

***Poster Size and Display:***

Please limit your poster size to 32"x 44". Orientation can be either portrait or landscape; each presenter will have a 4x4 foot space for their poster, which will provide a place to hang the poster and other information such as handouts or business cards. Presenters are required to assemble and disassemble their own poster and to provide tacks or push pins to hang their poster.

Poster presenters should attend the Poster Session at the meeting to answer questions. Breaks and socials will be organized around the Posters to encourage discussion between attendees and poster presenters.

All presenters will receive an e-mail confirmation of their abstract submission and acceptance or placement on a waiting list within two weeks of abstract submission. Notification of the time and place of presentation or poster will be sent in late January, after the conference schedule is complete.

**Please email your abstracts to the appropriate Program Chair below by December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019.**

**Subject Line: "JAM Abstract Submission"**

Oral and poster presentations for **fisheries:**

Ryan Follmuth, [rfollmuth@azgfd.gov](mailto:rfollmuth@azgfd.gov)

Oral and poster presentations for **wildlife:**

Andrew Jones, [A.Jones@azgfd.gov](mailto:A.Jones@azgfd.gov)

**ABSTRACT EXAMPLE**

Authors:

James W. Pitman, New Mexico State University, Department of Fish Wildlife and Conservation Ecology, 2980 South Espina, Knox Hall 132, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003; [jwpitman@nmsu.edu](mailto:jwpitman@nmsu.edu)

James W. Cain III, U.S. Geological Survey New Mexico Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, New Mexico State University, Department of Fish Wildlife and Conservation Ecology, 2980 South Espina, Knox Hall 132, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88033; [jwcain@nmsu.edu](mailto:jwcain@nmsu.edu).

Stewart G. Liley, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, 1 Wildlife Way, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87507; [Stewart.Liley@state.nm.us](mailto:Stewart.Liley@state.nm.us)

Title:

Post-parturition habitat selection by elk calves and adult female elk in New Mexico

Abstract:

Neonatal survival and juvenile recruitment are crucial to maintaining elk (*Cervus elaphus*) populations, and neonate survival is known to be influenced by many factors, including bed site selection. While neonates select the bed site, they must do so within the larger calf-rearing area selected by the mother. Our objectives were to characterize bedsite selection by calves and calf-rearing area selection by adult females at two spatial scales in areas with different predator assemblages. We captured 107 elk calves and fitted them with ear tag transmitters in the Valle Vidal and Gila National Forest. We found that concealing cover structure and distance to that cover were important in bed site selection of young calves (i.e., <2 weeks of age). Older calves (i.e., 3-10 weeks of age) still selected areas in relation to distance to cover but also preferred areas with higher visibility. When we expanded to the larger spatial scale of calf-rearing habitat selection by the adult female, concealing cover (e.g., rocks, shrubs, logs) and other variables important to the hiding calves were still in the most supported models, but selection was also influenced by forage availability and indices of forage quality. Studies that seek to obtain insight into microhabitat selection of neonates should consider selection by both the neonate and adult female and changes in selection as neonates age.

\*\*Student

\*\*Poster