

NCTWS/NCPARC 2025 ANNUAL MEETING



Human-Wildlife Interactions *Why can't we all get along?*



TUESDAY - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25-27
Hawthorne Inn and Conference Center 420
High St, Winston-Salem, NC 27101



NCTWS/NCPARC 2025 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA



DAY 1

Tuesday, February 25th, 9am – 7pm

- 9:00 am Optional Workshops/Field Trips (information at bottom of agenda)
- 11:30 am Registration Opens (until 6 pm) and silent auction drop off
Door prizes
- 1:00 pm Welcome, NCPARC – NCTWS overview,
present theme
- 1:30 pm **Keynote Address: Promoting Community Well-Being
with Wildlife Rx**
Nils Peterson, North Carolina State University
- 2:15 pm Break and Door Prizes (registration open)

SESSION 1 - Invertebrates and Aquatic Landscapes (moderated by TBD)

- 2:30 pm **North Carolina Spider Diversity, Ecology, & Myths**
Matt Bertone, North Carolina State Plant Disease and Insect Clinic
- 2:55 pm **Bugs Shouldn't Bug You: Why Insects are Critical to
our Ecosystem**
Jon Lelito, BASF
- 3:20 pm **Aquatic Conservation Challenges and Opportunities
in a Changing Landscape**
Jennifer Archambault, US Fish and Wildlife Service
- 3:45 pm Break and Door Prizes (registration open)



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DAY 1

cont.

Tuesday, February 25th, 9am – 7pm

SESSION 2 - Wildlife and People (moderated by TBD)

- 4:00 pm **Urban Wildlife Viewers: Who are They and How Can We Engage with Them?**
Kelley Langhans, Virginia Tech (virtual)
- 4:25 pm **Exploring Our Emotional Connections with Wildlife: The Good, the Bad, and the Totally Irrational**
Lincoln Larson, North Carolina State University
- 4:50 pm **'Possums and Box Turtles and Lampreys, Oh My!**
Jerry Reynolds, North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences
- 3:55 pm Wrap-up questions and announcements (registration open)
- 6:00 pm Dinner**
- 7:00 pm Poster Session, Silent Auction, and Social



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DAY 2

Wednesday, February 26th, 8:45am – 7pm

8:45 am Door Prizes, welcome, and announcements
(registration open 7:00–8:45)

SESSION 3 - Bats and Birds (moderated by TBD)

9:00 am ***Luxury Effect Revisited: What are Bats Responding to Behind the Affluence Variation***
Han Li, University of Nebraska (virtual)

9:25 am ***Important Artificial Roosts for Bat Species of Greatest Conservation Need in North Carolina***
Katherine Etchison, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

9:50 am ***Factors Influencing Bird-Glass Collisions at the North Carolina Zoo and Success of Mitigation***
Betsy Roznik, North Carolina Zoo

10:15 am Break (registration open)

10:25 am Door prizes

SESSION 4 - Herps and People (moderated by TBD)

10:30 am ***Herp Surveys in Urban Settings: Confronting City-Specific Challenges***
Rachael Urbanek, University of North Carolina Wilmington

10:55 am ***International Wildlife Tracking Syndicates***
Jason Keith, US Fish and Wildlife Service

11:20 am ***NC Snake Envenomations***
Michael Beuhler, North Carolina Poison Control, Wake Forest University School of Medicine



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DAY 2

cont.

Wednesday, February 26th, 8:45am – 7pm

11:45 am Wrap-up questions and announcements (registration open)

12:00 pm **Lunch**

12:55 pm Door Prizes

SESSION 5 - Wildlife Challenges (moderated by TBD)

1:00 pm **Close Encounters: North Carolina's Biggest Wildlife Issues, According to Voluntary Reporting**
Fayln Owens, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

1:25 pm **Herpetofauna Diversity in a Changing Landscape**
Thomas Reed, Wake County Parks, Recreation and Open Space

1:50 pm **Issues with Mitigation Translocation of Stray Timber Rattlesnakes**
John Sealy, Timber Rattlesnake Conservation Alliance

2:15 pm Break

2:25 pm Door prizes

SESSION 6 - Landscape Scale Conservation (moderated by TBD)

2:30 pm **Connectivity Conservation for Local Wildlife, Local Habitats, and Local Decision-Making**
Julie Tuttle, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill

2:55 pm **Land Conservation in the Piedmont: Opportunities and Obstacles**
Ken Bridle, Piedmont Land Conservancy



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DAY 2

cont.

Wednesday, February 26th, 8:45am – 7pm

- 3:20 pm ***A Race Against Time: Documenting Biodiversity in a Rapidly Growing Region***
Lenny Lampel, Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation
- 3:45 pm Break
- 3:55 pm Door prizes

SESSION 7 - Wildlife and Roads (moderated by TBD)

- 4:00 pm ***22 Years of Death: Long-term Monitoring of Vertebrate Road Mortality on a 0.7 mile Section of Secondary Paved Road in the North Carolina Sandhills***
Jeff Beane, North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences
- 4:25 pm ***Road Ecology for Herps: How and Where to Help Reptiles and Amphibians Cross Highways***
Ron Sutherland, Wildlands Network
- 4:50 pm ***Hellbender Relocations at NCDOT Bridge Projects***
David McHenry, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
- 5:00 pm Wrap-up questions and announcements
- 5:15 pm Corvid Club Social
- 6:00 pm Dinner**
- 7:00 pm Auction, “Pieces and Parts” Lab Practical, Silent Auction, and Social



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DAY 3

Thursday, February 27th, 8:45am - 12:15pm

8:45 am Door Prizes, welcome, and announcements

SESSION 8 - Birds, Bears, and Alligators (moderated by TBD)

9:00 am **Forestry Practices & Birds**
Hannah Pursley, Audubon

9:25 am **Establishing North Carolina as a BearWise® State**
Ashley Hobbs, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

9:50 am **Backyard Swamp Puppies: Luxury Living with Dinosaurs**
John Henry Harrelson, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

10:15 am Break

10:20 am Door prizes

10:25 am **NCTWS Business Session, and NCPARC Working Group Reports**

11:30 am Award Presentations

12:00 pm Wrap-up questions and announcements

12:15 pm Lunch



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WORKSHOPS/FIELD TRIPS

Tuesday, February 25th, 9 am

1. ***Non-Lethal Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Techniques Workshop Yadkin River Game Land***

Join Clint Barden and Justin McVey, NCWRC and Marcus Mustin, USDA-APHIS at the Yadkin River Gamelands to view demonstrations of non-lethal wildlife conflict mitigation techniques. Demonstrations will include electric fencing, unwelcome mats, trapping, pyrotechnics, and others. Attendees will be allowed to participate “hands-on” to the extent possible. Attendees must provide their own eye protection, ear protection, and closed-toe footwear. Long pants and leather gloves are recommended. Limit of 30 people.

2. ***Trapping Techniques Workshop - Reynolda Gardens***

Join Jeff Hall, NCWRC, and Fred Boyce, NC Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shoores, to visit the Reynolda Gardens property on the edge of Wake Forest University Campus. We will explore live trapping techniques including minnow traps and turtle traps. The property has forested trails as well as some wetland features and streams. In addition to documenting what we find as a mini bioblitz, we will also cover the history of the property which was once the original location of the Nature Science Center. Limit of 15 people.

3. ***Guided Hike with a Ranger - Pilot Mountain State Park***

Learn about the history of the mountain from the early stages to where it is today with a hike lead by Carla Williams, Park Ranger at Pilot Mountain State Park. Participants will hike the Pilot Knob Trail which is about 1 mile long and is marked easy/moderate level. The visit will include information about both human and animal changes through the years, as well as the overall significance of the park. Participants will also learn about the protections for several species, especially those less commonly seen in the region. Limit of 20 people.