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Organizers Dr. Thomas Fish, National Coordinator, Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) Network; Dr. Robert Burns, Director, Division of Forestry and Natural Resources, West Virginia University (WVU), Dr. Jeremy Bruskotter, School of Environment & Natural Resources, Ohio State University; Dr. Eick von Ruschkowski, Director, Alfred Toepfer Academy for Nature Conservation, Germany.

Location USFWS National Conservation Training Center, 698 Conservation Way, Shepherdstown, WV 25443, USA

March 15-17, 2020

Transatlantic Perspectives on Conservation and Wildlife Management

Managing Human-Wildlife Coexistence



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



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Transatlantic Perspectives on Conservation and Wildlife: Managing Human-Wildlife Coexistence

Human-wildlife conflicts are a global phenomenon, with the difference mainly lying in the specific species in focus. Large carnivores such as bears and wolves usually dominate the public perception, but many less prominent species such as beavers, otters or cormorants, share the potential for conflict as their behavioral ecology often interferes with human-driven land-use interests.

One of the lessons learned over the last two decades is that in most cases, the relevant species show high adaptability whereas human behavior needs more specific attention, e.g. requiring a shift in management from ecological restoration to the human dimensions. Successful conservation and wildlife management depends on integrating sociological, psychological and economic perspectives and is evolving from a purely natural science-driven into an interdisciplinary topic.

Using case studies of recent human-wildlife conflicts in Europe and in the United States of America, the symposium aims at bringing together researchers and managers in the field of conservation and wildlife management in order to analyze and discuss differences and similarities in human-wildlife conflict situations on both sides of the Atlantic. This approach allows reflecting on existing research and management approaches with the objective to develop new perspectives that help to reduce conflicts. Also, management approaches and techniques will be discussed and evaluated in regards to their efficiency. The symposium provides a mutual learning opportunity and will also foster the creation of new networks of researchers and managers in a transatlantic context. The organizers seek to develop this format into an annual exchange.

Sunday, March 15, 2020

Participants should arrive at the NCTC campus until **16.00** hours. Check-in is possible starting at **15.00**.

17.00 NCTC Campus Tour (optional)

18.30 Joint Dinner (for those already on campus)

Monday, March 16, 2020

Breakfast is available from **6.30 to 9.00**.

09.00 Welcome Messages and Statements by the Organizers: Purpose and Key Objectives of the Meeting – Tom Fish, Robert Burns, Jeremy Bruskotter, Eick von Ruschkowski

09.20 Knowledge Exchange for Collaborative Learning and Capacity Development – Tom Fish

09.40 Introduction of Meeting Participants (Group Exercise)

10.15 Coffee Break

Framing a Transatlantic Perspective of Human Dimensions

10.45 Conservation Success Stories and Challenges on both Sides of the Atlantic – Eick von Ruschkowski

11.00 An Introduction to the Concept of Human Dimensions of Wildlife – Tom Fish

11.45 Auditorium Discussion: Can we identify the needs for integrated approaches in conservation and wildlife management?

12.15 Lunch

Case Studies: Species and their Conflict Potential

13.30 Wolves in Germany and Central Europe – Katharina Steyer

14.15 Meeting your new neighbors: Attitudes towards Wolf, Bear and Lynx in Central Europe – a Literature Review – Claudia Grünewald

15.00 Coffee Break

15.30 Understanding Spatial, Temporal and Cultural Dynamics in Tolerance for Wolves – Jeremy Bruskotter

16.15 Golden Jackals in Europe – Current Developments and Possible Challenges – Felix Böcker

17.00 South African Private Landowners' Perspectives on Legalizing the Rhino Horn Trade – Elizabeth Pienaar

17.45 Auditorium Discussion: Lessons Learned, Day 1

18.30 Joint Dinner

Evening: Informal Get-Together in the Roosevelt Library/Bar



Tuesday, March 17, 2020

Breakfast is available from **6.30 to 9.00.**



Case Studies: Human-Wildlife Conflicts

9.00 Human-Wildlife Conflicts in a Cultivated Landscape: Experiences of the Lower Saxon State Forest Agency in the "Lüneburg Heath" Nature Reserve – Oliver Richter

9.30 Rewilding Keystone Species: Case studies in Mitigating Human-Wildlife Conflict in the United States and the United Kingdom– Sarah Weber

10.00 Coffee Break

Species Management

10.30 Wolves in Lower Saxony: Distribution, Livestock Predation and Compensation I – Jana Sprenger

11.15 Wolves in Lower Saxony: Distribution, Livestock Predation and Compensation II – Jennifer Kraushaar

12.00 Government Funding - An Effective Instrument for the Acceptance of Wolves? – Britta Krämer

12.30 Lunch

Engaging Stakeholders

13:30 Recreational Hunting in the United States of America – How can it contribute to conservation? – Robert Burns & John Edwards

14.15 Recreational Hunters' Involvement in Species Conservation in Germany – Lisa Leschinski

14.45 Experiences of three years of practical livestock protection in Lower Saxony to avoid livestock kills by wolves: Preventive measures, advice of livestock farmers on site, work efforts with volunteers, training and information – Peter Schütte

15.15 Coffee Break

Communication and Education

15.30 Otters as International Ambassadors for Aquatic Education and Conservation: Examples from Pennsylvania, the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, and Tanzania – Thomas Serfass

16.15 Lessons learned from large carnivore-related education and communication projects in Germany and Europe – Alexander Bittner

17.00 Auditorium Discussion: What have we learned, what are the next steps, what was missing? Developing a common vision for future transatlantic workshops

18.00 Closing remarks followed by dinner

