



Nebraska Natural Legacy Project 2017

(Abstracts posted at NebraskaNaturalLegacy.org)

Location: **Lied Lodge & Conference Center**
2700 Sylvan Road, Nebraska City, NE 68410
402-873-8733
www.liedlodge.org

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Rosenow Room

- 9:30 am** CHECK-IN (CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST) – Lower Lobby
- 10:00** Welcome & Natural Legacy Conservation Award – *Kristal Stoner, Wildlife Diversity Program Manager, NE Game & Parks Commission*
- 10:15** Marsh Wren Saline Wetland Project – *Tom Malmstrom, City of Lincoln Parks and Recreation Dept., Saline Wetlands Conservation Partnership & Dan Schulz, Lower Platte South Natural Resources District*
- 10:45** BREAK
- 11:00** Keynote Address: Our Conservation Legacy: Where from Here?
Doug Ladd, Director Conservation Science, The Nature Conservancy, Missouri
- Noon** LUNCH
Timber Dining Room



* Presenter

Oct. 10 Afternoon Program

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Avian Ecology

(Rosenow Room)

Lauren Dinan

Ecosystem Services Management &

Response to Eastern Redcedar

(Steinhart C & D)

Rick Schneider

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|----------------|--|---|
| 1:15 PM | Raptor migration in the Missouri River Valley: recent changes in migration patterns – <i>Clem Klaphake</i> | Soil ecosystem services and resilience in the North Central Great Plains – * <i>Hannah Birgé, Craig R. Allen, Dirac Twidwell, & David A. Wedin</i> |
| 1:40 | Integrated monitoring in Bird Conservation Regions in the Playa Lakes Joint Venture Region: years one (2016) and two (2017) sampling from the panhandle of Nebraska – * <i>Anne Bartuszevige, Kyle Taylor, Alex Daniels, Mike Carter, Brittany Woiderski, Matthew McLaren, & Luke George</i> | Ecosystem service tradeoffs associated with eastern redcedar in Nebraska – * <i>Dillon T. Fogarty, Dirac Twidwell, & Craig R. Allen</i> |
| 2:05 | Sandhill Crane roost locations in relation to flow and channel width along the central Platte River – <i>Patrick Farrell</i> | Extreme fire restores biomass production in juniper-invaded grasslands – * <i>Christine Bielski, Dirac Twidwell, & Craig R. Allen</i> |
| 2:30 | Site occupancy and behavior of migratory shorebirds in agriculture fields in the Rainwater Basin, NE – * <i>Lindsay A. Brown, John P. McCarty, Joel G. Jorgensen, & L. LaReesa Wolfenbarger</i> | A statewide assessment of awareness of <i>Juniperus virginiana</i> invasion and management in Nebraska – * <i>Brittany Dueker, Dirac Twidwell, Allison Zach, & Craig R. Allen</i> |
| 2:55 | Life history and Platte River Recovery Implementation Program contributions to the continued existence of interior Least Terns and Piping Plovers along the central Platte River – <i>Dave Baasch</i> | Avian community responses to management of <i>Juniperus virginiana</i> in the Loess Canyons of Nebraska – * <i>Helen Tripp, Dirac Twidwell, & Craig R. Allen</i> |
| 3:20 | BREAK (please visit the break bar) | |

* Presenter

3:45 to 5:00 PM

CONSERVATION CAFÉ

(Rosenow Room)

Melissa Panella

The Conservation Café is designed to facilitate small group discussions on a particular topic. Presenters will have about 10 minutes to explain their project or poster, and then the small group can ask questions. Approximately every 15 mins., a whistle will sound and you can move to another group. Take this opportunity to find and foster new opportunities or help your colleagues brainstorm solutions to their challenges. You are encouraged to use this designated time to collaborate on conservation planning.

- The Nebraska Conservation and Environmental Review Tool – **Rick Schneider, Michelle Koch, & Rachel Simpson*
- Resources and database for identifying and choosing trees, UNL Regional & Community Forestry
– *Eric North*
- Accessing monitoring data from Homestead National Monument of America – *Jesse Bolli*
- Monitoring for future uncertainty – **Caleb P. Roberts, Dirac Twidwell, Jessica L. Burnett, Craig R. Allen, & David G. Angeler*
- Building suburban diversity and connective habitat, Monarch Gardens LLC
– *Benjamin Vogt*
- Wildlife education initiatives and resources in Nebraska – **Lindsay Rogers & Jamie Bachmann*
- Using drones to reach new ground with prescribed fire – **Rubi Quinones & Brittany A. Duncan*

DINNER: Dine at your convenience between the hours of **5:00–7:00 PM** in the **Timber Dining Room**.

Please show the official name tag that was given to you at the conference registration table to receive your meal at no extra cost. For additional beverages, the Library Lounge will have cash bar selections.

Save room for **S'mores!** We will have a **bonfire** from **7:00–9:00 PM** (weather permitting). We will gather in the upper main lobby at 6:45 PM to walk over to the Morton Oak Tree. See campus map or grab a buddy in the know if you walk to the site later. Everything you'll need to make S'mores is provided. You may bring a beverage from the library lounge or your own water bottle (beverages purchased elsewhere not permitted).

* Presenter

Wednesday, October 11

8:00 AM CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST (Check-in for new arrivals) – Lower Lobby

8:30 Announcements (Rosenow Room)

Project Heterogeneity – *Larkin Powell & Walter Schacht

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Of the Forest

(Rosenow Room)

Monica Macoubrie

Biodiversity Medley

(Steinhart C & D)

Melissa Panella

9:00 Tree species distribution models in Indian Cave State Park
– *Daniel Uden*

The impacts of management decisions on plant diversity in tallgrass prairies
– **Ethan Freese, David Wedin, & Walter Schacht*

9:25 Post-fire management legacy effects in severely burned ponderosa pine savanna
– **Victoria M. Donovan, Caleb P. Roberts, Carissa L. Wonkka, David Wedin, & Dirac Twidwell*

Recruitment, survival, and parasitism of monarchs in residential gardens and conservation areas
– **Emily A. Geest, John P. McCarty, & L. LaReesa Wolfenbarger*

10:10 A stand scale assessment of Nebraska’s Wildcat Hills forests, woodlands, and mixed-grass prairie
– **Allie Schiltmeyer & David Wedin*

The effects of bobwhite and pollinator conservation on grassland songbirds in Nebraska – **Conor Gearin, L. LaReesa Wolfenbarger, & John P. McCarty*

10:35 BREAK

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Bats

(Rosenow Room)

Jen Corman

Freshwater Mussels

(Steinhart C & D)

Ted LaGrange

11:00 Nebraska NABat: a model for utilizing volunteers for bat research – **Baxter Seguin, Zachary Warren, Michael Whitby, Chris Chizinski, Susan Loeb, & Craig R. Allen*

Monitoring reintroduced freshwater mussels in Nebraska
– *Lindsay Ohlman*

11:25 Habitat management for bats and other wildlife in the Pine Ridge Biologically Unique Landscape – *Erin Divine*

Propagation of native mussels in Nebraska
– *Bryan Sweet*

11:50 AWARD FOR BEST STUDENT PRESENTATION (Rosenow Room)**

Noon BOX LUNCH TO GO – Lower Lobby

* Presenter

** Open to current students or those within 12 months following graduation. Student must be the primary person responsible for data collection, analysis, preparation, and delivery of the presentation.

Oct. 11 Afternoon Field Tours: Grab your lunch to go and please be prepared to depart for field tours at 12:15 PM. A limited number of vans will be available. Carpool if possible. Bring your water bottle and be dressed for the outdoors!

Tallgrass Prairies – Landowners Making a Difference

Leaders: Kent Pfeiffer, Northern Prairies Land Trust

Pastures offer prime opportunities for grassland restoration. Visit prairie restoration projects in pastures near Steinauer, Nebraska. The landowner and private lands biologist will cover the history of the project and showcase the work that is paying off. Time permitting, the group will also take a look at nearby examples of what the pastures would have looked like before restoration work began.

Indian Cave State Park – Managing the Forest with Fire

Leaders: Gerry Steinauer, Nebraska Game & Parks Commission; Krista Lang and Chance Brueggemann, Northern Prairies Land Trust

Bring your hiking boots! For nearly a decade, fire has been an important component of woodland management and oak forest rehabilitation at Indian Cave State Park. Land managers will show the positive response of the forest to their efforts, which also include tree thinning and control of undesirable woody and invasive species. From the forest floor to the canopy, tour leaders will share their knowledge of the challenges and methods for success.



The Nebraska Natural Legacy Project extends a special thank you to the Nebraska Environmental Trust for support of this conference. We also thank Bass Pro Shops.

