



2024 Presentation and Publication Report



Refereed Articles, Book Chapters, Manuals, and Management Bulletins

Cornaby, G.J., **C.M. Kiel**, E.P. Tanner, S. Rideout-Hanzak, A.M. Tanner, D.B. Wester, **A.B. Montalvo**, and T.J. Hibbitts. 2024. Pryric-carnivory: Predation of a Texas tortoise (*Gopherus berlandieri*) by a Crested Caracara (*Caracara plancus*) following a prescribed fire. *Herpetology Notes* 17:621-624. (East Foundation Manuscript 109)

Downey, M.C., F. Hernández, K.D. Bristow, C.J. Cardinal, M.L. Cline, W.P. Kuvlesky, Jr., K.S. Miller, and **A.B. Montalvo**. 2023. Quails. Pages 339-378 in L.B. McNew, D.K. Dahlgren and J.L. Beck, editors. *Rangeland Wildlife Ecology and Conservation* https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-34037-6_11

Foley, A.M., **K. Gann**, D.G. Hewitt, R.W. DeYoung, T.E. Fulbright, J.A. Ortega-S., and **T.A. Campbell**. 2024. Fine-scale phenotypic variation of a large herbivore in a pulsed environment. *Ecosphere* 15:e4921 <https://doi.org/10.1002/ecs2.4921> (East Foundation Manuscript 102)

Granger, M.M., C.D. Hilton, S.E. Henke, H.L. Perotto-Baldivieso, **L.R. Schofield**, and **T.A. Campbell**. 2024. Determining the age classes of free-ranging female nilgai (*Boselaphus tragocamelus*) in southern Texas, USA. *Journal of Wildlife Science* <https://doi.org/10.63033/JWLS.HTUU1181>. (East Foundation Manuscript 081)

Granger, M.M., C.D. Hilton, S.E. Henke, H.L. Perotto-Baldivieso, **L.R. Schofield**, and **T.A. Campbell**. 2024. Reproductive capabilities of female nilgai in southern Texas. *Animals* 14:2150. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ani14152150>. (East Foundation Manuscript 083)

Hediger, J.A., **B.D. Spencer**, **M.R. Rice**, **M.L. Hopper**, R.W. DeYoung, J.A. Ortega-S., T.E. Fulbright, D.G. Hewitt, A.M. Foley, **L.R. Schofield**, **T.A. Campbell**, M.J. Sheriff, and M.J. Cherry. 2024. Physiological carry-over effects of variable precipitation are mediated by reproductive status in a long-lived ungulate. *Conservation Physiology* 12:coae045 <https://doi.org/10.1093/conphys/coae045> (East Foundation Manuscript 103)

Johnson, T.L., K.A. Persinger, N.S. Taus, S.K. Davis, K.C. Poh, L.S. Kappmeyer, J.M. Laughery, J. Capelli-Peixoto, K.H. Lohmeyer, M.W. Ueti, and P.U. Olafson. 2024. Nilgai antelope display no signs of infection upon experimental challenge with a virulent *Babesia bovis* strain. *Parasites and Vectors* 17:245 <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13071-024-06316-3>

Martinez, L., **J.V. Lombardi**, I. Parker, F. East, **T.A. Campbell**, and R.R. Lopez. 2024. Long live the cat: Ocelot population viability in a planned introduced population in Texas, USA. *Ecosphere* <https://doi.org/10.1002/ecs2.70044> (East Foundation Manuscript 100)

Martinez, L., **J.V. Lombardi**, G. Powers, A.D. Anderson, **T.A. Campbell** and R.R. Lopez. 2024. Assessing ecological and socio-political factors in site selection for ocelot reintroductions in Texas. *Conservation Science and Practice* e13113. <https://doi.org/10.1111/csp2.13113> (East Foundation Manuscript 099)



Fewer than 80 recorded ocelots live in the United States and most of these live on private ranches in South Texas. Together with our research partners, East Foundation collects data on ocelot population size, survival and mortality, movements and activity, prey abundance and food habits, habitat use, and competition with other carnivores to help solidify recovery strategies.

Midgley, G., A. Elkins, G.H. Loneragan, M. Babowicz, M. Dass, Y.T. Grohn, E. Jordan, G. Lhermie, L. Hunt, W.A. McIntosh, J.M. Piñeiro, **J. Sawyer**, and H.M. Scott. 2024. Keeping antibiotics effective – combatting antimicrobial resistance in U.S. Agriculture. *Impact*, 2024:1, 29–34. <https://doi.org/10.1080/2058802X.2024.2386900>

Pence, A.R., C.M. Kiel, A. Montalvo, B.L. Pierce, L.A. Brennan, and M.L. Morrison. 2024. Food niche responses in southern Texas small mammal communities. *Southwestern Naturalist* 67:216–223. <https://doi.org/10.1894/0038-4909-67.3.216> (East Foundation Manuscript 084)

Reeves, A.M., S.S. Gray, J.C. Campbell, L.A. Harveson, C.D. Hilton, L.J. Heffelfinger, C.M. Springer, D.G. Hewitt, W.C. Conway, and R.O. Dittmar, II. 2024. Hematology and biochemical reference intervals and seroprevalence of hemorrhagic diseases for free-ranging mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) in West Texas. *Journal of Zoo and Wildlife Medicine* <https://doi.org/10.1638/2023-0118> (East Foundation Manuscript 107)

Reeves, A.M., S.S. Gray, L.A. Harveson, C.D. Hilton, C.M. Springer, W.C. Conway, and B. Dittmar, II. 2024. Hematology and biochemical reference intervals for free-ranging pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana*) in West Texas. *Journal of Zoo and Wildlife Medicine* <https://doi.org/10.1638/2023-0119> (East Foundation Manuscript 108)

Reeves, A., W.F. Swanson, **T.A. Campbell**, C. Hilton, M.E. Tewes, **L.R. Schofield**, H. Swarts, C. Springer, and D. Miller. 2024. Semen collection and characterization of normative reproductive traits in free-ranging wild ocelots (*Leopardus pardalis*) and bobcats (*Lynx rufus*) in southern Texas. *Theriogenology Wild* <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.therwi.2024.100107>. (East Foundation Manuscript 110)

Ritzell, A.D., J.T. Edwards, **A. Montalvo, D.A. Woodard**, Z.J. Pearson, F. Hernández, and L.A. Brennan. 2024. A practical and efficient helicopter survey technique to estimate bobwhite abundance on Texas rangelands – An update and review. Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute Management Bulletin No. 12. <https://www.ckwri.tamuk.edu/publications/technical-publication/practical-and-efficient-helicopter-survey-technique-estimate-0>

Schofield, L.R., M.E. Pearson, S. Newell, N. Clackum, and B.L. Turner. 2024. Why aren't more landowners enrolling in land-based carbon credit exchanges? *Rangelands* <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rala.2024.05.004>.

Spencer, B.D., R.W. DeYoung, A.M. Foley, D.G. Hewitt, J.A. Ortega-S., **L.R. Schofield, T.A. Campbell**, and M.J. Cherry. 2024. Understanding the ecological tug of war: disentangling competition between a native and domesticated ungulate. *Ecosphere* <https://doi.org/10.1002/ecs2.4850>. (East Foundation Manuscript 095)

Strickland, A.H., S.A. Murray, J. Vinasco, B.W. Auvermann, K.J. Bush, **J.E. Sawyer**, H.M. Scott, and K.N. Norman. 2024. Comparative microbiome analysis of beef cattle, the feedyard environment, and airborne particulate matter as a function of probiotic and antibiotic use, and change in pen environment. *Frontiers in Microbiology* <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2024.1348171>.

Selected Presentations

Society for Range Management, Sparks, NV, January 2024

Likins, J., U. Kreuter, and **J. Sawyer**. Composite indices of grazing intensity and adaptive management to define alternative grazing management systems more clearly.

Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Houston, February 2024

Bancroft, K., A. Martin, R. DeYoung, A. Foley, D. Hewitt, C. Hilton, **M. Hopper, K. Lovasik**, P. Ortega, **J. Sawyer, L. Schofield, B. Spencer**, A. Tanner and M. Cherry. Prevalence and behavioral impacts of toxoplasmosis in southern white-tailed deer.

Barham, M., D. Walkup, and C. Boal. Productivity and nest survival of white-tailed hawks in South Texas during the 2021–2023 breeding season.

Bostwick, T., R. DeYoung, A. Martin, **A. Reeves**, and L. Petracca. Informing recovery: Current genetic status of isolated ocelot populations in South Texas.

Fay, F., J. Elissetche, E. Bennie, S. Rideout-Hanzak, D. Wester, and W. Xi. Effects of prescribed fire on herbaceous nearest-neighbor relationships.

Helferich, J., A. Martin, D. Scognamillo, R. DeYoung, and L. Petracca. Estimating site-specific and region-wide density of an endangered South Texas felid using spatially explicit capture-recapture.

Hiott, A., A. Martin, and L. Petrecca. Understanding disease transmission dynamics in a multi-felid system.

Kiel, C., T. Hibbitts, S. Rideout-Hanzak, E. Tanner, A. Tanner, D. Wester, and **A. Montalvo**. Patterns of microhabitat use by Texas tortoises in southern Texas.

Locke, V., A. Reeves, E. Tanner, and L. Petracca. Ocelot reproduction and kitten survival in South Texas.

Lovasik, K., M. Hopper, B. Spencer, R. DeYoung, A. Foley, P. Ortega, D. Hewitt, **L. Schofield, T. Campbell**, and M. Cherry. Survival and recruitment of white-tailed deer fawns in South Texas.

Martinez, L., J. Lombardi, G. Powers, A. Anderson, I. Parker, F. East, **T. Campbell**, C. Dohner, M. Brennan, and R. Lopez. Science and policy behind plans for reintroducing ocelots to historic range in Texas.

Montalvo, A., A. Woodard, and **J. Sawyer**. Monitoring changes in Northern Bobwhite density over 10 years within a large-scale experimental grazing study in South Texas.

Pope, T., A. Martin, and **A. Reeves**. Assessment of parasitism and associated pathogen prevalence in free-ranging felid populations in southern Texas.

Racey, A., **T. Campbell**, and J. Tomeček. Understanding the diet of an unmanaged population of coyotes in southern Texas.

Sloan, H., J. Tomeček, and **T. Campbell**. Species-specific patterns of consumption of oral rabies vaccine baits in the South Texas Plains.

Tautges, A. and **A. Woodard**. Fat bobwhites: Does supplemental feed maintain Northern Bobwhite mass over winter?

Walters, R., S. Henke, S. Rideout-Hanzak, and A. Martin. Assessing prescribed burns for tick control in Coastal March and Prairie Ecoregion of southern Texas.

Yamashita, T., D. Wester, Z. Wardle, D. Scognamillo, **L. Schofield**, M. Tewes, J. Young, **J. Lombardi**. Influence of traffic volume on the carnivore community composition with the road effect zone.

Texas Society of Mammalogists, Junction, TX, February 2024

Yamashita, T.J., D.B. Wester, Z.M. Wardle, D.G. Scognamillo, **L.R. Schofield**, M.E. Tewes, J.H. Young, Jr., and **J.V. Lombardi**. Influence of traffic volume on the carnivore community composition with the road effect zone.

Southeast Deer Study Group, Shepherdstown, WV, February 2024

Lovasik, K., M. Hopper, B. Spencer, R. DeYoung, A. Foley, P. Ortega, D. Hewitt, **L. Schofield, T. Campbell**, and M. Cherry. Survival and recruitment of white-tailed deer fawns in South Texas.

American Society of Mammalogists, Boulder, CO, June 2024

Lovasik, K.T., M.L. Hopper, B.D. Spencer, R.W. DeYoung, A.M. Foley, J.A. Ortega-S., D.G. Hewitt, **L.R. Schofield, T.A. Campbell, J.E. Sawyer**, and M.J. Cherry. Survival and recruitment of white-tailed deer fawns in South Texas.

Society for Theriogenology, Oklahoma City, OK, July 2024

Reeves, A.R. and W.F. Swanson. Application of reproductive sciences for conservation of America's last wild ocelots.

Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute, Partner Reception, San Antonio, TX, September 2024

Lovasik, K.T., M.L. Hopper, B.D. Spencer, R.W. DeYoung, A.M. Foley, J.A. Ortega-S., D.G. Hewitt, **L.R. Schofield, T.A. Campbell, J.E. Sawyer**, and M.J. Cherry. Drivers of survival of white-tailed deer fawns in South Texas.

The Wildlife Society, Baltimore, MD, October 2024

Bancroft, K., A. Martin, **T.A. Campbell**, R.W. DeYoung, A.M. Foley, **M. Hopper, K. Lovasik**, D.G. Hewitt, J.A. Ortega-S., **L.R. Schofield, B. Spencer, J.E. Sawyer**, and M. Cherry. A silent killer? *T. gondii* prevalence and survival of white-tailed deer in southern Texas.

Bostwick, T., R.W. DeYoung, A. Martin, **A. Reeves**, and L. Petracca. Genetic diversity and historic demography of federally endangered ocelots in the United States.

Foley, A.M., R.W. DeYoung, **T. Campbell**, and E. Reyes. Hide and seek: Quantifying wildlife detectability for UAS surveys.

Haiflich, S., **J. Heflerich**, **A. Hiott**, and L. Petracca. Spatiotemporal niche separation of a sympatric specialist and generalist felid in Tamaulipan thornscrub.

Heflerich, J., B. Gardner, and L. Petracca. Optimizing spatially explicit capture-recapture study design across varying animal movement strategies.

Hiott, A., A. Martin, M. Fidino, **A. Reeves**, and L. Petracca. Understanding disease transmission dynamics among domestic and wild felid species.

Hopper, M., **K. Lovasik**, **B. Spencer**, A.M. Foley, J.A. Ortega-S., **L.R. Schofield**, **T.A. Campbell**, **J.E. Sawyer**, and M. Cherry. Should I stay or should I go: Experience and adaptive behavior shapes reproductive success.

Locke, V., **A. Reeves**, E. Tanner, J. Young, and L. Petracca. Survival of the generalist? A comparison of kitten survival and reproduction in bobcats and ocelots.

Lovasik, K., **M. Hopper**, **B. Spencer**, R.W. DeYoung, A.M. Foley, J.A. Ortega-S., D.G. Hewitt, **L.R. Schofield**, **T.A. Campbell**, **J.E. Sawyer**, and M. Cherry. Drivers of survival of white-tailed deer fawns in South Texas.

Martinez, L. Communication, relationships, and trust: Enabling ocelot reintroduction of private lands in Texas.

Sloan, H., **T.A. Campbell**, and J. Tomeček. Dinner time: Variables influencing time to consumption of oral rabies vaccine baits in the South Texas Plains.

Smith, M. and L. Petracca. Extreme climate event influences movement and space use of the endangered ocelot at the northern range boundary.

Invited Presentations

San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo Wildlife Committee Seminars, February 2024

Martinez, L. Conserving endangered species while protecting the interests of private landowners.

Sawyer, J. Carbon sequestration and sustainability markets: Considerations from a landowner's perspective.

Woodard, A. Sustainable harvest of northern bobwhites.

KRIRM field workshop at San Antonio Viejo Ranch, August 2024

Montalvo, A. Utilizing the Rangeland Analysis Platform.

South Texas Wildlife Conference, Pleasanton, Texas, September 2024

Martinez, L. Endangered species & private lands policy example: East Foundation's safe harbor agreement for ocelot reintroduction.

Woodard, A. Updates from East Foundation's bobwhite harvest research.

Popular Press, Podcasts, and Radio

Martinez, L. The endangered species act and ocelot safe harbor agreement. Texas A&M Natural Resources Institute and Bamberger Ranch Preserve Leopold Live! Youtube Series.

Martinez, L., and M. Brennan. Knowledge deep-dive: Programmatic sage harbor for ocelot reintroduction on private lands. Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society webinar series.

Woodard, A. Unanswered questions: Bobwhite harvest research in South Texas. Covey Rise.



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