

James W. Dawson

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EDUCATION

University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona

Master of Science, Wildlife Ecology, 1988
Division of Wildlife and Fisheries Science
School of Renewable Natural Resources
Thesis Advisor: R. William Mannan
Committee Members: William Shaw, Norman Smith
Dissertation Title: *The social organization of Harris's hawks in Arizona.*

University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona

Bachelor of Science, Wildlife Ecology, 1983
Division of Wildlife and Fisheries Science

RELEVANT EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

Turtle Ridge Wildlife Center, Salem, Oregon

Executive Director, 2012-2013
Served as contracted Director to develop the nonprofit structure and physical infrastructure in a grassroots center that treated injured and orphaned wild animals for eventual repatriation to the wild. I organized an Education Program to increase awareness and appreciation for Oregon's wildlife. Recruited and trained volunteer raptor handlers and presenters. Programs were targeted toward specific groups, including teens, young adults, adult learners and seniors. Presentation venues included Oregon Gardens, the 50 Plus Senior Center, Silver Falls State Park, Pringle Creek Community Center, Keizer Boys and Girls Club, and others.

High Desert Museum, Bend, Oregon

Curator of Living Collections, 2010 - 2012
In a multidisciplinary museum with an educational mission, I administrated education programming focused on the natural history of the High Desert Region, with an emphasis on animals. Supervised a staff of up to six people and a volunteer corps of 35 people who helped support the Wildlife Department. The Wildlife Department comprised exhibits with animals on permanent display and a programs section which produced original environmental education programs, often utilizing live wildlife.

Target audiences ranged from K -12, adult learning to senior adult learning. Both informal and formal programs were produced including advanced lecture series and modules for visiting college and university classes.

My position at the High Desert Museum involved the following:

- Presented over 600 hours of formal and informal lecture each year.
- Developed a diverse education program that addressed audiences of multiple age levels; K- 12, adult and senior learners. Programs included formal classroom courses, outreach programs, a diverse series of informal learning experiences, and stage programs utilizing live wildlife.
- Developed training curriculum for volunteer animal handlers and presenters (teen and adult) included over 150 hours of instruction and hands-on training.
- Enhanced and upgraded recording-keeping (veterinary, behavioral, and care records) in compliance with State and Federal permits.
- Supervised and managed the wildlife budget, including developing and implementing realistic costs.
- Collaborated closely with other Departments within the Museum (Living History, Communications) to build and support new exhibits and programs.

Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, Tucson, Arizona

Program Manager, Raptor Free Flight Program/Conservation Biologist, 2008-2010.

The Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum is an internationally acclaimed natural history museum with a living collection ranked among the top ten zoos in the world. I created and supervised the Museums premier program offering; the Raptor Free Flight Program. The program had an educational mission and utilized live birds to convey scientific information about the natural history and behavioral ecology of native birds to the public. Education activities included:

- Taught a series of formal lectures for The Naturalist Series and Advanced Docent Class, a program of continuing education for teachers, the interested public, and the Museums more than 150 volunteer interpreters.
- Developed course content for an adult course offering "Natural History of the Sonoran Desert" and taught courses.
- Created novel outdoor and indoor environmental education programs, including content, staging, animal training and choreography, and set design (arena programs).
- Developed curricula for training an effective Volunteer Program comprising 40 - 45 Volunteers who participated in care, handling, training and demonstration of birds.
- Tracked and managed project budget, supplies, food, and bird permits.
- Developed and conducted a Staff training program to quickly bring new employee skills up to professional levels.

Tucson Audubon Society, Tucson, Arizona

Instructor 2010

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Developed content and taught "Raptors 101", a fee-based, six-week course (15 hours total) on raptor identification, behavior, and conservation for adults. Formal lecture material presented in the classroom was augmented by two field trips.

WildEdge Conservation Science, Inc., Phoenix, Arizona

Executive Director, 2004-2008

Developed the Citizen Science Institute (CSI), a learning opportunity for volunteers and students interested in the methods of natural resource monitoring and survey. The goal of the institute is to empower volunteers to become more effective Citizen Scientists by providing them with focused education in the fundamentals of scientific methods. This was done through a variety of training programs, including short courses for local markets and longer inclusive courses for national and international markets.

Sonora Environmental Consultants, Inc., Catalina, Arizona

President, 1996-2000

I developed original education programs for grades K through 12 to inform and raise awareness for native wildlife. Programs were also developed for students, citizens groups and special events. Presentations incorporated live animals and a variety of bio-facts, games, and activities. Presenters were field biologists who emphasized personal experiences and current findings. Presentations were given to over 12,000 children and adults.

University of Guelph, Ontario Veterinary College, Guelph, Ontario, Canada.

Instructor, 1991

I organized and taught a three-day workshop on care and training methods for birds of prey at the Department of Veterinary Science, University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada. About 40 undergraduate and graduate students participated and the course was divided into 1/3 lecture, 1/3 practical demonstrations, and 1/3 personal instruction.

The St. Lucia Parrot Project, St. Lucia, West Indies.

Project Leader, 1994-1996

I managed a field program conducted on the Caribbean island of St. Lucia, an independent country in the Lesser Antilles Island group. A significant part of the program was to develop a course to train local biologists in conservation biology. I built curriculum specific to island issues and presented over 70 hours of lecture material relevant to island biogeography and conservation.

University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona

Graduate Teaching Assistant. 1987-1993

As a teaching assistant, I taught 2 lab sections per as part of a 1 semester course entitled "Wildlife conservation for nonmajors" (UA wfsc 126). The course the natural history of selected desert animals, ecological concepts,

and selected research techniques. Lab exercises were designed to promote an interest in wildlife and conservation as well as to impart information. Topics of controversy in wildlife management were presented in order to promote discussion in class and increase student awareness of current conservation issues. I led 5 field trips as part of the class. I taught this course for two semesters.

University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona

Graduate Teaching Assistant. 1987-1993

As a Teaching Assistant, I organized and taught a two-week lab section about raptor identification, ecology, management as part of a course entitled "Wildlife Management; Avian Species" (UA wfsc 446). I developed content and presented ecological and management information during lectures. I led a field trip to observe, trap and band raptors. The raptor section was made incorporated as a permanent part of the course. I taught this portion of the course for 8 semesters.

SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Publications:

Dawson, J. W. 1982. Golden Eagle mobbed while preying on Common Raven. Raptor Research 16:136.

Dawson, J. W. 1988. The cooperative breeding system of the Harris' Hawk in Arizona, MS thesis, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.

Dawson, J. W. 1995. Electrocution as a mortality factor in an urban population of Harris' hawks. Abstract in Journal of Raptor Research.

Dawson, J. W. and K. A. McClain. 2008. Avian electrocutions in Arizona, a comprehensive report. Liberty Wildlife Rehabilitation Foundations, Scottsdale, Arizona. 156 pages.

Dawson, J. W. and R. W. Mannan. 1989. A comparison of methods of estimating group size in the Harris' hawk. Auk 106:480-483.

Dawson, J. W. and R. W. Mannan. 1991a. The role territoriality in the social organization of the Harris' hawk. Auk 108: 661-672.

Dawson, J. W. and R. W. Mannan. 1991b. Dominance hierarchies and helper contributions in the Harris' hawk. Auk 108: 649-660.

Dawson, J. W. and R. W. Mannan. 1994. The ecology of Harris' hawks in urban environments, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Phoenix, Arizona.

Ellis, D.H., T. Craig, E. Craig, S. Postupalsky, C.T. LaRue, R.W. Nelson, D.W. Anderson, C.J. Henny, J. Watson, B.A. Millsap, J.W. Dawson, K.L. Cole, E.M. Martin, A. Margalida, and P. Kung. 2009. Unusual raptor nests around the world. *Journal of Raptor Research* 43:175-198.

Vleck, C.M., N. A. Mays, J.W. Dawson, and A. R. Goldsmith. 1991. Hormonal correlates of parental and helping behavior in cooperatively breeding Harris' Hawks (*Parabuteo unicinctus*). *Auk* 108: 638-648.

Mays N.A., Vleck, C. M., and J. W. Dawson. 1991. Plasma luteinizing hormone, steroid hormones, behavioral role, and nest stage in cooperatively breeding Harris' (*Parabuteo unicinctus*). *Auk* 108: 619-637.

Bednarz, J. C., J. W. Dawson, and W. H. Whaley. 1988. The status of the Harris' hawk in the southwestern United States. IN: Proceedings of the southwest raptor management symposium and workshop. (R. L. Glinski, B. Giron Pendleton, M. B. Moss, M. N. LeFranc Jr., B. A. Milsap, S. W. Hoffman, Eds.) National Wildlife Federation, Washington, D.C.

Ellis, D., T. Craig, E. Craig, S. Postupalsky, C. LaRue, R. Nelson, D. Anderson, C. Henny, J. Watson, B. Millsap¹, J. Dawson, K. Cole, E. Martin, A. Margalida, and P. Kung. 2009. Unusual Raptor Nests Around The World. *Journal of Raptor Research* 43(3):175-198.

Sheehy, R. R., J. W. Dawson, and K.K. Oishi. 2010. Polyandry and polygyny in cooperative breeding groups of Harris' hawks (*Parabuteo unicinctus*). Submitted to the National Academy of Science.

Book Chapters:

Dawson, J. W. 1998. The Harris' hawk. IN: *Raptors of Arizona*. (R. L. Glinski, Ed.), University of Arizona Press, Tucson.

Dawson, J. W. 1998. The Prairie Falcon. IN: *Raptors of Arizona*. (R. L. Glinski, Ed.), University of Arizona Press, Tucson.

Dawson, J. W. 1998. The Great Horned Owl. IN: *Raptors of Arizona*. (R. L. Glinski, Ed.), University of Arizona Press, Tucson.

Dawson, J. W. and B. C. Taubert. 1998. Falconry. IN: *Raptors of Arizona*. (R. L. Glinski, Ed.), University of Arizona Press, Tucson.

Mannan, R. W., C. W. Boal, W. J. Burroughs, J. W. Dawson, T. S. Estabrook, and W. S. Richardson. 2000. Nest sites of five raptor species along an urban gradient. 447-453. in Chancellor, R. D. and B-U. Meyburg, editors. *Raptors at risk: proceedings of the V world conference on birds of prey and owls*. Hancock House and World Working Group on Birds of Prey. Berlin, Germany.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Valley Forward Environmental Award for the installation of a Burrowing Owl Artificial Colony at the Redhawk Power Plant west of Phoenix, 2005.

Governor's Excellence Award for Business Design, Development of a company-wide system of reporting bird electrocutions and planning corrective work. Presented to M. Neil (APS), Jan Barrett (APS) and J. Dawson (Liberty Wildlife), 2004.

J.D. Powers and Associates 2002, Systems Award for Avian Electrocution Protection Plan, Awarded to M. Neil (APS) and J. Dawson (Liberty Wildlife), 2002.

Seegmiller Award for Excellence in Research, School of Renewable Natural Resources, University of Arizona, 1992.

Extramural Graduate Predoctoral Fellowship, Graduate College, University of Arizona, 1991.

Ray E. Cowden Scholarship, School of Renewable Natural Resources, University of Arizona, 1990.

Seegmiller Award for Excellence in Research, School of Renewable Natural Resources, University of Arizona, 1989.

James R. Silliman Memorial Research Grant, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Arizona, 1986.

REFERENCES

	Years Known:	Title and Contact Information:
Dr. Richard Brusca, PhD (Senior Supervisor)	12	Executive Director; 2008 - 2011 Director, Research & Conservation (2003-2008) Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum 2021 N. Kinney Rd. Tucson, AZ 85743-8918 Phone: 520-906-8174

CV: http://www.desertmuseum.org/center/scidept_cv_brusca.php

Dr. William Mannan, PhD (Thesis Advisor)	30	Chair, Wildlife and Fisheries Resources Program; 2006 - Present School of Natural Resources 325 Biosciences East University of Arizona Tucson, AZ 85721 Phone: 520-621-7283
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CV: <http://www.snr.arizona.edu/files/cv/Mannan%20CV.pdf>

Karen Krebs (Supervisor)	27	Collections Manager (Curator), Department of Mammalogy and Ornithology; 1996 - 1999 Conservation Biologist, Center for Sonoran Desert Studies; 1999 - Present Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum 2021 N. Kinney Rd. Tucson, AZ 85743-8918 Phone (in field): 520-883-5855/ 520-241-0683
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CV: http://www.desertmuseum.org/center/scidept_cv_krebs.php

Chad Stewart (Recent Student/Trainee)	.5	Lead Raptor Handler, TRWC 850 Stephanie Street, Apt. #37 Monmouth, Oregon 97361 Phone: 971-600-5751
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