



THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY
NUTRITIONAL ECOLOGY WORKING GROUP



SKILLS WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT

MEASURING FORAGE QUANTITY AND QUALITY FOR HERBIVORES

August 17-19, 2021 (2.5 days)

Washington State University, Pullman, Washington

Cost \$400; Registration Deadline – June 30th, 2021

**Organizers: Rachel Cook, Lisa Shipley, Dave Hewitt, Ryan Long,
Meghan Camp, and Jessica Braden**

***Workshop status may change pending COVID 19 mitigation**

The TWS Nutritional Ecology Working Group, in collaboration with University of Idaho and Washington State University, are pleased to announce their first skills workshop focused on measuring forage quantity and quality for herbivores. The workshop will be a mix of lectures taught by a diverse panel of instructors, hands-on exercises in the laboratory and in the field, and interactive group problem solving sessions. Look for registration to open early in 2021 along with a more detailed announcement finalizing the dates, agenda, and instructor panel, along with information on obtaining course credits.

Example Course Topics

- Nutritional requirements and secondary compound tolerances.
- What's in 'food' and how do different foods vary in composition and nutritional value?
- Strategies for sampling vegetation (e.g., sources of variation, sample sizes, sampling design, choosing methods, plant parts).
- Plant structure, composition, and phenology and how they relate to key nutritional assays.
- Approaches to measuring plant abundance and quality.
- Nutritional carrying capacity and animal 'foodscapes'.

Example Hands-On Exercises and Demonstrations

- Sample preservation/preparation for nutritional quality assays.
- Sequential fiber, crude protein, tannins, gross energy, digestible protein, in vitro digestibility, ether extract, total dietary fiber assays.
- Digestion trials.
- Biomass sampling (clipped plots, double-sampling techniques).
- Mast/fruit biomass sampling techniques.



For more information or questions on this workshop contact Rachel Cook rachierae@gmail.com

<https://wildlife.org/newq/>