

Jerry S. Cole

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Education

- 2016 University of North Dakota. Grand Forks, ND
M.S. Biology
Thesis: The effects of habitat management on grassland birds in the northern tallgrass prairie
- 2013 North American Banding Council
Banding Certification
Passerines and Near-Passerines
- 2012 Virginia Military Institute. Lexington, VA
B.S. Biology
Concentration: Ecology, Conservation, and Organismal Sciences

Work Experience

- Summer 2016 **Contract Biologist**
Institute for Bird Populations. Chester, CA
- Conducted playback surveys for Black-backed Woodpeckers and passive point counts for all bird species in recently burned forests in northern Sierra Nevada
 - Established new survey transects
 - Assessed vegetation composition of surveyed areas
- 2014-2016 **M.S. Student**
University of North Dakota. Grand Forks, ND
- Established bird survey protocol for long term monitoring of grassland management demonstration site
 - Surveyed hayed, grazed, and idle grasslands to determine influence of grassland management on birds
 - Used N-mixture modeling to account for imperfect detection when modeling bird response to vegetation structure
 - Communicated survey results to private land owners, USFWS, and ND Game and Fish Department
 - Solicited private land owners for land access and periodically updated them on study results

Fall 2013

Banding Intern

Point Blue Conservation Science. Bolinas, CA

- Banded, aged, and sexed >500 passerines using morphology and plumage
- Operated permanent mist nets at a long term field station and four other locations
- Color banded focal species
- Took blood samples from Song Sparrow, Hermit Thrush, and Swainson's Thrush
- Recovered light level geolocators
- Collected plant phenology data for banding sites

Summer 2013

Black-backed Woodpecker Biologist Intern

Institute for Bird Populations. Susanville, CA

- Radio tracked woodpeckers, recording foraging behaviors
- Completed vegetation surveys for each foraging location
- Performed playback surveys in recent burns
- Assisted in netting woodpeckers
- Monitored nests to determine nestling stage and parental attendance

Winter 2013

California Condor Recovery Program Intern

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Hopper Mountain NWR, Ventura, CA

- Used radio telemetry to monitor bird status
- Trapped condors for health checks
- Assisted with bleeding, attaching transmitters and patagial tags

Summer 2012

Clark's Nutcracker Radio Telemetry Intern

Cornell University. Jackson, WY

- Radio tracked nutcrackers to record behavior and habitat use
- Performed vegetation surveys around known nest sites
- Collected point count and vegetation data at established locations
- Cleaned and organized field data

Teaching Experience

Fall 2015

Biometry Lecture

- Helped to troubleshoot students' R code in class
- Demonstrated statistical principles through class coding exercises
- Graded class coding projects, giving feedback on formatting and content

Spring 2015

Intro Biology Lecture

- Assisted students with in-class exercises
- Graded exams and homework assignments

Fall 2014

Ecology Lab

- Guided students in the selection of a semester long field research project
- Offered guidance with logistic and scientific considerations of study design and analysis

Spring 2014

Intro Biology Lab

- Introduced lab activities to students at the beginning of class
- Explained difficult concepts during activities
- Graded lab notebooks and exercises

Grants

2015

APSAC Grant. \$350. Travel to American Society of Naturalists to present results of two field seasons. University of North Dakota.

2011

Wetmore Grant. \$300. Funding for motion triggered cameras to capture coyote movement and verify identity. Virginia Military Institute.

Poster Presentations

2016

American Society of Naturalists Conference. Asilomar, CA
Grassland bird response to fire is mediated by pre-fire vegetation structure.

Authors: Jerry S. Cole, Kathryn A. Yurkonis, Brett J. Goodwin

2015

ND Chapter Wildlife Society Conference. Mandan, ND
Local habitat associations of five grassland bird species in Grand Forks County, ND.

Authors: Jerry S. Cole, Kathryn A. Yurkonis, Brett J. Goodwin, Christopher L. Merkord

Quantitative Skills

R Programming

- Solid grasp of function construction, data wrangling, workflow automation, and unification of datasets
- Basic understanding the BUGS language and the r2jags package
- Advanced understanding of the unmarked package for estimating change in bird abundance relative to vegetation

GIS

- Advanced understanding of ArcGIS 10.3 for spatial analysis, survey point placement, and quantifying habitat area
- Working understanding of QGIS