

JENNA P. RUOSS

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EDUCATION

University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Lincoln, NE 2022-

Ph.D. in Natural Resource Sciences

- Pallid Sturgeon *Scaphirhynchus albus* spawning and habitat-use in the lower Platte River

Ball State University - Muncie, IN May 2020

M.A. in Biology GPA (on 4.00 scale): 4.00

- Determining the relationship between land-use and the host-diversity-begets-parasite-diversity hypothesis for fishes and their parasites in Delaware Co., IN.

Kutztown University of Pennsylvania - Kutztown, PA May 2018

B.Sc. in Environmental Science/Biology GPA (on 4.00 scale): 3.96

PUBLICATIONS

Ruoss, J.P., and R.J. Bernot. (in preparation). A survey of freshwater fishes and their parasites throughout Delaware County, Indiana.

Ruoss, J.P., B. Mason, M. Wuellner, and K. Koupal. (in preparation). Resetting the clock: how a reconnection event re-shaped cove fish assemblages in a Nebraska reservoir.

Ruoss, J.P., and K. Koupal. 2021. Nebraska Field Biologist Guide to Common Fish Parasites. Available upon request.

Ruoss, J. P., L. Dietrich, and H. Wall. 2021. Lake McConaughy Fish Kill Report. Available upon request.

Ruoss, J.P., and K. Koupal. 2021. Stone Ridge Fish Kill Report. Available upon request.

Ruoss, J.P. 2020. Does land-use affect the host-diversity-begets-parasite-diversity hypothesis? <http://cardinalscholar.bsu.edu/handle/123456789/202265>

†Mapes C.C., **J.P. Ruoss**, and K. Tessier. 2019. The relationship between gall size and sizes of selected inhabitants of the ball gall of *Eurosta solidaginis* on *Solidago altissima*. Formosan Entomologist, 38: 78-87.

†peer-reviewed

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- ArcGIS Pro, ArcMap
- Microsoft Programs: Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Onedrive
- R Studio
- AIS prevention training
- Water quality: D.O., pH, temperature, chlorophyll a, turbidity, Secchi
- Fish surveying: electrofishing, gillnetting, trap-netting, seining

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

Nebraska Game and Parks

Kearney, NE

Conservation Technician II, Fisheries Division

February-October 2021

- Writing a manuscript for publication and presentation for the American Fisheries Society 2021 Annual Meeting on cove connectivity within reservoirs
- Developing a parasites of fishes guide for local hatcheries and fisheries biologists
- Backpack electrofishing Bordeaux Creek as well as collecting macroinvertebrates samples and conducting a habitat assessment for a Brown Trout habitat restoration project
- PIT-tagging Muskellunges, Crappies, Bluegill, Channel Catfish, and Largemouth Bass for tracking temporal and spatial movements
- Collecting water chemistry data such as chlorophyll, pH, turbidity, phosphates, and nitrates using a Van Dorn Sampler, Colorimeter, Aquafluor, and Secchi disk
- Surveying fishes via boat electrofishing, gillnets, trap-nets and recording lengths
- Assisting with Walleye spawning as well as Walleye and Crappie stocking
- Collecting, identifying and enumerating larval fish such as Gizzard Shad and LinFreshwater Drum via push-nets
- Maintaining boats, boat trailers, nets, and other equipment
- Customer service, communicating policies, selling permits/licenses
- Other duties: collecting and aging fish with otoliths, pressing fish scales for aging, zooplankton tows, building Georgia cubes

Midwest Biodiversity Institute

Hilliard, OH

Fisheries Technician

July-October 2020

- Conducting fish surveys throughout the Midwest region (Illinois to Ohio) via backpack, tote-barge, long-line, and boat electrofishing with a 3-person crew

- Identifying, weighing, and counting all fish species collected
- Working 8+ hour days in all weather conditions over rough terrain
- In-field fixing of equipment such as soldering of electrical wires or patching nets
- Collecting water chemistry data including water samples, sediment, and VOCs
- Some sites surveying occurred in include: Des Plaines Watershed, DuPage River, Black River, Fox River, Hickory Creek, Alum Creek

Ball State University

Muncie, IN

Teaching Assistant, Principles of Biology II

August 2018-May 2020

- Teaching laboratory practices to undergraduates
- Implementing best practices of pedagogy to reinforce lecture concepts through hands-on activities on subjects ranging from natural selection to dissections
- Assisting in lecture for active learning engagement activities
- Guiding other teaching assistants on how to successfully teach lab

Ball State University

Muncie, IN

Parasite Technician

May-August 2019

- Using Google Earth/Maps to determine sampling sites
- Collecting and IDing freshwater fishes via seining, backpack, and boat electrofishing
- Performing necropsies on fish for parasites under a dissecting scope
- IDing parasites to lowest possible taxonomic group
- Utilizing ArcGIS Pro to categorize land-use of sampling sites
- Collecting water quality data (e.g. DO, pH, temp.) using a Hydrolab Sonde Surveyor
- Assisting a Ph.D. student on sampling species of carps in different functional process zones of the Wabash River

Kutztown University

Kutztown, PA

Supplemental Instructor

August 2017-May 2018

- Tutoring peers in Introduction to Botany and Environmental Analysis

Kutztown University

Kutztown, PA

Undergraduate Research Assistant

June-August 2017

- Sampling aquatic macroinvertebrates using Surber samplers and sieves
- Using rose Bengal to sort aquatic macroinvertebrates under a dissecting scope
- Collecting and IDing freshwater fishes via backpack electrofishing and seining

- Using trail cameras to determine species richness and diversity of terrestrial vertebrates within a local riparian zone
- All work for this position took place within the Maiden Creek Watershed

INTERNSHIPS

Philadelphia Zoo

Philadelphia, PA

Environmental Education and Animal Behavior Intern

January-April 2017

- Engaging with zoo patrons at exhibits using “Explorer Stations” and answering questions
- Conducting an observational research project of an animal of choosing that would benefit the zoo’s knowledge of said animal

PRESENTATIONS

- **Wilson High School** November 2021
**Oh My Cod - My Journey to Fisheries
- **80th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference** January 2020
*Does land-use affect the host-diversity-begets-parasite-diversity hypothesis?
- **Conrad Weiser Science Research Institute** July 2019
**Parasites - They Are What You Eat.
- **Ball State University Symposium** April 2019
*Does land-use affect the host-diversity-begets-parasite-diversity hypothesis?
- **Kutztown University’s Environmental Conference** April 2018
**An assessment of terrestrial vertebrate biodiversity and population density in a riparian zone along Sacony Creek, Berks County.
- **Commonwealth of PA University Biologists 49th Annual Meeting** April 2018
**An assessment of terrestrial vertebrate biodiversity and population density in a riparian zone along Sacony Creek, Berks County.
*The relationship between gall size and sizes of selected inhabitants of the ball gall of *Eurosta solidaginis* on *Solidago altissima*.
- **Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol** April 2018
*The relationship between gall size and sizes of selected inhabitants of the ball gall of *Eurosta solidaginis* on *Solidago altissima*.

- **7th International Symposium on Cecidology** March 2018
*The relationship between gall size and sizes of selected inhabitants of the ball gall of *Eurosta solidaginis* on *Solidago altissima*.

**oral presentation

*poster presentation

SERVICE

Urban Canada Goose Project Muncie, IN
Goose Catcher May 2020

- Assisting a Ph.D. student with catching and banding Canada geese

Rinard Orchid Greenhouse Muncie, IN
Docent July-September 2019

- Giving tours of the greenhouse
- Helping with outreach days such as “Monarchs and More” programs
- Answering guest questions

East Central Indiana Science Fair Muncie, IN
Science Fair Judge February 2019 and 2020

Bernot Lab Muncie, IN
Graduate Student August 2018-April 2020

- Assisting other members of the Bernot Lab with their Master’s projects such as collecting water samples using a Van Dorn Water sampler, collecting aquatic snails and clams via dip-netting, and identifying arachnids

Kutztown University’s Annual Earth Day Celebration Kutztown, PA
Head Organizer April 2018

- Collaborating with all science-based clubs at Kutztown University to determine which clubs were participating
- Reserving space on campus (indoor and outdoor) for the celebration to take place

Nest Sampling of Passerines Kutztown, PA
Volunteer Undergrad Research Assistant June 2017

- Identifying passerines occupying bird boxes (78 total) and recording nesting status
 - Recording the number of eggs/chicks and when chicks fledged
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CERTIFICATIONS

CPR/First Aid/AED Training	November 2021
In/Over the Water Safety Training	November 2021
Motorboat Operator Certification Course	November 2021
Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination II Training	May 2021
Aquatic Invasive Species Training (MN DNR)	January 2021
National Safety Council Defensive Driving Course	July 2020
BoatU.S. Foundation's Online Boating Safety Course	July 2020

COMPETITIVE GRANTS FUNDED

Ball State University ASPIRE Student Travel Award (\$450)	January 2020
Kutztown University Research Fund (\$900)	February 2018
Kutztown University BEARS Grant (\$2000)	May 2017