

Percival G. Ulsamer

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EDUCATION

Master of Science in Wildlife Ecology
University of Maine – Orono, ME

Anticipated Graduation December 2026

Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Ecology
University of Maine - Orono, ME

December 2022

GPA: 3.9

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

M.S. Thesis - Birds as Indicators of Forest Management Sustainability: Evaluation of Past and Future Survey Approaches

University of Maine Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology

Committee: Dr. Amber Roth, Dr. Erin Simons-Legaard, Dr. Sydne Record

- Assessed the sustainability of different silvicultural treatments across the Acadian Forest region through analyzing a long-term bird monitoring dataset
- Developed an ARU deployment protocol for continued long-term monitoring in the region

Senior Capstone – Laysan Duck (*Anas laysanensis*) Use of Artificial Freshwater Sources on Midway Atoll

University of Maine Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology

Advisors: Dr. Amber Roth, Dr. Erik Blomberg

- Analyzed variation in duck density and behavior through game camera images and linear models with R

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Assistant

September 2024 – Present

University of Maine – Orono, ME

- Teaching assistant for SFR 349 (Applied Forest Ecology and Silviculture), WLE 323 (Conservation Biology), WLE 431 (Wildlife Management in Forestry), and SFR 228 (Forest Recreation Management)
- Grade lab reports, quizzes, and assignments in a timely manner
- Drive vans for weekly field trips
- Provide coursework assistance and assignment feedback to students outside of class

Seasonal Research Assistant*March – May 2024*Archbold Biological Station – *Avon Park, FL*

- Observed behavior to determine breeding status of Florida Grasshopper Sparrows
- Identified subspecies of Grasshopper Sparrows through behavioral observation and visual differences
- Resighted color-banded sparrows and scrub-jays using binoculars, scopes, and cameras
- Located nests of Florida Scrub-Jays and Grasshopper Sparrows through behavioral observation
- Set up predator fences around sparrow nests
- Conducted avian point counts in Florida grasslands
- Collected field data using ArcGIS Field Maps and Survey123
- Manually assessed BirdNET identifications of ARU recordings using RavenPro
- Set up, took down, and stored mist nets
- Assisted in prescribed burns through igniting vegetation using a drip torch, monitoring for presence of spot fires, and extinguishing smoldering debris
- Maintained and operate 4WD trucks in a sandy environment
- Provided photography of Florida flora and fauna and of staff for organization's use

Grassland Bird Intern*April – July 2023*Smithsonian's National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute – *Front Royal, VA*

- Identified grassland bird species of Northern Virginia through sight and sound
- Conducted early morning point count surveys
- Generated territory maps of grassland birds through behavioral observations
- Located grassland bird nests through rope dragging and behavioral observation
- Monitored found nests weekly to determine nest status, fledgling age, and success
- Deployed telemetry tags on fledglings and relocated using handheld and permanent receivers
- Set up, took down, and stored mist nets
- Extracted songbirds from mist nets
- Measured wing chord, tail length, tarsus length, and weight of songbirds
- Surveyed native and invasive grassland plant species
- Measured vegetation using a Robel pole
- Wrote summaries of topical environmental research papers for the monthly newsletter addressed to the public
- Monitored American Kestrel nest boxes through cameras
- Monitored for the presence of a rare sparrow through set up and deployment of AudioMoths
- Maintained good relations and communication with landowners and the public
- Entered and proofed data through Microsoft Office
- Worked together within a team, in pairs, and independently to complete tasks
- Traversed several miles daily over uneven terrain in cold, hot, wet, and dusty conditions
- Provided photography of grassland wildlife and of staff for organization's use

Refuge Biology Volunteer*March – September 2022*USFWS Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge – *Midway Atoll, US Minor Outlying Islands*

- Identified and removed invasive plants through spray packs and hand pulling
- Handled, mixed, and used herbicide while following safety protocols
- Handled and banded Laysan and Black-footed Albatross chicks and adults
- Monitored albatross reproduction and survival through reproduction plots and band resighting
- Monitored the critically endangered Laysan Duck population through weekly surveys and band resighting
- Monitored and managed for botulism through weekly surveys, maintenance of freshwater sources, and searching for sick and dead birds
- Took temperature and weight, administered fluids and antitoxin, and tube fed Laysan Ducks in rehabilitation
- Monitored seabird and shorebird populations through weekly surveys and resights
- Identified and conducted surveys of native and invasive Hawaiian plants
- Assisted in native and endangered plant restoration through planting, seed collection and propagation
- Maintained high quality of data while in the field, entering, and proofing
- Traversed several miles daily while enduring a hot and humid tropical climate
- Worked together with USFWS staff and independently to complete tasks
- Provided photography and videos of wildlife, fish, environment, and people for USFWS use
- Posted weekly field updates for Friends of Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge

Survey Field Technician*May – August 2021*University of Maine School of Forest Resources – *Penobscot Experimental Forest, ME*

- Conducted territory mapping surveys of Maine forest birds
- Identified Maine forest birds by sight and sound
- Independently navigated using a Garmin GPS unit in difficult forest terrain

Point Count Technician*April – August 2021*University of Maine Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Conservation Biology – *Orono, ME*

- Independently conducted weekly point count surveys of Maine forest and wetland birds
- Identified Maine forest and wetland birds by sight and sound
- Mapped point count locations using a Garmin GPS unit

Seabird Research Technician*May – August 2020*USFWS Maine Coastal Islands National Wildlife Refuge – *Ship Island, Tremont, ME*

- Nest searched for, weighed, and banded Common Tern chicks
- Monitored nest success and survival through reproduction plots and predation surveys
- Conducted provisioning watches and identified prey items
- Re-sighted bands and entered band data into Bandit

- Set up and maintained conibear, foothold, and Swedish goshawk traps for predator control
- Conducted vegetation surveys of native and invasive Maine plants
- Managed and maintained the island with one other crew member
- Posted bi-monthly blog post updates of field work for Friends of Maine Coastal Islands National Wildlife Refuge

SciCORPS Interpreter

October 2016 – July 2019

Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History – *New Haven, CT*

- Interpreted natural history exhibits to visitors of varying ages and backgrounds
- Led educational activities and crafts with visitors
- Created a nature-based curriculum for a summer camp for middle school students

PRESENTATIONS

Ulsamer, P., Roth, A., and Simons-Legaard, E. (2026, August 3-7). Integration of ARUs with Line-transect Surveys for a Long-term Bird Monitoring Project [Oral Presentation]. American Ornithological Society 2026, Amherst, MA, United States.

Ulsamer, P., Roth, A., and Simons-Legaard, E. (2025, August 11-15). Assessing Timber Management Sustainability in the Acadian Forest through Long-term Forest Bird Monitoring [Oral Presentation]. American Ornithological Society 2025, St. Louis, MO, United States.

Ulsamer, P., Roth, A., and Simons-Legaard, E. (2025, December 5). Forest Management Effects on Songbirds [Oral Presentation]. Maine Chapter of the Wildlife Society, Winter Meeting and Wildlife Research Symposium, Orono, ME, United States.

Ulsamer, P., Roth, A., and Simons-Legaard, E. (2024, December 6). Forest Bird response to Forest Silviculture [Oral Presentation]. Maine Chapter of the Wildlife Society, Winter Meeting and Wildlife Research Symposium, Orono, ME, United States.

Ulsamer, P., Roth, A., and Blomberg, E. (2024, October 1-5). “Laysan Duck (*Anas laysanensis*) Use of Artificial Freshwater Sources on Midway Atoll” [Poster]. American Ornithological Society 2024, Estes Park, CO, United States.

Ulsamer, P., Roth, A., and Blomberg, E. (2022, December 2). “Laysan Duck (*Anas laysanensis*) Use of Artificial Freshwater Sources on Midway Atoll” [Poster]. Maine Chapter of the Wildlife Society, Winter Meeting and Wildlife Research Symposium, Orono, ME, United States.

HONORS & AWARDS

Howard L. Mendall '31, '34 Memorial Scholarship, UMaine
Fund to support graduate students studying migratory birds.

2026

Robert I. Ashman Award, UMaine	2022
Awarded annually to an outstanding senior in Wildlife Ecology. Criteria for selection includes character, judgement, scholarly attributes, and devotion to the professions in wildlife ecology as well as to the welfare of their colleagues.	
Dean's List, UMaine	Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Fall 2022
GPA of 3.50 or higher for the semester	
Edward C. and Grace A. Cutting Merit Scholarship, UMaine	2022
James E. Totman Fund, UMaine	2022
1989 Ernest Morse Scholarship, UMaine/Penobscot County Conservation Association	2022
1988 William Gagnon Scholarship, UMaine/Penobscot County Conservation Association	2021
Highest Honors, Unity College	Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Spring 2020
GPA of 3.75 or higher for the semester	
High Honors, Unity College	Spring 2019
GPA of 3.50 – 3.74 for the semester	

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Transporter	<i>April 2025 – Present</i>
Avian Haven – ME	

- Safely capture, handle, and transport injured and sick wild birds to receive care at headquarters in Freedom, ME
- Communicate with the public, other transporters, and Avian Haven staff to transport patients

Maine Bird Atlas Volunteer	<i>2020 – 2022</i>
Maine Bird Atlas – ME	

- Conducted breeding bird surveys across the state of Maine
- Identified 222 species by sight and sound

Wildlife Museum Assistant Volunteer	<i>January 2018 – March 2020</i>
Unity College – Unity, ME	

- Created bird and small mammal study skins for the collection
- Repaired damage on existing study skins
- Organized specimens within the collection

LICENSES & CERTIFICATIONS

Wilderness CPR/First Aid/AED, Primary Care Consultants Inc.

March 2025

ORGANIZATIONS

American Ornithological Society, Member

May 2024 – Present

Ecological Society of America, Member

January 2024 – Present

The Wildlife Society, Member

September 2020 – Present

UMaine Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Member

September 2020 – December 2022

Unity College Birding Club, Vice President

January 2018 – August 2020

SKILLS

Experienced in bird identification by sight and sound, insect identification, plant identification, Windows, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, eBird, iNaturalist, field audio recordings using Zoom H5 recorder and Sennheiser ME66 microphone, statistical analysis, hiking, navigation using GPS, compass, and map, data collection using Garmin GPS, enduring difficult outdoor conditions, and working together with small groups. Some experience in mammal, amphibian, and reptile identification, R programming, ArcGIS Pro, mist-netting and banding, radio-telemetry, and small mammal trapping.