

JESSICA SIDERS KAHLER

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor August, 2018
Department of Sociology and Criminology & Law Gainesville, FL
University of Florida

Conservation Criminology Consultant, Wildlife Crime Initiative February 2015 - July 2017
World Wildlife Fund (WWF) –US Washington, D.C.

- Developed a *Community-Based Wildlife Crime Prevention (CBWCP)* approach based on criminology methods and theories consisting of a CBWCP Implementation Manual, Training of the Trainers Guide, and the Manual of Site-Based Exercises, which aims to increase community involvement in protection efforts as outlined in the Zero Poaching Toolkit (<http://www.zeropoaching.org>)
- Revised the CBWCP field manuals through pilots in Cameroon and Cambodia, internal review within WWF, and building on dissertation research in Bukit Barisan Selatan National Park, Sumatra Indonesia, May-June, 2015.
- Collaborated with WWF staff to develop a tracking tool for national level and site-based assessment on the implementation of the “Stop the Poaching” pillar of the Wildlife Crime Initiative

Piping Plover Recovery Technician May - August 2008
The Nature Conservancy, Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge Medicine Lake, MT

- Monitored the nesting and fledging success of the endangered Piping plover within its habitat on the Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge and the Northeast Montana Wetland Management District in the Alkali Lakes Core Area.

National Coordinator, Reef Check Vanuatu¹ August 2006 - July 2007
United States Peace Corps Republic of Vanuatu

- Coordinated financial, logistical, training and reporting activities for the National Reef Check Program under direction and in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries, Management and Policy Section

Coastal Resources Management Advisor June 2004 - August 2006
United States Peace Corps Republic of Vanuatu

- Advised the Unua community on Malekula Island and worked with local chief’s council and community groups to implement the Mbatambong-Penamur Traditional Protected Area

¹ Please see U.S. Peace Corps “Description of Service” for details (available upon request)

EDUCATION

- Doctorate of Philosophy, Fisheries & Wildlife** May 2018
Michigan State University East Lansing, MI
- Successful defense: November 29, 2017
 - Committee: Drs. Christina DeJong, Meredith Gore (chair), Edmund McGarrell, and Gary Roloff
 - Graduate certificate in *Gender, Justice and Environmental Change*
- Master of Science, Fisheries & Wildlife** December 2010
Michigan State University East Lansing, MI
- Advisor: Dr. Meredith Gore
- Bachelor of Arts, Anthropology** December 2003
The Ohio State University Columbus, OH
- *Cum Laude* with Honors in the Liberal Arts
- Bachelor of Science, Natural Resources Management** December 2003
The Ohio State University Columbus, OH
- *Cum Laude* with Honors & Distinction in Fisheries & Wildlife Management

RESEARCH

Graduate Research Assistant (Ph.D.) January 2011- August 2015
Michigan State University, School of Criminal Justice East Lansing, MI

Dissertation research: “The Situational Prevention of Wildlife Poaching in Bukit Barisan Selatan National Park, Sumatra Indonesia”

- Procured funding through a National Science Foundation’s Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant from the Division of Social and Economic Sciences, Decision, Risk and Management Sciences
- Established, coordinated, and implemented research, including semi-structured interviews (N=400) and a 3-day focus group with conservation stakeholders (N=27)

MSU Center for Advanced Study in International Development Grant, Madagascar (Author & Principal Investigator, Dr. Meredith Gore)

- Primary research assistant in Andasibe, Madagascar investigating perceptions of wildlife poaching risks
- Contributed to and helped revise research methods and survey instruments
- Implemented surveys and conducted one-day workshop in collaboration with PI, an additional research assistant, and Malagasy researchers
- Interviewed a local conservation practitioner and a primatologist to develop a dissertation survey instrument to examine wildlife species targeted by poachers

Graduate Research Assistant (MS) August 2008 - December 2010
Michigan State University, Department of Fisheries & Wildlife East Lansing, MI

Thesis research: “Local Perceptions of Risk and Vulnerability Associated with Human-Wildlife Conflicts in Namibian Conservancies”

- Conducted research in two rural communal conservancies using Participatory Action Research including in-depth interviews (N=76) and focus groups (N=48).
- Facilitated data collection related to and digitized conservancy records of human-wildlife conflicts and poaching activities in two communal conservancies.

- Communicated with communal conservancy stakeholders and management, traditional authorities (e.g., chief's councils), Namibian conservation organizations and agencies in relation to human-wildlife conflict research and preliminary research findings.

GRANTS

- Perz, S. (PI), **Kahler, J** (Co-PI). (in preparation, due 4/12/19). Wildlife conservation via capacity building for mitigation of wildlife poaching and trafficking in Madre de Dios, Peru. *Funding request to U.S. Department of Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*
- **Kahler, J.** (PI). (submitted February 2019). Prevention of wildlife trafficking in Zambia. Sub-contract submitted to Wildlife Crime Prevention, Lusaka, Zambia. Funding requested: \$46,923, *awaiting decision.*
- **Kahler, J.** (PI), Anderson, J., Bailey, K., Piennar, E., & Romagosa, C. (Co-PIs). (submitted January, 2015). Evaluating public support of Rhesus macaque population management in Central Florida. Funding request to Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Requested \$93,792 (Not funded)
- **Kahler, J.** (PI), Child, B., Pienaar, E. (Co-PIs). (submitted November 2018). Khetha Program: Wildlife crime prevention programmatic review and recommendations. Funding request to World Wildlife Fund- South Africa. (Requested \$63,782; Not Funded).
- **Kahler, J.** (PI), Hallett, M. (Co-PI). (submitted October 2018). Letter of Intent: Understanding community wildlife guardianship behavior as a response to illegal wildlife trafficking in the biodiverse country of Guyana. Submitted to UF's Research Program Development as part of a Limited Opportunity from funder, Conservation, Food and Health Grants for Projects in the Developing World (Not selected)
- **Kahler, J. (PI)**, Perz, S., and Loiselle, B. (submitted 2018, May). "Combatting Wildlife Trafficking in Latin America and the Caribbean." Funding request to U.S. Department of State, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL). (Requested \$2,373,844; Not Funded).
- **Kahler, J.** and Gore, M. (2013). "Improving management of wildlife poaching risks: Using perceptions of risk and situational crime prevention to protect endangered wildlife." Funded by National Science Foundation, Division of Social and Economic Sciences, Decision, Risk and Management Sciences, Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant. Award # 1257869 (Funded \$28,500).
- DeWan, A., Hutchinson, A., **Kahler, J.**, Mannle, K., Ozbenian, S., & Torres, N. (2010). "Saving the Saola in Vietnam: A ranger training and community development workshop." Funding received through the Russel E. Train Education for Nature Program; World Wildlife Fund (Funded \$7,500)
- **Kahler, J.** & Kahler, B. (2005-2006). "Unua Area Youth Center (Malekula Island, Vanuatu)." Funding received through the Australian High Commission, U.S. Peace Corps Small Projects Assistants, the MALAMPA Provincial Government and AusAid (Funded \$17,277)

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed journal articles and book chapters:

- **Kahler, J.**, Lane, J. & Gore, M. (*in preparation*). How serious is environmental crime? Comparing local perceptions of crime seriousness and preferences for interventions in Indonesia. Target journal: *British Journal of Criminology*.
- **Kahler, J.** & Gore, M. (*in preparation*). Wildlife guardianship: Local willingness to intervene in the face of wildlife crime. Target journal: *Conservation Biology*

- **Kahler, J.** & Rinkus, M. (*in preparation*). Women and wildlife crime: Hidden perpetrators, protectors, and victims. Abstract accepted for special issue of *Oryx: Women and Biodiversity*.
- **Kahler, J.**, Liu, R., Newcomb, T., Herbst, S., & Gore, M. (submitted, 26 Mar 2019). Public perceptions of risk related to invasive Asian carp. *Management of Biological Invasions*, 0, 000-000. Assigned manuscript ID: MBI19-014.
- Gore, M., Ratsimbazafy, J., Rajaonson, A., Lewis, A. and **Kahler, J.**, (2016). Public perceptions of poaching risks in a biodiversity hotspot. *Journal of Trafficking, Organized Crime, and Security* 2: 1-20.
- **Kahler, J.** and Gore M. (2015). Local perceptions of risk associated with poaching of wildlife implicated in human-wildlife conflicts. *Biological Conservation* 189: 49-58 (Editor's Choice Article September 2015)
- Gore, M. and **Kahler, J.** (2015). Using visual scales in researching global human dimensions of wildlife. *Human Dimensions of Wildlife: An International Journal*, DOI: 10.1080/10871209.2014.992501
- **Kahler, J.**, Roloff, G. and Gore, M. (2013). Poaching risks in a community-based natural resource management system. *Conservation Biology* 27: 177-186.
- **Kahler, J.**, and Gore, M. (2012). Beyond the cooking pot and pocket book: Factors influencing noncompliance with wildlife poaching rules. *International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice*, 36 (2): 103-120.
- Gore, M. and **Kahler, J.** (2012). Gendered Risk Perceptions Associated with Human-Wildlife Conflict: Implications for Participatory Conservation. *PLoS ONE* 7(3): e32901. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0032901.

Peer-edited book chapters and works:

- **Kahler, J.**, Boratto, R., Vanegas, L., Wieland, M., and Gore, M. (*in press*). Structural and geographic features of illegal urban bushmeat trafficking. Chapter 4 in S. Pires (Ed.) *Quantitative Studies in Green and Conservation Criminology*. Routledge.
- **Kahler, J.** (2018). *The situational prevention of wildlife poaching in Bukit Barisan Selatan National Park, Sumatra Indonesia* (Doctoral dissertation). Retrieved from ProQuest Dissertations and Theses database. (UMI No.10815833)
- **Kahler, J.**, and Gore, M. (2017). Chapter 2: Conservation Crime Science. In M. Gore (Ed.) *Conservation Criminology*. Wiley: Hoboken, NJ.

Peer-reviewed professional reports:

- **Kahler, J.S.** (in review). Manual 1: Implementation Guidelines- Community-Based Wildlife Crime Prevention. Zero Poaching Toolkit, Wildlife Crime Initiative. World Wildlife Fund: Washington, DC.
- **Kahler, J.S.** (in review). Manual 2: Training of the Trainers- Community-Based Wildlife Crime Prevention. Zero Poaching Toolkit, Wildlife Crime Initiative. World Wildlife Fund: Washington, DC.
- **Kahler, J.S.** (in review). Manual 3: Manual of Site-Based Exercises- Community-Based Wildlife Crime Prevention. Zero Poaching Toolkit, Wildlife Crime Initiative. World Wildlife Fund: Washington, DC.
- **Kahler, J.S.** (2016, October). Post-Mission Report: Community-Based Wildlife Crime Prevention in Eastern Plains Landscape, Cambodia. Zero Poaching Toolkit, Wildlife Crime Initiative. World Wildlife Fund: Washington, DC.
- **Kahler, J.S.** (2016, April). Post-Mission Report: Community-Based Wildlife Crime Prevention in Jengi South East Forest Program, Cameroon. Zero Poaching Toolkit, Wildlife Crime Initiative. World Wildlife Fund: Washington, DC.

- **Kahler, J.S. (2010).** Local Perceptions of Risk and Vulnerability Associated with Human-Wildlife Conflicts in Namibian Conservancies. Retrieved from Pro-Quest Digital Dissertations, (AAT: 1483617).
- Kahler, B. and **Kahler, J.** (2008). *Distribution and Reproductive Success of Piping Plovers, Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge and Northeast Montana Wetland Management District, 2008.* (Report: The Nature Conservancy and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service). Medicine Lake, MT: Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge.
- **Kahler, J.** (2006). *Trening Buk Blong Rif Jek Vanuatu* [Reef Check Vanuatu Training Manual]. AusAID, Vanuatu Department of Fisheries & U.S. Peace Corps Vanuatu Publication, Colorite Graphics Printers. Port Vila: Republic of Vanuatu.

Media:

- **Kahler, J.** (2010, Spring). "Emerging Wildlife Conservation Leaders." *Spotlight Magazine*, Michigan State University Department of Fisheries & Wildlife, pp. 14-15.
- **Kahler, J.** (2006, December 17-23). Santo Dive into Reef Check [Local News]. *Vanuatu Independent*, pp. 1, 27.
- **Kahler, J.** (2006, March 18). Vanuatu "Reef Checks" Make Waves. *Vanuatu Independent*, pp. 14, 23.

NOTABLE PRESENTATIONS

- **Kahler, J.** (2018, November). "Women in wildlife conservation: A missing majority". Invited lecture as part of a 3 person panel, *Women Empowerment through Science and Technology*, hosted by SMART City Universitas Indonesia (UI) as part of USAID SHERA Center for Collaborative Research (CCR). UI Campus, Depok, Indonesia. "Talkshow" available online: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rmZfViV4Qrk>
- **Kahler, J.**, Viollaz, J., and Gore, M. (2018, June). "Beyond the urban crime jungle: Refining the situational crime prevention framework for conservation crime." Presented by J. Viollaz at the International Symposium on Environmental Criminology and Crime Analysis (ECCA). Elche, Spain.
- **Kahler, J.** and Gore, M. (2017, July). "Wildlife Guardianship: Understanding local willingness to intervene in the face of wildlife crime." Invited talk presented at the Wildlife Crime: Bridging the gap between conservation science and criminology Symposium Panel, 28th International Congress for Conservation Biology Conference. Cartagena, Columbia.
- Gore, M and **Kahler, J.** (2017, July). "Conservation criminology approaches for managing demand for wildlife products." Invited talk presented at the Wildlife Crime: Bridging the gap between conservation science and criminology Symposium Panel, 28th International Congress for Conservation Biology Conference. Cartagena, Columbia.
- **Kahler, J.** and Long, B. (2016, January). "Beyond the "Carrot or the Stick:" Introducing the Community-Based Wildlife Crime Prevention Framework." Brown Bag presentation given at World Wildlife Fund USA. Washington D.C., USA.
- **Kahler, J.** and Gore, M. (2015, August). "Applying Situational Crime Prevention Techniques to Global Conservation Crimes." Invited talk presented at the New Frontiers in Conservation Criminology Symposium Panel, 27th International Congress for Conservation Biology Conference. Montpellier, France.
- **Kahler, J.,** Roloff, G. and Gore, M. (2013, July). "Community mapping and poaching in Namibia." Invited talk at the Detecting, Understanding and Deterring Conservation Crime Symposium, 26th International Society for Conservation Biology Conference. Baltimore, USA.
- **Kahler, J.,** Gore, M. and Roloff, G. (2013, March). "Novel approaches to environmental compliance research: a case study of the risk of poaching in Namibian conservancies." Invited talk presented to ITC's 1st Annual Environmental Compliance Conference, Windhoek, Namibia.

- **Kahler, J.** (2010, December). “Local Perceptions of Risk and Vulnerability Associated with Human-Wildlife Conflicts in Namibian Conservancies.” Thesis defense presented to the Department of Fisheries & Wildlife, Michigan State University.
- **Kahler, J** and Gore, M. (2010, July). “Redefining human-wildlife conflicts using local perceptions of risk to wildlife and livelihoods.” Poster presented at the International Congress for Conservation Biology Conference, Edmonton, Canada.

TEACHING

- Introduction to Conservation Criminology, Department of Sociology and Criminology & Law, University of Florida (CCJ 4934/SYA 4930)
 - Fall 2018 (*New Preparation, new class at UF*), Mean score = 4.94 CCJ/ 4.78 SYA
 - Spring 2019
- Environmental Change & Environmental Justice, Department of Sociology and Criminology & Law, University of Florida (CCJ 4934/SYA 4930/ SYA 7933)
 - Spring 2019 (*New Preparation, new class at UF*)

GRADUATE & UNDERGRADUATE MENTORING & ADVISING

- Maria del Pilar Morales Giner, PhD student, Sociology, Department of Sociology and Criminology & Law, University of Florida, Committee Member (Stephen Perz, Chair)
- Andrew Glass, Master’s student, Department of Wildlife Ecology & Conservation, University of Florida, Outside Committee Member (Elizabeth Piennar, Chair)
- Rebecca Bristow, BSc Honors Candidate, Department of Zoology & Entomology, University of Pretoria, South Africa, Outside Committee Member (Adrian M. Shrader, chair)

ACADEMIC GUEST LECTURES

- “In pursuit of wildlife guardianship: Poaching, communities, and willingness to intervene” in Department of Geography Weekly Seminar Series, UF, Fall 2018
- “The environment and terrorism: Eco-terrorism, environmental terrorism & links to wildlife crime” in *Special Issues in Crime and Justice: Terrorism* (University of Louisiana at Lafayette CJUS 399), Spring 2018
- “Communication applications in conservation” in *Special Topics in Communication* (MSU Course COM: 399), Fall 2014
- “Island Biogeography: Allocating protected areas for species conservation” in *Conservation Biology* (MSU Course FW: 444), Spring 2014, Spring 2013
- “Cross-cultural communication” in *Communication for Fisheries and Wildlife Professionals* (MSU Course FW: 435), Fall 2014, Fall 2013
- “Gender and biodiversity: Theoretical and practical applications” in *Gender and Environment* (MSU Course FW 858), Fall 2013
- “Poaching: An exploration into the risks to biodiversity, ecosystems and social systems associated with illegal harvest of fish and wildlife” Online Camtasia Relay lecture in *Risk, Conservation and Crime* (MSU Course FW: 847), Fall 2012, *annual thereafter*
- “Methods: International considerations” in *Human Dimensions Research in Fisheries and Wildlife* (MSU Course FW: 810), Spring 2012

- “Conflict at the Human-Wildlife Interface: Conservation Implications” in *People and the Environment* (MSU Course ISS 310), Spring 2014, Spring 2013, and in *Conservation Biology* (MSU Course FW: 444), Spring 2012, Spring 2011
- “Transition: From Field Research to Writing” in *Gender and Environmental Methods* (MSU Course ANP: 859), Spring 2011
- “Psychological Traps and Decision-Making” in *Human Dimensions of Fisheries and Wildlife Management* (MSU Course FW: 434), Spring 2010

TECHNICAL TRAINING & WORKSHOPS

- Invited UF Mentor & Presenter at *Academic Writing Short Course* (22-24 November 2018), SMART City Universitas Indonesia (UI) as part of USAID SHERA Center for Collaborative Research (CCR). Morrissey Hotel Residences, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- Introduction to Academic Writing lecture
- Provided group and individual mentoring and feedback on academic writing and manuscripts written by graduate students and junior faculty from Indonesian academic institutions with the goal of increasing publication in indexed journals.
- Completed the First Year Teaching Academy through the Office of Faculty Development and Teaching Excellence workshops included Active Learning, Prompt Feedback and Emphasize Time on Task, Communicate High Expectations and Respect Diverse Talents, Planning and Preparations
- Courses Prepared & Taught:
 - Introduction to Conservation Criminology (CCJ 4934/SYA 4930) Fall 2018 (New Preparation), Spring 2019
 - Environmental Change & Environmental Justice (CCJ 4934/SYA 4930/ SYA 7933), Spring 2019 (New Preparation)
- Facilitated Community-Based Wildlife Crime Prevention workshops at WWF sites, which included site-based CBWCP assessment exercises based on programmatic needs:
 - Jengi South East Forest Program, Cameroon (April 2016); 5 days, 37 participants ²
 - Eastern Plains Landscape, Cambodia (October 2016); 3 days, 24 participants
- Trained 5 Indonesian college students in the responsibility of conducting research and methods to conduct in-depth mixed methods interviews in communities surrounding BBSNP to assess perceptions of poaching, crime seriousness, wildlife value orientations, and wildlife guardianship dimensions, May - June, 2015.
- Developed curriculum, coordinated and co-taught a one-day workshop in cooperation with a Malagasy Conservation NGO, Alliance Voahary Gasy, for over 25 professional conservation and police stakeholders on SCP applications for poaching prevention in Madagascar, December 2014.
- Trained 7 local Namibian research assistants in field methodology for conducting in-depth interviews and participatory rural appraisal activities and proctored MSU's Institutional Review Board guidelines training for responsible conduct in human subjects research (2009).
- Organized and led the facilitation of two In-Service Trainings for Peace Corps Vanuatu in 2007 which targeted volunteers, service providers and community-based host country nationals.
- Delivered training relating to environmental education, Reef Check monitoring, and coastal resource management techniques to 21 community-based groups on nine different islands in addition to public and private sector environmental groups in Vanuatu.

² Post-Mission report available upon request

- Technical trainer for Coastal Resources Management, Gender and Development, and Reef Check Vanuatu for 70 incoming Peace Corps volunteers trained in 2006 and 2007.

FELLOWSHIPS & SCHOLARSHIPS

- College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Fall 2017
- School of Criminal Justice, Spring Semester Research Fellowship, 2013
- School of Criminal Justice, Summer Support Fellowship, 2013, 2012, 2011
- Foreign Language & Area Studies (FLAS) Fellow (Swahili), 2011-2012
- University Graduate Fellowship (MSU), The Graduate School Summer Support, 2009
- Academic Achievement Graduate Assistantship (MSU), 2008-2009
- Honors Research Scholarship, School of Natural Resources (OSU), 2002-2003

LEADERSHIP & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Affiliate Faculty Status, Archie Carr Center for Sea Turtle Research, University of Florida: <https://accstr.ufl.edu/people/faculty-and-staff/>
- Hiring committee member, Teacher Scholar Tenure Track Assistant Professor position Law, Society, and Justice, Department of Sociology and Criminology & Law
- Reviewed abstracts in March, 2019 submitted for oral presentation at the 29th International Congress of Conservation Biology (ICCB) Conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia to be held 21-25 July, 2019.
- Reviews since August 2018
 - Human Dimensions of Wildlife; *Farmer attitudes toward wildlife and forest management in the Vaca Forest Reserve, Belize* (Submitted 10/6/18)
 - Human Dimensions of Wildlife; *Poachers' strategies to surmount anti-poaching efforts in Serengeti, Tanzania* (Due 4/18/19)
- Reviewer for the following journals: Biological Conservation, Conservation Biology, Conservation Letters, Human Dimensions of Wildlife, and Journal of Environmental Management.
- Graduated from the 2009-2010 Emerging Wildlife Conservation Leaders (EWCL) class; a rigorous two-year program that provides training to young conservationists in leadership skills, wildlife conservation campaigning skills and requires them to plan, implement, monitor and evaluate an international conservation campaign.
- Collaborated with colleagues on the EWCL Saola Team to conduct a conservation needs assessment, consult relevant agencies, organizations, and experts, procure funding for and design anti-poaching training modules for community rangers and conservation practitioners engaged in conservation efforts for the saola in Vietnam.
- The Department of Fisheries & Wildlife representative on the Council of Graduate Students (COGS), Michigan State University, August 2010 to May 2011.
- Mentored a Michigan State University Undergraduate, in the Lyman Briggs 2009 Venture Program (Under the direction of Dr. Meredith Gore), in relation to theoretical and practical aspects of research related to human dimensions of human-wildlife conflicts in Namibia.
- Chairperson of the US Peace Corps Vanuatu's Women in Development and Gender and Development committee from October 2005 to May 2007.
- Mentored and trained host-country nationals in the Department of Fisheries in relation to Reef Check Vanuatu monitoring protocols, facilitation of community trainings, and program administration, 2006 - 2007.