

**Professional development grant final report**

**Jorista Garrie**

**Project Title:** The Effects of Prescribed Fires on Bat Foraging Behavior and Occupancy in the Ozark Mountains of Arkansas

**Activity:** Attendance of: Arkansas Chapter or the Wildlife Society meeting, March 1-2, 2018

**Principle Investigator:** Dr. Garrie

**College:** CNHS

**Department:** Biology

**Amount that was requested/granted:** \$332.00

**Amount that was used:** \$332.00

**Amount used from Biology account:** \$ 0.00

## **B. Professional Enhancement opportunity**

I applied for the Professional Development Grant as a means to acquire funds allow my graduate student and me to attend the state chapter meeting of The Wildlife Society, in Little Rock in March 2018.

This was my graduate student's first opportunity to present some of her research to large audience, and served as good practice for larger conferences and her anticipated thesis defense. The work that she presented show the importance of insect prey to bat species, and the raises new questions regarding the impacts of prescribed burns on bats and insects.

See attached Agenda (page 2 shows C. Blanco as presenter; her presentation had me listed as co-author).

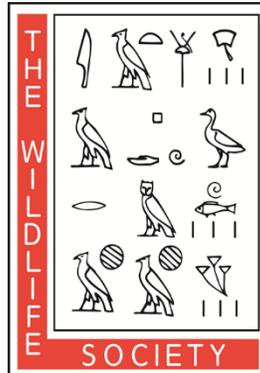
## **C. Review of Conference experience**

Arkansas Tech University had a great presence at the meeting and my graduate student came 3<sup>rd</sup> out of all the student presenters (with another ATU grad student placing first). This meeting is valuable to students and professionals, because it is well attended by agency personnel and faculty from other local universities.

## **D. Summary**

As a result of attendance at this meeting my graduate student had the opportunity to network with other biologists, and gain confidence in presenting style. I had the opportunity to build stronger relationships and meet new people in the field. This is a valuable meeting to attend from both a student and faculty perspective.

# **The Wildlife Society Arkansas Chapter 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting**



**March 1-2, 2018  
C.A. Vines 4-H Center  
Little Rock, AR**

## **Agenda**

### **Full Program:**

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1yqjvp3bOqoPqAjK-FphdHmVHVQppoVj4?usp=sharing>

Prepared by  
Tom Risch (President), Steven Fowler (President-Elect), Craig Davis (Member at large), and Virginie  
Rolland (Secretary-Treasurer)

## Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>

10:00 AM	Registration (Cabe Kitchen) Welcome (Cabe Hall): Meeting overview/logistics – Tom Risch, President
<b>10:05-11:45</b>	<b>Student Presentations: Birds (Cabe Hall)</b>
10:05-10:25	Exploring relationships between eastern hemlock decline and Louisiana waterthrush behavior and demographics in Great Smoky Mountains National park - <i>L. Bryant</i>
10:25-10:45	Make new fields but keep the old: nesting success of dickcissel ( <i>Spiza americana</i> ) in Arkansas remnant and restored tallgrass prairies - <i>A. DeRubeis</i>
10:45-11:05	Demographic responses of eastern bluebirds to temporal climate variability - <i>S. Harrod</i>
11:05-11:25	Examination of photographic evidence of disturbance on interior least tern breeding behavior and reproductive success - <i>S. Nefas</i>
11:25-11:45	Non-breeding ecology of a declining grassland bird in agricultural landscapes: the loggerhead shrike - <i>E. Donahue</i>
<b>11:45-12:30</b>	<b>Lunch (Dining Hall)</b>
12:30-12:50	Characteristics of mature forests used by eastern spotted skunks during summer - <i>R. Perry</i>
<b>12:50-2:50</b>	<b>Student Presentations: Amphibians &amp; Mammals (Cabe Hall)</b>
12:50-1:10	The effects of prescribed fires on bat occupancy in the Ozark Mountains of Arkansas - <i>C. Blanco</i>
1:10-1:30	Southeastern myotis and Rafinesque's big-eared bats switch their roosting habits seasonally in Arkansas bottomlands - <i>S. Scherman</i>
1:30-1:50	Mesopredator distribution, abundance and potential competition with the American burying beetle ( <i>Nicrophorus americanus</i> ) for carrion at Fort Chaffee Joint Maneuver - <i>K. Fenton</i>
1:50-2:10	A habitat suitability analysis of the red wolf across its historic range - <i>L. Toivonen</i>
2:10-2:30	Genetic connectivity among white-tailed deer in Arkansas, with implications for management of Chronic Wasting Disease: a preliminary assessment - <i>P. McDill</i>
2:30-2:50	The effect of non-native fescue ( <i>Festuca arundinacea</i> ) grass on amphibian reproductive success - <i>P. Mariage</i>
<b>2:50-3:10</b>	<b>Break (Cabe Kitchen)</b>
<b>3:10-4:00</b>	<b>Plenary (Cabe Hall)</b> Dr. Frank Rohwer President and Chief Scientist, Delta Waterfowl Waterfowl Management from A to Z: The Delta Waterfowl Perspective
<b>4:00-5:00</b>	<b>Business Meeting (Cabe Hall)</b> Treasurer's Report Elections: Member at large Student chapter updates Recovering America's Wildlife Act update
<b>5:00-6:00</b>	<b>Pre-dinner Social (Cabe Kitchen/Hall)</b> Social Silent auction (closes at 6:45 pm) Workshop stations setup
<b>6:00-6:45</b>	<b>Dinner (Dining Hall)</b>
6:45-7:45	Student Quiz Bowl Competition
7:45-10:00	Social: Music/Games

## Friday, March 2nd

7:30-8:15	Breakfast (Dining Hall) —Main Hall CHECK OUT of your room!!
8:30-8:45	Registration (Cabe Kitchen) Logistics (Cabe Hall)
8:45-11:45	<b>Workshop Stations*</b> Station 1: Prescribed Fire With <i>Randy Brents</i> and <i>Craig Davis</i> Gear, tools, weather, firing devices & techniques, demo, etc. Station 2: Open Land/Forestry Management With <i>Clint Johnson</i> and <i>Steve Burgess</i> Species ID, herbicides, seeders, timber marking & sales, tools, etc. Station 3: Mammal trapping With <i>Jake Whisenhunt</i> and <i>Tom Nupp</i> Nuisance & small mammal trapping, trap types & placement, lures, drugs Station 4: Bird trapping With <i>Than Boves</i> and <i>Steven Fowler</i> Mist nets, rocket nets, lures, location, tools, etc.
11:45-12:30	Lunch (Dining Hall)
12:30-1:30	<b>Presentations (Cabe Hall)</b>
12:30-12:50	Hunter attitudes and perceptions of Chronic Wasting Disease in Arkansas - <i>C. Middaugh</i>
12:50-1:10	Resource selection of bull elk in the Buffalo River watershed, Arkansas - <i>D. White Jr.</i>
1:10-1:30	Modeling of habitat use by evening bats ( <i>Nycticeius humeralis</i> ) - <i>T. Risch</i>
1:30-1:45	<b>Awards: Best Student Presentation (Cabe Hall)</b>
1:45-2:00	Wrap-Up/Adjourn

\*Snacks provided at 10 am at Cabe Hall if you have a little hunger in-between stations