

**JENNIFER A. FELTNER****CONTACT**

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E-mail: [jennifer.feltner@umontana.edu](mailto:jennifer.feltner@umontana.edu)Website: [www.jenniferfeltner.com](http://www.jenniferfeltner.com)Research Group: [www.umd.edu/research/millslab](http://www.umd.edu/research/millslab)**EDUCATION**

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**University of Montana, Missoula MT**

Ph.D., Wildlife Biology, May 2021. GPA: 4.0/4.0

- Dissertation title: Effects of wolf and grizzly bear recovery on cougars in a multi-use system
- Committee: L. Scott Mills (advisor), Mark Hebblewhite, Paul Lukacs, Michael Mitchell, Hugh Robinson, Mark Elbroch (Panthera), Daniel Thompson (Wyoming Game & Fish Department)
- Other projects: Population status and management of wolves in Scandinavia; Global phenology distribution of coat-color changing mammal species

**San Diego State University and University of California, Davis, San Diego and Davis CA**

Graduate coursework, Ecology, Aug 2013-Aug 2014. GPA: 3.94/4.0

- Conducted research on the habitat use and occupancy of grey snub-nosed monkeys (*Rhinopithecus brelichi*) in Fanjingshan National Nature Reserve, Guizhou, China

**Colorado State University, Fort Collins CO**

Post-Bac. coursework, Wildlife and Conservation Biology, Jan 2011 - May 2012. GPA: 4.0/4.0.

**Dartmouth College, Hanover NH**

B.A., Chinese Language and Literature (Cum Laude), June 2001. GPA: 3.52/4.0

**GRANTS AND AWARDS**

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2020	W. A. Franke Scholarship, University of Montana (\$5000)
2020	University of Wyoming- National Park Service Small Grant (\$5000)
2019	Graduate Student Travel Grant, The Wildlife Society, Wyoming Chapter (\$500)
2019	Bertha Morton Scholarship, University of Montana (\$3000)
2019	Peterson Family Scholarship, University of Montana (\$1300)
2019	Les Pengelly Scholarship, University of Montana (\$2600)
2018	Graduate Student Scholarship, The Wildlife Society, Wyoming Chapter (\$1000)
2018	G.M. "Monk" DeJarnette Scholarship, University of Montana (\$700)
2016	Wild Felid Legacy Scholarship, Wild Felid Research and Management Association (\$1000)
2014	Harold & June Grant Memorial Scholarship, San Diego State University (\$1000)
2014	National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (\$138,000)
2012	Text Book Award for Academic Potential, Colorado State University (\$400)
2000	Dickey International Internship Award, Dartmouth College (\$3000)
2000	Presidential Research Scholarship, Dartmouth College (\$1500)
1998	Alfred P. Jenks Scholarship for Academic Achievement, Dartmouth College (\$2000)

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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**Natural Resources Institute Finland, Helsinki, Finland****Project consultant** (April 2021-present)

- Estimating a Favourable Reference Population (FRP) for the Finnish wolf population.

**Teton Cougar Project, Panthera, Kelly, WY****Graduate Researcher** (June 2015-May 2021)

- Track cougars (*Puma concolor*) using satellite and radio telemetry and snow tracking; conduct investigations of cougar kill and bed sites, determine cougar displacement from kills by other large carnivores using sign or remote cameras; assist with cougar capture, immobilization and collaring
- Aid project manager and field team with all aspects of running the project
- Manage spatial, predation and cougar population databases

**Swedish Environmental Protection Agency**, Stockholm, Sweden

**Project consultant** (July 2015-July 2017)

- A synthesis of appropriate science-based criteria for Scandinavian wolves

**Mammals Research Program, Colorado Parks and Wildlife**, Fort Collins CO

**Technician** (May - Oct 2012; Apr – Aug 2013)

- Tracked bighorn sheep (*Ovis canadensis*) using radio telemetry; recorded observations, monitored health of lambs, investigated mortalities and performed field necropsies; entered and managed tabular and spatial data
- Conducted predator surveys using camera traps, calls and direct observations
- Aided in design of predator survey protocols; conducted research on use of remote sensing data in wildlife habitat analysis; downloaded and processed LANDSAT imagery; documented effects of wildfires on sheep

**Work-study Technician** (July 2011- Apr 2012)

- Entered and managed tabular and spatial data using Access, Excel and ArcGIS for studies on the ecology and management of cougars, black bears (*Ursus americanus*) and lynx (*Lynx canadensis*)
- Identified species from camera trap images; collected and processed tissue samples for stable isotope, genetic and disease analysis; assisted in lion and bear captures, kill-site investigations and camera trap set up
- Conducted research on relocation as a management tool for problem lions, lion resource selection and habitat suitability modeling; produced initial spatial model for potential relocation sites using ArcGIS

**Institute for Conservation Research, San Diego Zoo**, Sierra Juarez, Baja California, Mexico/Escondido CA

**Field and Lab Assistant** (Mar – Apr 2013)

- Documented presence and travel corridors for Peninsular desert bighorn sheep (*Ovis canadensis nelsoni*) and cougars using camera traps and ground surveys; prepared scat samples for PCR and DNA extraction

**Colorado State University**, Fort Collins CO

**Field Technician** (Aug 2011- Apr 2012)

- Checked, repaired and installed camera traps for wildlife disease study of cougars, bobcats (*Lynx rufus*) and domestic cats (*Felis catus*); downloaded photos, managed and updated databases and schedules

**Lab Assistant** (May - Aug 2011)

- Performed daily care of animals in frog lab; aided in nocturnal fieldwork and capture of specimens for speciation study of chorus frogs (*Pseudacris maculata*)

**Fundación Omacha**, Vichada, Colombia

**Volunteer Research Assistant** (June 2009 – Jan 2011; two months onsite)

- Designed and implemented mammal monitoring survey using camera traps; conducted line transect surveys of river dolphins (*Inia geoffrensis*); aided visiting biologists with field inventories of herpetofauna, fish, birds and plants
- Assisted in behavioral study, rehabilitation and care of juvenile jaguar (*Panthera onca*) prior to soft release in El Tuparro National Park; captured prey species and collected prey scat for pre-release conditioning process
- Led and supported environmental education programs for local children in Puerto Carreño
- Provided remote assistance on research for anti-wildlife trafficking campaign, felid reintroductions and human-wildlife conflict and editing and translation of scientific reports and online content

**Centre for Marine Studies**, Utila, Honduras

**Volunteer Research Diver** (Mar – Apr 2009)

- Attended week-long course on tropical marine ecology and field techniques; conducted dive surveys evaluating population dynamics, distribution and health of reef fish, invertebrates, corals, dolphins and whale sharks (*Rhincodon typus*); monitored spawning aggregations of groupers
- Assisted in community education and awareness initiatives with local dive shops, tourists and residents

**University of Arizona (UA), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Northern Jaguar Project (NJP), Sky Island Alliance (SIA)**, Southern Arizona/Northern Sonora, Mexico

**Volunteer Research Assistant** (Sept 2008 – Mar 2009)

- Conducted fieldwork for several occupancy, movement and diet studies of cougars, bobcats, ocelots and jaguars using camera traps and other noninvasive data collection techniques
- Led a large scale land survey project in San Pedro National Riparian Conservation Area to document breaks and human-caused damage to area boundaries with support from BLM and TNC

- Assisted organizations and researchers on various projects through grant writing, research, ecological monitoring, data analysis, event planning, writing/editing and capacity building support

**National Oceanographic & Atmospheric Administration, Woods Hole MA**  
**Northeast Fisheries Aquarium Intern (Spring 1997)**

- Assisted in all aspects of running aquarium including daily care of fish, invertebrates and marine mammals; directed and educated visitors; monitored traps for marine specimens in Vineyard Sound

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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**Feltner, J.A.** 2021. Effects of wolves and grizzly bears on cougars in a multi-use system. PhD Dissertation. University of Montana, Missoula, MT, USA.

Mills, L.S., E. Bragina, A.V. Kumar, M. Zimova, D.J.R. Lafferty, **J.A. Feltner**, B. Davis, K. Hackländer, P.C. Alves, J.M. Good, J. Melo-Ferreira, A. Deitz, A.V. Abramov, N. Lopatina, and K. Fay. 2018. Winter coat color polymorphisms identify global regions of active climate mediated evolution. *Science* 359:1033–1036.

Elbroch, L.M., **J.A. Feltner**, and H. Quigley. 2017. Human-carnivore competition for antlered ungulates: Do pumas select for bulls and bucks? *Wildlife Research* 44(6-7):523-533.

**Feltner, J.A.** 2017. Intraguild competition following wolf and grizzly bear recovery in the southern Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem: Assessing impacts to cougars. *The Wild Felid Monitor* 10(2):18.

Elbroch, L.M., **J.A. Feltner**, and H. Quigley. 2017. Stage-dependent puma predation on dangerous prey. *Journal of Zoology*. DOI:10.1111/jzo.12442.

Mills, L.S. and **J.A. Feltner**. 2015. An updated synthesis on appropriate science-based criteria for “favorable reference population” of the Scandinavian wolf (*Canis lupus*) population. Pages 116-152 in Interim report of the government commission to investigate the favorable reference population of wolves. Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, Stockholm, Sweden.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

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Feltner, J.A. April 2021. Using track and sign to study cougar ecology and large carnivore competition. University of Montana Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society, Missoula, MT.

Feltner, J.A., M. Elbroch, P. Alexander, H. Quigley and L.S. Mills. November 2019. Assessing cougar habitat and kill site selection as wolf and grizzly bear populations increased in the Southern Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (SGYE). The Wyoming Chapter of the Wildlife Society and Wyoming Wildlife Federation 2019 Conference, Sheridan, WY.

Feltner, J.A. September 2019. Assessing the impacts of increasing wolf and grizzly bear populations on the habitat selection and foraging patterns of cougars in the Southern Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (SGYE). American Fisheries Society and the Wildlife Society 2019 Joint Annual Conference, Reno, NV.

Feltner, J.A. September 2019. My “non-traditional” path to graduate school in wildlife biology. WILD 170, Fish & Wildlife Interest Group, University of Montana, Missoula MT.

Feltner, J.A. March 2019. Research in progress: Assessing the impacts of increasing wolf and grizzly bear populations on the habitat selection and foraging patterns of cougars in the Southern Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (SGYE). Jackson Hole Wildlife Symposium, Jackson, WY.

Feltner, J.A. February 2019. Research in progress: Assessing the impacts of increasing wolf and grizzly bear populations on the habitat selection and foraging patterns of cougars in the Southern Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (SGYE). Annual Conference, Montana Chapter, The Wildlife Society, Helena, MT. (**Winner, Best Graduate Student Poster Award**)

Feltner, J.A. October 2018. Using GPS collars, remote cameras, and track and sign to study intraguild competition. University of Montana Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society, Missoula, MT.

Feltner, J.A. September 2018. Competition and predator-prey dynamics following large carnivore recovery. Graduate student speaker, Wildlife Leadership Council, University of Montana, Missoula, MT.

Feltner, J.A. July 2018. Assessing the impacts of increasing wolf and grizzly bear populations on the habitat selection And foraging patterns of cougars. Cougars of Jackson Hole, Center for the Arts, Jackson, WY.

Feltner, J.A. April 2018. Assessing the impacts of increasing wolf and grizzly bear populations on the habitat selection And foraging patterns of cougars: A multi-organizational collaborative project in the southern Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Graduate Conference, University of Montana, Missoula, MT (**Runner-up, "Best of GradCon" Award**).

Feltner, J.A. March 2017. Intraguild competition and predator-prey dynamics following large carnivore recovery. WILD 594: Graduate Seminar in Wildlife Biology, University of Montana, Missoula, MT.

Mills, L.S. and Feltner, J.A. August 2015. An updated synthesis on appropriate science-based criteria for "favorable reference population" of the Scandinavian wolf (*Canis lupus*) population. Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, Stockholm, Sweden.

Feltner, J.A. October 2014. Wildlife biology and conservation in a globalized world. Dartmouth College on location: A Dartmouth day at the zoo, San Diego Zoo Safari Park, Escondido, CA.

Feltner, J.A. May 2014. Linking human activities and conservation policy to large mammal and bird diversity and distribution in Fanjingshan National Nature Reserve, Guizhou, China. K-12 Teacher Training Workshop, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA.

Feltner, J.A. April 2014. Collaborative conservation – linking vegetation condition, human activities and management policies to monkey habitat use. Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Tampa FL.

Feltner, J.A. February 1999. Trekking in Tibet: My journey to the "Roof of the World." Dartmouth Outing Club, Students for a Free Tibet and Dartmouth China Society, Dartmouth College, Hanover NH.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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2019, 2021     **Teaching Assistant**, Genetics and Evolution, University of Montana  
 2020            **Teaching Assistant**, Mammalogy, University of Montana  
 1998            **Head Teacher**, Patrick English Network, Beijing, China

## TRAINING, DEVELOPMENT AND CERTIFICATIONS

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2019            **Global Wildlife Resources**, Wildlife Handling & Chemical Immobilization  
 2018            **Cybertracker Conservation**, Certified Level III Animal Tracker  
 2015            **Safe-Capture International**, Chemical Immobilization of Animals  
 2009            **Professional Association of Diving Instructors**, Certified Advanced Open Water Diver  
 2009            **Sky Island Alliance**, Wildlife Tracking Workshop

## PROFESSIONAL SKILLS AND ACTIVITIES

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**Computer:** R, ArcGIS, Microsoft Office, Website/social media design, building, management

### Field/Outdoor Skills:

- Animal track and sign identification
- Wildlife monitoring: Camera-traps, radio telemetry, electronic calling, VHF/GPS tracking, line transect surveys
- Wilderness navigation and survival; use of GPS and compass
- Large/small mammal capture, immobilization, handling, marking (collars, PIT tags)
- Mortality investigations; bone and hair identification, necropsy and sample collection
- Use of 4WD vehicles and snowmobiles, off-road driving

- Use of binoculars, scope, rangefinder, still and video cameras
- Use of handgun, rifle, shotgun, dart gun
- Use of machete, saws, axes, hand tools
- Basic construction
- Animal husbandry
- Taxidermy; skin and skeletal preparation
- Water sports: diving, sailing, paddling, swimming
- Snow sports: snowshoeing, alpine and backcountry skiing
- Equestrian: Western & English riding
- Lifelong backcountry traveler and hiker
- Avid runner

**Professional Memberships:** Society for Conservation Biology (2010-present), The Wildlife Society (2012 –present), The Wildlife Society Montana Chapter (2019-present), The Wildlife Society Wyoming Chapter (2015-present), Wild Felid Research and Management Association (2016-present)

#### Service, Community & Public Outreach:

- **Member**, Science Committee, The Wildlife Society Wyoming Chapter (2019-present)
- **Wyoming & Montana Student Representative**, Wild Felid Association (2019-present)
- **Member**, Women in Science, University of Montana (2018-present)
- **Chair**, Wildlife Biology Program Guest Speaker Committee, University of Montana (2018)
- **Academic & career mentor to M.S. and undergraduate students**, University of Montana (2016-present)
- **Website and social media designer/manager**, (2014-present):
  - [www.jenniferfeltner.com](http://www.jenniferfeltner.com)
  - [www.umt.edu/research/millslab/default.php](http://www.umt.edu/research/millslab/default.php)
  - [www.elephantorigins.com](http://www.elephantorigins.com)
- **Reviewer**, *Mammal Review* (2014-present)
- **Conservation Committee Chair**, Student Chapter, Society for Conservation Biology, Colorado State University (2011-2012)
- **Hurricane Katrina Task Force onsite team**, Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Washington DC (2005-2006)
- **English tutor**, Institute for Study of Diplomacy, Georgetown University, Washington DC (2004)
- **U.S. Army Veteran** (Service 2002-2003)
- **Trail crew volunteer**, Appalachian Mountain Club, Gorham NH (1995-1996)

**Languages:** Advanced Mandarin Chinese, Intermediate Spanish, Basic Portuguese

**International Work and Study:** Brazil (Mato Grosso), China (Beijing, Shanghai, Tibet, Xinjiang, Inner Mongolia, Guangdong, Fujian, Sichuan, Qinghai, Zhejiang, Guizhu, Hunan), Colombia (Vichada, Bogota), Honduras (Utila, La Ceiba), Japan (Tokyo), Mexico (Baja California, Sonora, Guanajuato), Peru (Amazonas) and Sweden.

#### **OTHER RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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**PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP**, Boston MA

**Learning & Development Implementation Team Member** (2008, 2010)

- Ensured successful implementation of learning programs on firm-wide topics in the Northeast with a focus on project management support and on-site implementation; trained and supervised new team members

**St. Rose Outreach and Recovery**, Bay St. Louis MS

**Volunteer Coordinator /AmeriCorps VISTA Member** (2006 - 2007)

- Recruited, trained, supervised and managed over 750 short and long-term volunteers for relief center dedicated to rebuilding affordable housing for victims of Hurricane Katrina; created all organizational systems and administrative infrastructure related to volunteer, housing and reservation management
- Member of four person leadership team: Developed vision, mission and long term goals; recruited and hired new staff; resolved major operational problems; maintained relationships with advisory board and other relief organizations; organized monthly lecture series and other events for volunteers and community members
- Performed construction work including plumbing, roofing, drywall, electrical, framing and painting

**Georgetown University School of Foreign Service**, Washington DC

**Event Coordinator /Administrative Assistant to Dean** (2004-2006)

- Provided administrative support including research, media coordination, technical support, database and budget management; acted as a liaison to internal and external constituencies; planned and managed

physical, logistical, financial and protocol details for all Dean's Office events

**Center for Strategic and International Studies**, Washington DC

**Freeman Chair in China Studies Intern** (2003)

- Aided scholars and research associates in conducting research; produced reports related to China and East Asia in the policy, security and business arenas; supported policy experts at conferences and diplomatic meetings; carried out independent research project on Chinese domestic policies in Xinjiang province

**Gibson & Behman P.C.**, Boston MA

**Legal Assistant** (2001-2002)

- Assisted attorneys in preparation for closings, hearings, trials, and corporate meetings; helped prepare legal arguments, draft pleadings and motions to be filed with the court; obtained affidavits; assisted attorneys during trials; aided other law office employees in completing administrative and organizational duties; helped to supervise and train new legal assistants.

**U.S. & Foreign Commercial Service**, Shanghai, China

**Special Assistant to the Consul /Intern** (Summer 2000)

- Conducted research and wrote several substantial industry sector and market analysis reports on shipbuilding, ports and off-shore oil in China; aided local staff in editing and translation of reports and documents