

# Julie E. Groce

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## EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Candidate      MONASH UNIVERSITY, Clayton, Victoria, Australia  
May 2014–Present      THESIS (in progress): Biodiversity conservation on private lands
- M.S.                      TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY, College Station, Texas, USA  
Jan 2006–Aug 2008      Master of Science in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences  
G.P.A. 4.00              THESIS: Habitat associations of cavity-nesting owls in the Sierra Nevada
- B.A.                      CONNECTICUT COLLEGE, New London, Connecticut, USA  
Sep 1997–May 2001      Bachelor of Arts in Zoology  
G.P.A. 3.67              Honors: Magna cum laude, Deans High Honors, Deans Honors  
Awards: E. Francis Botsford Prize for Zoology
- Sep–Dec 1999              SCHOOL FOR FIELD STUDIES, Kenya, Africa  
G.P.A 3.50              Wildlife Management Program  
Honors: Deans Honors

## CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

- May 2014–Present      **Monash University**, Clayton, Victoria, Australia  
*PhD Candidate, School of Biological Sciences*  
Conducting mixed methods research of knowledge transfer and engagement among conservation scientists, practitioners, and landowners who are involved in biodiversity conservation on private lands. Expected completion in May 2017.

## PROJECT MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

- Sep 2011–May 2014      **Texas A&M Institute of Renewable Natural Resources**, San Antonio, TX  
*Senior Research Associate, AgriLife Research*  
Involved in proposal preparation, project design, implementation, management, and final reporting related to threatened and endangered species research and broad-scale multi-species surveys. Maintain lead role in ongoing formation of a general conservation plan for two endangered songbirds. Review literature and synthesize information for various agencies regarding wildlife species petitioned or proposed for federal listing under the Endangered Species Act.
- Nov 2009–Sep 2011      **Texas A&M Institute of Renewable Natural Resources**, San Antonio, TX  
*Extension Program Specialist, AgriLife Extension*  
Provided support to the Interagency Task Force on Economic Development and Endangered Species. Synthesized and translated scientific information related to endangered species to the private landowner community, NGOs, universities, and public agencies. Involved in project design, proposal

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preparation, project implementation and management, and final reporting for projects related to species of concern in Texas, including the golden-cheeked warbler (*Setophaga chrysoparia*), black-capped vireo (*Vireo atricapilla*), and freshwater mussels.

Aug 2007–Nov 2009 **Texas A&M Institute of Renewable Natural Resources**, College Station, TX  
*Research Associate, AgriLife Research*

Managed all aspects of multi-year, broad-scale studies examining the distribution and abundance of federally endangered golden-cheeked warblers (*Setophaga chrysoparia*) and black-capped vireos (*Vireo atricapilla*). Developed survey protocols, recruited and trained field technicians, and coordinated surveys on over 150 public and private properties in central and west Texas. Interacted extensively with private landowners. Assisted with data analysis (e.g., detection probability estimation, habitat modeling). Collaborated with other researchers and graduate students on a variety of related projects.

May–Aug 2006 & Mar–Aug 2007 **Texas A&M University and U.S. Forest Service**, Lake Tahoe Basin, CA  
*Graduate Research Assistant*

Supervised and participated in owl and bat surveys as part of a multi-taxa survey project. Hired field technician and trained several others on survey protocols and equipment use. Managed logistics for crew training, survey scheduling, field housing, renting vehicles, purchasing supplies and equipment. Coauthored annual reports for USFS.

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Jan 2006–Aug 2008 **Texas A&M University and U.S. Forest Service**, Lake Tahoe Basin, CA  
*Graduate Research Assistant – Master's thesis research*

Led research to determine habitat associations of small, cavity-nesting owls. Developed and implemented sampling protocols for nocturnal owl broadcast surveys for six owl species and habitat (e.g., snags). Analyzed data using ArcMAP/GIS, FRAGSTATS, PRESENCE, and SPSS programs. Coauthored annual reports for USFS.

Sep–Oct 2005 **Idaho Bird Observatory**, Lucky Peak, ID  
*Owl Bander*

Captured and banded migratory owls for the Owl Banding program. Set up audio lures and mist nets to attract and capture migratory northern saw-whet owls (*Aegolius acadicus*) and flammulated owls (*Otus flammeolus*). Banded, measured, and released captured owls. Assisted in the capture and processing of passerines and hawks.

Feb–Aug 2005 **Point Reyes Bird Observatory**, San Clemente Island, CA  
*Field Technician*

Monitored distribution and reproductive success of the federally endangered San Clemente loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus mearnsi*). Surveyed

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for color-banded individuals in relatively remote locations on the island; maintained detailed field notes and daily entries into database. Assisted in the capture and banding of juvenile shrikes.

Apr–Sep 2004

**U.S. Forest Service**, Lincoln National Forest, NM

*Biological Technician*

Conducted nocturnal surveys for the federally threatened Mexican spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis lucida*) and daytime follow-up surveys to assess reproduction. Captured individual owls with mist net or noose pole, banded and attached radio transmitters; tracked individuals via radio-telemetry; resighted color-banded individuals. Live-trapped, ear-tagged, identified, sexed, and aged small mammals to assess presence and abundance in spotted owl habitat. Conducted detailed vegetation surveys in spotted owl territories. Required extensive orienteering and use of GPS and ArcView/GIS to create maps and enter data.

Jan–Mar 2003

**U.S. Geological Survey**, Kilauea Field Station, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, HI  
*Research Assistant*

Lab work: analyzed avian blood smears via microscopy to determine presence/absence of the malarial parasite *Plasmodium relictum*; stained and organized blood smear slides; entered data into Excel. Field work: extracted passerines from mist nest; identified, measured, and banded birds; transferred birds to the field station aviary. Aviary: daily cleaning and maintenance of cages, rooms, and feeding of the birds.

Nov 2001–Nov 2002

**Division of Parks and Recreation**, Dover, DE

*Wildlife Management Coordinator*

Organized and conducted nighttime spotlight surveys for white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) to estimate abundance in state parks. Located Canada goose (*Branta canadensis*) nests; added or oiled the eggs as a means of population control. Assisted in various research projects: shorebird banding and monitoring, spawning surveys for American horseshoe crab (*Limulus polyphemus*), flight line surveys of herons, roadside surveys for diamondback terrapins (*Malaclemys terrapin*). Used ArcView/GIS to create and revise hunting maps for each state park.

Aug–Oct 2001

**Whitefish Point Bird Observatory**, Paradise, MI

*Banding Intern*

Assisted in the capture and banding of migratory passerines for the Fall Landbird Monitoring Program. Proficient at extracting passerines from mist nets, handling, measuring, and banding them; capable of identifying migratory passerines by sight and song; maintained detailed records and compiled data onto computer database (Band Manager v2.1).

May–July 2001

**The Nature Conservancy**, Devil's Den Reserve, Weston, CT

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### *Research Assistant*

Participated in long-term population study of the worm-eating warbler (*Helmitheros vermivorus*). Increased ability to identify various passerines inhabiting eastern forests by sight and sound. Resighted color-banded adults and spot mapped their locations; searched for nests, monitored reproduction, and observed individual behaviors. Maintained detailed records of observations both in the field and on Excel spreadsheet.

Feb–May 2001

**Connecticut College**, New London, CT

*Independent Research* – Zoology Department

Researched interactions among waterfowl species in coves along the Thames River. Analyzed data using SPSS statistics program; compiled findings in a published report; gained knowledge and experience in waterfowl identification and use of spotting scope.

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Aug–Dec 2006

**Texas A&M University**, College Station, TX

*Teaching Assistant* – Fundamentals of Ecology Laboratory

Taught two three-hour ecology labs per week to undergraduate students. Developed and presented PowerPoint slides on weekly basis, introducing students to topics and research methods in ecology. Led students through discussions, exercises, and independent projects. Wrote and graded weekly quizzes.

### PUBLICATIONS

- Randklev, C., H. Wang, **J. Groce**, and W. Grant. 2014. Land use relationships for a rare freshwater mussel species (Family: Unionidae) endemic to central Texas. *Journal of Fish and Wildlife Management*. *In review*.
- McFarland, T. M., H. A. Mathewson, **J. E. Groce**, M. L. Morrison, and R. N. Wilkins. 2013. A range-wide survey of the endangered black-capped vireo in Texas. *Southeastern Naturalist* 12:41–60.
- Randklev, C. R., M. S. Johnson, E. T. Tsakiris, **J. Groce**, and N. Wilkins. 2013. Status of freshwater mussel (Unionidae) communities of the mainstem of the Leon River, Texas. *Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems* 23:390–404.
- Collier, B. A., **J. E. Groce**, M. L. Morrison, J. C. Newnam, A. J. Campomizzi, S. L. Farrell, H. A. Mathewson, R. T. Snelgrove, R. J. Carroll, and R. N. Wilkins. 2012. Predicted patch occupancy in fragmented landscapes at the rangewide scale for an endangered species: an example of an American warbler. *Diversity and Distributions* 18:158–167.
- Groce, J. E.**, K. N. Smith, R. N. Wilkins, D. W. Wolfe. 2012. The golden-cheeked warbler: history of a conflict. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 36:401–407.
- Mathewson, H. A., **J. E. Groce**, T. M. McFarland, M. L. Morrison, J.C. Newnam, R. T. Snelgrove, B. A. Collier, and R. N. Wilkins. 2012. Estimating breeding season abundance of golden-cheeked warblers in Texas. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 76:1117–1128.
- McFarland, T. M., H. A. Mathewson, **J. Groce**, M. L. Morrison, C. Newnam, T. Snelgrove, K. Skow, B. Collier, and R. N. Wilkins. 2012. Utilization of a species distribution model for management and conservation. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 36:432–439.

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- Morrison, M. L., B. A. Collier, H. A. Mathewson, **J. E. Groce**, and R. N. Wilkins. 2012. The prevailing paradigm as a hindrance to conservation. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 36:408–414.
- Randklev, C. R., M. S. Johnson, E. T. Tsakiris, S. Rogers-Oetker, K. J. Roe, S. McMurray, C. Robertson, **J. Groce**, and N. Wilkins. 2012. False Spike, *Quadrula mitchelli* (Bivalvia: Unionidae) is not extinct: first account of a live population in over 30 years. *American Malacological Bulletin* 30:327–328.
- Groce, J. E.**, H. A. Mathewson, M. L. Morrison, and R. N. Wilkins. 2010. Scientific evaluation for the 5-year status review of the golden-cheeked warbler. Final report submitted to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Austin, Texas, and to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 2, Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA. <[http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/business/grants/wildlife/section\\_6/projects/birds/e102\\_final\\_report.pdf](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/business/grants/wildlife/section_6/projects/birds/e102_final_report.pdf)>.
- Groce, J. E.**, and M. L. Morrison. 2010. Habitat use by saw-whet owls in the Sierra Nevada. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 74:1523–1532.
- Morrison, M. L., **J. Groce**, and K. L. Borgmann. 2010. Occurrence of bats in highly impacted environments: the Lake Tahoe basin. *Northwestern Naturalist* 91:87–91.
- Groce, J. E.**, A. Knipps, S. Powers, and Y. Sánchez-Johnson. 2009. Restoration of highly degraded watersheds in the Lake Tahoe Basin, California. Pages 232–256 *in* M. L. Morrison, editor. *Restoring wildlife: ecological concepts and practical applications*. Island Press, Washington DC, USA.
- Groce, J. E.** 2008. Habitat associations of cavity-nesting owls in the Sierra Nevada. Master's thesis, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, USA.
- Butcher, J. A., **J. E. Groce**, C. M. Lituma, M. C. Cocimano, Y. Sánchez-Johnson, A. J. Campomizzi, T. L. Pope, K. S. Reyna, A. C. S. Knipps. 2007. Persistent controversy in statistical approaches in wildlife sciences: a perspective of students. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 71:2142–2144.
- Groce, J. E.** 2002. Feeding ecology of a winter waterfowl community. *The Connecticut Warbler* 22:13–24.

### PRESENTATIONS

- Invited presentation: Texas freshwater mussels. San Antonio Bar Association, Environmental Law Section, San Antonio, Texas, July 2013.
- Invited presentation: Texas freshwater mussels. Public Affairs Water Committee, San Antonio, Texas, February 2013.
- Presentation: Estimating golden-cheeked warbler occupancy in Texas. The Wildlife Society 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Snowbird, Utah, October 2010.
- Presentation: Estimating golden-cheeked warbler occupancy in Texas. 2010 Golden-cheeked Warbler Symposium, Austin, Texas, January 2010.
- Presentation: Habitat associations of northern saw-whet owl in the Sierra Nevada. The Wildlife Society, Texas Chapter. San Antonio, Texas, February 2008.
- Invited presentation: Methods, results, and rationale for multi-species surveys in the Lake Tahoe Basin. U.S. Forest Service. South Lake Tahoe, California, August 2007.
- Presentation: Habitat associations of cavity-nesting owls in the Sierra Nevada. The Wildlife Society, Texas Chapter. Beaumont, Texas, February 2007.

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### **SERVICES**

Nov 2012–Present Manuscript reviewer for Wildlife Society Bulletin, Journal of Field Ornithology, Journal of Raptor Research  
Jun–Aug 2011 Member of Science Committee for the Texas Conservation Plan for the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard  
Dec 2009–Aug 2011 Member of Biological Advisory Team for the Southern Edwards Plateau Habitat Conservation Plan  
Jan 2009–Nov 2010 Member of Golden-cheeked Warbler 5-year Status Review Team  
Oct 2007–May 2008 Chair of Graduate Program Enhancement Fund  
Sep 2007–May 2008 Departmental Seminar Committee member  
Aug 2006–Aug 2007 Treasurer of Association of Graduate Wildlife and Fisheries Scientists

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

May 2014–Present Society for Conservation Biology, Ecological Society of Australia  
Sept 2010–2013 Freshwater Mussel Conservation Society  
Jan 2006–2014 The Wildlife Society, American Ornithologists' Union, Raptor Research Foundation  
Jan 2006–Aug 2008 Association of Graduate Wildlife and Fisheries Scientists (AGWAFS)