



**May 8, 2023**

Happy finals week, GDPE!

Thank you to all who came out to celebrate our Spring Picnic and Awards Ceremony. We truly enjoy recognizing the accomplishments, advances, and efforts of our community. We had many reasons (and individuals!) to celebrate:

**Ryleigh Gelles** - Outstanding Publication Award

**Rebecca Cheek** - Excellence in Mentoring and Teaching Award

**Tamara Layden and Erin Weingarten** - Broadening Participation in Ecology Award

We also wanted to thank our **2022-2023 Peer Mentors** for their commitment to integrating our new GDPE cohort into our program, and the numerous students and faculty who provide service to GDPE through our **Executive, DEI, and Social Committees**.

Lastly, CONGRATULATIONS to our newest **GDPE graduates**! We wish you the best of luck on your next adventures!

I hope you all enjoy your summer!

*Josie Otto*

*Science Communication Fellow*



**GDPE EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**



# Peer Mentorship

Help support our new cohort of students!



## Recruiting GDPE Peer Mentors

GDPE is excited to continue its **peer-to-peer mentoring program** for incoming grad students this fall, and we need current students to help! We all know that it can feel overwhelming to start grad school. Mentors can make such a difference in getting settled in and connected. The time commitment is small and the benefits are great! Click the [link here](#) for more details and to access our Interest Form.

**CALL FOR ECOL 592 SUBMISSIONS**  
FALL 2023

Scan to access the submission form

GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM IN ECOLOGY  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

## Call for ECOL 592 Submissions

These unique seminars provide cutting edge ecology topics which are changed and updated each semester. We are currently accepting submissions from students and faculty for the Fall 2023 semester. Previous seminars can be found [here](#) and the submission form can be accessed [here](#). Submissions are accepted up until the first week of the semester.

GDPE Event Calendar

## Student Defenses

### PhD Defense Seminar

**Sarah Carroll**

*A Holistic Evaluation of Human-Elephant Interactions in Multiuse Savannas*

May 9, 2023  
9:00 am MT

# A Holistic Evaluation of Human - Elephant Interactions in Multiuse Savannas

Sarah L. Carroll  
PhD Exit Seminar  
May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 9:00 AM MT  
345 Michael Smith Bldg.  
Remote access:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8787557849>

Advisor: Robin Reid  
Committee: Randy Boone,  
Jon Salerno, George Wittmeyer



**Muddy State Development in Ghana's Upper East Region**  
ONE VILLAGE, ONE DAM, & ITS EFFECTS ON SMALLHOLDER FARMERS IN A STUDY COMMUNITY

Patrick Ryan  
MS Defense  
11:00 AM, May 10, 2023  
Virtual Only  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8429056402>

Advisor  
Dr. Heidi Hausermann  
Committee  
Dr. Steve Leisz, Dr. Steve Fonte,  
Dr. Hanson Nyantakyi-Frimpong

## MS Defense Seminar

**Patrick Ryan**  
*Muddy State Development in Ghana's Upper East Region*

May 10, 2023  
11:00 am MT  
Virtual Only  
Zoom [Link](#)

## MS Defense Seminar

**Korissa Straub**  
*"Untapped Potential"*  
An Experiential Water Quality Education Program Case Study of Colorado High School Teachers and Their Students

May 15, 2023  
9:00 am MT  
NESB B215  
Zoom [Link](#)

**"Untapped Potential"**  
an experiential water quality education program case study of Colorado high school teachers and their students

Korissa Straub  
MS Defense  
9:00 am  
May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
NESB B215

Stacy Lynn, advisor, Ryan Bailey, co-advisor, & Pinar Omur-Ozbek, committee member

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9662896333?pwd=ZkRlcW9WZlpsNGlEYkphVzZlYzZkdz09>

## ECOLOGY & CSU EVENTS

### Responsible Conduct of Research Training Series

CSU promotes outstanding research and scholarly activity performed in a manner that models ethical professional behavior. The university has a number of course listings that focus on Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) and meet federal standards for providing trainees with formal ethics training. All trainees engaged in research and scholarly inquiry at the undergraduate, graduate or postdoctoral level will be required to take RCR training during their time at CSU. By attending 8 workshops, you may earn a certificate and waive the course requirement. The next workshop will be held on **May 10** at 3PM in Nutrien 163.

More information can be found [here](#).

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY  
Contact us at [vpr\\_rcr\\_training@mail.colostate.edu](mailto:vpr_rcr_training@mail.colostate.edu)

**Responsible Conduct of Research Training Series**  
In line with the principles of responsible and ethical conduct of research, and existing and emerging federal requirements, the CSU Research Integrity Office is providing 1-hour RCR discussions each month. Researchers can earn an RCR certificate after attending 8 sessions.

**WORKSHOP INFORMATION**

- February 22, 3:00 pm
  - Speakers: Rich Wright
  - Topic: Secure and Global Research
  - Location: Stadium 1207
- March 22, 3:00 pm
  - Speakers: Anthony Appleton and Kimberly Cox-York
  - Topic: Safe Research Spaces
  - Location: Stadium 1204
- April 19, 3:00 pm
  - Speakers: Chris Myrick and Jill Nelson
  - Topic: Animal Research at CSU
  - Location: Animal Sciences 131
- May 10, 3:00 pm
  - Speakers: Kimberly Cox-York
  - Topic: Mentoring and the Individual Development Plan
  - Location: Nutrien 163



## **Pathways 2023: Human Dimensions of Wildlife Conference and Training**

Pathways is an international conference and training program designed to address the myriad issues that arise as people and wildlife struggle to coexist in a sustainable manner. Our team believes that through increasing the professionalism and effectiveness of the Human Dimensions of Wildlife field, we can contribute to the success of the global conservation effort as a whole. The conference will be held **May 31 - June 3** at CSU. [Register here.](#)

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## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

### **GTA's Best Practices in Teaching at CSU: Inclusive Pedagogy**

This three-week (May 22-June 11), mostly asynchronous course takes place in Canvas. Participants can expect to spend 4-5 hours per week completing assignments, discussions and readings. Engage in self-reflection to consider your own lived experiences and how you use those as a lens to make decisions regarding all aspects of your teaching: your class climate, your instructional practices, and what you inherently believe about your students. In this course, you will consider your students' diverse strengths and how to leverage those to develop an inclusive classroom. You will review your current curriculum and look for opportunities to incorporate inclusive practices that heighten students' sense of belonging which, ultimately, contributes to their level of success. Register [here](#).

**This course will be facilitated by GDPE Student and Sci Comm Fellow Josie Otto.**

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## **Fall 2023 Courses**

A course poster for "CONSERVATION MARKETING JTC 792E (CRN 75203)". The background is dark green with decorative elements like leaves and dots. On the right, there is a circular image of a red panda's face. The text is white and yellow. At the bottom, there is a small icon of a person and a clock icon, followed by the instructor's name and the course schedule.

**CONSERVATION  
MARKETING  
JTC 792E (CRN 75203)**

The Department of Journalism and Media Communication is offering a graduate course this fall on communication and behavior change theory and concepts to encourage individuals and communities to adopt conservation behaviors.

 Dr. Katie Abrams  Tuesdays  
3:00 - 5:50 PM

### **JTC 792E Conservation Marketing**

Study an emerging field of research and practice with roots in the well-established social marketing framework. This course will cover the social marketing framework in-depth as it applies to helping people to engage in conservation behavior with a special focus on the role of strategic communication. Course will include practical and academic applications of conservation marketing. Students benefit from having any foundation in quantitative social science research methods (e.g., surveys, experiments) or basic statistics before taking this class, though it is not required. Unique potential opportunity this fall: The class or select students may collaborate with nene.org to research and develop conservation marketing approaches to help protect nēnē in Hawai'i.

Sample syllabus: <https://col.st/CMj0p>.

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### **ECOL 610 Ecosystem Ecology**

Concepts, methods, issues in ecosystem science: energy and matter cycling; systems perspectives, simulation modeling, sustainability, global change.

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### **BZ 560 Teaching and Communicating Science**

Nature of science, scientific reasoning, scientific argumentation, communication theories, and instructional strategies are explored. Develop science argumentation and communication skills in undergraduate courses and in informal settings. Create materials for a professional portfolio.

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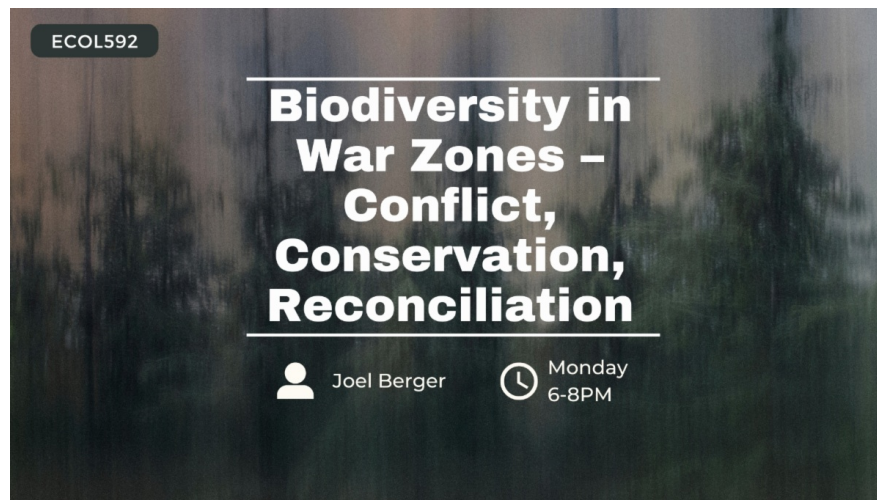


### **ECOL 592 Urban Ecology - Registration opening soon!**

In this course, students will learn the history of urban ecology and how it has become the discipline it is today, build an understanding of urban ecosystems, consider human perceptions and

interactions with urban ecosystems, identify management challenges within these systems, visit local green spaces that are managed by the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department, and discuss current literature on research conducted in an urban ecology setting.

Students will be evaluated on their participation in discussion and engagement with the material. There will be no assignments. However, the instructors will evaluate student performance based on participation in discussions and engagement with guest lecturers.



**ECOL 592 Biodiversity in War Zones - Conflict, Conservation, Reconciliation - Registration opening soon!**

This seminar will address three key questions: 1) Why do militarized border zones harbor extraordinary species diversity? 2) What lessons emanate from understanding risk in non-human communities? 3) How do scientists capitalize on acquired knowledge from refuge precincts to accomplish real conservation? We will assess how & why ecological communities flourish and fail when safety and danger persist. Animal models reveal we are not unique. The focus is to be international and national, and on to whom this matters. Grading will be based on two primary factors: a) a student led discussion based on assigned readings with other class attendees, and b) participation in class by all students reflected by understanding and questions about the assigned readings.



**Marmots do not drink coffee: Human urine contributions to the nitrogen budget of a popular national park destination**

*Ecosphere* - 2023

Current and former GDPE members **Jill Baron, Tim Weinmann, Varun Kirk Acharya, Caitlin Charlton, Koren Nydick, and Scott Esser's** new article in *Ecosphere* compares reactive nitrogen input from wet atmospheric deposition to human urine - using caffeine as a marker! Click above to read their findings or [visit here](#) to read a highlight of their article from the USGS.



A crowded path leads to a traffic jam of visitors near Timberline falls, Loch Vale, Rocky Mountain National Park.

Credit: NPS/K. Grossman



Dr. Naomi Pierce  
Credit: Anna Olivella

## [Naomi Pierce elected to the National Academy of Sciences](#)

The National Academy of Sciences announced on May 2nd the election of 120 members and 23 international members in recognition of their distinguished and continuing achievements in original research.

Dr. Naomi Pierce, principal investigator in the Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology at Harvard University, was elected to the NAS. GDPE is excited to host Dr. Pierce for our 2023-2024 Distinguished Ecologist Seminar Series.

## Let us know about your recent publications!

We are trying to highlight the great and diverse science that our faculty and students are doing. If you have recently published an article, please fill out the form linked below and our SciCom Fellow, [Josie Otto](#), will add you to our new Recent Publications section above. We can also feature your work on our website!

*Please note that inclusion of events and publications in the Digest is not an endorsement by GDPE*

[Share your Recent Publication or Research Highlight](#)

**We want your feedback!** Do you have comments or suggestions about how your GDPE experience can improve? Let us know! Contact your ExCom Student Representatives, [Mel Morado](#) and [Erin Weingarten](#) to provide your feedback.

**Stay in touch by tagging GDPE** in your posts and photos on Twitter (@CSU\_Ecology) and Instagram (@CSU\_GDPE). Use hashtags #GDPE and #CSU\_Ecology. We'd be happy to help highlight your research!

**GDPE Social Listserv** - Please make sure to sign up [here](#) for the GDPE Social Listserv to keep up with all the fun events we have planned this year!

**GDPE Slack Channel** - Join our GPDE Slack channel [here](#).

**GPDE Student Teams Channel** - Join our Teams Channel [here](#).

[Submit Photos](#)

We want your photos! What are you up to, how is your field and lab work? Share them with us here.

## GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, & JOBS

### California Department of Fish and Wildlife Quantitative Ecologist

#### Applications due May 8

The position works with other four other scientists, who all report to a Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor, in the Big Game Unit of the Wildlife Branch. The Unit is responsible for statewide conservation and management of deer, elk, bear, pronghorn, and bighorn sheep. The position serves as a quantitative ecologist leading, and advising, on statistical design, data analysis and scientific inference for large, complex research projects supporting conservation and management

of these and other species. The position blends the skills of a biostatistician expert in the latest hierarchical modeling approaches (e.g., spatial capture recapture, integrated population models) and a wildlife ecologist who understands the latest wildlife survey methods (e.g., non-invasive genetic sampling, aerial counts, camera traps, GPS telemetry).

Applicants first need to take an online exam to qualify for the Research Scientist III classification. Learn more [here](#).

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### **Student contractor, invertebrate technician for USGS**

#### **Applications due May 15**

This position is to work full-time with a team of ecologists and hydrologists in the Studies Section of the USGS's Wyoming-Montana Water Science Center in Helena, MT. The focus of our work is on the effects of contaminants on aquatic and riparian organisms through field, laboratory, and mesocosm studies. Specific projects will include assessing the effect of legacy mine waste and active mining on the Clark Fork River Basin including investigations of metals accumulation into aquatic invertebrates and impacts to riparian birds through aquatic-terrestrial exchanges of prey, the effects of selenium moving through aquatic and aquatic-dependent food webs of Lake Koocanusa and the Kootenai River Basin, and the design and execution of mesocosm experiments to better understand the effects of contaminants on benthic communities in the absence of confounding factors. Project activities will involve enumeration and identification of aquatic insects, laboratory processing of insect samples for stable isotope and metal chemical analyses, maintaining and executing experiments in a mesocosm facility, and field work in mountain lakes and streams in remote areas of Montana and Wyoming. The position will report to one primary supervisor (Ashley Bussell) and the project leader (Travis Schmidt). The incumbent must have been enrolled at a University within the past twelve months. The position is funded for 2 full years.

To apply, send a cover letter, resume, and unofficial transcripts to Ashley ([abussell@usgs.gov](mailto:abussell@usgs.gov)) and Travis ([tschmidt@usgs.gov](mailto:tschmidt@usgs.gov)).

[Submit a Job Announcement](#)



**GRADUATE DEGREE  
PROGRAM IN ECOLOGY  
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