

Kirby L. Mills - Curriculum Vitae

Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
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Education

Ph.D. Candidate - Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
University of Michigan

Ph.D. expected May 2024

M.S. - Conservation Ecology
University of Michigan - School for Environment and Sustainability (UM SEAS)
GPA: 3.9/4.0

May 2019

B.S. - Environmental Sustainability
University of Oklahoma - Geography and Environmental Sustainability (OU GES)
Minor in Biological Conservation; GPA: 3.75/4.0

May 2017

Peer-reviewed publications

2020

Mills, Kirby L., N. C. Harris. 2020. "Humans disrupt access to prey for large African carnivores." *eLife* 9, e60690. DOI: 10.7554/eLife.60690

Mills, Kirby L., Y. Harrisou, I. T. Gnoumou, Y. I. Abdel-Naseer, B. Doamba, and N. C. Harris. 2020. "Comparable space use by lions between hunting concessions and national parks in West Africa." *Journal of Applied Ecology* 57, 975-984. DOI: 10.1111/1365-2664.13601

2019

Harris, Nyeema C., K. L. Mills, Y. Harrisou, E. M. Hema, I. T. Gnoumou, J. VanZoeren, Y. I. Abdel-Naseer, B. Doamba. 2019. "First camera survey in Burkina Faso and Niger reveals human pressures on mammal communities within the largest protected area complex in West Africa." *Conservation Letters* 5(12), e12667. DOI: 10.1111/conl.12667

In review/prep

Gamez, Siria, A. Potts, K. L. Mills, ... N. C. Harris. "Downtown Diet: a global meta-analysis of urbanization on consumption patterns of vertebrate predators." in review at *Proceedings of the Royal Academy of Sciences B*.

Harris, Nyeema C., K. L. Mills. "Do Critically Endangered West African lions still exert top-down pressures?" in prep.

Conference presentations

Oral presentations:

2019

"Impacts of management and habitat on the occupancy of critically endangered lions in West Africa."

- American Society of Mammalogy Annual Meeting - Washington, D.C.
- The Wildlife Society & American Fisheries Society Conference - Reno, NV.

Poster presentations: ¹undergraduate student

2019

Mills, Kirby L. Management generates a landscape of behavioral tradeoffs influencing space use of critically endangered lions in West Africa.

- University of Michigan STEM V conference: Innovation and Appropriate Technology in Africa - Ann Arbor, MI
- Awarded Best Graduate Student Poster

2018

Mills, Kirby L., J. VanZoeren¹ and N. C. Harris. Understanding the drivers of West African lion (*Panthera leo*) space use: a comprehensive modelling approach.

- Ecological Society of America - New Orleans, LA.

Mills, Kirby L., J. VanZoeren¹ and N. C. Harris. Priority hotspots for the critically endangered West African lion (*Panthera leo*): spatial techniques for targeted management decisions.

- North American Congress for Conservation Biology - Toronto, ON.

VanZoeren, J.¹, **K. L. Mills** and N. C. Harris. Spatial and temporal overlap between lions (*Panthera leo*) and humans in a protected area complex of West Africa.

- North American Congress for Conservation Biology - Toronto, ON.

Lyons, M.¹, **K. L. Mills** and N. C. Harris. Aggregating data sources to improve understanding of terrestrial mammal distribution in W-Arly-Pendjari complex, West Africa.

- Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting - New Orleans, LA.

Research Grants

2021

African Studies Center Support for Research (UM) - \$2,500

2020

International Institute Individual Fellowship (UM) - \$4,500

American Society of Mammalogists Grants-in-Aid of Research - \$1,500

Dr. Nancy Williams Walls Award for Field Research (UM EEB) - \$1,112

2019

Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant (UM) - \$1,500

Research Grant (UM SEAS) - \$1,000

American Society of Mammalogists 2019 Conference Travel Grant - \$250

The Wildlife Society 2019 Conference Travel Grant - \$450

Rackham Conference Travel Grant - \$800

2018

Rackham Conference Travel Grant (UM) - \$1,050

Graduate Student Travel Grant (UM SEAS) - \$250

Honors, Awards, and Fellowships

2020

EEB Departmental Fellowship (UM)

2019

Best Graduate Student Poster - UM STEM V Conference: Innovation and Appropriate Technology in Africa

2017

Wheeler Fellowship (UM SEAS)

Graduate with Special Distinction (OU GES)

Honor's College Award for Distinction in Undergraduate Research (OU)

2014

Oklahoma State Regents' Scholarship (OU) - 3 years

Commended by National Merit Scholarship Corporation

Teaching Experience

University of Michigan - 2017-2021

Graduate Student Instructor

- EEB 410 Capstone (1 term)
- BIO 171 Introductory Biology (1 term)
- EARTH 408 Introductory GIS (4 terms)

Olympia Prep (Oklahoma City, OK) - 2017

ACT Preparatory Instructor for high school students

Seminole State College (Seminole, OK) - 2014

Peer Tutor for community college students in zoology, math (algebra through calculus III), physics, and English

Professional Societies

- American Society of Mammalogists
- Society for Conservation Biology
- The Wildlife Society
- Association of Zoos and Aquariums

Professional Service

Outside reviewer

Global Ecology and Conservation

Undergraduate student research

University of Michigan

Jenna VanZoeren

Samantha Lima

Michael Lyons

Sofia Kruzka
Emily Xin-Yi Teh
Indira Sankaran

Relevant Advanced Coursework

University of Michigan

Evolution; Dr. Lacey Knowles - Winter 2020
Preparation for International Fieldwork; Dr. Bilal Butt - Winter 2020
Ecology of Predation; Instructed by Dr. Nyeema Harris - Fall 2019
Molecular Approaches; Dr. Tom Duda - Fall 2019
Analysis & Modelling of Ecological Data; Dr. Inés Ibáñez - Winter 2019
Forest Ecology and Management; Dr. Inés Ibáñez - Fall 2018
Models & Inference; Dr. Aaron King - Fall 2018
Biology of Mammals; Dr. Priscilla Tucker - Winter 2018
Population & Community Ecology; Dr. Deborah Goldberg - Fall 2017

University of Oklahoma

Conservation Genetics; Dr. J. Phil Gibson - Spring 2017
Advanced GIS; Dr. Rebecca Loraamm - Spring 2017
Biological Conservation; Dr. Jeremy Ross - Fall 2016
Spatial Statistics using R; Dr. Thomas Neeson - Fall 2016