

Dr. Chris Jacques



Current Position: Associate Professor of Wildlife Ecology, Department of Biological Sciences, Western Illinois University

Education: B.S. (1995), Wildlife Ecology, University of Maine; M.S. (2001), Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, South Dakota State University; Ph.D. (2007), Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, South Dakota State University

Personal: Chris grew up in a small coastal town in south-central Maine, spending most of his time hunting, fishing, and trapping his family property and neighboring coastal wetlands. He is married to Tara Jacques and they have a 15-year old son, Matthew, and a 13-year old daughter, Kylie. He enjoys most any outdoor activity, but has a special love for archery hunting deer. When not pursuing some outdoor activity, Chris enjoys supporting Matthew's love for soccer and Kylie's dance obsession.

Work History: Dr. Chris Jacques joined the Department of Biological Sciences at Western Illinois University in August 2012. Dr. Jacques was previously employed (2007–2012) as the White-tailed Deer Research Scientist for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). Prior to the WDNR, he completed a post-doctoral appointment and graduate training at South Dakota State University (1998–2007). Dr. Jacques is an affiliate faculty member at the Illinois Natural History Survey/University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and has held dual adjunct faculty appointments at South Dakota State University and University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is a Wildlife Biologist certified by The Wildlife Society, serves as an Associate Editor for Journal of Wildlife Management (since 2009), Wildlife Society Bulletin (since 2011), as the Editor-in-Chief of The Prairie Naturalist (since 2009), and as an active member of the coordination committee for the American Society of Mammalogists (ASM). Additionally, Dr. Jacques has served on the TWS Aldo Leopold Award Selection Committee and as a member of the animal care and use committee for ASM.

Views: I have been a member of the TWS national chapter since 2007, three previous state chapter (Maine, South Dakota, Wisconsin), and most recently the Illinois TWS chapter (since 2016). Throughout my career, I have always been inspired by the role that state chapters play in empowering and enabling wildlife professionals to work toward sustainability of wildlife populations and habitats through science-based management and conservation. I look forward to joining outgoing President Brewer and incoming President Beckerman in promoting novel ways to serve IL TWS members as a conduit of information exchange for Illinois wildlife professionals. I would like to enhance our ability to engage student members and early professionals in promoting active communication of the important work we are conducting in Illinois. We are facing unprecedented challenges in natural resource conservation and management at the national level and across Illinois, thus the need for frequent information exchange and active communication has never been greater. If elected as our President, I will remain a strong advocate for promoting public involvement and science-based decision making cornerstones of our profession when addressing natural resource management throughout Illinois.