



***2019 CALL FOR PAPERS: EXTENDED!!***  
***JOINT CONFERENCE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTERS OF THE***  
***AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY AND THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY***

**FEBRUARY 21 – 23, 2019**  
**RAMADA HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER – STATE COLLEGE, PA**

***PLENARY THEME:***  
**THE NEXUS: BRIDGING LAND AND WATER ISSUES**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Abstracts do not have to fit into the plenary session theme. 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 or law enforcement issues.

Abstracts are required for all paper and poster submissions. **Paper and poster sessions will be on Friday, February 22, 2019.**

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

Poster authors are required to accompany their poster during the scheduled poster session. Posters may be no larger than 36” in height by 48” in width (3’ X 4’).

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:** Sara Mueller [sjm5467@psu.edu](mailto:sjm5467@psu.edu); email subject “2019 PA Joint Meeting Abstract”  
**\*\*\*Deadline for abstract submissions is January 18, 2019 \*\*\***

Accepted presenters will be informed by January 25, 2019.  
***Each abstract submission must contain the following information, in exactly the format below. 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:**

Comparison of cytology and histopathology for diagnosis of avian pox in wild turkeys

Justin Brown, Mary Jo Casalena, and Joshua Johnson, Pennsylvania Game Commission, 2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110; Kira L. Hydock, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802; Holly Brown, Metzger Animal Hospital, 1044 Benner Pike, State College, PA 16801; Nicole Nemeth, Ontario Veterinary College, University of Guelph, 50 Stone Road E., Guelph, ON, Canada, N1G 2W1; Rebecca Poulson, Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study, 589 D.W. Brooks Drive, Athens, GA 30602

Justin Brown, (814) 863-8370, judbrow@pa.gov; professional oral presentation

Avian poxvirus is a common cause of proliferative skin lesions in wild turkeys (*Meleagris gallopavo*); however, other etiologies may produce grossly indistinguishable lesions (e.g. neoplasia, bacterial infections). Histopathology and polymerase chain reaction (PCR) are common diagnostic approaches for avian pox. While these methods are sufficient in most cases, both have limitations (e.g. antemortem testing, lack of preservative or laboratory support). Cytology is a rapid approach that may be useful when histopathology or PCR are not feasible. The objective of this study was to evaluate cytology relative to histopathology and PCR for avian pox diagnosis in wild turkeys. Thirty-seven wild turkeys with proliferative skin lesions were included in this study; 19 of these birds also had lesions in gastrointestinal tract. Samples were collected from skin and gastrointestinal tract lesions for cytology, histopathology, and PCR. There were no significant differences between cytology and histopathology for skin ( $p = 0.2482$ ) or gastrointestinal tract ( $p = 1$ ) lesions. Relative to histopathology, cytology had a sensitivity of 90% and a specificity of 100% for skin lesions and a sensitivity of 75% and a specificity of 0% (all 19 samples were due to avian pox) for gastrointestinal tract lesions. There were no significant differences between PCR and histopathology ( $p = 0.6171$ ) or cytology ( $p = 0.2482$ ) for skin lesions. Relative to PCR, cytology had a sensitivity of 89.3% and a specificity of 100%. These results suggest cytology may serve as a useful tool for diagnosing avian pox in wild turkeys.

### **\*\*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. See each PA chapter society's website for additional awards available to society specific members.