

Curriculum Vitae
Mark P. Vrtiska

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Education:

Doctor of Philosophy in Forest Resources; Wildlife Ecology major. December 1995 from Mississippi State University.

Dissertation title: Aspects of reproductive and remige molt biology in wood ducks.

Master's of Science in Biology; Biology major. May 1991 from Eastern Kentucky University.

Thesis title: Nest productivity, brood survival, and habitat use of wood ducks (*Aix sponsa*) at the Sloughs Wildlife Management Area, Kentucky.

Bachelor of Science in Agriculture; Natural Resources major with a Wildlife Management Option and a Biology minor. December 1986 from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Work Experience:

Professor of Practice: **University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL)**

Duties/Responsibilities: Wildlife Management Specialist, responsible for curriculum development, teaching, and evaluating student outcomes for a minimum of four undergraduate and/or graduate courses per year. Courses include Natural Resources Orientation, Wildlife Field Techniques, Wildlife Management Techniques, and Waterfowl Ecology and Management. Additional responsibilities included collaboration with other UNL faculty to enhance teaching mission of SNR and advise/mentor undergraduate and graduate students. Conduct research in wildlife ecology and conservation biology of threatened and endangered species. Serve as the Coordinator for the Tern and Plover Conservation Partnership with duties to mentor students in conservation efforts and monitoring of threatened and endangered species. Disseminate research findings to governmental and educational agencies, sand and gravel mining industry, and the general public on matters pertaining conservation practices. Evaluate and interpret monitoring data, prepare formal and informal technical reports and presentations. Assist with the development of programs and informational materials for K-12, stakeholders, and the general public.

Work Experience (cont'd):

Waterfowl Program Manager: Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC)

Duties/Responsibilities: Designed, directed, reviewed, conducted and coordinated field research, population and human dimension surveys, and conservation plans pertaining to waterfowl and other migratory birds, developed long-term strategic plans and annual operational plans and budgets for projects. Analyzed and interpreted wildlife population and research data for presentation at technical and public meetings and prepared manuscripts for peer-reviewed publication. Directed solutions for and assisted with nuisance Canada goose depredation problems. Led agency efforts in avian influenza collecting and sampling. Prepared statutory and regulation recommendations for administrative review. Participated in hunter recruitment, retention and reactivation planning and activities and led and participated in hunter education and outreach programs. Wrote informational articles for agency webpage, news releases, hunting guides, brochures, and magazine on NGPC-related projects, regulations, and waterfowl ecology. Served as the agency's representative on the Central Flyway Waterfowl Technical Committee (CFWTC). Served as CFWTC's representative on [Adaptive] Harvest Management Working Group, Service Regulations Committee, National Duck Hunter Survey, Human Dimensions Working Group, and North American Waterfowl Management Plan Revision. Lead or co-lead CFWTC's efforts on avian influenza, mid-continent mallard adaptive harvest management revision process, public engagement team on hunter recruitment, retention and activation, and on other various subcommittees. Served as an agency representative on the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture (RWBJV) Technical Committee, chair Conservation Planning Working Group of the RWBJV, and also provided and reviewed technical information for Playa Lakes and Upper Mississippi/Great Lakes Joint Ventures. Provided written and verbal information to various other conservation agencies, resource-orientated groups, and the public. Supervised permanent and temporary employees. Performed other duties as directed (e.g., deer check station, agency expositions, and prescribed burns).

Regional Biologist: Ducks Unlimited, Inc. (DU)

Duties/Responsibilities: Initiated, directed and facilitated wetland habitat protection, restoration and enhancement projects on public lands in the southeastern United States. Provided technical assistance, both written and oral, to various state and federal agencies and private landowners on waterfowl and wetland habitat management. Provided information and give presentations about wetlands and waterfowl management and conservation to local DU chapters, civil organizations, and other groups. Wrote informational articles for webpage, news releases, and magazine on DU-related projects and waterfowl ecology.

Research Assistant: Mississippi State University

Duties/Responsibilities: Planned and developed research project, care and maintenance of outdoor aviary, husbandry of captive flock of wood ducks and mallards, measurement and recording of remige molt and reproductive performance (e.g., clutch size) data, improving experimental protocol, writing quarterly and annual reports, supervising 2-5 student workers.

Work Experience (cont'd):

Research Assistant: Louisiana State University

Duties/Responsibilities: Capturing northern pintails by rocket net, assisting with fitting of radio transmitters to captured birds, design, construction, and installation of radio telemetry systems into vehicles, nocturnal tracking of tagged birds, continuous monitoring of individual tagged bird for 12-16 hour period, data entry into laptop computers, landowner contacts, and habitat inspection.

Research Assistant: Eastern Kentucky University

Duties/Responsibilities: Planning and development of research project, climbing trees with climbing spikes, inspection of nest cavities, trapping wood ducks by decoy trap, banding and fitting radio transmitters to captured hens, nest checks to determine fate, brood counts, habitat evaluation, data entry into laptop and main frame computers, statistical analysis of data, and writing quarterly and annual reports.

Biological Technician: Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center

Duties/Responsibilities: Landowner contacts, waterfowl nest dragging, nest checks to determine fate, brood counts, installation of radio telemetry systems into vehicles, assisting with fitting of radio transmitters to captured birds, capturing ducks and geese by rocket net and bait trap, radio tracking (day and night) tagged birds, and data entry into laptop computers.

Resource Assistant: Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

Duties/Responsibilities: Musk thistle control by hand and spraying, barbed-wire fencing, rototilling firebreaks, bobwhite quail whistle counts, preparation of food plots and seed beds, and general maintenance of equipment.

Resource Assistant: Volunteer, Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge

Duties/Responsibilities: Waterfowl nest dragging, nest checks to determine fate, waterfowl pair counts, colonial bird counts, botulism patrol and pickup, bait trapping and banding ducks, drive trapping and banding Canada geese.

Farm Hand: Employed on two diversified grain and livestock farms

Duties/Responsibilities: Seed bed preparation, weed control on PIK acres, row crop cultivation, setting and maintenance of irrigation pumps and lines, silage chopping operations, haying and harvesting operations, dairy operations, and general maintenance.

Teaching Experience:

Professor of Practice: University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Instructed courses in orientation to freshman students on natural resource profession, wildlife techniques to both sophomore/junior-level and upper-level undergraduate and graduate course techniques, upper-level waterfowl ecology and management and special topics courses. Organized and prepared lectures and laboratory for instruction and composed major exams, assignments and other class material. Also participated in employment seminars (e.g., first job experiences, mock interviews), lectured in wildlife damage and disease classes or workshops, and been invited speaker regarding waterfowl, wildlife management and human dimensions.

Teaching Experience (cont'd):

Adjunct Professor: University of Nebraska-Lincoln, University of Missouri-Columbia, University of Nebraska-Kearney, Arkansas Tech University, and Texas Tech University

Served on graduate student committees for Ph.D. and Master's degree-level programs. Co-directed post-doctoral student. Assisted with designing graduate research projects and directing graduate students.

Instructor: Mississippi State University

Team-taught upper-level, non-major undergraduate course in conservation biology and wildlife management. Organized and prepared notes for daily instruction, coordination of laboratory activities, and composed major exams.

Teaching Assistant: Mississippi State University

Assisted with laboratory portion of upper-level undergraduate and graduate level wildlife techniques and graduate level waterfowl course on waterfowl identification and morphology. Instructed students in identification and morphology through slides and wings, conducted evening study sessions, and practical exam preparation and grading.

Guest Lecturer: Eastern Kentucky University

Gave occasional lectures in upper-level undergraduate and graduate level courses on ungulate, waterfowl, and small/upland game management and ecology.

Teaching Assistant: University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Assisted with instruction of introductory class in wildlife management to approximately 60 undergraduates. Composed and graded major exams over general wildlife and ecological topics, conducted study sessions, and instructed class on waterfowl management and ecology.

Graduate Student Committees:

Tristan Murphy, Doctorate of Philosophy, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Current. Dissertation title: Differences between Greater Prairie-Chicken and Sharp-tailed grouse leks.

Rhys Medcalfe, Master of Science, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Current. Thesis title: Wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) survival, nesting and brood success and spatial use and habitat selection in Western Nebraska.

Ava Britton, Master of Science, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Current [Co-Advisor]. Thesis title: Evaluating Two-Tiered Duck Hunting Regulations: Impacts on Recruitment, Retention, Reactivation (R3), Harvest, and Conservation Engagement in Nebraska and South Dakota.

Maddy Vasquez, Master of Science, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Current [Co-Advisor]. Thesis title: Simplifying the Hunt: An Exploration of Motivation, Satisfaction, and Education in Two-Tier Duck Hunting Regulations.

Robyn Dausener, Master of Science, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Current [Advisor]. Thesis title: Gobbling activity and use of structural habitat at nest sites by wild turkeys (*Meleagris gallopavo*) in Nebraska.

Graduate Student Committees (cont'd):

Brandy Williams, Doctorate of Philosophy, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Current [Co-Advisor].
Dissertation title: The broken wing display: A courageous tale of parenting.

Ethan Dittmer, Doctorate of Philosophy, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Current [Advisor].
Dissertation title: Fall and Winter Ecology of Mallards in Southeast Kansas.

Katherine Graham, Doctorate of Philosophy, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Current [Co-advisor].
Dissertation title: Modeling conservation organization member behavior using mark-recapture methods.

Heather Johnson, Master of Science, University of Nebraska-Kearney. Current [Co-advisor]. Thesis title: Trumpeter swan reproductive success in the Nebraska Sandhills.

Elsa Forsberg, Master of Science, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 2024 [Advisor]. Thesis title: Demography of least terns and piping plovers at human-created, off-river nesting sites in the lower Platte River system, Nebraska.

Katherine Graham, Master of Science, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 2019 [Co-advisor]. Thesis title: Modeling waterfowl hunter and Ducks Unlimited member behavior using mark-recapture methods.

Matthew Hinrichs, Master of Science, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 2019 [Co-advisor]. Thesis title: Hunter and angler motivations, preferences, and barriers to waterfowl hunting in the central United States.

Drew Fowler, Doctorate of Philosophy, University of Missouri-Columbia. 2018 [Co-advisor].
Dissertation title: Heterogeneity in body condition, survival, and seasonal origins among lesser snow and Ross's geese.

Matt Haugen, Master of Science, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 2013 [Co-advisor]. Thesis title: The influence of regulations on duck hunters and harvest.

Dustin Casady, Master of Science, University of Nebraska-Kearney. 2013. Thesis title: Combining lipid dynamics, body condition, and winter origin of spring migratory northern pintails in the Rainwater Basin.

Andy Dinges, Master of Science, University of Missouri-Columbia. 2013 [Co-advisor]. Thesis title: Participation in the light goose conservation order and effects on behavior and distribution of waterfowl in the Rainwater Basin of Nebraska.

Jeff Drahota, Master of Science, University of Nebraska-Kearney. 2012. Thesis title: Wetland seed availability and carrying capacity of Rainwater Basin Wetlands.

Scott Groepper, Master of Science, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 2011 [Co-advisor]. Thesis title: Avian influenza in the Central Flyway and band recoveries of Canada geese in Nebraska.

Graduate Student Committees (cont'd):

Zach Cunningham, Master of Science, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 2011 [Co-advisor]. Thesis title: Breeding fidelity and landscape effects on distribution of mallards and duck broods in the Nebraska Sandhills.

Paul A. Tidwell, Master of Science, Arkansas Tech University. 2010 [Co-advisor]. Thesis title: Nutrient reserves, food preferences and mass change of waterfowl migrating through the Rainwater Basin of Nebraska.

Mark A. Pfost, Master of Science, University of Nebraska-Kearney. 2008. Thesis title: Do Behavior and abundance of spring-staging ducks vary with road proximity to wetlands in Nebraska's Rainwater Basin?

Elisabeth K. Brennan (-Webb), Doctorate of Philosophy, Texas Tech University. 2006. Dissertation title: Local and landscape variables influencing migratory bird abundance, behavior, and community structure in Rainwater Basin wetlands.

Chris Rundstrom, Master of Science, University of Nebraska-Kearney. 2003. Thesis title: The efficiency of wetland management treatments on the invasive plants *Typha latifolia* and *Scirpus fluviatilis*.

Richard A. Walters, Master of Science, University of Nebraska-Kearney. 2003. Thesis title: Evaluation of chemical and mechanical soil disturbance for controlling reed canarygrass in southcentral Nebraska.

Hiroko Taira, Master of Science, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 2001. Thesis title: Physiological status of several migratory waterfowl species in the Rainwater Basin of Nebraska.

Grants:

\$2,542,035 – Fall and Winter Ecology of Mallards in Southeast Kansas. Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism.

\$542,035 – Fall and Winter Ecology of Mallards in Southeast Kansas. Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism.

\$19,994 – Interior Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum athalassos*) and Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) Demography: Nest, Adult, and Chick Survival in Various Habitats in the Lower Platte River System. Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Section 6 grant.

Book Chapters:

Pearse, A., C. Amundson, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. Events during migration and winter. Pages XX-XX in B. M. Ballard, M. G. Brasher, and J. P. Fleskes, editors. Migrating and wintering waterfowl. CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida, USA. In press.

Gammonley, J. H., G. S. Boomer, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. Waterfowl harvest management. Pages XX-XX in B. M. Ballard, M. G. Brasher, and J. P. Fleskes, editors. Migrating and wintering waterfowl. CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida, USA. In press.

Book Chapters cont'd:

Kaemingk, M. A., **M. P. Vrtiska**, K. L. Hurley, and L. A. Powell. 2021. Linking social and ecological components to spatial and temporal components of harvest. Pages 39-53 *in* K. L. Pope and L. A. Powell, editors. Harvest of fish and wildlife: new paradigms for sustainable management. CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida, USA.

Vrtiska, M. P. 2021. Migratory game bird regulations. Pages 283-300 *in* K. L. Pope and L. A. Powell, editors. Harvest of fish and wildlife: new paradigms for sustainable management. CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida, USA.

Vrtiska, M. P., and S. L. Oldenburger. 2018. State Management of Migratory Game. Pages 135-150 *in* T. Ryder, editor. State Wildlife Management and Conservation. John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Maryland, USA.

Peer-Reviewed Publications:

Spurgeon, J., M. Pegg, Z. Brashears, T. G. LaGrange, **M. P. Vrtiska**, and M. T. Porath. Game fish response in wetlands with varied common carp abundance. In press, Prairie Naturalist.

Sainsbury, K. A., H. W. Harshaw, N. W. Cole, **M. P. Vrtiska**, D. C. Fulton, A. H. Raedeke A. A. Dayer, J. N. Duberstein, and R. M. Schuster. Exploring trip preference heterogeneity in away-from-home birdwatchers using a discrete choice experiment. In review, Journal of Outdoor Recreation and Tourism.

Forsberg, E. M., J. G. Jorgensen, L. A. Powell, R. J. Swift, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. Effect of nest exclosures on nest and adult survival of Piping Plovers (*Charadrius melodus*) in the Lower Platte River System, Nebraska. Waterbirds 48:XXX-XXX.

Gruntorad, M. P., **M. P. Vrtiska**, and C. J. Chizinski. 2025. Mentorship of waterfowl hunters in the Central Flyway. Journal of Wildlife Management DOI: 10.1002/jwmg.70080.

Gruntorad, M. P., **M. P. Vrtiska**, and C. J. Chizinski. 2024. Behaviour and attitudes of non-resident waterfowl hunters in Saskatchewan. Canadian Wildlife Biology and Management 13:50-57.

Vrtiska, M. P., J. A. Dubovsky, and M. G. Anderson. 2024. The North American trumpeter swan survey: Retain or find something new? Wildfowl, Special Issue 7:57-75.

Gruntorad, M. P., **M. P. Vrtiska**, R. J. Murano, M. J. Garrick, and C. J. Chizinski. 2024. Duck identification and regulation preferences among waterfowl hunters: a pre-assessment of the Tier II bag limit. Human Dimensions of Wildlife 29:259-268. DOI.org/10.1080/10871209.2023.2233543.

Gruntorad, M. P., **M. P. Vrtiska**, C. J. Chizinski, J. N. Duberstein, D. C. Fulton, H. Harshaw, A. H. Raedeke, and J. Spaeth. 2024. Duck hunters and difficulty complying with harvest regulations. Wildlife Society Bulletin DOI: 10.1002/wsb.1505.

Vrtiska, M. P., D. Ejigu, and L. A. Powell. 2024. Winter movements, home range, and winter site fidelity of trumpeter swans (*Cygnus buccinator*) in the Nebraska Sandhills. Wilson Journal of Ornithology 136:134-142.

Peer-Reviewed Publications (cont'd):

- Sainsbury, K. A., H. W. Harshaw, D. C. Fulton, N. W. Cole, A. A. Dayer, J. N. Duberstein, A. H. Raedeke, R. M. Schuster, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. 2024. Exploring heterogeneity in waterfowl hunter trip preferences: A discrete choice experiment. *Wetlands* 44:35 doi.org/10.1007/s13157-023-01744-w.
- Graham, K. A., **M. P. Vrtiska**, D. H. Humburg, L. A. Powell, A. H. Raedeke, P. K. Devers, and C. J. Chizinski. 2024. Exploring recruitment, retention, and license purchase probability of waterfowl hunters using a mark-recapture approach. *Journal of Wildlife Management*. doi.org/10.1002/jwmg.22553.
- Gruntorad, M. P., **M. Vrtiska**, M. Garrick, and C. J. Chizinski. 2024. Taking matters into their own hands: effects of effort and success on duck hunter satisfaction. *Human Dimensions of Wildlife* 29:628–639. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10871209.2023.2294065>.
- Hinrichs, M. P., **M. P. Vrtiska**, M. P. Gruntorad, and C. J. Chizinski. 2023. Strangers in the blind: Identifying appropriate mentors for waterfowl hunter recruitment. *Journal of Fish and Wildlife Management* 14:433–441.
- Hinrichs, M. P., J. Nawrocki, M. P. Gruntorad, **M. P. Vrtiska**, M. A. Pegg, and C. J. Chizinski. 2023. An examination of scenarios to increase waterfowl hunting participation. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 47:e1490. <https://doi.org/10.1002/wsb.1490>.
- Hinrichs, M. P., M. P. Gruntorad, J. A. Nawrocki, **M. P. Vrtiska**, M. A. Pegg, and C. J. Chizinski. 2021. Constraints to waterfowl hunting by hunters and anglers in the central United States. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 45:638–646.
- Hinrichs, M. P., **M. P. Vrtiska**, M. A. Pegg, and C. J. Chizinski. 2021. Motivations to participate in hunting and angling: A comparison among preferred activities and state of residence. *Human Dimensions in Wildlife* 26:576–595.
- Jorgensen, J. G., S. J. Brenner, L. R. Greenwalt, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. 2021. Decline of novel ecosystems used by endangered species: the case of piping plovers, least terns and aggregate mines. *Ecosphere* 12(4):e03474. 10.1002/ecs2.3474
- Fowler, D. N., E. B. Webb, **M. P. Vrtiska**, and K. A. Hobson. 2020. Winter carry over effects on spring body condition driven by agricultural subsidies to lesser snow geese (*Anser caersulscens caerulescens*). *Avian Conservation and Ecology* 15(2):21. <https://doi.org/10.5751/ACE-01743-150221>.
- Lyons, T. P., L. A. Powell, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. 2020. Effects of liberalizing harvest regulations on Canada goose demography in Nebraska. *Journal of Fish and Wildlife Management* 11:430–442.
- Gruntorad, M. P., J. J. Lusk, **M. P. Vrtiska**, and C. J. Chizinski. 2020. Identifying factors influencing hunter satisfaction across hunting activities in Nebraska. *Human Dimensions in Wildlife* 25:215–231.

Peer-Reviewed Publications (cont'd):

- Varner, D. M., A. T. Pearse, A. A. Bishop, J. I. Davis, J. C. Denton, R. C. Grosse, H. M. Johnson, E. J. Munter, K. D. Schroeder, R. E. Spangler, **M. P. Vrtiska**, and A. E. Wright. 2020. Roosting habitat use by Sandhill cranes and waterfowl on the North and South Platte rivers in Nebraska. *Journal of Fish and Wildlife Management* 11:56–67.
- Fowler, D. N., E. B. Webb, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. 2020. Condition bias of decoyed-harvested light geese during the conservation order. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 83:33–44.
- Dooley, J. L., M. L. Szymanski, R. J. Murano, **M. P. Vrtiska**, T. F. Bidrowksi, J. Richardson, and G. C. White. 2019. Survival, recovery, and age class dynamics of Canada Geese in the Central Flyway. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 83:938–953.
- Fowler D. N, E. B. Webb, F. B. Baldwin, **M. P. Vrtiska**, and K. A. Hobson. 2018. A multi-isotope ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$, $\delta^{15}\text{N}$, $\delta^{34}\text{S}$, $\delta^2\text{H}$) approach to establishing migratory connectivity in lesser snow geese: Tracking an overabundant species. *PLoS ONE* 13 (8): e0203077.
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0203077>.
- Fowler, D. N., K. J. Kuechle, B. A. Woodall, **M. P. Vrtiska**, and E. B. Webb. 2018. Development and evaluation of morphological indices to estimate proximate lipid and protein reserves in lesser snow and Ross's geese. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 42:295–303.
- Roberts, A., J. M. Eadie, D. W. Howerter, F. A. Johnson, J. D. Nichols, M. C. Runge, **M. P. Vrtiska**, and B. K. Williams. 2018. Strengthening the links between waterfowl research and management. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 82:260–265.
- Humburg, D. D., M. G. Anderson, M. G. Brasher, M. F. Carter, J. M. Eadie, D. C. Fulton, F. A. Johnson, M. C. Runge, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. 2018. Implementing the 2012 North American Waterfowl Management Plan revision: populations, habitat, and people. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 82:275–286.
- Johnson, H. M., M. Forsberg, L. Reichart, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. 2017. Unique nesting behavior in trumpeter swans (*Cygnus buccinator*). *Prairie Naturalist* 49:79–80.
- Haugen, M. T., **M. P. Vrtiska**, and L. A. Powell. 2017. Variation in harvest among duck hunters in the Central Flyway. *Journal of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies* 4:80–84.
- Cunningham, Z., L. A. Powell, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. 2016. Survival and fidelity of breeding mallards in the Nebraska Sandhills. *Prairie Naturalist* 48:87–95.
- Dinges, A. J., E. B. Webb, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. 2016. Light goose conservation order effects on waterfowl behavior and energy expenditure. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 40:694–704.
- Cunningham, Z., L. A. Powell, **M. P. Vrtiska**, S. E. Stephens, and J. A. Walker. 2016. Skewed age ratios of breeding mallards in the Nebraska Sandhills. *American Midland Naturalist* 175:280–285.

Peer-Reviewed Publications (cont'd):

- Uden, D. R., C. R. Allen, A. A. Bishop, R. Grosse, C. F. Jorgensen, T. G. LaGrange, R. G. Stutheit, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. 2015. Predictions of future ephemeral springtime waterbird habitat availability under global change. *Ecosphere* 6:1–26.
- Haugen, M. T., L. A. Powell, **M. P. Vrtiska**, and K. L. Pope. 2015. The effects of harvest regulations on behaviors of duck hunters. *Human Dimensions in Wildlife* 20:15–29.
- Dinges, A. J., E. B. Webb, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. 2015. Effects of the light goose conservation order on non-target waterfowl distribution during spring migration. *Wildlife Biology* 21:88–97.
- Haugen, M. T., **M. P. Vrtiska**, and L. A. Powell. 2015. Duck species co-occurrence in hunter daily bags. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 39:70–78.
- Dinges, A. J., E. B. Webb, **M. P. Vrtiska**, C. H. Nilon, and S. A. Wilhelm-Stanis. 2014. Migratory bird hunter opinions regarding potential management strategies for controlling light goose populations. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 38:728–733.
- Johnson, H. M., and **M. P. Vrtiska**. 2014. Weather variables affecting Canada goose harvest in Nebraska. *Great Plains Research* 24:135–143.
- Haugen, M. T., L. A. Powell, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. 2014. Assessment of spatial changes of duck harvest in the Central Flyway, 1997–2011. *Wildfowl* 64:75–90.
- Groepper, S. R., T. J. DeLiberto, **M. P. Vrtiska**, K. Pedersen, S. R. Swafford, and S. E. Hygnstrom. 2014. Avian influenza virus prevalence in migratory waterfowl in the United States, 2007–2009. *Avian Diseases* 58:531–540.
- Tidwell, P. R., E. B. Webb, **M. P. Vrtiska**, and A. A. Bishop. 2013. Food selection of female mallards and blue-winged teal during spring migration. *Journal of Fish and Wildlife Management* 4:63–74.
- Vrtiska, M. P.**, J. H. Gammonley, L. W. Naylor, and A. H. Raedeke. 2013. Economic and conservation ramifications from the decline of waterfowl hunters. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 37:380–388.
- Groepper, S. R., **M. P. Vrtiska**, L. A. Powell, and S. E. Hygnstrom. 2012. Evaluation of September hunting seasons on resident Canada Geese in Nebraska. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 36:524–530.
- Henaux, V., L. A. Powell, **M. P. Vrtiska**, and K. A. Hobson. 2012. Winter origins of spring migrating lesser snow geese: Establishing migratory connectivity using stable isotopes. *Avian Conservation and Ecology* 7:5. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5751/ACE-00515-070105>.
- Webb, E. B., L. M. Smith, **M. P. Vrtiska**, and T. G. LaGrange. 2011. Factors influencing behavior of wetland birds during spring migration in the Rainwater Basin. *Waterbirds* 34:457–467.
- Vrtiska, M. P.** and L. A. Powell. 2011. Estimates of duck breeding populations in the Nebraska Sandhills using double observer methodology. *Waterbirds* 34:96–101.

Peer-Reviewed Publications (cont'd):

- Webb, E. B., L. M. Smith, **M. P. Vrtiska**, and T. G. LaGrange. 2010. Community structure of wetland birds during migration through the Rainwater Basin. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 74:765–777.
- Vrtiska, M. P.**, A. N. Hardin, and L. M. Gigliotti. 2010. Waterfowl hunter crowding and dissatisfaction: A tale of two surveys. *Human Dimensions of Wildlife* 15:1–2.
- Webb, E. B., L. M. Smith, **M. P. Vrtiska**, and T. G. LaGrange. 2010. Effects of local and landscape variables on wetland bird use during migration through the Rainwater Basin. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 74:109–119.
- Vrtiska, M. P.** and S. Sullivan. 2009. Abundance and distribution of lesser snow and Ross's geese in the Rainwater Basin and Central Platte River Valley of Nebraska. *Great Plains Research* 19:147–155.
- Walker, J. A., Z. J. Cunningham, **M. P. Vrtiska**, S. E. Stephens, and L. A. Powell. 2008. Low reproductive success of mallards in a grass-dominated landscape in the Sandhills of Nebraska. *Prairie Naturalist* 40:1–13.
- Groepper, S. R., P. J. Gabig, **M. P. Vrtiska**, J. M. Gilsdorf, L. A. Powell, and S. E. Hygnstrom. 2008. Movements, site fidelity, and survival of resident Canada geese in southeastern Nebraska, 1991–94. *Human-Wildlife Conflicts* 2:270–276.
- Comeau, S., **M. Vrtiska**, T. Koerner, and J. A. Dubovsky. 2008. Status of the High Plains Flock of Interior Population of Trumpeter Swans, 2007. Abstract, Proceedings 21st Trumpeter Swan Society Conference, Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, Canada.
- Vrtiska, M. P.**, J. L. Hansen, and D. E. Sharp. 2007. Central Flyway perspectives of trumpeter swans. Pages 29–31 in Proceedings 20th Trumpeter Swan Society Conference, Council Bluffs, Iowa, USA.
- Klaassen M., K. F. Abraham, R. L. Jefferies, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. 2006. Factors affecting the site of investment, and the reliance on savings for arctic breeders: the capital-income dichotomy revisited. *Ardea* 94:371–384.
- Ackerman, J. T., J. M. Eadie, M. L. Szymanski, J. H. Caswell, **M. P. Vrtiska**, A. H. Raedeke, J. M. Checkett, A. D. Afton, T. G. Moore, F. D. Caswell, R. Walters, D. D. Humburg, and J. L. Yee. 2006. Hunting vulnerability of dabbling ducks to spinning-wing decoys varies among species and locations. *Journal Wildlife Management* 70:799–804.
- Vrtiska, M. P.** and N. Lyman. 2004. Wintering Canada geese along the Platte Rivers of Nebraska, 1960–2000. *Great Plains Research* 14:115–128.

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Britton, A., C. Chizinski, **M. Vrtiska**, and M. Gruntorad. September 2025. Evaluating the impact of two-tier duck hunting regulations on hunter participation and R3 outcomes in Nebraska and South Dakota. Pathways 2025: Human Dimensions of Wildlife Conference and Training Program, Estes Park, CO.

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Anderson, M., D. Casey, J. Cornely, T. Mayo, J. Nelson, M. Smith, and **M. Vrtiska**. October 2022. Strategic Priorities for Trumpeter Swan Conservation. 7th International Swan Symposium and 26th Trumpeter Swan Society Conference, Jackson, WY.

Gruntorad, M., **M. Vrtiska**, R. Murano, M. Garrick, and C. J. Chizinski. May 2022. Attitudes of current hunters about the two-tier duck regulations. Pathways 2022, Human Dimensions of Wildlife Conference, Bremerton, WA.

Gruntorad, M. P., **M. P. Vrtiska**, R. Murano, M. J. Garrick, and C. J. Chizinski. January 2022. Attitudes of current hunters about the two-tier duck regulations. The 82nd Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference Des Moines, IA. [Virtual].

Bushaw, J., R. Murano, M. Gruntorad, **M. Vrtiska**, and C. Chizinski. February 2021. Two-tier HIP program implementation in Nebraska and South Dakota. North American Waterfowl Management Plan Webinar Series [Virtual].

Garrick, M., R. Murano, **M. Vrtiska**, M. Gruntorad, and C. Chizinski. February 2022. Implementation of two-tier waterfowl hunting regulations in Nebraska and South Dakota. Nebraska Chapter of The Wildlife Society [Virtual].

Gruntorad, M., **M. P. Vrtiska**, R. Murano, J. Bushaw, and C. J. Chizinski. February 2021. Attitudes about the two-tier duck regulation by current Nebraska and South Dakota hunters. Nebraska Chapter of The Wildlife Society [Virtual].

Bushaw, J., R. Murano, M. Gruntorad, **M. Vrtiska**, and C. Chizinski. February 2021. Two-tier HIP program implementation in Nebraska and South Dakota. Nebraska Chapter of The Wildlife Society [Virtual].

Gruntorad, M., J. Lusk, **M. Vrtiska**, and C. J. Chizinski. September 2020. Effects of stated attribute importance on satisfaction: Who is satisfied with public access to waterfowl hunting? The 26th Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society, Louisville, KY (virtual).

Vrtiska, M. P., and R. Murano. February 2020. Experimental duck hunting regulations for Nebraska and South Dakota. Nebraska Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Kearney, NE.

Gruntorad, M., **M. Vrtiska**, and C. Chizinski. January 2020. Role of public land access in the Central Flyway. The 80th Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference, Springfield, IL.

Scientific/Professional Presentations (Co-Author) (cont'd):

- Vrtiska, M.**, and D. Olson. November 2019. Status of the High Plains Flock of Trumpeter Swans. The 25th Trumpeter Swan Society Conference, Alton, IL.
- Gruntorad, M., J. Lusk, **M. Vrtiska**, and C. J. Chizinski. September 2019. Identifying factors of satisfaction for waterfowl hunters. Pathways 2019, Estes Park, CO.
- Graham, K., C. J. Chizinski, **M. Vrtiska**, D. Humburg, and L. Powell. September 2019. Modeling waterfowl hunter behavior using mark-recapture methods. Pathways 2019, Human Dimensions of Wildlife Conference, Estes Park, CO.
- Hinrichs, M., K. Graham, C. J. Chizinski, and **M. Vrtiska**. September 2019. Barriers to waterfowl hunting in the central United States. Pathways 2019, Human Dimensions of Wildlife Conference, Estes Park, CO.
- Humburg, D., J. Feddersen, K. Kraai, L. Naylor, A. Raedeke, L. Reynolds, and **M. Vrtiska**. August 2019. Waterfowl hunting and harvest: Perceptions, reality, and somewhere in between. The 8th North American Duck Symposium, Winnipeg, MB.
- Graham, K., C. J. Chizinski, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. February 2019. Using mark-recapture methods to model Nebraska waterfowl hunter behavior. Annual Meeting of the Nebraska Chapter of The Wildlife Society, York, NE.
- Gruntorad, M. P., J. J. Lusk, **M. P. Vrtiska**, and C. J. Chizinski. February 2019. Identifying factors of satisfaction among Nebraska hunting activities. Annual Meeting of the Nebraska Chapter of The Wildlife Society, York, NE.
- Gruntorad, M. P., C. J. Chizinski, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. October 2018. Expectations and satisfaction of waterfowl hunters across the Central Flyway: What waterfowl hunters want and did they attain it? The 25th Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society, Cleveland, Ohio.
- Lyons, T., **M. Vrtiska**, and L. Powell. September 2018. Estimating the survival, abundance, and movement of Canada geese in Nebraska. Nebraska Natural Legacy Conference, Ainsworth, NE.
- Hinrichs, M., K. Graham, C. Chizinski, and **M. Vrtiska**. September 2018. Sportsman's motivations and their barriers toward waterfowl hunting. Pathways Europe, Human Dimensions of Wildlife Conference, Goslar, Germany.
- Varner, D. M., A. T. Pearse, A. A. Bishop, J. I. Davis, J. C. Denton, R. C. Grosse, H. M. Johnson, E. J. Munter, K. D. Schroeder, R. E. Spangler, **M. P. Vrtiska**, and A. E. Wright. June 2018. Habitat use of Sandhill Cranes and waterfowl on the North and South Platte Rivers in Nebraska. The 13th Platte River Symposium, Alda, NE.

Scientific/Professional Presentations (Co-Author) (cont'd):

- Fowler, D. N., **M. P. Vrtiska**, and E. B. Webb. March 2018. Selective harvest: evaluating differences in body condition of lesser snow and Ross's Geese during spring migration by harvest technique during the Light Goose Conservation Order. The 14th North American Arctic Goose Conference, Lincoln, NE.
- Fowler, D. N., J. L. Dooley, M. D. Weegman, R. F. Rockwell, **M. P. Vrtiska**, and E. B. Webb. March 2018. Evaluating heterogeneous adult survival among subpopulations in midcontinent lesser snow geese. The 14th North American Arctic Goose Conference, Lincoln, NE.
- Varner, D. M., A. T. Pearse, A. A. Bishop, J. I. Davis, J. C. Denton, R. C. Grosse, H. M. Johnson, E. J. Munter, K. D. Schroeder, R. E. Spangler, **M. P. Vrtiska**, and A. E. Wright. March 2018. Habitat use of Sandhill Cranes and waterfowl on the North and South Platte Rivers in Nebraska. The 14th North American Arctic Goose Conference, Lincoln, NE.
- Hinrichs, M., K. Graham, N. Price, C. J. Chizinski and **M. P. Vrtiska**. January 2018. Nebraska waterfowl hunters: Where do they go? The 78th Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference, Milwaukee, WI.
- Phelps, W. A., M. Huang, **M. Vrtiska**, G. S. Boomer. September 2017. Revision of duck harvest frameworks in the U.S. Future of Waterfowl II Workshop, Shepherdstown, WV.
- Fowler, D., E. Webb, and **M. Vrtiska**. February 2017. Body condition of lesser snow and Ross's geese harvested during the Light Goose Conservation Order. The 77th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Lincoln, NE.
- Uden, D.R., C. R. Allen, A. A. Bishop, R. Grosse, C. F. Jorgensen, T. G. LaGrange, R. G. Stutheit, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. February 2017. Playa wetland ecology. Predictions of future ephemeral springtime waterbird stopover habitat availability under global change. The 77th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Lincoln, NE.
- Haugen, M., **M. Vrtiska**, and L. Powell. October 2016. Variation in number of ducks harvested among hunters in the Central Flyway. The 70th Annual Conference of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Baton Rouge, LA.
- Fowler, D. N., **M. P. Vrtiska**, and E. B. Webb. October 2016. Does body condition of lesser snow and Ross's geese harvested during the light goose conservation order differ from the general population? The 23rd Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society, Raleigh, NC.
- Haugen, M., L. Powell, and **M. Vrtiska**. October 2013. The domino effect: Assessing potential impacts of regulation change on multiple duck stocks. The 20th Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society, Milwaukee, WI.
- Haugen, M. T., L. A. Powell, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. January 2013. Spatial and temporal of duck harvest in the Central Flyway. The 6th North American Duck Symposium, Memphis, TN.

Scientific/Professional Presentations (Co-Author) (cont'd):

Drahota, J., L. Reichart, and **M. Vrtiska**. January 2013. Mid-latitude stopover bioenergetics based on seed availability, depletion, and waterfowl density during spring migration. The 6th North American Duck Symposium, Memphis, TN.

Tidwell, P., E. Webb, **M. Vrtiska**, and A. Bishop. January 2013. Diets and food selection of female mallards and blue-winged teal during spring migration. The 6th North American Duck Symposium, Memphis, TN.

Modrow, H., A. Dinges, E. Webb, and **M. Vrtiska**. January 2013. Hunting disturbance and its effects on dabbling ducks during the light goose conservation order in the Rainwater Basins of Nebraska. The 6th North American Duck Symposium, Memphis, TN.

Dinges, A. J., E. B. Webb, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. December 2012. Behavior and distribution of dabbling ducks during the light goose conservation order in the Rainwater Basin of Nebraska. The 73rd Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Wichita, KS.

Dinges, A., E. Webb, and **M. Vrtiska**. December 2011. Effects of the light goose conservation order on waterfowl behavior and distribution in the Rainwater Basin of Nebraska. The 72nd Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Des Moines, IA.

Webb, E. B., L. M. Smith, **M. P. Vrtiska**, and T. G. LaGrange. March 2011. Factors influencing behavior of wetland birds during migration in the Rainwater Basin. The 34th Annual Meeting of the Waterbird Society, Grand Island, NE.

Bishop, A., R. Grosse, T. LaGrange, and **M. Vrtiska**. March 2011. Energetics of waterfowl migrating through the Rainwater Basin of Nebraska in spring. The 34th Annual Meeting of the Waterbird Society, Grand Island, NE.

Raedeke, A., D. Humburg, J. Enck, D. Fulton, K. Hunt, **M. Vrtiska**, and D. Luukkonen. August 2009. Waterfowl, wetlands and people: Integrating human dimensions into waterfowl management. The 5th North American Duck Symposium, Toronto, Ontario.

Comeau, S., **M. Vrtiska**, T. Koerner, and J. A. Dubovsky. 2008. Status of the High Plains Flock of Interior Population of Trumpeter Swans, 2007. The 21st Trumpeter Swan Society Conference, Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, Canada.

Brennan, E. K., T. LaGrange, **M. Vrtiska**, and L. M. Smith. 2006. Local and landscape variables influencing migratory bird habitat use and behavior in Nebraska's Rainwater Basin. Rainwater Basin Joint Venture Research Symposium, Grand Island, Nebraska.

Scientific/Professional Presentations – Poster:

Medcalfe, R., A. Little, S. Sonsthagen, **M. Vrtiska**, and M. Chamberlain. October 2025. Survival of female wild turkeys (*Meleagris gallopavo*) in an agrarian landscape in Western Nebraska. Annual conference, The Wildlife Society, Edmonton, AB.

Scientific/Professional Presentations – Poster (cont'd):

- Bugay, J. M., M. P. Gruntorad, **M. P. Vrtiska**, J. J. Lusk, and C. J. Chizinski. February 2025. Importance of upland game hunting attributes to Nebraska residents and non-residents. Annual Meeting of the Nebraska Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Kearney, NE.
- Hein, M. J., M. P. Gruntorad, **M. P. Vrtiska**, J. J. Lusk, and C. J. Chizinski. February 2025. Unretrieved harvest and mortality trends in *Melagris gallopavo*. Annual Meeting of the Nebraska Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Kearney, NE.
- Paige E. Miller, P. E., M. P. Gruntorad, **M. P. Vrtiska**, J. J. Lusk, C. J. Chizinski. February 2025. An evaluation of deer hunting attributes in rural and urban hunters. Annual Meeting of the Nebraska Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Kearney, NE.
- Stansbery, C. R., M. P. Gruntorad, **M. P. Vrtiska**, J. J. Lusk, and C. J. Chizinski. February 2025. Importance of upland game attributes in urban and rural hunters. Annual Meeting of the Nebraska Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Kearney, NE.
- Dittmer, E., **M. Vrtiska**, J. VonBank, and T. Bidrowski. February 2025. Southeast Kansas mallard GPS project – Evaluating mallard fall, winter, and spring ecology with GPS/ACC transmitters. 18TH Annual Kansas Natural Resources Conference, Manhattan, KS.
- McKinney, J., R. Murano, C. Chizinski, **M. Vrtiska**, M. Gruntorad, M. Vasquez, and A. Britton. January 2025. Tier II Duck Hunting Regulations in Nebraska and South Dakota. Natural Resources Legislative Committee Tour, Lincoln, NE.
- Forsberg, E. M., R. J. Swift, J. G. Jorgensen, L. A. Powell, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. July 2024. Survival of adult and hatch-year piping plovers (*Charadrius melodus*) at off-river sites in the Lower Platte River, Nebraska. 2024 Joint Meeting of the Association of Field Ornithologists, Society of Canadian Ornithologists and Wilson Ornithological Society. Peoria, IL.
- Vrtiska, M. P.**, A. Crist, D. Ejigu, and L. A. Powell. July 2024. Breeding site fidelity of trumpeter swans (*Cygnus buccinator*) in the Nebraska Sandhills. 2024 Joint Meeting of the Association of Field Ornithologists, Society of Canadian Ornithologists and Wilson Ornithological Society. Peoria, IL.
- Gruntorad, M. P., **M. P. Vrtiska**, J. J. Lusk, J. McKinney, and C. J. Chizinski. 2024. Factor influence on satisfaction with waterfowl hunting in Nebraska. The 9th North American Duck Symposium, Portland, OR.
- Dittmer, E. M., **M. P. Vrtiska**, J. A. VonBank, and T. F. Bidrowski. 2024. Southeast Kansas mallard GPS Project - Evaluating mallard fall, winter, and spring ecology with GPS/ACC transmitters. The 9th North American Duck Symposium, Portland, OR.
- Wawers, J. T., **M. P. Vrtiska**, M. P. Gruntorad, C. J. Chizinski. November 2023. Weathering the crowds: Major problems faced by public- and private-land waterfowl hunters across the United States. 30th Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society, Louisville, KY.

Scientific/Professional Presentations – Poster (cont'd):

- Vrtiska, M. P.**, M. P. Gruntorad, and C. J. Chizinski. December 2022. Expectations of duck and goose hunters across the Central Flyway. 15th North American Arctic Goose Conference. Corpus Christi, TX.
- Beard, A., M. Garrick, **M. Vrtiska**, C. J. Chizinski, and M. Gruntorad. May 2022. Canada goose hunter success and satisfaction in the Central Flyway. Pathways 2022, Human Dimensions of Wildlife Conference, Bremerton, Park, WA.
- Gruntorad, M., **M. Vrtiska**, M. Garrick, and C. J. Chizinski. May 2022. Multi-year effects of scouting and mentoring on duck hunter expectations. Pathways 2022, Human Dimensions of Wildlife Conference, Bremerton, WA.
- Sanders-Garrick, H., Z. Brashears, M. Garrick, J. Jackson, J. Jorgensen, T. LaGrange, M. Porath, and **M. Vrtiska**. March 2022. Impacts of invasive carp on waterbird use of lakes and wetlands in the Nebraska Sandhills. 2022 Winter Meeting of the Iowa Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Ames, Iowa.
- Varner, D., A. Bishop, R. Grosse, A. Pearse, and **M. Vrtiska**. August 2019. Development of a long-term monitoring program for waterfowl in the Rainwater Basin Region. The 8th North American Duck Symposium, Winnipeg, MB.
- Gruntorad, M. P., C. J. Chizinski, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. October 2018. Expectations and satisfaction of waterfowl hunters across the Central Flyway. The 25th Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society, Cleveland, Ohio.
- Hinrichs, M., C. Chizinski, and **M. Vrtiska**. August 2018. Waterfowl hunting barriers across the central U.S. Nebraska Sportsman Summit, Nebraska City, NE.
- Graham, K., C. Chizinski, and **M. Vrtiska**. August 2018. Implementing an adaptive management framework for waterfowl hunter management. Nebraska Sportsman Summit, Nebraska City, NE.
- Engel, A. D., A. D. Fedele, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. March 2018. Demographics and harvest characteristics of participants in the Nebraska Light Goose Conservation Order, 2016-2017. The 14th North American Arctic Goose Conference, Lincoln, NE.
- Fowler, D. N., K. A. Hobson, **M. P. Vrtiska**, and E. B. Webb. March 2018. Do nutrient acquisition strategies differ among spring migrants depending on breeding area destination? A test using lesser snow geese. The 14th North American Arctic Goose Conference, Lincoln, NE [Selected as runner-up for best student poster presentation at 14th North American Arctic Goose Conference].
- Lyons, T., L. Powell, and **M. Vrtiska**. February 2018. The effect of changing harvest regulations on Canada geese population dynamics in Nebraska. Annual Meeting of the Nebraska Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Kearney, NE.

Scientific/Professional Presentations – Poster (cont'd):

- Graham, K. A., C. J. Chizinski, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. January 2018. Implementing an adaptive management framework for waterfowl hunter management. The 78th Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference, Milwaukee, WI.
- Johnson, H., M. Forsberg, L. Reichert, and **M. Vrtiska**. November 2016. Evidence of a unique nesting behavior in trumpeter swans (*Cygnus buccinator*). The 24th Conference of the Trumpeter Swan Society, Duncan, British Columbia.
- Johnson, J. P., L. A. Powell, W. H. Schacht, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. February 2016. Winter movement and habitat use of prairie grouse in the Nebraska Sandhills. The 69th Annual Meeting of the Society of Range Management, Corpus Christi, TX.
- Fowler, D. N., K. A. Hobson, **M. P. Vrtiska** and E. B. Webb. September 2017. Do nutrient acquisition strategies differ among spring migrants depending on breeding area destination? A test using lesser snow geese. The 24th Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Davis, J., K. Carrlson, B. Krohn, M. Reddy, K. Schroeder, G. Stoebner, B. Taddicken, **M. Vrtiska**, and P. Devers. February 2016. Balancing social and ecological objectives in the Platte River watershed. The 7th North American Duck Symposium, Annapolis, MD.
- Fowler, D. N., E. B. Webb, K. A. Hobson, **M. P. Vrtiska**. February 2016. Using isotopic signatures of Arctic and Sub-arctic nesting colonies to determine breeding origin of harvested lesser snow geese. The 7th North American Duck Symposium, Annapolis, MD.
- Nugent, E., A. Bishop, R. Grosse, T. LaGrange, D. Varner, and **M. Vrtiska**. February 2016. An assessment of landscape carrying capacity for waterfowl in Nebraska's Rainwater Basin. The 7th North American Duck Symposium, Annapolis, MD.
- Pearse, A., D. Varner, R. Spangler, J. Denton, J. Davis, K. Schroeder, **M. Vrtiska**, E. Munter, and H. Johnson. February 2016. Distribution of spring migrating waterfowl along the North and South Platte rivers in western Nebraska. The 7th North American Duck Symposium, Annapolis, MD.
- Vrtiska, M. P.**, M. Haugen, and R. Walters. February 2016. Factors influencing body mass of spring-migrating female northern pintails. The 7th North American Duck Symposium, Annapolis, MD.
- Johnson, H. M., **M. P. Vrtiska**, and K. Decker. August 2015. Public vs. Leased: Comparing acreages of public vs. private hunting lands in Nebraska. 2015 Annual Meeting of the Central Mountains and Plains Section, The Wildlife Society, Manhattan, KS.
- Fowler, D. N., E. B. Webb, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. April 2015. Which geese are being harvested? Body condition of lesser snow (*Chen caerulescens caerulescens*) and Ross's geese (*C. rossii*) harvested by different methods during the light goose conservation order. The 13th North American Arctic Goose Conference, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Scientific/Professional Presentations – Poster (cont'd):

- Johnson, H. M., **M. P. Vrtiska**, R. Murano, K. L. Kruse, and D. Fronczak. April 2015. Comparisons of hunting seasons and light goose conservation order participation and harvest in the Central and Mississippi Flyways, 1999-2012. The 13th North American Arctic Goose Conference, Winnipeg, Manitoba.
- Johnson, H. M., and **M. P. Vrtiska**. February 2014. Weather variables affecting Canada goose harvest in Nebraska. Annual Meeting of the Nebraska Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Kearney, NE.
- Casady, D., L. Reichart, A. Pearse, and **M. Vrtiska**. January 2013. Wintering body condition of spring migratory Northern Pintails in the Rainwater Basin. Ecology and Conservation of North American Waterfowl, Memphis, TN.
- Henaus, V., L. A. Powell, **M. P. Vrtiska**, and K. A. Hobson. January 2013. Establishing winter origins of migrating lesser snow geese using stable isotopes. Ecology and Conservation of North American Waterfowl, Memphis, TN.
- Drahota, J., L. Reichart, A. Pearse, and **M. Vrtiska**. January 2013. Seed availability and carrying capacity for waterfowl in Rainwater Basin wetlands. Ecology and Conservation of North American Waterfowl, Memphis, TN.
- Haugen, M. T., L. A. Powell, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. December 2012. Spatial and temporal of duck harvest in the Central Flyway. The 73rd Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Wichita, KS [Selected as best student poster presentation in wildlife for the 73rd Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference].
- Cunningham, Z., L. Powell, **M. Vrtiska**, and S. Stephens. December 2011. Age ratios, fidelity, and survival of breeding mallards in the Nebraska Sandhills. The 72nd Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Des Moines, IA.
- Groepper, S.R., T. DeLiberto, **M. Vrtiska**, and S. Hygnstrom. December 2011. Avian influenza virus prevalence and timing by flyway and functional group, United States, 2007-2009. The 72nd Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Des Moines, IA.
- Drahota, J., L. Reichart, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. March 2011. Wetland seed availability, seed depletion, and waterfowl use in the Rainwater Basin during spring migration. The 34th Annual Meeting of the Waterbird Society, Grand Island, NE.
- Groepper, S. R., S. E. Hygnstrom, **M. P. Vrtiska**, T. J. DeLiberto, and L. A. Powell. February 2011. Avian influenza infection in migratory waterfowl in the Central Flyway, 2007-2009. Annual Meeting of the Nebraska Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Hastings, NE.
- Gammonley, J., **M. Vrtiska**, M. O'Meilia, J. Hansen, M. Johnson, F. McNew, T. Mitchusson, D. Morrison, L. Roberts, and S. Vaa. August 2009. Evaluation of species-specific duck hunting regulations in Central Flyway states. The 5th North American Duck Symposium, Toronto, Ontario.

Scientific/Professional Presentations – Poster (cont'd):

- Cunningham, Z. J., **M. P. Vrtiska**, L. A. Powell, S. E. Stephens, and J. A. Walker. August 2009. Breeding site fidelity and landscape effects on distribution of mallard ducks and broods in the Nebraska Sandhills. The 5th North American Duck Symposium, Toronto, Ontario.
- Webb, E. B., L. M. Smith, **M. P. Vrtiska**, and T. G. LaGrange. August 2009. Factors influencing behavior of waterfowl during migration through Rainwater Basin wetlands. The 5th North American Duck Symposium, Toronto, Ontario.
- Tidwell, P., E. Webb, **M. Vrtiska**, and A. Bishop. August 2009. Nutrient reserves, food preferences and mass change of waterfowl migrating through the Rainwater Basin of Nebraska. The 5th North American Duck Symposium, Toronto, Ontario.
- Pfost, M. A., **M. P. Vrtiska**, and R. K. Murphy. August 2009. Influence of roads on the use of wetlands by spring-staging ducks in south-central Nebraska. The 5th North American Duck Symposium, Toronto, Ontario.
- Pfost, M. A., R. K. Murphy, and **M. P. Vrtiska**. August 2009. Duck behavior and bioenergetics on wetland areas near roads in south-central Nebraska. The 5th North American Duck Symposium, Toronto, Ontario.
- Vrtiska, **M. P.**, J. D. Nichols, and J. E. Hines. August 2006. Visibility-corrected estimates of breeding duck populations in the Nebraska Sandhills. The 4th North American Duck Symposium, Bismarck, ND.
- Cunningham, Z. J., J. A. Walker, **M. P. Vrtiska**, S. E. Stephens, and L. A. Powell. August 2006. Mallard nesting in the Sandhills of Nebraska. The 4th North American Duck Symposium, Bismarck, ND.
- Ackerman, J. T., J. Eadie, M. L. Szymanski, J. H. Caswell, **M. P. Vrtiska**, A. H. Raedeke, J. M. Checkett, A. D. Afton, T. G. Moore, F. D. Caswell, R. A. Walters, D. D. Humburg, and J. L. Yee. August 2006. Effectiveness of spinning-wing decoys varies among dabbling duck species and locations. The 4th North American Duck Symposium, Bismarck, ND.
- Sullivan, S., and **M. P. Vrtiska**. January 2005. Abundance and distribution of staging lesser snow and Ross's geese in Nebraska's Rainwater Basin. The 11th North American Arctic Goose Conference and Workshop, Reno, NV.
- Taira, H., M. Beck, **M. Vrtiska**, and E. Blankenship. April 2001. Physiological status of several migratory waterfowl species in the Rainwater Basins of Nebraska. The 10th North American Arctic Goose Conference and Workshop, Quebec City, Quebec.

Professional Contributions, Conferences/Sessions:

Delta Waterfowl Science Advisory Group, 2024-

Board of Directors, Conservation Committee, Trumpeter Swan Society, 2018-.

Co-chair, 2024 North American Waterfowl Management Plan Update, People Team.

Panel Discussion: Light goose roundtable, where are we at with light geese? R. Alisauskas, J. Leafloor, **M. Vrtiska**, J. Dooley. December 2022. 15th North American Arctic Goose Conference. Corpus Christi, TX.

Co-Organizer, Organized Session: Application of Human Dimensions of Waterfowl Hunters at State, Provincial and Regional Levels. Pathways Conference. September 2019. Estes Park, CO.

Lead Organizer, North American Arctic Goose Conference. March 2018. Lincoln, NE.

Co-organizer, Rainwater Basin Joint Venture Playa Wetland Ecology Symposium. January 2017, Lincoln, NE.

Co-organizer, Rainwater Basin Joint Venture Research Symposium. May 2006, Grand Island, NE.

Lead Organizer, Light goose impacts in the Rainwater Basin. March 2000, Lincoln, NE.

Awards:

Beatrice Public Schools and Beatrice Educational Foundation, Hall of Fame, 2025.

Early Career Faculty Award, School of Natural Resources, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2025
Certificate of Appreciation, Recovering Imperiled Species, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 2023 (On behalf of the Tern and Plover Conservation Partnership)

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Wildlife Club Alumni Award, 2015 (Outstanding Alumni)

Charles E. Bessey Award, best natural science article published in *Great Plains Research*, 2009

Charles E. Bessey Award, best natural science article published in *Great Plains Research*, 2004

Ernest A. Gluesing Memorial Award - Mississippi State University, 1994 (Outstanding Graduate Student)

David H. Nabi Memorial Award - Mississippi State University, 1993 (best exemplifies selflessness in leadership, service, research, academics, and social endeavors).

Course Work:

	<u>Biology, Zoology, Ecology, Botany</u>	
General Biology, Zoology	Ecology	Genetics
Evolutionary Biology	Vertebrate Zoology	Dynamics of Ecosystems
Ichthyology	Aquatic Entomology	Ornithology
Mammalogy	General Botany	Plant Taxonomy
	<u>Wildlife, Natural Resources</u>	
Intro. to Natural Resources	Wildlife Management	Limnology
Wildlife Management Techniques	Natural Resource Policy	Big Game Ecology
Wildlife Population Dynamics	Wildlife Habitat Mgt	Wildlife Damage Control

Course Work (cont'd):

Wildlife Habitat Evaluation
Waterfowl Ecology & Mgt

Wildlife Diseases
Migratory & Resident Wildlife Ecology & Management

Fisheries Science

Introduction to Biometrics
Quantitative Biology
Nonparametric Statistics

Statistics

Experimental Design & Analysis of Experiments
Multivariate Statistics
Regression Analysis

Current and Past Professional Memberships:

The Wildlife Society
Mississippi Chapter of The Wildlife Society
Nebraska Chapter of The Wildlife Society
Donald H. Rusch Memorial Game Bird
Research Scholarship Fund Award
Committee, The Wildlife Society

Cooper Ornithological Society
American Ornithologists' Union
Society of Wetland Scientists
The Waterbird Society
Wilson Ornithological Society
Wildlife Management Institute

Current and Past Personal Memberships:

Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
Delta Waterfowl
National Wild Turkey Federation
Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity
Traveler's Protection Association
National WWII Museum

Trumpeter Swan Society
The Nature Conservancy
Pheasants/Quail Forever
National Rifle Association
Fraternal Order of Eagles
National WWI Museum

Hobbies:

Hunting, fishing, talking with friends, military history, and following collegiate sports.

References: Available upon request.