
Event Agenda

2026 Missouri Natural Resources Conference

Tuesday, February 03, 2026

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM **MNRC Pre-Conference Meeting**

2:00 PM - 7:30 PM **Registration Open**
Location: Paradise Ballroom Foyer

4:00 PM - 11:00 PM **Exhibits Open**
Location: Windgate Hall

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM **Conservation Career Expo**
Location: Paradise B

7:00 PM - 11:00 PM **Mixer with Exhibitors**
Location: Windgate Hall

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM **Poster Session**
Location: Windgate Hall

Harnessing remote sensing and machine learning for urban pond water quality and pond ecosystem health assessment: a novel frontier in aquatic monitoring with ecological and conservation benefits

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speakers: Csengele Barta, Joey Ramey, Daya Keithley

Natural Recruitment Rates, Patterns of Growth, and Age Structure of Walleye (*Sander vitreus*) in Table Rock Lake

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speaker: Grant Schmitz

Investigating the Prevalence of *Trypanosoma cruzi* Infecting Mammals and Vectors in Johnson Co. MO

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speaker: Jack Cutter

Homeowners Associations in Columbia, Missouri: An Examination of Barriers to Sustainable Practices

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Speaker: Davis Sallee

Habitat use of the Blacknose Shiner (*Notropis heterolepis*) in Whetstone Creek, Missouri.

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speaker: Timothy Kee

Effects of prescribed burning and thinning on oak regeneration in central Missouri

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speaker: Elizabeth Rolfes

Forage finished sheep and goat - Training in Missouri

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speaker: Mohan Acharya

Stand Density Responses to Soil Properties in Declining White Oaks (*Quercus alba* L.)

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speaker: Saaruj Khadka

Geologic Mapping in the Eleven Point Ranger District of the Mark Twain National Forest

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speaker: Spike Crews

Advancing Urban Bird Conservation: Approaches to Creating Bird-friendly Communities

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speaker: Kaylee Woelfel

One Water Missouri

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speaker: Courtney Nicks

Shifting Flow Regime Patterns and Linked Geomorphic Processes in Fluvial Systems: Example from Gasconade River, Missouri, USA

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speaker: Katherine Brand

Red-winged Blackbird reproductive outcomes as indicators of wetlands restoration efforts in Southeast Missouri

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speaker: Samantha Girard

Integrating GIS and Hydrological Data to Assess Climate Change-Driven Flood Risks in Missouri

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speaker: Kaiser Mostafiz

Applied Learning through professional internships: Resource Science Aid with Missouri Department of Conservation. My experience with the Patch Burn Graze Crew

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speaker: Amber Spradley

Examining the effects of site treatment and planting season on survivorship of *Arundinaria gigantea* outplanting in southwest Missouri.

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speaker: Bradley Bateman

Impact of *Azolla caroliniana* on water quality of Lake Springfield, Missouri

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speakers: Ben Cooper, Teressa Kruit, La Toya Kissoon-Charles

Investigating the Phytoremediation Potential of Giant Cane (*Arundinaria gigantea*) on Nutrient Pollution and Lead (Pb) Contaminated Soils

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speaker: Jordan Murray

Ecological Health of Jackson County Ponds During the Summer of 2025

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speaker: Falcon Turner

Prevalence of *Virus* and Parasitic Infections in Missouri Raccoons: Implications for Wildlife and Public Health.

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speakers: Samantha Maywald, Lanissa Post, Kathleen McCoy

Machine Learning Framework for Daily, Depth-Specific Soil Moisture Mapping to Support Agriculture and Conservation in Missouri

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speakers: Bimal Gyawali, Michael Sunde, Zachary Leasor

Smithville Lake Naturalist Internship

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speaker: Daya Keithley

Applied Learning through professional internships: Coral Reef Restoration Practices in Roatan, Honduras: Nursery Management, Outplanting, and Invasive Species Control

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speakers: Connor Jameson, Alikea Coon

Conservation priority ranking of Missouri's aquatic natural communities based on crayfish distributions

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speakers: Jodi Whittier, Emily Devlin, Joshua Bruegge

Comparing ecomorphological diversity in minnow assemblages across Missouri streams

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speakers: Salvatore Bufalino, Allison Pease

Show-Me Less Plastic: Working for Plastic Reduction in Missouri and Beyond

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall
Speaker: Stori Smith

Missouri Western State University Biology Internship: Loess Bluffs National Wildlife Refuge

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location: Windgate Hall

Speaker: Shelton Wilhelmsen

Lead in Fish and Sediment in the Upper St. Francis Watershed

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speaker: Nicole Niehues

Game Camera Surveys of Mammal Biodiversity in an Urban Natural Area(2022-2025): A Partnership between Missouri Western State University and Snapshot USA

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speakers: Anna Livers, Jada Sharp, Angel Justus

Environmental Sampling for Ophidiomyces ophiodiicola at Loess Bluffs National Wildlife Refuge

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speaker: Eric Viera

What factors affect natural oak regeneration in bottomland hardwood forests in northern Missouri: light levels, acorn losses, or lack of acorns?

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speaker: Isaac Hayford

Growing Roots: An Evaluation Framework for the Boone County Nature School

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speakers: Melanie Cohen, Jennah Klein, Sonja Wihelm Stanis

Seasonal Variation of Chlorophyll a and Algal Species Richness in Lake Springfield, MO.

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speakers: Teresa Kruit, Alex Gresslin, La Toya Kissoon-Charles

Missouri Mosquito-borne Disease StoryMap

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speaker: Christie Darby

Temperature tolerance of Azolla caroliniana in Ozark lake water microcosms

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speakers: Sarah Guymon, Anna Schwarm

Malaise traps and spider webs: Are they comparable catchers?

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speakers: Lily Smith, Tanner Conwell, Debra Finn

Does river channel stability affect hyporheic invertebrate communities?

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speaker: Connor Bruemmer

"Microbial Communities in the Pyloric Cecum and Gut of Lake Sturgeon (Acipenser fulvescens): "Roles in Digestion and Energy Metabolism"

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speaker: Gladys Adaran

Soil Microbial Community Composition and Active Gene Expression Across Land Uses

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speaker: Dylan Sutton

To Grow or to Go: Quantifying Insect Emergence from Fish and Fishless Ozark Intermittent Streams

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speakers: Tanner Conwell, Debra Finn

Fish or No Fish: How Predators Shape Macroinvertebrate Communities in Intermittent Streams

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speaker: Oluwatobiloba Adenola

Degrading velvet bean seeds release allelochemicals, which stimulate the growth, biomass, light energy utilizing capacity and environmental stress resistance of plants: implications for environmental

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speakers: Csengele Barta, Tyler Hollingsworth, Teri Larison

Spatial Ecology of Blanding's turtle, Emydoidea blandingii, With a Comparison of Radio Telemetry and GPS Tracking Data on Loess Bluffs National Wildlife Refuge, Northwest Missouri

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speaker: Angel Justus

Phenology of larval fishes in the Lamine River

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Speakers: Emma Bowles, Allison Pease

Distribution of Invasive Chinese Mystery Snail in Missouri

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speakers: Sarah Hobson, Caleb Bolin, Stephen McMurray

Evaluation of the social and economic aspects of Solarize Columbia, a community group-purchasing approach

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speakers: Adrianna Williams, Robin Rotman

Engaging communities for wetland restoration research using participatory GIS

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speakers: Quinn Sirokman, Robin Rotman, Aidan David-Pennington

Tournament Bass Fishing Data: Another Tool in the Reservoir Management Toolbox

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speakers: Jessica Chapman, Jacob Dippel, Tyler Ham

If You Build it, Will They Come? Evaluating the Condition and Fish Use of Stockton Reservoir

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speaker: Brie Cranor

Twelve years of Canada goose (*Branta Canadensis*) population management on Missouri Western State University campus: An Urban Wildlife Management success

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speakers: Cary Chevalier, Aracely Newton

Engaging the Senses: A Creative Approach to Accessible Nature Education

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speaker: Melina Matheney

Evaluating Over 50 Years of Aboveground Carbon Storage across Forest Types in the Baskett Forest of Mid-Missouri

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speakers: Elijah Hanson, Benjamin Knapp

Assessment of White-Tailed Deer Densities to Guide the Cape Girardeau Urban Hunt Program Using Fixed-wing Unmanned Aircraft System (Drone)

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Windgate Hall

Speakers: Maris Woodruff, Joshua Koenig, Dave Herzog, Fidel Atuo

Wednesday, February 04, 2026

7:00 AM - 8:15 AM

Continental Breakfast with Exhibitors

Location: Windgate Hall

7:00 AM - 8:15 AM

MNRC Prayer Breakfast

Location: Rooms 74/ 75/ 76/ 77

Organizer: Blake Stephens

7:30 AM - 5:30 PM

Registration Open

Location: Paradise Ballroom Foyer

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Welcome: April Sevy and Mike Allen, 2026 MNRC Co-Chairs

Location: Paradise A & B

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Plenary: Leopoldo "Leo" Miranda-Castro

Location: Paradise A & B

Plenary Speaker: Leopoldo "Leo" Miranda-Castro

10:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Break with Exhibitors

Location: Windgate Hall

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Plenary: Stephanie Liss Larson

Location: Paradise A & B

Plenary Speaker: Stephanie Liss Larso

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Student and Professional Luncheon

Location: Windgate Hall

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Fisheries Papers

Location: Paradise A
Moderator: Unknown *

Predicting Movement of the Highly Invasive Western Mosquitofish

1:00 PM - 1:20 PM
Location: Paradise A
Speaker: Rose Blanchard

Dammed: Do Beaver Dam Analogues Impede Fish Movement in Prairie Streams?

1:20 PM - 1:40 PM
Location: Paradise A
Speaker: Bryan Seth Callahan

Assessing Native Fish Assemblages in Missouri Streams Across Thermal Gradients

1:40 PM - 2:00 PM
Location: Paradise A
Speaker: Ashley Hrdina

Movement rates and patterns of Invasive Woodland Crayfish (*Faxonius hylas*) in the Upper St. Francis River Drainage

2:00 PM - 2:20 PM
Location: Paradise A
Speaker: Wesley Fitzsimmons

Historical Mean Streambed Elevation and Flood Regime Changes in the Gasconade River Watershed, Southeastern Missouri

2:20 PM - 2:40 PM
Speakers: Matthew Connolly, Robert Pavlowksy, Marc Owen, Calvin Burdess

Model Selection Analyzing Native Species Distribution from the Gasconade and Osage Rivers

2:40 PM - 3:00 PM
Location: Paradise A
Speaker: Levi Umland

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Missouri Forestry: Past, Present, and Future

Location: Paradise B
Speaker: James Guldin ; Co-speaker: John Kabrick, Terry Gordon

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Innovations in the Missouri Feral Hog Elimination Partnership

Location: Paradise C
Speaker: Cassie Angerer ; Co-speaker: Austin Ausbury, Luke Miller

Using GIS to Enhance Operations in the MFHEP: Field Maps

1:00 PM - 1:20 PM
Location: Paradise C
Speaker: Cassie Angerer

Using GIS to Enhance Operations in the MFHEP: Dashboards

1:20 PM - 1:40 PM
Location: Paradise C
Speaker: Cassie Angerer

Field Innovations in MFHEP: Trapping Methods

1:40 PM - 2:00 PM
Location: Paradise C
Speaker: Austin Ausbury

Field Innovations in MFHEP: Judas Pigs

2:00 PM - 2:20 PM
Location: Paradise C
Speaker: Austin Ausbury

Aerial Operations in MFHEP: Drones

2:20 PM - 2:40 PM
Location: Paradise C
Speaker: Luke Miller

Aerial Operations in MFHEP: Helicopters

2:40 PM - 3:00 PM
Location: Paradise C
Speaker: Luke Miller

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Highlights of the MoDOT Environment-Ecology Section

Location: Rooms 62/ 63/ 64
Speaker/ Moderator: Bree McMurray ; Co-Organizer: Chris Shulse, Stephanie McLerran

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Prairie Biodiversity Conservation: Research & Monitoring Projects

Location: Rooms 62/ 63/ 64

Moderator: Carol Davit

Mutualism between native arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi and *Silphium integrifolium* (rosinweed) and how this symbiosis can mediate plant-insect interactions.

1:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Location: Rooms 62/ 63/ 64

Speaker: Amanda Gehin

Native bees on Sand Prairies in southeastern Missouri

1:30 PM - 2:00 PM

Location: Rooms 62/ 63/ 64

Speaker: Alex Morphey

Preliminary results of Natural Community Health Index (CHI) prairie surveys

2:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Location: Rooms 62/ 63/ 64

Speakers: Michael Leahy, Liz Yohe

Effectiveness of low-tech beaver-dam analogs to reduce streambank erosion and reconnect prairie streams to wetlands at Pawnee Prairie and Dunn Ranch

2:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Location: Rooms 62/ 63/ 64

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Effective Herbicide Use in Habitat Restoration

Location: Parasol I

Speaker/ Organizer: Andrew Turner

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

One Health through agroforestry: Nourishing communities and restoring landscapes with native perennial polycultures

Location: Parasol II

Organizer: Zack Miller ; Co-Organizer: Roger Still, Hannah Hemmelgarn

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Natural Resource Papers I

Location: Nautical Wheeler

Moderator: Unknown *

Small mammal community composition and diet in Southwestern Missouri prairies

1:00 PM - 1:20 PM

Location: Nautical Wheeler

Speakers: Kaitlyn Bebensee, Sean Maher

No place to hide: small-mammal responses to prescribed fire in small prairies

1:20 PM - 1:40 PM

Location: Nautical Wheeler

Speakers: Daniel Wolcott, Monica Potter

Tallgrass Prairie Restoration on the Missouri Western State University Campus: A Case Study in Partnerships

1:40 PM - 2:00 PM

Location: Nautical Wheeler

Speakers: Mark Mills, Cary Chevalier, Carissa Ganong, Mason Hurley, Aracely Newton

Examining Habitat Use of the Reintroduced Missouri Brown-Headed Nuthatch Population

2:00 PM - 2:20 PM

Location: Nautical Wheeler

Speaker: Trevor Lindsay

Landscape Context and Management Effects on Missouri Grassland Birds

2:20 PM - 2:40 PM

Location: Nautical Wheeler

Speaker: Thomas Stevens

Leveraging the wisdom of cover crops for the successful establishment of long term native perennial pollinator habitat

2:40 PM - 3:00 PM

Location: Nautical Wheeler

Speaker: Charles Caverly

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Floating Wetlands: From Pilot to Practice

Location: Rooms 74/ 75/ 76/ 77

Moderator: Frank Nelson

3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Break with Exhibitors

Location: Windgate Hall

3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Missouri Society of American Foresters Meeting

Location: Parasol II

3:30 PM - 5:30 PM	Missouri American Fisheries Society Meeting Location: Paradise A
3:30 PM - 5:30 PM	MO Show-Me Chapter Soil & Water Conservation Society Meeting Location: Nautical Wheeler
3:30 PM - 5:30 PM	Missouri Chapter of the Wildlife Society Meeting Location: Windgate 63/ 64
5:30 PM - 7:15 PM	Dinner (on your own)
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Awards Social & Dessert Buffet Location: Paradise C

Thursday, February 05, 2026

7:00 AM - 7:45 AM	Continental Breakfast Location: Windgate Hall
8:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Fisheries Papers I Location: Paradise A Moderator: Unknown * <div> <div> Barriers to Bridges: How the Missouri Stream Connectivity Partnership is making connections. 8:00 AM - 8:20 AM Location: Paradise A Speaker: Eric Rahm </div> <div> Invasive Carp Removals in Missouri River Tributaries 8:20 AM - 8:40 AM Location: Paradise A Speaker: Adam McDaniel </div> <div> Angler Use and Contaminants in Paddlefish (Polyodon spathula): Revisiting Risk After Three Decades 8:40 AM - 9:00 AM Location: Paradise A Speaker: Rachel Rebel </div> <div> Assessing Gear Efficiency and Habitat Use of Age-1 Pallid Sturgeon in the Lower Missouri River 9:00 AM - 9:20 AM Location: Paradise A Speaker: Ashlee Korte </div> <div> Shotgun Season for Silver Carp: Research Needs and a Theoretical Framework 9:20 AM - 9:40 AM Location: Paradise A Speaker: Travis Moore </div> </div>

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

White oak regeneration and recruitment in the Missouri Ozarks – lessons learned from recent research

Location: Paradise B

Speaker/ Moderator: Benjamin Knapp, Mike Stambaugh

Is white oak regeneration and recruitment sustainable across its range?

8:00 AM - 8:20 AM

Location: Paradise B

Speaker: Lance Vickers

2. Regeneration and recruitment patterns over decades of uneven-aged management at Pioneer Forest Dr. Ben Knapp, University of Missouri

8:20 AM - 8:40 AM

Location: Paradise B

Speaker: Benjamin Knapp

White oak (Quercus alba) Seedlings Under Uneven-Aged Management in the Ozark Highlands: Root and Stem Demography, Establishment, and Growth

8:40 AM - 9:00 AM

Location: Paradise B

Speaker: Ryan Gross

White oak recruitment in an uneven-aged management system

9:00 AM - 9:20 AM

Location: Paradise B

Speaker: David Woodbury

Establishing white oak advance reproduction where it is absent – underplanting in the Outer Ozark Border of mid-Missouri

9:20 AM - 9:40 AM

Location: Paradise B

Speaker: Abby Huffman

White Oak Initiative genetic trials and updates

9:40 AM - 10:00 AM

Location: Paradise B

Speaker: Hank Stelzer

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Wildlife Papers

Location: Paradise C

Moderator: Unknown *

Survey of raccoon roundworm (Baylisascaris procyonis) across urban-rural gradients compared to diet

8:00 AM - 8:20 AM

Location: Paradise C

Speaker: Yonah Bennett

Feline Fortitude: State Wildlife Agencies Lead Bobcat Conservation

8:20 AM - 8:40 AM

Location: Paradise C

Speaker: Nathan Roberts

Estimating Survival and Identifying Cause-Specific Mortality of Wild Turkey Poults in Northern Missouri

8:40 AM - 9:00 AM

Location: Paradise C

Speaker: Cara Yocom-Russell

Integrated Landscape Modeling of Wild Turkey Habitat in Southeastern Missouri

9:00 AM - 9:20 AM

Location: Paradise C

Speaker: Haley Steinke

Wildlife Services WBA Program

9:20 AM - 9:40 AM

Location: Paradise C

Speaker: Lane Best

Managing black vulture damage to livestock producers in Missouri

9:40 AM - 10:00 AM

Location: Paradise C

Speaker: Dan McMurtry

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Natural Resource Papers II

Location: Rooms 60/ 61

Moderator: Unknown *

Sustainable Rivers Program E-Flow and E-Pool Efforts on the Kansas and Osage River Basins

8:00 AM - 8:20 AM

Location: Rooms 60/ 61

Speakers: Margaret Pemberton, Marvin Boyer

Water Preservation Act

8:20 AM - 8:40 AM

Location: Rooms 60/ 61

Speaker: Kimberly Huckaba

Status of Missouri's Statewide Ichthyology Collection: Current Progress and Future Visions

8:40 AM - 9:00 AM

Location: Rooms 60/ 61

Speaker: Aaron Geheber

History of Fish and Wildlife Research at the Missouri Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit

9:00 AM - 9:20 AM

Location: Rooms 60/ 61

Speakers: Craig Paukert, Jacob Westhoff, Amy Henson

Continued decline of critically imperiled saline springs in Missouri

9:20 AM - 9:40 AM

Location: Rooms 60/ 61

Speaker: Steve Buback

Missouri Saline Seeps

9:40 AM - 10:00 AM

Location: Rooms 60/ 61

Speaker: Ashley Johnson

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Insect Conservation

Location: Rooms 62/ 63/ 64

Organizer/ Moderator: Daniel Marschalek ; Co-organizer: Alex Morphew

Enhancing farm biodiversity to promote beneficial insects

8:00 AM - 8:20 AM

Location: Rooms 62/ 63/ 64

Speaker: Leah Gastonguay

Incentivized farm bill plantings benefit the native bumble bee community

8:20 AM - 8:40 AM

Location: Rooms 62/ 63/ 64

Speaker: Jason Brabant

Factors influencing roadside butterfly assemblages

8:40 AM - 9:00 AM

Location: Rooms 62/ 63/ 64

Speakers: Leah Landon, Daniel Marschalek

Carrion preferences of Missouri's necrophagous flies

9:00 AM - 9:20 AM

Location: Rooms 62/ 63/ 64

Speakers: Kyra Lathrop, Daniel Marschalek

Using stable isotopes to investigate American burying beetle carrion sources

9:20 AM - 9:40 AM

Location: Rooms 62/ 63/ 64

Speaker: Daniel Marschalek

Speaker Panel Q&A

9:40 AM - 10:00 AM

Location: Rooms 62/ 63/ 64

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Natural Resource - Human Dimensions Papers

Location: Parasol I

Moderator: Unknown *

Advancing Early-Career Conservation Leadership: Insights from the Emerging Leader Program

8:00 AM - 8:20 AM

Location: Parasol I

Speaker: Clare Lindahl

Show-Me Less Plastic: Plastic Reduction in Missouri and Beyond

8:20 AM - 8:40 AM

Location: Parasol I

Speaker: Stori Smith

Can tree canopy cover and green space on school grounds support student health in Missouri?

8:40 AM - 9:00 AM

Location: Parasol I

Speaker: Emily Sinnott

Examining Rurality and Income as Determinants of Outdoor Recreation Constraints

9:00 AM - 9:20 AM

Location: Parasol I

Speakers: Jennah Klein, Sonja Wihelm Stanis, Kristin Gibson

Examining Public Opinion of Nuclear Energy in Callaway County, Missouri

9:20 AM - 9:40 AM

Location: Parasol I

Speakers: Addy Thome, Jhonathan Ordinola Diaz, Robin Rotman

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Building the Missouri Hydrology Information Center for Stronger Flood and Drought Resilience

Location: Parasol II

Speaker: Zackary Becker ; Co-speaker: Amanda Wolfgeher, Andrew Schiller

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Undergraduate Fisheries and Wildlife Excel Workshop

Location: Nautical Wheeler

Speaker: Corinne Sweeney ; Co-speaker: Andrew Ross, Drew Dittmer

10:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Break with Exhibitors

Location: Windgate Hall

10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Lower Missouri River Flood Risk and Resiliency Studies

Location: Paradise A

Organizer/ Speaker/ Moderator: Chrystel Hillier

Lower Missouri River Flood Risk & Resiliency Study (System Plan)

10:30 AM - 10:50 AM

Location: Paradise A

Speaker: Billy Hackett

LoMo Jefferson City Feasibility Study

10:50 AM - 11:10 AM

Location: Paradise A

Speaker: Elizabeth Kirby

LoMo Brunswick / L246 Feasibility Study

11:10 AM - 11:30 AM

Location: Paradise A

Speaker: Chrystel Hillier

LoMo Holt County Feasibility Study

11:30 AM - 11:50 AM

Location: Paradise A

Speaker: Colby Thrash

LoMo Nemaha / Atchison Feasibility Study

11:50 AM - 12:10 PM

Location: Paradise A

Speaker: Colby Thrash

10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Forestry Papers

Location: Paradise B
Moderator: Unknown *

Adding Livestock to Your Toolbox: Goat Silvopasture for Woodland Restoration

10:30 AM - 10:50 AM
Location: Paradise B
Speaker: Gina Beebe

A New Tool for Foresters: The Shortleaf Pine Soil Suitability Rating

10:50 AM - 11:10 AM
Location: Paradise B
Speaker: John Kabrick

Effects of 20 Years of Landscape-Scale Prescribed Burning on Abundance and Composition of Tree Regeneration in the Missouri Ozarks

11:10 AM - 11:30 AM
Location: Paradise B
Speaker: Helena Fairchild

Old growth in Ozark and Ouachita Mountains: characterizing structure of shortleaf pine-oak forests across spatial scales

11:30 AM - 11:50 AM
Location: Paradise B
Speaker: Jacob Vitale

Optimizing Germination Rates in Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*): A Comparative Study of Walnut Curing and Stratification Methods for High Production Cultivars

11:50 AM - 12:10 PM
Location: Paradise B
Speaker: Kyra Bunch

10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Invasive Species Control: from Red Swamp Crayfish to Drone Spraying Innovations & Challenges, and updates from the front lines.

Location: Paradise C
Organizer: Angela Sokolowski, Carol Davit, Rebecca Landewe

Red Swamp Crayfish Control Project

10:30 AM - 10:50 AM
Location: Paradise C
Speaker: Cheyenne Stratton

Drone Spraying for Invasive Plants

10:50 AM - 11:10 AM
Location: Paradise C
Speaker: Caleb O'Neal

Emerging Invasive Plants

11:10 AM - 11:30 AM
Location: Paradise C
Speaker: Jen Larson

Feral Hog Eradication Partnership

11:30 AM - 11:50 AM
Location: Paradise C
Speaker: Alan Leary

10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Natural Resource Papers

Location: Rooms 60/ 61

Moderator: Unknown *

Applications of High Resolution DEMs for Natural Resource Management

10:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Location: Rooms 60/ 61

Speaker: Joshua Hess

Identifying conservation gaps in Missouri's aquatic communities

10:30 AM - 10:50 AM

Location: Rooms 60/ 61

Speakers: Josh Bruegge, Jodi Whittier, Christopher Rice, Michael Leahy, Nick Sievert, Sarah Winikoff, Cheyenne Stratton

Drone-Based LiDAR for Estimating Forest Inventory Across Management Regimes in Missouri

11:10 AM - 11:30 AM

Location: Rooms 60/ 61

Speaker: Xukai(Kevin) Zhang

Advancing Real-Time Soil Monitoring Through Automated Machine Learning and In-situ Observations: The Missouri MoHIC Initiative

11:30 AM - 11:50 AM

Location: Rooms 60/ 61

Speaker: Varshini Kumanan

Building a Landscape Health Index to Monitor the Effectiveness of Conservation in Priority Geographies

11:50 AM - 12:10 PM

Location: Rooms 60/ 61

Speaker: Billy Huggins

Enhancing Watershed Resilience at Fort Leonard Wood: SWAT+ and Machine Learning Integration for Water Quality and Ecosystem Prediction

12:10 PM - 12:30 PM

Location: Rooms 60/ 61

Speakers: Lifeng Yuan, Jodi Whittier

10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

AI for Natural Resources: An introduction to AI for biologists, supervisors, and researchers

Location: Rooms 62/ 63/ 64

Speaker: April Sevy

10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Natural Resource Papers

Location: Parasol I

Moderator: Unknown *

Four new moth species discovered at Fort Leondard Wood, Missouri

10:30 AM - 10:50 AM

Location: Parasol I

Speaker: Kimberly Steese

Is Innovation or Inspiration Needed for Conservation and Restoration of Missouri's Only Native Bamboo Species (*Arundinaria gigantea*, giant river cane)?

10:50 AM - 11:10 AM

Location: Parasol I

Speaker: Alexander Wait

Change in the Heartland: Spatiotemporal macroinvertebrate community shifts in Ozark streams

11:10 AM - 11:30 AM

Location: Parasol I

Speaker: Alivia Mayes

Anuran populations exhibit species-specific responses to precipitation conditions

11:30 AM - 11:50 AM

Location: Parasol I

Speaker: Emma Buckardt

Windows to the future, hints from the past: Signatures of genetic diversity in *Myotis grisescens*

11:50 AM - 12:10 PM

Location: Parasol I

Speaker: Marx Altman-Orbach

10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Getting the most out of Professional Societies for current undergraduate and graduate students

Location: Parasol II

Speaker: Tom Boersig ; Co-speaker: Jennifer Mittelhouser, Clare Lindahl

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

MNRC Post-Conference Meeting