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Curriculum Vitae
Stephen M. Vantassel, ACE
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PRESENT EMPLOYMENT:

Vertebrate Pest Specialist May 2015-Present
 Montana Department of Agriculture 625 NE Main St. Ste 3.
 Lewistown, MT 59457
 406-538-3004 svantassel@mt.gov

Responsible for training landowners and producers on how to responsibly and effectively mitigate damage by vertebrate pests (rodents, carnivores, birds, and other mammals) via presentations, workshops, publications, research, and consultation.

Program Coordinator-Wildlife Damage Management ICWDM.org

September 2004-2014

Responsible for converting research-based information on wildlife damage management into actionable information for public consumption and disseminate this information through writing, internet, lectures, courses, conferences, and workshops, including Deer Damage Management Workshop (2009), Urban Coyote Workshop (2011), and Goose Damage Management Workshop (2010, 2012).

Extensive experience in wildlife control and dealing with the public about wildlife control issues.

I. CERTIFICATIONS:

Associate Certified Entomologist (ACE® #A02273) 2019-present.

Certified Wildlife Control Professional (CWCP™) 2001-2023.

UAS Remote Pilot. #4297785--- 2019-present.

Montana Pesticide Licenses: Structural, Ag Vert and M-44. 2015-present. Research 2017-present.

Nebraska Wildlife Control License 2011-2015.

II. EDUCATION:

M.S. Leadership Education. 2013

University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Lincoln, NE

III. TRAINING:

National Wildlife Control Operators Association (NWCOA) Annual Meeting. Various locations.
 2011-2020.

Rodent Academy by Dr. Robert Corrigan. New York, NY. Nov. 15-17, 2019.

Interest-based Bargaining Training. Montana Department of Labor & Industry. Lewistown, MT. Nov. 7, 2017.

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Western Pest Management Tour. NM Dept. of Agriculture. Albuquerque, NM. April 5-8, 2016.
University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Urban Pest Management Conference, Lincoln, NE. 2005-2015.

IPM Workshop. UNL Pesticide Safety Education Program. Lincoln, NE. August 5, 2014.

Rodent Academy by Dr. Robert Corrigan. New York, NY. November, 2011.

Wildlife Tracking by Jim Halfpenny. Treehaven, WI. Dec. 11-12, 2010.

Trapper's College by Fur Takers of America. LaGrange, IN. September, 2010, 2013. Achieved Master rating.

Vertebrate Pest Conference. Vertebrate Pest Council. CA. 2006, 2008, 2016, 2018, 2020, 2022, 2024.

Wildlife Damage Management Conference, Wildlife Damage Management Working Group of the Wildlife Society. 2005, 2009, 2011, 2013.

IV. WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE:

A. RESEARCH:

Burrow Rx Injection Time for Control of Columbian Ground Squirrels. July, 2022.

Burrow Rx Injection Time for Control of Richardson's Ground Squirrels. April, 2022.

Burrow Rx Injection Time for Control of Black-tailed Prairie Dogs. June-July, 2021.

Multiple-Catch Trap for Richardson's Ground Squirrels: Proof of Concept. August, 2020.

"Efficacy of Zinc Phosphide Oats on Richardson's Ground Squirrels in Fallow Wheat Fields without Pre-bait." 2018.

Proof of Concept: GoodNature® Traps for the control of mice and ground squirrels. 2017.

"Use of Propane-Oxygen Device, The Rodenator™, for Control of Black-tailed Prairie Dogs." 2017.

"Modified Bait Station for Ground Squirrels in Montana". 2016.

"Efficacy Study of Raccoon Eviction Fluids." Funded by the National Pest Management Association. 2009-2012.

"Preliminary Investigation of Pocket Gopher Trap Efficiency." 2005-2013.

B. FIELD:

Owner of Wildlife Control Consultant, LLC. June, 2012-present.

Assisted MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks in disease surveillance. Dec 2021.

Massachusetts Lic. Problem Animal Controller 1982-2004. Connecticut lic. NWCO 1994-1996.

Founder of Wildlife Removal Service Inc. 1994-1998 (Sold).

Animal Control Officer for the City of Springfield, MA Oct 1993-Dec 1995 Involved managing raccoons affected by the Mid-Atlantic Rabies Epidemic.

Animal Control contractor for the City of Chicopee 1995-1998. Involved managing raccoons affected by the Mid-Atlantic Rabies Epidemic.

Animals controlled/trapped/hunted: Badger, Bat, Beaver, Black Rat Snake, Black-tailed Prairie Dog, Canada Goose, Chipmunk, Columbian Ground Squirrel, Cottontail Rabbit, Coyote, Crow, Deer Mouse, Eastern Mole, Feral Cat, Feral Pigeon, Flying Squirrel, Garter Snake, Gopher Snake, Gray Squirrel, Hairy-tailed Mole, House Mouse, House Sparrow, Iguana, Mule Deer, Muskrat, Northern Pocket Gopher, Norway Rat, Nutria, Opossum, Plains Pocket Gopher, Python, Raccoon, Red Squirrel, Richardson's Ground Squirrel, River Otter, Shrew, Snapping Turtle, Starling, Star-nosed Mole, Striped Skunk, Thirteen-lined Ground Squirrel, Voles (various species), Woodchuck, and Downey Woodpecker.

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C. CONSULTATIONS & PUBLIC EDUCATION:

Living the Wild Life Podcast. Weekly show on the Pest Geek Podcast.

<https://pestgeekpodcast.com/stephen-vantassel/> & <https://rumble.com/c/c-296201>

October 2018-present.

University of Minnesota Extension: Category P training. 2023-present.

Minnesota Nursery & Landscape Association. Vertebrate Pest Training. 2023-present.

PestMaster. Vertebrate Pest Control Protocols. Raccoon & Pocket Gopher. 2023-2024.

Expert Witness—

The McGarity Group. Budgord, GA. Sept. 2022.

Godnik Law, S.C. Superior, WI. May, 2022.

Toll v. Scott. Fairfax, Virginia. November 4, 2009.

VI. PRESENTATIONS:

Provide vertebrate pest training on behalf of the Montana Department of Agriculture. 2015- present.

Topics include: Avian Influenza, Bed Bugs, Control of Bats, Richardson's Ground Squirrels, Columbian Ground Squirrels, Prairie Dogs, Pocket Gophers, Deer, Unprotected Birds, Voles, MT & OR, and Commensal Rodents, including *Peromyscus spp.* Other subjects include: Understanding Rodenticide Modes of Action, Fumigation of Vertebrate Pests, Inspecting for Wildlife Damage, Fumigation Management Plans, Rabies, and Vertebrate Pest License Training.

VII. PUBLICATIONS:

A. BOOKS:

Frishman, A. with Vantassel, S. 2024. Vertebrate Pest Handbook. 3rd. ed. Wildlife Control Consultant, LLC. Lewistown, MT.

Beaver, J., Vantassel, S. and Saeed, A. 2023. Deer Resistant Plants. in press. Montana State University. Bozeman, MT.

Kerzicnik, L. and Vantassel, S. 2022. Structural & Health Pest Control Training Manual. Montana Department of Agriculture. Helena, MT.

Bowser, A., Tharp, C., Vantassel, S. and Wanner, K. 2019. Non-soil Agricultural Fumigation Manual for Private Applicators. Cecil Tharp, editor. Bozeman, MT. Montana State University Extension. June. EB0229. 1-30pp.

Vantassel, S. 2018, 2020. M-44 Training Manual. Montana Department of Agriculture. Helena, MT.

Nichols, P.J. with S. M. Vantassel. 2018. Wildlife Pest Control Handbook, 4th ed. Revised and Expanded. Wildlife Control Consultant, LLC. Lewistown, MT.

Vantassel, S. 2017. Wildlife Removal Handbook, 3rd. ed. Wildlife Control Consultant, LLC. Lewistown, MT

Vantassel, S. 2017. Being Kind to Animal Pests (rev. ed.). Wildlife Control Consultant, LLC: Lewistown, MT.

Vantassel, S. 2014. Category 14: Wildlife Damage Control. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Curtis, P., S. Hygnstrom, & S. Vantassel. 2015. National Wildlife Control Training Program. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University.

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- Vantassel, S. Vantassel, P. Curtis, S. Hygnstrom, & R. Smith. 2014. Species Information for the Northeastern United States: Wildlife Damage Management for Master Gardeners. National Wildlife Control Training Program. Cornell University and University of Nebraska-Lincoln.
- Curtis, P., S. Hygnstrom, S. Vantassel, & Raj Smith. 2014. Wildlife Damage Management for Master Gardeners: Practical Core Wildlife Control Principles and Methods. National Wildlife Control Training Program. Cornell University and University of Nebraska- Lincoln.
- Vantassel, S., Hygnstrom, S., Curtis, P., Smith, R., & Hygnstrom, J. 2014. Structural Pest Control Program: Bird Management Manual. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Cornell University.
- Vantassel, S. M. 2013. The Practical Guide for the Control of House Cats. Lincoln, NE: Wildlife Control Consultant.
- Vantassel, S. M. 2012. Wildlife Damage Inspection Handbook. 3rd ed. Lincoln, NE: Wildlife Control Consultant.
- Vantassel, S. M., P.D. Curtis, P.D., & S. E. Hygnstrom. 2012. National Wildlife Control Training Program: Core Principles and Information. University of Nebraska-Lincoln & Cornell University.
- Streich, A., A. Timmerman, J. Kalish, S. M. Vantassel, F. Baxendale, S. Hygnstrom. 2011. Landscape Diagnostic Guide for Problems Affecting Woody Ornamentals and Herbaceous Perennials. EC1260. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension.
- Vantassel, S. M., P. D. Curtis, & S. E. Hygnstrom. 2011. National Wildlife Control Training Program (Preliminary Draft ed.): University of Nebraska-Lincoln & Cornell University.
- Vantassel, S. 2010. Chapter 12: IPM for Rats and Mice in IPM in Sensitive Environments. UNL Pesticide Education Office. Lincoln, NE.
- Vantassel, S. 2009. Dominion over Wildlife? An Environmental-Theology of Human-Wildlife Relations. Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, ix-208.
- Vantassel, S. 2002. A Beginner's Guide to Mole Control Using NoMol Traps. Granby, CT: Wildlife Control Supplies.

B. ARTICLES:

- Menke, R.H. and S. Vantassel. (submitted). Principles of Damage Management *in* Wild Furbearer Management and Conservation in North America. Tim Hiller (ed). Helena, MT: Wildlife Ecology Institute.
- Vantassel, S. 2022. Efficacy of BurrowRx to Treat Black-tailed Prairie Dogs (*Cynomys ludovicianus*) in Montana: A Pilot Study. Vertebrate Pest Conference 30:1-4.
<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/1h06s11j>
- Vantassel, S. 2022. A training resource for urban pest control professionals. Journal of Pesticide Safety Education 24:44-46.
- Vantassel, S. 2022. Are Bats in My House?: Tips to determine the answer without using ladders. Lives & Landscapes. Fall. 4-6.
- Vantassel, S. 2022. Prevent Skunks from Taking Residence Under Buildings. Stock Quotes: Animal Health Newsletter. 15(2):4.
- Hiller, T. and S. Vantassel. 2022. Harvest of small carnivores for food and fur. Pages 489-507 in E. Do Linh San, J. Sato, J. L. Belant, and M. Somers, editors. Small Carnivores in Space and Time: Evolution, Ecology, Behaviour and Conservation.

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- Beaver, J and S. M. Vantassel. 2022. Rattlesnake safe in Montana. Montana State University. MontGuide (MT202201AG). Pp.1-4.
- Dutcher, A., Pias, K., Sizemore, G. and Vantassel, S. 2021. Feral Cats. Wildlife Damage Management Technical Series. National Wildlife Control Research Center, Fort Collins, CO, USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services. Pp. 1-25.
- Curtis, P. and Vantassel, S. 2021. Wildlife Damage Management. Pesticide Environmental Stewardship. <https://pesticidestewardship.org/wildlife-damage-management/>
- Vantassel, S. 2021. "Vertebrate Pests of Pulse Crops." In *Compendium of Pea Diseases and Pests*, edited by Robert M. et al. Harveson, 100-103. St. Paul, MN: American Phytopathological Society.
- Vantassel, S. 2020. Temperature and humidity variation between cage and plastic-walled traps: Implications for animal welfare when using cage and box traps. Vertebrate Pest Conference 29:1-5.
- Vantassel, S. 2020. M-44 Use by Non-USDA-Wildlife Services Applicators between 2006-2019 in Montana. Vertebrate Pest Conference 29:1-5.
- Braband, L., P. Curtis, M. Fishman, T. Hiller and S. Vantassel. 2020. Where Do They Fit? Often Overlooked, Private Sector Wildlifers Play a Growing Role in Conservation. *The Wildlife Professional*. 14(1):44-47.
- Revised, in many cases substantially, the Pest Control Bulletins published by the Montana Department of Agriculture 2015-present. <https://agr.mt.gov/Vertebrate-Pests>
- Many of my articles and reviews can be found on <http://kingsdivinity.academia.edu/StephenMVantassel>
- Vantassel, S., Fall, and S. Lariviere. 2019. Information Resources for Animal Control and Wildlife Damage Management. Wildlife Damage Management Technical Series. National Wildlife Control Research Center, Fort Collins, CO, USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services. 20pp.
- Bowser, A., Tharp, C., Vantassel, S. 2019. Structural and Rodent Fumigation in Montana Agricultural Systems. MontGuide MT201904AG. February. Pp. 1-8.
- Vantassel, S. and B. Osthus. 2018. Safety. Wildlife Damage Management Technical Series. National Wildlife Control Research Center, Fort Collins, CO, USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services. 20pp.
- Vantassel, S. and M. King. 2018. Wildlife Carcass Disposal. Wildlife Damage Management Technical Series. National Wildlife Control Research Center, Fort Collins, CO, USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services. 10pp.
- Vantassel, S. 2017. Wildlife Control Operator. Pages 88-90 in Scott E. Henke and Paul R. Krausman, editors. *Wildlife Careers: From A to Z*. Johns Hopkins University Press.
- Publication Reviewer. *Fur Takers of America*. 2010-2019.
- Vantassel, S. and S. Groepper. 2016. A Survey of Wildlife Damage Management by Wildlife Control Operators in Urbanized Environments in the United States. Pages 175-204 in Angelici, Francesco Maria, editor. *Problematic Wildlife-A Cross-Disciplinary Approach*. Springer International.
- Vantassel, S., P. Curtis, and S. Hygnstrom. 2014. *Wildlife Control Training for Nebraska Master Gardeners*. University of Nebraska-Lincoln/Cornell University.
- Vantassel, S., P. Curtis, and S. Hygnstrom. 2013. *National Wildlife Control Training Program Volume 2: Supplemental Species Information*. University of Nebraska-Lincoln/Cornell University.
- Revised "IPM for Rats and Mice" published in *IPM in Sensitive Environments: IPM as Easy as ABC*. 2013. C. Ogg and E. Bauer, Eds. University of Nebraska-Lincoln.
- Signs and Symptoms of Plant Damage. 2013. *Master Gardeners of Nebraska*.

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- Vantassel, S. M., D. Tyre, & S. E. Hygnstrom. 2013. Effectiveness of 2 Traps on the Plains Pocket Gopher. *Human-Wildlife Interactions*. 8:1(Spring):100-107.
- Vantassel, S. M., T. L. Hiller, & S. E. Hygnstrom. Humane Removal of Urban Raccoon Study. 15th Wildlife Damage Management Conference.
- Vantassel, S. M. 2012. Wildlife management professionals need to redefine the terms: lethal control, nonlethal control, and live trap. *Human-Wildlife Interactions* 6(2):335-338.
- Vantassel, S. 2012. A Jungle of Information. *Pest Control Technology* 40(September):106, 108- 109.
- Vantassel, S. 2012. A Draft Proposal for an Industry Protocol for the Cleanup of Raccoon Latrines. *Proceedings of the 14th WDM Conference*. 33-39.
- Reger, J., H. D. Herman, A. DeNicola, and S. Vantassel. 2012. National Wildlife Control Operator's Association's New Certification Policy. *Proceedings of the 14th WDM Conference*. 3-4.
- Huot, A. and S. Vantassel. 2012. Advances in the Tools Used in the Effective Control of Urban Coyotes. *Proceedings of the 14th WDM Conference*. 138-139.
- Murray, R. and S. Vantassel. 2012. Urban Coyote Problems and Efficient Control Methods. *Proceedings of the 14th WDM Conference*. 140-142.
- Moon, R., G. Clausen, and S. Vantassel. 2012. The 411 on Raccoon Scat: A Rising Raccoon Population Means Increased Risk for Dangerous Disease and Infection--And Increased Claims. *Claims Management*. May: 28-31.
- Vantassel, S. M. Dangers of Raccoon Roundworm. 2010. *Pest Management Professional*. 78:3(March):50-53.
- Vantassel, S. M., T. L. Hiller, K. D. J. Powell, and S. E. Hygnstrom. Using advancements in cable-trapping to overcome barriers to furbearer management in the United States: a commentary." *Journal of Wildlife Management*. 74.5 (2010):934-939.
- Julien, T.J., S.M.Vantassel, S.R. Groepper, and S.E. Hygnstrom. 2010. Opinion Paper: "Euthanasia Methods in Field Settings for Wildlife Damage Management." *Human-Wildlife Interactions*. 4:2(Fall):158-164.
- Vantassel, S., S. Hygnstrom, & D. Ferraro. 2006. Tips on Removing Skunk Odor. *Massachusetts Wildlife* 61:3. Pp.9-15.
- Vantassel, S. 1996. Keeping the Wildlife Outside. *Massachusetts Wildlife* 46:1. Pp. 26-27, 30-35.
- Various wildlife damage management publications for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension. Visit <http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/epublic/pages/index.jsp?what=subjectAreasD&subjectAreasId=38>
- Vantassel, S. 1990. Urbanized Critters: They're Becoming a Nuisance. *The Trapper & Predator Caller*, August, 38-40.
- Vantassel, S. 1989. Effective Box Trapping. *Trapper & Predator Caller*, July, 43-45.

VIII. AWARDS:

- 2023 Montana Governor's Award.
- 2017 Montana Department of Agriculture Certificate of Recognition.
- 2017 NWCOA Educator of the Year.
- 2012 NWCOA Educator of the Year with S. E. Hygnstrom.
- 2008 NWCOA Educator of the Year.
- 2008- School of Natural Resources Staff Recognition Award.

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IX. OTHER WILDLIFE DAMAGE CONTROL INDUSTRY ACTIVITIES:

Certification Committee. Entomological Society of America. 2020-2023.

Pesticide Stewardship Committee. 2022-present

Certification and Training Assessment Group (CTAG). 2022-2024.

Newsletter Committee. National Wildlife Control Operators Association. 2021.

Board of the National Wildlife Control Operators Association. Western Director. 2016-2019.

Publication reviewer for *Fur Taker Magazine* 2011-2019.

AVMA Mass Wildlife Euthanasia Committee. 2017-2018.

Editor for *The National Wildlife Control Operators Association Newsletter*, September 2011-2015.

Asst. Editor of *Wildlife Control Technology Magazine*, March-April, 1999-2001. Senior Staff Writer, 2001-2011.

Training, Standards, and Certification Committee, NWCOA. 2010-2019.

Ad hoc Committee Member, AFWA BMPs for Trapping (Striped Skunks). 2007–2010.

Feral Cat Policy Committee—Wildlife Society 2010.

Founder of Massachusetts Association of Problem Animal Controllers in December, 1993.

Registered with the state in 1996.

Articles published in *The Trapper-Predator Caller*, *Fur-Fish-Game*, *Condo Media*, *Pest Control Technology*, *Pest Management Professional*, *American Society of Home Inspectors*, *Fur Takers*, *Pest Management Professional*, and *NACA NEWS*.