



BOTSTIBER INSTITUTE
FOR WILDLIFE FERTILITY CONTROL

Newsletter
Winter 2022

9th International Conference on Wildlife Fertility Control

Featured Speaker



The BIWFC is pleased to announce Bestselling Author Mary Roach, will serve as a Guest Speaker for the 9th International Conference on Wildlife Fertility Control. Roach's newest book, *Fuzz: When Nature Breaks the Law*, is a New York Times Bestseller, #1 Los Angeles Times Bestseller, #1 Indie Hardcover Nonfiction Bestseller and a New York Times Editor's Choice. *Fuzz* takes the reader on an irresistible investigation into the unpredictable world where humans and wildlife meet. When it comes to "problem" wildlife, she finds, humans are more often the problem—and the solution. Fascinating, witty, and humane, *Fuzz* offers hope for compassionate coexistence in our ever-expanding human habitat.

Registration Now Open

Click [HERE](#) to register

Abstract Deadline Extension

Poster presentation abstracts are accepted until February 1, 2022.
Instructions can be found [here](#).

Continuing Credits Available

Attendance at this conference qualifies for earning a maximum of **18 Continuing Education Units** (CEUs) in Category I of the Certified Wildlife Biologist® Renewal/Professional Development Certificate Program offered by The Wildlife Society. The Wildlife Society supports the development and advancement of wildlife professionals throughout their careers.

Certification constitutes recognition by TWS that, to its best knowledge, a member meets the minimum educational, experience, and ethical standards adopted by the Society for professional wildlife biologists. TWS' membership currently consists of

more than 1,900 Certified Wildlife Biologists®. TWS' Certification Program is managed by [Council](#) via the [Certification Review Board](#) and is available to applicants worldwide. Please click here if you are interested in receiving [TWS Continuing Education Units](#) in connection with our conference.

Whova App

This year's conference is powered by the [Whova Event App](#) for mobile or desktop. With the Whova platform you'll be able to register for the conference, view the conference agenda and plan your schedule, access all session information, revisit session recordings, network with other attendees and sponsors, and much more. More information can be found on our [conference website](#).

Sponsorships Available

This quadrennial conference will bring together an expected 150+ practitioners, researchers, policy experts, and social scientists from around the world to share best practices, highlight successes and challenges, describe emerging technologies, and identify new priorities in the ever-changing field of wildlife fertility control. [Sponsorship opportunities](#) can be found on our website. Opportunities for both physical and digital recognition are available.

BIWFC Europe: Note from the Director

"In December 2021 the BIWFC Europe was 100 days old, so... good time for an update! Since its beginnings, the leitmotif of many activities of the BIWFC Europe has been ***Building Bridges***, echoing the *Creating Connections* theme of the next conference on fertility control. I started my new job by setting many "European wheels" in motion. This meant reaching out to teams engaged in research and practical applications of wildlife fertility control, talking to various organizations about what the BIWFC can offer, and liaising with groups that might consider fertility control to manage human-wildlife conflicts.



It would be wonderful if, in the near future, whoever wants to work on a specific wildlife species could easily engage with other professionals to learn more about a specific topic and build on previous results. Plenty of ideas to explore, short-term goals and long-term plans that I will share in the next newsletter and that will keep me very busy in the coming months. For the time being, warm thanks to all the colleagues and friends that are enthusiastically helping to build what we hope will become a go-to resource for this overcrowded continent."

Dr. Massei's full blog post can be read [here](#).

Introducing BIWFC Board Member
Dr. Jens Jacob



With the formation of the BIWFC Europe Office, Dr. Giovanna Massei stepped down from her Advisory Board position. To fill her role, we announce the addition of Dr. Jens Jacob to the BIWFC Advisory Board.

Dr. Jacob studied ecology and zoology in Jena, Germany and Miami, FL, USA. Since starting his PhD in 1997, he focused on applied rodent research. Following a 4-year position at CSIRO Wildlife Research (Australia), he became the leader of the Rodent Research Group of Julius Kuehn-Institute (Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture) in Münster, Germany.

His research interests include 1) rodent population management that is ecologically and economically sustainable in various systems and various regions of the world, 2) assessing and mediating risk associated with rodent management and 3) the ecology of rodent-borne pathogens to help to take early and optimal action.

Dr. Jacob has published over 150 scientific articles, chairs expert groups, and is subject editor vertebrates for international peer-reviewed journals.

BIWFC Attends Animal Grantmakers Conference



The BIWFC organized a session, “The Wild Horse & Burro Act of 1971: From Innovation to Crisis, and a Restorative Path Forward Utilizing Wildlife Fertility Control,” at this year’s Animal Grantmakers conference. Stephanie Boyles Griffin, BIWFC’s Science and Policy Director was the moderator. The conference was hosted by The University of Denver’s Institute for Human-Animal Connection and was co-chaired by Larry Green, BIWFC’s Outreach Coordinator.

New BIWFC Short Video

The BIWFC interviewed Ginger Kathrens, Wildlife Filmmaker and Executive Director of the Cloud Foundation. Ms. Kathrens discussed the use of fertility control at the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range in Montana. Watch the full interview [here](#).



Wildlife Fertility Control Repository

The [BIWFC Repository](#) aims to be the resource for all research related to wildlife fertility control. Click [here](#) to view the collection of over 100 papers. Recent additions include:

- Polyacrylate-GnRH Peptide Conjugate as an Oral Contraceptive Vaccine Candidate ([2021](#)) *Pharmaceutics*

- Application of pharmaceutical drug delivery for biological control of the common brushtail possum in New Zealand: A review ([2006](#)) *Wildlife Research*
- The opportunity for sexual selection and the evolution of non-responsiveness to pesticides, sterility inducers and contraceptives ([2018](#)) *Heliyon*

If you authored or co-authored a peer-reviewed article related to wildlife fertility control and would like your work to be included, please forward the PDF articles to biwfc@botstiber.org. We will archive your work after reviewing the publishers' policy and guidelines.

Fertility Control Fact Sheets



Downloadable [fact sheets](#) containing information on various fertility control agents are accessible on the BIWFC website.

IMPORTANT DATES

Nordic Congress of Wildlife Research, Uppsala, Sweden, March 21-25

The [Nordic Congress of Wildlife Research](#) aims to bring together professionals to discuss challenging issues in wildlife ecology and management. They encourage a broad perspective, welcoming those in wildlife sciences, social sciences, and human dimensions of wildlife, as well as international contributions.

Pathways: Human Dimensions of Wildlife Conference, May 1-4

The BIWFC will attend and sponsor a session at [Pathways: Human Dimensions of Wildlife Conference](#) in Bremerton, Washington May 1-4, 2022. Hosted by Colorado State University Department of Human dimensions of Wildlife, this conference series aims to address the myriad of issues that arise as people and wildlife struggle to coexist in a sustainable and healthy manner. Its mission is to increase professionalism and effectiveness in the Human Dimensions of Wildlife Management field.

Advancing Animal Welfare Science, June 28-29

The Universities Federation for Animal Welfare's annual conference [Advancing Animal Welfare Science](#) will be held in Edinburgh, Scotland June 28-29, 2022. This conference aims to cover emerging opportunities and threats that can be addressed through animal welfare, development of new methodologies to assess animal welfare, and opportunities to develop capacity in animal welfare. There will be a virtual option for those who cannot attend.

International Conference on Human-Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence, September 1-3

The BIWFC plans to attend and present at the [International Conference on Human-Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence](#), hosted by the IUCN Species Survival Commission Human-Wildlife Conflict Task Force in Oxford, UK. Giovanna Massei, Director of BIWFC Europe, will present on "*The Other Side of Human-Wildlife Conflicts: A Global Perspective on Fertility Control to Manage Overabundant Wildlife.*"

13th International Symposium on Wild Boar and Other Suids, September 6-9

The BIWFC plans to attend the [13th International Symposium on Wild Boar and Other Suids](#) in Seva, Barcelona, where our BIWFC Europe Director, Giovanna Massei, is a keynote speaker. This conference will discuss wild boar biology and eco-ethology as well as management practice, population control strategies and damage mitigation methods.

Pathways Europe: Human Dimensions of Wildlife Conference, October 9-12

The BIWFC plans to attend the [Pathways Europe: Human Dimensions of Wildlife Conference](#) held in Wageningen, The Netherlands. With the theme of "Sharing Landscapes," this conference aims to answer the question of how we can share landscapes in ways that are beneficial for both humans and wildlife in times of species extinction, climate change and social injustice?

IN THE NEWS

"Deer Wars & Death Threats"

[The New Yorker](#) dives into the complicated history of white-tailed deer in New York. The article explains the issues surrounding deer and their interactions with humans, discussing the current contraceptive projects implemented to manage deer and the public perception of those projects.

Hippos and GonaCon

The Washington Post reported that if the invasive hippos in Columbia go unmanaged their numbers could increase to 1,400 by the year 2039 if left alone. With culling publicly unacceptable and sterilization too expensive, officials have begun to contracept the hippos with GonaCon. Read more [here](#).

Deer Reduction in Canada

The Oak Bay province in Canada and the Urban Wildlife Stewardship Society began its deer contraception program back in 2019. After boosting the deer in 2020, an interim report posted online by the municipality shows a 60% decrease in the number of fawns born in 2020. The [Times Colonist](#) has the full story.

Click [here](#) to view more articles

Stephanie Boyles Griffin - Science and Policy Director
Monique Principi - Managing Director
Giovanna Massei - Director, BIWFC Europe
Rachel Soroka - Program Assistant
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