

Christine Parker

Education

PhD	University of Illinois – Urbana-Champaign Dissertation: <i>Behavioral ecology of wild turkeys</i> Advisor: Dr. Jeff Hoover Cum. GPA: 3.48	2021 ¹
MS	University of Illinois – Urbana-Champaign Thesis: <i>Migration Ecology of Songbirds in the Midwest</i> Advisor: Dr. James R. Miller	2015
BS	Paul Smith's College – Paul Smiths, New York Majored in Fisheries and Wildlife Science: Wildlife Concentration	2007

Grants & Scholarships

- 2020 **Federal Aid Fish and Wildlife Restoration Project W-183-R-7**
\$250,000 – Wild Turkey Responses to Forest Management (co-investigator)
- 2019 **Federal Aid Fish and Wildlife Restoration Project W-183-R-6**
\$250,000 – Wild Turkey Responses to Forest Management (Co-PI)
- 2018 **Federal Aid Fish and Wildlife Restoration Project W-183-R-5**
\$250,000 – Wild Turkey Responses to Forest Management (Co-PI)
- Wildlife Disease Association Small Grants**
\$1385 – Black fly quantification workshop
- American Ornithological Society Travel Grant**
\$400 – Conference travel
- 2017 **Land of Lincoln Scholarship**
Illinois State Chapter – National Wild Turkey Federation
\$1500 – School fees, supplies
- 2016 **Land of Lincoln Scholarship**
Illinois State Chapter – National Wild Turkey Federation
\$1500 – School fees, supplies
- Educational Opportunity Grant**
UIUC - Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences Department
\$300 – Conference travel

¹ Successfully defended in June 2021. Preparing final dissertation for deposit.

- 2014 **Educational Opportunity Grant**
UIUC - Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences Department
\$250 – Conference travel
- 2013 **Champaign County Audubon Society Kendeigh Grant**
\$1000 – Field supplies

Peer-reviewed Publications

- 2021 [Parker, C., W. M. Schelsky, L. Garver, and J. P. Hoover. Pyrodiversity matters: wild turkey habitat selection in a fire managed landscape. *Forest Ecology and Management* 493:119227.](#)
- 2020 **Parker, Christine**, Meador, Morgan, and Hoover, Jeffrey P. Using digital image analysis to quantify small arthropod vectors. *Journal of Medical Entomology*. 57:1671-1674.
- 2017 Nelson, S. B., J. J. Coon, C. J. Duchardt, J. D. Fischer, S. J. Halsey, A. J. Kranz, **C. M. Parker**, S. C. Schneider, T. M. Swartz, and J. R. Miller. Patterns and mechanisms of invasive plant impacts on North American birds: a systematic review. *Biological Invasions*. 19:1547-1563.
- 2017 **Parker, C. M.**, Miller, J. R., and Allan, B. F. Avian and habitat characteristics influence tick infestation among birds in Illinois. *Journal of Medical Entomology*. 54:550-558.
- 2014 Schneider, S., **C. Parker**, J. Miller, L. Page Fredericks, and B. Allan. Assessing the contribution of songbirds to the movement of ticks and *Borrelia burgdorferi* in the midwestern United States during fall migration. *Ecohealth*:1-10.

Technical Reports

- 2020 Hoover, Jeffrey P.; Parker, Christine M.; Meador, Morgan T.; Benson, Thomas J. Wild turkey responses to forest management. Illinois Natural History Survey Technical Report.
- 2019 Hoover, Jeffrey P.; Parker, Christine M.; Meador, Morgan T.; Benson, Thomas J. Wild turkey responses to forest management. Illinois Natural History Survey Technical Report. [Project W-183-R-5](#)
- 2018 Hoover, Jeffrey P.; Parker, Christine M.; Schelsky, Wendy M.; Benson, Thomas J. Wild turkey responses to forest management. Illinois Natural History Survey Technical Report. [Project W-183-R-4](#)
- 2017 Hoover, Jeffrey P.; Parker, Christine M.; Schelsky, Wendy M.; Benson, Thomas J. Wild turkey responses to forest management. Illinois Natural History Survey Technical Report. [Project W-183-R-3](#)
- 2016 Hoover, Jeffrey P.; Parker, Christine M.; Schelsky, Wendy M.; Benson, Thomas J. Wild turkey responses to forest management. Illinois Natural History Survey Technical Report.

[Project W-183-R-2](#)

- 2015 Hoover, Jeffrey P.; Parker, Christine M.; Schelsky, Wendy M.; Benson, Thomas J. Wild turkey responses to forest management. Illinois Natural History Survey Technical Report. [Project W-183-R-1](#)

Invited articles & press

- 2020 [There's an App for That! Digital Image Analysis Counts Flies.](#) Entomology Today, Entomological Society of America.
- 2019 Parker, C. [Wild Turkey Habitat Use in Forest Managed with Prescribed Fire.](#) Outdoor Illinois Wildlife Journal, Illinois Department of Natural Resources.
Parker, C. Black flies: a nuisance for humans and wildlife. Spring edition, Illinois Audubon Magazine.
- 2018 Parker, C. [Double the traps, double the turkeys.](#) Behind the Scenes Blog, Illinois News Bureau.
- 2017 Parker, C. [Where the wild turkeys aren't.](#) Behind the Scenes Blog, Illinois News Bureau.
Parker, C. [Christine Parker: Avian Ecologist.](#) Women in Science Blog, Prairie Research Institute.

Academic Presentations

- 2019 **Parker, C.M.**, Hoover, J.P., Benson, T.J., Schelsky, W., and Garver, L. Pyrodiversity Matters: Wild Turkey Habitat Selection in a Fire Managed Landscape. Oral presentation at the annual meeting of The Wildlife Society in Reno, Nevada.
- 2018 **Parker, C.M.**, Hoover, J.P., Benson, T.J., Schelsky, W., and Garver, L. Burnin' for you: an evaluation of turkey habitat use in response to prescribed fire. Invited presentation at the Illinois Natural History Survey, Champaign, Illinois.
- Parker, C.M.**, Hoover, J.P., Benson, T.J., Schelsky, W., and Garver, L. Burnin' for you: an evaluation of turkey habitat use in response to prescribed fire. Oral presentation at the 54th meeting of the Illinois Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Champaign, Illinois.
- Meador, M.M., **Parker, C.M.**, Hoover, J.P., Benson, T.J., and Schelsky, W. Do black flies influence wild turkey reproduction? Poster presentation at the 54th meeting of the Illinois Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Champaign, Illinois.
- Parker, C.M.**, Hoover, J.P., Benson, T.J., Schelsky, W., and Garver, L. Burnin' for you: an evaluation of turkey habitat use in response to prescribed fire. Oral presentation at the 136th meeting of the American Ornithological Society, Tuscon, Arizona.
- 2017 **Parker, C.M.**, Hoover, J.P., Benson, T.J., Schelsky, W., and Shelton, P. Loafing: the wild turkey's guide to the nap. Poster presentation at the 77th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Lincoln, Nebraska.

- Parker, Christine**, Hoover, Jeff, Benson, TJ, Schelsky, Wendy, and Shelton, Paul. Loafing: the wild turkey's guide to the nap. Oral presentation at the 38th annual Midwest Ecology and Evolution Conference, Champaign-Urbana, Illinois.
- 2015 **Parker, C.M.**, Allan, B.F., and Miller, J.R. Variation in avian life-history and ecological traits influence tick infestation. Oral presentation at the 51st annual meeting of the Illinois Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Champaign, Illinois.
- Parker, C.M.**, Allan, B.F., and Miller, J.R. Some birds are such tick magnets: avian life-history traits influence tick infestation. Oral presentation at the 75th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana.
- 2014 **Roy, C.M.**, Schneider, S.C., Allan, B.F., and Miller, J.R. The influence of avian life-history and ecological traits on tick infestation of birds. Poster presentation at the joint meeting of the Association of Field Ornithologists and the Wilson Ornithological Society, Newport, Rhode Island.
- 2013 Cleeton, S. H., **C. M. Roy**, J. R. Miller, L. P. Fredericks, and B. F. Allan. Assessing the contribution of migrating songbirds to the southward expansion of Lyme disease in the Midwestern US. Poster presentation at the 131st Annual American Ornithologist's Union and 83rd Annual Cooper Ornithological Society joint meeting, Chicago, Illinois.
- Roy, C.M.**, Cleeton, S.H., Miller, J.R., and Allan, B.F. The influence of avian life-history and ecological traits on tick infestation of birds. Oral presentation at the 34th annual Midwest Ecology and Evolution Conference, South Bend, Indiana.
- Roy, C.M.**, Cleeton, S.H., Miller, J.R., and Allan, B.F. Where do ticks fit into the budget of a migratory bird? Oral presentation at the 15th annual Graduate Students in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Symposium, University of Illinois.
- 2012 **Roy, C.M.**, Cleeton, S.H., Miller, J.R., and Allan, B.F. Host-vector interactions in the Lyme disease system: The role of birds in Ixodes scapularis dispersal and infection. Oral presentation at the Illinois Mosquito & Vector Control Association 58th annual meeting, Champaign, Illinois.

Teaching Experience

- 2021 **Unity College**, Unity, ME
Distance Education Adjunct Instructor – Life history and ID of Birds and Mammals
 Taught online course with 6 students in the variety of life histories that occur among wildlife and different techniques used to identify species.
- 2021 **Unity College**, Unity, ME
Distance Education Adjunct Instructor – Wildlife Habitat Management
 Taught online course with 18 students in the variation of habitat management strategies and how to evaluate the effectiveness of habitat management.
- 2018 **University of Illinois**, Urbana, IL

Teaching assistant – Geographic Information Systems in Natural Resources Management

I taught a lab section of 40+ students and provided assistance to the professor and students.

2018 **Black fly sampling & quantification workshop**, Champaign, IL

Organizer & Lead instructor

Objectives of this workshop included introducing learners to: black fly ecology, sampling methods, identification techniques, and quantification methods.

2014 **University of Illinois**, Urbana, Illinois

Teaching assistant – Integrative Ecosystem Management

The primary duties of this position included grading, monitoring student participation, and managing the course Compass website.

2013 **University of Illinois**, Urbana, Illinois

Teaching assistant – Integrative Ecosystem Management

The primary duties of this position included grading, monitoring student participation, and managing the course Compass website.

2012 **Audubon Environmental Education Center**, Bristol, Rhode Island

Instructor – Birding 101 Workshop

I designed and instructed a six-week course for participants interested in learning how to locate and identify birds by sight and sound.

Volunteer Experience

2020 **Litchfield Conservation Commission**, Litchfield, Maine

Associate Member

As a member of the conservation commission I started and manage a Facebook page for the commission to provide updates about local conservation activities and efforts. I also recently led a holiday bird walk to determine possible support for initiating a Christmas Bird Count survey area that would encompass the Litchfield area.

2018 **American Ornithological Society**, Tucson, Arizona

Conference Volunteer

During the conference I volunteered at the registration desk and as a field trip driver.

2009 **Redwood Sciences Lab**, Tortuguero, Costa Rica

Primary bird bander

During the two winters I spent at this volunteer bird-banding station, I was responsible for coordinating the operation of three constant-effort mist-net sites and volunteer schedules. I proofed all data and maintained equipment. I organized all local travel with the station manager in Spanish.

2008 **Redwood Sciences Lab**, Tortuguero, Costa Rica

Primary bird bander

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coordinating the operation of three constant-effort mist-net sites and volunteer schedules. I proofed all data and maintained equipment. I organized all local travel with the station manager in Spanish.

Pre-Graduate Work Experience

2011 **Kingston Wildlife Research Station**, Kingston, Rhode Island
Primary bird bander

During the fall migration season (Aug – Nov), I served as the primary bander and was responsible for overseeing daily operation of this banding station run by Peter Paton and Scott McWilliams. Volunteer schedules and training, site and net maintenance, and data entry were part of my weekly routine.

West Virginia University, Elkins, West Virginia
Avian field technician

From April through July, I assisted PhD student Kyle Aldinger with his research on the nesting ecology of golden-winged warblers. Most of my time was spent nest searching and territory mapping. My other responsibilities included target netting, banding adults and nestlings, and vegetation surveys. Due to my prior experience, I also conducted point counts.

2010 **Audubon Pennsylvania**, Erie, Pennsylvania
Primary bird bander

I oversaw the operation of three mist-net sites (two at Presque Isle and one at Erie Bluffs State Park) during fall migration (Aug – Oct). I coordinated the schedules of and provided instruction to one intern and many volunteers (depending on the day) in: the use of mist-nets, bird banding, and ageing and sexing of passerines. We also collected ticks from captured birds for a Lyme disease project.

University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Summerton, South Carolina
Avian field technician

I spent most of time during this summer position target netting, banding, and tracking painted buntings as part of a Farm Bill conservation project overseen by MS student Liz Rogers. We used mist-nets and cage traps to capture painted buntings, and then applied federal bird bands and color bands. On select individuals we also applied VHF transmitters. Additional field work included spot mapping focal species including indigo buntings and blue grosbeaks, and conducting point counts. We also assisted with rocket netting, extracting, and banding wood ducks in the park where our housing was provided.

2009 **Ecostudies Institute**, Everglades National Park, Florida
Avian field technician

From March through July I spent the majority of my time nest searching and monitoring nests of Eastern bluebirds as part of a long term reintroduction project overseen by Gary Slater. We also spent time searching for non-banded birds, mist-netting and banding adults, and deploying video monitoring equipment at select nest locations. In the later part of the season, we set up camera traps at sites baited with cracked corn to monitor

reintroduced / wing-tagged wild turkeys. My additional responsibilities included scheduling area searches and nest visits, maintaining equipment, and data entry.

2008 **MAPS – Paul Smith’s College**, Paul Smiths, NY

Bird bander

During June and July I assisted Dr. Jorie Favreau with the operation of a MAPS (Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship) banding station for Paul Smith’s College. We used mist nets to capture passerines, and then determined age and sex for each bird banded. I provided some instruction on passerine ageing and sexing techniques.

University of Southern Mississippi, Ft. Polk, Louisiana

Tracking assistant

During March through May I assisted PhD student Emily Cohen with her passerine migration study, using the red-eyed vireo as a focal species. Along with other technicians, we were responsible for the care and translocation of captive vireos from the banding station in Johnson’s Bayou, LA to the Ft. Polk study area. I assisted with ageing and sexing vireos upon their arrival at Ft. Polk. I worked independently to monitor individual vireos using VHF telemetry and color bands. Additional responsibilities included sampling arthropods and vegetation throughout the study sites where vireo locations were detected.

2007 **Klamath Bird Observatory**, Ashland, OR

Biological intern

During May through July, I worked as the crew leader with another technician, under the supervision of Jaime Stephens, on a project investigating the influence of forest fuels reduction treatments on passerines. We spot-mapped several focal species, conducted vegetation surveys, sampled arthropods, and were responsible for all data entry.

During August through October, I worked as an assistant bird bander in a crew of 16, all under the supervision of Bob Frey. We monitored a network of 16 constant effort mist-net stations across southern Oregon and northern California. We banded and determined age and sex for all birds captured.

2006 **Klamath Bird Observatory**, Ashland, OR

Biological intern

During May through July, I worked as field technician, under the supervision of Jaime Stephens, on a project investigating the influence of forest fuels reduction treatments on passerines. We spot-mapped several focal species, conducted vegetation surveys, sampled arthropods, and were responsible for all data entry.