

TALI CASPI

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EDUCATION

- Expected 2025 **Ph.D. Candidate in Ecology**, GPA: 4.0
Graduate Group in Ecology, University of California, Davis
Thesis: The nutritional ecology of coyotes in an urbanized landscape
- May 2018 **Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Science**, *summa cum laude*, GPA: 4.0
Scripps College, Claremont, CA
Thesis: Effects of invasive annuals on soil C and N storage along a coast to inland gradient in southern California. Advised by Dr. Wallace M. Meyer III, Pomona College.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Carlen, E., Estien, C., **Caspi, T.**, Perkins, D., Goldstein, B., Williams, T., Kreling, S., Hentati, Y., Stanton, L., Des Roches, S., Johnson, R., Young, A., Cooper, C., & Schell, C. (2023). A framework for contextualizing social-ecological biases in contributory science data. *People and Nature*. (In Press).
- Wilkinson, C., **Caspi, T.**, Stanton, L., & Schell, C. (2023). Coexistence across space and time: Social-ecological patterns within a decade of human-coyote interactions in San Francisco. *People and Nature*. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1002/pan3.10549>
- Caspi, T.**, Johnson, J. R., Lambert, M. R., Schell, C. J. and Sih, A. (2022). Behavioral plasticity can facilitate evolution in urban environments. *Trends in Ecology and Evolution* 37, 1092-1103. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tree.2022.08.002>.
- Holyoak, M., **Caspi, T.**, and Redosh, L. W. (2020). Integrating disturbance, seasonality, multi-year temporal dynamics, and dormancy into the dynamics and conservation of metacommunities. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution* 8, 333. doi: 10.3389/fevo.2020.571130.
- Caspi, T.**, Hartz, L. A., Soto Villa, A. E., Loesberg, J. A., Robins, C. R., and Meyer, W. M. (2019). Impacts of invasive annuals on soil carbon and nitrogen storage in southern California depend on the identity of the invader. *Ecology and Evolution* 9, 4980–4993. doi: 10.1002/ece3.5104.
- Caspi, T.**, Estrada, L., Dowling, A. V., Su, E., Leshchinskiy, M., Cavalcanti, A. R. O., et al. (2018). Carbon and nitrogen in the topsoils of Inceptisols and Mollisols under native sage scrub and non-native grasslands in southern California. *Geoderma Regional* 14, e00172. doi: 10.1016/j.geodrs.2018.e00172.

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS & INVITED TALKS

- 2023 Urban dietary patterns of coyotes in San Francisco
Invited talk at the San Francisco Bay Area National Parks Science Symposium, San Francisco, CA
- 2023 DNA metabarcoding identifies urban dietary patterns of coyotes in San Francisco
Talk at the Animal Behavior Society Conference, Portland, Oregon
- 2023 DNA metabarcoding identifies urban dietary patterns of coyotes in San Francisco
Talk at the International Urban Wildlife Conference, Washington DC
Awarded **best student talk*
- 2023 DNA metabarcoding identifies urban dietary patterns of coyotes in San Francisco
Talk for the Wildlife, Fish, and Conservation Biology Seminar Series at UC Davis, Davis, California
- 2023 DNA metabarcoding identifies urban dietary patterns of coyotes in San Francisco*
Poster at the Annual meeting of The Wildlife Society Western Section, Riverside, California.
Awarded **best student poster*

- 2022 Genetic analysis of fecal DNA to study urban coyote diet in San Francisco.
Invited presentation, NSF-supported, DCL-LTER urban evolution workshop, entitled Multifaceted mechanisms of metropolis: Integrating society, ecology, evolution, and plasticity (SEEP) to advance urban evolutionary ecology, Arizona State University.
- 2022 Genetic analysis of fecal DNA to study urban coyote diet in San Francisco.
Poster at the Annual meeting of The Wildlife Society Western Section, Reno, Nevada (virtual)
- 2022 The nutritional ecology of coyotes in urbanized landscapes.
Invited seminar lecture, University of Findlay Department of Biology (virtual).
- 2018 Effects of invasive annuals on soil C and N storage along a coast to inland gradient in southern California.
Poster at the Annual Meeting of the Southern California Academy of Science, Pomona, California.
- 2018 Effects of invasive annuals on soil C and N storage along a coast to inland gradient in southern California.
Nominated talk, Scripps College Capstone Day, Claremont, California.
- 2017 The impact of type-conversion on carbon and nitrogen storage in surface soils along a coast to inland gradient in southern California.
Poster at the Annual Meeting of The Ecological Society of America, Portland, Oregon.
- 2017 Potential pest regulation services provided by forest fragments in the northern highlands of Ethiopia.
Invited talk, Colby Liberal Arts Symposium, Waterville, Maine.
- 2016 Diel turnover of fish assemblages in a tropical floodplain system.
Invited talk, Center for Mekong Studies, School for Field Studies, Siem Reap, Cambodia.
- 2016 The impact of type-conversion on nutrient storage along a coast to inland gradient.
Poster at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Summer Research Symposium, Claremont, California.

GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND AWARDS

- 2023 Graduate Group in Ecology Continuing Student Fellowship, University of California, Davis—\$15,000
- 2023 Animal Behavior Society Diversity Travel Registration Waiver Award
- 2023 Animal Behavior Society Student Research Grant with recognition for contributions to justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion—\$2,000
- 2022 Community and Citizen Science in Conservation Fellowship, University of California, Davis, School of Education—\$1,000
- 2022 American Society of Mammalogists Grants-in-Aid of Research—\$1,500
- 2022 Animex Professional Development Scholarship to attend The Wildlife Society Western Section Meeting
- 2021 Phi Beta Kappa Northern California Association Scholarship—\$7,500
- 2020 Christine Stevens Wildlife Award, Animal Welfare Institute—\$15,000
- 2020, 2022, 2023 H.A. Jastro Shields Internal Fellowship Fund, University of California, Davis—\$9,000
- 2020 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program Honorable Mention
- 2019-2021 Graduate Group in Ecology Fellowship, University of California, Davis
- 2018 Barbara McClintock Science Award for best senior thesis in the sciences, Scripps College
- 2018 Rosalyn S. Yalow Science Award for science major with the highest GPA, Scripps College
- 2018 Departmental honors in Environmental Science, W.M. Keck Science Department
- 2017 Inducted into Phi Beta Kappa
- 2017 Scripps College nominee for Barry Goldwater Scholarship
- 2016 NSF Research Experiences for Undergraduates Grant
- 2015 Howard Hughes Medical Institute Summer Research Grant—\$5,000
- 2014-2018 James E. Scripps Scholar—\$20,000 four-year merit-based scholarship
- 2014-2018 Scripps College Dean's List—eight semesters

COMMUNITY SCIENCE, EDUCATION, & OUTREACH

- 2023 Community and citizen science in conservation: Applications for urban carnivore research
Invited talk, Honors College, Portland State University, Portland, Oregon (virtual)
- 2023 Community and citizen science in conservation: Applications for urban carnivore research
Invited talk, Center for Community and Citizen Science, UC Davis School of Education, Davis, California
- 2021 Studying the behavior of wildlife in the city.
Invited talk, River City High School Environmental Club, Sacramento, California.
- 2018 - Animal Interpretation Associate, Liberty Science Center, Jersey City, New Jersey.
2019 *Developed and delivered educational programs and activities pertaining to the museum's animal collection. Facilitated exploration of wildlife exhibits and interacted with museum guests.*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2021-2023 **Teaching Assistant and Curriculum Development, ECL200 – Ecological Principles and Applications for Graduate Students, University of California, Davis**
Presents first-year students in the Graduate Group in Ecology with a graduate-level introduction to the principles, theory, practice, and applications of ecology. The course covers population dynamics, community ecology, food webs, and ecosystem ecology. I assisted with course curriculum development including developing assignments, workshops, and lectures. I also assisted students with course content and led weekly discussion sections.
- 2020 **Teaching Assistant, EVE104 – Community Ecology, University of California, Davis**
Presents students covers population growth and density dependence, predation, competition, and mutualism, coexistence mechanisms, niches, spatial and temporal variation, and food webs with an emphasis on quantitative understanding through models, concepts, and empirical evidence. I developed a written guide to science writing for students, facilitated weekly discussion forums centered on famous ecological debates, graded exams and weekly assignments, created grading rubrics, and assisted students during a quarter of online, asynchronous instruction.
- 2019, 2023 **Teaching Assistant, ESP 100 – General Ecology, University of California, Davis**
Presents students with an overview of the distribution, growth, and regulation of species populations, predator-prey and competitive interactions, and the organization of natural communities. Facilitated weekly discussion sections based on assigned readings, graded exams and weekly assignments, lead multiple review sessions, and assisted students during office hours.

ACADEMIC SERVICE & MEMBERSHIP

- 2023 – Present Student Representative for The Wildlife Society's Urban Wildlife Working Group
The Wildlife Society Urban Wildlife Working Group's primary goal is to increase public awareness and appreciation of urban wildlife management issues and the decision-making processes that promote urban wildlife conservation and mitigate human-wildlife conflict in urban settings. As student representative, I provide a student perspective in discussions about serving the working group membership, update the website and social media platforms, and help coordinate student events at the International Urban Wildlife Conference.
- 2022 – Present Chair/Co-Founder of the UC Davis Metabarcoding Working Group
I co-founded a working group for researchers at UC Davis using metabarcoding research techniques. In this role, I organize and facilitate monthly meetings on topics related to metabarcoding.
- 2022-Present Member of the Bay Area Coyote Working Group

The Bay Area Coyote Working Group is a coalition of academics, non-profit workers, and state and city managers including East Bay Regional Parks, Panthera, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and The Presidio Trust, and is focused on managing human-carnivore conflict in the Bay Area. As a member, I am involved in the development and implementation of research and management initiatives pertaining to human-coyote conflict in the region.

2019 – Present Chair of the Ecology Graduate Student Association Social Committee
In this role, I plan and facilitate new and prospective student orientation events.

Manuscript Reviewer

2023 Urban Ecosystems

2022 Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology

Professional Affiliations

2022 – Present American Society of Mammologists, The Animal Behavior Society

2021 – Present The Wildlife Society, Western Section Chapter & Urban Wildlife Working Group

2020 – Present Sigma Xi

2017 – Present Phi Beta Kappa

MEDIA COVERAGE

Documentary series, Day's Edge Productions. [Human Footprint](#). PBS, 02 August 2023.

Online Article, Katherine J. Wu. "[Junk Food Is Bad for You. Is It Bad for Raccoons?](#)" **The Atlantic**, 21 February 2023.

News Magazine Interview, Heidi Colonna. "[Jobs with Animals: Being an Urban Ecologist](#)" **KindNews**, January 2023.

Online Article, Eric Simons. "[A New Alpha Coyote Takes Over in San Francisco's Presidio](#)" **Bay Nature**, 24 January 2020.

Online Article, Golden Gate National Recreation Area. "[First Pupping Season Underway for New Presidio Coyote Pair](#)" **Bay Area Nature & Science Blog**, April 2020.