

Emma Trone (Secretary-Treasurer)

Current Position:

District Wildlife Biologist, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Coffeen, IL. 2019–present.

Education:

B.S. (2013) and M.S. (2017) in Biology with an emphasis in Zoology/Wildlife, Western Illinois University.

Personal Background:

Emma grew up outside of Beardstown, IL where she started hunting and hiking at a young age. She now lives outside of Modesto, IL where she still enjoys hunting and hiking as well as gardening, traveling, and kayaking.

Work History/Positions Held:

Emma began working as a fisheries technician for the Illinois Natural History Survey while still an undergraduate student. There, she spent a summer assisting biologists with the Long Term Resource Management Program, fish, zooplankton, and vegetation surveys in the Illinois River and at Emiquon National Wildlife Refuge. She then worked as a research assistant studying Chronic Wasting Disease while a graduate student. She also served as the WIU TWS student chapter President for a year. Before coming to IDNR, Emma worked as a Wildlife Specialist with USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services in Springfield, IL. There she was responsible for assisting private landowners and businesses in mitigating human-wildlife conflicts. She primarily worked at industrial sites managing nuisance wildlife populations. She also conducted Canada goose management for homeowners and assisted with various projects throughout the state.

Emma currently works for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources as a District Wildlife Biologist. She is based out of Coffeen, IL where she works with site staff at state sites to manage habitat and wildlife to provide opportunities for public lands hunting and recreation. She also conducts wildlife surveys, assists with chronic wasting disease management, and works with the public to mitigate nuisance wildlife issues. She currently serves as the Western Illinois University TWS student chapter liaison.



Views:

I believe that good wildlife management is rooted in science and cooperation among various agencies and the public. Additionally, whether it's assisting with a nuisance wildlife call or developing a management plan for a public site, I believe outreach is critical to help the public understand the why and how of what we do. I also believe in encouraging a new generation of natural resource managers through visits to schools, when possible, and supporting student organizations at the university level. I hope to use my skills to help our Chapter achieve any goals we have set, recruit new members, and give back to the organization.