



Stefanie LAZERTE BSc, MSc, PhD

PERSONAL INFORMATION

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EDUCATION

- PHD University of Northern BC, Natural Resources and Environmental Studies MAY 2015
Supervisor: Dr. Ken A Otter
Dissertation: "Sounds of the city: The effects of urbanization and noise on mountain and black-capped chickadee communication" *with Academic Distinction*
- MSc McGill University, Biology NOV 2010
Supervisor: Dr. Don L Kramer
Thesis: "Using thermosensitive telemetry to measure activity in eastern chipmunks (*Tamias striatus*)"
- BSc University of Toronto, Honours Zoology, Behaviour Specialist JUN 2007
Independent Studies Supervisor: Dr. Allan Baker
Project: "Genomic scan using AFLPs reveals that red knot subspecies are genetically differentiated" *with High Distinction*

LANGUAGES

ENGLISH: Native language

FRENCH: Proficient (speaking, reading); Intermediate (writing)

GERMAN: Basic (speaking, reading, writing)

INDEPENDENT R DEVELOPMENT

- [weathercan](#) | R package for downloading Canadian weather data from Environment and Climate Change Canada. Part of [ROpenSci](#)
- [cavityuse](#) | R package for detecting use of cavities (caves, burrows, etc.) from geolocator data in a variety of animal species.

CONSULTING: R DEVELOPMENT AND DATA MANAGEMENT

- OCT 2018 | **BC Groundwater levels indicator interactive map development in R** Stephanie Hazlitt, British Columbia Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (Victoria, BC)
R, Rmarkdown, interactive leaflet maps; Map customization with HTML, css, java
- AUG 2018 | **Ozone and PM2.5 CAAQS indicators interactive map development in R** Stephanie Hazlitt, British Columbia Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (Victoria, BC)
R, Rmarkdown, interactive leaflet maps; Map customization with HTML, css, java
- NOV 2017 - PRESENT | **Aquifer fact sheets: R programming, tutoring and workshops** Julie-Ann Ishikawa, British Columbia Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (Victoria, BC)
R, Rmarkdown, LaTeX, reporting
- JAN-MAR 2018 | **LITAP Cont'd R package development** Sheng Li, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Fredericton, NB)
R, Rmarkdown, package development, reporting, data management
- NOV 2017 - FEB 2018 | **R programming support for [rcaaqs](#) and [bcgroundwater](#)** Stephanie Hazlitt, British Columbia Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (Victoria, BC)
R, package development, data collection
- MAY-AUG 2017 | **LITAP R package development** Sheng Li, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Fredericton, NB)
R, Rmarkdown, package development, reporting, data management
- JAN 2017 | **Bull trout Telemetry: Data cleaning, preparation, R training** Ian Spendlow, BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (Prince George, BC)
R, Rmarkdown, data cleaning, data management

CONSULTING: ANALYSIS

SEPT 2017 - PRESENT | **Physiological ecology of sedges** Martin J. Lechowicz
 McGill University (Montreal, QC)
 R, Rmarkdown, data management, analysis, reporting

MAY-AUG 2017 | **Population decline of aerial insectivores** Joe Nocera
 University of New Brunswick (Fredericton, NB)
 R, Rmarkdown, data collection, data management, analysis, reporting

POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH

MAY 2016- MAY 2017 | **Post-Doctoral Researcher** at Thompson Rivers University (Dr. David Hill, Kamloops, BC)
 Project: Cont'd development of R package [feedr](#) and [online framework for RFID data analysis](#), education and outreach.
 R, package development, shiny application development, database access, data management, mapping, manuscript writing

OCT 2015- MAR 2016 | **Post-Doctoral Researcher** at UNBC (Dr. Ken A Otter, Prince George, BC)
 Project: Development of R package [feedr](#) and online framework for RFID data analysis, education and outreach.
 R, package development, data management, mapping

MAY-SEPT 2015 | **Post-Doctoral Researcher** at UNBC (Dr. Ken A Otter, Prince George, BC)
 Project: Communication and noise in mountain chickadees
 R, Rmarkdown, data cleaning, data management, analysis, manuscript writing

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Module Instructor

2017 | SOIL 7240 Preparing Data in R (University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB)
 Designed, developed and delivered remote lectures and assignments

Sessional Instructor

2018 | NRI 7350 Study design and quantitative methods for resource and environmental management (University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB)
 Co-instructor, covered R labs

2015 | BIOL 323 Evolutionary Biology (UNBC, Prince George, BC)
 Designed, developed and delivered lectures, tutorials, assignments, tests and exams

DEC 2014 | STAT 473/673 Experimental Design and Analysis (*substitute*, UNBC, Prince George, BC)
 Substitute lecturer for the final two weeks of the course. Delivered lectures, marked assignments and final exam

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Teaching Related Conferences and Workshops

2018	Brandon University Teaching Enhancement Conference (Brandon, MB)
2011-2016	UNBC & CNC Annual Teaching and Learning Conference (Prince George, BC)
SEP 2014	Teaching Dossier Workshop (CTLT, UNBC, Prince George, BC)
AUG 2011	Instructional Skills Workshop (UNBC, Prince George, BC)
JAN 2011	Teaching Assistant Workshop (UNBC, Prince George, BC)

Conference Activities

2016	Social media representative for the Society for Canadian Ornithologists (SCO-SOC) at the North American Ornithological Conference (NAOC) (Washington DC, USA)
2016	Student Presentation Judge – North American Ornithological Conference (NAOC) (Washington DC, USA)
2013	Co-convenor – Interdisciplinary Panel on Methodologies and Statistical Approaches. (UNBC Graduate Student Conference, Prince George, BC)
2012	Moderator – North American Ornithological Conference (UBC, Vancouver, BC)

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

2017	Society of Canadian Ornithologists/Société des ornithologistes du Canada (SCO-SOC) Early Career Research Award
2016	UNBC Best NRESi Extension Note (Graduate Student Award)
2014	UNBC Doctoral Dissertation Completion Award
2010-2014	UNBC Doctoral Tuition Scholarship
2014	UNBC Ecosystem Science and Management Travel Award
2011-2014	NSERC Postgraduate Scholarship (PGS) - PhD
2013	Society of Canadian Ornithologists (SCO-SOC) First Place Student Presentation
2012	Society of Canadian Ornithologists (SCO-SOC) James L Baillie Award

PUBLICATIONS: ACADEMIC

- LaZerte SE** and Albers S (2018). *weathercan*: Download and format weather data from Environment and Climate Change Canada. *Journal of Open Source Software* 3:571, doi:[10.21105/joss.00571](https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.00571).
- Bailey JM, Reudink MW, **LaZerte SE**, Paetkau M, Johnson CJ, Hill DJ, and Otter KA (2018). Using radio frequency identification (RFID) to investigate the gap-crossing decisions of Black-capped Chickadees (*Poecile atricapillus*). *The Auk* 135:449-460, doi:[10.1002/ece3.3240](https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.3240).
- LaZerte SE**, Reudink MW, Otter KA, Kusack J, Bailey JM, Woolverton A, Paetkau M, de Jong A, and Hill DJ (2017). *feedr* and *animalnexus.ca*: A paired R package and user-friendly web application for transforming and visualizing RFID animal movement data. *Ecology and Evolution* doi:[10.1002/ece3.3240](https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.3240).
- LaZerte SE**, Otter KA, and Slabbekoorn H (2017). Mountain chickadees adjust songs, calls and chorus composition with increasing ambient and experimental anthropogenic noise. *Urban Ecosystems* 20:989-1000, doi:[10.1007/s11252-017-0652-7](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11252-017-0652-7).

- LaZerte SE, Slabbekoorn H, and Otter KA (2017).** Territorial black-capped chickadee males respond faster to high- than to low-frequency songs in artificially amplified noise conditions. *PeerJ* 5:e3257, doi:[10.7717/peerj.3257](https://doi.org/10.7717/peerj.3257).
- Marini KLD, Reudink MW, LaZerte SE, and Otter KA (2017).** Urban mountain chickadees (*Poecile gambeli*) begin vocalizing earlier, and have greater dawn chorus output than rural males. *Behaviour* 154:1197-1214, doi:[10.1163/1568539X-00003464](https://doi.org/10.1163/1568539X-00003464).
- Marini KLD, Otter KA, LaZerte SE, and Reudink MW (2017).** Urban environments are associated with earlier clutches and faster nestling feather growth compared to natural habitats. *Urban Ecosystems* 20:1291-1300, doi:[10.1007/s11252-017-0681-2](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11252-017-0681-2).
- Snell C, LaZerte SE, Reudink MW, and Otter KA (2016).** Sympatric song variant in mountain chickadees *Poecile gambeli* does not reduce aggression from black-capped chickadees *Poecile atricapillus*. *European Journal of Ecology* 2:53-59, doi:[10.1515/eje-2016-0006](https://doi.org/10.1515/eje-2016-0006).
- LaZerte SE, and Kramer DL (2016).** Activity of eastern chipmunks *Tamias striatus* during the summer and fall. *Canadian Journal of Zoology* 94:685-695, doi:[10.1139/cjz-2016-0064](https://doi.org/10.1139/cjz-2016-0064).
- LaZerte SE, Slabbekoorn H, and Otter KA (2016).** Learning to cope: Vocal adjustment to urban noise is correlated with prior experience in black-capped chickadees. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B* 283:20161058, doi:[10.1098/rspb.2016.1058](https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2016.1058).
- Adams RV, LaZerte SE, Otter KA, and Burg TM (2016).** Influence of landscape features on the micro-geographic genetic structure of a resident songbird. *Heredity* 117:63-72, doi:[10.1038/hdy.2016.12](https://doi.org/10.1038/hdy.2016.12).
- LaZerte SE, Otter KA, and Slabbekoorn H (2015).** Relative effects of ambient noise and habitat openness on signal transfer for chickadee vocalizations in rural and urban green-spaces. *Bioacoustics* 35:481-488, doi:[10.1080/09524622.2015.1060531](https://doi.org/10.1080/09524622.2015.1060531).
- Grava A, Otter KA, Grava T, LaZerte SE, Poesel A, and Rush AC (2013).** Possible character displacement in dawn chorusing behaviour of sympatric mountain and black-capped chickadees. *Animal Behaviour* 86:177-187, doi:[10.1016/j.anbehav.2013.05.009](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anbehav.2013.05.009).
- LaZerte SE, and Kramer DL (2011).** Using thermosensitive radiotelemetry to document rest and activity in a semifossorial rodent. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 35:481-488, doi:[10.1002/wsb.74](https://doi.org/10.1002/wsb.74).

PUBLICATIONS: OUTREACH & EXTENSION NOTES

- LaZerte SE, Slabbekoorn H, and Otter KA (2016).** Sounds of the city: The effects of noise on communication in mountain and black-capped chickadees. Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Institute. Research Extension Note No. 10, University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George BC, Canada. * Best Graduate Student NRESi Extension Note 2016.
- LaZerte SE (2014).** 2012 Baillie Award Report: Chickadee Vocal Adjustment in Response to Urban Noise. *Picoides: Bulletin of the Society of Canadian Ornithologists* 27(1):5-7. Online: http://www.sco-soc.ca/picoides/archive/Picoides27_1_2014.pdf.

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS AND POSTERS

- LaZerte SE, Gow EA (2018).** *cavityuse*: An R Package for Detecting Cavity Use From Geolocator Data. Meeting of the International Society for Behavioural Ecologists (Minneapolis, MN, USA).
- LaZerte SE, Albers SJ (2017).** *weathercan*: An R package to access historical weather data from Environment and Climate Change Canada. Meeting of the Prairie Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers (Morris, MB).
- LaZerte SE (2017).** A tale of birds and data: How R saved a behavioural ecologist (SCO-SOC Early Career Researcher Award Plenary). The joint meeting of the American Ornithological Society and the Society of Canadian Ornithologists/Société des ornithologistes du Canada (East Lansing, MI, USA).
- LaZerte SE, Slabbekoorn H, and Otter KA (2016).** Learning to cope with urban noise: Vocal adjustment in black-capped chickadees correlates with prior noise experience and may improve audibility in noisy conditions (Symposium). North American Ornithological Conference (Washington DC, USA).
- LaZerte SE, Reudink MW, De Jong A, Kusack J, Paetkau M, Otter KA, Bailey J, Sutter A, Roberts J, Betts M, and Hill D (2016).** Science, engagement, education: Open, web-based visualization and analysis of animal movement data. (Oral). North American Ornithological Conference (Washington DC, USA).
- LaZerte SE, Otter KA, and Slabbekoorn H (2016).** Singing through noise: How chickadees compensate for effects of noise on communication. (Invited talk). UNBC Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Institute Colloquium. (Prince George, BC).
- LaZerte SE, Otter KA, and Slabbekoorn H (2014).** Behavioural plasticity of mountain chickadee vocalizations in response to urban noise. (Poster). Meeting of the International Society for Behavioral Ecology (New York, USA).
- LaZerte SE, Otter KA, and Slabbekoorn H (2013).** Improving urban acoustics: Urban noise is more detrimental than urban habitat to transmission of chickadee vocalizations. (Oral). Meeting of the Society of Canadian Ornithologists (Winnipeg, MB). **Awarded 1st place for student presentation.**