Call for Oral and Poster Presentations

ABSTRACT DEADLINE – Thursday, August 20, 2020

Alabama Chapter of the Wildlife Society Annual Meeting
VIRTUAL
Thursday, October 8, 2020

The Alabama Chapter of The Wildlife Society is accepting abstracts for consideration for oral and poster presentations at the Chapter’s 2020 annual meeting. The oral presentation session will be scheduled on July 15 whereas posters will be on display throughout the entire day.

Abstract submission deadline is COB, Thursday, August 20, 2020. All abstracts will be evaluated based on timeliness and relevancy of the topic, degree of project completion/progression, and overall abstract quality. Authors will be notified of acceptance by Tuesday, September 1, 2020.

ATTENTION STUDENTS!!!
Best Student Oral Presentation Award ($$$)
Best Student Poster Award ($$$)

For consideration, please submit abstracts electronically as an MS Word document to the ACTWS (alabamatws@gmail.com). Please specify in the first line of the abstract, in bold, whether it should be considered for an oral or poster presentation and student status (student/non-student). Please provide the email address of the presenting author. Abstracts should be <250 words (excluding author contact info). Please use 12 pt font and format abstracts according to the example below:

ORAL/POSTER ABSTRACT
STUDENT NON-STUDENT

Population Response of Northern Bobwhite to Field Border Management Practices
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Abstract: Empirical relationships of the intensity and spatial extent of field border management required to elicit population responses of northern bobwhite are needed. We established 90.5km of herbaceous field borders (6.1 m wide) along row crop field edges on one half of each of 3 - 800- ha agricultural landscapes in northeast Mississippi. Mean percentage of row crop fields established in field borders was 6.0%. During 2000–2002, we measured breeding season abundance and fall density on all 3 sites and survival of radiomarked bobwhite on 2 of the 3 sites. We used space-use models of bobwhite habitat composition and configuration to estimate changes in habitat suitability resulting from field border implementation. Survival did not differ between bordered (S = 37.2, SE = 0.06) and non-bordered (S = 42.7, SE = 0.09; $\chi^2_{12} = 0.001$, P = 0.971) sites. Moreover, bordered and non-bordered sites did not differ significantly with respect to breeding season call counts (bordered = 1.0, SE = 0.18; non-bordered = 0.8, SE = 0.27; $F_{1,10} = 0.44$, P = 0.219) and fall density (bordered = 0.2, SE = 0.07; non-bordered = 0.1, SE = 0.05; $F_{1,10} = 2.18$, P = 0.171). However, field borders increased the amount of usable space up to 15% on bordered landscapes. The relatively low percentage of field borders established on our sites was not sufficient to elicit measurable population responses of bobwhite. We recommend at least 5–10% of a study area be placed in field border habitats to enhance local bobwhite populations.