**Call for Oral and Poster Presentations**

**ABSTRACT DEADLINE – June 10**

**Alabama Chapter of the Wildlife Society Annual Conference**

The Alabama Chapter of The Wildlife Society is accepting abstracts for consideration for oral and poster presentations at the Chapter’s 2024 annual conference.

Submit your abstract here: [2024 ACTWS Annual Conference - travel award application and abstract submission (google.com)](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScrEvAIQngL7KNzNSNxFutRjam57ktL-oZXJegyyVx37AG4DQ/viewform)

All abstracts will be evaluated based on timeliness and relevance of the topic, degree of project completion/progression, and overall abstract quality. Authors will be notified of acceptance.

**ATTENTION STUDENTS!!!**

**Best Student Oral Presentation Award ($$$)**

**Best Student Poster Award ($$$)**

Please format abstracts according to the example below:

**ORAL/POSTER ABSTRACT**

**STUDENT/NON-STUDENT**

**Population Response of Northern Bobwhite to Field Border Management Practices**

**Mark D. Smith**, School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, 3301 Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, Auburn University, AL 36849 mds0007@auburn.edu.

***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; χ12 = 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.