

KRISTIN E. BRZESKI

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GCCP web: <https://www.gulfcoastcanineproject.org>

BI web: <http://biodiversityinitiative.org>

SUMMARY

- 28 publications to date in peer-reviewed journals.
- Steep career trajectory as evidenced by exponential growth in impact – 2018/2023 comparison: 96/726 citations, 7/15 *h*-index.
- Awarded over \$5,000,000 in total research funds, \$1,182,860 as PI, including grants from competitive governmental agencies and foundations.
- Scientific advisor to conservation, technology, and government organizations.
- Diverse expertise in applied biodiversity conservation, natural resource management, wildlife genetics, molecular methods development, and evolutionary genetics.
- Highly effective educator with average university student evaluations of 4.7/5.0.

APPOINTMENTS

2018 – Assistant Professor of Wildlife Science and Conservation, College of Forest Resources and Environmental Science, Michigan Technological University.
2016-2018 Postdoctoral fellowship. Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Princeton University.

EDUCATION

2010-2015 **Doctor of Philosophy** (Conservation Genetics) awarded October 2015.
Department of Renewable Natural Resources, Louisiana State University.
Dissertation: “Effects of Inbreeding on Endangered Red Wolves (*Canis rufus*).”
Advisor: Dr. Sabrina Taylor

2007-2010 **Master of Science** (Wildlife) awarded October 2010
Wildlife Department, Humboldt State University (now Cal Poly Humboldt).
Thesis: “A non-invasive approach examining North American river otter abundance & sociality.”
Advisor: Dr. Micaela Szykman Gunther

2001-2005 **Bachelor of Science** (Environmental Science) awarded May 2005.
Loyola University Chicago. Cum Laude

RESEARCH GRANTS AND FOUNDATION FUNDING

\$1,182,860 awarded as PI

\$301,980 awarded as Co-PI

\$4,300,000 awarded as Senior Personnel

Funded

Competitive research grants

- 2023-2025 \$17,000. **Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium Holly Reed Conservation Grant.** PI Brzeski, Co-PI vonHoldt (Princeton University). Developing novel non-invasive genetic tools for wild red wolf recovery.
- 2023-2024 \$29,660. **MTU Research Excellence Fund – Research Seed.** PI Brzeski, Co-PI Olin (all MTU). Role of introgression in canid niche dynamics along American's Gulf Coast.
- 2023-2024 \$10,000. **Ecosystem Science Center– Research Seed.** PI Brzeski. GTseq development.
- 2022-2024 \$4,300,000. **Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Michigan Sequencing Academic Partnership for Public Health Innovation and Response Grant.** PI Heldt, Co-PIs Dukka, Wei (Co-PI), Senior personnel Brzeski, Techtmann, Hembroff, Kamm (all MTU). Genomic Surveillance and Epidemiology in the Upper Peninsula.
- 2021-2024 \$24,000. **USDA NIFA M-S grant.** PI Brzeski. Assessing taxonomy of native, remnant canids in the American southeast and habitat that support native genetics.
- 2021-2023 \$56,968. **Great Lakes Fishery Commission.** PI Paterson, Co-PI Brzeski (both MTU). An epigenetic assessment of stamp sand toxicity to salmonid eggs at Buffalo Reef, Lake Superior.
- 2021-2022 \$24,000. **MTU Pandemic Mitigation Grant.** PI Brzeski. Rediscovering Red Wolf Ancestry in the Southeastern United States.
- 2021-2022 \$77,511 **University of Glasgow, The Global Challenges Research Fund.** PI Powell (CIBIO Portugal), Co-PIs Brzeski (MTU), Davis (University of Glasgow). Levelling the field study: Empowering female biologists to protect endangered wildlife in Central Africa.
- 2020-2023 \$99,906. **Michigan Department of Natural Resources.** PI Brzeski. Replacement population index for Michigan's Upper Peninsula black bears.
- 2020-2023 \$142,283. **Great Lakes Fishery Commission.** PI Paterson, Co-PI Brzeski (both MTU). An epigenetic assessment of stamp sand toxicity to salmonid eggs at Buffalo Reef Lake Superior Paterson.
- 2020-2021 \$14,200. **Animal Welfare Institute, Christine Stevens Wildlife Award.** PI Brzeski, Co-PIs Hervey (PhD candidate Brzeski Lab), Barnes (MSc candidate Brzeski Lab). Developing a noninvasive genetic sampling tool to conserve emblematic American wolf populations.
- 2020-2025 \$318,424. **US Fish & Wildlife Service.** PI Brzeski, Co-PIs vonHoldt (Princeton University), Waits (University Idaho), Adams (University Idaho), Hinton (Wolf Conservation Center), Karlin (St. Mary's University), Murphy (University of Arizona). Rediscovering red wolf ancestry in the southeastern United States.
- 2019-2022 \$135,428. **US Dept of the Interior.** PI Brzeski. Monitoring genetic health of Isle Royale wolves.
- 2019-2022 \$112,500 **Salonga Conservation Initiative/ Bonobo and Congo Biodiversity Initiative.** PIs Brzeski, Wolfe (both MTU). Technical Support for the Work Plan FY20-FY22.
- 2019-2021 \$3,190. **Pangolin Consortium.** PI Brzeski, Co-PI DeGroot (PhD candidate Brzeski Lab). Ecology of pangolins in Equatorial Guinea assessed through DNA metabarcoding and camera trapping.
- 2019-2020 \$20,645. **MTU Research Excellence Fund – Research Seed.** PI Wolfe, Co-PI Brzeski, Medici (all MTU). Assessing novel enforcement methodologies to reduce illegal bushmeat hunting and logging in Equatorial Guinea's Protected Areas.
- 2019 \$5,806. **Jurgensen/Hammer's Teaching Equipment Fund.** PIs Brzeski, Külheim (both MTU). Bringing CFRES to the forefront of forestry and wildlife genetics education with wet lab teaching equipment.
- 2019 \$4,573. **Saint Mary's University Faculty Award.** PI Karlin (St. Mary's University), Co-PI Brzeski. Assessment of the canid population on Galveston Island, TX to determine continued evidence of endangered red wolf ancestry.
- 2018-2021 \$24,000. **USDA NIFA M-S grant.** PI Brzeski. Monitoring wildlife response to variation in silviculture practices in the Upper Peninsula of MI.

- 2018 \$2,500. **Jurgensen Teaching Development Fund**. PI Brzeski. Building a world-class osteology teaching collection at CFRES
- 2016-2018 \$138,000. **National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Research Fellow**. PI Brzeski. Ecological epigenetics and landscape genomics.
- 2016-2018 \$50,000. **USFWS Wildlife Without Border**. PI Brzeski, Co-PIs Wolfe (MTU), Powell (CIBIO Portugal). Protected Areas monitoring and capacity building in Africa.
- 2015 \$15,000. **Stone Hill Education, Equatorial Guinea**. PI Powell (CIBIO Portugal), Co-PIs Brzeski (MTU), Wolfe (MTU). Equatorial Guinea wildlife research and science education.
- 2014-2015 \$12,000. **US Fish & Wildlife Service**. PIs Brzeski, Taylor (Louisiana State University). Inbreeding and disease monitoring in endangered red wolves.
- 2013-2015 \$13,300. **National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant**. PI Brzeski. Immunogenetic variation in wild canids.
- 2012-2014 \$12,000. **Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium Holly Reed Conservation Grant**. PIs Brzeski, Taylor (Louisiana State University). Predator conservation and disease management.
- 2012 \$1,500. **American Society of Mammalogists Grant-in-Aid**. PIs Brzeski, Taylor (Louisiana State University). Ancient canid DNA analyses.

Foundation funding

- 2023 \$20,000. **Red Wolf Coalition**. PI Brzeski. Noninvasive monitoring of Gulf Coast Canids.
- 2023 \$25,000. **Foundations for the Carolinas**. PI Brzeski. Noninvasive monitoring of Gulf Coast canids.
- 2023 \$10,000. **California Community Foundation**. PI Brzeski. Gulf Coast Canine Project.
- 2022 \$9,000. **Anonymous donors**. PI Brzeski. Gulf Coast Canine Project research.
- 2022 \$5,000. **California Community Foundation**. PI Brzeski. Gulf Coast Canine Project outreach.
- 2022 \$25,000. **Wolf Conservation Center**. PI Brzeski. Gulf Coast Canine Project research.
- 2022 \$5,000. **Moore-Odom Wildlife Foundation**. PI Brzeski. Gulf Coast Canine Project GPS collars.
- 2020 \$11,446. **Detroit Zoological Society**. PI Brzeski. Isle Royale Wolf Health Monitoring during Population Reestablishment.
- 2020 \$25,000. **Wolf Conservation Center**. PI Brzeski. Rediscovering red wolf ancestry in the southeastern United States.

Pending

- 2023 \$919,850. **National Science Foundation**. PI Brzeski. CAREER: Coupling professional and citizen science to identify drivers and ecological consequences of ghost ancestry in a large carnivore.
- 2022 \$1,500,000. **Rainforest Trust Foundation**. PI Powell (CIBIO Portugal), Co-PIs Wolfe (MTU), McCabe (Calgary Zoo, Canada), Fernandez (Calgary Zoo, Canada), Montgomery (Drexel University), Brzeski (MTU). Creating a new national park in Africa's largest rainforest.

Grants not selected for funding

- 2023 \$557,132 **National Science Foundation**. PI Kienle (Baylor University), Co-Pis vonHoldt (Princeton University), Brzeski (MTU), Hinton (Wolf Conservation Center). Collaborative Research: BoCP-Implementation. Past, present, and future: Tracking drivers and changes in functional biodiversity of carnivores across human-altered landscapes.
- 2022 \$519,131 **National Science Foundation and Paul G. Allen Family Foundation**. PI vonHoldt (Princeton University), Co-PIs Brzeski, Hinton (Wolf Conservation Center). Collaborative Proposal: Functional ecology of admixed taxa and reviving ghost genetic variation of an endangered wolf.
- 2022 \$1,000,000. **Michigan Department of Health and Human Services**. PI Heldt, Co-PIs Brzeski, Dukka, Hembroff, Techtmann (all MTU). MDHHS Pathogens Genomic Center of Excellence.

- 2021 \$572,142. **National Aeronautics & Space Administration**. PI Liu, Co-PIs Brzeski, Wolfe (all MTU). Mapping Drivers of Biodiversity: Ecosystem Functions and Food Webs.
- 2021 \$172,797. **National Fish and Wildlife Foundation**. PI Wolfe, Co-PIs Brzeski, DePue (MI DNR). Development and Implementation of management strategies to reduce White-noise Syndrome and increase bat survival in Michigan's abandoned mine hibernacula.
- 2020 \$175,009. **US Department of Agriculture**. PI Wolfe, Co-PIs Brzeski, Huckins, Webster, Bal, Chimner, Resh, Liu (all MTU). Riparian restoration on the lower reaches of the Pilgrim River.
- 2020 \$14,490. **United States Department of State**. PIs Brzeski, Wolfe (both MTU). Visiting professors and internship program to foster informed stewardship in Equatorial Guinea.
- 2019 \$226,690. **Darwin Initiative**. PI Wolfe, Co-PI Brzeski (both MTU). Strategically Combatting Poaching and Logging in Central African Protected Areas.
- 2019 \$29,860. **National Geographic**. PI Brzeski, Co-PIs vonHoldt (Princeton University), Karlin (St. Mary's University), Senior personnel Wooten (citizen scientist), Szewczak (Humboldt State University). Rediscovering endangered red wolves along America's Gulf Coast.
- 2019 \$1,650. **Jana Robeyst Trust Fund**. PI Brzeski. Protecting vulnerable wildlife in the Congo Basin.
- 2019 \$10,600. **Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund**. PI Brzeski. Searching for endangered red wolf ancestry to identify regions suitable for red wolf reintroduction and conservation efforts.
- 2019 \$8,000. **Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund**. PI Brzeski, Co-PIs Wolfe, DeGroot (PhD candidate Brzeski Lab) (all MTU). Enhancing conservation of the white-bellied pangolin in Equatorial Guinea through DNA metabarcoding and camera trapping.
- 2019 \$13,600. **Animal Welfare Institute**. PI Brzeski. Developing noninvasive tools to identify red wolf x coyote hybrids.
- 2019 \$12,800. **Animal Welfare Institute**. PI Brzeski, Co-PIs Külheim, Gurtler (MSc student Brzeski Lab) (all MTU). A noninvasive iDNA methodology to monitor wildlife to facilitate conservation.
- 2019 \$787,999. **USFWS Africa's Program**. PI Brzeski, Co-PI Wolfe (both MTU). Directed enforcement to reduce illegal bushmeat hunting and logging in Equatorial Guinea's Protected Areas.
- 2018 \$99,900. **Noble Energy**. PI Powell (CIBIO Portugal), Co-PIs Brzeski (MTU), Wolfe (MTU). Nature education center, student nature club in Equatorial Guinea.
- 2018 \$150,000. **Marathon Oil**. PI Powell (CIBIO Portugal), Co-PIs Brzeski (MTU), Wolfe (MTU). Educational outreach and wildlife conservation in Equatorial Guinea's Protected Areas.
- 2017 \$25,000. **SeaWorld**. PI Brzeski, Co-PIs Powell (CIBIO Portugal), Wolfe (MTU). Training the next generation of Equatorial Guinea's conservation leaders.
- 2017 \$427,721. **USFWS Africa's Program**. PI Brzeski, Co-PIs Powell (CIBIO Portugal), Wolfe (MTU). Adaptive conservation and enforcement to reduce illegal bushmeat hunting and logging in Equatorial Guinea's Protected Areas.
- 2017 \$24,700. **National Geographic**. PI Brzeski, Co-PIs Powell (CIBIO Portugal), Wolfe (MTU). Building Equatorial Guinea's capacity to conserve wildlife and defend protected areas.

ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO SUPPORT RESEARCH AND STUDENTS

- 2023 \$8,461. **DeVlieg Foundation Fellowship**. Supporting PhD student Tiff DeGroot (MTU).
- 2022 \$1,000. **Ecosystem Science Center graduate student grant**. Supporting MSc student John McCall (MTU).
- 2022 \$8,461. **DeVlieg Foundation Fellowship**. Supporting PhD student Samuel Hervey (MTU).
- 2022 \$750. **Great Lakes Research Center Research Grant**, \$750. Supporting MSc student John McCall (MTU).
- 2022 \$4,000. **MTU Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship**. Supporting Tessa Tormoen.

- 2022 \$750. **Ecosystem Science Center undergraduate student grant.** Supporting undergraduate student Tessa Tormoen (MTU).
- 2021 \$1,000. **Ecosystem Science Center graduate student grant.** Supporting PhD student Sam Hervey (MTU).
- 2021 \$1,000. **Ecosystem Science Center graduate student grant.** Supporting MSc student Lulu Ferrer (MTU).
- 2020 \$1,000. **Ecosystem Science Center graduate student grant.** Supporting PhD student Sam Hervey (MTU).
- 2020 \$4,000. **MTU Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship.** Supporting Claudia Zinser.
- 2019 \$1,000. **Ecosystem Science Center graduate student grant.** Supporting MSc student Tanner Barnes (MTU).
- 2019 \$4,000. **MTU Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship.** Supporting Kath Schneider.
- 2019 \$1,000. **Ecosystem Science Center graduate student grant.** Supporting PhD student Tiff DeGroot (MTU).
- 2019 \$1,000. **Ecosystem Science Center graduate student grant.** Supporting MSc student Shallen Gurtler (MTU).
- 2019 \$750. **Ecosystem Science Center undergraduate student grant.** Supporting undergraduate student Rachel Christensen (MTU).

HONORS, AWARDS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2022 **Innovative and Out of Classroom Teaching Awardee.** Instructional award for innovative changes and course development, recognized by Center of Teaching and Learning, MTU.
- 2022 **Dean's Teaching Showcase Awardee.** Selected by Dean of CFRES for outstanding instruction, recognized by Center of Teaching and Learning, MTU.
- 2021 **Honorable Alumni Humboldt State University Graduate.** Office of Graduate Studies and Academic Program, Humboldt State University.
- 2020 **Recognition for Receiving First-Time Funding as a PI.** Research Development Day, MTU.
- 2020 **Recognition for Outstanding Transition to Online Learning.** Provost and Senior VP for Academic Affairs, MTU.
- 2019 **Recognition of Exceptional Teaching Evaluations,** Top 10% of MTU, Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, MTU.
- 2016 **Distinguished Dissertation Award,** College of Agriculture, Louisiana State University.
- 2015 **Clark M. Hoffpauer Memorial Graduate Student of the Year,** Department of Renewable Natural Resources, Louisiana State University.
- 2014 **Honorable mention Best Student Presentation,** Louisiana Association of Professional Biologists annual meeting.
- 2013, 2014 **Rockefeller Louisiana State Wildlife Scholarship,** Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.
- 2010 **Patricia O. McConkey Outstanding Graduate Student,** Humboldt State University
- 2010 **Wildlife Graduate Student of the Year,** Humboldt State University.
- 2010 **Richard J. Guadagno Memorial Scholarship** award, Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge.
- 2009 **Stanley W. & Lorene J. Harris Scholarship** award, Wildlife Department, Humboldt State University.
- 2009 **Marin Rod & Gun Club Annual Scholarship** award, Marin Rod & Gun club, CA.
- 2008 **Joseph S. Woolford Scholarship** award, Eureka Rotary, CA.
- 2007 **Women's Enrichment Fund Award,** Humboldt State University.
- 2005 **Track Team Leadership Award,** Loyola University of Chicago.
- 2004 **Cross Country/Track & Field Scholar Athlete of the Year,** Loyola University of Chicago.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Classes taught and developed

- 2020 – FW4128 – Conservation Genetics (3 credits). Undergraduate course, Principal Instructor, MTU.
- 2020 – FW5510 – Applied Wildlife Genomics (3 credits). Graduate course, Principal Instructor, MTU.
- 2018 – FW4240 – Mammalogy (4 credits). Undergraduate course, Principal Instructor, MTU.
- 2012 RNR 1002 – Issues in Natural Resource Management (1 credit). Undergraduate course, Principal Instructor, Louisiana State University

Guest lectures

- 2023 BL2003 – Data observation class in Biology, MTU.
- 2021 – WLDF 422 – Mammal Management, Humboldt State University.
- 2020 – FW 3601 – Wildlife Research Techniques, MTU.
- 2020 – FW 5115 – Restoration Ecology, MTU.
- 2020 FW 3410 – Conservation Biology, MTU.
- 2019 FW3320 – Fundamentals in Forest Genetics and Genomics, MTU.
- 2017 EEB309 – Evolutionary Biology, Princeton University.
- 2017 WLDF 311 – Wildlife Techniques, Humboldt State University.
- Fall 2011 RNR 4103 – Conservation Genetics, Louisiana State University.

Teaching assistant

- 2009-2010 WLDF 311 – Wildlife Techniques, Graduate Teachers Assistant, Humboldt State University.
- 2009-2010 WLDF 475 – Wildlife Ethology, Graduate Teachers Assistant, Humboldt State University.

Workshops and field courses

- 2022 Introduction to Zoonotic Sampling – MI-SAPPHIRE intern program, Instructor, MI.
- 2019-2021 ‘Do the Genetics’ Workshop – Molecular Ecology Working Group conference workshop, Organizer and instructor, National Wildlife Society Conference.
- 2019 Ecological Bioinformatics Workshop – Biodiversity Initiative workshop, Instructor, Yaoundé, Cameroon.
- 2015-2016 Wildlife Ecology and Techniques – Biodiversity Initiative workshop, Organizer and instructor, Bioko and Oyalá, Equatorial Guinea.
- 2012-2014 Wildlife Conservation and Management – 4-H summer field course, Instructor, LSU 4-H Clover College, Baton Rouge, LA.
- 2009-2010 North American River Otter Ecology – Elderhostel instructor adult learning course, Instructor, Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA.

MENTORING EXPERIENCE

Graduate students

Current MTU:

- 2023 – Lily Heinzl, MSc student. Thesis title: Role of introgression in canid niche dynamics along American's Gulf Coast.
- 2023 – Jackie Suites, MSc student. Co-advised with Dr. Jared Wolfe. Thesis title: Vector-borne disease dynamics in the western Upper Peninsula.
- 2023 – Katie Krautkramer, MSc student. Co-advised with Dr. Jared Wolfe. Thesis title: Ecology of avian malaria in the western Upper Peninsula of Michigan.
- 2021 – John McCall, MSc candidate. Co-advised with Dr. Gord Paterson. Thesis title: An epigenetic assessment of stamp sand toxicity to salmonid eggs at Buffalo Reef, Lake Superior.

- 2021 – Melanie Ottino, MSc candidate. Co-advised with Dr. Carsten Kulheim. Thesis title: Landscape genetics of winter diet in a generalist herbivore. Awards and distinctions:
- ESC poster symposium honorable mention for best graduate poster 2022
- 2020 – Sam Hervey, PhD candidate. Dissertation title: Establishing Noninvasive Monitoring of Isle Royale Wolves. Awards and distinctions:
- CFRES Graduate Student Service Award 2021
 - Best Student Presentation at The Wildlife Society Michigan State Chapter, Spring 2021
- 2020 – Kath Schneider Higdon, PhD candidate. Co-advised with Dr. Tara Bal. Dissertation title: Impacts on Silphid and Carabid Beetle Diets from Northern Hardwood Silvicultural Systems: Using iDNA tools for Habitat Assessment. Awards and distinctions:
- Best Student Poster at The National Wildlife Society Meeting, Fall 2021
- 2019 – Tiff DeGroot, PhD candidate. Dissertation title: Biodiversity Conservation in Central Africa. Awards and distinctions:
- CFRES Outstanding Graduate Student 2021

Past MTU:

- 2020-2022 Lulu Ferrer, MSc. Co-advised with Dr. Jared Wolfe Thesis title: Malaria and mercury exposure in Louisiana Song Birds. Awards and distinctions:
- MTU GEM Fellow 2020-2022
- 2019- 2021 Tanner Barnes, MSc. Thesis title: Genetic Ancestry and Population Structure of Galveston Island Canids. Awards and distinctions:
- Graduate School Award for Outstanding Teaching 2021
 - Graduate School Award for Outstanding Scholarship 2021
 - CFRES Student Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Assistant 2020
 - Outstanding Senior in Wildlife Ecology and Management 2019
- 2018-2020 Shallen Gurtler, MSc. Co-advised with Dr. Carsten Kulheim. Thesis title: Comparison of noninvasive iDNA and camera trap methods in detecting mammalian community change.

Advisory committee:

- 2021– Ryne Rutherford, PhD, MTU.
 2021– Reed Arneson, PhD, MTU.
 2021 – Taylor Macfarlane, MSc, MTU.
 2020 – Patrick Cunningham, PhD, Baylor University, TX.
 2019-2022 Breanna Gusick, MSc, MTU.
 2016-2018 Andrew Wiegardt, MSc, Humboldt State University, CA.

Undergraduate students

Past MTU:

- 2022 Lily Heinzl, Dr. L. David Mech Fellow, International Wolf Center. Summer 2022. Research project: The ghost of recolonization in Michigan Wolf Genomics. Current position: MSc student in CFRES, MTU.
- 2021-2023 Tessa Tormoen, Undergraduate. Project collaborator Dr. Jill Olin. Thesis title: Exploration of Tilefish diet via metabarcoding. Awards and distinctions:
- URIP awardee 2022-2023
 - Great Lake Research Center research grant 2022
- 2021-2022 Jenna Brewer, Senior Thesis. Project collaborator Dr. Jared Wolfe. Thesis title: Northern Cardinal's range expansion as a result of supplementary feeding. Awards and distinctions:
- NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program Awardee, 2023
 - Honorable mention NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program, 2022
- 2020-2021 Claudia Zinser, Undergraduate SURF, Research title: Do Birds of a Feather Flock Together? Testing Flock Relatedness in Blue Jays.

- 2019-2020 Rachel Christensen, Senior Thesis. Thesis title: Avian Malaria Presence in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Awards and distinctions:
- Outstanding Senior in Wildlife Ecology and Management 2020
 - Best student poster award at ESC Research Symposium 2019
- 2019-2020 Kath Schneider, Undergraduate SURF, Research title: Silphid beetles as novel iDNA tool for measuring small mammal community biodiversity. Current position: PhD student in CFRES, MTU.

MTU Earn and Learn Undergraduate Mentees:

- 2021-2022 Maddison Allen and Trevor VanHouten
- 2019-2020 Sarah Arnold, Megan Baird, Jenna Brewer, Heidi Feliczak, Natalie Howard, Claudia Zinser
- 2018-2019 Kadie Gehrke, Claudia Zinser

Mentees not at MTU:

- 2019-2021 Ernest Fotsing, BRLI-Biomonitoring Technical Assistant, Mpem and Djim National Park, Cameroon.
- 2017-2018 Tabitha N. Lumour-Mensah, Senior Thesis, Princeton University. Thesis title: Epigenetic Modifications in Response to Mercury Exposure: A Study of Differential Methylation Patterns in Wild Louisiana Bird Populations. Awards and distinctions:
- Charles M. Cannon Memorial Prize: best senior thesis research presentation in Princeton's Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Department
- 2015-2021 Silvestre Esteban, undergraduate intern, Equatorial Guinea.

Other non-student lab visits

- 2021 Dr. Melissa Karlin, Associate Professor, St. Mary's University, San Antonio TX. Visiting Professor conducting sabbatical in my lab to learn eDNA methodologies.
- 2020 Dr. Joseph Hinton, Research Associate/Postdoctoral fellow.

PUBLICATIONS

Citation metrics

h-index of 15; *i10*-index of 17

Total 726 citations; 618 since 2018; and 155 citations during 2023 (google scholar 08/03/2023)

* indicates graduate student in my lab

Peer reviewed Journal Publications (complete list)

1. Hoy S, Hedrick P, Peterson R, Vucetich L, **Brzeski KE**, Vucetich J. *in press*. The far-reaching ecological effects of genetic fitness in a keystone predator species, grey wolves. Science Advances. Preprint DOI: [10.22541/au.163255275.55328133/v1](https://doi.org/10.22541/au.163255275.55328133/v1)
2. DeGroot T*, Wolfe JD, Powell L, Ensono F, Ebana Ebana A, Barrientos C, **Brzeski KE**. 2023. Human impacts on mammal communities in Rio Campo Nature Reserve, Equatorial Guinea. African Journal of Ecology, 61(2), 262-276.
3. Kyriazis CC, Beichman AC, **Brzeski KE**, Hoy SR, Peterson RO, Vucetich JA, ... Wayne RK. 2023. Genomic underpinnings of population persistence in Isle Royale moose. Molecular biology and evolution, 40(2), msad021.
4. Barnes T*, Karlin M, vonHoldt B, Adams J, Waits L, Hinton J, Henderson J, **Brzeski KE**. 2022. Genetic diversity and family groups detected in a coyote population with red wolf ancestry on Galveston Island, Texas. BMC Ecology and Evolution, 22(1), 1-14. *Brzeski corresponding author*.
5. vonHoldt BM, Hinton J, Shutt A, Murphy S, Karlin M, Adams J, Waits L, **Brzeski KE**. 2022. Reviving ghost alleles: Gulf Coast coyotes are critical for saving the endangered red wolf. Science Advances, 8(26), DOI: [10.1126/sciadv.abn7731](https://doi.org/10.1126/sciadv.abn7731). *vonHoldt and Brzeski co-corresponding authors*.

6. Tobias JA, ... **Brzeski KE**, ... [106 authors]. 2022. AVONET: morphological, ecological and geographical data for all birds. *Ecology Letters* 25 (3), 581-597. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/ele.13898>
7. vonHoldt BM, **Brzeski KE**, Aardema ML, Schell C, Rutledge LY, Fain SR, Shutt A, ... Murphy WJ. 2021. Persistence and expansion of cryptic endangered red wolf genomic ancestry along the American Gulf coast. *Molecular Ecology* 31 (21): 5440-5454. DOI: <http://doi.org/10.1111/mec.16200>
8. Hervey SD*, Rutledge LY, Patterson BR, Romanski MC, Vucetich JA, Belant JL, Beyer DE, **Brzeski KE***. 2021. A first genetic assessment of the newly introduced Isle Royale Gray Wolves (*Canis lupus*). *Conservation Genetics*, 22 (6), 913-926. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10592-021-01373-y> *Hervey and Brzeski co-corresponding authors*
9. Jarret C, Smith T, Tabe C, Ferreira D, Tchoumbou M, Malange D, Wolfe JD, **Brzeski KE**, ... Powell L. 2021. Bird communities in African cocoa agroforestry are diverse but lack specialized insectivores. *Journal of Applied Ecology*. 58 (6), 1237-1247. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2664.13864>
10. Ferreira D, Torrent L, Wolfe JD, **Brzeski KE**, Powell L. 2020. First record of a piebald Large-eared Slit-faced Bat, *Nycteris hispida* (Chiroptera: Nycteridae) from Equatorial Guinea, Central Africa. *Journal of Bat Research & Conservation*. 13(1), 88-92. <https://doi.org/10.14709/BarbJ.13.1.2020.14>
11. Batcher K, Dickinson P, Maciejczyk K, **Brzeski KE**, Rasouliha SH, Letko A... Bannasch D. 2020. Multiple FGF4 retrocopies recently derived within canids. *Genes*, 11(8), 839. <https://doi.org/10.3390/genes11080839>
12. Heppenheimer E, **Brzeski KE**, Hinton J, Chamberlain M, Robinson J, Wayne R, vonHoldt B. 2020. A Genome-wide perspective on the persistence of red wolf ancestry in southeastern canids. *Journal of Heredity*. 111(3), 277-286. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jhered/esaa006>
13. vonHoldt B, DeCandia A, Heppenheimer E, Koch I, Shi R, Zhou H, German C, **Brzeski KE**, Cassidy K, Stahler D, Sinsheimer J. 2020. Heritability of inter-pack aggression in a wild pedigreed population of North American gray wolves. *Molecular Ecology*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/mec.15349>. *Cover article*
14. DeCandia A, **Brzeski KE**, Heppenheimer E, Carol C, Camenisch G, Wandeler P, Driscoll C, vonHoldt B. 2019. Urban colonization through multiple genetic lenses: The city-fox phenomenon revisited. *Ecology and Evolution*. 9(4), 2046-2060. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.4898>
15. Heppenheimer E, **Brzeski KE**, Wooten R, Waddell W, Rutledge L, Chamberlain M, Stahler B, Hinton J, vonHoldt B. 2018. Rediscovery of red wolf ghost alleles in a canid population along the American Gulf Coast. *Genes*. 9(12):618. <https://doi.org/10.3390/genes9120618> *Brzeski co-lead & corresponding author*.
16. Heppenheimer E, **Brzeski KE**, Hinton J, Patterson B, Rutledge L, DeCandia A, Wheeldon T, Fain S, Hohenlohe P, Kays R, White B, vonHoldt B. 2018. High genomic diversity and candidate genes under selection associated with range expansion in eastern coyote (*Canis latrans*) populations. *Ecology and Evolution*. 8(24):12641-12655. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.4688>
17. vonHoldt B, **Brzeski KE**, Wilcove D, Rutledge L. 2018. Redefining the impact of admixture and genomics in endangered species conservation. *Conservation Letters*. 11(2): <https://doi.org/10.1111/conl.12371>
18. Heppenheimer E, Harrigan R, Rutledge L, Koepfli K, DeCandia A, **Brzeski KE**, Benson J, Wheeldon T, Patterson B, Kays R, Hohenlohe P, vonHoldt B. 2018. Population genomic analysis of North American eastern wolves (*Canis lycaon*) supports their conservation priority status. *Genes*. 9(12):606. <https://doi.org/10.3390/genes9120606>
19. Heppenheimer E, Cosio D, **Brzeski KE**, Caudill D, Chamberlain M, Hinton J, vonHoldt B. 2018. Demographic history influences spatial patterns of genetic diversity in recently expanded coyote (*Canis latrans*) populations. *Heredity*. 120:183-195. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41437-017-0014-5>
20. Cooper J, Johnson O, Davis T, Terrill R, **Brzeski KE**, Wolfe J, Etingue A, Powell L. 2017. Notes on the distribution of the avifauna of Bioko Island, Equatorial Guinea, with one new country record. *Malimbus*. 39(1):1-15.
21. **Brzeski KE**, Wolfe JD, Cooper J, Powell L. 2016. Camera sighting of Congo Clawless otter in the midst of rapid development on mainland Equatorial Guinea. *IUCN Otter Specialist Group Bulletin*. 33 (1), 96-101.
22. **Brzeski KE**, DeBiasse M, Rabon D, Chamberlain M, Taylor S. 2016. Mitochondrial DNA variation in Eastern pre-Columbian canids. *Journal of Heredity*, 107:287-293. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jhered/esw002>

23. Hinton J, **Brzeski KE**, Rabon D, Chamberlain M. 2016. Effects of anthropogenic mortality on red wolf breeding pairs: Implications for red wolf recovery, *Oryx*:1-8. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0030605315000770>
24. **Brzeski KE**, Bartel B, Waddell W, Wolf K, Rabon D, Taylor S. 2015. Infectious disease and red wolf conservation: assessment of disease occurrence and associated risks. *Journal of Mammalogy*, 96:751-761. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jmammal/gyv080>
25. **Brzeski KE**, D. Rabon, M. Chamberlain, L. Waits, S. Taylor. 2014. Inbreeding and inbreeding depression in endangered red wolves (*Canis rufus*). *Molecular Ecology*, 23:4241–4255. <https://doi.org/10.1111/mec.12871>
26. **Brzeski KE**, Gunther MS, Black J. 2013. Evaluating river otter demography using noninvasive genetic methods. *Journal of Wildlife Management*, 77:1523-1531. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jwmg.610>
27. Wolfe JD, Johnson E, Stouffer P, Owens F, DeLeon E, Liffmann E, **Brzeski KE**, et al. 2013. Annual survival of birds captured in a habitat island bordered by the urban matrix of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. *South Eastern Naturalist*, 12:492-499. <https://doi.org/10.1656/058.012.0306>
28. Wolfe JD, Johnson E, Stouffer P, Liffmann E, DeLeon E, Mokross K, **Brzeski KE**. 2013. Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*) with bill deformity captured at Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center, Baton Rouge, LA. *Journal of Louisiana Ornithology*, 9:27-30.

Reports and reviewed conference papers

29. Romanski M, Orning EK., Kellner K, **Brzeski KE**, Hart J, Lonsway DH ... Belant J. 2020. Wolves and the Isle Royale environment: Restoring an island ecosystem, 2018-2020. Annual Report. Isle Royal National Park, National Park Service, US. Department of the Interior.
30. Schneider K*, Bal TL, **Brzeski KE**. 2023. Novel applications of iDNA tool for measuring small mammal community biodiversity via Silphid beetles. In: Northern Hardwood Conference 2021: Bridging Science and Management for the Future (p. 216).
31. Wolfe JD, Gusick BR, **Brzeski KE**, Dickinson YL. (2023). Clearcuts drive dissimilar small mammal assemblages in northern hardwood forests. In: Northern Hardwood Conference 2021: Bridging Science and Management for the Future (p. 213).

Submitted manuscripts (available upon request)

32. Sévêque A, Lonsinger R, Waits L, **Brzeski KE**, Komoroske L, Ott-Conn C, Mayhew S ... Morin D. *in second revision*. Sources of bias in applying close-kin mark-recapture to terrestrial game species with different life histories. *Ecology*.

Manuscripts in advanced preparation (available upon request)

33. Higdon K*, Bal T, **Brzeski KE**. *in revision to resubmit*. Establishing Silphids in the invertebrate DNA toolbox: A proof of concept. *PeerJ*
34. **Brzeski KE**, Waits L, Adams J, Barbosa S, Hervey S*, vonHoldt B. *in prep*. Red wolf restoration and introgression: a genomics approach. *Molecular Ecology*.
35. Ferrer M*, **Brzeski KE**, Paterson G, Wolfe JD. *in prep*. Avian haemosporidian blood parasite prevalence, diversity, and distribution in Michigan's Western Upper Peninsula. *Ornithology*.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (presenter(s) in bold)

Δ indicates undergraduate student in my lab, *indicates graduate student in my lab

1. **Ottino M***, Webster C, Kulheim C, Brzeski K. November 2022. Methodological considerations for using metabarcoding to assess white-tail deer diet, microbiome, and host DNA. The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Spokane, WA. *Oral presentation*
2. **Tormoen T**^Δ, Olin J, Brzeski K. November 2022. Variation in tilefish diet detected with DNA metabarcoding. The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Spokane, WA. *Poster*.

3. **DeGroot T***, Brzeski K, Wolfe J, Powell L, Torrent L, Barrientos C November 2022. Human-mediated impacts on mammals in Rio Campo Nature Reserve, Equatorial Guinea. The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Spokane, WA. *Poster presentation*
4. **Ferrer MM***, Brzeski K, Wolfe J. November 2022. Avian malaria prevalence in Michigan's western Upper Peninsula. The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Spokane, WA. *Oral presentation*
5. **McCall J***, Brzeski K, Paterson G, Lowe M. November 2022. Epigenetic profile in lake trout (*Salvelinus namaycush*) suggests toxicity from mine tailing waste ("stamp sands"). The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Spokane, WA. *Oral Presentation*
6. **Hervey SD***, vonHoldt B, Romanski M, Brzeski K. November 2022. Designing and implementing noninvasive genetic monitoring of Isle Royale wolves. The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Spokane, WA. *Oral Presentation*
7. **Hervey SD***, vonHoldt B, Romanski M, Brzeski K. October 2022. Genetic assessment of Isle Royale wolves. International Wolf Symposium. *Oral Presentation*
8. **Brzeski, K**, Waits L, Adams J, Barbosa S, Hervey S, vonHoldt B. October 2022. A genomic perspective: red wolf hybridization and adaptive management. The International Wolf Symposium. *Oral presentation*.
9. **McCall J***, Brzeski K, Paterson G, Lowe M. August 2022. Evaluating genotoxicity of mine tailings ("Stamp Sands") on two game fish in a spawning reef in Lake Superior (MI). Ecological Society of America Annual Conference. *Oral Presentation*.
10. **Ott-Conn C, Brzeski K**. March 2022. Michigan black bear population estimator. Michigan Chapter of the Wildlife Society 2022 Annual Conference. *Oral Presentation*.
11. **Ott-Conn C, Brzeski K**. November 2021. State and University Partnerships: Michigan black bear population estimator. The Wildlife Society 2021 Annual Conference. *Oral Presentation*. Brzeski was symposium organizer
12. **Barnes TM***, Adams J, Waits L, Karlin M, Brzeski K. November 2021. Estimating red wolf ancestry in a population of Canids on Galveston Island, Texas. The Wildlife Society 2021 Annual Conference. *Oral Presentation*
13. **DeGroot T***, Wolfe J, Powell L, MBA EYONO F, Ebana A, Brzeski K. October 2021. Rio Campo's Mammals: An Assessment of Mammalian Diversity and Distribution in a Central African Protected Area. The Wildlife Society Annual Conference 2021, *Oral Presentation*
14. **Brewer J***, Brzeski K, Wolfe J. November 2021. Northern Cardinal's range expansion as a result of supplementary feeding, The Wildlife Society 2021 Annual Conference. *Poster Presentation*.
15. **Ferrer MM***, Brzeski K, Wolfe J. November 2021. Avian Malaria Diversity and Prevalence in Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula, The Wildlife Society 2021 Annual Conference. *Oral Presentation*
16. **Hervey SD***, vonHoldt BM, Vucetich JA, Romanski MC, Belant J, Brzeski K. November 2021. A genetic assessment of Isle Royale wolves' founding population: A multi-molecular marker perspective, The Wildlife Society 2021 Annual Conference. *Oral Presentation*
17. **Schneider K***, Brzeski K, Bal TL. November 2021. Potential for Broad Biodiversity of Vertebrate Species Detection Using iDNA Analysis of Carrion Beetle Diets, The Wildlife Society 2021 Annual Conference, Virtual. *Poster Presentation* *Awarded Best Student Poster.
18. **Hervey SD ***, Romanski MC, Brzeski K. March 2021. Genetic monitoring of Isle Royale wolves, The Wildlife Society Conference, Michigan Chapter 2021, Virtual. *Oral Presentation*. *Awarded Best Student Presentation.
19. **Brzeski K***, Hervey SD, Romanski MC. October 2020. Genetic assessment of introduced Isle Royale Gray Wolves, Great Lakes Wolf Symposium, Virtual. *Oral Presentation*
20. **Barnes TM***, Brzeski K. September 2020. Noninvasive Genetic Investigation of Canids on Galveston Island, Texas. The Wildlife Society National Conference, Virtual. *Poster Presentation*
21. **DeGroot T***, Wolfe J, Powell L, MBA EYONO F, Ebana A, Brzeski K. October 2020. Preserving potential: combining capacity building and technology to safeguard central African wildlife. The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Virtual. *Oral Presentation, Invited Symposium Speaker*

22. **Hervey SD ***, Romanski MC, Brzeski K. 2020. Genomic monitoring of Isle Royale Wolves. The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Virtual. *Oral Presentation, Invited Symposium Speaker*
23. **Brzeski K**, Hervey SD.* January 2020. Wolf Genetic Health Monitoring. Isle Royale Ecological Monitoring Framework Meeting. *Oral Presentation*
24. **Brzeski K**, Heppenheimer E, vonHoldt B. October 2019. North American Canine Ancestry Project: Large genetic datasets for effective conservation & management of canids. The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Reno, NV. *Brzeski Symposium Organizer*
25. **Gusick B**, Wolfe J, Brzeski K, Dickinson Y. October 2019. Effects of different silviculture treatments on small mammal diversity in northern hardwoods. The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Reno, NV. *Oral Presentation*
26. **Gurtler S***, Kulheim C, Brzeski K. October 2019. Developing Multiple Invertebrate iDNA Methodology in the Keweenaw Peninsula, Michigan to Monitor Mammal Communities. The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Reno, NV. *Poster presentation*
27. **Christensen R^A**, Wolfe J, Brzeski K. October 2019. Avian malaria presence in Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula. The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Reno, NV. *Poster presentation*
28. **Barnes TM^A**, Brzeski K. October 2019. Variation in communities and activity patterns in urban and rural wildlife. The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Reno, NV. *Poster presentation*
29. **Christensen R^A**, Brzeski K. April 2019. Avian malaria presence in Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula. Ecosystem Science Center Student Research Forum, Michigan Technological University. *Awarded Grand Prize best undergraduate poster presentation*
30. **Barnes TM^A**, Brzeski K. April 2019. Variation in communities and activity patterns in urban and rural wildlife. Ecosystem Science Center Student Research Forum, Michigan Technological University. *Poster presentation*
31. **Barnes TM^A**, Brzeski K. March 2019. Variation in communities and activity patterns in urban and rural wildlife. Pavlis Honors College Undergraduate Research Symposium, Michigan Technological University. *Poster presentation*
32. **Brzeski K**. October 2018. Red wolves rediscovered! Now what? The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Cleveland, OH. **Invited SPARK Speaker*
33. **Brzeski K**, Wolfe J, Eyono F, Powell L. October 2018. Education, research, and passive protection to conserve wildlife and defend protected areas in Central Africa. The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Cleveland, OH. **Invited Symposium Speaker*
34. **Brzeski K**. September 2017. Beyond population genomics- ecological epigenetics and application to wildlife management. The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Albuquerque, NM. **Symposium Organizer*
35. **Brzeski K**, Cristol D, vonHoldt B. May 2017. Mercury Rising: Epigenetic response to mercury exposure in songbirds. Canadian Society of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Victoria, British Columbia. **Invited Symposium Speaker*
36. **Brzeski K**, Chamberlain M, Taylor S. October 2016. Inbreeding and mate-choice in wild canids. The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Raleigh, NC. *Oral Presentation*
37. **Johnson E**, Brzeski K, Duke-Sylvester S, Jackson A, et al. September 2016. The Louisiana Bird Observatory 6 years of avian monitoring and a platform for scientific investigations. LA Association of Professional Biologists' Symposium, Baton Rouge, LA. *Oral Presentation*
38. **Brzeski K**, Wolfe J, Johnson E, Jackson A, Eagles-Smith C, vonHoldt B. August 2016. Blood-mercury contamination, carotenoid-based plumage coloration, and epigenetics. The North American Ornithological Conference, Washington DC. *Poster presentation*
39. **Brzeski K**. April 2016. Contemporary conservation challenges for endangered red wolves. Northeast Natural History Conference, Springfield, MS. **Invited Symposium Speaker*
40. **Brzeski K**, Chamberlain M, Taylor S. August 2015. Genetic variation at MHC and TLR genes and their relationship to disease in red wolves and sympatric coyotes. The International Congress for Conservation Biology, Montpellier, France. *Poster presentation*

41. **Brzeski K**, Chamberlain M, Taylor S. May 2015. Endangered red wolves: assessing inbreeding, immune gene variation, and disease. Wildlife & Fisheries Science Symposium, Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA. *Oral Presentation*
42. **Brzeski KE**, Bartel B, Waddell W, Wolf K, Rabon D, Taylor S. October 2014. Infectious disease and red wolf conservation: baseline pathogen prevalence. The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, PA. *Poster presentation*
43. **Brzeski K**, Rabon D, Chamberlain M, Taylor S. September 2014. Endangered red wolves: historic and contemporary threats. Louisiana Association of Professional Biologist Fall Symposium, Baton Rouge, LA. *Honorable mention Best Student Oral Presentation*
44. **Brzeski K**, Rabon D, Chamberlain M, Taylor S. August 2013. MHC variation and its effects on red wolf fitness. Annual Conference of the European Society of Evolutionary Biology, Lisbon, Portugal. *Poster presentation*
45. **Brzeski K**, Gunther MS. November 2011. Non-invasive approach evaluating river otter abundance and sociality. The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Waikoloa, HI. *Oral Presentation*
46. **Brzeski K**, Rabon D, Chamberlain M, Taylor S. November 2011. Inbreeding in wild wolves. The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Waikoloa, HI. *Poster presentation*
47. **Brzeski K**, Gunther MS. May 2009. Non-invasive river otter genetics. Wildlife & Fisheries Science Symposium, Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA. *Oral Presentation*
48. **Brzeski K**, Terry J, Black J, Gunther M. October 2008. Using non-invasive techniques to study stress and genetics in river otters. The Wildlife Society Western Section's Conference, Redding, CA. *Poster presentation*

INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND SEMINARS (Brzeski was presenter)

1. **Award Teaching Seminar**, Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI. Integrating natural resource partners into lab and field-based learning. October, 2022.
2. **Board of Trustees Research Presentation**, Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI. Rediscovering red wolf ancestry. October, 2022.
3. **Webinar, Wolf Conservation Center**, South Salem, NY. Updates from the Gulf Coast Canine Project. September, 2022
4. **Town Hall**, Galveston, TX. Rediscovering red wolf ancestry. August, 2022.
5. **Webinar, Houston Museum of Natural Science**, Houston, TX. Searching for the ghost wolves of Texas and Louisiana. April, 2022.
6. **Webinar, Wolf Conservation Center**, South Salem, NY. Searching for the red wolf's ghosts – the Gulf Coast Canine Project. January, 2022.
7. **Webinar, Connecticut Beardsley Zoo**, Bridgeport CT. Research Updates from the Gulf Coast: the Search for Red Wolf Genetics. August, 2021.
8. **Webinar, hosted by The Wildlife Society**. Choose Your Own Adventure in Molecular Ecology. Organized and presented a group webinar for the Molecular Ecology Working Group, TWS. June 2021.
9. **Webinar, Wolf Conservation Center**, South Salem, NY. Red, Gray, and Isolated: new discoveries of two emblematic wolf populations- red wolves and Isle Royale wolves. April, 2020.
10. **Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology Seminar, Oregon State University**, Corvallis, OR. Red, Gray, and Isolated: new discoveries of two emblematic wolf populations- red wolves and Isle Royale wolves. March, 2020.
11. **National Academy of Science Panel Meeting on the Taxonomic Studies of the Red Wolf**: A Review of Applications to Carry out Research and Development of a Research Strategy, Virtual webinar. Rediscovering red wolf ancestry in the southeastern US & identifying 'what's left.' February, 2020.
12. **Arkansas Biosciences Institute Seminar**, Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, AR. Ecology, Evolution, and the Ongoing Controversy of America's Most Endangered Wolf. October, 2019.

13. **Science Seminar and Webinar**, USFWS, South Atlantic-Gulf Region & Mississippi-Basin Region Office, Lafayette, LA. Red wolf ancestry rediscovered along the Gulf Coast. August, 2019.
14. **Webinar, Wolf Conservation Center**, South Salem, NY. Red Wolves Rediscovered: a discussion about red wolf ancestry along the Gulf Coast. May, 2019.
15. **Biology Department Seminar, Michigan Technological University**, Houghton, MI. Ecology, evolution, and the ongoing controversy of America's most endangered wolf. April, 2019.
16. **Seminar Speaker, National University of Equatorial Guinea**, Malabo, EG. Camera traps for Protected Area's management. January, 2019.
17. **Webinar, Wolf Conservation Center**, South Salem, NY. The American Red Wolf: disease, genetics, and the future. October, 2018.
18. **Conservation Science Seminar, Princeton University**, NJ. Conservation action in Equatorial Guinea. October, 2017.
19. **Renewable Natural Resources Seminar, Louisiana State University**, LA. Wildlife ecology & extension from Central Africa to the Gulf Coast. June, 2017.
20. **Ecology and Evolution Seminar, Princeton University**, NJ. Immunogenetic variation and disease susceptibility in red wolves. April, 2016.
21. **Ecoseries, Humboldt State University**, Arcata, CA. An introduction to the red wolf; disease, genetics, and introgression. November, 2015.
22. **Redwood Region Audubon Society**, Eureka, CA. Conservation of an endemic America predator: Endangered red wolves. March, 2015.
23. **Museum of Natural Science, Louisiana State University**, Baton Rouge, LA. Endangered red wolves: ecology, evolution, and introgression. January, 2015.
24. **Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute**, Washington D.C. Endangered red wolves: inbreeding, MHC, and the future. October, 2014.
25. **AZA Species Survival Plan Meeting, *C. rufus gregoryi***, Homosassa Springs, FL. Inbreeding, mate choice, and immunocompetence in wild red wolves. July, 2013.

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

2022-2024	Past Chair, The Wildlife Society's Molecular Ecology Working Group
2020-2022	Chair, The Wildlife Society's Molecular Ecology Working Group
2020	Early key member assisting with the establishment of MTU's Covid-19 testing lab.
2019-2023	Curriculum Committee member, College of Forest Resources and Environmental Science, MTU, Houghton, MI.
2019-2022	Co-Faculty Advisor, MTU Wildlife Society Student Club
2018-2020	Vice-Chair elect, The Wildlife Society's Molecular Ecology Working Group
2018-2020	Seminar Organizer, College of Forest Resources and Environmental Science, MTU, Houghton, MI.
2016-2020	IUCN Otter Specialist Working Group member
2016-2020	African Otter Network member
2016-2022	Louisiana Bird Observatory Scientific Advisory Board Member
2015 –	Biodiversity Initiative Co-founder
2014-2018	Founding board member of The Wildlife Society's Molecular Ecology Working Group
2011-2014	Conservation outreach volunteer and natural history instructor at Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center summer camps, Baton Rouge, LA.
2010-2015	Primary bird bander and founding member of Louisiana Bird Observatory, Baton Rouge, LA.
2008-2010	Treasurer/Co-President of HSU Wildlife Graduate Student Society, Arcata, CA.

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2023 – Scientific advisor for Colossal Laboratories and Bioscience.
- 2021 – Invited member of Red Wolf Recovery Team, an interdisciplinary team tasked with developing a revised recovery plan for red wolves.
- 2018 – Reviewing experience: reviewed grant applications for Polish-Lithuanian Funding Initiative Grant, University Wisconsin Milwaukee Grants.
- 2018 Workshop participant, Red Wolf Science and Conservation Workshop sponsored by the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute, Front Royal Virginia. USFWS sponsored, Aug. 7th-8th.
- 2010 – Reviewing experience: reviewed over 20 manuscripts from the following journals: Animal Conservation, Biological Conservation, Ecosphere, Evolutionary Ecology, Forests, Genes, Journal of Heredity, Journal of Mammalogy, Journal of Wildlife Management, Molecular Ecology, Molecular Ecology Resources, Polish-Lithuanian Funding Initiative Grant Proposal, Scientific Reports, University Wisconsin Milwaukee Grant Proposal, ZooKeys.
- 2010-2015 Graduate Research Assistant, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA.
- 2007-2009 Wildlife Game Pens Graduate Technician, Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA.
- 2006 – Member of The Wildlife Society
- 2005-2007 USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Tree Climber, Chicago, IL.
- 2004 Student Conservation Association Field Intern, Sierra Nevada Mountain Range, CA.
- 2003 Women in Science Enabling Research Intern, Loyola University Chicago, IL.
- 2002 Conservation Department Intern, Zoological Society of Milwaukee, WI.

SELECTED POPULAR PRESS COVERAGE

Myself or my research has been featured in the following media outlets:

- 2023 **TV 6, Upper Michigan's Source, WLUC News**, Michigan Tech University research tracks diseases in UP ticks. <https://www.uppermichiganssource.com/2023/08/03/michigan-tech-universitys-tick-talk-study-shows-ticks-up-have-diseases/>
- 2022 **Today's Wildlife Professional**, The Wildlife Professional, The Ghost Hunter, Kristin Brzeski melds lab work with field work to bridge species past and future.
- 2022 **The Wolf Connection Podcast**, Gulf Coast Canine Project interview and discussion of the International Wolf Symposium, <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/episode-93-international-wolf-symposium-1-bridgett/id1521180246?i=1000583234025>
- 2022 **Scientific American, 60 Second Science Podcast**, Rediscovered Red Wolf Genes May Help Conserve the Species, <https://www.scientificamerican.com/podcast/episode/rediscovered-red-wolf-genes-may-help-serve-the-species/>
- 2022 **Beaumont Enterprise News**, 5 things to know about the 'ghost wolves' along the Gulf Coast, <https://www.beaumententerprise.com/news/article/Ghost-wolves-Gulf-Coast-Texas-17369323.php>
- 2022 **KHOU11 News Houston live news**, Scientists researching unique 'ghost wolves' on Galveston Island, <https://www.khou.com/article/life/animals/galveston-island-ghost-wolves/285-5ca4b4f3-21c4-4b2f-b91a-4bf00ce31e52>
- 2022 **KPRC2 News Houston live news**, Red Wolf DNA discovered in Galveston coyotes, researchers say, <https://www.click2houston.com/news/local/2022/08/11/red-wolf-dna-discovered-in-galveston-coyotes-researchers-say/>
- 2022 **CNN**, 'Ghost genes' from coyotes could help save critically endangered red wolves, study says. <https://www.cnn.com/2022/07/02/us/red-wolves-coyote-genes-scn-trnd/index.html>

- 2022 **Phys.org**, Red wolf genes found in coyote hybrids may be the key to preserving the endangered species. <https://phys.org/news/2022-06-red-wolf-genes-coyote-hybrids.html>
- 2022 **ABC News**, Endangered red wolf populations could be revived with 'ghost' genes from coyotes, scientists say only 20 to 30 red wolves currently exist in the wild, conservationists say. <https://abcnews.go.com/US/endangered-red-wolf-populations-revived-ghost-genes-coyotes/story?id=85789068>
- 2022 **Houston Chronicle**, What to know about Galveston 'ghost wolves,' as sightings increase, <https://www.houstonchronicle.com/news/houston-texas/galveston/article/what-to-know-ghost-wolves-rare-coyotes-sightings-16766981.php>
- 2022 ABC Australia's Nightlife, Ghost DNA and the quest to save the red wolf, <https://www.abc.net.au/radio-australia/programs/nightlife/red-wolf-dna/13700264>
- 2022 **New York Times**, The Ghost Wolves of Galveston Island, <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/01/03/science/red-wolves-dna-galveston.html>
- 2021 **Cal Poly Humboldt, Honorable Alumni**, Featured Dr. Kristin Brzeski, MS in Wildlife Biology 2010, in the Fall 2021 CPH graduate school magazine.
- 2020 **Coast Review**, New study looks at genetics of red wolves, <https://coastalreview.org/2020/10/new-study-to-look-at-genetics-of-red-wolves/>
- 2019 **Texas Parks and Wildlife**, Canid research in TX, cover article. https://tpwmagazine.com/archive/2019/dec/ed_3_wolves/index.phtml
- 2019 **The Atlantic**, The Secret Identity of a Coyote-Like Creature, <https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2019/11/the-ghost-genes-of-a-nearly-extinct-animal-live-on-in-texas/601624/>
- 2019 **International Wolf Center Magazine**, Red, gray, and isolated, featured article. <https://wolf.org/wolf-info/wolf-magazine/summer-2019/>
- 2018 **The Wildlife Professional**, From Red Wolves, Lessons in Resilience. Hybrids — and maybe a full red wolf — found in former range. <http://wildlife.org/hybrids-and-maybe-a-full-red-wolf-found-in-former-range/>
- 2018 **Science Daily**, A future for red wolves may be found on Galveston Island, Texas. <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/12/181211122449.htm>
- 2016 **Audubon Magazine**, Land of the lost birds, searching for life in the forests of Bioko, Biodiversity Initiative featured on cover. <http://www.audubon.org/magazine/summer-2016/land-lost-birds-searching-life-forests-bioko#8>
- 2014 **The Magazine of Humboldt State University**, Critter census, using scat to count river otters. <http://magazine.humboldt.edu/spring14/critter-census>
- 2014 **The North Coast Journal**, Otter spotter, a tour of river hotspots. <http://www.northcoastjournal.com/humboldt/otter-spotter/Content?oid=2516458>
- 2014 **The Wildlife Professional Science in Short**, featured river otter manuscript.