trackers were attached to 9 murre parents in 2014 and to 6 in 2016. The maximum and total distance travelled from the colony, and number of dives per foraging trip were analyzed as measurements of foraging effort. Preliminary analyses and a decreasing trend in parental body weights suggests that parents have increased foraging efforts with deteriorating prey conditions to help ensure offspring growth and condition.

Keywords: ornithology, seabirds, aquatic ecology, predator-prey dynamics.