

## Chris Wojan

PhD Candidate, University of Minnesota - Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior Program

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## EDUCATION

### PhD in Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior

University of Minnesota

2021 – present

### Master of Science in Biology

New Mexico State University

4.0 out of 4.0 GPA

Specialization in Ecology, Minor in Applied Statistics

2012 - 2014

### Bachelor of Science in Ecology and Environmental Biology

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

3.87 out of 4.0 GPA, *summa cum laude*

University Honors Program

2008 - 2012

## PUBLICATIONS

### Preprints/In Review/In Press

Shaw, A, Bisesi, A, **Wojan, C**, Kim, D, Torstenson, M, Naven Narayanan, Lutz, P, Ales, R, Shao, C. Six strategies for framing theoretical research questions. Authorea. April 17, 2024. doi: [10.22541/au.171335738.80601512/v1](https://doi.org/10.22541/au.171335738.80601512/v1)

Pandey, A, **Wojan, C**, Feuka, A, Craft, M, Manlove, K, Pepin, K. The influence of social and spatial processes on the epidemiology of environmentally transmitted pathogens in wildlife: implications for management. *In Press at Phil Trans B*

Kendig, A, Adhikari, A, Lane, B, **Wojan, C**, Kortessis, N, Simon, M, Barfield, M, Harmon, P, Holt, R, Clay, K, Goss, E and Flory, SL. Effects of disease emergence on invasive grass impacts. <https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2022.03.09.483680v1.abstract>

Lane, B, **Wojan, C**, Meehan, C, Kendig, A, Holt, B, Harmon, P, Clay, K, Flory, SL, and Goss, E. Foliar pathogen epidemic slows decomposition of invasive plant litter. *In review*

### Published

Lane, B, Kendig, A, **Wojan, C**, Adhikari, A, Jusino, M, Kortessis, N, Simon, M, Holt, R, Smith, M, Clay, K, Flory, SL, Harmon, P, and Goss, E. (2023) Succession and response to perturbation of the foliar fungal phytobiome of an invasive grass. *Phytobiomes* 7(2): 198-207.

**Wojan, C**, Thrasher, T, Lacey, E, and Clay, K. (2022) Distribution, Dynamics, and Diversity of Questing Ticks in the Lower Midwest. *Journal of Medical Entomology* 59(1): 273-282.

**Wojan C**, Knapp S, Mabry K. (2015) Spatial variation in population density affects dispersal behavior in brush mice. *Ecology* 96: 1661-1669.

**Wojan C**, Devoe A, Merten E, Wellnitz T. (2014) Web-building spider response to a logjam in a northern Minnesota stream. *American Midland Naturalist* 172(1):185-190.

### Book Chapters

Kendig A, Flory SL, Goss E, Holt R, Clay K, Harmon P, Lane B, Adhikari A, **Wojan C.** (2020) The Role of Pathogens in Plant Invasions. Anna Traveset and David M. Richardson, editors. *Plant Invasions: The Role of Biotic Interactions*. CAB International Press. Wallingford, UK.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

#### Poster Presentations

Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Diseases 2023

- “When does space matter? (In disease modeling)”

Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Diseases 2022

- “Investigating the interacting influences of individual variation in host space use and environmental parasite spatial arrangement on parasite burdens”

99th Annual Ecological Society of America Meeting

- “Patterns of change in population density experienced by dispersing brush mice (*Peromyscus boylii*).”

97th Annual Ecological Society of America Meeting

- “Do stream logjams influence riparian web spider density and distribution?”
- “Stochastic vs. niche-based processes: What drives lichen community assembly following fire disturbance?”
- “Does elevation modify aquatic export to riparian habitats?”

96th Annual Ecological Society of America Meeting

- “Assembly of lichen communities on rocky shorelines of the north woods.”
- “Microhabitat scale influences on benthic macroinvertebrate communities.”

#### Oral Presentations

Friday Noon Seminar (U of Minnesota – Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior), Fall 2023

- “R Workshop: Loops, Functions, and the purr package”

Lunch with a Scientist (Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve), Summer 2023

- “Ticks and Prescribed Fire”

eeBehavior Group Seminar (U of Minnesota - Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior), Spring 2023

- “Environmental Parasite Burdens: Abundance, Clustering, and Host Movement”

eeBehavior Group Seminar (U of Minnesota - Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior), Fall 2021

- “Patterns of change in population density experienced by dispersing brush mice (*Peromyscus boylii*)”

Ecolunch Seminar (Indiana University Biology Dept.), Spring 2021

- “Distribution, Dynamics, and Diversity of Questing Ticks in Indiana”

Environmental Resilience Institute 2018 Fall Symposium at Indiana University

- “Project Vector Shield: Establishing a surveillance network to evaluate spatiotemporal patterns in ticks and mosquitoes.”

72nd Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference

- “Riparian spider response to logjam-mediated aquatic insect emergence.”

UW-Eau Claire Biological Sciences Seminar Series, Spring 2012

- “Effects of altitude on aquatic/riparian arthropod communities in Andean streams.”
- “Fire mediates the importance of stochastic assembly in lichen communities of the BWCAW.”

2nd Annual Provost’s Honors Symposium at UW-Eau Claire

- “Stochastic vs. niche-based processes: What drives lichen community assembly following fire disturbance?”

## FUNDING AND AWARDS

DSI-MnDRIVE PhD Graduate Assistantship Program (\$32,683.71), 2024-2025

Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Summer Fellowship (\$3,240), 2024

Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Summer Fellowship (\$2,970), 2023

Darby and Geri Nelson Environmental Scholar Award (\$2,277), 2023

Florence Rothman Research Fellowship (\$500), 2022

Bell Museum Natural History Award (\$2,500), 2022

University of Minnesota Excellence Fellowship, 2021-2022

New Mexico State University Tuition Fellowship, 2012-2014

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Outstanding Senior Award, 2012

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire CIE International Fellowship, 2012

3rd Place – UW-Eau Claire Student Research Day, Earth and Life Sciences, 2011

Ralph Duxbury Scholarship, UW-Eau Claire Biology Dept., 2011

Terry Balding Scholarship, UW-Eau Claire Biology Dept., 2011

UW Eau Claire Office of Research & Sponsored Programs Grants (4), 2010, 2011, 2011, 2012

## PRIOR EXPERIENCE

Research Associate, Indiana University

*February 2018-June 2021*

Lead Temporary Field Technician, NEON, Inc.,

*April 2017-November 2017*

Temporary Field Technician, NEON, Inc.,

*May 2016 – November 2016*

Research Assistant, Jornada Experimental Range,

*June 2014-January 2016*

MS Candidate, New Mexico State University Biology Dept.,

*August 2012-May 2014*

Undergrad Researcher, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

*September 2010-August 2012*

## **TEACHING**

Lab Instructor, University of Minnesota - Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior, *2022-2023*

Lab Instructor, New Mexico State University Biology Dept., *2012-2014*

## **MENTORING**

Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve Intern Program Mentor, *2024*

- Amani Khan, Emma Hester, Henri Searles (“Transcendental Ecology” short film project)

Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve Intern Program Mentor, *2023*

- An Le, Lael Licht, Francesca LoPresti (Evaluating aquatic macroinvertebrate sampling methods)

Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve Intern Program Mentor, *2022*

- Andrea Knoll (Effects of weather on tick activity across oak savanna habitats)

Summer Scholars Program Mentor, University of Minnesota, *2022*

- Lisa Meyer (Tick-borne disease ecology, advanced data analysis with R)

Field Guides Mentor, University of Minnesota, *2022 – Present*

- Jessica Fellows (General academic and career advice)
- Nikki Pyle (General academic and career advice)

## **SERVICE AND ORGANIZATION INVOLVEMENT**

SciPride Bell Museum Board Game Booth Volunteer, *2024*

Institute on the Environment Graduate Scholar, *2023 - 2024*

Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve Summer Fellow, *2023, 2024*

Board Game Booth Volunteer at the Bell Museum, *2023*

Market Science Booth Volunteer, *2022*

UMN EEB Friday Noon Seminar Committee, *2021 - ongoing*

Volunteer Mobile Meals Delivery Person, Wausau, WI *2017*

NMSU Ecology Club, Member *2013 – 2014*

NMSU Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society, Member *2013 - 2014*

Volunteer PetSmart Cat Caretaker, Las Cruces, NM *2012-2013*

NMSU Biology Graduate Student Organization, Member *2012 – 2014*

UW-Eau Claire Reef Team, Member *2010-2012*