

# RYAN B. STEPHENS – CURRICULUM VITAE

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## EDUCATION

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**Ph.D. Candidate**, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH 2012 - exp. grad. May 2018  
Natural Resources and the Environment; Dissertation title: *Consumer dynamics and mycophagy: small mammals as dispersers of mycorrhizal fungi*

**M.S.**, University of Wisconsin Stevens Point, Stevens Point, WI 2010 - 2012  
Natural Resources - emphasis in Wildlife; Thesis title: *Small mammal assemblages in natural plant communities of Wisconsin*

**B.S.**, University of Wisconsin Stevens Point, Stevens Point, WI 2005 - 2009  
Double major in Wildlife Ecology (Research and Management) and Biology and a minor in Museum Methods; GPA: 3.99

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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**Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History Curatorial Affiliate** 2014 – present  
Honorary title in recognition of a contribution of >1000 mammal specimens to the collection.

**Dissertation Research** 2012 – present  
University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH. Integrating live trapping with stable isotopic analysis and scat microscopy to characterize diets and mycorrhizal spore dispersal of small mammals.

**Thesis Research** 2009 – 2012  
University of Wisconsin Stevens Point, Stevens Point, WI. Examined trap efficacy, field differentiation of *Peromyscus* spp., species distributions, and small mammal communities in natural habitats of Wisconsin.

**Smithsonian Research Training Program Intern** 2008 (summer)  
Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. Conducted research on forefoot morphology of Central American shrews.

**Assistant Curator of Mammalogy and Ornithology** 2006 – 2012  
Biology Department, University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point. Prepared >1,400 specimens for the collection and biology classes and maintained a dermestid colony.

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## PUBLICATIONS

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**PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS** [\* denotes undergraduate mentee as co-author]

**Stephens, R. B.**, T. J. Remick\*, M. J. Ducey, and R. J. Rowe. In Press. Drivers of truffle biomass, community composition, and richness among forest types in the northeastern US. *Fungal Ecology*

- Stephens, R. B.**, D. J. Hocking, M. Yamasaki, and R. J. Rowe. In press. Synchrony in small mammal community dynamics across a forested landscape. *Ecography*: Online early, doi: 10.1111/ecog.02233.
- Castellano, M. A. and **R. B. Stephens**. 2017. *Elaphomyces* species (*Elaphomycetaceae*, *Eurotiales*) from Bartlett Experimental Forest, New Hampshire, USA. *IMA Fungus* 8:49-63.
- Stephens, R. B.**, K. H. Karau\*, C. J. Yahnke, S. R. Wendt\*, and R. J. Rowe. 2015. Dead mice can grow – variation of standard external mammal measurements from live and three postmortem body states. *Journal of Mammalogy* 96:185-193.
- Stephens, R. B.** and E. M. Anderson. 2014. Effects of trap type on small mammal richness, diversity, and mortality. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 38:619-627.
- Stephens, R. B.** and E. M. Anderson. 2014. Habitat associations and assemblages of small mammals in natural plant communities of Wisconsin. *Journal of Mammalogy* 95:404-420.
- Stephens, R. B.**, E. M. Anderson, S. R. Wendt\*, and J. K. Meece. 2014. Field identification of *Peromyscus leucopus noveboracensis* and *P. maniculatus gracilis* in Wisconsin from external measurements. *The American Midland Naturalist* 171:139-146.
- Woodman, N. and **R. B. Stephens**. 2010. At the foot of the shrew: manus morphology distinguishes closely-related *Cryptotis goodwini* and *Cryptotis griseoventris* (Mammalia, Soricidae) in Central America. *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society* 99:118-134.

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS [Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Guidance Document]**

- Wisconsin woodland vole species guidance. 2013. Bureau of Natural Heritage Conservation, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Madison, Wisconsin. [PUB-ER-691](#).
- Wisconsin woodland jumping mouse species guidance. 2013. Bureau of Natural Heritage Conservation, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Madison, Wisconsin. [PUB-ER-690](#).
- Wisconsin northern flying squirrel species guidance. 2012. Bureau of Endangered Resources, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Madison, Wisconsin. [PUB-ER-678](#).

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**PRESENTATIONS**

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**PRESENTATIONS TO PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS**

- Stephens, R. B.**, Erik A. Hobbie, and R. J. Rowe. 2017. Pulsed resource availability changes dietary niche breadth and partitioning between two generalist rodent consumers. University of New Hampshire, Graduate Research Conference, Durham, NH. (oral)
- Stephens, R. B.**, T. J. Remick, M. J. Ducey, and R. J. Rowe. 2016. Biomass and richness of truffle-producing fungi from field surveys and eastern chipmunk (*Tamias striatus*) scat. MassMyco Conference, Amherst, MA. (oral)
- Stephens, R. B.**, T. J. Remick, M. J. Ducey, and R. J. Rowe. 2016. Richness and biomass of truffle-producing fungi in the northeastern US from field surveys and eastern chipmunk (*Tamias striatus*) scat. 84th Meeting of the Mycological Society of America, Berkeley, CA. (oral)
- Burke, C. B., **R. B. Stephens**, N. Woodman, and R. J. Rowe. 2016. Skeletal injuries in small mammals: a multi species assessment of injury type and prevalence. 96th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Mammalogists, Minneapolis, MN. (poster)

- Stephens, R. B.** and R. J. Rowe. 2016. Quantifying variation in fungivory by eastern chipmunks (*Tamias striatus*). 96th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Mammalogists, Minneapolis, MN. (oral)
- Stephens, R. B.**, D. J. Hocking, M. Yamasaki, and R. J. Rowe. 2014. Impacts of forest structure and habitat type on small mammal communities in the White Mountain National Forest. 70th Annual Northeast Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies Conference, Portland, ME. (poster)
- Stephens, R. B.** and E. Anderson. 2013. Habitat associations and assemblages of small mammals in natural plant communities of Wisconsin. 93rd Annual Meeting of the American Society of Mammalogists, Philadelphia, PA. (oral)
- Stephens, R. B.** and E. Anderson. 2012. Effects of trap type on small mammal richness and diversity. 92nd Annual Meeting of the American Society of Mammalogists, Reno, NV. (oral)
- Stephens, R. B.** and E. Anderson. 2012. Trap efficacy and mortality of Sherman and pitfall traps for Midwestern small mammals. The 2012 Wisconsin chapter of The Wildlife Society Winter Meeting, Rothschild, Wisconsin. (oral)
- Stephens, R. B.** and E. Anderson. 2011. Comparison of small mammal trap bias in Wisconsin. Joint meeting of the SE and SW chapters of the Wisconsin Society of American Forester and the Wisconsin chapter of The Wildlife Society, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin. (poster)
- Stephens, R. B.** and E. Anderson. 2010. Small mammal community and natural community association in Wisconsin. The 2010 Wisconsin chapter of The Wildlife Society Winter Meeting, Rothschild, Wisconsin. (poster)
- Stephens, R. B.** and N. Woodman. 2009. Differentiation of the Broad-clawed Shrews (Soricomorpha, Soricidae), *Cryptotis griseoventris* and *C. goodwini*, using skeletal morphology of the fore foot. 89th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Mammalogists, Fairbanks, Alaska (poster).
- Stephens, R. B.** and N. Woodman. 2008. Differentiation of broad-clawed shrews, *Cryptotis griseoventris* and *C. goodwini*, based on bone forefoot morphology. Research Training Program Presentation, Washington D.C. (poster and oral)

#### INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- Stephens, R. B.** 2016. Truffles: the mycorrhizal hitchhiker. Invited speaker for the December Cascade Mycological Society meeting, Eugene, OR. (oral)
- Stephens, R. B.** 2016. Truffles: the mycorrhizal hitchhiker. Invited speaker for the December North American Truffling Society meeting, Corvallis, OR. (oral)

#### OTHER PRESENTATIONS

- Stephens, R. B.** 2017. Small mammals: the forest pollinators. UNH Three Minute Thesis, Durham, NH. (oral)
- Stephens, R. B.** 2016. Chipmunks, truffles, and trees. UNH Department of Natural Resources and the Environment Seminar Series, Durham, NH. (oral)
- Stephens, R. B.**, M. Isaacson, E. M. Anderson, G. Martin. 2011. GIS-based habitat models for small mammal species with information needs in Wisconsin: arctic shrew case study. Chancellor Patterson's Inauguration ceremony, Stevens Point, Wisconsin. (poster)

**Stephens, R. B.** 2010. Small mammal and natural plant communities in Wisconsin. UWSP Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Stevens Point, Wisconsin. (oral)

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### GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

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- 2017 - Mycological Society of America: Forest Fungal Ecology Research Award (**\$1,250**)
- Mycological Society of America: Mentor Student Travel Award (**\$750**)
- University of New Hampshire: Dissertation Year Fellowship (**\$20,060**)
- 2016 - University of New Hampshire: NRESS Student Support Fund (**\$1,000**)
- University of New Hampshire: Graduate School Travel Grant (**\$200**)
- University of New Hampshire: Farrington Fund Travel Grant (**\$900**)
- University of New Hampshire: Summer Teaching Assistant Fellowship (**\$3,150**)
- University of New Hampshire: Farrington Fund Travel Grant (**\$832**)
- 2015 - University of New Hampshire: NRESS Student Support Fund (**\$1,000**)
- American Society of Mammalogists: Grants in Aid of Research (**\$1,500**)
- 2014 - North American Truffling Society: Pavelek Memorial Scholarship (**\$1,500**)
- University of New Hampshire: NRESS Student Support Fund (**\$1,000**)
- University of New Hampshire: Farrington Fund Travel Grant (**\$450**)
- 2011 - University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point: Student Research Grant (**\$500**)
- 2010 - Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (**\$25,211**)
- Prairie Biotics Research Inc. Grant (**\$1,000**)
- 2009 - Undergraduate Research Initiative: Biology Department University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point. (**\$1,550**)
- Doug Stevens Wildlife Grant: University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point (**\$2,400**)

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### HONORS & AWARDS

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- 2017 - UNH Graduate Research Conference – Best NRESS PhD oral presentation
- University of New Hampshire Three Minute Thesis - Third place
- 2016 - Martha & Theodore Frizzell Scholarship
- 2014 - Best Student Poster Award - 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Northeast Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies Conference
- 2012 - Wisconsin Chapter of the Wildlife Society Graduate Student Aldo Leopold Memorial Scholarship
- Wisconsin Chapter of the Wildlife Society Best Student Presentation Award
- Jack Massopust Memorial Scholarship
- College of Natural Resources Outstanding Graduate Research Student
- UWSP Outstanding Graduate Research Student
- UWSP Merit Scholarship
- 2009 - Wisconsin Chapter of the Wildlife Society Undergraduate Student Aldo Leopold Memorial Scholarship
- Aldo Leopold Audubon Society Scholarship
- Arthur W. Mueller Jr. Scholarship
- Chancellor's Leadership Award
- White-Tails Unlimited Marshfield Chapter Scholarship
- 2008 - Eric Munson Memorial Award
- White-Tails Unlimited Marshfield Chapter Scholarship

2007 - Almond Bancroft Rod and Gun Club Scholarship  
2006 - Almond Bancroft Rod and Gun Club Scholarship  
2005 - Almond Bancroft Rod and Gun Club Scholarship

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### TEACHING & MENTORING EXPERIENCE

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#### GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT: NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT, UNH

**Ornithology** (ZOOL 542) – Designed and taught labs. 2017 (spring)  
**Studio Soils** (NR 501) – Taught soil labs, graded papers. 2016 (fall)  
**Mammalogy** (NR 712/812) – Designed and taught labs. 2016 (spring)  
**Studio Soils** (NR 501) – Taught soil labs, graded papers. 2015 (fall)  
**Studio Soils** (NR 501) – Taught soil labs, graded papers. 2014 (fall)

#### ASSOCIATE LECTURER: COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES, UWSP

**Ecological Basis for Natural Resources Management** (NR151) 2012 (spring)  
Lectured, prepared tests, and graded papers.

#### GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT: BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT, UWSP

**Mammalogy** (Bio 378) – Specimen preparation labs and guest lectured. 2011(spring)

#### UNDERGRADUATE MENTEES

**Chris Burke** (2014 - 2016) Skeletal injuries in small mammals: a multi species assessment of injury type and prevalence. (URA)  
**Lilly Poland** (2015 – 2016) Missing digits in shrews: insights into a secret live. (URA)  
**Rebecca Graves** (2014 – 2015) Effects of age, density, and seasonality on molt pattern in the mammal genus *Peromyscus*. (Honor's Thesis 2015)  
**Jonny Nowick** (2014 – 2015). Do diets of woodland jumping mice and southern red-backed voles differ across forest types? (Senior Project)  
**Marissa Cyr** (2013 – 2015) Effects of small mammal density on diet breadth. (SURF)  
**Tyler Remick** (2013 – 2015) Truffle abundance and mycophagy by small mammals in northern New England forests. (SURF & Honor's Thesis 2015)  
**Andrew Uccello** (2012 – 2015) Variation in truffle consumption by *Myodes gapperi* between managed and unmanaged forests in northern New Hampshire.  
**Krishun Karau** (2011 – 2012) Effects of researcher experience and animal disposition on measurement variation in *Mus musculus*.  
**Sara Wendt** (2010 – 2012) Distinguishing *Peromyscus leucopus noveboracensis* and *P. maniculatus gracilis* using external field measurements in Wisconsin.

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### PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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#### JOURNAL REFEREE/REVIEWER

American Midland Naturalist, Canadian Journal of Zoology, Ecological Applications, Journal of Mammalogy, Landscape Ecology, Wildlife Society Bulletin, Zoologia

#### SERVICE

2017 - Poster judge, UNH Graduate Research Conference. Durham, New Hampshire.  
2016 - Co-lead a module for Inventory and Monitoring of Ecological Communities (NR 740) on small mammal techniques. Durham, New Hampshire.

- 2015 - [Video](#) posted to YouTube on how to repair damaged Sherman live traps
  - One day seminar on Study skin preparation of mammal study skins for Yale Students. Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.
- 2011 - Panelist on a discussion about graduate school for the UWSP Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society. Stevens Point, Wisconsin.
  - Two day seminar on study skin preparation of bird and mammal study skins for University of Wisconsin Parkside students. University of Stevens Point, Stevens Point, Wisconsin.

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### **MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES**

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American Society of Mammalogists (2011 – present)  
Mycological Society of America (2016 – present)  
North American Truffling Society (2014 – present)