Kaeli Swift

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Education

- Doctorate of Philosophy. School of Environmental and Forest Sciences, University of Washington, August 2018. Dissertation: American crow thanatology. Adviser: Dr. John Marzluff
- Master of Science. School of Environmental and Forest Sciences, University of Washington, March 2015. Thesis: Wild American crows use "funerals" to learn about danger. Adviser: Dr. John Marzluff
- Bachelor of Arts. Willamette University, May 2009

Grants and Other Funding Awards

- American Ornithological Society student research award, $600 — April 2017
- University of Washington Mortar Board Tolo/Alumni Foundation scholarship, $3,000 — June 2015
- Xi Sigma Pi Forestry Honor Society Research Grant, $250 — April 2014
- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship recipient — March 2012
- Willamette University mini sustainability grant, $500 — December 2011

Relevant Research Experience

- **Post-Doctoral Research** — 2018-Aug 2019

  Used hand-held cameras, camera traps, and GIS to track foraging ecology of marked Canada jays in Denali National Park. Banded and bled nestlings for all monitored territories. Other duties included nest searching, and deploying mist nests and box traps for unmarked adults. Joint study between the University of Washington and the National Parks Service. PI: Dr. John Marzluff, Emily Williams

- **Doctoral and MS Research** — 2012-2018

  Conducted systematic field studies and PET neuroimaging studies to understand the manifestations and adaptive motivations behind wild American crows' interest in dead conspecifics. Other field duties included nest searching and live capture with net cannon. University of Washington. PI: Dr. John Marzluff.

- **Field Technician** — Spring & summer 2012

  Project examined breeding success of streaked-horned lark. Duties included nest searching, nest monitoring, color banding nestling and radio telemetry to track fledglings. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Corvallis, OR. PI: Dr. Randy Moore

- **Field Technician** Fall 2010, 2011

  Bat fatality line-transect surveys on private wind farm. Other duties included tissue sampling and collection. Western Ecosystems Technology, Inc. Fowler, IN. PI: Sandy Simone

- **Field Technician** Fall 2009

  Sexual selection study on satin bowerbirds. Duties included bower monitoring and mapping, setting up and maintaining video recording equipment, and data entry. NSW Australia, University of Maryland. PI: Dr. Gerald Borgia

Relevant Teaching Experience

- **Visiting Lecturer, School of Environmental and Forest Sciences, University of Washington.** Fall 2019-present

  Instructed ornithology courses ESRM 452: Field Ornithology, and ESRM 456: Biology and Conservation of birds. General ecology course, ESRM 150; Introduction to Wildlife in the Modern World, and a wildlife conservation/management course, ESRM 458: Endangered Species Management. Topics included the identification, evolution and biology of birds, the conservation of wildlife through policy and management strategies, and general wildlife ecology. Starting in March 2020, all instruction moved online. Proficient in using Zoom, Canvas, Pantopto, and Poll Everywhere for online instruction.

- **Graduate Instructor, School of Environmental and Forest Sciences, University of Washington** Summer 2018

  Designed and taught introductory non-majors course, ESRM 150: Wildlife in the Modern World. Topics included urbanization, climate change, and wildlife management. Assignments included essays on current events, an oral presentation on an endangered species, and a field experiment on crows.

- **Assistant instructor, North Cascades Institute adult education Corvid Class** June 2016, 2017, 2018

  Previously co-taught along with John Marzluff. In 2019 I taught as the sole instructor. Course includes three lectures covering corvid evolution, natural history and my research. Primary teaching method is through fieldtrips and direct observation of birds.

- **Graduate teaching assistant, Program on the Environment, University of Washington: ENVIRO 280: Natural History of the Puget Sound** — Fall and Spring 2016- 2018

  Duties included grading and giving feedback on written assignments, grading exams, and teaching students about Washington bird and plant communities.

- **Graduate teaching assistant, School of Environmental and Forest Sciences, University of Washington: ESRM 451 Governance and Conservation of Endangered Species** — Winter 2015-2018

  Duties included grading and giving feedback on written assignments, overseeing final group project (see Teaching Philosophy for details), assisting with the location of and communication with project stakeholders, and providing lecture on locating and citing primary literature.

- **Teaching assistant, School of Environmental and Forest Sciences, University of Washington: QSCI 481: Introduction to Probability and Statistics** — Spring 2016

  Primary duties included grading homework assignments and exams, and leading a lab section of 30 students. During lab I helped students use Excel to complete statistics activities and homework assignments.

- **Co-Instructor, ESRM 350:Wildlife Biology and Conservation** — Fall 2015

  Taught previously designed lectures covering introductory material for mostly within-major students. Topics included wildlife management, population ecology, and conservation.

Other Positions

- Administrative Assistant III Willamette University Biology and Chemistry Departments — Fall 2011-Spring 2012
- Primary curator for the Willamette U. Natural History Collection — Winter 2010-Winter 2011

Academic Publications and Professional Presentations

- Swift, K. "What crows can teach us about death." TEDxSalem speaker. 1/4/2020
- Swift K, Marzluff JM, Templeton CN, Shimizu T, Cross DJ. 2020. Brain activity underlying American crow processing of encounters with dead conspecifics. *Behavioural Brain Research* 385: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bbr.2020.112546

- Swift K, Williams E, and Marzluff JM. 2019. Foraging ecology of Canada jays in Denali National Park. Abstract of the American Ornithological Society joint meeting.
- Swift, K and Marzluff JM. 2018. Occurrence and variability of tactile interactions between wild American crows and dead conspecifics. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B* 373
- Marzluff J.M. and Swift, K.N. 2017. Connecting animal and human cognition to conservation. *Current Opinions in Behavioral Science* 16: 87-92
- Swift, K.N. 2016. Wild American crows use age to assess relative risk communicated by dead conspecifics. Abstract of the North American Ornithological Conference.
- Swift, K.N, and Marzluff, J.M. 2015. Wild American crows gather around their dead to learn about danger. *Animal Behaviour* 109: 187-197
- Swift, K.N., and Marzluff., J.M. 2014. American crow "funerals" serve as mechanism of danger learning. Abstract of the American Ornithologists Union, Cooper Ornithological Society and Society of Canadian Ornithologists joint meeting.
- Craig, D.P. and K.N. Swift. 2008. Peer to peer photo sharing and field readable tags: a simple powerful tool for citizen science and following marked birds. Abstract of the Combined Annual Meeting of the American Ornithologists Union, Cooper Ornithological Society and Society of Canadian Ornithologists.

Popular Science publications

- Personal blog. 2012-present. One hundred and fifteen individual blog articles relating to crows, corvids, or personal science experiences.
- Swift, K.N. 2018. The City of Crows. *Biophilic Cities* 2: 34-36
- Swift, K.N. 2015. Science in Seattle. *Biosphere Magazine* 8: 52-58
- Swift, K.N. 2015. Danger surrounds us. *Biosphere Magazine* 11: 28-32