



**BOTSTIBER INSTITUTE**  
FOR WILDLIFE FERTILITY CONTROL

Newsletter  
Spring 2024

## Workshop on Wildlife Fertility Control **REGISTRATION CLOSES JUNE 3**

Register soon for the 1st Workshop on Wildlife Fertility Control at the University of York, June 17 & 18. The workshop will include:

- 15 talks from international experts, covering traditional topics such as contraceptives for mammals and birds, innovative aspects such as fertility control and rewilding, as well as understanding emotions to mitigate human-wildlife conflicts.
- The Earl of Kinnoull has accepted our invitation to be our guest of honor. Lord Kinnoull, who is a member of the House of Lords and chair of the UK Squirrel Accord and the Red Squirrel Survival Trust, has been a key supporter of research to develop oral contraceptives for non-native grey squirrels in the UK. You can read more about him and our other speakers as well, [HERE](#).
- The Head of Media Relations of the University of York, Alistair Keely, who will help us understand how we could be better at communicating science.
- A full day of discussions, facilitated by Pamela Abbott, Director of Natural Cambridgeshire, who is experienced in stakeholder engagement. Day 2 will give attendees the opportunity to share their views and interact with experts.



**Registration closes on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June.**  
*Space is limited so early registration is encouraged.*

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to our Program Assistant, Eboni Strickland, at [estrickland@botstiber.org](mailto:estrickland@botstiber.org).

To Register and [Read more](#).

**Webinars**

# WEBINAR

February 27, 2024  
10 AM, EST / 3 PM, UTC

## TOO MANY? EIGHT REASONS TO INVEST IN WILDLIFE FERTILITY CONTROL



*This webinar will present case studies where fertility control has been implemented as an alternative to or complementary to culling. Dr. Massei will discuss opportunities and challenges associated with the use of fertility control to manage wildlife and free-roaming livestock.*

Presented by  
**Dr. Giovanna Massei**  
Director, BIWFC Europe  
University of York



## Check out our recent webinar, "[Too Many? Eight Reasons to Invest in Wildlife Fertility Control,](#)"

presented by Dr. Giovanna Massei. Dr. Massei discussed case studies where fertility control has been implemented as an alternative or complementary approach to culling. Additionally, she went over opportunities and challenges associated with the use of fertility control in order to manage wildlife and free-roaming livestock. The session concluded with a comprehensive list of reasons to invest in this area. For more details, please visit the link below.

[Click here.](#)

## New BIWFC Video

BIWFC presents a new video featuring Douglas Eckery, Assistant Director, USDA APHIS Wildlife Services, National Wildlife Research Center. Dr. Eckery is also a member of the BIWFC Advisory Committee.

[Click here.](#)

## BIWFC at the VPC Conference



BIWFC staff participated in the Vertebrate Pest Conference in Monterey, CA in March. The conference featured discussions and developments in wildlife management strategies. BIWFC Europe Director Dr. Giovanna Massei served as a plenary speaker presenting "Eight Reasons for Investing in Research on Wildlife Fertility Control", co-authored by Jens Jacob and Stephanie Boyles-Griffin.

## BIWFC at the FREES Summit

The BIWFC sponsored a session on the use of remote darting to administer fertility control to wild horses and burros at the recent Free Roaming Equids

and Ecosystem Sustainability Network (FREES) Summit in Elko, Nevada. This year's summit was attended by more than 100 participants and focused on free-roaming equid interactions with wildlife. A blend of scientific talks, field experiences, and facilitated groups worked to connect wildlife, conservation, and wild horse and burro management interests. The goal of the FREES network is working together to achieve healthy wild horses and burros on healthy western landscapes.

## BIWFC attends Science Talk Conference

Larry Green, BIWFC's External Affairs Officer, attended Science Talk, the annual 2-day conference of the Association of Science Communicators. Over 250 communications professionals, writers, academics, podcasters, scientists, consultants, creatives, and students participated. Topics included Nonpartisan Science Communications in a Polarized World, Communicating Science Around the World: A Cross-Cultural Engagement Perspective, and Meaningfully Engaging Publics through Co-Creation.

BIWFC's Advisory Committee identified science communications as a priority and last year, the BIWFC established a Science Communications Working Group.

## News from Europe



### *A trip across the pond*

In March, when I attended the Vertebrate Pest Conference in Monterey, I took a couple of extra weeks to visit the area between San Francisco and Big Sur. Travelling from San Francisco to the Pinnacles National Park, I experienced the local version of the challenges of human-wildlife coexistence: black-tailed deer happily browsing among cars in downtown Pacific Grove; southern sea otters that have increased in recent decades around Monterey Bay and now raise concerns of competing with the fisheries; and posters throughout San Francisco's green spaces asking people not to feed coyotes and raccoons.

The vast croplands around Salinas, with little signs of wildlife, next to large areas dedicated to conservation, like the Pinnacles National Park, reminded me once again of some key differences between Europe and the USA. These continents cover similar surfaces (USA: 9,147,590 km<sup>2</sup> or 3,531,905 sq mi; Europe: 10,180,000 km<sup>2</sup> or 3,930,000 sq mi) but differ dramatically in human population size. With ~ 745 millions of people recorded in 2021, Europe has more than double the 331.5 million population in the US.

This is precisely why Europe, more urgently than other regions, needs help in shaping a form of human-wildlife coexistence that society aspires to. It is also why we need to talk about wildlife fertility control as one of the tools we have to meet this aspiration.

Giovanna  
[Read more](#)

For more BIWFC Europe news check the [here](#) section of our website.

## Wildlife Fertility Control Interactive Map

Our interactive global map allows users to view the geographic areas where wildlife fertility control projects are currently being implemented and offers details on target species, focus of the project, and contact information. Users can engage with the map by zooming in, panning, and clicking on project markers in order to access more information. Currently, there are over 50 projects identified and we continue to add projects regularly.

### WILDLIFE FERTILITY CONTROL PROJECTS WORLDWIDE

This interactive worldwide map displays the geographic areas where wildlife fertility control projects are currently being implemented. It also provides the target species, the focus of the project, and a contact for more information. Users can interact with the map by zooming in and out, panning to different areas, and clicking on individual project markers to access more detailed information. Check back often as we will continue to add new projects as they become available.



Click [here](#) or on the map to view more.

## Upcoming Events

### Upcoming Events

- **May 8, 2024, at 6:00 am Eastern Time (U.S. and Canada) - UKSA Grey Squirrel Fertility Control Research - registration link [Here](#)**
- **June 21-22, 2024, NYU Wild Animal Welfare Summit, NY. Our External Affairs Officer, Larry Green, will be in attendance.**
- **July 29, 2024 – August 1, 2024 - Australasian Vertebrate Pest Conference in 2024, Sydney, Australia - BIWFC will be a sponsor.**
- **September 21-27, 2024 - Joint American Association of Zoo Veterinarians/ European Association Zoo & Wildlife Veterinarian, Toronto, Canada - Giovanna Massei will be organizing a 1-day**

workshop on Wildlife Reproductive Management.

- **October 13-16, 2024, Pathways Europe, Cordoba, Spain - Theme is "Revisiting what is wild for coexisting" - Giovanni Massei is on the Advisory Board. BIWFC is a sponsor.**
- **October 19-23, 2024, The Wildlife Society (TWS) Annual Conference, Baltimore, Maryland, BIWFC will attend and host a workshop, more details to come.**
- **October 27 - 30, 2024, Animal Grantmakers 25th Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada - BIWFC will attend.**

## Fact Sheets

For downloadable fact sheets about fertility control products, please see [HERE](#)

## Repository

The BIWFC repository has grown to be a collection of over 100 papers. Please see what has been added recently:

- **Effects of pharmacological castration on endocrinological and chemical profiles in captive red and fallow deer (2023)**
- **Long-Tailed Macaque (*Macaca fascicularis*) Contraception Methods: A Systematic Review (2023)**
- **Colombian Hippos and Species Management: Exploring the Legal Case Surrounding the Management and Control of the Colombian Hippos from a Species Justice Perspective (2023)**
- **Triptonide is a reversible non-hormonal male contraceptive agent in mice and non-human primates. (2021)**
- **Development of peptides for targeting cell ablation agents concurrently to the Sertoli and Leydig cell populations of the testes: An approach to non-surgical sterilization**

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 [estrickland@botstiber.org](mailto:estrickland@botstiber.org). We will archive your work after reviewing the publishers' policy and guidelines.

## In the News

- **Researchers Set to Tackle the Growing Wild Boar Problem with Oral Contraception**

- **Controlling the Population of Animals in Conflict**
- **At last! Data shows Staten Island deer vasectomy program is paying off. Here's how.**
- **The Next Frontier in New York's War on Rats: Birth Control**

Click [here](#) to view more articles.

## Staff

Monique Principi - Managing Director  
Giovanna Massei - Director, BIWFC Europe  
Rosalie Lombardo - Communications Officer  
Lawrence Green - External Affairs Officer  
Claudia Milani - Project Assistant  
Eboni Strickland - Program Assistant  
Carolyn Rauch - Manager, Meetings and Events  
Daniel Fullam - Multimedia Production Specialist

Stephanie Boyles Griffin - Chair, Advisory Committee

## Stay Connected with BIWFC!

BIWFC is dedicated to keeping you informed of all major developments in the field of wildlife fertility control. We understand the importance of staying connected, and we invite you to join our social media community.

In addition to our website you can follow us on Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube to stay up-to-date on the latest news and events.



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For more information, please visit our [website](#)

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