

2017 35th Annual National Conference Update

Greetings from the Native American Fish & Wildlife Society:

We are pleased to invite you to the 35th annual National Conference which will be sponsored by the Society's Great Plains Region. The conference dates are May 2 – 4, 2017. Usually, our conferences have a "Host Tribe" which helps the hosting Region set the agenda, help with the Traditional Feast, plan conference activities, etc. This year we are extremely fortunate to have the Tribes of the Great Plains Tribal Fish & Wildlife Commission be the Host Tribes. The Commission leaders, staff people and members will bring a lot of respect, knowledge and generosity to this conference.

LOCATION

The conference will be held at Best Western Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center

LODGING

Best Western Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center
2111 N. LaCrosse Street Rapid City, SD 5770
(605) 343-8550
\$84.99 rate Code: NAFWS

Regarding shuttle to and from the airport, down by baggage claim is a place called "airport shuttle". Go there and tell them you are staying at the Best Western Ramkota and they will either call our shuttle and we will come get you or if our shuttle is occupied they will bring you free of charge and the hotel gets billed for it. Also, when the shuttle is not on airport runs and is available they are more than happy to give people rides within city limits. Just have your guest inquire about a ride at the front desk.

TRANSPORTATION

Enterprise Rental	(605) 399-9939
Avis Rental	(605) 393-0740
Hertz Rental	(605) 393-0160

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

The pre-registration fee for the conference is \$325 and the on-site fee is \$375. Deadline has been extended to April 21, 2017.

EXHIBITS

Exhibitors and Vendors are also welcome to come set up your displays, tables, merchandise, etc. The fees are: Corporate Sponsors \$200, Federal / State Agencies \$150, Non-governmental & Tribal Organization \$75 and Native Vendors \$50 and/or auction/raffle donation item worth at least \$50.

AGENDA

The agenda is posted on the website. There is still room on the agenda for presenters. To be a presenter, we ask that you submit a short abstract and email to: shoskie@nafws.org

NATIONAL AWARDS

Remember the NAFWS National Awards: The Chief Sealth Award, the National Biologist of the Year Award and the national Conservation Officer of the Year Award. Award Criteria will be available on our website: <http://www.nafws.org/images/conferences/2017/Announcements/2017CallforAwards.pdf>

Our national conference is an event where we can get together for the betterment of tribal natural resources and many of you haven't seen each other for a long time and we want you to come to our conference. We

especially would like you to attend if this is your first conference. We hope you will come join us in Rapid City!

-The 2017 National Conference Planning Committee