

Deadline to submit abstracts is July 22, 2022.

Speakers will be given 20 minutes for their presentation (15-minute presentation and 5 minutes for questions).

ABSTRACT FORMAT:

List all authors using first and last names, their affiliation, addresses, and e-mail addresses. When choosing the title, be brief but descriptive and avoid using acronyms or scientific names in the title unless the common name is not widely known. Please indicate if you are a student (undergraduate or graduate) at the end of the abstract. Abstracts are restricted to 250 words and should summarize the importance, methods, and findings of the research being described. Please follow the format from the example below so that program chairs can focus on processing abstracts rather than making edits. Abstracts with grammatical errors or incorrect formatting will be returned to the authors for correction prior to acceptance. All presenters will receive a confirmation of their abstract submission. All presenters will receive a decision on presentation acceptance by August 8, 2022. Notification of the time of presentation will be sent closer to the meeting date, after the conference schedule is complete. Questions on oral or poster presentations should be directed to twsnewmexico@gmail.com with Abstract Question in the title line.

ABSTRACT EXAMPLE

Authors:

James W. Pitman, New Mexico State University, Department of Fish Wildlife and Conservation Ecology, 2980 South Espina, Knox Hall 132, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88033; jwpitman@nmsu.edu

James W. Cain III, U.S. Geological Survey New Mexico Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, New Mexico State University, Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation Ecology, 2980 South Espina, Knox Hall 132, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88033; jwcain@nmsu.edu

Stewart G. Liley, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, 1 Wildlife Way, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87507; Stewart.Liley@state.nm.us

Title:

Post-parturition habitat selection by elk calves and adult female elk in New Mexico

Abstract:

Neonatal survival and juvenile recruitment are crucial to maintaining elk (*Cervus elaphus*) populations, and neonate survival is known to be influenced by many factors, including bed site selection. While neonates select the bed site, they must do so within the larger calf-rearing area selected by the mother. Our objectives were to characterize bedsite selection by calves and calf-rearing area selection by adult females at two spatial scales in areas with different predator assemblages. We captured 107 elk calves and fitted them with ear tag transmitters in the Valle Vidal and Gila National Forest. We found that concealing cover structure and distance to that cover were important in bed site selection of young calves (i.e., <2 weeks of age). Older calves (i.e., 3-10 weeks of age) still selected areas in relation to distance to cover but also preferred areas with higher visibility. When we expanded to the larger spatial

scale of calf-rearing habitat selection by the adult female, concealing cover (e.g., rocks, shrubs, logs) and other variables important to the hiding calves were still in the most supported models, but selection was also influenced by forage availability and indices of forage quality. Studies that seek to obtain insight into microhabitat selection of neonates should consider selection by both the neonate and adult female and changes in selection as neonates age.

**Student