**Larry Rockwood**

**Research**

My research is currently focused on two areas:

1. Molecular Ecology. In collaboration with Jesus Maldonado of the Center for Conservation and Evolutionary Genetics of the National Zoo, I have sponsored students who use molecular techniques for both species identification and population monitoring of River Otters, Coyotes, Red Fox, Gray Fox and Southeast Asian squirrels. Students involved in this research include: Melissa Roberts Hawkins, Mirian Tsuchiya, and Lily Parker.

2. Long term monitoring of local forests. I have been monitoring growth, mortality and survivorship of tree populations at the Mason Neck Wildlife Refuge since 1995. Students who have worked on this project include Michael Pegler and Steve Paull.

I have also sponsored research projects by a variety of graduate students working on everything from reproductive physiology to cost of reproduction in spring wildflowers. Since 2000 I have sponsored 24 MS theses and 14 Ph.D. dissertations.

**Dissertations and Theses Supervised**

2000

MS Thesis.  Wells, Stuart.  Use of Factor Analysis Techniques to Identify Behaviors  Associated with Estrus in Female Cheetahs.

Ph.D. Dissertation.  Largen, Kim.  The Effects of Aerially Applied Diflubenzuron On Decomposition Rate and Litter Arthropod Community in Prince William County, VA.

2001

MS Thesis.  Locklin, Claudia, C.  Impact of Three Human Settlements on the Area of Influence of the Madidi National Park in Bolivia.

2002

MS Thesis.  Heath, Susan A.  Wintering Waterfowl on the Northern Virginia Piedmont-An Unstudied Population.

2003

 MS Thesis.  DeLuca, William V.  Multi-scale Factors Influencing Marsh Bird Communities of the Chesapeake Bay: Developing a Marsh Bird Community Index.

Ph.D. Dissertation.  Brandhagen, Michael D. Monitoring of The North American River Otter (*Lontra canadensis*) Using Molecular Analysis of Scat: A Noninvasive Technique and Its Potential Application to Otter Management and Conservation.

2004

 MS Thesis.  Jorgensen, Helene J.  The Economics of Wolf Management: The Fortymile Wolf Control Program, Alaska, 1997-2001.

2005

Ph.D. Dissertation.  Carson, Ellen.  Composition, Population Dynamics, and Ecology of the Anuran Community at Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Woodbridge, VA.

MS Thesis.  Bernett, Carmen C.  Factors Affecting Growth and Reproductive Output of *Sangujinaria* *canadensis L.:* A Cost of Reproduction Study.

MS Thesis.  Kelly, Dan. Habitat Selection in Declining Elephant Populations of Alaungdaw Kathapa National Park, Myanmar (Burma).

MS Thesis.  Roux, Karin. Presence and Impact of Environmental Lead in Passerine Birds.

MS Thesis.  Robinson, Kristi J.K.  Scat Identification and Dietary Trends of Coyote (*Canis Latrans*), Gray Fox (*Urocyon Cinereoargenteus*), and Red Fox (*Vulpes Vulpes*), in a Mid-Atlantic Ecosystem.

MS Thesis.  Peurach, Suzanne C.  A Taxonomic Review Of Interfamilial Relationships of Microchiropteran Bats Based on Morphological and Molecular Phylogenetics.

2006

MS Thesis.  Shaffer, Deborah.  Study of The American Black Duck’s (Anas *Rubripes*) Use of the Northern Virginia Piedmont as a Winter Habitat.

MS Thesis.  Paull, Stephen J.  Basal Area Increment and Gap Dynamics Following Severe Gypsy Moth (*Lymantria Dispar*) Defoliation on Mason Neck, Virginia.

MS Thesis. Greene, Ana R.  Behavioral Dominance Relationships of American Black Ducks (*Anas Rubripes*) and Mallards (*Anas Platyrhynchos*) Wintering on the Virginia Piedmont.

MS Thesis.  Cherapy, Andrea.  Population Trends and Habitat Selection of Northern Bobwhite Quail.

Ph.D. Dissertation.  Tupper, Todd.  Variables influencing vocalization and breeding effort in the Fowler’s toad, *Bufo fowleri*, in southern New England, USA

2007

MS Thesis.  Draheim, Megan.  Who’s Afraid of the Big Bad Coyote?  A Survey of Messaging and Existing Attitudes in the National Capital Region.

2008

MS Thesis.  Wessel, Audrey.  Short-term impacts of management on the early successional passerine community of Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve in Loudoun County, Virginia.

Ph.D. Dissertation.  Farabaugh, C.S.  Assessment of Potential Relationships between Microclimate Variables Measured within a Forest Patch and the Presence of Interior Forest Birds.

Ph. D. Dissertation.  Heath, Susan.  Birds in Agricultural Areas: Reducing Presticide Risks to Birds Using a Risk Assessment Analysis.

Ph.D. Dissertation.  Smith, Joseph.  The Non-breeding Ecology of a Neotropical Migratory Songbird: The Influence of Habitat Quality on Spatial and Social Behavior and Consequences for Individual Performance

2009

MS Thesis.  Peters, Ryan.  Lyme Disease in Common Avian Species.

MS Thesis.  Santymire, Robb.  Investigating the Hormone Relaxin in the Urine of the Maned Wolf (Chrysocyon brachyurus) and Domestic Dog (Canis familiaris) to Determine Pregnancy.

2010

MS Thesis. Witt, Jonathan. Spatial and Temporal Distribution of Odonata in a *Hydrilla* Dominated Tidal Freshwater Stream: Using Tide And Habitat Gradients to Identify Mechanisms of Coexistence in an Intraguild Predation System

2011

Ph.D. Dissertation. Bozarth, Christine A. Phylogeography and Non-Invasive Monitoring of Coyote (*Canis latrans)* and Gray Fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus)* in Northern Virginia and the Eastern United States.

Ph.D. Dissertation. Mickelberg, Jennifer. Understanding and Managing Isolation in a Fragmented Population of Golden Lion Tamarins, *Leontopithecus rosalia.*

2012

MS Thesis. Thomas, Mark. The Causes and Consequences of Habitat Occupancy during the Non-Breeding Season for the Black and White Warbler in Jamaica.

Ph.D. Dissertation. Draheim, Megan M. Social Conflict and Human-Coyote Interactions in Suburban Denver.

Ph.D. Dissertation. Kurpatski, Brent. Financial Performance, Transaction Costs, Capabilities and the Adoption of Environmental Sustainability Practices.

2013

MS Thesis. Busch, Katherine L.M. An Investigation into the Impact of the National Wildlife Federation’s Certified Wildlife Habitat Program on Mammalian Species Richness in Urbanized Residential Properties

MS Thesis. Hilburger, Steven B. Spring Migration Phenology of Four North American Insectivorous Bird Species in Relation to Climatic Variables.

2014

MS Thesis. Baker, Megan. Survey for Carnivore Species in Selected Thailand Reserves and Evidence for Competitive Exclusion by Larger Carnivores.

MS Thesis. Dragon, Jeffrey. Post Emergence Behavior, Habitat Selection, and Survival of Neonatal Wood Turtles (*Glyptemys insculpta*) in an Unusual Landscape.

Ph.D. Dissertation. Hallworth, Michael T. The Influence of Migratory Connectivity and Seasonal Interactions on Individual- and Population-Level Dynamics of a Long Distance Migratory Songbird.

Ph.D. Dissertation. Koester, Diana C. The Effect of Environment on the Reproductive Potential of Ex Situ Cheetahs (*Acinonyx jubatus).*

Ph.D. Dissertation. Sevin, Jennifer A. Factors Affecting the Distribution of the Endangered Shenandoah Salamander (*Plethodon shenandoah*).