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PETER J. MAHONEY

EDUCATION

Graduate:

Auburn University Auburn, AL
School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences
Graduate Research/Teaching Assistant
MS Student
GPA – 4.0

University of Florida Gainesville, FL
Dept. of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
Graduate Research Assistant
MS student (1 year)

Undergraduate:

New College of Florida Sarasota, FL
B.A. Biology received in May 2001
General GRE: Biology GRE:
Verbal – 540 730
Quantitative – 710
Analytical – 690

Secondary:

Oak Park and River Forest High School Oak Park, IL
High School Diploma received in June 1997
Graduated *Cum Laude*

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Wildlife Technician

March 2006 – Aug. 2008 *Avian Research and Conserv. Inst. (ARCI)* Wauchula, FL

- Great White Heron Nesting and Foraging Ecology – Conducted habitat use and foraging surveys for great white herons (GWHE) throughout Florida Bay and the lower Florida Keys by boat. Monitored colony performance and individual nest success of GWHEs and local great blue herons.
- Florida Keys Surveys – Conducted systematic, point-count surveys by boat of five focal species (Reddish Egrets, White-crowned Pigeons, Black-whiskered Vireos, Mangrove Clapper Rails, Cuban Yellow Warblers) on mangrove islands located throughout the lower keys from May through June in 2006 and 2007.
- White-crowned Pigeon (WCPI) Banding – Monitored nesting effort of WCPIs throughout the lower keys. Coordinated banding personnel and efforts with peaks in nesting. Assisted in leg banding (i.e. USFWS aluminum tags) over 500 WCPI nestlings.

- Short-tailed Hawk (STHA) Nesting Ecology – Monitored historic, as well as located new, STHA nesting territories. Identified adult color morphs, located nests within territories, determined nest timelines, placed and maintained nest cameras, tagged nestlings (VHF tags and USFWS leg bands), and trapped adults near nesting territories, monitored VHF-tagged young and adults by air and ground, and determined the success of individual nest sites.
- Snail Kite (SNKI) Trapping, Tagging, and Monitoring – Developed a new, safe method for trapping Juvenile and Adult Snail Kites. Trapped 11 SNKIs and placed auxiliary tags (VHF and PTT transmitters, color ID leg bands, and USFWS bands) on all individuals. Monitored movements of each by air.
- Wintering Short-tailed Hawk Ecology – Conducted boat and road surveys of wintering STHAs throughout Everglades National Park and the Florida Keys. Trapped wintering hawks and placed auxiliary tags (VHF or PTT transmitters and USFWS bands) on all individuals.
- Swallow-tailed Kite – Assisted in conducting aerial roost surveys, road foraging surveys, and artificial nest placement.

Other Responsibilities with ARCI:

- Assist in project development, implementation, and data organization.
- Coordinating various field activities with project leaders and non-employee personnel.
- Supervising volunteers and technicians.
- Vehicle maintenance (all types).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Assistant

- Jan. 2009 – Present *Auburn University* Auburn, AL
- Currently teach the laboratory components to Wildlife Management II and Principles of Wildlife Ecology.
 - Advise students on course considerations and degree routes that are in-line with their respective career goals based on my experiences as a wildlife ecologist and technician.

Biology/Integrated Science Instructor

- Jan. 2003 – June 2005 *Hardee Senior High School* Wauchula, FL
- Taught a variety of science disciplines to grades 9th through 12th.
 - Selected for a committee charged with developing a new curriculum for an Integrated Science course.
 - Selected for a committee researching secondary scheduling alternatives.
 - Elected to develop science questions for state wide academic team competition.

Biology/Ecology Science Instructor

- Aug. 2001 – Aug. 2002 *Booker High School* Sarasota, FL
- Taught biology and ecology to grades 9th through 12th.
 - Assisted in the development of an environmental science magnet program, and served as a primary instructor in the program.
 - Environmental Team co-sponsor.

Aquarium Science Teacher's Assistant

- Jan. 2001 – May 2001 *New College of Florida* Sarasota, FL

- Taught students to the importance of and how to measure specific chemical and environmental variables in an aquarium.
- Helped to convey the various effects of these variables on the relative success of a variety of marine and freshwater organisms in a captive environment.

Fish Biology Teacher's Assistant

Aug. 2000 – Dec. 2000 *New College of Florida* Sarasota, FL

- Taught ichthyology in both a lecture and lab format.
- Supervised several collecting trips utilizing various collecting methods.
- Assisted in the acclimation and care of wild-caught fishes.

VOLUNTEER AND INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

Eastern Wolf Den Crew Technician

May 2009 – June 2010 *Trent University* Ontario, CA

- Assisted a Trent University student in locating Eastern wolf dens.
- Captured wolf pups and assisted veterinarians in implanting VHF transmitters.
- Maintained and organized gear on a daily basis. Carried 30-40lb packs through often unmarked and rugged terrain over long distances.
- Monitored transmitted wolves from the ground and air.

Eastern Wolf Den Crew Volunteer

May 2008 – June 2008 *Trent University* Ontario, CA

Animal Husbandry Volunteer

Jan. 2003 – June 2009 *Peace River Refuge and Ranch* Zolfo Springs, FL

- Independently carried out or oversaw aspects of native and exotic animal care, including food preparation and delivery, habitat maintenance, capture and restraint to facilitate necessary care, and animal conditioning and training.
- Manned and glove trained a wild red-tail hawk that was ineligible for release due to injury. Handled the animal during educational public outreach events while representing the refuge.
- Species worked with: gray wolves, black bears, panthers, lynxes, tigers, capuchin monkeys, spider monkeys, lemurs, cotton-top tamarins, Egyptian fruit bats, red-tailed hawk, screech owl, African servals, horses, cattle, white-tailed deer, emus, capybaras, and gopher tortoises.

Gray Wolf Survey Intern

Jan. 2000 *Audubon Center of the North Woods* Sandstone, MN

- Participated in an intensive internship looking at gray wolf pack boundaries in the Sandstone, MN, Boundary Waters, and Jonvik Deer Yard areas. Surveys were conducted by small teams, working on foot, snowshoe, and cross-country skis.
- Orienteering in remote areas conducted through use of compass, topographic maps, and personal GPS units.
- Multiple data collections were organized into spreadsheet and written formats for transfer to the Minnesota and Wisconsin Departments of Natural Resources.

Pritzker Marine Laboratory Intern

Aug. 2000 – Dec. 2000 *Pritzker Marine Laboratory* Sarasota, FL

- Assisted in the care and maintenance of research organisms.
- Constructed aquaria and their essential components (filter, stands, etc.).

- Helped to design habitats for public display aquaria.

Assistant Curator

Feb. 2000 – May 2000 *Allyn Museum of Entomology* Sarasota, FL

- Assisted in maintaining the second largest lepidopteran collection in the United States.
- Identified and organized new specimens into the collection.
- Assisted in reorganizing a large portion of the existing collection by family and native region.

Assistant Manatee Trainer and Research Technician

Sept. 1998 – Jan. 1999 *Mote Marine Laboratory* Sarasota, FL

- Assisted Prof. Gordon Bauer (New College of FL) in testing the visual acuity of manatees using various trained tasks.
- Trained manatees to perform specific tasks that would assist in basic husbandry and veterinary care.

JOB RELATED SKILLS

- Experience collecting data for a diverse range of scientific projects, and an ability to accurately organize, interpret and present findings as needed.
- Extensive back-country backpacking and camping experience.
- Extensive animal trapping and handling experience.
- Working knowledge of analytical modeling and its application in Ecology.
- Experienced horseman.

EQUIPMENT PROFICIENCY

- Orienteering equipment (compass, topographic maps, GPS, radio-telemetry).
- Computers:
 - OS* – Linux, OSX, PocketPC, and MS Windows
 - Software* - MS Word, Excel, Access, and Power Point, Adobe Acrobat and Photoshop
 - Statistical software* – R, SAS, SWARM, NetLogo, Program Mark
 - Programming Languages* – R, Objective-C, CSS, HTML
- Experience with 4WD vehicles, snowmobiles, ATV's, outboard boats (16-22ft), and airboats.

PUBLICATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Mahoney, P.J. T.D. Steury, and D. Murray. *In prep.* The role of behavior in predicting red wolf (*Canis rufus*) persistence potential: an individual-based modeling approach.

Mahoney, P.J. T.D. Steury, and D. Murray. *In prep.* Predictive accuracy in population viability models: the red wolf as a model system.

Mahoney, P.J., T.D. Steury, and D. Murray. A re-assessment of Red Wolf (*Canis rufus*) viability using stage-structured, stochastic population models. Carnivores, 15 November – 18 November 2009, Denver, Colorado, USA.

Mahoney, P.J., K.D. Meyer, G.M. Zimmerman, and C.E. Cattau. In Press. An aquatic Bal-Chatrri for trapping Snail Kites (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*). Southeast Naturalist.

A plate in: Demski, L.S. (2003) In the Fish's Mind's Eye: The Visual Pallium of Teleosts. In: Sensory Processing in Aquatic Environments (Collin, S.P. and Marshall, N.J., eds.), pp. 404 – 419, Springer-Verlag.

Thesis: Mahoney, P. (2001) The cytoarchitecture of the telencephalon of a cichlid fish: *Cichlasoma cyanoguttatum*. New College Thesis.

AWARDS

Auburn University Master's Student of the Year 2009/2010

School of Forestry and Wildlife Science Master's Student of the Year 2009/2010

Drummond Company Fellowship

Awarded a Graduate Research Fellowship to conduct doctoral-level research at the University of Queensland.

Alumni representative on the Pritzker Marine Laboratory Advisory Committee (2001-2002).

Awarded a \$5,000 grant from Sarasota County, Florida to measure the productivity of artificial reefs in Sarasota Bay. Due to the latency in receiving the award, the research was unable to be conducted.

REFERENCES

Dr. Todd Steury (Current Advisor)
Assistant Professor of Wildlife Sciences
School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences
Auburn University
Phone: (334) 844-9253
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Dr. Kenneth Meyer
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Courtesy Associate Professor, Dept. of Wildlife Ecology and Conserv.
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John Benson
Trent University and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
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US Fish and Wildlife Service – Biologist
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