

NRES 348 Wildlife Damage Management

Spring 2011

MW 2-3 pm, 163 Hardin Hall

Th 2-5 pm, 24 Hardin Hall or arranged

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Our course will cover the fundamentals of prevention and control of damage caused by vertebrate species, primarily mammals and birds. It includes philosophical and ecological considerations for controlling damage caused by individuals and populations of problem species.

Calendar of Events

<u>Week of</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Thursday</u>
Jan. 10	Principles and Philosophy		Feral cats
Jan. 17	Overabundance		Pop dy deer
Jan. 24	Health and Safety		Diagnostics lab
Jan. 31	Control Methods		Quiz 1
Feb. 7	Invasive Species		Firearm field trip
Feb. 14	Canada Geese	UPMC Rept	Goose lab
Feb. 21	Urban Birds		Herps
Feb. 28	Commensal Rodents		Mouse lab
Mar. 7	Field Rodents		Exam I
Mar. 14	Spring Break!		
Mar. 21	Aquatic Rodents		Beaver lab
Mar. 28	Urban Mammals		Mammals lab
Apr. 4	Deer		Deer lab
Apr. 11	Large Predators		Coyote lab
Apr. 18	14 th WDMC		No lab
Apr. 25	Mesopredators	WDMC Rept	Lab Practicum
May 2	Finals Week		Final Exam

Evaluation:	Quiz	25 points
	UPMC Report	25 points
	Exam I	100 points
	WDMC Report	50 points
	Lab Practicum	100 points
	Final (1-3 pm, Tuesday, May 3)	150 points

Learning Objectives

After taking NRES 348, you should be able to:

1. identify and discuss the wildlife species in North America that are responsible for most problems with wildlife damage,
2. demonstrate contemporary methods used to prevent and control wildlife damage,
3. identify primary sources of information on management of wildlife damage, and
4. synthesize information and prescribe approaches for dealing with wildlife damage.

Resources

We will use the **Internet Center for Wildlife Damage Management** (<http://icwdm.org>) as the primary reference for the course. We will also use **Prevention and Control of Wildlife Damage** (<http://icwdm.org/handbook/index.asp>) as a textbook for assigned readings. The book is currently out of print, but it is available for free on the ICWDM website under the “How-to Guides” drop-down menu.

Urban Pest Management Conference

In lieu of class on Monday, February 7, you will participate in the UPMC, which will be held at the Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln on February 7-8, 2010. Nametags will be available for you at registration desk in the atrium. You will participate in two presentations that deal with management of wildlife damage. Develop a one-page report for each presentation that includes the name of the presenter, the title of their presentation, and a one-paragraph summary and one-paragraph critique of the presentation. Each summary should be a brief account of the objectives and main thesis of the presentation. Each critique should be an extensive analysis of the presentation... an exercise in critical thinking. What were the strong or weak points? Did it make sense? How would you improve it? Be creative. Use 12-point font, double-spacing, one-inch margins, and one page for each report. Submit an MS Word file of your first draft on Blackboard by 12 noon, Monday, February 14. You will download a classmate's file, provide review comments using MS TrackChanges, and upload the reviewed file by 12 noon, Wednesday, February 16. Incorporate revisions, and upload a final draft file by 12 noon, Thursday, February 17. Points will be assigned for brevity of the summary and quality of the critique, writing, and proofreading.

Field Trips

Several of the labs on Thursdays will be spent in the field learning about techniques used to manage wildlife damage. Dress accordingly, as if you were a field biologist (boots, warm cloths, and raingear if necessary). Locations of meetings and travel arrangements will be discussed in class during the week preceding the lab. Check “Announcements” on Blackboard for any last-minute updates

14th Wildlife Damage Management Conference

We will host the four-day national conference (<http://wildlifedamagegroup.unl.edu/meetings.html>) at the Lied Lodge and Conference Center in Nebraska City, Nebraska April 18-20, 2011. Activities will start with a full-day field trip on the 18th that includes discussions of wildlife damage issues at the Offut Air Force Base, Fontenelle Forest, and Henry Doorly Zoo. Two general sessions and four concurrent sessions on pressing issues (Feral Pigs, Large Carnivores, Wildlife Diseases, Invasive Species, Urban Coyotes, and Bird Airstrike) will follow on the 19th and 20th. On the 21st, we will host a full-day hands-on Urban Coyote Management Workshop. The Conference and Workshop are sponsored by The Wildlife Society-Wildlife Damage Management Working Group and National Wildlife Control Operators Association.

No classes will be held during the week of the Conference and Workshop, but I expect that you will help with and participate in at least two days of the four-day program. A first draft of a four-page report will be due on April 25 that includes a summary and critique of four presentations in which you participated. Procedures will be the same as those used for the UPMC above.

Exams

All exams will be comprehensive as the course is continually building upon itself. We will hold a review session before each exam to brush up on details and answer your questions. The quiz is mini-exam designed to give you an idea of the type of questions you will encounter on exams. The Lab Practicum will cover all lab-oriented material covered during Thursday labs. The Final exam will be based largely on the most recent material, but 50 points are reserved for basic comprehensive concepts of the course. Academic impropriety will result in the forfeiture of all respective points per incident.