

Schedule of Events

All special events listed in yellow boxes are held in the Lake Minnetonka Ballroom

WOLVES IN A CHANGING WORLD

OCTOBER 22-25, 2026
MINNEAPOLIS, MN USA



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2026

6:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. **WOLVES AND WILDERNESS BUS TRIP TO ELY, MN**

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Registration in Lake Minnetonka Foyer

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Retail Sales in Lake Minnetonka Foyer

6:00 - 8:00 p.m. **WELCOME RECEPTION** with Cash Bar and Buffet Dinner in Lake Minnetonka Ballroom

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2026

6:30 - 8:00 a.m. **BREAKFAST** in Lake Minnetonka Ballroom

7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration and Information Desk in Lake Minnetonka Foyer

7:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Retail Sales in Lake Minnetonka Foyer

8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Exhibits in Lake Minnetonka Foyer

12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Poster Displays in the M Club Lounge

8:00 - 8:30 a.m. **WELCOME REMARKS** in Lake Minnetonka Ballroom - Grant Spickelmier, Judy Hunter and Debbie Hinchcliffe

8:30 - 9:45 a.m. **PLENARY PANEL - NORTH AMERICAN RARE CANIDS: STATUS UPDATES** - John Oakleaf, Brent Patterson, Joey Hinton and Joe Madison - Moderator: Kim Wheeler

ROOM	LAKE OF THE WOODS SOUTH	LAKE OF THE WOODS NORTH	LAKE MINNETONKA BALLROOM	LAKE OF THE ISLES	CEDAR LAKE
	WOLF ECOLOGY, BEHAVIOR AND GENETICS	WOLF-HUMAN CONFLICT AND COEXISTENCE	WOLF ECOLOGY, BEHAVIOR AND GENETICS	WOLF MANAGEMENT AND POLICY	COMMUNICATIONS, EDUCATION AND OUTREACH
10:00 a.m. - 10:20 a.m.	Seasonal and State-Dependent Wolf Habitat Selection in Relation to Moose Space Use in Northern Ontario Forests Alexander Bezzina	Loving Wolves to Death: Yellowstone Wolf Habituation Ecology and Conservation Implications Taylor Rabe	Not All Wolves Hunt Alike: Personality-Driven Variation in Beaver-Hunting Strategy Smith Freeman	Wolf Management in Wyoming: Interfacing Population Dynamics and Management Decision Making Kenneth Mills	Who Governs the Red Wolf? Recentering Community in the Red Wolf Social-Ecological System Jazmin "Sunny" Murphy
10:30 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.	Breeding Success, Survival, and Movement Patterns Following Limb Loss in Mexican Wolves Tessa McDonnell		Is a Picture Worth a Thousand Words? Using Camera Collars and Proximity Sensors to Document Kill Rates, Hunting Behaviour and Nonlethal Encounters Between Wolves and Moose Brent Patterson	Ballot Box Biology Meets the Headlines and Legitimacy Is on the Line Cassiopeia Camara	Can a Board Game Change How Children Think About Wolves? Dominika Bujňáková
11:00 a.m. - 11:20 a.m.	New Methods and Old Skulls: A Morphological Reassessment of <i>Canis</i> in Eastern North America Toward Clarifying Evolutionary Relationships Patrick Cunningham	Lessons from 25 Years of Mexican Wolf Coexistence Programs Emily Renn	Leadership Tenure and Turnover in Gray Wolf Packs in Yellowstone National Park Kira Cassidy	Wolf Research, Monitoring and Management in Switzerland: Navigating a Shared Landscape Between Conservation and Agriculture Nina Gerber	Effective Advocacy Through Understanding the Whole Story Karin Vardaman
11:30 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.	Breeder Turnover and Its Cascading Effects on Wolf Pack Structure David Ausband	Wolf Wise Communities: Collaborative Community Conservation in Western Washington Geoff Willard	More Beavers, More Wolves: Why Beavers Likely Increase Wolf Density in Many Forested Ecosystems Tom Gable	Oregon Wolf Conservation Under Dual Jurisdiction in a Human-Dominated Landscape Aaron Bott	From Fear to Identity: The Evolution of the Werewolf Manisha Nordine

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. **LUNCH** in the Lake Minnetonka Ballroom

1:00 - 1:45 p.m. **PLENARY - STATUS AND CHALLENGES IN MANAGING GRAY WOLVES IN EUROPE** - Cecilia Di Bernardi - Introduction: Grant Spickelmier



FRIDAY MORNING
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

ROOM		LAKE OF THE WOODS SOUTH	LAKE OF THE WOODS NORTH	LAKE MINNETONKA BALLROOM	LAKE OF THE ISLES	CEDAR LAKE
		WOLF ECOLOGY, BEHAVIOR AND GENETICS	WOLF-HUMAN CONFLICT AND COEXISTENCE	WOLF ECOLOGY, BEHAVIOR AND GENETICS	WOLF MANAGEMENT AND POLICY	COMMUNICATIONS, EDUCATION AND OUTREACH
FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSIONS	1:55 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Arctic Wolves of Ellesmere Island - Expedition Update Spring-Summer 2026 Helena Edelson	Seasonal Patterns and Ecological Drivers of Wolf-Livestock Conflict in California Kaggie Orrick	Isle Royale: An Ecosystem in Flux Rolf Peterson	WORKSHOP Management of Gray Wolf (<i>Canis lupus</i>) Packs Under Human Care Giselle Narvaez Rivera	WOLF ECOLOGY, BEHAVIOR AND GENETICS Linkages Among the Gut Microbiome, Diet, and Pathogens of Gray Wolves (<i>Canis lupus</i>) in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan Sophie King
	2:25 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.	Assessing Key Demographic Parameters and Viability of an Iberian Wolf Population in a Highly Human-Dominated Landscape Mónia Nakamura	From Fragmented Landscape to Source Population: Wolf Recolonization in Central Poland Roman Gula	Should I Stay or Should I Go Now? Monthly Patterns in Dispersal and the Prevalence of Lone Wolves in Northern Minnesota Livia Coletta		WOLF ECOLOGY, BEHAVIOR AND GENETICS Using GPS Collars and Predictive Models to Improve How We Study Large Carnivore Predation Jack Rabe

2:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. BREAK

FRI AFTERNOON SESSIONS	3:10 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Variation in Wolf Kill Rates on Moose in Ontario: Insight into Predatory Limitations on Moose Populations Dani Freund	The Wildity Scale as a Communication Tool on Reintroduced Wolves Terrance O'Halloran	Crab Trap Pulling in Haítzaqv Nation Wolves Kyle Artelle	Relative Group Deprivation Relates to Wildlife-Associated Conspiracy Theories Alexander Metcalf	WORKSHOP From Wolf Science to Student Impact: Translating Wolf Research into the Next Generation of Conservationists Lynn Mento, Taylor Rabe, Jeremy SunderRaj, Jocelyn Marquez & Amir Dehbi
	3:40 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	The Cooperative Dynamics of Wolves Hunting White-Tailed Deer Alex Gross	Wolf Conflict Management in Minnesota Duane (Pete) Sahr	Deep Learning Improves Identification of Wolf Pup Vocalizations in a Wolf Chorus Barbara Marti Domken	From Persecution to Coexistence: The Grey Wolf in Slovakia—Past, Present, and Future Nuno Guimaraes	

4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Poster Session in M Club Lounge and Social Hour with Cash Bar

6:00 - 7:15 p.m.	DINNER BUFFET in Lake Minnetonka Ballroom
7:30 - 9:30 p.m.	PLENARY FILM - <i>A GOOD WOLF</i> - Introduction: Bridget Borg and Ramey Newell

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2026

6:30 - 8:00 a.m.	BREAKFAST in Lake Minnetonka Ballroom
7:00 - 7:45 a.m.	BREAKFAST CHATS in Lake Minnetonka Ballroom

7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration and Information Desk in Lake Minnetonka Foyer

7:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Retail Sales in Lake Minnetonka Foyer

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Exhibits in Lake Minnetonka Foyer and Poster Displays in M Club Lounge

8:00 - 9:15 a.m.	PLENARY PANEL - TRIBAL VIEWS TOWARD WOLF RECOVERY AND THE PROPER WOLF-HUMAN RELATIONSHIP - Sarah Rinkevich, Gage Hollingsworth, Richard Whitney and Kelly Applegate - Moderator: Peter David					
ROOM	LAKE OF THE WOODS SOUTH	LAKE OF THE WOODS NORTH	LAKE MINNETONKA BALLROOM	LAKE OF THE ISLES	CEDAR LAKE	
	WOLF ECOLOGY, BEHAVIOR AND GENETICS	WOLF-HUMAN CONFLICT AND COEXISTENCE	COMMUNICATIONS, EDUCATION AND OUTREACH	WOLF MANAGEMENT AND POLICY	WOLF ECOLOGY, BEHAVIOR AND GENETICS	
SATURDAY MORNING SESSIONS	9:25 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Three Decades of Domestic Animal Depredation by Wolves in Michigan: Long-Term Trends and Social Implications for Management Brian Roell	WORKSHOP The Hunting Paradox: When Values Collide	Part 1: The Scientific Foundation of Mexican Wolf Recovery James Heffelfinger	Patterns of Translocated Wolf Movement in Colorado Ellen Brandell & Libbie Miller	
	9:55 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	Inbreeding Depression in Wolves Affects the Genetic Characteristics of Their Prey Sarah Hoy		From Isolation to Coexistence: Wolves and People on the Hudson Bay Coast Jad Davenport	Part 2: Mexican Wolves – On the Road to Recovery James Heffelfinger	Wolves Constrain the Expansion of Golden Jackals in Slovakia: Landscape-Level Evidence of Apex Predator Influence Nuno Guimaraes
	10:25 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Genomic Insights into the Evolutionary History and Conservation of Asia’s Wolves Lauren Hennlley		Beyond Surveys: Uncovering Implicit Drivers of Human–Wildlife Coexistence Friederike Range	Wolves as a Natural Barrier to Chronic Wasting Disease Transmission in the Boreal Laura Dyson	Spatial Variation in Predation of Wolves on Moose and Caribou in Interior Alaska Jacob Harvey
				Misi Stine & Jen Gergen		

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. PLENARY - WOLVES AND THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT - John Vucetich - Introduction: Rolf Peterson						
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. LUNCH in the Lake Minnetonka Ballroom						
1:00 - 1:40 p.m. PLENARY- RETHINKING THE DRIVERS AND STRENGTH OF YELLOWSTONE'S TROPHIC CASCADE - Dan MacNulty - Introduction: Dick Thiel						
	ROOM	LAKE OF THE WOODS SOUTH	LAKE OF THE WOODS NORTH	LAKE MINNETONKA BALLROOM	LAKE OF THE ISLES	CEDAR LAKE
		WOLF ECOLOGY, BEHAVIOR AND GENETICS	WOLF-HUMAN CONFLICT AND COEXISTENCE	WOLF ECOLOGY, BEHAVIOR AND GENETICS	WOLF MANAGEMENT AND POLICY	COMMUNICATIONS, EDUCATION AND OUTREACH
SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSIONS	1:50 p.m. - 2:10 p.m.	Prey Preference in Areas with Contrasting/Different Management Regimes: A Metabarcoding Study of Arabian Wolf Diet Leili Khalatbari	How Humans Inadvertently Provision Wolves in a Southern Boreal Ecosystem Sophie Heny	Wolves of the Oleshia (Ukraine) in the 19th-21st Centuries: Habitat and Biology, Extinction and Recovery, Wars and Study Yevhen Roman	The Endangered Species Act Through the Eyes of Wolves Collette Adkins	WORKSHOP Clicks, Culture, and Coexistence: Social Media as a Tool for Transforming Narratives Cassiopeia Camara
	2:20 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.	Global Drivers of Skull Variation in the Grey Wolf Dominika Bujnáková	The Wolf as Compass: Lessons from 18 Years of Coexistence in Idaho's Wood River Valley Suzanne Asha Stone	Foraging and Population Ecology of Coastal Wolves in Alaska Ellen Dymit	Social Identity Dynamics and Distorted Attitudes Toward Gray Wolves: Experimental Evidence from the United States Alexander Metcalf & Justin Angle	
2:40 p.m. - 2:55 p.m. BREAK						
SATURDAY LATE AFTERNOON SESSIONS	3:05 p.m. - 3:25 p.m.	Arabian Wolf (<i>Canis lupus arabs</i>) Movement and Interspecific Activity Patterns in a Protected Area of Saudi Arabia: Insights from GPS Collaring and Camera Trapping Mónia Nakamura	The Public Is Not the Problem: Stakeholder Polarization Drives Carnivore Conflict in the Baltics Maris Hindrikson	Fearless Canids and Novel Niches: A Mechanistic Model for Wolf Responses to Human Environments and the Orgins of Domestication Joanna Lambert	Can a Predator Outrun Policy: How Did Minnesota's Wolves Survive the 20th Century? Joseph Bump	Inclusion, Equity, Belonging and Diversity at the International Wolf Center Maddy Witt
	3:35 p.m. - 3:55 p.m.	Himalayan Wolves: A Decade of Insights on Ecology, Conservation and Conflict in Spiti Valley, India Salvador Lyngdoh	WOLF MANAGEMENT AND POLICY Indigenous Knowledge and Cultural Significance of the Gray Wolf in the Western United States Sarah Rinkevich	Selective Predation by Wolves Can Slow the Spread of CWD Eliezer Guraire	WORKSHOP Wolf Depredation Forensics: Investigation Skills for Coexistence and Compensation Carter Niemeyer	Overcoming Mission Fatigue Karin Vardaman
	4:05 p.m. - 4:25 p.m.	Patterns in Wolf Pup Survival and Recruitment in the Greater Voyageurs Ecosystem Andrea Hynes	WOLF MANAGEMENT AND POLICY Human Disturbance and Wild Prey Restoration Shape Wolf Diel Activity and Predator–Prey Temporal Overlap in Arabian Deserts João Vieira	Do Genes Matter? Linking Genetics and Fitness in Gray Wolves Koryna Boudinot		WOLF ECOLOGY, BEHAVIOR AND GENETICS Seasonal Predation Patterns of Wolves Across an Island Archipelago Gretchen Roffler
	4:35 p.m. - 4:55 p.m.	Affiliation Mediates Social Hierarchy to Shape Carcass Access in Wolves Jakob Beck	WOLF MANAGEMENT AND POLICY Stakeholder Identity and Wildlife Value Orientations Related to Grey Wolf Management Preferences in Minnesota Madison Stevens	Gulf Coast Canids: Spatial Ecology and Landscape Influences on a Wetland-Associated Ecotype Tanner Broussard	What's the Rush? An Evaluation of Gray Wolf Restorations in the Continental United States Dick Thiel & Diane Boyd	WOLF ECOLOGY, BEHAVIOR AND GENETICS How Gray Wolves Respond to Food Subsidies from Black Bear Hunting Ian Smith
5:30 - 6:00 p.m. PRE-BANQUET SOCIAL HOUR with CASH BAR in Lake Minnetonka Ballroom						
6:00 - 8:30 p.m. BANQUET Followed by A CONVERSATION WITH DR. L. DAVID MECH and a presentation about the L. DAVID MECH FELLOWSHIP - Grant Spickelmier, Krista Woerheide, Doug Smith, Steve Fritts and Dave Mech						
8:30 - 10:00 p.m. BOOK SIGNING EVENT in Lakes of the Isles						
8:30 - 10:30 p.m. DANCE for ALL SYMPOSIUM ATTENDEES in Lake Minnetonka Ballroom						

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2026

6:30 - 8:00 a.m. **BREAKFAST** in Lake Minnetonka Ballroom

7:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Retail Sales in Lake Minnetonka Foyer

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Exhibits in Lake Minnetonka Foyer and Poster Displays in the M Club Lounge

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. **PLENARY PANEL - COLORADO WOLF REINTRODUCTION** - Gary Skiba, Eric Odell and Courtney Vail - Introduction: Doug Smith

ROOM	LAKE OF THE WOODS SOUTH	LAKE OF THE WOODS NORTH	LAKE MINNETONKA BALLROOM	LAKE OF THE ISLES	CEDAR LAKE
	WOLF ECOLOGY, BEHAVIOR AND GENETICS	WOLF ECOLOGY, BEHAVIOR AND GENETICS	WOLF ECOLOGY, BEHAVIOR AND GENETICS	WOLF MANAGEMENT AND POLICY	WOLF MANAGEMENT AND POLICY
9:10 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Balancing Pups and Prey: Wolf Homesite Selection and Movements Relative to Migratory Caribou Mat Sorum	WOLF-HUMAN CONFLICT AND COEXISTENCE Understanding the Root Causes of Wolf-Livestock Conflict for Effective Conflict Mitigation Karin Vardaman	The Role of Individual Level Social Behaviors in Fission-Fusion Dynamics in Wolves Kira Cassidy	Ma'iinganag in Motion: Fifteen Years of Ecological Observation and Cultural Stewardship from the Red Cliff Reservation Ron Nordin & Erik Olson	Beyond Density Estimates: Evaluating the Reliability of Camera Trap Models and AI Pipelines for Wolf (<i>Canis lupus</i>) Monitoring Joanna Toczylowska
9:40 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	How Can We Study Predator Impacts on Infectious Diseases in Prey? Ellen Brandell	Diets, Dominance Hierarchies and Kleptoparasitism Drive Asymmetrical Interactions Between Wolves and Cougars. Jack Rabe	Re-evaluating the Roles of Density Dependence and Wolf Predation in Limiting Population Growth of Moose Brent Patterson	Demographic Allee Effects in the Red Wolf (<i>Canis rufus</i>): Implications for Population Management and Recovery Colleen O'Donnell	Gray Wolf Minimum Count Surveys, Winters 2020-21 Through 2024-25, in Wisconsin's Central Forest Region Theresa Simpson
10:10 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	The Influence of Behavior on Reproductive Success in Red Wolves Megan Lovin	Gray Wolf (<i>Canis lupus</i>) Den Site Selection in Yellowstone National Park Nicole Tatton	Humans Drive Spatial Variation in Mortality Risk for a Threatened Wolf Population in a <i>Canis</i> Hybrid Zone John Benson	Predicting Red Wolf Functional Habitat Suitability Across the Red Wolf Recovery Area, North Carolina, USA Kalpapran Patowary	Wolf-Dog Introgression in a High-Harvest Landscape Kirke Raidmets
10:40 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Who's on the Menu? The First Examination of Prey Selection by Wolves on Beavers Isabella Evavold	Inter-Territorial Variation in Wolf Dietary Responses – The Effects of Prey Species Abundance and Wolf Natal Experience Loan Zumbach	Accustomed to the Human “Super Predator?” Wolves Show Limited Changes in Predation Behavior on Deer Fawns Near Rural Communities Sean Johnson-Bice		The Integrated Patch Occupancy Model (iPOM) for Estimating Gray Wolf Abundance in Montana Sarah Sells
11:10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Summer Diets of Wolves Show Annual Consistency Despite Considerable Pack-Level Variation Magdaline Baham	Crying Wolf: Unlocking Wolf Vocalization Through Bioacoustic Science in Yellowstone National Park Jeremy SunderRaj	Can Wolf Predation Modulate the Prevalence of Chronic Wasting Disease in Wild Prey? Rolf Peterson	Predicting the Adoption of Nonlethal Management Practices Among Livestock Producers for Wolf Depredation Prevention Madison Stevens	Management Strategy Evaluation for Informing Decisions About Wolf Management and Conservation Hannah Sipe

11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. BREAK

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. **KEYNOTE: WOLVES, DEER, AND DEER HUNTING: IS CONTROVERSY THE WOLF'S DESTINY?** - Tom Gable - Introduction: Brian Roell

1:00 - 1:15 p.m. **PRESENTATION OF THE IWC “VOICE FOR WOLVES” AWARD** - Denise Hughett and Grant Spickelmier

1:15 - 1:30 p.m. **CLOSING REMARKS** - Grant Spickelmier, Judy Hunter and Debbie Hinchcliffe

1:30 p.m. SYMPOSIUM CLOSE

Funding for the International Wolf Symposium 2026:

Wolves in a Changing World has been provided by:

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Thank you!



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