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Education

Boise State University, Boise, Idaho, August 2018 – May 2023

Ph.D., Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior; Advisor: Jay Carlisle

Graduate Certificate in College Teaching; Advisor: Megan Frary

Dissertation: *A coupled human and natural systems approach to studying recreation on public lands*

Gustavus Adolphus College, Saint Peter, Minnesota, September 2013 – May 2017

Bachelor of Arts in Honors Biology

Thesis: *Predicting the effect of various management strategies on inbreeding frequency in American bison (Bison bison)*

Academic Awards, Grants, and Honors

2022	Boise State University Graduate Assistantship (\$25,000 stipend + tuition and fees)
2021	Boise State University Graduate Assistantship (\$25,000 stipend + tuition and fees) Travel Grant - Biology Department, Boise State University (\$600)
2020	Boise State University Graduate Assistantship (\$25,000 stipend + tuition and fees)
2019	Tracy Aviary Conservation Funds Grant (\$10,000) with Dr. Jay Carlisle (PI) Boise State University Graduate Assistantship (\$25,000 stipend + tuition and fees)
2018	Boise State University Graduate Assistantship (\$25,000 stipend + tuition and fees)
2017	Gustavus Biology Department Award for Excellence in Biological Research Guild of St. Ansgar Honor Society
2016	Gustavus Biology Department Academic Assistant (\$200) Francis Uhler Grant (\$2,000)
2013-17	Gustavus Adolphus College Presidential Scholarship (\$20,000/yr.)

Peer-Reviewed Publications ([^] denotes undergraduate researchers)

Published

2020	[1] Katzner, T.E., J. D. Carlisle, S. A. Poessel, E. C. Thomason, B. P. Pauli, D. R. Pilliod, J. R. Belthoff, J. A. Heath, K. J. Parker, K. S. Warner, H. M. Hayes, M. C. Aberg , P. A. Ortiz, S. M. Amdor, S. E. Alsup, S. E. Coates, T. A. Miller, and Z. K. T. Duran. 2020. Illegal killing of non-game wildlife and recreational shooting within conservation areas. <i>Conservation Science and Practice</i> e276 : 1-15.
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Technical Reports

2021	Aberg, M. C. , and J. D. Carlisle. 2021. Studying the Human Components of Illegal Shooting Behavior in Southwestern Idaho to Inform the Conservation of Long-billed Curlews. Final Report to the Tracy Aviary. Intermountain Bird Observatory, Boise State University, Boise, Idaho.
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- 2020 **Aberg, M. C.**, S. E. Coates, and J. D. Carlisle. 2020. Horned Lark Monitoring at the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area 2020 Pilot Season Final Report. Intermountain Bird Observatory, Boise State University, Boise, Idaho.
- 2019 **Aberg, M. C.**, R. Keller, and W. Clark. 2018. Denali National Park and Preserve Winter Visitor Use: Winter Visitor Experience Survey and Early Road Opening Collaborative Study. Natural Resource Report. National Park Service, Denali National Park and Preserve, Alaska.

Presentations (* denotes presenter, ^ denotes undergraduate researchers)

- 2023 **Aberg, M. C.***, and J. D. Carlisle. February 2023. Oral Presentation. “Human Dimensions of Wildlife Conservation on Public Lands.” *Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society*, The Riverside Hotel, Boise, Idaho.
- Aberg, M. C.***, and J. D. Carlisle. January 2023. Oral Presentation. “Human Dimensions of Recreational Use at the NCA.” *Bureau of Land Management Boise District Law Enforcement Staff Meeting*, Boise, Idaho.
- 2022 **Aberg, M. C.***, and J. D. Carlisle. November 2022. Oral Presentation. “Human Dimensions of Recreational Use at the NCA.” *Bureau of Land Management Leadership Team Meeting*, Virtual.
- Aberg, M. C.***, and J. D. Carlisle. October 2022. Oral Presentation. “Human Dimensions of Recreational Use at the NCA.” *Fourth Assembly of the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area Symposium*, Boise State University, Boise, Idaho.
- Aberg, M. C.***, and J. D. Carlisle. August 2022. Poster Presentation. “Impacts of Outdoor Recreation on Multiple Levels of a Fragmented Sagebrush-steppe Ecosystem.” *2022 ESA & CSEE Joint Meeting*, Palais des congrès de Montréal, Montréal, Québec, Canada.
- Aberg, M. C.***, and J. D. Carlisle. May 2022. Poster Presentation. “Spatio-temporal Patterns of Recreational Impacts on Breeding Birds.” *Pathways 2021: Human Dimensions of Wildlife Conference*, Kitsap Conference Center, Bremerton, Washington.
- Aberg, M. C.***, and J. D. Carlisle. February 2022. Oral Presentation. “Impacts of Outdoor Recreation on Multiple Levels of a Modified Sagebrush-steppe Ecosystem.” *Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society Annual Meeting*, Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society, Virtual Conference.
- Aberg, M. C.*** February 2022. Oral Presentation. “Horned Lark Breeding Ecology in Southwestern Idaho.” *Southwestern Idaho Birders Association*, Monthly Meeting, Virtual.
- 2021 **Aberg, M. C.*** December 2021. “Social and Ecological Dynamics of

Recreational Shooting on Public Lands in Southwestern Idaho.” *Idaho Recreation and Tourism Initiative*, Steering Committee Meeting, Virtual.

Aberg, M. C.* November 2021. Twitter Presentation. “[A Coupled Human and Natural Systems Approach to Conflict Between Birds and Outdoor Recreation](#).” *Birds and People: From Conflict to Coexistence*, British Ornithologists’ Union, Virtual Conference.

Davis, L.*[^], J. Carlisle, R. Miller, **M. C. Aberg**, and R. Mervin. October 2021. Impacts of Recreation on Raptor and Scavenger Abundance in the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area of Southern Idaho. *Raptor Research Foundation*, Virtual Conference.

Aberg, M. C.* August 2021. Oral Presentation. “Impacts of Outdoor Recreation on Horned Lark Breeding Ecology in the NCA.” *Snake River Raptor Fest*, Birds of Prey NCA Partnership, Virtual Conference.

Davis, L. D.*[^], **M. C. Aberg**, R. A. Miller, R. Mervin[^], and J. D. Carlisle. July 2021. Poster Presentation. “Impacts of Recreation on Raptor and Scavenger Abundance in the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area of Southern Idaho.” *Idaho Conference on Undergraduate Research, Boise State University*, Virtual Conference.

Mervin, R.*[^], **M. C. Aberg**, L. D. Davis[^], and J. D. Carlisle. July 2021. Poster Presentation. “An Inquiry into the Effect of Recreational Use on Populations of Piute Ground Squirrels, American Badgers, and Coyotes in the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area.” *Idaho Conference on Undergraduate Research*, Boise State University, Virtual Conference.

Thomason, E. C.*[^], **M. C. Aberg***, K. J. Parker*, T. E. Katzner, J. D. Carlisle, S. A. Poessel, B. P. Pauli, D. S. Pilliod, J. R. Belthoff, J. A. Heath, K. S. Warner, H. M. Hayes, P. A. Ortiz, S. M. Amdor, S. E. Alsup, S. E. Coates, T. A. Miller, and Z. K. Duran. May 2021. Poster Presentation “Illegal Killing of Non-game Wildlife and Recreational Shooting within Conservation Areas.” *The Science of The Service*, United States Fish & Wildlife Service, Virtual Conference.

Aberg, M. C.*, Coates, S. E., & J. D. Carlisle. February 2021. Oral Presentation. “The Effects of Outdoor Recreation on the Nesting Success of the Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris*).” *Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society Annual Meeting*, Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society, Virtual Conference.

2020 Wyatt, T. A.*[^], **M. C. Aberg**. July 2020. Poster Presentation. “Southern Idaho Fauna and Its Effect on the Reproductive Success of the Horned Lark.” *Idaho Conference on Undergraduate Research*, Boise State University, Virtual Conference.

2019 **Aberg, M. C.***, & Carlisle, J. D. December 2019. Oral Presentation. “Human users of the NCA: Preliminary questionnaire results.” *Idaho Bird Conservation Partnership Fall 2019 Meeting*, Idaho Department of Fish and Game Regional Office, Nampa, Idaho.

- Aberg, M. C.***, & Carlisle, J. D. November 2019. Oral Presentation. “Who are the human users of the NCA? Preliminary results of a questionnaire survey of recreationists.” *Third Assembly of the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area Symposium*, Boise State University, Boise, Idaho.
- 2017 **Aberg, M. C.***^ May 2017. Oral Presentation. “Predicting the effect of various management strategies on inbreeding frequency in American bison (*Bison bison*)” *Presentation of Undergraduate Thesis*, Gustavus Adolphus College, Saint Peter, Minnesota.
- 2016 **Aberg, M. C.***^, & Coats, C.*^ November 2016. Oral Presentation. “A multi-step process to determine the likelihood of inbreeding in an American bison herd” *Midstates Consortium for Math and Science Undergraduate Symposium in the Biological Sciences & Psychology*, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.

Teaching & Mentorship

- Fall 2021, 2022 **Lab Instructor:** Honors BIOL 191-Biology I: Cell and Molecular, Boise State University, Boise, Idaho
- Taught the lab portion of an introductory biology course for Honors students, designed additional writing and experimental assignments, created engaging lectures to introduce lab topics, explained procedures, graded student assignments and presentations, maintained a safe lab environment.
 - Online and in person instruction.
- 2018 - 2022 **Lab Instructor:** BIOL 191-Biology I: Cell and Molecular, Boise State University, Boise, Idaho
- Taught the lab portion of an introductory biology course, was responsible for teaching two to three sections with 24 students each, created engaging lectures to introduce lab topics, explained procedures, graded student assignments and presentations, and maintained a safe lab environment.
 - Online and in person instruction.
- 2016 - 2017 **Teaching Assistant:** BIO 202 – Evolution, Ecology, & Behavior, Lab Instructor: Eric Elias, Gustavus Adolphus College, Saint Peter, Minnesota
- Assisted the lab instructor during a second-year biology lab, answered student questions, graded presentations, demonstrated techniques, and maintained a safe lab environment.
- 2017 **Teaching Assistant:** HES 235 - Anatomy & Physiology II, Lab Instructor: Kiki Harbitz, Gustavus Adolphus College, Saint Peter, Minnesota
- Assisted the lab instructor during an anatomy and physiology lab, answered student questions, graded presentations, demonstrated dissection techniques, and maintained a safe lab environment
- 2014, 2016 **Teaching Assistant:** BIO 101 – Principles of Biology, Lab Instructor: Eric Elias, Gustavus Adolphus College, Saint Peter, Minnesota

- Assisted the lab instructor during the lab portion of an introductory biology class, answered student questions, and maintained a safe lab environment.

2015

Teaching Assistant: BIO 102 – Organismal Biology, Lab Instructor: Ngawang Gonsar, Gustavus Adolphus College, Saint Peter, Minnesota

- Assisted the lab instructor during the lab portion of an introductory biology class, answered student questions, maintained a safe lab environment.

Curriculum Design

2021

GEM3 Lab Module: Habitat Use of Humans & Wildlife, BIOL 100: Concepts of Biology, Boise State University

- Designed a two-hour lab module for an introductory biology lab for non-majors. Students consider how they select habitat for outdoor recreation, apply the scientific method to investigate how wildlife use habitat in the sagebrush-steppe using data and procedures from Boise State Researchers. Prepared Lab Instructors to deliver the lab module.
- Materials: Lab manual with introductory material, questions, procedure; instructor instructions, supply list, and ideas for adapting or expanding the activity; PowerPoint template

2020

Adopt A Scientist Field Station: How do humans impact the ecosystem and how can we manage these effects? Focusing on recreational use on Idaho's public lands, 7th - 8th grade students

- Designed an interactive field station for 7th - 8th graders to explore how human activities, especially outdoor recreation, impact the sagebrush-steppe ecosystem. Students consider how understanding what activities recreationists participate in and what motivates them can help us manage their impacts, then interview their classmates.
- Materials: Lesson plan, questionnaire for interview activity

Guest Lectures

2021

"Studying Human Behavior to Inform Conservation." June 2021. Desert Studies Institute, Boise State University, Boise, Idaho.

2020

"Studying Human Behavior to Inform Conservation Goals." April 2020. BIOL 422/522: Conservation Biology, Boise State University, Boise, Idaho.

Mentoring

Undergraduate Students

2023

Donovan Belardes, Visitor Use Management Internship at Big Basin Redwoods State Park, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon

Conner Wanless, Visitor Use Management Internship at Big Basin Redwoods State Park, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon

- 2021 **Lucian Davis**, Raptor Research - Research Experience for Undergraduates, Boise State University, Boise, Idaho
- Co-mentored with Dr. Jay Carlisle on a summer research project that resulted in a presentation (Idaho Conference on Undergraduate Research 2021) and co-authorship in a manuscript (Aberg et al. *under review*).
- Richard Mervin**, Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Research Experience for Undergraduates, Boise State University, Boise, Idaho
- Co-mentored with Dr. Jay Carlisle on a summer research project that resulted in a presentation (Idaho Conference on Undergraduate Research 2021) and co-authorship in a manuscript (Aberg et al. *under review*).
- 2020 **Taegan Wyatt**, Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Research Experience for Undergraduates, Boise State University
- Co-mentored with Dr. Jay Carlisle on a summer research project that resulted in a presentation (Idaho Conference on Undergraduate Research 2020).

Professional Experience

- 2023 **Postdoctoral Scholar:** Department of Forest Ecosystems and Society, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon, January 2023 – present.
Principle Investigators: Dr. Troy Hall, Dr. Ashley D’Antonio
- Following the Visitor Use Management framework to define desired conditions, identify indicators, and implement a monitoring program at Big Basin Redwoods State Park, California
 - Developing monitoring protocols, sampling strategies, visitor questionnaire surveys
 - Project management, including data managing metadata, data storage, and organization
 - Analyzing of qualitative and quantitative data
 - Mentoring and training undergraduate researchers to follow monitoring protocols, collect and QA/QC data
 - Conducting a Delphi Survey of personnel at State Parks Districts across California to identify common visitor use management issues and capacity for monitoring
 - Creating training materials and reports for Big Basin Redwoods SP and all California State Parks
 - Presenting findings to California State Parks and non-profit partners through oral presentations and technical reports
- 2019 - **Fieldwork Leader - Ph.D. Dissertation Research:** Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area, Boise, Idaho, May 2019 - July 2021.
Principle Investigator: Dr. Jay Carlisle
- Worked with managers (Idaho Army National Guard, Bureau of Land Management) to identify research questions
 - Designed an interdisciplinary research project using a social-ecological systems approach

- Interviewed visitors using a standard protocol, conducted driving surveys for human use, found and monitored Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris*) nests in the sagebrush-steppe, deployed trail cameras
- Scheduled and coordinated field technicians and volunteers, trained new crew members
- Organized, cleaned, and analyzed data
- Presented results at academic conferences, meetings of managers and stakeholders, and science communication events for the public

2018

Biological & Social Science Technician: Denali National Park & Preserve, Alaska, Jan. - Jun. 2018

Supervisors: Dr. Rose Keller, Social Scientist & William Clark, Road Ecologist, National Park Service.

- Worked with an interdisciplinary team to collect data to inform park management
- Surveyed visitors using a standard protocol, conducted driving surveys to assess wildlife behavior, analyzed camera trap captures, operated traffic and trail counters and analyzed their data, wrote a professional report to address current management questions.

2017

Interpretive Intern: Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado, Aug. – Nov. 2017

Supervisor: Barbara Scott, Interpretive Ranger, National Park Service.

- Created interpretive programs following professional guidelines, led formal interpretive programs for park visitors, made informal visitor contacts while at visitor centers and on hiking trails.

National Park Service Volunteer: Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado, Oct. 2017

Supervisor: Hanem Aboulezz, Supervisory Landscape Ecologist, National Park Service.

- Assisted with elk population surveys, drove predetermined routes, used a spotting scope to count and classify animals.

Wolf Education Intern: International Wolf Center, Minnesota, May – Aug. 2017

Supervisor: Krista Harrington, Interpretive Center Manager, International Wolf Center.

- Reviewed current research to create educational presentations, presented current research to visitors, planned and led educational visits for groups.

U.S. Forest Service Volunteer: Kawishawi Ranger District, Minnesota, May – Aug. 2017

Supervisor: Kelcie Severs, Biological Technician, U.S. Forest Service.

- Assisted with bat emergence surveys and amphibian surveys.

2016

Research Technician: Samuel H. Ordway, Jr. Memorial Preserve, South Dakota, Jun.– Aug. 2016

Principle Investigator: Dr. Jon Grinnell, Associate Professor, Gustavus Adolphus College

- Collected observations of American bison mating behaviors, conducted vegetation and butterfly surveys, monitored and treated invasive vegetative species.

Service and Outreach

- 2023 Planning Team for Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals Visitor Use Management Workshop, March – August 2023.
- Career Panel, Ornithology Lab, Boise State University, Boise, Idaho, February 2023.
- 2022 [“Recreation in the Sagebrush-steppe Ecosystem.”](#) Birds of Prey NCA Partnership, Blog, January 2022.
- 2021 [“Raptor Fest Aims to Raise Awareness to Environmental Issues Facing Idaho Bird Populations.”](#) Idaho Matters, Boise State Public Radio, August 2021.
- 2020 [“Taking a Closer Look at the Horned Lark.”](#) Intermountain Bird Observatory 2020 Newsletter, November 2020.
- Idaho Adopt a Scientist Idaho Watch Program, May 2020. Event cancelled due to COVID-19.
- Created and planned to present an interactive research station for 7 - 8th grade students.
- 2019 Graduate Identity Formation Through Teaching Program, August – December 2019.
- Worked with elementary teaching candidates to produce science lessons for local middle school students.
- 2018 - 19 Graduate Writing Fellow, [Sense & Sustainability](#), August 2018 – August 2019.
- [Food production and biodiversity](#). July 11, 2019.
 - [The connection between nature-based recreation and sustainable behaviors](#). February 5, 2019.
 - [How can we effectively motivate people to engage in sustainable behaviors?](#) December 13, 2018.

Professional Affiliations

March 2023 – Present, **Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals**
March 2022 - Present, **Ecological Society of America**
August 2021 - Present, **Illegal Shooting Working Group**
December 2018 - Present, **The Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society**

Professional Development

- 2023 **Visitor Use Management Workshop**, 15 – 17 August, Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals, Winter Harbor, Maine
- 2022 **Rocky Mountain Mathematics Consortium Conference**, "Mathematical Modeling in Ecology Workshop", 13 – 24 June, University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming
- 2020 **Planning for Flexible Assessments**, 5 October, Center for Teaching & Learning Workshop, Boise State University, Boise, Idaho

Active Learning in Asynchronous Setting, 21 – 25 September, Center for Teaching & Learning Workshop, Boise State University, Boise, Idaho

Inclusive Excellence at Boise State: Creating an Environment that Values and Supports All Members, 15 September, Center for Teaching & Learning Workshop, Boise State University, Boise, Idaho

Providing Better Feedback to Students: A Look at Some Tools and Techniques for Effective and Supportive Feedback, 12 March, Center for Teaching & Learning Workshop, Boise State University, Boise, Idaho

Constructing Effective Exams, 3 February, Center for Teaching & Learning Workshop, Boise State University, Boise, Idaho

2019

5E Lesson Workshop, 9 September, GIFT Program Workshop, Boise State University, Boise, Idaho