



# *2017 Call for Papers*

40<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

Pennsylvania Chapter of The Wildlife Society

March 31 – April 1, 2017

Lake Raystown Resort, Entriken PA

## **Wildlife Management in the 21st Century – Dealing with complex conservation challenges**

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

Abstracts are required for all paper and poster submissions. We invite abstracts on any natural resource topic in Pennsylvania and the surrounding northeast region including flora, fauna, water, soils, techniques, human dimensions, outreach, education, policy, and legal issues.

All oral presentations will be allotted 20 minutes; 15 minutes for formal presentation and 5 minutes for question/answer time. We plan to use MS PowerPoint, so be sure your file is compatible.

Poster authors are required to accompany their poster during the scheduled poster session. Posters will be no larger than 36" in height by 48" in width (3' X 4'). You will be given an easel for poster display—*you will need to bring your own backing or have your poster printed on foam board*. NOTE: a tri-fold poster board is acceptable.

Abstracts should be submitted by email attachment in MS Word. Abstracts should be typed in 12-pt font with **no indents, bold, or other special formatting. Use *italics*, not underline, for scientific names**. Please follow punctuation and formatting guidelines exactly as noted below or your abstract may be returned. Also see the Example Submission.

**Submit abstracts to:** Samara Trusso [satrusso@pa.gov](mailto:satrusso@pa.gov); email subject "2017 PATWS abstract"

**\*\*\*Deadline for abstract submissions is January 31, 2017\*\*\***

*Each abstract submission must contain the following information, in exactly the format below. Also see Example Submission.*

Title of presentation

Author(s), affiliation(s), address(es); include zip code(s)

Name of presenter, telephone number, email address; indicate if the presenter is a professional or student and whether it's a presentation or poster.

Abstract (no more than 250 words) should state what or who you studied; very briefly describe your methods; provide results; and state your conclusion(s). Include scientific names for all species.

### **Example Submission:**

White-tailed deer fawn survival in north central Pennsylvania

Justin K. Vreeland and Duane R. Diefenbach, Pennsylvania Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Unit, 113 Merkle Laboratory, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802; and Bret D. Wallingford, Pennsylvania Game Commission, 2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110  
Justin K. Vreeland, (814) 865-4511, jkv104@psu.edu; graduate student presentation

Survival rates are unknown for white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) fawns in Pennsylvania. Coyote, bears, bobcats, foxes, and domestic dogs are known sources of predation mortality. Other sources of mortality include starvation, malnutrition, disease, parasites, organ failure, legal harvest, poaching, collisions with vehicles and farm machinery, and accidents. However, in what proportions fawns die from these causes is unknown. We present preliminary results from the 8 months of a two-year study of survival of white-tailed deer fawns. In May- June, we capture 46 neonatal fawns in a forested landscape and 52 neonatal fawns in an agricultural landscape in north central Pennsylvania. Fawns were released with radio transmitters on expandable collars and monitored approximately 1 time per day. Survival rates were greater in the agricultural site (60%) than in the forested site (48%). Leading mortality sources were predation (75% of deaths) in the forested site and natural causes excluding predation (58%) in the agricultural site. Coyotes (*Canis latrans*) and black bears (*Ursus americanus*) killed approximately equal numbers of fawns in the forested site. We will continue to monitor remaining fawns until collar or battery failure or fawn death. We will capture and monitor another 80-100 fawns in 2001. Using a geographic information system, we will assess how landscape features (e.g., habitat type and arrangement, road density) and home-range characteristics (e.g., size, proximity to roads and farms) are related to fawn survival.

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### **\*\*Awards\*\***

Recognition awards for the best student oral presentation and best student poster will be presented during the banquet dinner. To be eligible for this award the student must be enrolled in school or have completed the presented research within the past year, be the lead author, and be the presenter of the paper or poster. Be sure to indicate in the abstract submission that it is a student entry.