

## CURRICULUM VITAE

**LINDSAY TOWNS** B.Sc., M.Sc.  
Project Biologist



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### Work Experience

- Sept 2009 **Junior Project Manager: Eco-Web Ecological Consulting Ltd. Fort St. John, BC**  
Project biologist in the ecological services division. Assisting in coordinating field activities and reporting.
- Aug 2009 **Wildlife Technician: Hallstrom Associates Environmental, Calgary, Alberta**  
Wetland delineation and fisheries sampling on the Rose Bud River for a storm water pond and outfall project in Didsbury, AB.
- Sept 2007- **English Teacher: English First Training Centre, Wenzhou, Zhejiang, China**  
Sept 2008  
Taught English classes to students of all ages and skill level. Helped students learn and/or improve their writing, listening, reading and speaking skills through fun and effective lesson plans. Produced many teaching materials, participated in marketing events, held parent-teacher meetings, and hosted an awards ceremony.
- Sept 2003 - **Graduate Teaching Assistant: University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta**  
Apr 2006  
Taught lab for the course *Principles of Ecology*. Motivated students, communicated information effectively, and evaluated student performance. Subject areas included statistical analyses, inter- and intraspecific competition, aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, sampling and density estimation.
- Apr - Aug **Field Research Assistant: Delta Waterfowl Foundation, Minnedosa, Manitoba**  
2003  
Raccoon (*Procyon lotor*) and skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*) population dynamic study
- Feb - Apr **Field Research Assistant: University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri**  
2003  
Population density study of rabbits (*Lepus* spp.) and small mammals in buffered and un-buffered riparian habitats on private agricultural lands
- 1998, 1995, **Veterinary Assistant: Rouge River Animal Hospital & Markham Veterinary Clinic, Markham, Ontario**  
1994  
Responsible for general animal care and administrative tasks

## **Volunteer Experience**

- May 2004    **Field Research Assistant: Beaufort Sea, Northwest Territories, University of Alberta and Canadian Wildlife Service**  
Polar bear population dynamic study on the sea ice in eastern Beaufort Sea
- Aug 2002    **Field Research Assistant: Algonquin Provincial Park, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Ontario**  
Population ecology study of Park wolves (*Canis lupus*). Tracking and capture using tracks and scats.
- May – Aug 2001    **Field Research Assistant: Cooperative Alleghany Bear Study, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Virginia**  
Distribution and abundance, dispersal, and mortality research on exploited black bear population in the George Washington and Jefferson National Forest. Invasive and non-invasive mark and recapture methods used.
- Jun – Aug 2000    **Field Research Assistant: The Student Conservation Association (SCA), Placement in Lassen Volcanic National Park, California**  
The first year of a long-term mark and recapture study of reptiles, amphibians and small mammals in the Park. Also inventoried the Park's species using previously published studies and the Park's and Washington's species list. Dissections of the baculum conducted on chipmunks (*Eutamias* spp.) to verify the correct species.
- May 2000    **Field Research Assistant: Moose and wolf Earthwatch expedition, Isle Royale National Park, Michigan, United States**  
Dr. Rolf Peterson's study of population dynamics of moose and wolves

## **Education**

- Sept 2003 - **M.Sc., Environmental Biology and Ecology, University of Alberta**
- Apr 2006    (Supervisor: Dr. Andrew Derocher)  
Thesis title: Spatial and temporal patterns of polar bears (*Ursus maritimus*) in western Hudson Bay during the ice-free period.  
Project description: Examining the long term distribution of polar bears in western Hudson Bay during the ice free period relative to environmental variables, and the temporal and spatial patterns of the problem bear numbers in Churchill, Manitoba relative to environmental variables.
- Sept 1998 - **B.Sc. (Agriculture), Wildlife Biology, McGill University**  
May 2002

## **Publications**

Towns L, Derocher AE, Stirling I, Lunn NJ, Hedman D (2009) Spatial and temporal patterns of polar bears (*Ursus maritimus*) in Churchill, Manitoba. Polar Biology. DOI 10.1007/s00300-009-0653-y

Towns L, Derocher AE, Stirling I, Lunn NJ (2009) Changes in land distribution of polar bears in western Hudson Bay. Arctic (in review).

Towns, Lindsay. 2005. The summer vacation spot for polar bears, has it gotten too hot to handle? Environmental News 5(2): 7-8.

## **Field Skills**

- Extensive experience with mark and recapture techniques for a range of wildlife, from reptiles and amphibians to birds, and small to large mammals
  - Hairtraps, camera stations, snares, culverts, pitfall traps, Sherman traps
- Vegetation sampling and identification, wetland delineation
- Mist-netting, bird banding
- Fisheries sampling (fish seining)
- Experience in various ecoregions (i.e., prairie, tundra, boreal forest, wetlands, Arctic marine) and remote locations
- Considerable backcountry navigation experience using maps and GPS
- Extensive experience using field guides and identification keys
- Considerable data collection experience, data entry and analysis
- Extensive experience with radio-tracking (aerial and ground; day and night) and deployment of collars (VHS and GPS collars)
- Flown in fixed-and rotary-winged aircrafts on population dynamic studies
- Extensive experience with ATVs, 4x4 trucks, trailer towing, speedboats, canoes

## **Computer Skills**

- Microsoft Office (Excel, Access, Word, Powerpoint)
- Geographical Information System programs: Idrisi 2.0, ArcGIS 9.0, Arcview 3.2
- Statistical Packages: SPSS 13.0, SYSTAT 10.0, Sigmaplot, STATA 8.0, ANOVA, SAS
- Ecological Packages: LOCATE II (v.2.0), RAMAS Ecolab 2.0

## **Relevant Courses and Languages**

- GIS in Ecology short courses
- 300 & 400 level
  - Conservation Law, Environmental Impact Assessment, Flowering Plant Diversity, Fish and Wildlife Management, Science of Inland Waters, Urban Forest and Trees
- Language: French (oral, written, reading) and Mandarin (oral)

### **Training, Awards and Certificates**

2009	Red Cross Standard First Aid and CPR certificate
2009	PADI Advanced Open Water Adventure Diver
2004	Firearms Possession and Acquisition Licence
2007	Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) certified by the London Teacher Training College, UK
2006	Department of Biological Sciences Graduate Student Excellence in Teaching Award
2004	Graduate Research Assistantship
2004	Northern Student Training Program, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
2004	Northern Research Fund, Churchill Northern Studies Centre
2003 – 06	Graduate Teaching Assistantship
2003	WHMIS Training
1995	Defensive Driving Training

### **Professional Presentations**

2008	Host of the Ceremony for Yandang Friendship Award for Foreigners
2006	Northern Speaker Series, Canadian Circumpolar Institute, Invited speaker
2006	Graduate Student Research Days, oral presentation
2005	16 <sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals, poster presentation
2005	35 <sup>th</sup> Annual International Arctic Workshop, poster presentation
2005	Prairie Universities Biological Symposium, oral and poster presentation
2005	Graduate Student Research Days, poster presentation