

SARAH H. CLEETON  
Doctoral Student  
Program in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
W-411 Turner Hall  
1102 South Goodwin Avenue  
Urbana, Illinois 61821  
Phone: 440-897-2290  
[cleeton1@illinois.edu](mailto:cleeton1@illinois.edu)

## EDUCATION

- 2012-present Doctor of Philosophy; University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology.
- 2009-2012 Masters of Science; University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences. Thesis title: *Songbird community ecology and habitat selection in the Chicago area.*
- 2005-2009 Bachelor of the Arts; Kenyon College, Department of Biology. Minor: Environmental Studies. Graduated *Magna Cum Laude.*

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Fall 2012 Teaching Assistant, Integrative Biology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Course: IB 203 - Ecology
- Summer 2012 Avian field technician, University of Illinois, central Illinois
- Spring 2012 Teaching Assistant, Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Course: NRES 456 - Integrative Ecosystem Management
- 2011-2012 Research Assistant, Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- 2009-2011 Jonathan Baldwin Turner Fellow, Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Summer 2009 Avian field technician, University of Illinois, Grand River Grasslands, Iowa, and Chicago, Illinois

Summer 2008            Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association intern, Fredericktown, Ohio

Summer 2007            Summer Science Scholar at Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio and  
University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

*Janice Lee Fenske Memorial Award finalist* for outstanding students at the 2011 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference

*Gamma Sigma Delta Honors Society of Agriculture* for M.S. studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

*Phi Kappa Phi* for M.S. studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

*Golden Key International Honors Society* for M.S. studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

*Jonathan Baldwin Turner Fellowship 2009-2011* for Graduate Degree Program in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

*Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society* for B.A. studies at Kenyon College

*Summer Science Scholar Fellowship 2007* for B.A. research at Kenyon College

*Dean's List 2005-2009* for B.A. studies at Kenyon College

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### ***Refereed***

Fischer, J. D., **S. H. Cleeton**, T. P. Lyons, and J. R. Miller. 2012. Urbanization and the predation paradox: the role of trophic dynamics in structuring wildlife communities. *Bioscience* 62(9): 809-818.

Wilks, J. C., R. D. Kitko, **S. H. Cleeton**, G. E. Lee, C. S. Ugwu, B. D. Jones, S. S. BonDurant, and J. L. Slonczewski. 2009. Acid and base stress and transcriptomic response in *Bacillus subtilis*. *Applied and Environmental Microbiology* 75(4): 981-990.

### ***Unrefereed***

**Cleeton, S. H.**, and J. R. Miller. 2011. Impacts of habitat restoration on songbirds in Chicago area forest preserves: preliminary results from the 2010 breeding season. *Meadowlark* 20(2): 42-46.

*In preparation*

**Cleeton, S. H.**, and J. R. Miller. Changes in bird assemblages across forest-suburb edges in northeastern Illinois.

**Cleeton, S. H.**, and J. R. Miller. Assessing the responses of woodland songbirds to invasive vegetation in the Chicago area.

**PRESENTATIONS - SCIENTIFIC**

**Cleeton, S. H.**, and J. R. Miller. Assessing the responses of woodland songbirds to exotic shrub invasions in the Chicago area. 8<sup>th</sup> Biennial Congress of the Chicago Wilderness Alliance, Chicago, Illinois, November 2012 (oral presentation).

**Cleeton, S. H.**, and J. R. Miller. Changes in bird assemblages across forest-suburb edges in northeastern Illinois. 8<sup>th</sup> Biennial Congress of the Chicago Wilderness Alliance, Chicago, Illinois, November 2012 (oral presentation).

**Cleeton, S. H.**, and J. R. Miller. The impacts of exotic shrub invasions on songbird communities in Chicago area forest preserves. 48<sup>th</sup> Illinois Chapter of the Wildlife Society Meeting, Makanda, Illinois. April 2012 (oral presentation).

**Cleeton, S. H.**, and J. R. Miller. Bird communities along forest-suburb edges. 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Midwest Ecology and Evolution Conference, Cincinnati, Ohio. March 2012 (oral presentation).

**Cleeton, S. H.**, and J. R. Miller. Assessing the effects of habitat restoration on woodland songbirds in the Chicago area. 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Des Moines, Iowa. December 2011 (oral presentation).

Fischer, J.D., J.R. Miller, T.P. Lyons, and **S.H. Cleeton**. Surviving in the city: a review of urban predation and its impacts on avian communities. International Urban Wildlife Management and Planning Conference, Austin, Texas. May 2011 (poster).

**Cleeton, S.H.**, and J. R. Miller. Assessing the effects of habitat restoration on woodland songbirds in the Chicago area: preliminary results. 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Midwest Ecology and Evolution Conference, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois. April 2011, (poster).

**Cleeton, S.H.**, and J.R. Miller. Assessing the effects of habitat restoration on woodland songbirds in the Chicago area: preliminary results. 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Student Symposium, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois. February 2011 (poster).

**Cleeton, S.H.**, G. Lee, J. Wilks, S.S. BonDurant, B.D. Jones, and J.L. Slonczewski. pH dependent gene expression in *Bacillus subtilis*. Kenyon College Summer Science Scholars Poster Session, Gambier, Ohio. October 2007 (poster).

## **PRESENTATIONS – PUBLIC**

**Cleeton, S. H.** and J. R. Miller. Assessing the response of woodland songbirds to exotic shrub invasions in the Chicago area. Champaign County Audubon Society Meeting. May 2012 (oral presentation).

**Cleeton, S. H.** Songbird community ecology and habitat selection in the Chicago area. Graduates in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Eco-lunch, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois. April 2012 (oral presentation).

## **GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

University of Illinois, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences Educational Opportunity Travel Grant, March 2012 (\$200).

University of Illinois, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences Educational Opportunity Travel Grant, October 2011 (\$200).

J. Nelson Spaeth and William R. Boggess Graduate Scholarship in Forestry, May 2011 (\$1,000).

Illinois Federation of Outdoor Resources Graduate Scholarship. May 2011 (\$1,000).

Kendeigh Grant, Champaign County Audubon Society, April 2011 (\$1,000).

University of Illinois, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences Educational Opportunity Travel Grant. March 2011 (\$200).

Downers Grove Garden Club Scholarship, June 2010 (\$1,000).

Illinois Ornithological Society Grant, May 2010 (\$1,000).

## **SERVICE**

- 2010-2012 Graduate Student Advisory Committee, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- 2010-present The Wildlife Society, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Student Chapter
- Graduate Student Representative 2012-present
  - Education Outreach Committee 2010-present
- 2008-2009 Upper Class Counselor for incoming college students, Kenyon College
- 2007-2009 Volunteer outdoor education field trip leader, Kenyon College Brown Family Environmental Center

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Ornithologists' Union

National Audubon Society

Champaign County Audubon Society

The Wildlife Society (University of Illinois Student Chapter and State of Illinois Chapter)

American Institute of Biological Sciences