

# Curriculum Vitae – Jessica Gorzo

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## Education

- PhD. 2016. University of Wisconsin – Madison. Major: Wildlife Ecology.  
Dissertation topic: “Avian response to weather in the central US grasslands.”
- M.S. 2012. Clemson University. Major: Wildlife and Fisheries Biology  
*Minor:* Experimental Statistics.  
Thesis: “Avian community of golf courses within the South Carolina sea island complex.”
- B.S. 2008. Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Major: Biological Sciences  
*Minors:* Physics, Astronomy

## Professional Experience

- Research Associate (2016 - present)
  - Landscape Ecologist
  - NSF Macro-systems grant: Climatic and Anthropogenic Forcing of Wetland Landscape Connectivity in the Great Plains  
([http://nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD\\_ID=1544083](http://nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD_ID=1544083))
- Ph.D. Candidate (2012-2016)
  - SILVIS Lab, University of Wisconsin-Madison
  - Summer 2012, 2014: Teaching Assistant, Forestry Summer Camp, University of Wisconsin-Madison
  - 2013: Co-Instructor, BIOSC 730: Wolves and Society, Clemson University
- M.S. Student (2009-2011)
  - South Carolina Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Clemson University
  - Summer 2009: Nest searching field work (as M.S. student)
  - Summer 2008: Nest Searching Field Work (for project that became my M.S.)
- Undergraduate (2004-2008)
  - 2008: Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Astronomy Lab, Virginia Tech
    - Course available to all majors
    - Lab: 1 credit
    - Led 2 sections
  - 2008: Research Experience, Dr. Alexey Onufriev
    - Bioinformatics
    - RNA computational modeling, investigating folding probabilities
    - Linux command line
    - Local computer clusters
    - Shell scripting
  - 2006-2007: Research Experience, Dr. John Simonetti
    - Astrophysics: advanced statistical methods
    - MATLAB
    - C++
    - Octave

- Summer 2006: Research Experience, Dr. Kyungwha Park Lab (website: <http://www.phys.vt.edu/~kyungwha/kpark/park.html>)
  - Theoretical/Computational Condensed Matter Physics
  - Electronic properties of single molecule magnets
  - JMOL
  - NRLMOL
- 2006-2008: Prices Fork Observatory Open House Docent

## Publications

**Jessica M. Gorzo**, Anna M. Pidgeon, Wayne E. Thogmartin, Andrew J. Allstadt, Volker C. Radeloff, Patricia J. Heglund, and Stephen J. Vavrus (2016) Using the North American Breeding Bird Survey to assess broad-scale response of the continent's most imperiled avian community, grassland birds, to weather variability. *The Condor*: August 2016, Vol. 118, No. 3, pp. 502-512.

**Gorzo, J.M.** 2013. Section 8.4.5.1: Raptors and songbirds. Pages 565-566 In: Michel, J. (ed.). South Atlantic information resources: data search and literature synthesis. U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation, and Enforcement, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, New Orleans, LA. OCS Study BOEM 2013-01157. <http://www.data.boem.gov/PI/PDFImages/ESPIS/5/5296.pdf>

Hamilton, C. M., Bateman, B. L., **Gorzo, J. M.**, Reid, B., Thogmartin, W. E., Peery, M. Z. & Pidgeon, A. M. (2018). Slow and steady wins the race? Future climate and land use change leaves the imperiled Blanding's turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*) behind. *Biological Conservation*, 222, 75-85.

Simonetti, J.H. Observers: Chou, A.; Dowd, J.; **Gorzo, J.**; Grimm, C.; Harold, M.; Hubbard, R.; Kuether, T.; Loyd, R.; Nipper, B.; Smith, T.; Stromeyer, A. 2008. Minor planet observations [841 Martin Observatory, Blacksburg]. Publication: Minor Planet Circular 62871, 9 [http://www.minorplanetcenter.net/iau/ECS/MPCArchive/2008/MPC\\_20080520.pdf](http://www.minorplanetcenter.net/iau/ECS/MPCArchive/2008/MPC_20080520.pdf)

## Presentations

**Jessica Gorzo** and Chris Wright. Mallard distribution and wetland network modularity in the Prairie Pothole Region (PPR). Annual Meeting of U.S. Regional Association of the International Association for Landscape Ecology (US-IALE). 2018 Apr 9; Chicago, IL.

**Jessica Gorzo**, Anna Pidgeon, Andrew Allstadt, Wayne Thogmartin and Volker Radeloff. Waterfowl response to weather and land cover in the prairie potholes. Poster presented at: Annual Conference of the Wilson Ornithological Society. 2017 Mar 9-12; Ft. Myers, FL.

**Gorzo, J.M.**, Anna Pidgeon, Andrew Allstadt, Wayne Thogmartin, Steve Vavrus, Patricia Heglund, and Volker Radeloff. Land cover and weather drivers of avian site fidelity. North American Congress for Conservation Biology, Madison, Wisconsin. July 2016.

**Gorzo, J.M.**, Pidgeon, A.M., Thogmartin, W., Allstadt, A. and Radeloff, V. Grassland bird response to weather in the badlands and prairies. Meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union/Cooper Society, Norman, Oklahoma. August 2015.

**Gorzo, J.M.** 2014. Avian population response to extreme weather events. Poster presented at Earth Day Conference, Madison, WI.

**Gorzo, J.M.** & Jodice, P.G.R. The breeding bird community of coastal golf courses in Beaufort County, South Carolina.

- Poster presented at the 129th Stated Meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union, Jacksonville, Florida. July 2011.
- Poster presented at the Meeting of the Wilson Society/Cooper Society/Association of Field Ornithologists, Kearney, Nebraska. March 2011.

Bateman, B., **Gorzo, J.M.**, Pidgeon, A., Radeloff, V., Akcakaya, R., Flather, C., Albright, T., Vavrus, S., Thogmartin, W., and Heglund, P. Use of multiple data sources in identifying drivers of abundance in an irruptive species, the Dickcissel. Meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union/Cooper Ornithological Society, Chicago, Illinois. August 2013.

### **Awards and Honors**

2015 Travel Award, American Ornithologist's Union/Cooper Ornithological Society Conference  
2011 Outstanding Service to the Clemson Experimental Forest  
Dean's List (undergraduate)

### **Public Outreach**

*Television Expeditions* – air date Oct 17 2010

Guest appearance, season 4, Episode 7: “The ACE Basin – A Conservation Miracle”

Discussed painted bunting habitat requirements, threats and conservation needs

(Listing and TV show description:

[http://www.clemson.edu/public/expeditions/episode\\_guide/season\\_4.html](http://www.clemson.edu/public/expeditions/episode_guide/season_4.html) )

*Talk radio Your Day* – air date Aug 30 2010

(Segment begins 45:50 <http://cufan.clemson.edu/psaradiopod/YDPodcast/YD100830.mp3> )

*Teaching Elderhostel*: Astronomy at Mountain Lake, VA oral presentation – Fall 2007

### **Certifications**

Hunter's Safety Certificate, Conservation Leaders of Tomorrow Workshop GA 2010  
Coffee College, Virginia Tech

**Academic Service:** Ad hoc reviewer

Journal of Arid Environments  
Landscape & Urban Planning  
Landscape Ecology  
PLOS ONE

Wilson Ornithological Society  
Biological Conservation  
Avian Conservation & Ecology

**Professional Society Memberships**

Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society – inducted 2010  
American Ornithological Society  
US-International Association for Landscape Ecology

**Synergistic Activities**

2013-2015 Graduate Representative, Departmental Space Committee  
2014-2015 Wisconsin State Coordinator, Rusty Blackbird Spring Migration Blitz  
2010-2011 Social Coordinator, Natural Resources Graduate Student Association  
2006-2008 Astronomy Club President  
2006-2007 Webmaster, Society of Physics Students

**Extracurricular Bird & Citizen Science Activities**

Christmas Bird Count

- West Friendship, Maryland
- Assateague Island, Maryland (2010, 2012-2013)
- Clemson, South Carolina (2010)
- Spring Island, South Carolina (2010)
- Madison, Wisconsin
- Duluth, Minnesota

Birdathon

- Sax-Zim Brrrrdathon (Jan 2013): member of record-setting team “Badger Irruption”
- Great Wisconsin Birdathon (2013, 2016)
- World Series of Birding (2015)

Guiding: Sax-Zim Birding Festival