

Awards Committee
2023 Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference

To whom it may concern,

We would like to nominate Paul Jones for the Alberta Prairie Conservation Award. Paul has been a senior biologist for Alberta Conservation Association (ACA) since 1998. Paul is the lead author of 12 journal articles and co-author for 15 additional articles, books, book chapters, technical reports, and conference proceedings, which have been cited over 419 times. Paul is one of the leading international authorities on pronghorn migration and fence ecology, but his research has also contributed to species at risk management, native prairie restoration, and private landowner engagement in voluntary conservation programs. The focus of Paul's current work is the assessment of habitat connectivity and the role of fences, as well as the evaluation of modifications to make fences more permeable to pronghorn and other ungulate species. Recently Paul has submitted a manuscript quantifying the impacts of roadways on pronghorn movement and migration and a pronghorn book chapter for Rangeland Wildlife Ecology and Conservation. In 2022, he was also a Guest Associate Editor for the journal, *Frontiers in Conservation Science*, for a research topic on Fence Ecology.

Paul is committed to a landscape-level, transboundary approach to species management and conservation that has extended throughout the Canadian prairies and many U.S. states within the sagebrush steppe. Paul's devotion to ensuring projects are science-based but have a practical application that resonates with private landowners and resource users is what sets him apart. In 2001-2002, Paul was one of the primary contributors in the development of the MULTISAR Project. This set into motion several partnerships and collaborations, resulting in one of the most successful stewardship programs in Alberta which after 20 years has collaborated with over 175 landowners on over 900,000 acres. Paul has also led citizen-science initiatives, including the Pronghorn Xing app used to record data on pronghorn road use and mortality, as well as the ABHuntLog app which shares hunter observations to estimate population trends of harvestable species. He served as chair of the international pronghorn management guide committee and was awarded two Special Recognition awards at the WAFWA Biennial Pronghorn Workshop in 2016. One of Paul's proudest accomplishments was pioneering the smooth wire approach on the bottom strands of fences to facilitate pronghorn movement, which has become standard practice in most jurisdictions throughout the pronghorn's range, and he recently coordinated the development of the Alberta Landholder's Guide to Wildlife Friendly Fencing.

Paul has spread awareness about pronghorn management and native prairie and species at risk conservation through his presentations at numerous conferences and events and has been featured in interviews and documentaries in Canada and the U.S. Paul organized the ACA Speaker Series for Writing on Stone and Beauvais Provincial Parks, the Wildlife in the Wind Speaker Series in Lethbridge, and the ACA Friday Night Speaker Series to encourage the public's passion for wildlife. He was also instrumental in planning and organizing both the Deer and Elk and the Western Black Bear workshops held in Alberta in 2015. Paul's contributions to wildlife management and conservation are further amplified through his devotion towards mentorship. Over the years Paul has shared his vast knowledge of study design, statistical analysis, GIS, and scientific writing with countless colleagues, graduate students, and coworkers. Paul also served as a member of the adjudication committee for ACA's Grant Eligible Conservation Fund.

Paul is in every sense a collaborator and extremely humble about his work. He will always defer his success and accomplishments to the many people he has worked alongside but we feel his influence on wildlife conservation has been undeniable and he truly brings out the best in everyone around him. This letter highlights some of the many reasons we feel Paul Jones deserves recognition for the Prairie Conservation Award.

Sincerely,

The Staff of the Alberta Conservation Association

Paul Jones

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Pronghorn, Mule Deer, White-tailed Deer, Elk, Species at Risk, Native Prairie Conservation, Fence Ecology, Prairie Fragmentation and Connectivity

EDUCATION

MA in Science, 1997 – UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA, Edmonton, AB

BA in Science, 1993 – UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE, Lethbridge, AB

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Biologist, Wildlife Program – Alberta Conservation Association, 1998-present

RESEARCH / FIELD WORK EXPERIENCE

- **Pronghorn Project, 2007 – 2021**
- **Grizzly Bear Population Inventory BMA5, 2015 – 2016**
- **Sharp-tailed Grouse Habitat Program, 1995 – 1998**
- **Native Prairie Stewardship Program, 1997 – 2002**
- **Sage Grouse Recovery, 2010 – 2011**
- **Western Blue Flag Stewardship Program, 2001 - 2005**
- **MULTISAR, 2000 – 2021**

PUBLICATIONS

Jones, P. F. (2014). Scarred for life: The other side of the fence debate. *Human-Wildlife Interactions*, 8(1), 150–154. <https://doi.org/10.26077/mppv-tt76>

Jones, P. F., Downey, B. A., Downey, B. L., Taylor, K., Miller, A. J., & Demaere, C. (2019). Listen, Learn, Liaise: Taking the Species Out of Species-At-Risk Through Engagement. *Rangelands*, 41(4), 169–177. Society for Range Management. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rala.2019.05.001>

Jones, P. F., Grue, M., Suitor, M., Bender, D. J., Gates, C., Eslinger, D., & Landry-Deboer, J. (2015). Variability in the Selection Patterns of Pronghorn: Are they Really Native Prairie Obligates? *The Prairie Naturalist*, 47, 94–109.

Jones, P. F., Hurley, T. A., Jensen, C., Zimmer, K., & Jakes, A. (2017). Diel and Monthly Movement Rates by Migratory and Resident Female Pronghorn. *The Prairie Naturalist*, 49, 3–12.

- Jones, P. F., Jakes, A. F., Eacker, D. R., & Hebblewhite, M. (2020). Annual Pronghorn Survival of a Partially Migratory Population. *Journal of Wildlife Management*, 84(6), 1114–1126. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jwmg.21886>
- Jones, P. F., Jakes, A. F., Eacker, D. R., Seward, B. C., Hebblewhite, M., & Martin, B. H. (2018). Evaluating responses by pronghorn to fence modifications across the Northern Great Plains. *Wildlife Society Bulletin*, 42(2), 225–236. <https://doi.org/10.1002/wsb.869>
- Jones, P. F., Jakes, A. F., MacDonald, A. M., Hanlon, J. A., Eacker, D. R., Martin, B. H., & Hebblewhite, M. (2020). Evaluating responses by sympatric ungulates to fence modifications across the northern Great Plains. *Wildlife Society Bulletin*, 44(1), 130-141. <https://doi.org/10.1002/wsb.1067>
- Jones, P. F., Jakes, A. F., Telander, A. C., Sawyer, H., Martin, B. H., & Hebblewhite, M. (2019). Fences reduce habitat for a partially migratory ungulate in the Northern Sagebrush Steppe. *Ecosphere*, 10(7), e02782. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ecs2.2782>
- Jones, P. F., Jakes, A. F., Vegter, S. E., & Verhage, M. S. 2022. Is it a road or a fence? Influence of linear anthropogenic features on the movement and distribution of a partially migratory ungulate. *Movement Ecology*, 10:37. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40462-022-00336-3>
- Jones, P. F., Penniket, R., Fent, L., Nicholson, J., & Adams, B. (2005). Silver sagebrush community associations in southeastern Alberta, Canada. *Rangeland Ecology & Management* 58:400-405.
- Jones, P. F., Penniket, R., Fent, L., Nicholson, J., & Adams, B. (2006). “Silver sagebrush community associations in southeastern Alberta, Canada”: A Response. *Rangeland Ecology & Management* 59:109-110.
- Jones, P. F., Seward, B. C., Baker, J. L., & Downey, B. A. (2015). Predation Attempt by a Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) on a Pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana*) in Southeastern Alberta, Canada. *Canadian Wildlife Biology and Management*, 4(1), 66–71.

Supporting Authorship

- Burkholder, E. N., Jakes, A. F., Jones, P. F., Hebblewhite, M., & Bishop, C. J. (2018). To jump or not to jump: Mule deer and white-tailed deer fence crossing decisions. *Wildlife Society Bulletin*, 42(3), 420–429. <https://doi.org/10.1002/wsb.898>
- Downey, B. A., Blouin, F., Richman, J. D., Downey, B. L., & Jones, P. F. (2013). Restoring mixed grass Prairie in Southeastern Alberta, Canada. *Rangelands*, 35(3), 16–20. <https://doi.org/10.2111/RANGELANDS-D-12-00082.1>
- Downey, B. A., Jones, P. F., Quinlan, R. W., and Scrimgeour, G. J. (2006). Use of playback alarm calls to detect and quantify habitat use by Richardson’s ground squirrels. *Wildlife*

Society Bulletin, 34:2, 480-484. [https://doi.org/10.2193/0091-7648\(2006\)34\[480:UOPACT\]2.0.CO;2](https://doi.org/10.2193/0091-7648(2006)34[480:UOPACT]2.0.CO;2)

- Gates, C. C., Jones, P. F., Sutor, M., Jakes, A. F., Boyce, M. S., Kunkel, K., & Wilson, K. (2012) The Influence of Land Use and Fences on Habitat Effectiveness, Movements and Distribution of Pronghorn in the Grasslands of North America. In: Somers M., Hayward M. (eds) *Fencing for Conservation*. Springer, New York, NY. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4614-0902-1_15
- Jakes, A. F., DeCesare, N. J., Jones, P. F., Cormack Gates, C., Story, S. J., Olimb, S. K., ... Hebblewhite, M. (2020). Multi-scale habitat assessment of pronghorn migration routes. *PLoS ONE*, 15(12): e0241042. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0241042>
- Jakes, A. F., Gates, C. C., DeCesare, N. J., Jones, P. F., Goldberg J. F., Kunkel, K. E., Hebblewhite, M. (2018). Classifying the migration behaviors of pronghorn on their northern range. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 82(6), 1229-1242. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jwmg.21485>.
- Jakes, A. F., Jones, P. F., Paige, L. C., Seidler, R. G., & Huijser, M. P. (2018). A fence runs through it: A call for greater attention to the influence of fences on wildlife and ecosystems. *Biological Conservation* 227, 310–318. Elsevier Ltd. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2018.09.026>
- Jokinen, M., Jones, P., & Dorge, D. (2008). Evaluating survival and demography of a bighorn sheep (*Ovis canadensis*) population. Biennial Symposia - Northern Wild Sheep and Goat Council. Retrieved from <http://media.nwsgc.org/proceedings/NWSGC-2008/EvaluatingSurvivalDemography.pdf>
- Joly, K., Gurarie, E., Sorum, M. S., Kaczensky, P., Cameron, M. D., Jakes, A. F., ... Hebblewhite, M. (2020). Author Correction: Longest terrestrial migrations and movements around the world. *Scientific Reports*, 10(1). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-020-57446-4>
- Lee, T. S., Creech, T. G., Martinson, A., Nielsen, S. E., Jakes, A. F., Jones, P. F., ... Ford, A. T. (2020). Prioritizing human safety and multispecies connectivity across a regional road network. *Conservation Science and Practice*, e327, 1–15. <https://doi.org/10.1111/csp2.327>
- MacDonald, A. M., Jones, P. F., Hanlon, J. A., Martin, B. H., & Jakes, A. F. 2022. How did the deer cross the fence: An evaluation of wildlife-friendlier fence modifications to facilitate deer movement. *Frontiers in Conservation Science*, DOI: 10.3389/fcosc.2022.991765
- Seward, B., Jones, P. F., & Hurly, A. T. (2012). Where are all the fences: mapping fences from satellite imagery. In *Proceedings of the 25th Biennial Western States and Provinces Pronghorn Workshop* (pp. 92–98). Western States and Provinces Pronghorn Workshop Proceedings.

Tack, J. D., Jakes, A. F., Jones, P. F., Smith, J. T., Newton, R. E., Martin, B. H., Hebblewhite, M., & Naugle, D. E. (2019). Beyond protected areas: Private lands and public policy anchor intact pathways for multi-species wildlife migration. *Biological Conservation*, 234, 18–27. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2019.03.017>

Yoakum, J. D., Cancino, J., & Jones, P. F. (2015). Pronghorn Bibliography: A review of literature and contributions to a bibliography from 1649 to 2011. *Western Wildlife*. Centro de Investigaciones Biológicas del Noroeste, S. C. Alberta Conservation Association. Twenty-Sixth Biennial Pronghorn Workshop. Alpine, Texas. <https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.1.4310.2566>

Yoakum, J. D., Jones, P. F., Cancino, J., Guenzel, R. J., Seidler, R., Munguia-Vega, A., Cassaigne, I., Culver, M. (2014). Pronghorn management guides fifth edition. Twenty-Fifth Biennial Pronghorn Workshop. Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico.

PAST AND CURRENT MEMBERSHIPS / AFFILIATIONS

The Alberta Chapter of the Wildlife Society

Speaker Series, Writing-on-Stone Provincial Park

Speaker Series, Beauvais Provincial Park

Wildlife in the Wind Speaker Series Committee, Lethbridge Alberta

Special Recognition Award Recipient, 27th Biennial Pronghorn Workshop, Montana

Guest Editor, *Frontiers in Conservation Science*, fence ecology research topic