



BOTSTIBER INSTITUTE  
FOR WILDLIFE FERTILITY CONTROL

## *Fertility Control to Mitigate Human-Wildlife Conflicts*

September 30, 2020 at 3:30 PM

The Wildlife Society (TWS) 27th Annual Conference

September 27 – October 1, 2020, Louisville, Kentucky

As human populations increase and urbanization expands, conflicts between humans and wildlife are growing exponentially. Traditional methods to resolve such conflicts generally focus on lethal management including shooting, trapping and toxicants.

It is clear that integrated management practices offer the best chances of success, however, there are situations when the tools available are limited. For example, in some situations lethal methods may be logistically unfeasible, illegal, socially and/or politically unacceptable, or ineffective. In the late 20th century, researchers began exploring the possibility of mitigating conflicts by using fertility control to manage wildlife populations.

Over the years, an array of methods have been developed and field tested for both wildlife and free-roaming feral populations of animals. Significant progress has been made in the development of both agents and delivery systems, as well as in modelling the impact of fertility control, alone or in conjunction with more traditional methods, to manage these populations. Some challenges remain, mainly related to feasibility, costs and sustainability that must be overcome to meet the demand by the public and wildlife managers for effective, alternative methods that can be incorporated into successful management practices.

This symposium will feature a series of research and case studies on the use of fertility control methods to manage overabundant wildlife/free-roaming populations in a wide spectrum of contexts and species, highlight advantages and limitations of using fertility control to manage animal populations, and provide information on current research towards new tools for fertility control.

**Organizers:** *Doug Eckery, USDA APHIS WS National Wildlife Research Center, Fort Collins, CO*

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