

THAD J. WILLIAMS

EDUCATION:

M.S. Candidate, Humboldt State University, Arcata, California

Major: Natural Resources and Sciences, Wildlife Management: Current GPA: 3.95

B.S. Dec 1998, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

Major: Wildlife and Fisheries Science Ecology: GPA (major field): 3.8

QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS:

- Trapping and handling large and small mammals using box, cage, culvert and foot-hold traps, and snares
- Surveying for medium and large mammals using transect counts and spotlighting
- Predator surveys using tracking stations and scent stations
- Utilization of Biomark® P.I.T. (personalized integrated transponder) tag subcutaneous injection system
- Diet analysis of carnivores by scat dissection and stomach content analysis
- Trapping raptors and corvids using bal-chattris and walk in traps
- Surveying for raptors by sight and sound along point count surveys
- Radio telemetry unit attachment and tracking for both mammals and birds
- Surveying for benthic, terrestrial, and aerial arthropods using a variety of methods
- Surveying for herpetofauna using flush counts along transects, pitfall traps, drift fences, and cover boards
- Habitat sampling and analysis using a variety of methods
- Collection of geographically referenced data using topographic maps and GPS data loggers
- Analysis of GIS data using ARCVIEW for Windows and ARCINFO
- Project development and research design
- Authorship of research grants
- Report writing, data management and statistical analyses
- Database design and implementation
- Safe use of anesthesia and euthanasia solutions
- Safe use of firearms, including pistols, rifles and shotguns
- Safe operation of 4x4 vehicles, standard transmission vehicles, ATVs, and outboard engine watercraft in both marine and freshwater conditions

FIELD AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

Hoopa Tribal Forestry, Hoopa California: 5/03 – 9/04

• **Tribal Biologist**

- Designed black bear study in cooperation with Humboldt State University
 - Large mammal capture using guillotine-style culvert traps and cable snares
 - Chemical immobilization using Ketamine/Xylazine via jab stick or injection pistol
 - Collected premolar, blood samples, hair samples, and basic measurements
 - Installed VHF and GPS collars for tracking
 - Responsible for tracking, recording, proofing, and reporting data for all collared animals

Institute for Wildlife Studies, Arcata, California: 2/01 – present

• **Crew Leader: 1/02-1/03**

- Supervised staff of up to 8 wildlife biologists on Predator Research and Management project to protect the federally endangered San Clemente Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus mearnsi*) on San Clemente Island, CA.
 - Trained and supervised numerous employees in the trapping and handling of island foxes
 - Authored weekly and monthly reports on all project activities to the U. S. Navy
 - Created database and re-designed data collection methods
 - Designed study to evaluate the effectiveness of multiple control methods on black rats (*Rattus rattus*)
 - Authored proposal to the U.S. Navy
 - Conducted preliminary data collection to refine methodology
 - Field duties involved all aspects of predator research and management listed for “staff biologist” below

• **Staff Biologist: 2/01-12/01**

- Charged with implementation of a predator management plan for the California state threatened Island Fox (*Urocyon littoralis clementae*) to protect the San Clemente Loggerhead Shrike

- Participated in a novel predator control system, utilizing a shock antenna system (“invisible fence” system)
 - Trapped and fitted foxes with an electric shock collar
 - Deployed and maintained passive shock antenna system around shrike nests and territories
- Trapped and temporarily removed problem animals from areas of high shrike vulnerability
 - Maintained fox holding facilities
 - Performed daily fox care, including health inspections, feeding and watering foxes and cleaning facilities
- Aided in the continuation of a long-term population demography study of the Island Fox (*Urocyon littoralis clementae*)
 - Conducted grid trapping of foxes in the thirteenth year of the long-term project
 - Collected data on age, sex, reproductive condition, presence of ecto-parasites, eye condition, and tooth condition
 - Collected blood samples and scat samples for use in serological studies
- Radio tracked foxes that were born and raised in captivity and re-introduced into native habitat
- Controlled feral cats (*Felis catus*) through the use of a variety of methods including trapping and spotlighting.
- Controlled black rats (*Rattus rattus*) through trapping and poisoning using Quintox® (Cholecalciferol)
- Trapped buteos and corvids using bal-chatri and walk-in traps
- Used climbing equipment and protection to rappel into raptor and corvid nests
- Collected data on predator abundance outside of control areas to examine the effectiveness of predator control techniques
- Investigated failed shrike nests to determine cause of failure, and if depredated, to determine by which species

Independent Research, Parque Nacional Carara, Costa Rica: 5/00-10/99

• **Principle Investigator**

- Baseline Mammalian Inventory of Parque Nacional de Carara, Puntarenas Province, Costa Rica
 - Authored permit application
 - Acquired grants and donations for canopy ascension gear
 - Designated trapping locales
 - Prepared voucher specimens
 - Worked with local authorities and local people (knowledge of Spanish)
 - Authored annual report of findings

Wildlife Conservation Society, Bronx, New York: 5/98-8/00

• **Crew Leader: 5/00-8/00**

- WCS nationwide fire/fire surrogate study. Mammal and herpetology crew at Enterprise, Oregon study site.
 - Designed transects
 - Designed marking system
 - Tasked with scheduling of personal
 - Handled and identified all species captured

• **Field Technician: 5/98-8/98**

- Project investigating late seral stage growth acceleration through selective thinning practices. N. California study site.
 - Placed Sherman® and Tomahawk® live traps
 - Responsible for identification of captured specimens
 - Used the Biomark® P.I.T. tag subcutaneous injection system for recapture data.
 - Extensive vegetation sampling using various methods

Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission, Gainesville Florida: 8/00-1/01

• **Field Technician**

- Member of the Adaptive Management Unit. Charged with habitat management, analysis, and restoration.
 - Collection of flora and fauna
 - Data compilation and management
 - Habitat restoration and analysis
 - Management treatment analysis

Texas A&M University-Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, College Station, Texas: 8/96-5/98

• **Field Technician**

- Project designed to describe yellow rail behavior and habitat on the Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge.
 - Leading capture teams in the field
 - Transporting captured birds
 - Assisting in banding and attaching transmitters for a radio telemetry-tracking project
 - Benthic invertebrate surveys
 - Aerial insect surveys using tangle trap
 - Vegetation sampling

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE:

- **GIS Technician, City of Austin: 11/99-5/00**

- Responsibilities include creating and maintaining base map coverage, research and interpretation of land development related documents, and quality control and assurance. Tasked with generation of maps, plots, graphic simulation, database management and new employee training. Utilize COGO, ArcInfo, and ArcView.
- **Discovery Staff, Camp Allen: 1/99-5/99**
 - Educated children ages 10-15 about environmental issues, wildlife survival, botany, entomology, aquatic life, canoeing, and orienteering.
- **Assistant manager: 6/96-5/99**
 - Initiating computer systems, Planning daily activities as per available staff and required services, salesman, mechanic, customer relations, dealings with merchandisers and wholesalers, and completing end-of-day paperwork (inventory reconciliation, sales summary).
- **Tutor: 7/98-12/98**
 - Tutor for wildlife ecology classes, endorsed by Texas A&M

Relevant Volunteer Experience:

- **Volunteer:** summer 1999. Parque Nacional Carara. Assisted with Herpetological bioinventory
- **Volunteer:** summer 1999. Zoo Aves, Costa Rica. Assisted with primate care and feeding of all species
- **Volunteer:** summer 1999. Tortuga Lora Project at Playa Hermosa, Costa Rica
- **Volunteer:** summer 1999. Scarlet macaw artificial nest-box erection. Costa Rica
- **Volunteer:** spring 1998. Prairie chicken research facility
- **Volunteer:** spring 1998. Paddlefish population survey, Lake Livingston
- **Volunteer:** fall 1997. TMPA (Texas Municipal Power Agency) wetlands reclamation project

Computer Experience:

- Geographic Information Systems (GIS) - experienced with ARCVIEW, ARCMAP, and ARC/INFO (AML)
- Custom PC, server, and video surveillance design and implementation for wildlife application.
- Global Positioning Systems (GPS) - experience with Magellan, Trimble and Garmin data loggers
- Access Database design in a secure network environment
- Windows installation and maintenance including small network administration, virus and spyware recovery.
- Experience with spreadsheet, graphics, database, word processing, and graphical presentation software for PC, Linux, and Macintosh

Honors and Awards:

Distinguished Student Spring 1998

Dean's Honor Roll Fall 1997

TREK Grassroots Factory Sponsored Team member 1996-1997

Distinguished Student Fall 1996

Distinguished Student Fall 1995

Jim Conner Memorial Scholarship Recipient

Interests:

Backpacking/Camping, Weight-training, and Fishing

Abstracts and Technical Reports:

Cooper, D. M., E.L. Kershner, T.J. Williams, and D. K. Garcelon. In prep. 2002 Final Report: Predator research and management program to protect the San Clemente Loggerhead Shrike. U.S. Navy, Natural Resources Management Branch, Southwest Div., Nav. Fac. Eng. Command, San Diego, California.

Williams, T. J., D. M. Cooper, and E. L. Kershner. 2001. An evaluation of the effectiveness of rat control methods used on San Clemente Island, California. U.S. Navy, Natural Resources Management Branch, Southwest Div., Nav. Fac. Eng. Command, San Diego, California.

Williams, T. J. 1999. Baseline Mammalian Inventory of Parque Nacional de Carara, Puntarenas Province, Costa Rica. Ministerio del Ambiente y Energia of Costa Rica, San Jose, Costa Rica.