

GEM3 Graduate Student Recognized During Idaho Wildlife Society Conference



Eden Ravecca, a graduate student in the MS Raptor Biology program at Boise State University and participant in the Idaho NSF EPSCoR GEM3 Program, was recently awarded a \$2,000 grant through the Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society (ICTWS). The purpose of the ICTWS Management, Conservation, & Education Grant is to promote and financially assist projects that further the purpose of scientifically sound wildlife and habitat management in Idaho.



Ravecca is a member of the Quantitative Conservation Lab under the mentorship of Dr. Jen Cruz, Assistant Professor in Population Ecology and new hire under the Idaho NSF EPSCoR GEM3 Program. Ravecca received the award during the 2021 virtual ICTWS conference on February 22-26, 2021, which brought together over 200 students, faculty, and stakeholders from around the state. During ICTWS, she presented her research poster titled, “Are Predators able to Adapt to Landscape Changes in the Sagebrush Steppe?” and also received recognition of “Wildlife & People’s Choice” for her wildlife photography with “Raptorial Beauty-Barred Owl.”

See Eden Ravecca’s profile statement below:

“For my Master’s thesis research, I am evaluating how landscape changes in the Sagebrush Steppe have impacted predators and prey. Practicing restoration ecology traditionally assumes that if we restore plant communities, prey and predators which previously occupied the habitat will return. I am assessing how prey distributions have potentially shifted in degraded habitats and whether those changes have modified predator foraging decisions, with a particular focus on raptors. Before joining the Raptor Biology MS Program at Boise State University, I was an Environmental Scientist & Avian Field Biologist for an environmental engineering company in Northern Colorado. I also recently worked as a Burrowing Owl Field Technician with the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission. I received a Bachelor of Science from Colorado State University’s Warner College of Natural Resources in Fish, Wildlife, & Conservation Biology. My research interests include trophic interactions, population dynamics, and apex predator-prey relationships. My ultimate goal is to meaningfully contribute to raptor and ecosystem conservation through research and to help inform conservation strategies and management decisions.”

To learn more about Ravecca’s work visit:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cZ8dHEBz3nAwqPjkPK_LhTbzfbuZRLyw/view

