

## **STEPHEN DESTEFANO**

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### **Degrees:**

Ph.D. in Wildlife Science, University of Idaho, Moscow (1989)  
M. S. in Wildlife Ecology, University of Wisconsin, Madison (1982)  
B. S. in Wildlife Biology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst (1978)

### **UMass Employment:**

Unit Leader & Research Professor, U. S. Geological Survey Massachusetts Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit & Department of Environmental Conservation, Univ. of Massachusetts-Amherst (1999-present)

### **RESEARCH**

Wildlife ecology: populations, habitat relationships, and human-wildlife interactions

### **Research Description:**

Wildlife population dynamics and wildlife-habitat relationships, particularly in forest ecosystems and urban/suburban environments. Currently focused on large mammals – their ecology, movements, interactions with human development, and habitat use in southern New England, with the goal of informing conservation efforts for species with large spatial requirements in fragmented landscapes.

### **Current student research projects:**

Experimental assessment of ungulate browsing on forest composition and structure, Ed Faison (collaborator)  
Ecology, landscape use, and demography of urban and rural black bears, Kathy Zeller, Postdoc  
Public attitudes toward black bears and black bear management, Laura Conlee, PhD  
Genomics of Canada lynx in Maine, Tanya Lama, PhD (co J. Organ)  
Landscape conservation for Andean bears in Peru, Nereyda Falconi, PhD (co J. Organ)  
Management of hemlock as a component of urban forests, Richard Harper, PhD (co D. Bloniarz)  
Assessing attitudes and impacts associated with alternative ammunition for hunting, Christopher Cahill, MS  
Assessing hunter values, expectations, and satisfaction regarding controlled deer hunts, Susan McCarthy, MS  
The ecological value of Norway spruce plantations in Massachusetts, Calvin Ritter, MS

### **Grants received since 2012:**

2012-2019, Mass. Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, \$880,000  
2012-2019, Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation, \$150,000  
2012-2019, Co-PI, Harvard Forest LTER for ungulate-forest interactions, approx. \$50,000  
2014-2019, Co-PI, USGS and USFWS, \$150,000  
2015-2019, Co-PI, Maine Dept. Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, \$250,000

### **Publications since 2013:**

Bocsi, T., P. S. Warren, R. W. Harper, and S. DeStefano. 2018. Wildlife habitat management on college and university campuses. *Cities and the Environment* 11:<http://digitalcommons.lmu.edu/cate/vol11/iss1/1>.

DeStefano, S., and C. Boal. 2018. Perspectives and future directions. Pages 273-286 in C. Boal and C. Dykstra, Eds. *Urban raptors: ecology and conservation of birds of prey in an urbanizing world*. Island Press, Washington, D.C.

Harper, R. W., E. S. Huff, D. V. Bloniarz, S. DeStefano, and C. R. Nicolson. 2018. Characteristics of successful volunteer-led urban forest tree committees in Massachusetts. *Urban Forestry and Urban Greening* 34:311-317.

Schlossberg, S., D. I. King, S. DeStefano, and M. J. Hartley. 2018. Effects of early-successional shrubland management on breeding wood thrush populations. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 82:1572–1581. DOI: 10.1002/jwmg.21559

- Tucker, M. et al. 2018. Moving in the Anthropocene: Global reductions in terrestrial mammalian movements. *Science* 359:466-469. DOI: 10.1126/science.aam9712.
- Wattles, D. W., K. A. Zeller, and S. DeStefano. 2018. Range expansion in unfavorable environments through behavioral responses to microclimatic conditions: moose (*Alces americanus*) as the model. *Mammalian Biology* 93:189-197.
- Wattles, D. W., K. A. Zeller, and S. DeStefano. 2018. Response of moose to a high-density road network. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 82:929-939.
- Zeller, K. A., D. W. Wattles, and S. DeStefano. 2018. Incorporating road crossing data into vehicle collision risk models for moose (*Alces americanus*) in Massachusetts, USA. *Environmental Management* 62:518-528.
- Harper, R. W., D. V. Bloniarz, S. DeStefano, and C. R. Nicolson. 2017. Urban forest management in New England: towards a contemporary understanding of tree wardens in Massachusetts communities. *Arboricultural Journal* 39:162-178.
- Faison, E. K., S. DeStefano, D. R. Foster, J. M. Rapp, and J. Compton. 2016. Multiple browsers structure tree recruitment in logged temperate forests. *PLoS One* <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0166783>.
- Faison, E. K., S. DeStefano, D. R. Foster, G. Motzkin, and J. M. Rapp. 2016. Ungulate browsers promote herbaceous layer diversity in logged temperate forests. *Ecology and Evolution* 6:4591-4602.
- Faison, E. K., D. R. Foster, and S. DeStefano. 2016. Long-term deer exclusion has complex effects on a suburban forest understory. *Rhodora* 118:382-402.
- Clark, D. E., S. DeStefano, K. G. MacKenzie, K. K. G. Koenen, and J. W. Whitney. 2016. Roost site selection by ring-billed and herring gulls. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 80:708-719.
- Clark, D. E., K. K. G. Koenen, J. W. Pereira, K. G. MacKenzie, and S. DeStefano. 2016. Fidelity and persistence of ring-billed gulls (*Larus delawarensis*) and herring gulls (*Larus argentatus*) to wintering sites in Massachusetts. *Waterbirds* 39:220-234.
- Faison, E. K., S. DeStefano, D. R. Foster, and A. Barker-Plotkin. 2016. Functional response of ungulate browsers in disturbed eastern hemlock forests. *Forest Ecology and Management* 362:177-183.
- Strules, J., and S. DeStefano. 2016. Seasonal foraging responses of beavers to sodium-enhanced foods: an experimental assessment with field feeding trials. *Journal of Mammalogy* 97:89-101.
- Clark, D. E., J. W. Whitney, K. G. MacKenzie, K. K. G. Koenen, and S. DeStefano. 2015. Assessing gull abundance and food availability in urban parking lots. *Human-Wildlife Interactions* 9:180-190.
- Clark, D. E., K. G. Koenen, J. Pereira, K. MacKenzie, and S. DeStefano. 2014. Evaluation of a net launcher for capturing urban gulls. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 38:605-610.
- Lerman, S. B., K. H. Nislow, D. J. Nowak, S. DeStefano, D. I. King, and D. T. Jones-Farrand. 2014. Using urban forest assessment tools to model bird habitat potential. *Landscape and Urban Planning* 122:29-40.
- DeStefano, S. 2013. Status and potential impacts of invasive grasses and grass-like vegetation on New England wildlife. *Wildlife Society Bulletin*
- DeStefano, S., K. K. G. Koenen, and J. Pereira. 2013. Common loon incubates rocks as surrogates for eggs. *Northeastern Naturalist* 20:143-147.
- Nishida, C., C.W. Boal, S. DeStefano, and R. G. Hobbs. 2013. Nesting habitat and productivity of Swainson's hawks in Southeastern Arizona. *Journal of Raptor Research* 47:377-384.
- Wattles, D., and S. DeStefano. 2013. Space use and movements of moose in Massachusetts: implications for conservation of large mammals in a fragmented environment. *Alces* 49:65-81.
- Wattles, D., and S. DeStefano. 2013. Moose habitat in Massachusetts: assessing use at the southern edge of the range. *Alces* 49:133-147.

## TEACHING

ECo 601 Research Concepts, 2002-2018 (almost 300 graduate students in 17 years)  
 ECo 697CP Conservation in Practice, 2015, 2017

## MISCELLANEOUS

Graduate education opportunities for working professionals, 2008-present – currently 4 employees with cooperating agencies working on graduate degrees; we have graduated several others who have gone on to acquire promotions, leadership positions, and pay raises within their agencies  
 Leadership Award, U. S. Geological Survey, Cooperative Research Unit Program, 2017