

# Nebraska Wind Conference: Wind - Wildlife Presenters

## November 14, 2013

### Michelle Koch

Environmental Analyst Supervisor, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

Contact Info: (402) 471-5438; [michelle.koch@nebraska.gov](mailto:michelle.koch@nebraska.gov)

Presentation Title: **Northern Long-Eared Bat proposed for listing as endangered: Implications for wind energy development in Nebraska**

Bio: Michelle Koch has an undergraduate degree in Biology from Hastings College and received her Master's Degree in Agronomy at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln, where she conducted grassland research. She is an Environmental Analyst Supervisor at the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission in Lincoln. Her job entails reviewing a variety of development projects and permits to determine what impact they may have on state trust species, including endangered and threatened species, and their habitats.

For more information: <http://snr.unl.edu/renewableenergy/wind/tools.asp#consultation>



### Caroline Jezierski

Nebraska Wind Energy and Wildlife Project Coordinator, Nebraska Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit, University of Nebraska – Lincoln

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Presentation Title: **Nebraskans' views of wind energy development and wildlife: Results of the 2012 and 2013 Nebraska Annual Social Indicators Survey**; Session Moderator

Bio: Caroline received a B.A. in Biology from Gustavus Adolphus College and her M.S. in Marine Biology from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Prior to joining the Nebraska Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit in 2011, Caroline worked throughout the west, from Baja to Alaska, as a field technician, a biologist, and a naturalist. Her recent work has focused on human dimensions in resource management and has included studying the impact of sea kayak tourism on harbor seal behavior and the effectiveness of education in reducing impact, minimizing human-bear encounters through outreach and education, reviewing and permitting development projects, and sharing the wonders of the natural world uncovered by researchers with vacationers and anyone who will listen. As the Nebraska Wind Energy and Wildlife Project Coordinator, she facilitates communication among stakeholders with the goal of minimizing potential impacts of wind energy development on wildlife through site selection, operation, and mitigation.

For more information: <http://snr.unl.edu/renewableenergy/wind/>



Nebraska Wind Energy and Wildlife Project: <http://snr.unl.edu/renewableenergy/wind/>

Nebraska Wind Conference: <http://nebraskawindconference.com/>



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### Larkin Powell

Conservation Biologist/Animal Ecologist, University of Nebraska—Lincoln

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Presentation Title: **Wildlife avoidance studies: the need to evaluate mechanisms**

**Bio:** Larkin Powell is Professor of Conservation Biology/Animal Ecology at the University of Nebraska's School of Natural Resources. He also serves as the Director of the Great Plains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit. Larkin's research is often focused on the estimation of demographic parameters (survival, productivity, movement rates) to assess population growth or evaluate habitat effects on populations. Larkin's students and collaborators use a variety of techniques (telemetry, stable isotopes, etc.) to gather data to document and study movements of wild animals. Much of his research involves the consideration of decision-making processes--either providing data to support management decisions or investigating how to make better decisions as we manage wildlife and habitats. Larkin also teaches management strategies and decision-making to students. Recently, Larkin has become interested in how policy decisions (Farm Bill, grain exports, Dust Bowl recovery, energy strategies) affected the landscapes of the Great Plains.



For more information: <http://larkinpowell.wix.com/larkinpowell>; <http://snr.unl.edu/renewableenergy/wind/research.asp#grouse>

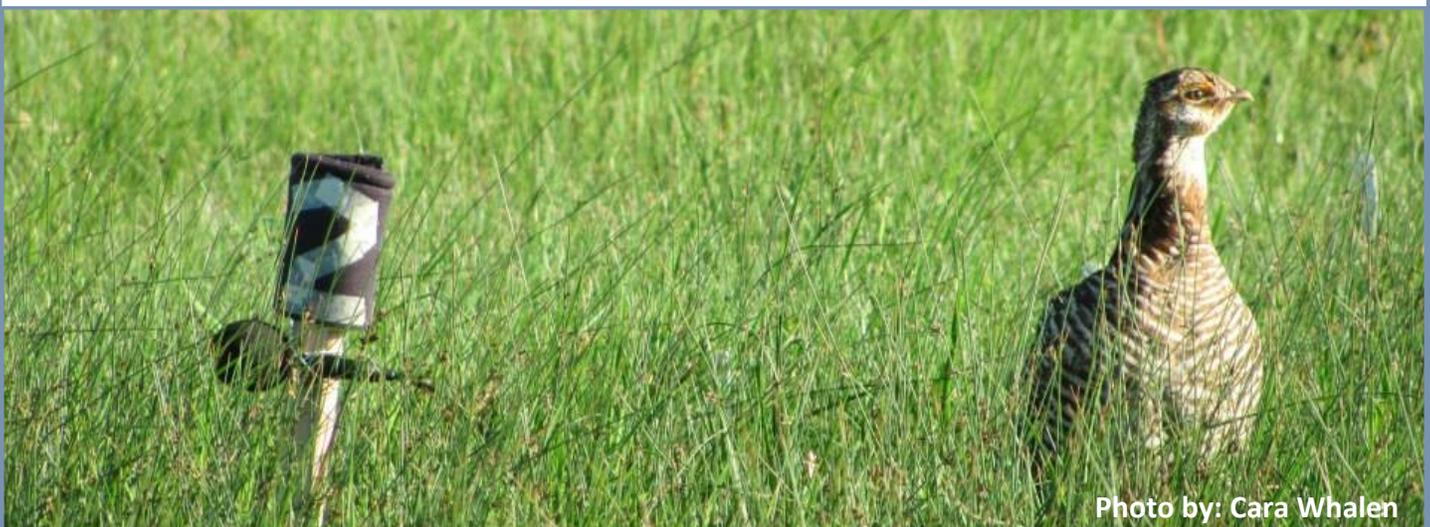


Photo by: Cara Whalen



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