

Maximilian L Allen

Curriculum Vitae

P.O. Box 597
Covelo, CA 95428

(707) 671-4333
maximilian.allen@gmail.com

Work Experience:

Mountain Lion Specialist

California Department of Fish and Game

October 2011 to Present

I work as the lead biologist on a mountain lion project in Mendocino National Forest in conjunction with my current Ph.D. project. The project is aimed at understanding the impact of the mountain lions on prey populations and the scavenger community.

Field duties include:

- The capture of mountain lions through use of hounds, snares, and cage traps
- The administration of drugs for immobilization and fitting with GPS radio-collars
- The intensive monitoring of kill sites to record the amount and species of prey
- The recording of daily locations, movement patterns, and habitat relationships
- The use of motion-triggered cameras to record feeding and communication behavior
- Creating a census of the mountain lion population based on captures, photos of lions from motion-triggered cameras, and measurements of mountain lion tracks
- The capture Black-tailed deer and black bears to be fitted with radio-collars

In addition, I am responsible for all data management on the project including the creation and use of Microsoft Access databases. Data management includes the tagging and analysis of mountain lion behavior from motion-triggered camera videos. I created the experimental design and methods for most areas of the project, and perform all statistical analysis on the data. Along with general public outreach, I also write quarterly project summaries and annual reports.

Field Collector

Humboldt State University Natural History Museum

March 2011 to Present

I work as a field collector to obtain bird and mammal specimens for the museum collection. The goal is augmenting the museum collection, and up to 200 specimens are collected from across California each year. Specimens include whole animals, skeletons, and skulls from mammals and birds. Specimens are collected in the field, identified to species and sex, and prepared for deposit in the collections. Preparation involves skinning, cleaning, and preserving the specimens. Detailed field notes are recorded including location, and characteristics of the specimens collected. My collecting trips vary by season, and are based on obtaining specimens for further development of my research interests, as well as increasing the overall diversity of the museum's collection.

Wildlife Photographer

Max Allen Wildlife Photography

August 2007 to Present

I own my own business as a wildlife photographer. Photographs are sold as individual fine art prints or for stock photography uses including: magazine publication, product development, and advertising. My business includes contracted representation with private stock photography agencies, many with stringent monthly submission requirements. Major responsibilities include photography and photo editing; advertising and marketing; management of my photography database and budget; and website design. A portfolio of my current work can be seen at <http://max-allen.artistwebsites.com>. My first book of photography was published in 2010, and my work has appeared in numerous magazines and was recently featured in the *Peterson Field Guide to Mammal Behavior*. I also use my photography to contribute to non-profit agencies and government agencies to increase wildlife conservation.

Mountain Lion Research Biologist

Fresno State University

March 2011 to October 2011

I worked as the lead biologist on a mountain lion project in Mendocino National Forest in conjunction with my Ph.D. project. The project was aimed at understanding the impact of the lions on prey populations and the scavenger community. Duties include capture of mountain lions through use of hounds, snares, and cage traps; including the administration of drugs for immobilization, processing, and fitting with GPS radio-collars. Mountain lion kill sites were intensively monitored to record amount and species of prey, the presence/absence of scavengers, and habitat relationships. Remote-triggered cameras are used to record feeding and communication behavior, detect movement patterns, and census the population. I also assisted in the capture of Black-tailed deer and black bears to be fitted with radio-collars, and the capture of problem black bears for translocation.

Mountain Lion Research Specialist

University of California, Davis

December 2009 to March 2011

I worked as the lead biologist on a Mountain Lion project in Mendocino National Forest aimed at understanding the impact of the lions on Black-tailed deer populations. Duties included capture of Mountain Lions through use of hounds, snares, and cage traps; including the administering of drugs for immobilization, processing, and fitting with GPS radio-collars. Mountain Lion kill sites were intensively monitored to record amount and species of prey, the presence/absence of scavengers, and habitat relationships. Daily locations were collected for use in calculating home-ranges and movement patterns. Remote-triggered cameras were used to record behavior, movement patterns, and census the population.

Greater Sage Grouse Field Technician

Colorado Division of Wildlife

April 2009 to August 2009

I worked on a long-term project studying the population, survival, and habitat use of greater sage grouse in northwest Colorado. I located each collared sage grouse twice each week using radio-telemetry. Grouse were monitored to determine adult survival and nests were located and monitored to determine nest success. I recorded vegetation and habitat type used, including shrubs used for nesting. Duties included the capturing and collaring Greater Sage Grouse (neck collars for VHF collars or tail units for GPS collars). I also monitored and documented activity and grouse populations at Leks during spring courtship.

Sagebrush Songbird Field Technician

Colorado Division of Wildlife

May 2009 to June 2009

I surveyed randomly selected plots for sagebrush ecosystem songbirds in order to monitor their habitat use, and determine their degree of overlap with greater sage grouse. The study focused on five species including: loggerhead shrike, gray flycatcher, sage thrasher, sage sparrow, and brewer's sparrow. Data was also collected on the additional species of: burrowing owl, golden eagle, green-tailed towhee, and vesper sparrow. I determined presence/absence on each plot, as well as determining if courtship or nesting activity was occurring. I also recorded vegetation and habitat type. I also located nests of the target birds in order to document the shrub species used for nesting.

White-tailed Prairie Dog Field Technician

Colorado State University

April 2008 to July 2008

I surveyed randomly selected plots for white-tailed prairie dog activity to determine baseline population data of white-tailed prairie dogs in Colorado for use in future management. I determined the current presence or absence of white-tailed prairie dogs on each plot through positive visual identification, and past or historic presence or absence on plots locating previously used burrows. I also checked plots for current use by ferruginous hawks, burrowing owls, badgers, and Wyoming ground squirrels. I contacted and discussed the project with local landowners to obtain permission, and worked in conjunction with the Colorado Division of Wildlife.

Additional Wildlife Experience

October 2005 to August 2007

I have worked on numerous short-term wildlife projects in New England, with government agencies and non-profit organizations, over the course of two and a half years. These projects consisted of surveying for mammals using track and sign either on a grid system or surveying roads and/or transects and documenting species and abundance found. The use of camera traps was also employed for the use of further documentation or for exclusive use in presence/absence studies. Working with camera traps included the use of bait, scent lures, and auditory lures.

Mammals surveyed for included all resident species of New England. I also worked on projects focused exclusively on a species, including Canadian Lynx, Fisher, and River Otter. In a few instances I worked on projects focused on the use of species on a given piece of land, including Red Fox, Beaver, and Black Bear. Field work included correct interpretation and documentation of tracks and other animal sign through field notes and documentary photography. Locations were marked with GPS units, and data was entered in Excel or Access databases.

Education:

Victoria University, Wellington - Wellington, New Zealand

Ph.D. candidate in Conservation Biology

Expected Graduation May 2014

Working title of my dissertation:

The Ecology and Management of Mountain Lions (Puma concolor) in Northern California

Johnson State College - Johnson, Vermont

May 1999

B.S., Environmental Science with a Focus in Natural Resource Management

3.56 GPA

- Included a 3-month internship with Vermont State Parks.

Wilderness Awareness School - Duvall, Washington

Graduate, Kamana Naturalist Training Program.

With High Honors, August 2001

Graduate, Shikari Tracker Training Program.

With High Honors, October 2004

Certifications:

Animal Care and Use in Laboratory Studies

Certified through the University of California at Santa Cruz in July 2011.

Animal Capture, Restraint, and Drug Immobilization

Certified through California Department of Fish and Game in April 2010.

Wildlife Track & Sign Interpretation Level III- Marin County, California.

Certified through Cybertracker Conservation International in April 2010.

Animal Care and Use in Scientific Studies

Certified through the University of California at Davis in February 2010.

Wildlife Track & Sign Interpretation Level III- San Diego County, California.

Certified through Cybertracker Conservation International in October 2009.

Wildlife Track & Sign Interpretation Level III- Massachusetts.

Certified through Cybertracker Conservation International in April 2007.

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Certification

Certified through the American Red Cross, valid until March 2012.

Basic First Aid Certification

Certified through the American Red Cross, valid until November 2011.

Publications and Contributions:

- Contributor*- Elbroch, Mark, Michael Kresky, and Jonah Evans. 2012. Field Guide to Animal Tracks and Scat of California. University of California Press. 398 pages.
- Forrester, Tavis, Max Allen, and Heiko Wittmer. 2011. Mendocino Black-tailed Deer and Mountain Lion Project. California Deer: Summer. Pages 8-9.
- Allen, Max. 2010. The Itinerant Photographer. Potter Valley Publishing: 102 pages.
- Contributor*- Elbroch, Mark. 2006. Animal Skulls: A Guide to North American Species. Stackpole Books: 727 pages.
- Allen, Max. 2005. Wildlife of Emerald Lake State Park. Vermont Department of Natural Resources: 16 pages.
- Allen, Max. 1998. Guide to Mountain Brook Nature Trail. Vermont Department of Natural Resources: 12 pages.

Awards and Recognitions:

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| School of Biological Sciences Tuition Scholarship
<i>Victoria University, Wellington</i> | 2011, 2012, 2013 |
| 2nd Place Monthly Contest
<i>California Wildlife Photo Contest</i> | June 2011 |
| 2nd Place Wildlife Category
<i>Catskill Mountain Foundation Annual Photography Contest</i> | 2007 |
| Park of the Year
<i>Vermont State Parks</i>
<i>*Awarded in my first year of park management for exceptional park management.</i> | 2001 |
| Vermont State Champion in Wrestling
<i>Vermont Scholastic Wrestling Association</i> | 1993, 1994, 1995 |
| Sportsman of the Year (Unanimous Selection)
<i>Vermont Wrestling Referees Association</i> | 1995 |
| Vermont Team State Championship in Wrestling
<i>Vermont Scholastic Wrestling Association</i> | 1993 |

Professional Affiliations and Memberships:

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| Southwestern Association of Naturalists | 2011 |
| Wild Felid Research and Management Association | 2011 |
| North American Nature Photography Association | 2011 |

References:

Dr. Heiko Wittmer- Senior Lecturer, *Victoria University, Wellington*

HeikoWittmer@vuw.ac.nz

+64 - 04 - 463 - 7432

David Casady- Associate Wildlife Biologist, *California Dept. of Fish and Game*

dcasady@dfg.ca.gov

916 - 445 - 3705

Dr. Brett Walker- Research Scientist, *Colorado Division of Wildlife*

brett.walker@state.co.us

970 - 255 - 6125