



52nd Annual North American Moose Conference 1st call for papers!



May 14-18, 2018
Double Tree Downtown, Spokane, WA

Host: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Conference theme: *Moose feeling the heat: Maintaining populations facing multiple stressors*

Workshop/Symposium: *Integrated models to understand moose populations*

We invite presentations from students, managers and researchers on this theme or other moose-related projects. Poster presentations are encouraged.

Presenters are asked to contact Rich Harris (Richard.harris@dfw.wa.gov) to ensure their presentation will be included in the conference proceedings. Please prepare and forward an abstract to this address by 1 March 2018 using the example abstract format below (12 pt. font, 300-word limit, double spaced). See below for example abstract. Presenters are encouraged to submit their manuscripts to the journal *ALCES* for publication. Details for submissions to *ALCES* can be found at: www.alcesjournal.org

To register for the conference: <https://www.123signup.com/event?id=hxxfx>

To book a room at the conference rate: <http://group.doubletree.com/WAFishAndWildlife>

Applicants for “Newcomer Travel Awards” and “Senior Travel Awards” should submit early and indicate that you are seeking travel support and include cover letter describing past Conference attendance, any expected support from other sources, and an estimate of needed assistance. For award criteria and other details, see <http://alcesjournal.org/index.php/alces/pages/view/travel>.

EXAMPLE ABSTRACT FOR PRESENTERS:

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RH: STATUS OF MOOSE IN WESTERN US – NADEAU *ET AL.*

**STATUS AND TRENDS OF MOOSE POPULATIONS AND HUNTING OPPORTUNITY
IN THE WESTERN UNITED STATES**

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B. Harris, Kent R. Hersey, Kari K. Huebner, Patrick E. Matthews, and Timothy P.**

Thomas

ABSTRACT: We review the state of knowledge of moose in the western US with respect to the species' range, population monitoring and management, vegetation associations, licensed hunting opportunity and hunter harvest success, and hypothesized limiting factors. Most moose monitoring programs in this region rely on a mixture of aerial surveys of various formats and hunter harvest statistics. However, given the many challenges of funding and collecting rigorous aerial survey data for small and widespread moose populations, biologists in many western states are currently exploring other potential avenues for future population monitoring. In 2015, a total of 2,263 hunting permits were offered among 6 states, with 1,811 moose harvested and an average success rate per permit-holder of 80.0%. The spatial distribution of permits across the region shows an uneven gradient of hunting opportunity, with some local concentrations of opportunity appearing consistent across state boundaries. On average, hunting opportunity has decreased across 56% of the western US, remained stable across 17%, and increased across 27% during 2005–2015. Generally, declines in hunting opportunity for moose are evident across

large portions (62–89%) of the “stronghold” states where moose have been hunted for the longest period of time (e.g., Idaho, Montana, Utah, and Wyoming). In contrast, increases in opportunity appear more common at peripheries of the range where populations have expanded, including most of Colorado, northeastern Washington, southern Idaho, and eastern Montana. There are many factors of potential importance to moose in this region, including parasites, predators, climate, forage quality, forage quantity, and humans. State wildlife agencies are currently conducting a variety of research focused on population vital rates, the development of monitoring techniques, forage quality trace mineral levels, and evaluation of relative impacts among potential limiting factors.

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Key Words: *Alces alces shirasi*, Colorado, hunter harvest, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, population trends, range, Shiras moose, Utah, Washington, Wyoming