



IUWC 2019 Workshops

June 3rd – June 5th

KNOWLEDGE CAFÉ: DEVELOPING INCLUSIVE URBAN WILDLIFE RESEARCH

Monday, June 3rd | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Organizers: Travis Gallo and Chris Schell, Lincoln Park Zoo

Registration Cost: Free

In this Knowledge Café we will engage participants in a creative discussion about creating and maintaining urban wildlife research that fosters diversity and equity, integrates diverse voices and perspectives, and engages communities through authentic outreach. Working in urban ecosystems uniquely positions us – urban ecologists – to engage and include diverse communities in the participation of scientific research. To do so requires that we include diverse voices from both the broader community and within our own scientific community. Similarly, we must integrate seemingly disparate fields – e.g., ecology, social work, environmental justice, racial and ethnic studies, and food sustainability – to understand the synergies that exist between our study systems. Thus, one of the most pressing challenges that urban ecologists face, yet we are uniquely equipped to tackle, is inclusivity: both access to and participation in cutting-edge science.

This Knowledge Café will bring people together to have an open, facilitated conversation that will explore issues, challenges, and opportunities associated with developing inclusive urban wildlife research. The goals of the Knowledge Café will be to surface our collective knowledge, share ideas, and gain a deeper understanding of the issues involved. This Knowledge Café will continue and contribute to the conversations started by our plenary speakers and complementary symposium – “Inclusive Urban Ecosystems: Integrating Urban Ecology Research with Community Engagement”. To learn more about the Café format we will follow visit www.theworldcafe.com.





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WHAT BATS ARE IN MY BELTWAY?

Monday, June 3rd | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Organizer: Mona Doss, Wildlife Acoustics, Inc.

Registration Cost: Free

There are over a thousand species of bats in the world, each with its own slightly different type of echolocation call. Come learn how to use the Wildlife Acoustics Echo Meter Touch 2 to discover which bat species are in your urban environment. The Echo Meter Touch 2 combines a special ultrasonic microphone with a free software app to transform your Apple or Android smartphone or tablet into a bat detector, recorder and analyzer. The Echo Meter Touch 2 turns ultrasonic bat calls into audio that you can hear and suggests the most likely species of bats flying overhead. This is a hands on workshop for professionals interested in bat monitoring as well as citizen engagement. Several case studies will also be presented and discussed. Prior to the workshop, please download the Echo Meter Touch 2 app from the Apple App Store or Google Play. For a full list of compatible Apple or Android devices, please visit www.wildlifeacoustics.com/devices.





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RESTORING AND CONSERVING URBAN WATERWAYS

Monday, June 3rd | 1:00 - 5:00 PM

Organizers: John Rowden and Marcos Trinidad, National Audubon Society

Registration Cost: Free

Restoration of urban waterways can have tremendous benefits for wildlife and the people that share those urban spaces. But effective restoration and conservation must be done deliberately, with community input and consideration of human needs as well as the needs of wildlife. This workshop will bring together conservation practitioners and community engagement specialists to: Share information on how to engage in deliberate conservation planning with community input to ensure the best chance of success in urban waterway restoration; Discuss common challenges that arise in this work and how to overcome challenges; Create a network that can help support and advance this important work in urban centers around the world.





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ADDING BIOACOUSTICS TO YOUR TOOL KIT

Tuesday, June 4th | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Organizer: Mona Doss, Wildlife Acoustics, Inc.

Registration Cost: Free

Biologists, scientists, educators, and natural resource managers worldwide are adopting acoustics research as an efficient and unbiased method for studying animal presence by recording sound. From conservation planning, surveys and land management projects to recording animal sounds in the city for community engagement, bioacoustics has become the reliable way to meet project objectives—even in loud city environments. Biologists worldwide have made the Song Meter platform the standard for bioacoustics recording with over 40,000 recorders deployed in 90 countries. This will be a hands on workshop to learn how to setup and deploy the Wildlife Acoustics Song Meter SM4 recorder to monitor for birds, frogs, and other wildlife. We recommend you download the free Song Meter SM4 Configurator at <https://www.wildlifeacoustics.com/download/song-meter-configurators> in advance of the workshop and bring your laptop.





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SCICATS: TOOLS FOR COMMUNICATING SCIENCE EFFECTIVELY

Tuesday, June 4th | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Organizers: Kaylee Byers and Nicole Balsdon, SciCATS

Registration Cost: Free

The SciCATS (Science Communication Action Team, uh, Something) are a group of Vancouver-area science communicators (and cat fanatics) committed to making science communication training accessible to everyone. In this lunch hour workshop, Kaylee (Rat Detective) and Nicole (Museum Nerd) will cover two important areas of communicating science effectively. First, we will talk about finding your message, that inner kernel of knowledge that you want to share and shout from the rooftops. Second, we'll cover how to share that message with different audiences. Throughout the workshop we will work together and in small groups to identify and overcome issues in the messaging of your own work (and probably also talk about cats).

Since we are over lunch hour, bring a snack or lunch if you like! <http://scicats.org/>





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IMPLEMENTING AND APPLYING RESEARCH TO MANAGEMENT OF URBAN DEER

Wednesday, June 5th | 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Organizers: Martin J. Feehan and Paul D. Curtis, Cornell University

Registration Cost: \$20 (Snacks & Supplies)

High deer densities are an increasing issue in many urban areas throughout North America. Residential areas and urban parks often have reduced predation and hunting pressure. While rural deer populations have been well studied, there is still much to be learned about urban deer population ecology and management. Establishing research sites may be difficult due to constraints associated with private land access and community concerns. We will cover approaches for working with communities to establish urban deer research programs, and discuss the implementation of deer capture methods that are more effective in urban areas. Attendees will gain knowledge of effective techniques and optimal equipment for urban deer research. Sections of the workshop will include strategies to turn communities into assets for implementing research, applying research to initiate lethal and non-lethal management techniques, and methods for monitoring progress.





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WILD URBAN PARROTS

Wednesday, June 5th | 12:00 PM – 2:30 PM

Organizers: Brooke Durham and Patricia Latas, SoCal Parrot

Registration Cost: Free

Urban psittacines are wild animals, and are generally not escaped pets; rather, their founding ancestors were wild-caught birds that were released or escaped. Urban psittacines are valid subjects for study: biological, genetic, behavior, and human interest. A vast amount of data can be collected very quickly and with no hardship to the investigator, as opposed to studying these birds in their native habitat and range. They engage appreciation of urban wildlife, enrich the cityscape, provide a conduit to the urban natural world and biodiversity education. These species contribute significantly to urban biodiversity as seed dispersal and seed pirates of non-native urban vegetation, members of flock amalgamations and cohorts. Urban psittacines offer an easily available population for disease surveillance.

In this workshop, we will share information and techniques from a global perspective, and go into detail on populations inhabiting the west coast of the USA. Of 13 naturalized species of parrots in Southern California, several occur on ICUN Red List as Endangered or Threatened. These birds may act as source populations for reintroduction programs in their native ranges in Mexico, and cities may act as refugia for these imperiled parrots. We discuss here parrot rehabilitation and scientific inquiry in an urban environment and explore the unique character of the work, the people, and the birds. And of great importance is the potential for “assurance” populations of protected endangered species in urban refugia. More and more detailed data needs to be collected and more basic biological data needs to be collected.

