Wildlife Management Education Goes Urban

By Clark E. Adams and Kieran J. Lindsey

The Goals of This Presentation

- More clearly articulate what *urban* wildlife management is all about.
- Provide guidance in the development of curricula and courses on urban wildlife management.
- Define the urban wildlife management profession.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT COMPARISONS IN HUMAN-ALTERED URBAN VS. NATURAL RURAL HABITATS

SIMILARITIES = 7

Involves game, nongame, exotic, or threatened/endangered species.

Use standard wildlife management procedures, e.g., the Wildlife Management Techniques Manual.

Action requires input, participation and oversight by state or Federal wildlife agencies.

Preparation in college-level wildlife management courses required.

Potential economic losses or gains are the primary catalysts for management action.

Wildlife management goals are both proactive and reactive.

Use professional and popular outlets to disseminate the status of information to the WHOLE community.

DIFFERENCES = 14	
Urban	Rural
Lower diversity of native plant and animal species ¹	Higher diversity of native plant and animal species.
Fewer sources of state and Federal funding for management programs.	More sources of state and Federal funding for management programs.
A new and developing focus for research, management, and education programs.	A large and established focus for research, management, and education programs.
Layers of jurisdiction increase with proximity to urban centers.	Layers of jurisdiction decrease with distance from urban centers.
Small scales of analysis with many legal and physical impediments in highly fragmented landscapes.	Large scales of analysis with few legal and physical impediments in less fragmented landscapes.
Requires extensive training and experience in the human dimensions of wildlife management ² .	Requires less training and experience in the human dimensions of wildlife management ² .
Limited academic and agency acceptance and participation.	Wide academic and agency acceptance and participation.
Residents have a more heterogeneous set of attitudes and expectations related to wildlife management.	Residents have a more homogeneous set of attitudes and expectations related to wildlife management.
Higher level of public demand for inclusion in the management process.	Lower level of public demand for inclusion in the management process.
Higher potential for threat to public health from zoonotic disease and parasites.	Lower potential for threat to public health from zoonotic disease and parasites.
Management to reduce artificially abundant wildlife populations.	Management to sustain artificially abundant wildlife populations.
Growing trend toward privatization and commercialization of wildlife management.	Majority of management efforts coordinated through state or Federal agencies.
Exaggerated time frame for completion of management activities	Significantly shorter time frame for completion of management activities
Managers may not have required training in wildlife management	Managers have required training in wildlife management

- Involve game, nongame, exotic, or threatened/endangered species.
 - Game: white-tailed and mule deer, geese, bears, moose
 - Nongame: coyotes, raccoons, bats, birds, snakes
 - Exotics: rock doves, nutria, crows, hogs, cats
 - T/E: kit fox, key deer, peregrine falcons



Use standard wildlife management techniques.



- Preparation in wildlife management courses is required.
 - "ologies"
 - Management
 - Laws
 - Techniques
 - Policies and Decision-making Process
 - Communication

Potential economic losses or gains are primary catalysts for management actions.



- Wildlife management goals
 - Proactive: addresses root-causes
 - Reactive: addresses the symptoms

- Disseminate the status of information to the WHOLE community.
 - Professional: journals, conferences, extension publications
 - Popular: news media, web sites, brochures

<u>Rural</u>

 Higher diversity of native plant and animal species

<u>Urban</u>

• Lower diversity of plant and animal species.





<u>Rural</u>

More sources of state and federal funding for management programs.



<u>Urban</u>

Fewer sources of state and federal funding for management programs.



<u>Rural</u>

 A large and established focus
for research, management, and education programs

<u>Urban</u>

A small but developing focus for research, management, and education programs.



ASSOCIATION of FISH & WILDLIFE AGENCIES The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies—the organization that represents North America's fish and wildlife agencies—promotes sound management and conservation, and speaks with a unified voice on important fish and wildlife issues.



Urban Wildlife Working Group

<u>Rural</u>

Layers of legal and political jurisdiction decrease with distance from urban centers.



<u>Urban</u>

Layers of legal and political jurisdiction increase with proximity to urban centers.



<u>Rural</u>

Large scales of analysis with few legal and physical impediments in less fragmented landscapes.



<u>Urban</u>

Small scales of analysis with many legal and physical impediments in highly fragmented landscapes.



<u>Rural</u>

Requires less training and experiences in the human dimensions of wildlife management.

<u>Urban</u>

Requires extensive training and experience in the human dimensions of wildlife management.



<u>Rural</u>

Wide academic and agency acceptance and participation.



<u>Urban</u>

Limited academic and agency acceptance and participation.



<u>Rural</u>

Residents have a more homogeneous set of attitudes and expectations related to wildlife management.



<u>Urban</u>

Residents have a more heterogeneous set of attitudes and expectations related to wildlife management.



<u>Rural</u>

Low public demand for inclusion in the management process.

<u>Urban</u>

High level of public demand for inclusion in the management process.



<u>Rural</u>

Lower potential for threat to public health from zoonotic diseases and parasites.

<u>Urban</u>

Higher potential for threat to public health from zoonotic diseases and parasites.



CENTERS FOR DISEASE" CONTROL AND PREVENTION

<u>Rural</u>

Management to sustain artificially abundant wildlife populations

<u>Urban</u>

Management to reduce artificially abundant wildlife populations.



<u>Rural</u>

Majority of management efforts coordinated through state or federal agencies.





<u>Urban</u>

Growing trend toward privatization and commercialization of wildlife management.



<u>Rural</u>

Significantly shorter time frame for completion of management activities.

<u>Urban</u>

Exaggerated time frame for completion of management activities.





<u>Rural</u>

Managers have required training in wildlife management.



<u>Urban</u>

Managers may not have required training in wildlife management.



Building and Infrastructure for Urban Wildlife Management

Curriculum
Textbook

A Curriculum to Train Urban Wildlife Biologists



Curriculum Components

- Taxonomy and natural history
- Urban land use planning
- Environmental education/interpretation
- Fish and wildlife law and administration
- Human dimensions of natural resource management
- Conflict resolution









Urban Wildlife Management Second Edition



Clark E. Adams • Kieran J.Lindsey



Textbook Themes

- Urban Landscapes
- Urban Ecosystems
- Urban Habitats and Hazards
- Sociopolitical Issues
- Special Management Considerations

Textbook Topics

- 1. Introduction A New Wildlife Management Paradigm
- The Changing Landscape of Wildlife Management
- 3. Ecosystem Principles in the Urban Context
- 4. Urban Soils
- 5. Urban Waters
- 6. Principles of Population Dynamics

Textbook Topics

- 7. Urban Green Spaces
- 8. Urban Gray Spaces
- 9. Human Dimensions in Urban Wildlife Management
- 10.The Stakeholder Approach and Urban Wildlife Management

Textbook Topics

- 11. Legal Aspects of Urban Wildlife Management
- 12. Ecology and Management Considerations of Selected Species
- 13. Zoonoses and Management Considerations
- 14. Resident Canada Geese and Urban Whitetailed Deer

Why We Wrote the Book

- A synthesis of the literature was needed.
- A textbook on Urban Wildlife Management Course was missing and needed
- Someone had to "Tell the rest of the story."

Dedication

• All those individuals, organizations, and agencies who are on the front lines attempting to address urban wildlife management problems. They represent the unsung heroes of wildlife management receiving little recognition and/or acceptance of the contributions they are making to a growing wildlife management phenomenon. They are the futurists involved in the cutting edge aspects of human/wildlife interactions in urban environments.

Dedication in Brief

 All those who realize that urban wildlife management goes beyond controlling raccoons in garbage cans.



In Summary

- UWM is a contemporary expression of human involvement with wildlife.
- The UWM discipline encompasses far more than raccoons in garbage cans, ADC, or techniques.



Acknowledgements

- Linda Causey for help in the production of this presentation.
- Sara Ash, John Davis, Rob Denkhaus, Stan Gehrt, Shawn Locke, and R. Douglas Slack who reviewed and edited the list of similarities and differences provided in this presentation.