

## **Jerry S. Cole**

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### **Education**

- 2016 University of North Dakota. Grand Forks, ND  
M.S. Biology  
Thesis: The effects of habitat management on grassland birds in the northern tallgrass prairie
- 2013 North American Banding Council  
Banding Certification  
Passerines and Near-Passerines
- 2012 Virginia Military Institute. Lexington, VA  
B.S. Biology  
Concentration: Ecology, Conservation, and Organismal Sciences

### **Work Experience**

- Summer 2016 **Contract Biologist**  
Institute for Bird Populations. Chester, CA
- Conducted playback surveys for Black-backed Woodpeckers and passive point counts for all bird species in recently burned forests in northern Sierra Nevada
  - Established new survey transects
  - Assessed vegetation composition of surveyed areas
- 2014-2016 **M.S. Student**  
University of North Dakota. Grand Forks, ND
- Established bird survey protocol for long term monitoring of grassland management demonstration site
  - Surveyed hayed, grazed, and idle grasslands to determine influence of grassland management on birds
  - Used N-mixture modeling to account for imperfect detection when modeling bird response to vegetation structure
  - Communicated survey results to private land owners, USFWS, and ND Game and Fish Department
  - Solicited private land owners for land access and periodically updated them on study results

Fall 2013

**Banding Intern**

Point Blue Conservation Science. Bolinas, CA

- Banded, aged, and sexed >500 passerines using morphology and plumage
- Operated permanent mist nets at a long term field station and four other locations
- Color banded focal species
- Took blood samples from Song Sparrow, Hermit Thrush, and Swainson's Thrush
- Recovered light level geolocators
- Collected plant phenology data for banding sites

Summer 2013

**Black-backed Woodpecker Biologist Intern**

Institute for Bird Populations. Susanville, CA

- Radio tracked woodpeckers, recording foraging behaviors
- Completed vegetation surveys for each foraging location
- Performed playback surveys in recent burns
- Assisted in netting woodpeckers
- Monitored nests to determine nestling stage and parental attendance

Winter 2013

**California Condor Recovery Program Intern**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Hopper Mountain NWR, Ventura, CA

- Used radio telemetry to monitor bird status
- Trapped condors for health checks
- Assisted with bleeding, attaching transmitters and patagial tags

Summer 2012

**Clark's Nutcracker Radio Telemetry Intern**

Cornell University. Jackson, WY

- Radio tracked nutcrackers to record behavior and habitat use
- Performed vegetation surveys around known nest sites
- Collected point count and vegetation data at established locations
- Cleaned and organized field data

**Teaching Experience**

Fall 2015

**Biometry Lecture**

- Helped to troubleshoot students' R code in class
- Demonstrated statistical principles through class coding exercises
- Graded class coding projects, giving feedback on formatting and content

Spring 2015

### **Intro Biology Lecture**

- Assisted students with in-class exercises
- Graded exams and homework assignments

Fall 2014

### **Ecology Lab**

- Guided students in the selection of a semester long field research project
- Offered guidance with logistic and scientific considerations of study design and analysis

Spring 2014

### **Intro Biology Lab**

- Introduced lab activities to students at the beginning of class
- Explained difficult concepts during activities
- Graded lab notebooks and exercises

## **Grants**

2015

**APSAC Grant.** \$350. Travel to American Society of Naturalists to present results of two field seasons. University of North Dakota.

2011

**Wetmore Grant.** \$300. Funding for motion triggered cameras to capture coyote movement and verify identity. Virginia Military Institute.

## **Poster Presentations**

2016

**American Society of Naturalists Conference.** Asilomar, CA  
Grassland bird response to fire is mediated by pre-fire vegetation structure.

Authors: Jerry S. Cole, Kathryn A. Yurkonis, Brett J. Goodwin

2015

**ND Chapter Wildlife Society Conference.** Mandan, ND  
Local habitat associations of five grassland bird species in Grand Forks County, ND.

Authors: Jerry S. Cole, Kathryn A. Yurkonis, Brett J. Goodwin, Christopher L. Merkord

## **Quantitative Skills**

R Programming

- Solid grasp of function construction, data wrangling, workflow automation, and unification of datasets
- Basic understanding the BUGS language and the r2jags package
- Advanced understanding of the unmarked package for estimating change in bird abundance relative to vegetation

## GIS

- Advanced understanding of ArcGIS 10.3 for spatial analysis, survey point placement, and quantifying habitat area
- Working understanding of QGIS